

“ Our parents were silent about the conditions. They wanted to protect us from the regime. ”

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# NOUSE



Suumer Term Week Three  
Tuesday 7 May 2013  
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## University pay out £500k to silence staff

**Neil Johnston**  
NEWS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY has spent nearly half a million pounds on controversial gagging orders, known in legal terms as agreements containing confidentiality clauses.

Figures obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, reveal that the University has issued 26 compromise agreements, all containing confidentiality clauses, since 2007.

The total cost of signing the orders was £479,464, and the highest amount paid out to any individual was £42,000.

Under the terms of compromise agreements, the employee waives their right to legal action. This could be for many reasons such as unfair dismissal, or breach of contract.

Employment lawyers state that most compromise agreements contain confidentiality clauses.

These clauses bar employees from speaking in public or to the media about their former employer under any circumstances relating to their departure, making the agreement a gagging order.

The extent can vary, and can even go as far as banning employees from speaking to their spouse over

the issue or making freedom of information requests.

If an employee or ex-employee breaches the agreement they could be sued for damages or face the possibility of returning their severance agreement.

David Duncan, University Registrar has defended the University's decision to use the orders, saying the overall cost is a "tiny figure" of "around 80k" a year, and the agreements have been used "sparingly". They also argue that they can be used for a normal redundancy procedure.

Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, commented: "These numbers are obviously concerning. Obviously we don't know the ins and outs, but 80k a year could go a hell of a long way elsewhere for students here. Students are now paying a fortune, and their financial stake in the University has increased dramatically. Scrutiny on spending should be higher than ever, and this type of business shouldn't be carelessly accepted as a norm."

Taylor added: "I think it's worth wondering firstly why relations actually get to a certain crisis point over certain pieces of info, and what information actually needs to be kept quiet in the University's eyes. I'm sure some of it is due to com-

mercial sensitivity, but not all of it will be. It's worrying."

David Duncan, University Registrar, said: "Compromise agreements are entered into where the agreed terms of a case of voluntary severance deviate from statutory redundancy requirements. They do not necessarily imply that the employer and employee are in dispute - rather, they are a way of ensuring that both parties understand the mutually agreed terms and have taken appropriate legal advice."

He added that the cost was very little in terms of the overall staff budget: "It is right that those terms are kept confidential by both parties. The figure you quote - £479k over 6 years - works out at £80k per annum, which is a tiny figure when taken as a percentage of the total paybill of more than £100million per annum."

"Voluntary severance is occasionally agreed where the University wishes to reduce staffing levels in a particular area, usually in order to make financial savings which can then be reinvested in other areas. As a growing University with well-

**Continued on page 2**

**COMMENT >> Page 14**

**LEADER >> Page 2**



Roses supplement inside >>

### NEWS

The History Department have refuted the data in an article in the *Mail on Sunday*.

>> Page 3

### COMMENT

**The First Class degree dilemma.** What New Labour meant outside the facts and figures.

>> Page 16

### POLITICS

**Should we really be applauding Obama?** We can't expect him to be the messiah he was characterised by in 2008.

>> Page 21

### FASHION

**Fashion blogger Wayne Tippetts** on that all important 'wow' moment.

>> M8

### Q&A

**Jeremy Kyle** on surviving cancer and life with OCD.

>> M3



## News

>> Continued from front

established and effective redeployment procedures, York uses voluntary severance sparingly.

"However, where staffing reductions are necessary, and where we cannot redeploy staff, both the University and the campus trade unions favour voluntary severance over compulsory redundancy."

Gagging orders have become the subject of much controversy in recent months after a scandal at Mid-Staffordshire NHS Trust revealed whistleblowers were silenced on the poor treatment of patients.

The orders have since been banned in the Department of Health, by Jeremy Hunt, the Cabinet secretary for the Department.

The orders can be used in most public bodies and are widely used in many organisations including government departments and councils.

**“ Scrutiny on spending should be higher than ever, and this type of business shouldn't be carelessly accepted as the norm. ”**

YUSU President  
Kallum Taylor

It has been reported that around 200 civil servants in Whitehall and 4,562 council workers have signed compromise agreements, many of which contained confidentiality clauses.

Earlier this month Eric Pickles, Communities Secretary, warned councils against using "under-the-counter pay-offs to silence departing staff".

York City Council have issued 34 of the orders since 2007, but refused to provide *Nouse* with the cost, citing exemptions in the Data Protection Act.

There has so far been little focus on the use of such orders in higher education although the body responsible for the sector, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills has signed 83 compromise agreements in the past two years, costing £2.6million.

## In this edition

|          |       |
|----------|-------|
| News     | 1-11  |
| Comment  | 12-16 |
| Politics | 18-21 |
| Business | 22-23 |
| Science  | 24-25 |
| Sport    | 26-28 |

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| A Tattoo is for Life    | M10-11 |
| Post-Revolution Reality | M14-15 |
| The Orillo Edition      | M22-23 |

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# No platform motion faces strong criticism

**Amy Blumsom**  
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

TWO SOCIETIES have spoken out against the 'No Platform' motion proposed in the recent YUSU referendum.

Both the Liberal Democrat society and Palestinian Solidarity Society have both spoken to *Nouse*, denouncing the motion.

However Jacob Campbell, the motion's proposer defended the motion: "The debate surrounding this motion has been irredeemably sabotaged by the placard-waving, perpetually-outraged Trotskyite Left. They turned what should have been a constructive discussion about the merits of the proposed policy into a Jacobin-esque interrogation of my motives for proposing it. It was an unmitigated farce from beginning to end."

Cadan ap Tomos, Liberal Democrat Chair, said: "This motion is a farce. Only needing one student to petition before the Sabbs have to make a decision will waste Union resources, and the wording is so vague that someone could legitimately petition against representatives from most of the countries of the world."

He went on to say: "Free speech is an important part of a fair society. I would welcome a proper debate on a proper no platform motion. This motion is not it."

Madeline Spink, Co-ordinator of the 'No' campaign, said: "It's great to know that the Lib Dems are one of the many societies that are behind this campaign."

Banning speakers on campus isn't a route that YUSU should pursue, as it will stifle debate and curtail the opportunities for us as students to discuss difficult yet important topics."

However the Lib Dems are not alone in their concerns, with Palestinian Society also speaking out.

Press officer for the Palestinian Solidarity Society, Josiah Mortimer, said: "The University of York



The visit by Yusaf Chambers caused controversy and complaints

**“ The debate surrounding the motion has been irredeemably sabotaged by the placard waving, perpetually-outraged Trotskyite Left. ”**

Motion proposer  
**Jacob Campbell**

Palestinian Society wholeheartedly opposes and condemns the 'No Platform' referendum motion being proposed to YUSU."

He added: "While we oppose fascism and extremism in all their

forms, the motion's wording, intent and planned implementation methods are inimical to healthy and broad open discussion – particularly clause C which prohibits those who 'reject the principle of popular sovereignty as the sole basis of legislation, and/or the right to free speech', a vague statement which is thereby open to abuse."

Mortimer also expressed concern about the intentions of the motion's proposer: "Since the motion's proposer – the Press Officer for 'UKIP Friends of Israel' – has a history of attempting to cut off pro-Palestinian debate, we believe the motion to be intellectually stifling and malicious in its intent."

Voting for the referendum began on Thursday May 2nd and voting closes tomorrow.

## Student triumphs at council election

A University student has become one of North Yorkshire's youngest councillors after winning a seat on Ryedale District Council. Shane Collinson, aged 21, triumphed in the Ryedale South West by-elections on Friday, beating his opponent Denys Townsend by an impressive 131 votes. Collinson, a Conservative, is currently studying Social Science with Crime and Criminal Justice, and told local press that "I just think there is a lot of distrust in politics at the moment, and I want to show that young people care about rural areas and are prepared to stand up for the countryside."

## James students left without cash point

University students were left without cash after the James College cash point was broken for a week. The cash machine, which is situated outside the YUSU office, was without power for the first week of term, meaning students were forced to go to either Vanbrugh or Market square to withdraw their cash. This undoubtedly would have caused some disruption for Lounge customers, as the Lounge still does not accept card as payment. According to college officials the breakage was due to a problem with the wiring, which the bank has now fixed.

## 'Parents' abandoned at James College

James College students' second year student leaders will now be called STYCs instead of parents, in accordance with the rest of the University. Up until now James was the only remaining college to call their second years parents, however they are having to convert to STYCs after some confusion among freshers. According to James freshers organisers, some fresher thought that the parent tickets on the YUSU website were for their actual parents and purchased some. It is hoped that changing the tickets name on the website will avoid any further confusion.

Reporting by Sofia Geraghty

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# Mail on Sunday data 'highly problematic'

- Additional commitments beyond KIS numbers
- Department resists pressure to 'game system'

**Laura Hughes**

EDITOR

THE HISTORY department has refuted the data in an article on contact time in the *Mail on Sunday*.

The department has called the article, "highly problematic and not representative of the experiences and opportunities available to York History students."

Inconsistencies have been cited in the collection methods used by different universities to compile the data for the Key Information Set (KIS). The KIS is an official overview of comparable information on higher education courses for prospective students.

The figures, compiled from statistics on Government website Unistats, were cited by the *Mail on Sunday*, in a piece published on 28th April.

The article states that the figures, "show that one of the widest gaps involves undergraduates studying history at the University, who spend just 8 per cent of their course in lectures and seminars, with the rest in 'independent' study."

This transpires as fewer than 100 hours contact time with academics every academic year, working out to nearly £100 an hour.

Tutors' 'office hours', personal supervision meetings, and time spent completing LFA language courses have not been included in the KIS data.

These additional commitments amount to between 2 to 8 extra hours of contact time per week, beyond the published KIS numbers.

The University only counts a one-hour lecture or discussion



The Department are reluctant to improve their KIS statistics by shifting the bulk of teaching to lectures

group as 50 minutes to allow for changeover time, which has not necessarily been the case at other universities.

The department says, "the data is problematic because it does not discriminate between the type and quality of contact: one-to-one tutorials, seminars and lectures with two hundred students are all treated as equivalent, even though one-hour of small-group seminar teaching requires the same amount of Staff time as ten hours of lectures."

The introduction of league tables always creates pressure to 'game' the system. The department

**"I felt the article was just a piece of sensationalist reporting"**

3rd Year Historian  
Bethan Vincent

called for a more robust method of comparing History degrees at different institutions. Over 50 per cent of teaching in the first year is through small group seminars; this rises to

65 per cent in the second year and 85 per cent in the final year.

Bethan Vincent, a third year historian, has written a response piece to be published by the *Daily Mail*, titled 'University is not a number, it's an experience.' Vincent told *Nouse*, "I felt the article in the *Mail* was just a piece 'sensationalist' reporting, using statistics to paint a very biased view of the amount of contact hours we get.

"I strongly believe that university is about more than just academic achievement. These aspects of university can't be displayed through one misleading statistic, they are

intangible but essential."

The data compiled by Unistats on scheduled learning and teaching, says the information was provided by institutions. They reveal the proportion of time spent in various learning and teaching activities - by year/stage of study.

The data on their website is "based on the modules the institution expects students to take rather than actual module choices."

Charlotte Jones and Ciara Muldowney, Second year History course reps, said: "One of the main issues with the article, is it suggests that 'independent study' is of less value than contact time.

Contact with lecturers is essential for teaching, and guidance, but History is a degree which requires students to undertake their own research and formulate their own arguments. As a result, skills which this degree gives us are invaluable, set us apart from other students and cannot be gained through seminars, lectures, or workshops."

The Department could improve their KIS statistics by shifting teaching from seminars to lectures, meaning less module choice and more compulsory modules.

"We would remove elements of the programme which involve intensive one-to-one tuition, such as the dissertation. This is not, however, something we wish to do, and we do not believe it is in the best interests of our students."

The Department believes students, "should not be taught what to think but given the opportunity to study and learn how to think."

**COMMENT >> Page 12**

## Russell Group costs York eight times more than 1994 Group

**Neil Johnston**

NEWS EDITOR

MEMBERSHIP OF the Russell group is costing York eight times as much in fees than it did to be part of the 1994 Group.

Last year, *Nouse* reported how York was accepted into the Russell Group with three other universities.

Being part of the Russell group is considered to be a prestigious accreditation for top universities.

However there are those who believe groups like this are not worth being a part of, and York can represent its quality through its own achievements.

Figures obtained under the Freedom of Information Act show the University has so far made one payment to the Russell Group for 2012/13 of £159,000.

In comparison, from 2008 to 2012 only £85,500 was made in payments to the 1994 Group.

In 2008/09, £20,000 was paid, £21,000 in 2009/10, £22,000 in 2010/11, and £22,500 in 2011/12.

This means the annual payment to the Russell Group is around eight times higher than those to the 1994 Group.

While many will argue that



The Russell Group, which accepted York as a new member last year, aims to promote top Universities

Russell Group membership is essential, the hike in payments, puts further pressure on the University.

Currently there is some concern that there is a poor effort at promoting or lobbying by the University amongst the big organisa-

tions such as the Russell Group, or HEFCE who recently hit York with a massive funding cut, disproportionately affecting teaching.

Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, commented: "Whether we agree with it or not, the financial

clout of the grouping makes it the most effective university mission group out of the lot.

"We have to question what we're actually getting from this beyond access to Government and an added element of prestige, does it give an

added benefit to our members time at University whilst they're here? Our membership certainly helps York justify maximum tuition fees - so what are students getting for it?"

He added: "As we already know, there's a lot of work to be done on improving the Student Experience here, eradicating hidden costs and improving our members' employment prospects. We're going to have to see improvements soon."

"The same can be said for the support given to the Students' Union here too. YUSU currently sit in the bottom three Russell Group institutions for block grant support; and we haven't had a proportional increase in our block grant to the drastic increase in student numbers."

A University spokesperson said: "The Russell Group is a well-staffed and highly effective organisation which speaks clearly on behalf of the top universities in the UK."

"In addition it provides high quality advice and support for its members. Taking these points together, we believe the subscription fee charged by the Russell Group represents value for money."

**COMMENT >> Page 15**

## News

# How safe is York's nightlife?

The picture of crime in York city centre after dark has been revealed to show numerous incidents occurring near the city's clubs such as Salvation, Society, Mansion, Vodka Revolution and Willow.

Between October 2012 and February 2013, 6464 crimes have taken place in the city centre throughout the day, with many assumed to have occurred at night.

These figures, compiled from police.co.uk, are shocking considering that York has been voted as UK's 4th safest city in 2013. Nearly half of these were cases of anti-social behaviour, standing at a staggering figure of 3023.

More alarming, however, is the 481 cases of criminal damage and arson, and the 164 drug incidents that were reported. There were also 791 cases of theft, including mugging, and 146 cases of public disorder and weapons.

Statistics have shown a total of 856 crimes around York clubs, between October 2012 and February 2013, but numbers vary hugely between clubs.

Of these, 444 were anti-social behaviour, 29 involved drugs, 115 were theft, 43 were public disorder and weapons, and 130 cases of violent crime.

The area around Salvation and Society (Rougerie Street and the bottom of Tanner Row) had 239 crimes reported.



## Proposed alcohol levy on pubs and clubs

YORK CITY Council are to consider introducing a levy on alcohol for bars and clubs.

The idea was proposed by Daffyd Williams, Councillor, at the York Annual Crime Summit, two weeks ago.

The proposal would introduce restrictions on the price of alcohol in all places of entertainment after midnight.

The proposal aims to tackle high levels of alcohol related admissions to York Hospital, and alcohol related offences.

The specific details of the proposal have not been outlined yet but it is set to go out for consultation next month.

YUSU are hoping to get a seat on the consultation.

Bob Hughes, YUSU Welfare

In total, this amounts to 126 cases of anti-social behaviour along with 48 cases of violent crimes and three cases of criminal damage and arson.

Of the 116 crimes around Mansion (Micklegate area), 65 were anti-social behaviour, four were criminal damage and arson, and four were drugs.

There were also 15 incidents of theft, three of public disorder and weapons, and eleven of violent crime.

Around Vodka Revolution and Willow (Coney Street), 155 of the incidents reported were anti-social behaviour.

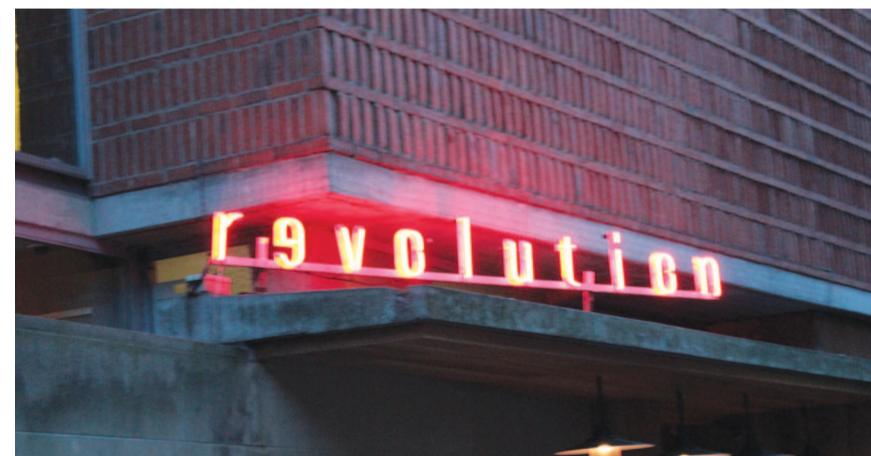
12 were criminal damage and arson, and three were drugs. There were also 37 incidents of theft, 16 of public disorder and weapons, 35 violent crimes and four cases of other crime.

Kuda and its surrounding area had 125 cases of anti-social behaviour, five of criminal damage and arson, and 18 of theft.

There were eight cases of public disorder ad weapons while there were 21 violent crimes.

The Tokyo area (top of Tanner Row, Bar Lane, Barker Lane, and Toft Green) was the scene of 23 cases of anti-social behaviour, 15 cases of violent crime and one case of public order.

There was also three cases of criminal damage and arson, five of drugs, and ten of theft.



## Ambulances called 380 times

Between 2011 and March 2013, ambulances have been called out 380 times to all of York's main nightclubs in the city centre, with Club Salvation topping the number of call-outs consistently for all 3 years.

Kuda comes in second, although some of the call-outs were made when it was still known as Gallery. This is followed by Tokyo, the Willow and Vodka Revolution which had the least call-outs of all the clubs.

The figures also include locations such as 'outside nightclub' or 'near nightclub'.

The 380 call-outs to York clubs breaks down to 158 in 2011, 211 in 2012, and 46 in 2013 up to March. This means that the city's clubs are on course for nearly 190 call-outs in 2013.

In total, Club Salvation and Society have had 192 call-outs since 2011.

This peaked at 108 in 2012 and, although it cannot be distinguished how many of these are student call-outs, it was when Salvation still had an official YUSU club night.

They have had 18 call-outs up to March, putting them on course for 72 in 2013.

In total, although Tokyo have had only 57 call-outs, it has witnessed a massive rise from 2011 to 2012, increasing from 7 to 41.

They have had nine this quarter, putting them on course for 36 this year.

Kuda have had 77 call-outs since 2011, with 51 in the first year. Despite the number falling to 16 in 2012, there have already been ten this year, which means that they could be on course for 40, nearer to the 2011 level when they faced warnings from the police over behaviour related to alcohol around the club.

## Neil Johnston and Dan Holland investigate the unreported dangers of York's nightclubs



## to clubs since 2011

Willow has had 54 call-outs since 2011, with 25 in 2012.

There have been seven this year putting them on course for 28 call-outs.

The statistics for this venue are perhaps most concerning since they only let in students during term-time.

Finally, Vodka Revolution have had 35 call-outs since 2010, peaking at 21 last year, but only two call-outs up until March which means that it could be predicted to have less than ten call-outs this year.

Bob Hughes, YUSU Welfare Officer, commented on the num-

ber of call-outs: "It is quite a high number, and although ambulances should absolutely be called in case of serious emergencies and for any causes of concern, students should be aware of the effects that non-serious call-outs can have on local police and health services.

He added: "Also, if you are worried about your safety on a night out, there are plenty of local services, from the door staff in bars and clubs, and local police officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) who can help you and, if necessary, guide you towards other support."

# Legal dispute led to broken fire regulations

**I**t has been revealed that the generator recently used by Tokyo broke several fire precautions.

Information obtained by *Nouse* shows that of all the clubs inspected, three clubs were issued with reports meaning they have room for improvement on their fire safety records.

*Nouse* was refused the full reports due to a commercial interest clause in Freedom of Information Act.

Tokyo were forced to switch to a generator after a dispute with an electricity supplier, which led to concerns from the fire service.

This also led to them having to close their doors for one of their official YUSU nights last term, and move it to Fibbers, its smaller sister venue.

Tokyo was issued with an enforcement notice by the Fire and Rescue Authority on the sixth of March 2013, after it was suspected to have failed to comply with any provision of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and was given time to comply with the regulations.

This report which was issued by the North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service on the 15th of March 2013 is fairly recent.

The fire service raised concerns about the use of the generator in the club, which Tokyo has claimed is a result of a dispute with an electricity supplier, who were trying to charge the club for bills, from when the previous owners Luminar who own Kuda, owned the club.

As a result, Tokyo failed to comply with articles 08, 09, 11, 13, and 17 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. These included Duty to take fire precautions, Risk Assessment, Fire Safety Arrangements, Fire-fighting and Fire Detection and Maintenance.

Article 08, Duty to take general fire precautions, means the responsible person must take general fire precautions, as far as is practical, and take care of safety for employees. The responsible person must "take such general fire precautions as may reasonably be required in the circumstances of the case to ensure that the premises are safe" for

customers.

Risk Assessment of article 09 stated that there should be sufficient assessment of the risks to relevant persons for the purpose of identifying general fire precautions needed to take to comply with the requirements and prohibitions imposed on him by the order.

This assessment must be reviewed regularly particularly if there is any change to the building and the information has to be recorded and this is deemed more important when the venue employs more than five employees.

Article 11, Fire safety arrangements, states that the owner must have effective arrangements appropriate to the size of the undertaking

**"Our refusal to pay these insane costs lead to the disconnection of the energy supply and us running off a generator that promoted concerns from the fire service. "**

Tokyo Director  
Aaron Mellor

call-outs to Tokyo for special service, one call-out to Mansion for a False-Alarm, and 12 call outs to Gallery/Kuda for false alarms.

Since 2010, Mansion and Tokyo have had four fire inspections each, Salvation and The Willow two and Kuda/Gallery one.

Aaron Mellor, Tokyo Director, said that "it is no secret that Tokyo York has had a tough couple of months, we've had & eventually won a massive legal battle with our electricity provider - who were attempting to recover just under £100,000 in connection with dated issues relating to the previous occupier Luminar who went into administration in 2012.

"The energy company was attempting to leverage that debt from ourselves which although legally is totally incorrect these energy giants operate under an Electricity & Gas Act which affords them some legal curious rights that wouldn't exist in commercial law.

"Our refusal to pay these insane historic costs lead to the disconnection of energy supply and us running off a generator for six weeks or so. Its this generator that promoted concerns from the fire service & required us to place temporary actions and adapt emergency strategies whilst on a generator supply.

"Tokyo Industries operate venues all over the UK and at no point was any public safety compromised. Thankfully having won the legal battle with the energy giant they were forced to reconnect us and we are now back on mains power & fully fire compliant - but yes a testing couple of months... Tokyo is here is stay & back on top of our game.. We thank everyone at York University for sticking with us.. We have some great nights lined up this final term - Lets Rock York (with Electric)". [Sic]

William Proud, a second year maths student commented: "It is interesting how something such as a dispute like this can lead to fire risks at one of our main nightclubs.

"However the club did seem to handle the situation quite well which is very encouraging."

"I do wonder what the risks there could be though."

## Call-outs by numbers

|                   | 2011      | 2012       | 2013      | Total      |
|-------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Salvation</b>  | <b>66</b> | <b>108</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>192</b> |
| <b>Kuda</b>       | <b>51</b> | <b>16</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>77</b>  |
| <b>Tokyo</b>      | <b>7</b>  | <b>41</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>57</b>  |
| <b>Willow</b>     | <b>22</b> | <b>25</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>54</b>  |
| <b>Revolution</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>21</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>35</b>  |

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# YUSU propose to take over Cafe Barista

**Amy Blumsom**  
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

YUSU HAVE announced plans to put together a business case to take over the running of Cafe Barista.

This follows their petition to save Barista, which the University had planned to close at the end of term.

At the moment, the cafe only serves coffee and cold food on a limited hours basis. Barista has also seen a 50% downturn in business due to the success of the Library Cafe.

Kallum Taylor, YUSU president, said: "The campaign to save Barista has brought up a massive amount of interest in recent weeks."

"We gained over 1000 signatures over just five days, out of term time, and it's been clear from the outset that the arguments for the closure had not been properly challenged or discussed."

"On the Thursday of last week, we finally managed to sit down with the University to talk it through. The talks were certainly frank, and we made it clear that the lack of consultation, and regard, for students' views on this matter was disappointing."

"Especially when you compare this to the arguable 'over' communication and scrutiny when certain college bars start to struggle." At one stage the University proposed



The University have planned to close Barista by the end of term but YUSU hope to keep the cafe open

**“The talks were certainly frank, and the lack of consultation, for students views has been disappointing”**

YUSU President  
Kallum Taylor

installing a sandwich stocked fridge for students, and an 'honesty box.'

He went on to say: "Having explored, and perhaps exhausted, various options, the situation is clearer. Cafe Barista, as we know it, will stay open until the end of term."

YUSU have been given permission to put together a business case to run a viable, student led and attractive service in Barista for the long run; as we do the Courtyard,

Glasshouse, Lounge and YourShop.

We won't do this out of principle, and will only proceed if it all adds up positively - which we think it will - but this could see Barista's Long term future secured in a much More student friendly, and responsive way."

Taylor promised: "We'll keep the membership posted with developments as they come - but the picture is nowhere near as bleak as be-

## YUSU's first aid training plea

**Laura Hughes**  
EDITOR

THE STUDENT Union have submitted a request to the University to increase the role of 'Lights On' Facilities Reception Assistants.

'Lights On' Facilities Reception Assistants (FRAs), perform a similar role to porters, and are on duty at many college receptions from the hours of 10pm to 6am.

The new measures proposed will ensure FRA staff are first aid trained, have the power to provide keys, and hand out post to students.

If successful, the new measures will be introduced at the start of the next academic year.

The University introduced FRAs as an additional measure in October in response to higher income from fees.

Last term, *Nouse* reported the Union's criticisms of the University's "misleading" and "carefree" approach to portering.

FRAs are employed on 30 week contracts and subsequently do not receive first aid training.

Kallum Taylor, YUSU president, has said the lack of first aid training for FRAs was, "clearly done to cut costs which is fine up until the point where it goes beyond efficiency."

Campus Services were unable to say when a decision will be reached. This was criticised by YUSU in March, who as well as accusing the



YUSU's request includes first aid training for facilities assistants

University of cost-cutting, argue if there was a serious issue, FRAs may not be able to deal with any students' problems in sufficient time.

Back in March, the University spokesperson defended the University's decision not to fully train FRAs saying, "The Facility Reception Assistants were introduced in October 2012 to provide a presence in those College receptions not covered by porters between the hours of 10pm and 6am."

Kallum Taylor, YUSU president, told *Nouse* that "throughout this reoccurring debate the differences between a 'porter' and an 'FRA' have been highlighted, and it became apparent that the gap in provision was too big."

FRAs will be able to help students access their mail now, assist them in difficulties with keys, as well as being properly trained in First Aid. This is a great win for students."

## Council to investigate Hull Road Off-liscence

**Josh Allen**  
NEWS REPORTER

ELO OFF-liscence on Hull Road is being investigated by City of York Council's Trading Standards Department for the second time in as many years.

The City Council's Licensing Unit and the Safer York Partnership are seeking a review of the premises liscence, leading to a potential £5,000 fine and revocation of the licence. If the Council's Licensing Hearing committee agrees that the store failed in its responsibilities to 'prevent crime and disorder' and 'protect children from harm.'

These charges were brought after events in November 2012 when police officers working with the Safer York Partnership found the shop's sale register to be poorly maintained and its mandatory CCTV system to not work. A few days after, a 15-year-old test purchaser was able to buy a bottles of alcopop and cider, despite the store operating a Challenge 21 policy.

Fined £2,400 at York Magistrates court in April last year after 2 University of York students reported him for selling 'Drop' a counterfeit brand of vodka with a proof of over 50%. Mehmet Altin, ELO's proprietor, speaking to *Nouse*, stressed how 'important' his 6 year old business was to him in that it was the 'sole

fore. I'd say we've clawed this back from 3-0 down and we're now into extra-time."

David Duncan, University Registrar, told *Nouse*: "The cafe is losing money at the moment but will remain open as a staffed service until the end of the term while we consider options."

**“The Cafe is losing money but will remain open as a staffed service until the end of term”**

University Registrar  
David Duncan

YUSU were told that during the University's discussions with 'interested parties' they stated that Barista was losing £3000 per month and faced an overall deficit for the year of some £36,000.

"The plan is to replace it with a high-end coffee machine and allow staff and students to use the space as a common room."

"At the same the University hopes to invest in B Henry's, which is also located on the North campus and which has a kitchen."

Duncan has previously assured *Nouse* that "The staff currently employed in Barista will not lose their jobs as they will be redeployed to other sites on campus."

source of income' providing for his six children.

Meanwhile, in a report prepared for a postponed licensing hearing on the 11th April this year, Council Officers described how Altin's refusal of sale log was 'a few scraps of paper'. Despite the fact that a licensing condition was that both he, and all those who worked in the shop, should attend a course on responsible alcohol retailing.

Council Officers concluded that Yavuz Zevkli, listed as ELO's "designated person" for alcohol retailing in fact had 'very little to do with the business'. After proving 'hard to contact' when the Council attempted to reach him at his listed address in Enfield, north London.

The review period has now been extended to the 10th May with public submissions invited alongside those from stakeholders. A decision on the status of the premises' alcohol licence will be made after that.

Penny Coupland, Senior Food Officer at City of York Council, said: "Businesses need to ensure they buy their stock from legitimate sources, to avoid ending up in this situation. The fine Mr Altin received far outweigh any profits he made from buying the cheap vodka."

"We are also keen to remove products such as the Drop Vodka from circulation, due to the potential health risks."

## News

# Fenech-Soler to perform at Big D

**Anwen Baker**  
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

ELECTRO-POP band Fenech-Soler have been announced as the second Big D headliner.

The band will be joining fellow headliners Dusky at Carnival'D on June 27th, with the third headliner to be revealed at the Big D launch night in Week 3.

Peterborough based Fenech-Soler have received critical acclaim and their single 'Stop and Stare' was named by DJ Greg James as 'Record of the Week'.

Chris Judge, Derwent Vice Chair Ents, told *Nouse* "We are very happy to announce that our second headline act will be Fenech-Soler. As a band, they bring an eclectic sound to the stage, and are set to release some new material over the coming months. They will be a great addition to our line up!"

The plans for 2013 Big D include four stages of music, a food court and an outdoor silent disco. There will also be an opportunity later in the term for student bands to compete for the chance to perform alongside the headliners.

Dusky will be playing a set at Carnival'D on June 27th, and the final act will be announced at the Big D ticket launch night is happening at Kuda, Wednesday Week 3.

Kuda will be hosting DJs who will be playing at Big D and giving

away free tickets, and Q-jumps.

Tickets for Big D will go on sale in Week 3, priced at £25. On Wednesday night, students can put a £5 deposit down to reserve your ticket.

Carnival'D is set to hold a competition for student bands to enter later in the term to compete for a slot on one of the main stages, alongside the headline acts.

DARKMAVIS



**Harry Gallivan**

DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

LANGWITH JCRC have spoken out against the University, arguing further changes are needed to their heating system.

They have suggested altering when the heating across the college is turned on, as many students feel cold when they are trying to sleep.

Sam Maguire, Langwith College Chair, told *Nouse*: "What needs to happen is a general change in the heating timings.

"Ours comes on in the afternoon and the early evening and then

**“ Halifax’s [heating] comes on at around nine or ten o’clock so people aren’t freezing when they are trying to sleep. ”**

Langwith college chair  
**Sam Maguire**

goes off in the night, as opposed to Halifax’s that comes on at around nine or ten o’clock so people aren’t freezing when they are trying to sleep."

Students originally complained their heating was often too low in the winter months, prompting many to formally complain to Derwent FM who manages the college



Langwith argue the University have still not sorted heating problems

services. After many months, this prompted action by the University to deal with the issues involved.

Last week *Nouse* reported Langwith College received £30,000 in compensation for these problems, as well as for water being cut off irregularly and the absence of a cash point on campus.

This settlement saw all 623 Langwith residents offered a £50 credit on their accommodation account. A total of 364 complaints were formally made as early as November 2012 and have continued on and off until the spring.

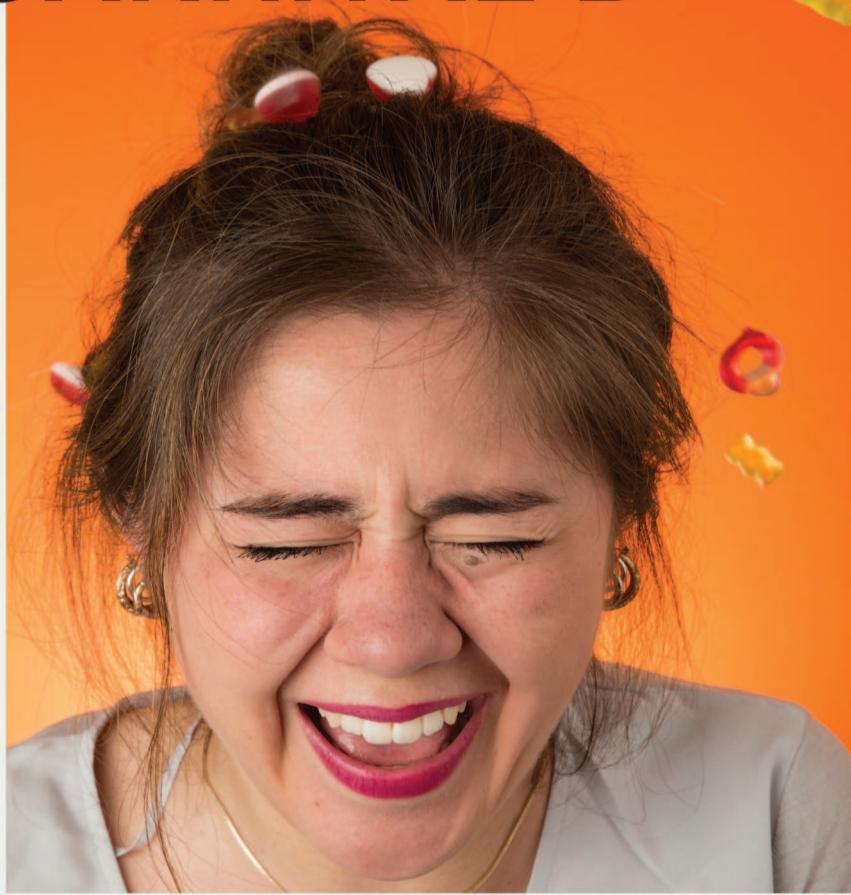
All Langwith residents will be

informed of the £50 offer this week, and have until the end of May to appeal.

In January students recorded temperatures of sub-15 °C in Langwith with accommodation. In the University Accommodation Contract for 2012/13, point 9.8 states 'We will provide reasonably adequate heat to the radiators during the Period of Residence.'

Whilst the original heating issues have now been solved, issues still persist for Hes East, with the campus still missing vital facilities such as a permanent shop and YUSU building.

## CARNIVAL'D



Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June  
Week 10  
Derwent College

Tickets available  
9am Thursday  
week 3 - £25

Under One Roof:  
Rio De Janeiro  
Notting Hill  
Venice Masquerade  
Goa Carnival  
Mardi Gras

A BIG D EVENT

## CARNIVAL'D



Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June  
Week 10  
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Mardi Gras

A BIG D EVENT  
 Windows 8  


# Academics attack whisky industry

**Harry Gallivan**  
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

YORK AND London researchers have discovered that the alcohol industry 'distorted' international evidence on effective alcohol control measures submitted to the Scottish Government to change Scotland's relationship with alcohol.

Scientists from York and London School of Hygiene & Medicine, led by Dr Jim McCambridge, found alcohol companies had 'ignored, misrepresented and undermined' scientific evidence given to the Scottish consultation in 2008.

The Scottish Government consultation looked into introducing minimum unit pricing and ending cheap drink adverts.

Dr Chris Holden, from York's Department of Social Policy and Social Work, said: "We found that there was little of value that alcohol companies were able to add to the evidence base. Our findings suggest that policy-makers should rethink the involvement of corporate interests in the making of public health policy."

The scientific research, funded by Alcohol Research UK, involved the study of 27 submissions made to the Scottish consultation by the alcohol industry.

According to their study published in PLOS magazine, findings



Researchers criticised the evidence of the Scottish Whisky Association

suggested supermarkets such as Tesco and ASDA, trade associations and drink companies were involved in undermining the evidence.

The Portman Group, which promotes alcohol responsibility, was named by the researchers as suggesting the evidence could "increase the appeal of alcohol to young people by creating a 'mystique,'" and thereby "turning alcohol into a 'forbidden fruit.'" Portman Group also reportedly claimed the approach

taken by the Scottish Government had been "widely discredited in research studies."

The researchers also accused large supermarket chain ASDA as saying, "minimum pricing and a promotions ban will create incentives for the black market and criminals and illegal door to door sales."

The researchers said Tesco criticised the research as having "little in the way of evidence" to support the impact of price on consumption.

Dr Jim McCambridge, from the London School of Hygiene & Medicine, said: "There is a broad consensus internationally among researchers that the most effective measures to control problems caused by alcohol are to raise the price, control availability and restrict marketing activities.

However, our study shows that key players in the alcohol industry constructed doubt about this wealth of scientific evidence and instead chose to promote weak survey-based evidence as well as making unsubstantiated claims to their advantage."

The researchers also accused the Wine and Spirit Trade Association (WSTA) as heavily promoting weak evidence in their submission, citing a 'small community trial' that lacks thorough data.

Miles Beale, chief executive of the WSTA, said: "The WSTA rightly responded to the Scottish government's consultation in 2008 outlining the reasons why we believed minimum unit pricing to be unfair, ineffective and possibly illegal - including providing evidence about what works. It is for government to review all the evidence it receives."

Last week, the industry's case against minimum pricing was thrown out by the court but industry chiefs have said they will take their case to the European Court.

## Student set for South Pole

**Anwen Baker**  
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

A YORK student is undertaking a 462 mile mission to the South Pole.

Lucy Shepherd hopes to take part in the annual South Pole race, set up in 2011 to mark the original South Pole race by Scott and Amundsen, which took place 100 years ago.

She will cross country ski 462 miles, whilst hauling a sledge, starting from the coastline of Novo and ending at the South Pole. The race is expected to take around 20-30 days, throughout which competitors will have to face temperatures of -50°C, wind speeds of up to 100mph and reduced oxygen levels.

The race is made up of two legs, the first taking competitors to the halfway mark where a 24 hour rest period is enforced. The second leg of the race will see the teams cross the plateau to reach the magnetic South Pole.

Lucy plans to visit schools and organisations working with children and hopes that by undertaking the expedition she will be able to "motivate young people to try and experience adventure at any level" and to "show others that it is possible to realise their dreams and ambitions by getting out of their comfort zones and finding out what they are made of."

## Student charity set up to bridge education gap

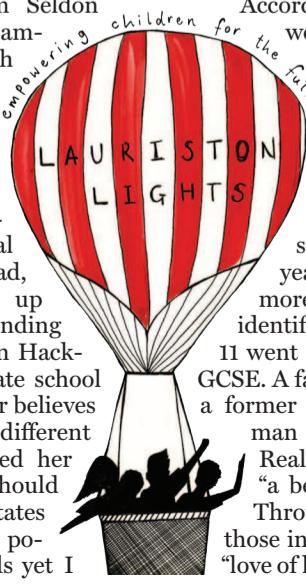
**Sofia Geraghty**  
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

A CHARITY part founded by University students is using Philosophy to empower bright children from disadvantaged backgrounds. Lauriston Lights is running a two week long summer school for children on the verge of secondary school, where they will gain experience in formal debating. It is hoped that through intellectual discussion they will not only develop stronger communication skills, but perhaps more importantly, will gain confidence in their own academic abilities.

see that in my second world there is a strong inspirational ethos, a mobilised ethos that taught me what it means to become a character that is ambitious, confident, and a vocal leader. Yes, Lauriston Lights initially is a two week summer school which comes with constraints but if someone placed such high value on a scholarship for me as one individual, then I can, ought to, and will place such high value on even one child walking out of the summer school inspired to learn more and feeling a little more confident".

The camp aims to improve the chances of the children by addressing problems the bright students may face at school and home.

According to the charities website there is a risk of "bright children getting lost in the system once they reach secondary school". Certainly this is an accusation that has been made of large mixed ability state schools before, just last year it was found that little more than a third of children identified as bright at the age of 11 went on to gain top grades at GCSE. A fact that Chris McGovern, a former headmaster and chairman of the Campaign for Real Education described as "a betrayal of a generation". Through the camp therefore, those involved hope to inspire a "love of learning in the students."



## Water shortage at Goodricke

**Harry Gallivan**  
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

STUDENTS IN Goodricke College have suffered numerous failures of their water supply over many months.

The water supply was cut twice last week alone, with students unable to wash, drink or flush the bathroom toilets during peak-hours.

The water was completely cut-off around peak-hour on Wednesday evening when many were cooking dinner, whilst the other occurred midday on Friday. This is the not the first time such issues have happened, with water being cut-off multiple times since the beginning of term.

Dean Hickey, Goodricke Chair, said: "The provision of running water is not only a basic human right it is also a legal statutory requirement to which the university as landlord is bound.

"We as a JCRC are extremely frustrated that this ongoing problem has still not been remedied.

"We believe that it is about time that the University started taking responsibility and honouring the obligations it owes towards students as its tenants. We will be working on behalf of those effected with the university to firstly find a solution to the problem and secondly explore the possibility of compensation."

Sarah Hay, Goodricke College administrator, has explained the problems to the students: "The water pumps are attached to a tank which supplies the colleges and the



Goodricke students were left without water on several occasions

remainder of the Hes East campus.

If the rate of consumption exceeds supply for a prolonged period, the tank drains and the pumps stop to prevent damage.

"Recently, we identified a significant leak in the underground pipes at the Catalyst building that was the principal cause of the tank draining too quickly.

"When cleaning of the filters takes place at the York Sport Village pool, this uses 40 per cent of incoming water flow. If this coincides with other peak demand, the system cannot cope and cuts out."

Langwith College has recently received £30,000 in compensation

for water and heating problems that have affected them. With Goodricke experiencing much the same water problems, this has prompted many Goodrickers to call for a compensation settlement similar to Langwith.

Bob Hughes, Welfare Officer, has advised Goodrickers: "I will be chasing up the issues in Goodricke alongside the Goodricke JCRC and I support them in seeking a suitable outcome for their issues, whether that's consultation, lobbying and/or compensation."

"I encourage any students with issues to get in touch with Goodricke JCRC and the appropriate members of University staff."

# A New Direction for the NUS

With the effects of high fees and funding cuts kicking in the NUS needs a new approach, **Laura Hughes** talks to Toni Pearce, the new NUS President.

NOUSE



Toni Pearce was elected as NUS President at National Conference 8-10 April 2013 with a majority of 424 votes. She took some time out of her busy post-election schedule to sit down with us and answer a few questions about her ambitions for the presidency and the immediate challenges facing NUS and students generally.

The 23 year old president of the National Union of Students, is unique in that she does not have a degree and flunked her sixth-form exams, and yet won the presidency of the NUS on the first ballot, with 424 of the 732 votes cast.

She beat three other candidates to take position and becomes first NUS President from further education background.

Pearce studied at Cornwall College, where she was elected President of Cornwall College Students' Union from 2009 to 2011.

She was elected NUS Vice-President (Further Education) in 2011 and re-elected for a second term in 2012.

Her achievements include winning £41m for student parents through Care To Learn and £50m in bursaries for adult FE student support.

Pearce is "delighted to have the opportunity to serve as NUS President. I want to unite NUS member unions and the wider student movement behind a coherent policy programme with post-16 education at its heart. What is clear to everyone is that the Coalition Government's approach up to this point has been nothing short of calamitous. We need to come together as a movement and articulate a credible vision for the future of post-16 education."

"The Government has set the sector on a path to destruction and is determined not to change course, despite overwhelming evidence of the damage its reforms are causing. We need to work with opposition parties to set out a way forward that treats students as partners in an essential public service rather than consumers in a commercial market."

What does Pearce see as the biggest challenges facing students today, and how does she hope to tackle them? "Hand in hand with skyrocketing tuition fees and dwindling gov-

ernment support for learners are some of the biggest challenges facing students today. "Then comes spiralling living costs; materials, transport, accommodation and subsistence expenses are peaking – these are the hidden costs of education omitted from the prospectus – so it's essential for NUS to follow up on its important Pound in Your Pocket research.

or who missed out on getting qualifications the first time around.

"Many of these people will be mothers hoping to return to study after having children, and the prospect of having to take out a student loan will act as a powerful deterrent. A complete lack of provision for Muslim students to take out these loans is an absolute

financial situation that postgraduates and especially taught Masters students are facing. With fees set to increase even further, "it's time to start talking seriously about the need for postgraduate funding. Career Development loans offered by banks are far too expensive and it's no surprise that uptake of them has been so low.

"Unless an alternative is provided, numbers of UK postgraduates will continue to decline, which is bad news for students and bad news for the future of the UK economy. This year we've worked on developing a new model for postgraduate taught funding – Steps toward a fairer system of postgraduate taught funding in England and I want to work with the Postgraduate section to continue to campaign for fairer funding."

As NUS President, Pearce aspires "to continue campaigning around the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill to ensure there is a strong show of support for the legislation at third reading.

This is something many students feel very strongly about and although the biggest challenge has been overcome already, we need to keep working to ensure that the final legislation is of the highest quality.

"We need to build capacity in the student movement over the next two years to ensure we're in the strongest possible position to win for students at the general election. That means supporting campaigning activity in unions now, whether that's around privatisation or community campaigns."

Our new NUS President believes, "It's really important that the public begin to recognise further and higher education as more than just an economic value. I want to mobilise as many students as possible to register to vote in the 2015 general election, but also to make sure that our communities are voting on education issues too."

"Students make up a significant proportion of the electorate in many key constituencies and with coordinated action we could influence the election in a big way. We need to act now to unseat this government and particularly those MPs who broke our pledge not to raise tuition fees."

**"It's really important that the public recognise higher education as more than just an economic value. I want to mobilise as many students as possible"**

"I want to target campaigns in areas where students need the most support to make sure they have the information they need to plan their finances."

Pearce believes we also need to face up to one of the biggest crises of our generation, unemployment.

"For too long we've stood on the side lines on this issue but I will campaign to create jobs and apprenticeships for students, graduates and young people in our local communities through procurement both locally and nationally."

In terms of specific government policies, she is most concerned about the 24+ Advanced Learner Loans policy, it is "really worrying because it will hit people who are thinking about returning to education later in life,

disgrace, and something that has to be addressed."

In her manifesto pledge, Pearce promised to deliver an employment strategy for every students' union, working locally with small business and trades unions.

To train student leaders to secure jobs through procurement, protecting employment whenever services are outsourced, and make sure we're not just creating internships, placements and apprenticeships, but securing work for local people too.

In terms of tackling the postgraduate funding crisis, "NUS' flagship research programme, The Pound in Your Pocket, laid bare the dire



# SocDrawer

## The section by societies, for societies

When hearing the phrase 'Cage Soc', many possibilities of societies come to mind (I will not mention those).

The Cage Soc (UYCS) that I am mentioning is one that will hopefully be a staple of student life at York. It will be talked about at Vanbrugh Paradise, it will be gossiped about in halls. This is the society for Nicolas Cage lovers.

Ali Amer and Faith Parry, the

co-creators of said society are your average Physics and Maths students, though their love for Cage is everything but average. Describing the society as a "natural entropy of the universe", they welcome anyone and all to join their society, which is now close to 100 likes on Facebook.

Now, is this society a piss take or an actual love for Nicolas Cage? According to Parry, it started out as

being a joke but now they are more serious about it. Cage, with his bizarre form of method acting has been the source of ridicule for many people on the Internet.

Two examples of his method acting are actually being drunk on set for a drunken scene and smashing a toy that a man on the street was selling to prepare for a crazy role. Ali and Faith just want people

to join them in recognising Cage, whether you love his movies or love them because they are so bizarre.

When asked if they are going to plan to ratify themselves next term, Amer and Parry gave a firm yes. "We fill a niche, there is a gap in the market".

If you are unsure if this society is for you, they were quick to affirm that they welcome anyone. To be more specific, "We welcome those who know the alphabet and are kind to the Alva's of the world."

If you do not get these references come for a movie screening in the near future. For them, it is down to the members of the society if they want to join it for a piss take or if they are serious fans. For Amer, "In keeping with the second law of thermodynamics you can't create seriousness from ridiculousness" (take what you will from that).

For anyone interested, they will be holding a social next term. Be sure to like their Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/CageSoc>) to hear more about when and where. If you are not convinced, come along. To add to that, Amer and Parry's favourite Cage film, Vampire's Kiss (1988), will probably be the first movie to be screened in one of their many movie screenings.

Read these 5 Cage facts to learn more about the beloved actor. Also,

to have a glimpse of some amazing Cage quality, catch these top 5 links that Amer and Parry have chosen.

Top 5 Nicolas Cage facts:

- He has created his own style of acting (the Cage-ian approach).
- He beat Anthony Hopkins and nabbed an Oscar for Leaving Las Vegas.

• Cage is Francis Ford Coppola's nephew. Cage changed his surname from Coppola so that he would not follow in his Uncle's footsteps. Some of the things Coppola directed were 'The Godfather' movies and the original 'Great Gatsby'.

• No one else can project inner trembling so effectively.

• According to Amer, reading more than 4 facts per day about Nicolas Cage is hazardous to your well-being.

If you are still not convinced about how amazing Cage is, check out this quote, on him taking magic mushrooms with his cat (take from [www.stuff.co.nz](http://www.stuff.co.nz)):

"The cat ate them voraciously, so I thought what the heck, I better do it with him. I remember lying on my bed for hours and Lewis was on the desk across my bed and we just stared at each other for hours - not moving, just staring at each other, and I had no doubt that he was my brother."

**Sunaina Suri**



NICOLAS CAGE IN SEASON OF THE WITCH

## Society Diary

*It's been a tremendous year for the **Outdoor Society** so far, with walks going on every weekend, and 2 very successful weekend trips to the Lakes and to Snowdonia. Highlights have included following in the footsteps of Harry Potter with a walk to Malham Cove and visiting the famous Wensleydale cheese factory in Hawes. As the weather improves (well, we can hope) and exam stress hits, there is no better time to don your walking boots and get out in the Dales. This term we have lots of exciting walks planned, including Robin Hood's Bay in Week 2, and a coastal walk around Whitby where we will be braving the North Sea. In week 8 our weekend away is a treat for the very keenest of walkers, as we will endeavour to complete the 26 mile Yorkshire 3 Peaks challenge, in under 8 hours! As well as our Sunday walks, you can look forward to some fabulous and friendly socials. This term we kick off with a pub quiz at The Old White Swan on Goodramgate, at 8pm on Wednesday Week 2 (May 1st). This is a great chance to meet the committee and catch up with long-lost faces over a pint or two! With reduced membership of £4 for the whole term, there's no better time to come along. Find us on Twitter: @OutdoorSoc*

The Eurovision Song Contest began 57 years ago. Though its reputation has been chequered recently, branded as overtly political and no longer about the music, in recent years the Contest has again returned to tradition and last year's winning entry 'Euphoria' topped the charts across the continent, including a top 3 placing in the UK. There is nothing else like Eurovision in the world. It is the biggest non-sporting television program in the world, with average audiences of 100 million people across the globe. People write the contest off, perhaps because of the misleading view that we never win because of political voting and also that the quality and genre of music involved is the ultimate in guilty pleasure. In truth, the music can surprise you: In recent years lots of the songs from the Contests have gone on to be hits across the world, and even established stars are entering the contest – Cascada are representing Germany this year. The York Eurovision Society is a new entrant to the society scene. It brings together people who have a shared love for the kitsch charm of Europe's favourite television program. It offers discussion of hot favourites for this year's contest in Malmö, but also a broader forum for discussing all time favourite Eurovision songs.

## OddSoc: Eurovision

## What's On

### York Spring Festival of New Music 2013

8 - 12 May

<http://www.yorkspring-festival.co.uk/2013>

### Love, Anger and Envy: Emotions and the Early Reformation

9 May, 5.30pm  
Bowland Auditorium

### Marketing Yourself

9 May  
D/056

### The Browning Version

10 - 12 May, 7.30pm  
Drama Barn

### Django Unchained

10 May 6.45pm  
York Student Cinema

Celebrate York  
11 May 11.00 am

Hull Road Park

Breakz Presents:  
Oscillate  
11 May 10pm

Mansion

Leveson and press integrity - what have we learned?  
13 May 6.30pm

Bowland Auditorium

Mamma Mia: Here I ODN  
13 May 7.30pm

Drama Barn

York Hornets Showcase  
8 May 4.45pm

£2 admission  
Hendrix Hall

# Comment



Hussein Kesvani

## Don't overvalue contact time

In light of a Daily Mail report, students question the financial value of their degrees.

**R**ecently, an article published by the *Mail on Sunday* exposed a 'scandal': students at certain universities received fewer than 100 hours of contact time per year. This might not have come as much of a shock, particularly if like me, you're a humanities student.

It seems the controversy actually sparked over the mention of York particularly concerning the History department. The Unistats site showed that we History students spend fewer than eight per cent of our time in lectures and seminars.

**"The free time we have gives us time to carve our own paths into employment - a luxury that other students with more contact often go without"**

On average, my total contact time numbered around five hours per week over the past three years. Compared to the 15 hours plus of most sciences or economics students, it's no wonder that some people are quite annoyed, especially those paying £9,000 per year.

Tripled university fees, alongside significant cutbacks into arts,

humanities and social science departments, contact hours have become a prominent measure in defining the 'value for money' of our degrees. The general notion, as students doing 'proper courses' will tell you, is that the worth of a degree is heavily dependent on the amount of contact time provided. That's why course reps run on a platform of more contact time.

But how valuable are contact hours? Students taking a joint degree with a language have frequently voiced their frustration with the low level of teaching given to languages.

Similarly, Physics students spent 23 per cent of their time in tutorials and lectures - proportionally less than most UK universities. Where there is a practical necessity, the contact time needed to develop these skills are a valuable commodity; it is only right that departments provide the adequate resources needed for such students.

Where does this leave the non-vocational humanities? Though representatives of the History department argued that the figures did not factor in all the department resources available, there might be a point to be made in regards to the tangible benefits of more contact time.

It is undeniable that courses like Philosophy require a great amount of introspective study. Though more contact hours can help us structure our days much more easily, the ac-

tual benefits of further discussing weekly reading might not be as valuable as we think, particularly considering that our lecturers and tutors aren't there to spoon-feed us arguments.

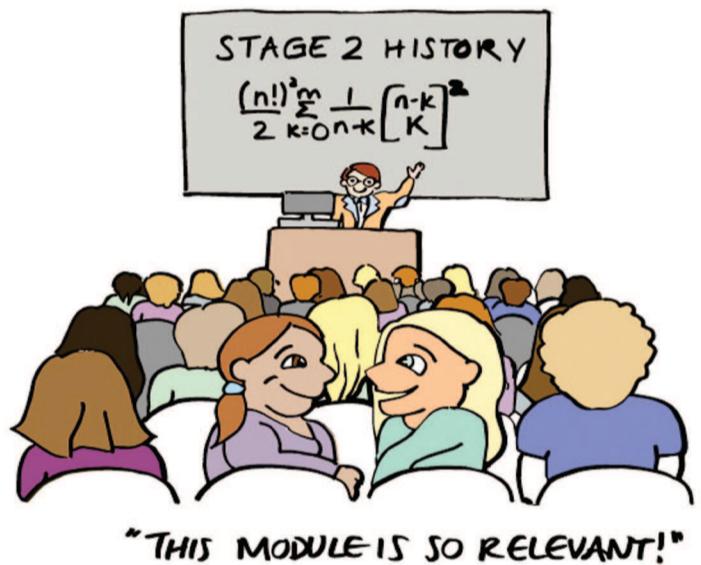
More important is whether increased contact time really is the way to go with non-vocational degrees. Arts and humanities degrees naturally orientate without a set destination; indeed if we were all to become academics, most of us would be taking courses in academic integrity, research and even teaching.

In fact, as written in *The Guardian*, the free time we have gives us time to carve our own paths into

employment - a luxury that other students with more contact time often go without. Perhaps, a lack of contact time actually has a hidden value- one in which we are afforded both a broad, multifaceted education along with more time to figure out what we actually want to spend the rest of our lives doing.

Measuring the quality of our degrees by this crude, quantitative scale ultimately demeans their real value, and is probably not the right path to take. Though contact time is necessary as a means to develop ideas, test theories and develop practical skills, their effectiveness is very much dependent on both students and the degree itself.

KATE MITCHELL



Josh Allen

## Barista battle is far from over

The closing of Barista can represent an opportunity for progressive action from YUSU.

**A**s a hardened, somewhat bitter and certainly cynical 3rd year, I've been pleased to see YUSU focusing on talking to Health Sciences students, an under-represented group at the University. The campaign against the potential closure of Café Barista, the sole social space in their building, a building also used by many social science students, as well as the University's "night school" classes, seems a natural extension of this. As a trade unionist, I was also impressed by their apparent co-working with Unison, a union which works hard to defend the rights of our hard-working, ever pleasant and skilful, lower paid, service staff.

I signed the petition. However, David Duncan, our University Registrar, actually makes many good points. The set-up isn't designed to provide a comprehensive catering service or even a pleasant customer experience. I can testify. I've used Café Barista, once: back in Novem-

ber for a post-seminar social gathering. The table was too awkwardly angled for us to talk, the selection of food was poor, the coffee not nice, and the ambiance? Atrocious.

So while I applaud YUSU's attempts to reach out to the Health Science and to defend the working conditions of staff, this is where my opinion changes. Since nobody is going to lose their job, or suffer worse conditions, an issue which should always be a deal-breaker for a progressive students' union, I'm not entirely sure what anybody gains through Barista remaining in its current state, which is neither convivial common room nor, despite the name, companionate coffee shop?

I suggest that both YUSU and the University consider things afresh. There is a wider issue here: the University needs more neutral, social spaces. In short we need more common rooms, like YUSU's newish YourSpace. A wonderfully flexible

facility where you can work, meet friends, or just sit quietly during the day, and which in the evening is supposedly transformed into a hub of student activity, democracy, and creativity. Alongside the constantly changing, constantly inventive Norman Rea Gallery above Court-yard and the Derwent Quiet Study Room, it is one of the gems which makes York's campus unique.

If I were YUSU, given the University's proposals for transforming Barista into a proper common room, expanding the much used B-Henry's and Library Café, locations which work really well, improving their "offers" to the campus community, I would back off on this issue. I would cease, in the terminology of one University official, to be 'statusque' and instead become dynamic.

I would be proactive, finding out what all students want from their campus in terms of free, social space and fight hard with the University's workers unions, Unison,

UNITE, UCU and GMB to secure equivalent space for staff so as to embed the concept of a common room deep within the University's culture.

By taking a stance which is progressive rather than reactionary YUSU could deliver campus space not just for health science students, but for all. Spaces that are genuinely ours, spaces where we can just, dare I say it: hang out. By engaging students in activism campus wide, they could pressure the University into giving TLC to the rest of our campus public realm; the JCRs, SCR, study spaces and all the areas where people just congregate. Spaces which on Hes East, part-privatised territory, that it is, always seemed decidedly lacking and in need of either creation or definition. The Barista fight is, essentially an easy way out, for both University and Union. We need to respect and expand our public spaces on campus, and not just quibble over them.



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BRANDON SEAGER

Take a gap year, yah?



Adam Seldon

Gap year bashing is a perennially popular past time, the topic of such comic sensations as the infamous 'Gap Yah' video, which on last inspection had amassed almost 5 million views on YouTube. People readily mock those who attempt to 'find themselves'. Gap years, usually taken before or after university, are thus fertile ground for the cynic.

Gap years typically involve travelling abroad and one may choose to volunteer, with statistics saying 20 per cent of gap yearers do. Beyond the banal humour, there are serious issues to consider, issues that are all too often ignored by travellers. The nadir of my own gap year was tubing in Vang Vieng, Laos. However, these riverside 'amusements' ended up killing so many tourists (figures reported 20 deaths in 2011) that the government was forced to close tubing down. Upon my own arrival to Vang Vieng, someone had died just a few days before, but people were oblivious, happy to party on. Beyond this discomforting debauchery, tubing massively disrupted the local culture and led to numerous local youths addicted to drugs.

Still, stereotyping tubing, as the typical traveller experience is a very easy thing to do. Well planned gap years, where you immerse yourself in a culture so far as is possible, pursue a range of experiences and perhaps even pick up a language, are clearly worthwhile undertakings.

The merits of volunteering are more delicate terrain. Volunteering ultimately may end up doing more harm than good. A recent UNICEF report showed that only 28 per cent of kids in Cambodian orphanages have actually lost both parents. Volunteering nourishes an arrogant delusion that those in poorer countries need the help of the enlightened Westerner. But with no real skills that can be of real use, what's the point of digging a hole, then buggering off after two weeks?

I don't buy such arguments. For sure, there are companies that exploit the goodwill of people, that organise expeditions that are of no discernible benefit to the local community. But the simple solution is to avoid such companies. Ensure you carry out proper research beforehand and select a reputable company. The volunteering company that I went with, The Leap, spent 64 per cent of the money I paid to them on the local communities I volunteered in, a sum the community were clearly grateful of.

What deserves as much scrutiny as gap year travelling is the generic route without a break of school-university-profession. Why is time taken out of this routine so frowned upon? Daring to explore, to break out of the comforts of home life and work, can be an enriching experience that opens you up to perspectives and cultures other than your own. As Augustine of Hippo put it, "The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page."

## Gagging orders: Compromise or cover-up?

Rosalind Hayes



Expensive gagging orders used at the University are indicative of a management style based in secrecy and mistrust.

**N**eeds reports have been awash in recent months with issues over government-funded organisations employing silencing tactics. The revelation that the University has paid out nearly half a million pounds in gagging orders in the past six years is concerning. It reveals an unhealthy practice of secrecy and mistrust that has the potential to permeate all levels of our respected institution.

The greatest concern is that we don't know what is being withheld inside the walls of Heslington Hall. Is this all banal? A way of ensuring that both parties "understand the mutually agreed terms" of resignation? Or is it something more unsavoury? David Duncan's assertion that these agreements are used "sparingly" suggests that they are reserved for certain circumstances which require emphatic discretion. In the worst case scenario, any individual, group or the education body as a whole could be pulled into disrepute.

In every high profile, agreed compromise case that has come to light recently, the statements from whistleblowers have warned of a "culture of fear". Duncan's point that the agreements are standard; part-and-parcel of voluntary severance, may well be well grounded in legal jargon, but the reality may not be so neutral. Testimony from high-profile whistleblowers suggests that many of them experienced forced resignation and unavoidable gagging clauses. I don't think it's beyond any multi-million pound institution - no, not even our hallowed York - to employ the same tactics of coercion, and of fear, to ensure si-

lent departure of staff.

Dr Duncan is right in saying that the £80,000 p.a. average cost is small in comparison to the £100 million worth of expenditure across the board; obviously this cost is more than covered by the tuition fees of a measly ten unwitting freshers, out of the thousands that descend on Heslington every year.

**"The cost of this should not be quantified in monetary terms"**

What the University's official statement disregards, however, is that the cost of this should not be quantified in monetary terms. The hidden costs of this are less tangible but much wider spread. Gags are veiling issues in our institution, lurking on both of the campuses, maybe even within your own department.

What distinguishes this from the larger national-scale scandals is that University fees are, for most of the cohort, our first taste of investing large sums of money and trust into a service.

The choice of which university to attend is never taken lightly, and it is only right that we have full disclosure from a body to which we have put our names to. It's as though we are not valued enough to be told if something's wrong.

We should be encouraged to have faith in those who manage and teach at York, but the fact that money is being paid to keep departed staff quiet undermines attempts

from either side.

It is unsurprising that these payments found backing from Brian Cantor, the previous Vice Chancellor. His time at York has been characterised by a distanced leadership at best. The practice of separating management staff from the student clientele found a significant financial and ideological grounding during his control, which lasted over a decade of expansion and falling league ratings; you have to wonder whether the tension of these changes ended in dismissal and pay-off for anyone. Is something being held from us?

I'll accept that most of the gagging clauses probably are innocent procedure but a precedent for opacity has been set, and it only takes one whistleblower to rock the boat.

If Professor Koen Lambert lives up to Kallum Taylor's assessment of "a very approachable and down to earth Vice Chancellor" then perhaps we can hope for a more transparent, student focused tenure to come.

Gagging clauses are rapidly being rejected by national organisations. In March, Jeremy Hunt, the health secretary, rid the NHS of the ability to slap down gagging clauses, and the BBC announced on Thursday that it too was rejecting the practice in the wake of the Jimmy Savile scandal.

Clearly public concern over corruption and misconduct is being recognised by the country's biggest institutions; York's leadership should reflect this move towards increased transparency and treat students and staff with a little more respect.

Follow the debate:  
Comment online at  
[nouse.co.uk/comment](http://nouse.co.uk/comment)

**Comment**

Runner-up in Guardian Student Publication of the Year 2012

**The Price of Silence**

The University management style this week has been revealed to be even more secretive and mistrustful than previously believed. Gagging orders, the clause in this instance between a the University as an employer and those leaving its employment, have connotations of shady behaviour. Maybe they are used for innocent purposes, such as redundancies. But as twenty six have been used in the last six years, and there's certainly been more staff move on than that, some explanation is necessary. The financial repercussions are equally troubling, with fees raised to £9,000 this year the questions over where our money goes is increasingly at the front of students' minds. Do you approve of your fees being spent on potential cover ups? Especially when we don't know what exactly is being covered up. Even if there is a potentially innocent reason for their usage, the money not be spent on resources we can make use of? And those coming to the University should be aware of any issues they are potentially walking into?

**Time won't tell**

The University of York made national news last week. The Mail on Sunday published an article on the 28th of April about the variety of contact hours received by students on a variety of courses at universities nationwide. Bachelors of the Arts in History at the University of York came bottom of the table with less than 100 hours a year of teaching time. But the University, and the department especially, are passionate in disputing this point. They base their argument in additional contact hours and the quality of the time. Lectures and seminars are not the same after all, and some would argue the smaller the class, the more the individual student can take away from their time in class. Other, mainly the student body here, argue back that the additional hours aren't significant to their academic success. For example, the frequency with which open office hours are used is minimal. Those paying higher fees might be especially concerned, the extra £6000 can't be going on new books for History students. So why do they pay the same as those in courses which involve triple the contact hours and extensive and expensive equipment? This debate doesn't look settled yet, many questions have been raised and very few answered thus far.

**Congratulations to York's sportsman**

York's sportsmen must be congratulated for a decisive victory in Roses 2013. The margin of 180.5 to Lancaster's 105.5 illustrates the leaps made by our sportsmen and the way sport is run at the University - not to mention the spirit shown to come back from last year's defeat in such style. Some memorable highlights included the opening ceremony and Men's Rugby 1sts on Friday night, the Mens and Womens Waterpolo 1sts on Saturday evening. Lancaster put up a great fight on Sunday, fighting back and winning Mens' Football, but the victory was already ours. Well done, York!

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**Contribute:** [editor@nouse.co.uk](mailto:editor@nouse.co.uk)

The previous paper edition of Nouse featured an article on the front page with a picture of a Computer Science student, holding a quadrotor flying robot outside the University's Robot Lab. The picture was used without permission, and its juxtaposition with the headline inappropriately associated the student with military drone research. Nouse would like to apologise for the misuse of this image, and any resultant defamation of character. The student has never been involved in military research of any kind.

The article titled Freedom Through Faith published in the 5th March 2013 issue of Nouse was adjusted in accordance to wishes of the interviewee, who felt that some of his views have not been communicated and may cause misunderstanding. The adjusted version is available online.

**Consume with care**

**Ellie Rice**  
Deputy Comment Editor



**L**e's be honest, the vast majority of us have no idea where our clothes are made. If we really cared, we wouldn't buy them until we knew for sure who made them, where, and what their working conditions were.

The recent tragedy at an illegal, eight-storey factory unit in Dhaka, Bangladesh, has promoted many to reconsider their clothing options. Especially when Primark, notorious for the media coverage its labour force have received, became associated with the incident. Admittedly they did come forward with the confession themselves, and those who haven't yet admitted their involvement or offered any compensation could end up with a worse public image.

Call me a cynic but I believe their actions here were a pre-emptive strike, an opportunity for good publicity before they were ousted. Sadly, this had nothing to do with good morals and wanting to help those less fortunate than themselves.

Protests outside Primark's flagship store on Oxford Street barely made the news; other retailers, such as Bonmarché, Matalan and Mango, have been linked with the factory yet hardly received any mention. As much as these appalling conditions

should matter, we often feel detached if it doesn't hit the headlines that hard. If someone in Britain was found to be paying their workers as little as \$38 a month, there would be uproar. The company's trading days would be over. But it's on the other side of the world, why should we care? Because it's 3.6 million people suffering in Bangladesh's garment industry so that you don't have to spend so much of your student loan on clothes, and can party in Willow a few more times a week.

I have a confession, I am one of those people: I shop at Primark. As I write this I've considered where the clothes I'm wearing come from and come to the conclusion that I have NO idea. And I do feel bad about it.

It's uncomfortable to think about, and it's left me with an overhanging guilt that my choices have played a part in the recent catastrophe. We can slowly improve someone else's life just by making better choices. Little by little, we can all make a difference.

Remember your white "make poverty history" wristband, remember to feed the world and remember all those children missing out on an education because they're sewing buttons. A little bit of humanity goes a long way, it doesn't even have to cost you anything. In fact it's free to stop buying things.

The solution, in my opinion, is to buy better quality food, wear your old clothes and spend even more on £1 tequila shots so that you don't spend a penny on clothes. Save the awkward guilt, jump on the ethical bandwagon, and I'll see you all in Oxfam.



LIZZY ROBERTS

**Gary Holland**  
Deputy Comment Editor

**Give Brown a break**

**W**hen I was growing up, my parents always taught me that I should always try to forgive people for the things they do wrong. I didn't like it at the time and I often still feel that forgiving everybody for everything would constitute a profound lack of disincentive for other people to wrong me. What would they have to lose? Of course, nobody really forgives everybody of everything. Much less that man again.

That's what most, or at least the loudest, people seemed to think, anyway. Personally, I can't quite make peace with the idea that because he did something wrong, albeit a horrible, disgusting, abusive something, nobody should ever support him again by buying his music. God knows I've done things that were wrong before – though none quite that bad, I'd hasten to add – and so has everyone else. So who decides how bad is bad enough for an action to never be forgiven?

Well, we know the answer to that really. It's the people with Twitter followers in the thousands, with national newspaper columns, and with airtime on the telly. And they've decided that if you beat a

woman, you don't deserve to, for example, sell any more music.

Which is why, I'm sure, nobody of that opinion listens to anything by John Lennon, who also famously admitted to beating the women in his life, including those whom he married. Because you don't come back from that. You don't get forgiveness for that. No decent person will, or ought to, ever support that man again.

But Lennon, you might argue, accepted that he had a problem. He went on to campaign for peace. He was a good man. And I would agree with you. He did many great things, but also some terrible, arguably unforgivable things. And his exploits are well-known. After all, he was a bigger celebrity than Brown is.

So what do we do? Should we boycott everything Lennon had anything to do with? Or should we all buy Chris Brown's latest album? Neither, in my opinion. But rather that we shouldn't be so quick to lampoon and that we should think critically about the things we think are obvious.

What makes something unforgivable, for example. And why we don't seem to react to all wrongdoers consistently.

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What makes something unforgivable, for example. And why we don't seem to react to all wrongdoers consistently.

**N**BA star Jason Collins is gay. Surely that's all any article, tweet or interview needed to state. Yet scrolling down my Google tab, I see that this topic of conversation has reached over seven hundred thousand pieces of media attention, and I find myself asking why – particularly when the overwhelming message is how totally normal this is. Don't get me wrong, I'm not disputing that. Being gay is totally normal. But then why is everyone – even President Obama – making such a big deal out of it?

It's easy to say that they'll be adequate role models for those who are still insecure about their sexuality, but I'd argue that this is counterproductive to accepting the LGBT+ community into society.

These sports stars shouldn't be shoved into the limelight because of whom they want to sleep with. By doing so, their overwhelming status suddenly becomes their sexuality, and that's precisely what insecure people try to fight against every day.

While Collins himself has stated that he believes his actions will encourage other sports players in the US to do the same, it's worth remembering that they might not all want to because they believe sexual orientation is a private affair.

Perhaps some will feel pres-

sured to do so, on the grounds that if they're not open to the whole world, they're not as good a role model as Collins is being heralded as. This can't be a positive symptom of the situation.

**“There needs to be a line drawn between what is news reporting and what is counter-productive media”**

Perhaps I'm brushing over the fact that the LGBT+ community possibly has a tougher time over in the USA than in the UK. But you could count on two hands the number of premiership footballers who have come out. There seems to be a stigma attached to sport, masculinity, and sexuality, a stigma so inherent that it's almost impossible to break the mould.

Let's not forget that equal marital status isn't something to be enjoyed in all fifty states of the USA and nor is the right to job security if you come out in no fewer than thirty states. Verbal and physical abuse

**Alex Slingsby**  
Comment Editor

**Russell up something special**

**A**ugust 2012: The time we made it into the Russell Group. Which was a surprise for me, as I had thought that York was already in the Russell Group Elite when I applied in the first place (clear lack of research on my part). This means that, come graduation day, when it's time to wake up and enter the real world, we can walk away with our head held high, safe in the knowledge that we have graduated from one of only 24 Russell Group universities, whatever that means.

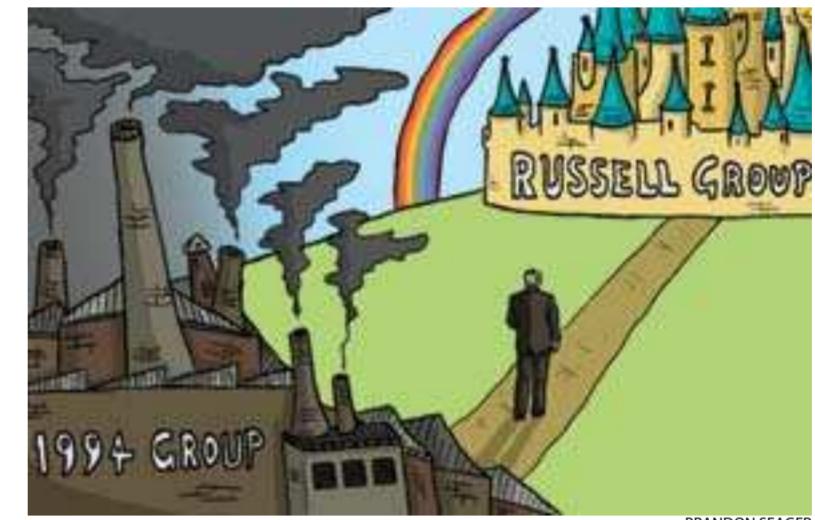
"Since August 2012, the University has coughed up £159,000 for Russell Group"

The Russell Group Elite happens to be the UK's largest source of world-class research, dealing in matters of wealth, health and the environment, contributing over £25 billion each year to the UK's economy, and proving quite handy in a recession. Graduates from these universities are highly sought-after, and according to the official website, the average wage of a Russell Group graduate is ten percent higher than that of a graduate from another university. York was once part of the aptly-named 1994 Group, a collection of 17 universities established just after the Russell Group, presumably as an act of last-minute defiance: Anything you can do, we can do (almost as well, but without the cool name). Membership for the 1994 Group cost considerably less, peaking at only £22,000 pa. Since York ditched its old allies for the Russell Group ranks, however, it seems that the University also seems to have left their financial experts behind, and thrown its money into the research.

I'm going to be controversial, and suggest that the £159,000 membership fee perhaps isn't that much for the University to handle, especially as it would seem that the University can afford its own Library Gestapo. We have joined one of the most pretentious, elitist, protectionist groups of institutions in the world, but at least we're no longer on the outside. Surely the potential benefits that York could gain from this venture outweigh the cost. Students, researchers and

businesses from all over the world head over to Russell Group universities as a first port of call for research. Why? Because Russell Group has funnelled millions of pounds into decades of research. Yes, this is a costly effort, and the funds are coming from our own tuition fees, but the proof is in the pudding, and Russell Group is rich.

The problem I have is that the University doesn't seem to have advanced as a big Russell Group world-leading university. I understand its early days, but if anything, we've just regressed. York was one of the universities most affected by nationwide council cuts this year, something that could have perhaps been avoided with a little gentle persuasion from a Russell Group university. We have the power to change things, but the University seems to be holding that at ransom for some reason. We're not paying member-



BRANDON SEAGER

ship to one of the most powerful organisations in the UK, just so that I can be smug about it.

In March 2013, the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) cut funding for York by as much as 28.8 per cent, in areas including research. This is, of course, despite the fact that our research capacities are supposedly the reason we are doing well.

York needs to stop giving in to cuts like these. It's demoralising, puts our students at an unfair advantage, and it completely avoidable. Now that we're finally past the pearly gates of Russelldom (it only took eighteen years), the University needs to show everyone what the students here are worth. We're not just Doxbridge rejects, settling for our Insurance University, and looking for a way out. This is a Russell Group university, and needs to start acting like one.

Dr Seldon mused the utility of studying philosophy against the far less utopian realities we are presented with. Philosophy allows us to release ourselves, somewhat, from societal constructs. To sit back and recognise that if we're to rid ourselves of a society and begin again there would be very few, for example, who would concoct five A to C grades as a measure of the success of a child. Intelligence is not just a letter on a piece of paper, its emotional maturity, to be creative and to challenge norms.

I have a friend awaiting her acceptance into nursing college. She's perfect for the career; caring, attentive, personable, hard-working and motivated – skills of character, not skills of a textbook. But she doesn't have her maths GCSE, and the fact that she's probably missed a C grade by one or two per cent means nothing to the admin and bureaucracy that allows for society's cogs to whir in a self-congratulatory efficiency.

This week I attended a revision lecture by Matt Matravers, who admitted to never having given one in his life. He recounted the fallacy of watching students working in the library; laptop screen open on their left, pad of paper and pen on their right, writing down direct quotes and statements from the text as if in some way the repetition will eventually allow us to come to understand Contemporary Political Philosophy at the same level as Rawls, Nozick or Sandel. This is not our fault, Matravers reassured, but the way we have been taught that education works. Learn the textbook and you'll sail through the exam.

Tony Blair was right in 1997 that education is the catalyst to a better society, not enough time was taken, however, to understand what to be educated means. Recognise that the paper trails of our education, whilst not wasted, are not the defining feature of intelligence. A first doesn't necessarily mean success outside of academia, nor does a third equate to failure. This is our society, we are the future bureaucracy, and before we become sheepishly embroiled, we should take philosophical pause, challenge and mould our norms to better understand that an A-grade maths GCSE is a short-sighted road-block to facilitating a society of equal opportunity.

**Comment****More than the grades**

**Elizabeth Lynch**



**E**ducation, education, education: The year of 1997. But what did New Labour mean outside of the facts and figures of A to C grades and attendance rates?

What should have been asked then, and what we should ask now is what do we understand to be an intelligent individual? This question was posed by Dr Anthony Seldon, Headmaster of Wellington College, who spoke at the University last Friday. He recounted how he had once sat a philosophy exam alongside his A-Level students, and came bottom of the class. Education has fallen under the demise of over-examination; studying for the grade instead of studying to become more intelligent.

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## Comment



Nicole Sørlie

# Why can't we be happy in the skin we're in?

The strange mix of contradiction and complement in British and Swazi attitudes to skin colour.

Cross cultural experiences often bring to light the strengths in your own culture. However, a recent trip to Swaziland in southern Africa showed me that there's a deeper problem within each individual.

The desire to adopt a quality, skill or characteristic in which we don't already possess is not distinctively present in only one culture. When it comes to image, especially, we're never satisfied and it equally stands true concerning the colour of our skin.

**“Some risks can involve permanent skin bleaching, thinning of the skin and uneven colour loss”**

At first glance, I couldn't help but notice that Swazi women dressed very modestly. Despite the sweltering heat, they wore long sleeved tops and long skirts or jeans. It was only in talking to some of them that I learned that this was all to prevent their skin from getting darker, and this attire is added to by the occasional use of an umbrella to shade them from the sun.

Swazi women will even use skin lightening products; both natural solutions and shop bought products.

Some products include make-up, moisturiser, and even pills which react with the melanin in skin to prevent it from darkening as well as to reduce the pigmentation.

Although these types of pills and moisturisers can be used for a variety of things, for instance, reducing the appearance of uneven skin tone, sun and liver spots and acne blemishes, the NHS warns people about the dangers behind skin lightening moisturisers which haven't been prescribed by a GP or dermatologist.

Some risks can involve permanent skin bleaching, thinning of the skin and uneven colour loss, due to ingredients such as high dose steroids and hydroquinone, a bleaching agent banned from use in cosmetics.

The more alarming fact in all of this, however, is that these women aren't taking pills and using moisturisers to make their skin tone even, instead they're unhappy with their dark skin and want to physically adjust the colour of their skin; they want to change their race.

The whole situation cries out that there's still a stigma attached to darker skin. Not only is this evident through existing racial discrimination in the west, but it's evident in the uprising discrimination amongst a race towards themselves.

In essence they want to be white black people, which could be translated to albinism, a congenital

disorder which is caused by the lack of the pigment melanin. The irony is of course that albinos in Swaziland and across Africa are severely looked down upon in society. They are often attacked, and even butchered for 'muti', which is strongly tied to witchcraft. There are horrific stories of people being mutilated so their body parts can be used in traditional medicines.

**“Summertime in the UK, for many the darker you tan, the better”**

The muti-killings are often referred to as 'medicine murders' in Southern Africa, and the problem has spread across other parts of Africa, such as Tanzania and Burundi.

It's a complex ritual and more importantly, a huge problem, which remains difficult to comprehend. I think it would be unfair to say that people in Swaziland and other parts of Africa want to be albino and that's why they lighten their skin, but the irony is still there. They're not only discriminating towards themselves through the process, but many openly discriminate against who in essence they want to become.

It's strange then that somehow the concept darkening your

skin here in the UK doesn't seem as alarming. It's a known fact that sun beds can be extremely harmful, due to the strong UV rays which can cause skin cancer, and there's always the risk of leaving a tanning salon that unflattering shade of orange, but people still do it. Why is that?

There are a significant number of white people who are equally as unhappy with the shade of their skin, here in the UK, as the black people in Swaziland.

Although tanning in the sun with the bare minimum amount of clothing, along with the other cosmetic methods, doesn't seem as obscure as taking pills, the underlying problem can't be ignored.

There are clear parallels which can be drawn between these polar opposite approaches. Summertime in the UK, for many means the darker you tan, the better. Which can't be more of a contrast to Swazis, and I'm sure other cultures, whose envy is lighter skin.

The Swazis found it strange that I wanted to sit in the sun to get darker, just as I found it strange they would want to purposefully keep out of it and use cosmetic products to lighten their skin.

You could call it a cultural clash, but I think there's a much deeper problem going on with how we view ourselves. Are we fed these qualities we aspire towards through the media?

## Topical Tweets from the Twittersphere...



@yusuprez  
Kallum Taylor,  
YUSU President

Not bringing the physics centre down tonight (yet) but great AGM turnout tonight compared to last year! :-@YorkUniSU #Progress

1 May

3 May

@bbcnickrobinson  
Nick Robinson,  
BBC Political Editor

This is a very English anti-establishment revolt - led by a public school boy & son of a stockbroker from Kent who once worked in the City

@lizzyroberts93  
Lizzy Roberts

Officially knackered. #Roses2013 who knew that being the Derwent duck would be so tiring?

3 May

@DaveHolmes  
Dave Holmes

Jason Collins' coming out is an illustration of how far we've come, and its comments section is a reminder of how far we have left to go.

29 April

Laura Hughes  
Editor

## How much is the Commonwealth worth?

**F**or the first time in the group's 64-year history, the Commonwealth redrew its charter in March, to which all 54 member states adopted 16 core beliefs.

The charter pledges support for democracy, tolerance, religious freedom, and a judiciary free from political interference. There is no real justification for the Commonwealth unless it commits to championing this charter.

Sri Lanka is in violation of virtually every article of the new charter, and yet Sri Lanka has been selected to host the Commonwealth Summit in November, and thus become leaders of the Commonwealth for the next two years. Hosting the biennial Commonwealth heads of government meeting in November makes a mockery of the Commonwealth's existence.

Despite the continuing reports pouring out of Sri Lanka, of media censorship, abductions, lack of accountability for the alleged mass murder of Tamil civilians by government forces, the sacking of Chief Justice Shirani Bandaranayake and lack of reconciliation with the Tamil community, the Commonwealth continues to undermine the character of its new charter.

Compared to the decisive action of 1995, when the Com-

monwealth suspended Nigeria after it contravened the Harare Declaration. Today Sri Lanka too has disregarded the Harare Declaration, and these varying responses to the violation of Commonwealth values expose blatant double standards.

**“Sri Lanka has been selected to host the Commonwealth Summit in November”**

The Commonwealth fought ferociously towards combating apartheid in South Africa and prided itself upon its goals of "making the world safe for diversity". In 2000, Fiji was suspended after the overthrow of the elected government, and in 2003 Zimbabwe was suspended indefinitely. Similarly President Pervez Musharraf saw Pakistan suspended twice during his military rule.

In response to human rights abuses in Darfur, in 2006, the African Union refused to allow Sudan's Omar al-basher chairmanship of its heads of government. The Commonwealth must too remain reac-

tionary and retain true to its values.

While membership is voluntary, the Commonwealth will continue to be criticised for being part of the post-colonial club, if Sri Lanka hosts in November, and strips the 'club' of its right to any moral authority.

The Commonwealth must consider the suspension of Sri Lanka's membership, adhere to Commonwealth principles, relocate the 2013 Commonwealth Summit to a rights-respecting country, and award the Chair-in-Office position to a rights-respecting official.

If the Commonwealth is to justify its continuing existence, its primacy role must be to promote political advocacy, and ensure Commonwealth citizens are active participants in the decisions made by its members. If the Commonwealth crosses this line it risks never getting back behind it.

In Sri Lanka, citizens who speak out are quickly suppressed or simply seem to slip off the agenda. This last relic of empire must speak for the Commonwealth citizens whose dissent continues to be silenced by the fatigue of fear.

With the exception of Canada, the rest of the Commonwealth is failing to take a stance, stand and sully this embarrassing error.

# MUSE.

07.05.2013



## The Orillo Edition

A creative hub on your door-step. We step into the weird and wonderful world of Orillo

## A Post-Revolution Reality

A glimpse into the new Libya and its Youth Liberation movement

## THE STATEMENT PIECE

**M12.** THE BEST OF HIGH STREET STATEMENT JEWELLERY TAKES CENTRE STAGE IN THE MUSE FASHION SHOOT



**M12.** Body art has always been a part of **Saira Hunjan's** life, and now she's tattooed Kate Moss. Fiona Parker finds out more.



**M14.** A country shaken by revolution. Laura Hughes finds out about the Libyan Youth Movement in a post-Gaddafi Libya



**M22.** Mary O'Connor catches up with Orillo, the team behind the screening of Jaws in a York swimming pool...

## Arts.

**M6. York's Literary Heritage**, and the town's extraordinary stories are explored by Georgia Woodroffe

**M8.** York Theatre Royal are part of a group of theatres keeping **Molière** alive.

## Fashion.

**M9. Wayne Tippetts** is a fashion blogger who just loves to make you go "wow".

## Music.

**M15.** Former Gallows front man **Frank Carter** talks about his move to the fresh pastures of Pure Love.

**M16.** The team head over to the Inkwell for Independent Record Store Day.

## Film.

**M19. Iron Man 3** impresses after the ups and downs of Shane Black's superhero epic.

## Food & Drink.

**M20.** Meet **Dr Burnörium**, owner of Britain's only hot sauce emporium. He filled up the swear jar well and good with this interview...

**M21.** This edition's international culinary tour takes us to **Jordan** and its lamb Mansaf.

## Image Credits.

Cover: Agatha Torrance  
M3: Courtesy of Jeremy Kyle  
Cartoons (M2 & M24) : Brandon Seager

## Muzzy's Musings...

### The Last Term

Debates rage aflame, with campaigns tipped to eclipse The Sun  
But hissed whispers sprung from the lips and tongues of some  
Fly too close to a certain burning topic of free speech  
And swift become Icarus, with wings crispy as a Nando's chicken dish.  
And these vociferous issues, slip beyond reach.

The term where Big D, is not the Biggest D,  
For dissertations leave us all missing patience like bad GP's  
No mitigations, elation and drinks on big occasions  
Seem a distant relation, long lost while you're fixed at the station  
Of a library seat, policed on the sly by those who ceaselessly pry,  
Biding their thirty minutes of time to steal any place they can find.

Graduation beams its beady Grandma's eye  
And breathes on necks, that bow to feet, so weak from stress  
And questions, "what will you do next, just work in next?  
Or in turn, turn into an intern in town, losing weight at your lack of pounds?

The heat is up, though you can't read thermometers,  
See that you'll need more degrees than barometers,  
To get into view of the big boss at the interview.  
No pressure.

Wish you were a fresher?  
Raving with Tinie Tempah, inclined to recline  
From the time of November, repeating a chime to remember  
Forty percent, just forty percent, a 2:1 can do one  
Just forty percent.  
But those days don't last and that's a fact learned.  
Welcome my friends, to the joys of last term.



## Jeremy Kyle

No-mess self-help TV host, father of four, cancer survivor.

**1. You've got a new Jeremy Kyle show in the States. Do you prefer homegrown contestants or the new friends you've met from across the pond?**

My favourite contestants are UK-based. I particularly like ones from York...

**2. What would you say has been you most embarrassing moment so far?**

It has to be being set up by Ant and Dec on *Saturday Night Take Away*.

**"The best thing about being a student, without a doubt, is being able to watch the *Jeremy Kyle Show* all day."**



**3. How about the best day of your life?**

Best days, the four days on which my children were born.

**4. If you had to summarise your life your life philosophy in a song title, what would you choose?**

I'll do it *My Way*, Frank Sinatra

**5. What do you want to be/do in ten years' time?**

I don't know what I want to do but I want to be retired.

**6. You've had a lot of great stories on your show. Which was your personal favourite?**

Although it was a hoax, nothing can ever beat Ant and Dec's "My Husband Had Plastic Surgery to Look Like His Dead Cat" drama.

**7. If you weren't Jeremy Kyle, what would you be?**

If I wasn't Jeremy Kyle I'd probably be a professional golfer.

**8. What might people not know about you?**

Most people probably don't know I have OCD.

**9. Who would you be if you had to be somebody else?**

Definitely Daniel Craig.

**10. What would you do with all the money in the world?**

I'd look to buy the next Kauto Star!

**11. With exams nearing, student life can seem pretty tough, what in your opinion is the best thing about being a student?**

The best thing about being a student, without a doubt, is being able to watch the *Jeremy Kyle Show* all day.

## The Lonely Smoker

Rose Troup Buchanan

I think we can all agree that there is nothing – nothing – going on at University at the moment. Aside from the sport-orgy called Roses, which apparently some people take very seriously, and which I use as a method of guilt-free procrastinatory drinking and smoking, there is really nothing to do on this campus aside from smoke, work, and lament the slow hurtling demise of any kind of social existence we might have once possessed.

With this in mind, and the fact that I have absolutely nothing going on in my life, the column this edition presented somewhat of a quandary. Having been firmly warned off writing about the library ever again, and post-lecture (involving finger-pointing and cigarette-waving) about writing about my friends' lives, my options were thin.

Then, brainwave: Kate Middleton. When in doubt, write about Kate; our Kate, your Kate, that Kate who the national newspapers seem to stick on the front page every time there's a crisis in the newsroom and neither Ed or Dave have made a particularly idiotic cock-up the previous day. It's an off-day for the Telegraph if they can't get her in somewhere.

Like mayonnaise on a sandwich, she goes with everything and nothing: blander than a Farrow&Ball eggshell off-white wall paint drying on an overcast day. (Disclaimer: all comments made about Kate are made in the spirit of humour, and the columnist would like to express her profound admiration and regard for Kate, and please god don't let the internet trolls get me.)

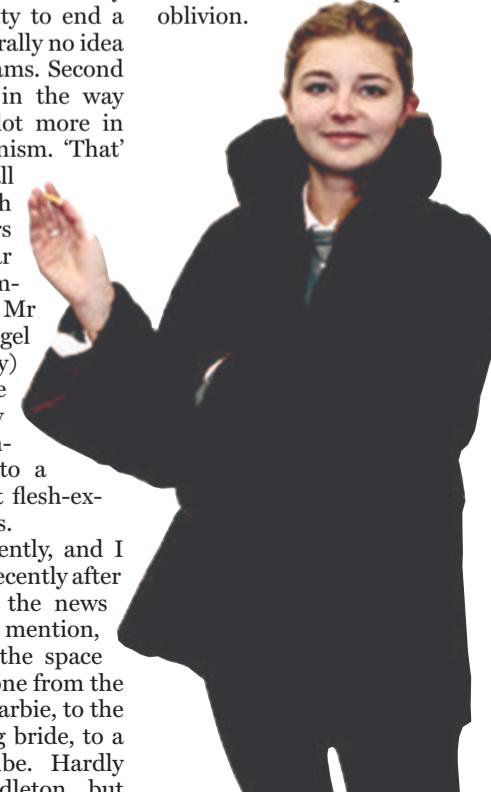
Kate's face appears to have bobbed along with me during my entire university career. As Kate has progressed, so too have I. First year it was the Royal Wedding, which offered a suitably inebriated opportunity to end a year where I have literally no idea how I passed any exams. Second year presented less in the way of spectacle, but a lot more in the way of exhibitionism. 'That' boob story gave us all a nice opening to bash the French/foreigners generally (a popular British pastime, championed usually by Mr Boris Johnson if Nigel Farage is too busy) and ably reflected the second-year tendency to perhaps over-compensate in regards to a lack of highly sought flesh-exposing accoutrements.

And now, apparently, and I only learnt this very recently after extensively scouring the news for that tiny small mention, Kate's pregnant. In the space of three years she's gone from the blonde version of Barbie, to the barely there bronzing bride, to a baby-making test-tube. Hardly ideal for Miss Middleton, but

great news for anyone who likes a party and an opportunity to exercise their latent xenophobia.

Kate's pregnancy is cause for national jubilation and inebriation (probably in alternative order) and we should really all stand up and thank Kate for taking one for team GB – not drinking, smoking, enjoying herself, etc. – for nine months in order that the entire nation can obsess, and then celebrate, over the incoming squishy blob of Royal material. Amen. Problem is, Kate's baby (and it's definitely hers, Wills is hardly getting a peek-a-boo in) is shadowing me with an odd sense of nervous apprehension, which is not helped by the fact that my weekly (alright, bi-weekly) trip to YourShop is characterised by the growing fear that in buying cigarettes I will have to come nose to bump with Miss Kate's increasingly rotund tummy.

The imminent arrival of Royal blubber coincides horribly with my own expulsion into the world. According to Google – font of all wisdom and knowledge – speculation currently places the babe's arrival sometime around mid-July. That's when I graduate and am faced with the utterly horrendous spectacle of 'real' life and decisions. Being at university is like being inside a giant, warm, utterly safe bubble. While the future monarch continues to avoid the certainties of life – shouldn't be too hard: their grandfather appears entirely divorced from reality – everything will be fine. So, although university at the moment might appear to be nothing so much as like swimming through a warm sea of apathy and occasionally mild stress, we should all just embrace it while it lasts and be thankful that inside this womb we can, at the very least, continue to smoke ourselves to peaceful oblivion.



ARTS.

# York's Literary Heritage



PHOTO CREDIT: TOM WITHEROW

From Dickens to Mapanje, **Georgia Woodroffe** explores the rich and eclectic stories within York's literary history.

Y ork's cobbled streets have always enchanted the humble rambler; every outing necessitating an appreciative appraisal of the Minster's magnificent turrets against the skyline and an indulgent glance at the amusing sight of many a wearied traveller lured into Betty's tea rooms. These are just two of the jewels in York's crown of cultural ancestry, for whilst being a visual and gastronomic fortress of culture, York also boasts a wealth of literary heritage.

York's dominating presence in the arts stems back to its classical foundation as a Roman military camp in 71 AD. The city's architectural development as the capital of Britannia Inferior made it a prime example of Roman supremacy, with the concept of walls surrounding the city first put in place by the

Romans, their fortress walls studded with multi-angular towers – one still standing in the York Museum Gardens. It was this structural skill which inspired and impressed the Saxons, as seen in the Saxon poem 'The Ruin' when describing an unknown city:

'Snapped rooftrees, towers fallen,  
The work of giants, the stonesmiths...  
Bright were the buildings'

Up until the end of the Medieval period, York was one of the dominant cities in Europe because of its craftsmanship and trade. In combining the building skills which awed the Saxons with religion, York became one of the main nuclei of the late medieval 'Mystery Plays', running from the 1380s to 1569. The

plays dramatised key moments in the Bible and the first recorded performance in York was the festival of Corpus Cristi in 1379. York's cycle of 48 mystery plays are our most intact collection today.

The plays were often performed by the York craft guilds, and it is here you can see how the name perfectly symbolises the dyadic role of York, for 'mystery' has a dual connotation, meaning both a religious truth and, in Middle English, trade or craft. The plays were performed as pageants in the streets upon wagons, their resounding voices reverberating off the timbered houses of the Shambles.

Journeying from the Medieval to the Victorian period, York continued to be a creative catalyst for many. Though Charles Dickens' literary output is predominantly associated

with the grimy streets of London, York also weaselled its way into the author's imagination. Dickens visited York on numerous occasions, including once during a 1870 tour of readings.

One of Dickens' main draws to Yorkshire was his friend Charles Smitherson, whose office in Chancery Lane, Malton (half an hour away by car from York) is believed to have inspired Scrooge's work place. In T.P. Cooper's 1923 book, *With Dickens in Yorkshire*, Cooper traces Dickens' steps, and summarised one of Dicken's numerous trips to York as follows: While in York on Sunday mornings, Dickens listened to the service in the Minster with his illustrator Phiz. On one of these occasions, he was shown to the Five Sisters Window by John Camidge and became captivated by

it. This window is currently the oldest in the Minster and the largest area of grisaille glass in the world, having withstood nearly eight centuries of wars and battles.

Dickens' admiration shines through his novel *Nicholas Nickleby*. In Chapter six, after the over-turning of a stage coach, the characters pass the time in a public house by telling stories. The first tale entitled 'The Five Sisters of York' tells of five beautiful sisters who spend their time embroidering. After the premature death of the youngest sister, Alice, Dickens writes:

'They sent their embroidery abroad, to artists of great celebrity in those times.' After 'having obtained the church's sanction to their work of piety', this 'caused to be executed, in five large compartments of richly stained glass, a faithful copy of their old embroidery work. These were fitted into a large window until that time bare of ornament; and when the sun shone brightly, as she had so well loved to see it, the familiar patterns were reflected in their original colours, and throwing a stream of brilliant light upon the pavement, fell warmly on the name of Alice...'

That stone has worn away and been replaced by others, and many generations have come and gone since then. Time has softened down the colours, but the same stream of light still falls upon the forgotten tomb, of which no trace remains; and, to this day, the stranger is shown in York Minster, an old window called the Five Sisters.

**W**ilkie Collins joins Dickens in using York as a setting. In his novel, *No Name* (1862), the character Vagabond Captain Wragge walks through the streets of York trying to find Magdalen, a run-

away 18 year-old girl. 'On his left hand, the majestic west front of York Minster soared over the city, and caught the last brightest light of heaven on the summits of its lofty towers. He wonders if this noble prospect had tempted the lost girl to linger and look at it.'

The city has also played an important role in the commercial process of literature. Street names express York's rich publishing heritage, with Minster Gates formerly known as Bookland lane, and Bookbinders' Alley marking the dawn of the printing press. By the 17th century, York had become a prominent centre of book publication. This position continued

Coming further into the 20th Century, poet W H Auden was born in York in 1907, growing up at 54 Bootham. Kate Atkinson was also born in York in 1951, and uses her hometown as the setting for the book which won her the Whitbread Book of the Year prize in 1995, *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*. Furthermore, sisters Margaret Drabble and A S Byatt were educated in York, the Yorkshire countryside a setting for some of Byatt's novels, including *Possession*, winner of the Booker Prize in 1990.

The University has also added to York's literary links. Jung Chang, author of *Wild Swans*, studied linguistics at the University, being the first person from the Republic of China to receive a PhD in England from York in 1982. A fellow graduate, Graham Swift, also became a writer, *Waterland* being his most notable work.

The city has also proved to be a haven for writers. Jack Mapanje, having been an exile in the city after being forced to leave his native Malawi, was arrested in 1987 due to his first book of poems, *Chameleons and Gods*, which was banned due to its political critique. He was released in 1991, and afterwards came to the UK, where at the University he was awarded a fellowship. In 1994 he returned to Malawi.

A profusion of texts and writers have flourished from inside York's fertile domain, Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* was born in York in 1623 among many of its offspring. The multi-faceted contribution of this small but mighty city to literature is overwhelming, from a refuge for writers, to a form of literary inspiration and publication. York never fails to impress with its rich and varied literary history from time past, time present, and assuredly time future.



to be upheld into the following century, with the famous publisher and bookseller Francis Hildyard (no.35 Stonegate), publishing Laurence Sterne's novel *Tristram Shandy* in 1760.

Signs of this legacy are still visible: the bright red sign stating 'Printer's Devil' above number 33 Stonegate is the traditional marking of the location of a printing press, a method used up until the 18th century. The statue of Minerva, the Roman goddess, reclining on a pile of books, located on the corner of Minster Gates, marks the place where the influential Bloomsbury literary group met between 1904 to WW2. The Bloomsbury Guesthouse in York is named after them.

YORKFESTIVALS

## Oil is Thicker than Canvas:

Should multinational corporations sponsor art galleries?

**Poppy Bullard**

**O**n Monday 22nd April, a small group of protesters, equipped with handheld video cameras, walked around the Tate whispering small sections of the court transcript from BP's Deepwater Horizon trial, which they recorded. Their presence as political activists was virtually undetectable, and yet this is an annual event: a stance against BP's continuing sponsorship of the Tate gallery. By chance, or well-timed coincidence it would seem, on the 24th April, Maria Miller (the Conservative Culture Secretary) made a speech which encouraged the art world to evaluate its economic value, and to assess itself based on economic output rather than artistic merit. These two entities have inadvertently pitted themselves against one another in a 'cold war' of ideology. The conservative capitalists and the small group of liberal idealists have been firing politically-laden, policy-missiles indirectly into each other's spheres of influence.

On the one hand, the liberals have every right to protest against the public image of BP. Their track record as do-gooders for society is less than negligible, in fact, it wouldn't be unreasonable to suggest that their public image is one of destruction, exploitation and natural carelessness. The image of corporate irresponsibility is not one which the protesters want art to be 'tarred' with (if you'll excuse the pun). In much the same way that fans were outraged by McDonalds sponsoring the 2012 Olympics, the idea that the Tate might be linked to a company which caused an unprecedented level of natural damage is, for many, a distasteful image. Yet their protest begs the question: what alternative are they suggesting? If the Tate, and every other gallery which relies on a network of donations, were to source their income from elsewhere, under the current funding, either the Arts Council would be unable to support vast network of galleries (resulting in closure), or the Arts Council would expand exponentially, depriving other government sectors of much needed funds.

This is where Ms Miller's ideas play into force. The art world must find a means to expand their economic potential. Of course, a simply superb idea: in order to minimise government input into a sector which can only ever contribute to society on a qualitative basis (and who wants qualitative when you can have quantitative?!), why not let it fund itself? Sadly Miller's ball-bustingly conservative idea is conveniently neglecting to consider the most basic understanding of art. Art primarily exists for itself, and galleries are effectively the home of creative catharsis. Commercialising art is almost a contradiction in terms, or at least, would result in the creation of something which would act as a polar opposite to art: a product. Ms Miller is right to suggest that the Arts Council (and most government departments) must cut their budgets in order to aid the ailing economy, but to suggest that the art world has the capacity to be economically self-sufficient is narrow-minded. So what are independent galleries to do? Look for sponsorship from willing corporations? Hang on just a second...

The little bit of the Venn Diagram where art and economics intersect will perpetually remain a catch-22. Relying on sponsorship from exterior companies will inextricably link the company and the art, yet, incumbent with financial freedom is the creative freedom for art to exist for itself. Art and economics were two entities that were never designed to be mixed, and yet art remains dependent on the deeply politicised economic game.

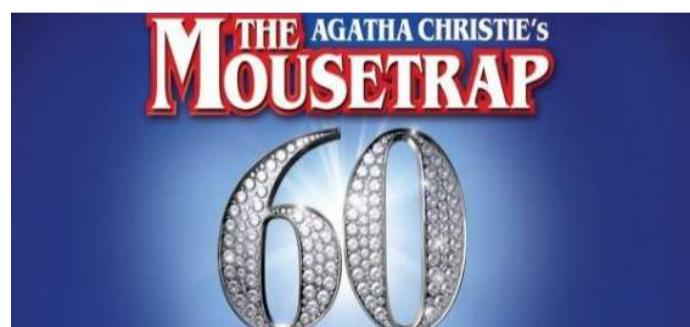
## Get Your Fix

*The Mousetrap*, by Agatha Christie

**Grand Opera House, York**

Celebrating 60 years of continuous run, the world's longest-running play launches its first ever national tour.

Mon 6th - Sat 11th May



*The Browning Version*

**Drama Barn**

Terrence Ratigan's celebrated work comes to campus

Fri 10th May - Sun 12th May



*Sean Lock Live*

**York Barbican**

The comedian and his purple van alight for a one-off show

12th May, 8pm



*iShandy*

**York Theatre Royal**

Comedy, surrealism and Tristram Shandy come together in YTR's latest offering

Ends Sat 11 May



# The Demystification of Molière

Molière's work is French, dense, and 400 years old. Poppy Bullard explains why the new translations of his work, by poet Roger McGough, are keeping the magic alive.

It's easy to forget that the words Classical Literature weren't invented to refer to all things English. At the mere mention of the words "great playwright", Mr Shakespeare saunters to the forefront of the English imagination, quill in hand, and curls ruched to perfection. His characters have even taken on their own global presence; Romeo and Juliet have become universal currency for moronic teenage romance, sorry, 'star-crossed lovers', and there is no character with a darker past than Othello, the original wife-beater. Move further ahead and we, in England, feel we are the homeland of a plethora of genres and playwrights - from tragedy to farce to obscurist fantasies.

Yet, loath as we are to admit it, Shakespeare was not the only man to present hours of immaculately tailored iambic pentameters. Even more catastrophically, Oscar Wilde was not alone in his merciless mockery of the upper classes. In fact, if Oscar Wilde and William Shakespeare had a love-child, he would probably be Molière - one of the most estab-

lished French playwrights of all time, whose work has just been beautifully re-mastered by a much more contemporary wordsmith, Roger McGough. Dubbed as McGoughiere (or #McGoughiere, as is the official slogan), the Liverpudlian author, poet, playwright and performer has painstakingly taken on the seemingly insurmountable task of rejuvenating some of these 17th century texts.

France in the 1600s was a world of the complete bourgeoisie. King Louis XIV was a man of high fashion, style and decadence, and Molière's infamy lies his unrelenting ability to gently satirise virtually every area of 17th century France that the King made stylish. His farcical chef-d'oeuvre (that's 'masterpiece' to you and me) *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* (or The Bourgeois Gentleman) quite plainly pokes fun at the simply ridiculous fashionable attire of the age (namely ribbons - a man was just not a real man if he didn't have a dazzling array of small ribbons adorning his every garment), and his most famous piece *Le Tartuffe* defies his Jesuit education and caricatures

religious impropriety. His wonderful aping of society may be drawn parallel with Oscar Wilde, but Molière's pieces, though doused in lashings of farcical humour, are not quite as outrageous as Wilde's and at their core is a grounding in human emotion.

This ability to both mock and endear gives Molière a timelessness which makes his resurrection all the more welcome. The task lies, however, in shedding the 17th century texts in a 21st century light, whilst retaining the inexorably French *je ne sais quoi*. There are dozens of pre-existing translations of Molière, but McGough wanted to take the verse, and allow each of the characters to shine through the daunting, intricately crafted verse. In an interview with *The Guardian*, McGough said that "I wanted the audience to focus more on what an actor is saying rather than on how it is being said, I sought to give each character a different voice, whether elegant, bombastic or cheeky, by varying line lengths, rhythm and rhyme".

Most recently McGough has taken on the

challenge of *Le Misanthrope* (or The Cankering Lover), which is one of the most famous, and least farcical, of Molière's plays, which satirises the hypocritical and false behaviour of the upper classes. As his hardest challenge yet, McGough realised that "adapting *Le Misanthrope* was never going to be easy, though: this time, all those witty servant girls, broad elements of farce and implausible happy endings were thin on the ground". But despite the discrepancies between the pervasive image of farce, and the more gritty reality, *Le Misanthrope* has been an unremitting success which is now touring the country (and playing at York's own Theatre Royal from 21st-25th May).

This success, as with so many of Molière's plays, rests in his ability to maintain a focus on human nature, and though many productions are a rip-roaringly raucous affair, at their heart is always a message about honesty and faithfulness, keeping Molière a perpetually relevant playwright, with as much of a claim to the canon as Shakespeare himself.



## Portrait of an Artist: Pamela Howard

Jordan Licht enters the idiosyncratic world of Pamela Howard, a constant presence in the world of art and theatre design since the 1960s

**S**ince the 1960s Pamela Howard has graced the world of theatre as an inspiring example of an artist who has continued to evolve and broaden their horizons. Throughout her long-spanning and exceptionally diverse career, Howard has defied definition time and time again. As well as being one of the most internationally respected theatre designers, she's also branched out into the arena of education, serving as a professor in renowned art and theatre departments around the world, and notably as course director for theatre design at Central St. Martins. Howard is also a published writer and the author of the bestselling work *What is Scenography?* And with an already overflowing portfolio, Howard has recently expanded her influence into the field of theatre directing and opera, and is showing no signs of slowing down.

In fact, Howard, now in her 60s, is accelerating at full force. As if to illustrate the upwards trajectory of her career, Howard recently designed and directed a production of *The excursion of Mr Broucek to the Moon*, which describes how a Czech man, bored with the limitations of the world, dreams he escapes to the moon, where he meets people that are vaguely familiar to his life in Prague. This uncanny feeling of meeting people one already knows is a theme that permeates Howard's work, and is obvious as soon as one takes a glimpse at the character designs she has created over the years.

Take the character sketch for Fyokla, the bossy marriage broker, or Podkolyosin, a 'reluctant suitor', protagonists in her recent production *The Marriage*. One has a

distinct feeling of *déjà vu*, these characters are strangely familiar to us all. This all makes sense when noting that these characters are all modelled on people from Howard's past – the weird uncle, the bossy aunt, the nutty professor, all have their place in Howard's kaleidoscopic world. Glimpsing at her designs, one can't help but see a similarity between Howard herself and the fruits of her imagination – draped in flowing woollen fabrics, and intriguing jewellery, with a burning mound of red hair, Howard looks akin to one of her own curious creations. Alien-looking figures with pinched, sheepish faces, peer out of their little microcosms, huddling in odd formations, looking a little unstable on their spindly feet but, at the same time firmly rooted in their unique environment, where the rules of symmetry and geometry are loose and evasive.

In Howard's designs, life's absurdities, quirks, and impossibilities come to the foreground in vivid fashion, as we see the world through her idiosyncratic lens. A flying pig in a maid's apron, an army of street cleaners, a shaman smoking bubbles out of a pipe, all seem oddly natural and indigenous to this bizarre landscape.

The overwhelming feature of Howard's work is its vitality. Each of her drawings is infused with a life of its own, every character acknowledges you; staring, glaring or teasing you from the page, inviting a discourse or a momentary recognition. And there is something undeniably funny about her creations. Absorbed in their own absurd little world, we have no choice but to play by their, and I guess ultimately her, rules.

## Review: Life After Life

**Author: Kate Atkinson**  
**Review: Rosemary Collins**

Kate Atkinson has written both acclaimed literary fiction (the Whitbread Award-winning *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*) and the bestselling Jackson Brodie detective series, but the same preoccupations reappear throughout her work. Recurring hidden ties that connect people, the ability of small details to drastically alter lives and the particular dangers and discrimination women face in society. Her latest novel, *Life After Life*, explores all these themes using an audacious premise that's essentially *Groundhog Day* amplified: a woman lives not one day, but a whole life, over and over.

Ursula Todd, Atkinson's protagonist, is born on a snowy night in 1910 – beyond that, there are infinite possibilities. In the first chapter, the doctor doesn't arrive in time and she dies being born. But she then gets a second chance when the narrative splits out into an alternative story where the doctor saves her. Ursula continues to die in her childhood – by drowning, by falling out of the window, four times in the 1918 Spanish flu epidemic. Each death fragments the story again, at which point Atkinson presents an alternative life where she survives to face new problems.

Even when Ursula lives to adulthood, every decision she makes – whether or not to go to university, let her brother's friend kiss her, travel to Germany as Hitler seizes power – carries different possibilities and dangers. She begins to be haunted by *déjà vu* – which in her case becomes a useful instinct that guides her away from previous mistakes, and even helps her change history.

Atkinson does a brilliant job of keeping her baroque narrative of parallel and overlapping timelines flowing without confusion or stagnation. For example, to reduce the repetitiveness of returning to Ursula's birth at the start of each new life, she draws on anecdotes of each of the new characters that

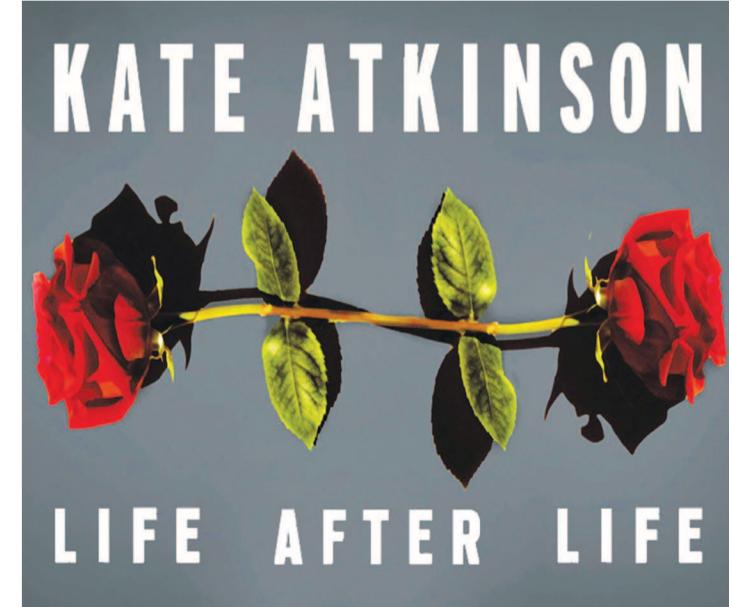
are introduced in the new settings, to build snapshots of all the different lives that connect, however tangentially, with her heroine's.

Despite the fantastic premise, Atkinson builds a convincing fictional world through lyrical prose – she describes baby Ursula's perception of the changing seasons as "the sharp promise of spring, the fattening of the buds, the indolent heat of summer, the mould and mushroom of autumn" – and enough period research to make the setting convincing without overwhelming the reader. Her dialogue is realistic and often very funny – for instance, when Ursula's sister Pamela describes their sister-in-law as "quite violently Christian considering she's C of E."

Unfortunately, the characters of *Life After Life* aren't as vivid as the setting. It makes some sense for Ursula to be a character who's hard to get a grip on: in Emily Dickinson's words, she "dwells in possibility." Her personal qualities vary in order to affect and be affected by the circumstances of each narrative – for example, in one version she doesn't have the assertiveness to fight off her brother's friend, and in another she does.

However, the minor characters are either one-dimensional or none-dimensional. The servants in Ursula's childhood home are salt-of-the-earth stereotypes who would shame Downton Abbey. Ursula's different husbands and lovers in varying contexts range from a pompous womaniser to an abusive monster, with no complexity beyond their unpleasantness. Meanwhile, the sympathetic characters, like her beloved family, are so bland that it's hard to understand the strength of her love for them.

However, even enacted by flat characters, *Life After Life*'s boldly experimental narrative is worth reading, for its skilful construction and the questions it raises about how all of us end up living our lives and none



## FASHION.

# Wayne's World

Fiona Parker talks to Street Style photographer, blogger, and fashion outsider **Wayne Tippetts** about his magpie antics, the Jamaican Dancehall scene, and capturing that all important "wow" moment.

When I ask Wayne what he wants, he answers in a tone which marks him out as one of those individuals who have wanted the same thing for most of their lives. "I want them to go 'Wow'". Wayne Tippetts is the author of the street style blog, *Street Style Aesthetica*. He updates the website daily with images of celebrities and anonymities alike, who are subjects of the photographs which aim to capture that all-important "wow" moment.

But what merits a "wow"? It is a response to the incredulous, to the outstanding and to the awe-inspiring. Wayne's life incites such an exclamation of wonder in its own right. His work has been published in best-selling magazines such as UK *Cosmopolitan*, *Grazia* and *GQ*, to name but a few; he annually photographs at the fashion weeks in Paris, London and Milan; he recently visited ten cities around the world in five days as part of a campaign for TK Maxx. He describes his maverick approach to work as akin to the movements of an eclectic bird: "You know magpies grab anything that glitters – and I think you really have to dive because you have to assess things very, very quickly... but you don't quite know what you have seen."

What perhaps is the most "wow"-inducing aspect of Wayne's life is that despite being constantly courted by the superpowers of the fashion world, he does not truly feel affiliated



with it. When I ask him about his favourite designers his response takes me by surprise. "I don't know enough about fashion, I'm just someone who has an eye for style, I like to think. I'm a fashion outsider and I'm happy that way."

But if Wayne truly feels that he is a fashion outsider, then where does he really feel at home? When did he begin to take photographs? At 24, Wayne was a social worker at a children's home in Clapham, when he heard about a radical new American-styled course at North East London Polytechnic (now East London University) and decided to go back to college. "I did a course called the School for Independence Studies – you designed your own syllabus. I studied documentary photography and started taking photographs in the street." After graduating from college, Wayne became a London and mainly Camden-based street photographer before moving abroad.

Wayne arrived in Jamaica as a part-time teacher and part-time photographer of what he describes as "black and white stuff". It was not long before he was seduced out of the teaching profession by the courageous and outrageous colour scheme of Jamaican Dancehall. "The Jamaican girls were amazing. I used to call it ghetto couture! They'd make their own costumes and turn up in these amazing outfits. I realised that there were some incredible ideas going on. I was looking for inventiveness and originality. I'd already started my Dancehall work in 1986 and in 1993 I quit my teaching job." There were no fashion blogs at the time, there was no, as Wayne describes it, "obvious motivation". "It was just having an interest really, and feeling excited by that subject and feeling that, yeah, the real fashion was on the street."

But what exactly was the Dancehall scene? For Wayne, it was a social movement before it became simply a fashion trend. "It was just a reggae explosion, Dancehall was topping the charts at the beginning of the '90s, it was the first time since Bob Marley that reggae music had gone international. Reggae was on the commercial stage and there was a fusion with hip-hop and artists like Jay Z who was also having a big time. It was a fantastic time for Jamaican music and out of it came the phenomenon of the Dancehall girl and these outrageous outfits."

But was this explosion short-lived, did any of the high-end designers pick up on the colours as loud as the voices who wanted to be heard, and, over twenty years on, did Wayne believe Dancehall has left any kind of legacy? "These ideas were being picked up by Versace, by all sorts of fashion designers around the world at the time. Christian Dior's statuesque heel with the leopard print sole, that's so ghetto in a way. Ghetto glam – it's almost in bad taste, but it's done in a way that is great and outrageous. I think that Lady Gaga totally, totally, is influenced by Jamaican Dancehall!"

On returning from Jamaica, Wayne returned back to "the real world" and it was not until November 2008, that *Street Style Aesthetica* came into being. For some time previously

Wayne's work had been updated onto a domain, *waynetippetts.com*, but Wayne himself had not had autonomy over the website and relied on other people to update it regularly. Eventually, a friend who had a keen interest on the newly born WordPress offered to install it onto his domain. "It did suit me. I was doing my own thing and I wasn't supplying somebody else's site."

So what is a regular day for Wayne, if the term "regular" can ever sit comfortably beside his name? "On a day I'm taking maybe 500 pictures a day. You have to pre-visualise and approach it very quickly in your mind. It's a matrix almost – you have to make a decision very quickly and when you take a picture you have already pre-visualised it. You know how it's going to look as a finished project – it's something you just learn from instinct. I'll cut that down to about 100 useable pictures, but it takes time. If I'm in Paris, I'm taking pictures, selling them to two agencies and then I'm blogging. So that is basically all day shooting, all night processing and then re-touching, key-wording, sending these images out and then deciding what will go on my blog, which will be one or two pictures that will reflect what I've done that day... It's a case of getting the right balance between a picture which really is creatively exciting to look at and finding one which contains an individual statement about that person..."

The images either work or they don't really."

But why does Wayne hold onto his self-appointed status as "a fashion outsider" when so much of his world documents it? The ugliest members of the family of fashion, can, in Wayne's opinion, be scouted

## "Lady Gaga totally, totally is influenced by Jamaican Dancehall!"

around Somerset House, clawing at the closed doors as the London Fashion Week shows take place inside. "There's this huge proportion of people who go to Somerset House and they dress just to be photographed. I spend as little time there as possible. Somebody can wear something outrageous and extravagant but they have to look like they're wearing it and it's not wearing them."

If these false images only bring about bad photography, when and how can Wayne ever work harmoniously with fashion? For Wayne, it is the narrative and the fantasy which drives him to document. "I think that when I'm doing my best street style photography it's with an editorial edge, so I'm looking for something which has a story and fashion really is about the story. People who go out to buy the magazines and clothes, they're buying into that by reading that and enjoying that, they're buying into the fantasy, the story, they're putting themselves in it. It is a story."

I begin to see how Wayne's art has been shaped by the vast variety of his experiences and influences. The authenticity of the Jamaican Dancehall scene has given him that all important eye for sifting through the flotsam of the sometimes esoteric and self-congratulatory world of fashion. Perhaps Wayne's decision to stay on the outside looking in allows him to narrate most effectively and reliably from behind the lens.

# Get the Look...Catwalk Jewellery



MEADHAM KIRCHHOFF SS/13

Show stopping jewellery pieces were the way to go on the runway this Spring/Summer 2013, and the trend has made its way firmly onto the highstreet. Bold looks can be found in most of your favourite high street stores, just think the bigger the better. Meadham Kirchhoff showed the most out there styles in their usual surreal way, costume-esque designs flounced down the catwalk topped with gloriously shiny and extraordinarily large earrings. Edward Meadham and Benjamin Kirchhoff showed the perfect way to wear your chandelier necklace and doorknocker earrings; over a Minnie Mouse t-shirt. The Disney icons popped up in shows all across S/S 13, even Marc Jacobs. This out there jewellery is the perfect way to finish off any graphic t-shirt, which have become a fashion staple with the firm return of all things 90s. ASOS have a vast range of knock out earrings and statement necklaces to match. The blue necklace and blue bug earrings from ASOS are perfect for capturing the Meadham Kirchhoff look. Blue is the colour to buy now to wear now and to wear later, it was the

colour of the Autumn/Winter 13/14 catwalks.

You might have seen in Rihanna's latest Instagram snaps that she has been wearing a rather grand pearl necklace recently. The extravagant piece has come straight off the SS13 Chanel catwalk. It is a wonderful update of the classic Chanel pearl necklace, and a classy way to wear the show stopping jewellery trend. Zara have created a take on the infinitely desirable Chanel pearls and at £19.99 are a sheer fraction of what you would be paying for the real thing.

Meadham Kirchhoff and Chanel were not the only designers to show larger-than-life bling. Dinner plate sized earrings were seen as simple silver hoops at Balmain, graphic, silver and stone embellished at Etro, and tasseled at Versace. Plastic was a popular material with Plexiglas cuffs, chokers, belts and bodices adorned with gem covered bees dominating the Alexander McQueen runway. Plastic fantastic was seen at Dior and Givenchy too. Perspex jewellery can be picked up at Topshop and Asos to name just a few. Dolce & Gabbana steered clear of modern plastic and headed back to their Sicilian roots for some spectacular bright, raffia and pom-pom laden earrings and necklaces. The jewellery had an almost ethnic feel, a trend the highstreet has picked up on and you can grab your OTT jewellery from Topshop et al. -Francesca Butcher



ZARA PEARL CHOKER, £19.99



CHANEL SS/13



DOLCE AND GABBANA SS/13



ASOS BLUE EARRINGS, £18

## Man-Repelling Rocks

**S**o, the sun is finally out and it's relatively warm - that means joy for those of us who are chomping at the bit to get our milky pins out and over-excitement for those who salivate at the thought of seeing acres of exposed skin. Solution? Crack out some spectacularly large pieces of statement jewellery to refract temporarily-blinding light into the eyes of those who you'd rather left you alone, and don in the evening in the hope of seducing more tasteful suitors. The bigger the better, be it slung round your neck or weighing down your index finger (which also could be useful in dealing with the library staff when they remove your possessions from your desk - just saying). Possibly the greatest thing about statement jewellery is that you can throw on any old rag and still look like you put some effort - and let's face it, when there's gin to be drunk in the evening sun, there is no time to faff around deciding what to wear. See S/S'13 collections from Dolce&Gabbana, Gucci and Etro for inspiration - big, bold and bombastic.

### SPLURGE: TOM BINNS EARRINGS.

£237, net-a-porter.com. Giving another level to telling undesirables not to touch what they can't afford. Quite frankly what student can afford these neon bad boys? One thing I do know however is they'd look bloody great with grey robes so you'd better start working out what it's going to take for a parent to send you a pair in time for graduation.



### SAVE: ASOS NECKLACE.

£85, asos.com. Since when did ASOS become the vanguard of Neo-Baroque costume jewellery? Enough gems to cause a migraine and probably heavy enough to cause some real damage should it hit anyone whilst spinning on a dance floor. I have no idea what kind of neckline you'd wear with this piece of body-furniture so I'm going to say maybe don't have one at all; come the holidays, it could be worn aboard a yacht paired with a good swim suit - more to create SOS sun signals that anything else. Lipstick awaits.



### STEAL: TOPSHOP CUFF

£18.50, topshop.com. This fun yet violent-looking bracelet is not only loud enough to brighten even the dullest library day, but is quite sharp - good for prodding yourself to stay awake during long revision sessions or jabbing others to keep them away from you.

- Miranda Larbi



## All That Glitters

India Block  
FASHION EDITOR

As you might have noticed by now, there's been something of a sparkly theme to this edition. Our very own Muse Editor, Tom Witherow, tried his hand at directing our shoot; take a look at the beautiful spread to get some inspiration on layering up your necklaces to stunning effect (wet-look hair and smoky eyes optional, but definitely on point.) Fashion Deputies Fran and Miranda show you how to get your paws on catwalk bling for a fraction of the price; and handpick serious showpiece jewellery for every budget. Even our feature interviewee, renowned street style snapper Wayne Tippetts, admits to magpie tendencies.

Shiny things have fascinated humankind since the dawn of ages; jewels and precious metals have been prized not only for their beauty and rarity, but also for their enduring legacies.

Jewellery often blurs the line between art and artefact, as at home in a museum cabinet or a gallery. Art's infamous grown up enfant terrible, Damien Hirst, made his name with 'For the Love of God' (2007), platinum skull encrusted with 8,601 flawless diamonds. It's this single piece that got me excited about art for the first time.

Jewels, and the jewellery that they are cut and set into, have histories that are truly fascinating. Diamonds might well be a girl's best friend, but they are an anthropology nerd's dream.

My favourite famous gems include the Koh-i-Noh and the Hope Diamond. The

Koh-i-Noh (Persian for "mountain of light") was once thought to be the largest diamond in the world. It has a particularly bloody history as the spoils of countless wars, culminating in its being set into the crown of our own Queen Elizabeth II. The Hope Diamond is actually supposed to be cursed in its own right, may have been worn by the doomed Marie Antoinette, and glows a creepy red in the dark.

Of course, jewellery is often famous through association with those who have worn it. Actress Elizabeth Taylor was probably Hollywood's most iconic wearer of sparkly rocks; the Christie's auction of her entire jewel collection came to the eye-watering total of £74,196,480. Julianne Moore, '30 Rock' fame, recently wore £6m of Taylor's old rocks to a red carpet event, bringing casual accessories to a whole new level.

When Lindsay Lohan played Taylor in the so-bad-it-was-good 'Liz and Dick', it was the jewels - including a replica of the 33-carat Krupp Diamond - that helped her look the part (sadly, they couldn't help out on the acting front.) It's perhaps one of life's little ironies that Lohan herself has run into trouble with the law for being light-fingered around expensive jewellery.

Don't make LiLo's mistake, instead take our fashion advice and pick up some bling-tastic high street bargains that pack a punch without breaking the bank. When it comes to sparkly things, more is definitely more.



# A Tattoo is for Life

**Saira Hunjan** talks to Fiona Parker about tattooing Kate Moss, celebrating death and why ink is the new food of the soul.

**A**re you tattooed?" There is something in Saira Hunjan's first question, which makes me feel slightly ill at ease, yet I can't immediately place it. My instant guess was that I had not expected to be the one answering the questions today. Or perhaps instead, this discomfort was caused by Saira Hunjan herself? Known as "the girl with the golden needles", her name has sat on the same lines as Valerie Vargas and Claudia de Sabe and, if the rumours are to be believed, she is also the personal tattoo artist of Kate Moss.

At long last, I understand why the very phrase "Are you tattooed?" derailed me. It is simply a matter of phrasing. I would have said: "Do you have any tattoos?" After all, we tend to think of tattoos as commodities which we have paid for. To say "Are you tattooed?" is akin to saying "Are you baptised?" It suggests that the act itself offers a permanent way of distinguishing one person from another. Saira, who follows no particular faith, believes like most Christians, that the body and the soul are two separate entities. However, as our conversation progresses, it soon becomes clear that Saira hopes to break down the same boundaries in a much more alternative way, that is, through the medium of ink.

Saira's passion for decorating the body began at a very young age. Saira's traditional Indian upbringing was certainly a departure from the culturally clichéd story of the adolescent artist blagging their way into a studio by way of their sister's stolen driving licence. Her family were determined to provide for their children in the heart of South London, and growing up against this rich cultural background allowed her to see tattooing in its most tender and organic form. "It was henna – I was always working with it as a kid, whether I was doing my own or designing and drawing for my sisters. Wherever I went as a little girl, I went there with henna on my hands."

Then Saira reaches into her leather satchel and pulls out a dozen photographs, half of which are black and white and look to be far older than Saira herself, while the other half are glossy and new with the sleek shine of "last summer's snaps". I lean over to look at three pictures she has fanned out between her fingers. "Last year when I was in India I travelled to go and meet a lot of the tribal gypsies. The Rabari women were my biggest source of inspiration when I was pretty young and I remember spending hours looking at these pictures".

The first photograph is a headshot of a girl in her late teens holding a chicken on her hips and smiling wildly at the camera. It takes me a while to see it, but once I notice the dark patterns on the young girl's throat I see the same intricate designs on the various women in all three photographs. In a deep-red sari, a middle-aged woman reveals an arm sleeved with zig-zags, spots and stars, while the skin on an old woman's foot appears to be chequered by a series of spots. "I remember thinking I want to look like them when I grow up. They are so strong, hardworking and beautiful."

But an admiration for the Rabari tattoos is a less-than comfortable experience once the viewer understands the context behind the photographs. "I don't think they were very happy about being tattooed. A lot of it was probably forced upon them by an elder in the community when they entered into womanhood, or when they were about to get married. I know two or three women here in London out of that culture who have those tattoos and they completely cover up. If they see you looking at the patterns they are embarrassed, as they were forced into having them, it wasn't what they wanted." I'm interested to know whether this information has affected Saira's love for the decorated Rabari skin. She pauses and a row of teeth pull down her bottom lip; she is carefully considering her next response. "Obviously it upsets me that they weren't done by consent, but I can't control my feelings for the tattoos themselves. They are what make the women standout and they make them gorgeous."

For many Rabari women, tattooing is a violent act. However, this view is by no means unique to them. This is brought to mind as Saira tells me about clients "pulling whities" shortly after walking into her busy London studio and being asked, over the sound of buzzing guns, to reveal the flesh they wish to raise up in sacrifice. "What annoys me is the way the media use the term 'branded'. It takes the sacredness out of the





whole ceremony of getting tattooed. It's not a violent branding. It's just about embracing your own personal history, who you think you are and what you want at that time of your life." Does that mean you can narrate an edited personal history through your tattoos? Can you pick the moments if your life you loved and freely forget the bad times? "If you've left that part of your life and it was hard to deal with, then a reminder of it could be harsh. But there is also that aspect of non-attachment to it where you say "You know what, that was then", it shows you have moved on."

Saira tells me about the good times of her early life. These are memories of being spellbound by her father's art school-trained right hand which brought Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley to life on paper with only a biro. She remembers back to hiding several Japanese chrysanthemums from him under the cuffs of her school jumper, and of her genuine enthusiasm to "see what the Hammersmith Biker conventions were all about," a world that a number of her colleagues from her first studio were a part of. Then she tells me the story of one tattoo she does not like to think about. "This guy came in and wanted his wife's name" - was this the classic kiss of death scenario? "I don't know whether they are still together or not, she can't have been very pleased when he came home with her name spelt wrong. Luckily I had the piece of paper to prove it was his mistake and not mine!"

As I look at other photographs of Saira's hands, which include images of bleeding hearts, beheaded women and skulls in all their forms – some even with butterfly wings, I wonder just how Saira's attitude to death influences her tattooing. "I remember quite a lot of my family members dying and there being open coffins. We were all face to face with the harsh reality of death and people really mourning." Encountering the UK's contrastingly private attitude towards death, Saira became interested in other cultures which saw death as something that should be spoken of in a less restrained fashion.

"I went to Mexico a few years ago to find where they celebrate the Day of the Dead. It was a beautiful experience, it really was. They celebrate it for maybe three days and they go to the graveyard - the whole place is lit with all of these candles! They sing at their relatives' graves, they take offerings there and they dream! It's so lovely to embrace it like that, you know – because death will happen to us all and why not just face it."

By tattooing Londoners, Saira hopes to penetrate the UK with the spirit of seeing death in a completely different light. "I just wanted to twist these images of skulls, weird women and stuff so I can say "you know what, it's ok". We've just got to

**"There is such an exchange of energies. People don't realise what they are giving off when they get a tattoo."**

make it really beautiful!"

As I notice how much time has already passed, I realise I had not yet even mentioned Saira's rumoured celebrity client, Kate Moss. "She's actually a good friend of mine. One day she called me up and said she wanted to get tattooed so I went over. Of course, she went on to use them in her Topshop collection." Saira has been claiming since 2007 to have drawn the swallows on Kate's lower back, the same tattoos which Kate attributed to the then late Lucian Freud in 2012. I didn't want to jump to any conclusions, but as Saira's waiting list had been up to two years in the past, the idea was certainly feasible. If Saira really did tattoo Kate, I wanted to know exactly what it was like to decorate such legendary skin.

"We hung out and stuff that evening – you know, there was quite a lot of other people there, some other friends. She's typical, she's lovely and you know when it comes to tattooing famous people like that you just treat them like everybody else, they want to be treated the same." But what is "the same"? How exactly do relationships work between Saira and clients like Kate? Saira told me that tattooing Kate gave her the same thrills as tattooing anybody else. "There is such an exchange of energies. People don't realise what they are giving off when they get a tattoo. There's a lot of trust involved and I've made a lot of really great friendships through tattooing clients. It's a really intimate experience."

At 32, the woman who has been tattooing for over half her life has taken a break from the bright lights of London and is currently living in South Wales. "I've slowed down a bit and I'm focussing on my fine art at the moment" – she holds up two beautifully decorated miniature Mexican coffins. "I am better off here in countryside where I am surrounded by the trees and the animals; it's very grounding for me and I just get on with stuff. If I need to tattoo, I will travel to London, but I'm trying to give myself a break at the moment."

As she says all of this, she gazes down at her own decorated skin and traces her finger along the dark swirling patterns on her right shoulder. And as she raises her head from glancing down at the intricate lines which colour her fingers – "they were really painful, they made my eyes water" – I catch a rare sight of the delicate designs on her throat. I realise that I had completely forgotten to ask about her personal relationship with her own tattoos. "They feel like my real skin and they are a way for me to express and show what is truly beautiful." It is obvious that for Saira tattoos depict moments in a person's life, decades of cultural heritage and fragments of the soul itself. I doubt this lady will be putting her needles down for long. M

# THE STATEMENT PIECE

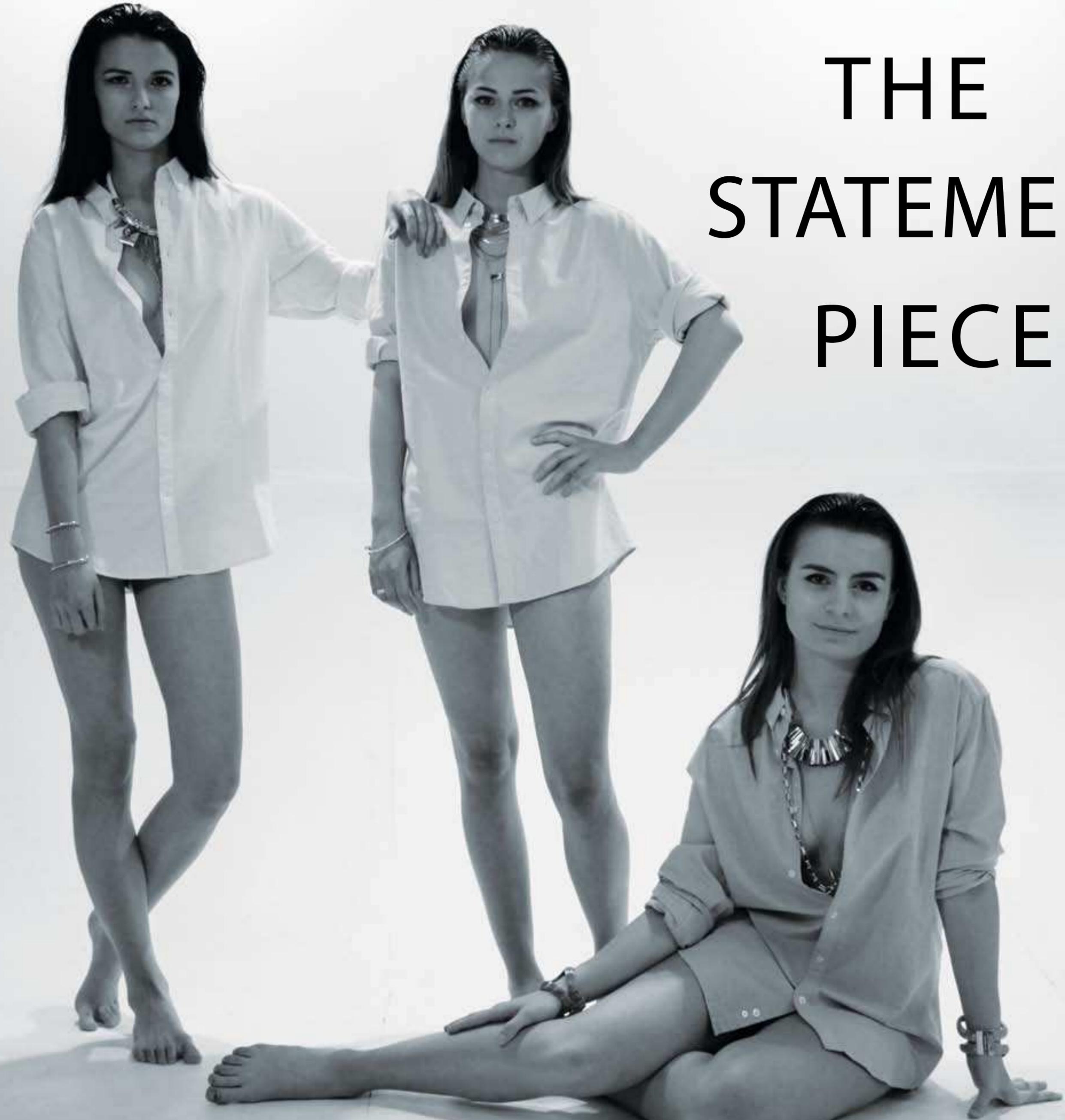
HANNAH WEARS: TOPSHOP FLAT  
RECTANGLE CHAIN NECKLACE,  
£10; TOPSHOP MESH CLAMP  
BRACELETS £12.50 EACH; BOX  
COLLAR NECKLACE £15



LIZZIE WEARS, TOP-  
SHOP GOLD Y-NECK  
TORQUE NECKLACE,  
£15; BANGLES AND  
RING: MODELS-OWN



AIMEE WEARS:  
AMAZON-STYLE  
FREEDOM  
NECKLACE £45;  
GOLD CAGE  
BRACELET £8.50



CREATIVE DIRECTOR: TOM WITHEROW  
PHOTOGRAPHER: AGATHA TORRANCE  
MODELS, FROM LEFT: AIMEE NAZ-  
ROO, LIZZIE LYNCH, HANNAH PARKER  
MAKE-UP AND HAIR: FRANCESCA  
BUTCHER AND INDIA BLOCK  
SHIRTS: MODELS-OWN  
THANKS TO ORILLO PRODUCTIONS

# A Post-Revolution

**Ayat Mneina** talks to Laura Hughes about the Libyan Youth Movement, how Gaddafi crushed student dreams and why the future of New Libya lies in the hands of the young.

**O**n January 4th 2011, a young Tunisian fruit vendor named Mohammed Bouazizi set himself on fire. He sparked the youth into a revolution that spread from Tunisia to Egypt, Yemen, Syria, Libya and Bahrain. Libya's youth led the revolution, sacrificed their lives for their story and took charge of their own history.

"The Libyan youth have achieved in two years what other countries have taken decades to do, due to their sheer will. Libya, in our opinion, is truly in a state of chaos, or disorganised flux. Security is almost nonexistent and the citizens are becoming extremely impatient waiting for change, but at the same time are resistant to change."

Ayat Mneina, now works for the Libyan Youth Movement (LYM), a non politically affiliated and non government organisation. The LYM hope to help support the development of the democratic process both on a societal level and on a greater national level. The New Libya offers no monetary or physical support for the LYM, besides a figurative free 'space' to explore their ambitions.

"Currently, there are no restrictions which allow us to attempt to contribute to society in our own way. However, there are limited opportunities for growth from New Libya as the government has a long way to go yet and recognising the role of civil society is something that will come with time."

Critics have attempted to deconstruct the demographic. Commentators say Libyan Youth movement are marginalised because of lack of experience, skills and direction. I was told this lack of direction is an advantage: "With Libya still in flux, I don't think it's wise for us to decide on a specific goal; our flexibility is a strength. We wish to try to serve a function that is needed and will adapt to that function as it changes with time. As for lack of skills, most of us are expats (in LYM) and we believe that we have new skills and perspectives to offer Libya even if it is simply our living in democratic countries."

Everyone including professionals and the government lack skills. "Coming out of Libya where the former regime was only an institution constructed to support Gaddafi, no foundations of a real country were laid and thus those even working for the regime did not develop transferable skills that New Libya could benefit from and this is a real problem."

Ayat told me life under Gaddafi was dismal. "Imagine being a young person at the start of your life, when you look to the future with hopes and dreams of everything you wish to see, do



LIBYAN YOUTH MOVEMENT FACEBOOK PAGE

# Reality



**“You grow up seeing your parents silent about the conditions around you. They wish to protect us from the regime’s wrath.”**

and achieve. Now imagine that you really had no potential, not because you lacked the intellectual faculty to achieve anything, but because you were being held prisoner in your own country by a strange man who had more control on your life than you could ever hope to have.

“This man, that no one seems to challenge, decides what you do with your time, the condition of your school and what is in your curriculum including his deranged social ‘revolutionary’ theories written on pages bound between two covers entitled the Green Book which completely dismantled the country as your parents and grandparents knew it.”

Free enterprise was banned, as was freedom to organise and freedom of expression. Gaddafi’s behaviour abroad meant his citizens were subject to strict economic sanctions for over a decade. This meant little to no movement outside the country and a complete dependence on government imports. Libya’s leader centralised business and commerce to the capital. Whilst his people were rendered immobile, Gaddafi violently silenced dissent.

Young people in Libya grew up hearing their parents’ stories of university friends hung publicly on campuses for spreading dissent against the regime. A Libya, “where public executions of any political dissidents were heavily enforced to terrorise an entire country into silence, where thousands of young people were executed, disappeared or imprisoned without trial. You grow up seeing your parents silent about the conditions around you, not because they don’t wish to change anything, but because they wish to protect you from the regime’s wrath.”

Gaddafi’s revolutionary committees and guards ran each neighbourhood. The country ran through rampant corruption and nepotism, “that a new development project would be announced and cancelled before physical supplies reached their destination as contractors, guards and everyone else in the long line of bureaucracy got their large cut leaving nothing for Libyan neighbourhoods, children and people.”

The country’s water and electricity services were desperately inadequate. “Healthcare was not health care but health kill. Healthcare facilities were poorly stocked, health standards severely lacking, leaving everyone to scramble to neighbouring countries on their own expense if any health ailment were to hit.”

University students sent abroad to study, had to bend over backwards for a shot to leave Libya and most were granted these scholarships through connections they had with the government.

Imagine everyone around you, apart from maybe your own close family and friends, seemed to uphold the conditions you lived in and seemed to support the regime. Now imagine no free press and very heavily monitored information reaching you inside the country, everything appears hopeless. Now imagine, you start to receive satellite channels and you begin to learn about the conditions which people in neighbouring countries are living under, some worse off than you but most are living in better conditions.

Though limited access to the internet, Libya’s youth glimpsed and began to learn of how young people lived in the West. “How freedom of expression and idea exchange are upheld and respected, and how young people can have the potential to do more than just playing by the rules to survive. These are the ingredients and the elements that lead to the Arab Spring. Growing despair and frustration with the conditions they lived under and the hope and will to achieve something better.”

Was his downfall the result of foreign intervention and did the Libyan Youth support a continuation of foreign assistance and advice to Libya? Gaddafi’s downfall was the result of a climax reached by the Libyan people for their tolerance of his regime: “people were in a situation to speak out and stand up against him. However, the success of the revolution did heavily rely on foreign intervention. The Libyans would have been more than willing to stand up against him without interven-

tion, they just wouldn’t have survived to live beyond it.”

Yes, the LYM believe the continuation of foreign assistance and advice is vital for Libya’s development. Libya needs the expertise and skill set already present abroad and needs to harness this knowledge and apply it in Libya. “There is no sense trying to rework everything from scratch (or reinvent the wheel) when it has already been successfully established. Libya is now more fragile than ever and the contribution of its friends and allies during this period will help settle the country and begin a stable process forward.”

The post revolution reality is that Libya continues to be a heavily subsidised state. Government handouts are used to mask the lack of true employment opportunities, job security, and dismal wages. Can Libya expect real change with its existing economy in such a poor state? “No. Unless a real economic reform takes place and a true framework for change is set up, Libya will proceed as it did under the regime.”

“Libya now has the opportunity to create a country where checks and balances are included in its development, where corruption is heavily discouraged, where new avenues of technology are explored diversifying our assets and ensuring our long term sustainability (as oil resources are finite), where citizens are included in the economic paradigm.”

Some young people are turning to radicalised extremists because of lack of opportunities and alternatives. These are the “feelings and realities” of these young people. From the vantage point of someone who wishes to take advantage of young people for whatever agenda they may have, the condition of some young people today is prime for their taking.

“They take them under their wing, begin to brainwash them, sewing new ideas into their heads, and in the end are able to control them. Libya now is on a very fine line, if it quickly develops into a land of opportunity where young people are sought after and supported with an abundance of opportunity, those with ulterior agendas will have a tough time finding anyone to radicalise.” M

## MUSIC.

# The Original Handsome Devil

**Frank Carter's** career is like no other. The former Gallows and now Pure Love vocalist tells Chris Morris why he thinks he's a changed man.

There's something about The Duchess: there are only so many venues that can get away with painting their walls jet black and seating merch vendors behind a slice of MDF reminiscent of a DIY pasting table adjacent to the stage. Likewise, there are only so many bands that can get away with moving the entirety of their gear – sound-guy included – over the barrier and marshalling their audience to form a circle pit around them as they play. Frank Carter's new band, Pure Love, is one of them.

Meeting Frank and Jim Carroll, lead guitarist, in what we'll (loosely) refer to as a green room, began as a pretty surreal experience. Entering into a desolate Duchess – but for a couple of roadies – through the rear entrance and taken quickly through the venue by their tour manager (and, as it later turned out, aforementioned sound-guy), I come across the pair sat on a beaten sofa with various band members and hangers-on littered about the place. Needless to say, perching on a stool across from a Brooklyn-raised rocker and Frank Carter himself was one of the more intimidating experiences of my 19-and-three-quarter years.

But Frank Carter's turned over a new leaf, now: he said so himself. Playing to the Radio 1/NME stage crowd at last summer's Leeds festival, he proclaimed: "My name's Frank Carter, and I'm a changed man" with a contented grin across his face. Naturally, I ask for him to expand on this; to provide the context behind the rhetoric. "My outlook on life changed before I started Pure Love, and then it changed again and multiple times in the past couple of years", Frank explains, clearly considering how recent times have changed and shaped him as an individual. "I'm the happiest I've ever been now. I'm excited about life."

Crucially, it's a change that seems to come across the spectrum of his life, from the everyday emotions through to his feelings and position within a band; although, when so much of one is devoted to the other, it becomes difficult to separate the two. But even if no words were spoken in the course of our conversation and only intonation and body language were registered, the sense of escapism and achievement at the birth of Pure Love would still be clear. Luckily, they

were. "It's the first time I feel really valuable; I feel like I do a good job and I'm giving my best performances."

But he goes on to make it clear that his current happiness isn't a polar opposite to a once-sad life. "I wasn't sad before. I was young. Everyone grows up and you start to realise what's important in life and, if you're like me, you start hunting those things down." It's almost as if the name 'Pure Love' gives Frank more than just a catchy header for his new project. Elaborating further, an even rosier picture is painted on the differences between past and present. "I quit my old band, started this one and met my wife. Life's good, man. Life's fucking brilliant."

After this, it feels necessary to lead onto some further exploration of Frank's past; to gain some more comparison of then and now; to see if Carter v2 really is different. Pressing on details of the ending of Frank's Gallows, he speaks of how his final show with the band was "great - a relief".

This is where our new-found friendship stalls. In hindsight, I was really pushing my luck to ask for more. And, if it wasn't already, his stance soon became clear. "Come on, man. I don't want to talk about this shit. I've talked enough about Gallows for a fucking lifetime."



famous line "I'm so sick of singing about hate/ it's never gonna make a change" (but refusing to actually say it), he gives an impression of a long-standing unease during his previous project. "There's that one line, in fact, that everyone picks up on, but that's just the way it is. I wrote years ago. You know what line it is." But these lyrics convey a clear difference in character and meaning. He goes on: "It's not like I couldn't use them before, they just never found their place".

tracks 'She', 'Burning Love' and 'Bury My Bones' prove this point in name alone. But it's not as one-dimensional as it might appear. Going on, Frank's philosophical side forces its way out: "I wanna talk about all the mysteries that we search for as human beings – all the things we wanna understand and probably never will. That's all I wanna write about."

Pure Love's roots lay much deeper than when the band formed a couple of years ago. Between the decision to start the project, their first show and the release of a debut album, almost two years passed. "There's songs on there that go back eight years, so the album's almost ten years old already" Frank explains, supporting Jim's claim that "there's music on there taken from years and years ago". The pair agree that its "compiled by the music [they] grew up loving", and that, semi-jokingly, "they all have a bit of the classics in them".

At this stage, I'm rather confident our friendship is suitably patched-up. With little time with the pair left, my attention turns to the more light-hearted subject of social networking. "It blows my mind that nowadays we've got a Twitter, a Facebook, an Instagram and still kids are like 'oh, howcomes I didn't know you guys were playing last night?' and it's like, I don't know, because we've been talking about it for six fucking months." After all the other differences he's been through in life, there's a certain edge to Frank Carter that'll never change. **M**

**"I just wanna talk about all the cool stuff in life like love, and sex, and death..."**

A follow-up on future collaborations with other artists evoked further emotion. "You need to be careful with collaborations – you might end up releasing a cover on a major label and that's the only song they put out... speaking from experience."

Clearly, Frank's got a lot to put lyrics to, and his style's never really changed all that much: "I'm writing the same way I've only ever known". Referring to Pure Love's now-

Many artists choose to talk about matters that affect a population, and use their music as a platform for opinions and views that, they feel, are important in the world that we live in. Frank Carter isn't one of those people. "Fuck society" he says boldly, with a grin creeping across his tattoo-compromised face. "I just wanna talk about all the cool stuff in life like love, and sex, and death." And it's no wonder: on their debut LP, Anthems, the

## REVERB.

Lil Wayne

**"Have I ever hired a photographer to photograph an event? Sorry, sir, no, I'm a superstar...!"**

# Hang Around an Inkwell

Independent Record Store Day draws out the dustiest corners of the music world. Hatti Linnell and Alex Osborne speak to **Paul Lowman** of the Inkwell about setting up his own store.

**P**aul Lowman opened the Inkwell 18 months ago in an effort to bring something new to York's music scene. After a few years of post-uni drifting, it was time to make a decision about where to go next, having considered opening a record store for some time.

"I thought it would be good for York to have a place like this, and that it would be worth giving it a shot. I couldn't care less about being my own boss, but forcing myself to embrace responsibility was important. My wife had our daughter Dorothy slap bang in the middle of opening the shop, but I thought if I didn't do it now, I wouldn't be able to take that risk and see if I could step up to the challenge."

Sadly, with the rise of internet purchasing comes the familiar closure of independent stores. In the last ten years, the UK has seen more than 70% of its independent record stores close. If anything, though, the Inkwell was opened specifically to target this, offering all the charm and attention to detail that Amazon and iTunes can't. "I think sometimes record shops can feel a bit like a warehouse, and while some people might say I've gone for style over substance, I feel that nice stock should be presented equally nicely. I also think that a sense of community is really important. It just happens that I'm the guy on the other side of the counter. People that come here are fans, and really, I'm just a fan too, so if I can share that with people



then we're maximising everything the internet can't offer."

Although it's sometimes difficult to keep up with big corporations, Paul's confident that independent stores can keep up. "People who are still passionate about music and books are very motivated consumers, and will make a point of seeking out stores like this. As long as you keep getting good stock for good prices,

incredibly supportive of the shop and had played here before. He's a great acoustic singer songwriter, he does sort of kitchen sink stuff, and then ... And the Hangnails are Black Keys-style blues rock – it was great to have such loud, rocky music in the shop. I think bands like to play gigs in places like this because it makes a change from the normal pub scene."

Despite all the doom and gloom surrounding the record store industry, there are plenty of reasons that it remains appealing to people like Paul. "I get to think on things I'm passionate about in a million different ways every day. Before having the shop I was obviously really in to music and pop culture in general, but now I'm exposed to the dustiest corners of those worlds all the time. I find new and interesting things every day, which is

amazing. I've loved meeting loads of different kinds of customer; 95% of people who come here are really cool. Not like they're Lou Reed or something, but just pleasant people to deal with. It's not always the easiest job but it's always a pleasure."

While exploring all these corners of the music world, there are bound to be some hidden gems found among the masses. "I'm lucky, I find exciting things all the time, but my best find is The Osmonds' *Crazy Horses* LP. Nothing on it sounds like The Osmonds, it's like Led Zeppelin. Finding interesting, great music regardless of value and collectability is the main thing, though."

**"People that come here are fans, and really, I'm just a fan too. We're maximising everything the internet can't offer."**

then customers will keep coming. In many ways we benefit from that in a sense, because our customers really care about what they buy and from where."

Each year, Independent Record Store Day encourages stores to host bands and sell some of the thousands of sought-after special releases available on the day in order to celebrate the unique experience of shopping at an independent shop. The Inkwell hosted both Mark Wynn and ... And the Hangnails and had almost completely sold out of all special stock by 3pm. "One particular favourite that we managed to get was Shangri La's 'Walking in the Sand'. Mark's been

strong, from the gritty musings of 'Yours' to the closing 'Alt Bro', which felt distinctively more rock and roll than any other band I've heard of the same genre for a long time. There are lashings of Modest Mouse and The Strokes to be heard here, but with unique twists that come through great variance of tone and mashing up of styles.

Each track blended amazing technical skill with developmental patches and great breakdowns. The clarity of tracks like 'Yours' was only amplified by honest lyrics and unashamed, classic riffs that were never predictable. ... And the Hangnails have managed to create their own brand and forge a notably original sound despite the thousands of bands that take a shot at blues-rock.

'Wah' was another standout track that again emphasised the band's notable ability to keep their style fresh. Each track played built up, there was always somewhere to go with the tune, rather than the standard 'we can play guitars really fast for a long time' sort of approach.

The gig was made extra-special by its intimacy, as the band played from the back of the shop and called out for requests. The two make for a really endearing duo; their friendship and inter-song chats only added to this. There's nothing better than watching a band play in the midst of an enthusiastic audience, and in this case, people seemed to really know and love the duo's work.

## The YO1 "Queue-pocalypse"

Rory Foster

If I learnt one thing from YO1 festival, it's that when queuing reaches a certain saturation society breaks down completely, replacing all conceptions of manners and tolerance with pure desire. Not the lesson I was expecting to learn from York's premier music festival's second carnation, but nevertheless, I feel my jostling abilities have significantly improved over the last 12 hours thanks to what was an enjoyable experience, only slightly spoilt by what will probably be remembered as the "queue-pocalypse" of 2013.

YO1's website described the location of the Knavesmire with: "if you're from York, you'll know where it is. Kind of." Surprisingly, this proved insufficient for locating the festival; a rather better system of

signposting was to follow the stream of girls who couldn't decide whether YO1 dress code was all-out glasto or a rather flowery Bangers and Mash. This eventually took me through the gates of the racecourse itself and into a surprisingly large grassy enclosure which would prove more than capable of holding the crowds, and much to everyone's angst, could have comfortably held a few extra bars and food outlets too.

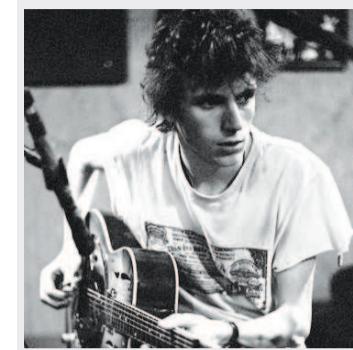
For the first few hours it was business as usual. A steady stream of people entering the grounds come 2pm meant a decent crowd jiggled along to The Marzec Group's reliable grooves on a slightly behind schedule afternoon. DJ Yoda really got people moving to a fantastic combination of bass and classics (nothing makes me lose my shit faster than Toto's 'Africa'), whilst all around the festival a wonderful blend of genres was making sure there was something for all ages represented.

So far nothing but sunshine

and smiles. However as more people started joining in on the fun it all started to change. Not so much at the stages themselves – which apart from perhaps the Bison stage were all perfectly sized for their expected capacities – instead, slowly but surely queues started emerging around the festival. By early evening beer, food and relieving oneself became a mission I only associate with unpleasant places like airports, conferences and French service stations.

What was perhaps most painful about this services shortage was that, once you got what you desired, it was so good. The range and quality of food on offer was some of the best I've experienced at any festival. The facilities were clean and well-stocked and the extensive range of ales at very reasonable prices meant that the bars should have been cleaning up. But due to a simple miscalculation of supply and demand it wasn't quite as mutually satisfying as it should have been.

## Live at the Inkwell.



### MARK WYNNE

THE INKWELL,  
YORK  
Saturday, 20th April  
*Hatti Linnell*

On the sunny afternoon that was Record Store Day at the Inkwell, Mark Wynn played an engaging, short set featuring a fresh selection of old and new music. A long time supporter of the store, it was especially nice to see play someone so clearly invested in the local music scene. Wynn, who defines himself as a 'York based mumbler of song and speil', delves into the rarely-explored category of spoken word music, tricky territory which has mainly been presided over by Scroobius Pip for the past five years. His lyrics are of the kitchen sink variety, and as a result his music bring a fresh sound unlike anyone else's.



### ...AND THE HANGNAILS

THE INKWELL,  
YORK  
Saturday, 20th April  
*Alex Osborne*

Bluesy garage punk duo ... And the Hangnails are going to be big. Combining crashing percussion with impressively powerful riffs, The Inkwell was literally drowned in sound throughout their set. The band closed Record Store Day's proceedings by leaving the audience's ears ringing in the best way possible: by merit of a great live performance.

The band have hit press with rave reviews for support acts alongside the likes of Wet Nuns and Deep Valley - 'current' doesn't quite cut where those guys are at. With a lack of live performances this year, a sneaky listing at the Inkwell provided a unique opportunity.

Martyn Fillingham's vocals were suitably sultry and

FILM.

# Gambling on a Fifty Pence stake



Harry Lambert talks to upcoming director **Eric Kolelas** about ambition, Aesthetica and the importance of artistic communities

**I**'m a young black man in London... this way maybe they can focus on what the film's really about", actor-director Eric Kolelas tells me as we meet to discuss his first film, *Fifty Pence*. We are in London on the cusp of summer, debating the thought that shooting anywhere else is inconceivable. Not wanting to be typecast, Kolelas set the eleven-minute short in Paris, the city where he grew up.

It was a chance to escape the stereotyping that his background can foster. "The way people speak to me changes", he tells me, when they realise he hasn't made a 'hood' film. Kolelas has elsewhere stated, "There are [black] films where black people are dealing with "black" issues, but those issues aren't the only ones black people have to deal with" (Gapers Block). But its basis was not so deliberate. The idea began when Kolelas, then an aspiring actor, came across some footage of Paris on the internet.

The simplicity of the shots, and the atmosphere they created, inspired him, and it is what makes *Fifty Pence* arresting. It's a tale of one man's attempt to gain redemption, and settle his innermost values, after being told to 'deliver' a girl for a Mafioso. The plot revolves around the line, "No matter how much you win or lose, always leave with something you came with." But all this grew out of an aesthetic pursuit. Speaking to Kolelas is an insight into the way shorts can be made, at first more art than story.

The film was selected for screening at Aesthetica Film Festival in York, under the drama category, and featured at festivals in London, Chicago, Paris and Barcelona.

*Fifty Pence* is ambiguous, as Kolelas intended. "With lots of scenes there's two ways to read it, and it's the same with the ending ... people from different backgrounds see differ-

ent stories".

For Kolelas it all started at school, where he stumbled upon media studies as a fourth A-level. "Doing media studies was the best thing that could have happened" – it turned out to really just be a chance to study film, something he used to have little interest in. After studying film at university he chose the perils of a career in acting, otherwise, "I was going to be so frustrated being a studio engineer for people [who were] doing what I wanted to be doing". He's since been in *Eastenders* and music videos for Magnetic Man and Ed

at Iron Man right now". Kolelas wants to make one, but "I'm not going to unless it can be a good one", and that costs. He recalls a sci-fi drama which did well at Sundance 2011, and comes up with a solution. "Have you heard of *Another Earth*?" The only special effect they have is a second Earth in the sky. "It's cheaper", he laughs.

It's an important consideration for Kolelas, who self-financed *Fifty Pence*. His story is a window into the beginnings of a world one usually only sees the end of the big-budget studio picture or the critically acclaimed indie. He hopes the film, and these two successors, will help him sidestep the countless other aspirants.

He talks amusingly about touring the festivals; Chicago's 'clean', and he liked York (the place had a sense of history). "I thought I'd go there (Chicago) and big directors would come. None of that happened", he deadpans. But "it made a big difference me being there, and being able to talk to people.

"Maybe one day", he says wryly, "a plumber who saw it might be fixing the sink of a big film director".

The short now lives on Vimeo, where he welcomes the constructiveness of criticism. It's a "more relevant" audience than YouTube, full of other aspiring film-makers; he recruited the crew for *Fifty Pence* through it.

We discuss the need for artistic communities, I say film-making seems an independent existence. Aesthetica Film Festival might counteract this, having grown out of a surplus of submissions to a film competition, and then bringing these directors from all round the globe together. They attend alongside important industry figures, and re-attend. But Kolelas shrugs and agrees.

"I think that's the case in almost everything".

**"I'm a big sci-fi guy, I'm in pain that I'm not at Iron Man right now"**

Sheeran, but most importantly, stars as Darren in *Fifty Pence*.

Speaking on his current schedule, "You can have a month when it's back to back, and then a month and it's nothing". But Kolelas seems not to mind, he's hard at work in post-production on a second feature. It's a story of two brothers and their dysfunctional relationship – a tale which the Mili-bands recently confirmed never gets old – and he's written a third script.

Like most, he encounters big studio filmmaking from a vertiginous distance. "I'm a big sci-fi guy, I'm in pain I'm not

# Is crowd-funding the future of independent Film?

**Zach Braff** is using crowdfunding website Kickstarter to finance his latest feature. James Tyas asks whether it is the way forward.

**W**hen news first broke that Zach Braff was attempting to raise \$2m using Kickstarter to solicit the public to fund a new feature film my first instinct was that it was going to be a bit of a disaster. It's 2013. Almost nine years have passed since the release of his first film as writer/director: the slightly dated, 'quirky' indie comedy *Garden State* which featured the high water mark for cringeworthy dialogue with Natalie Portman's immortal line: "You need to hear this one song by The Shins. It'll change your life." I thought it would be fair to assume that there couldn't really be an audience out there craving what would effectively be *Garden State 2*.

Well, it turns out there actually is. At the time of writing, Braff has already exceeded his target figure and has currently raised \$2,384,186 from 31,905 backers and still has 24 days left to raise even more for his project entitled *Wish I Was Here*. Unsurprisingly, the multimillionaire ex-*Scrubs* actor's foray into the world of crowdfunding has proved to be somewhat divisive and caused an inevitable internet backlash. In his video pitch for *Wish I Was Here*, which featured comedic turns from both Jim Parsons of Sheldon of *The Big Bang Theory* fame and Donald Faison (Turk from *Scrubs*), Braff cited the overwhelming success of the *Veronica Mars* movie project Kickstart-

er. Indeed, the mystery teen drama TV show's producer Rob Thomas set the ball rolling for high profile projects funded by the public when he broke various records by convincing over 90,000 backers to raise nearly \$6m.

Braff's argument for forgoing traditional financing routes was that it allows him a greater degree of creative freedom. Braff wrote that "It would have involved making a lot of sacrifices I think would have ultimately hurt the film." Basically, if he had to get the money men involved they wouldn't allow him to cast the actors he wanted, they fiddle with the script and generally not let him get his own way. While wanting creative freedom is valid, Braff's claims seem to be slightly disingenuous at best and at worst, lies. To illustrate his point in his pitch video, Braff claimed that studios would contend his choice to cast Jim Parsons in his film. You can never be sure of these things but would a studio really have a problem with Braff casting one of the most recognizable and suc-

cessful sitcom actors of recent times? Hmm. Back in 2004, *Garden State* was very successful and managed to turn a healthy profit and Braff is currently trying to raise a mere \$2m. As a point of comparison, one of the year's relatively low-budget films, *Side Effects*



**"Expecting Braff to self-finance his project because we know that he's moneyed does seem a little bit churlish..."**

cost \$30 million. Like comedian Louie CK, who was allowed full creative control over his eponymous television show in virtue of the production costs being so low, Braff would have also probably been allowed to do as he pleased with the small budget making it a very low risk proposition for a studio.

More generally, while reducing the amount of middle men in any creative endeavour is undoubtedly a good thing, the romantic notion that crowd-funding sites are wresting away control of what is shown in our cinemas from the studio-bosses and giving it to the people might not be quite the virtue it seems. The main beneficiaries of the democracy of the internet have been Psy and Baauer. If crowdsourcing does represent the future, it is highly implausible that cinemas are going to be showing wall to wall *Eternal Sunshine of a Spotless Mind*. At least 90% of all output will be as terrible as it has always been.

Expecting Braff to self-finance his project because we know that he's moneyed does seem a bit churlish and you do wonder whether if another, more respected and widely-liked filmmaker had done the same thing whether it would have caused the same level of contro-

versy. Whether Braff's project will instigate even more high-profile actors and directors to highjack Kickstarter in order to finance their upcoming projects and act to divert money and attention away from more worthy projects by unknown filmmakers who genuinely don't have any other options open to them apart from crowdfunding; or whether it alerts peoples attention to Kickstarter and encourages them to donate to those smaller projects is, at present, purely speculative.

What is annoying is that the people have put money into Braff's project are donors rather than investors meaning that if *Wish I Was Here* does become a massive box office hit, they will see none of the actual profits from the film they allowed to be made. The perks that Braff is offering for pledges are on a sliding scale: if you pledge \$20 you'll "be the first to hear the soundtrack... before it's released, via a streaming link," and if you pledge \$10,000 you are awarded the privilege of a walk on role. I assume that both these options are highly appealing to someone, somewhere, but then studio execs would certainly expect a monetary return on their investment, so one has to ask, why shouldn't the public too?



## Iron Man 3

Director: Shane Black  
Review: Alfie Packham

★★★★★

**A**fter five years and three films to date, we have seen Tony Stark as Iron Man go through the ups (*Iron Man*) and the downs (*Iron Man 2*), on his way to joining and generally taking the piss out of his fellow supers in *Avengers Assemble*. On the journey we have witnessed the one Avenger worth listening to grow from reckless weapons inventor to well-matured superhero. So, with all original ideas likely to be exhausted

by this fourth outing, the question moving on to *Iron Man 3* is what can yet another film about Stark have left to offer us?

"Lots" is the answer given by Shane Black's new approach to the franchise, as he goes somewhere left unexplored since the cave antics of Iron Man's first film: to literally strip the hero down and scrutinise the bloke behind the body armour. From a solemn opening voiceover, we find that Stark is not quite the confident "genius, billionaire, playboy, philanthropist" he once was, owing to his stressful run-in with Loki's alien invasion last April. An anxious mood follows panic attacks, terrorism from the Mandarin (Kingsley), and a rough patch with girlfriend Pepper Potts (Paltrow), all feeding doubt as to the resilience of Tony Stark's cocky façade.

But this unusual moping soon proves to be a red herring. Even as dejected Stark befriends a lonely child complete with a standard fatherless sob-story, any schmaltz is thankfully sidestepped by witticisms delivered expertly (as ever) by Robert Downey Jr. The actor's deadpan performance has defined the franchise while even coming to typify Marvel films at large, and it is this familiar joviality which comes to the fore in Black's script. A comical tone is therefore set by one-liners and slapstick moments which consistently yield laughs throughout.

This trade-off of sternness for humour does come with its price, however, as the movie consequently suffers from a lack of threat. Although action scenes enjoy increased dynamism through Tony Stark's suit upgrades (even with little worthwhile use of 3D opportunities), this is problematic for audiences, since they work to diminish the closeness - and thus the excitement - of close scrapes. Typical of many a Marvel film, we never believe that the protagonist is in real danger. We simply wait for Iron Man to win the inevitable hero-villain showdown, as he shows off his bigger guns and new unpiloted suit-avatars.

It comes as a surprise, then, that the core asset of *Iron Man 3* is the element of surprise. Unlike its *Avengers* predecessor, this is not a film designed to appease the hordes of wheezing nerds. When dealing with Iron Man's quintessential comic book nemesis, the Mandarin, Shane Black reshapes the potentially racist stereotyping of the villain's

old-style image, aligning him with more realistic modern terrorism à la Bin Laden. In a fan-boy provoking move aided by Ben Kingsley's sweeping acting talent, Black goes on to alter the baddie's character arc with unexpected plot twists, to refreshingly entertaining effect.

Meanwhile, characters on the good side have also been tweaked. Pepper Potts, who has always refused to play damsel-in-distress, nonetheless enjoys a welcome promotion from "whiny girlfriend-secretary". In her more positive and occasionally kick-ass new role, Iron Man shows increasing reliance on Pepper in a few life-threatening situations, neatly replacing the missing chemistry of her and Stark's steady relationship.

Then again, this change seems an all-too conscious effort to challenge what is still quite clearly an (Iron) man's world - so don't expect Potts to be donning a suit of her own any time soon.

In spite of Tony Stark's imminent return for an *Avengers* sequel, this instalment's conclusion feels like the last of Iron Man as we know him. Both the film's individual roller-coaster plot and the series' wider narrative cycle are resolved, as a chain of tied loose ends leave a sense of satisfying closure at the credits.

Where earlier Iron Man films have brought action and witty wisecracks the third stands out bringing these and more. You won't cry, but you'll laugh as Shane Black's paid-off risks ensure that *Iron Man 3* both surpasses and surprises.

# Abandon hope, all ye who taste the hot sauce.

**Dr Burnörium**, the owner of Britain's only hot sauce emporium, talks to Mary O'Connor about revenge, Chilli and Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory.

**E**veryone has met or lived with that "LAD" who insists on providing the pre-drink space for his motley crew, (whilst you're sitting cowering in absolute terror next door) and proceeds to recreate a scene somewhere between a Dothraki wedding and a stampede of heavily drugged gorillas.

You realise fairly rapidly that your evenings of planned productivity has been unceremoniously foiled. But, never fear, unadulterated revenge can be yours with the help of Dr Burnörium's range of hot sauces.

Having just launched his "Psycho Serum", which measures a burning 6.4 million scovilles, (and sold out within the first two weeks of sales) Dr Burnörium, aka Nick Moore, proves that revenge, or any other food, for that matter is a dish best served scorching hot. Psycho Serum, he warns, is not intended to be used as a condiment, but rather as a cooking additive. Taking it neat, would, he says, be akin to "licking the surface of the fucking sun." Roll up, ladies and gentleman, roll up.

Moore, a Motörhead and umlaut enthusiast, owns Britain's only Hot Sauce Emporium, which is located in St Nicholas Market, Bristol. His love affair with chilli began as a 17 year old going to the pub with his friends and trying his first Vindaloo curry. With his taste for still-hotter products growing, the hot sauce revolution in America in the early 1990s was the perfect opportunity for him to expand his chilli horizons.

After trying products like Blair Lazar's "Death Sauce", he decided to pursue a career in creating and selling hot sauces, all while staying true to his original American influences, as he explains "in the shop we sell about 300 products and about 90% of those are American."

His own creations differ very little from the American masters, as he tells me "three of our own sauces that we do are made with 70%

chilli... You are getting the flavour of the chilli, you can't get any purer. There are no fancy-pants, superfluous ingredients that shouldn't be in there in my opinion." Whilst he holds the USA title as "the best hot sauce makers in the world", Moore also gives a nod to Belize, the home of a brand called Marie Sharp, who "started over her kitchen sink 30 years ago and her sauces are absolutely incredible."

Dr Burnörium certainly keeps me on my toes, as he takes charge of asking the questions, "Let me ask you a question. Have you ever walked into a place and just thought 'wow'?" This apparently, is the reaction he gets fairly regularly from customers who stumble across the shop for the first time.

His customers aren't the only ones who are taken aback, as Moore admits, even after four years of running his emporium, that he is still surprised by the broad range of people who come in.

He reveals, "my youngest customer is 8 or 9 years old. He comes in with his dad, and they come in once a month. He doesn't buy the mad, bad hot sauces, but he does buy ones with a reasonable amount of heat level, round about the Tabasco kind of level."

In the past, Moore has been accused of being something of a wine ponce when it comes to hot sauce. I can tell he might take this more as a compliment, since as a self-confessed 'purist' Moore reveals that "I will not sell a product until I've tasted it... It has got to be a damn good sauce and pass with my approval. I am very strict." For Moore to stock a particular sauce in his Emporium there has to be the perfect balance between flavour and heat. As he explains, Capsaicin extract is the chemical

that makes a chilli pepper hot, and this can be added to "a natural heat hot sauce" to take it to "unimaginable" levels of heat, to create a sauce of "enhanced heat." This has to be done in a very delicate manner to ensure heat doesn't overpower flavour, and vice versa.

Moore admits himself that he has "one foot either side of the line between genius and insanity", but I do wonder whether this is the case with every hot sauce enthusiast. Moore explains that it is more to do with the science behind pain, rather than the need to be committed to a mental institution: "when something hot hits your tongue, it sets off receptors in your brain and trigger endorphins to try and cope with the pain, which as a result make you feel quite good. It's the same effect when people go to the gym or run marathons; you get that buzzy feeling. That's why people crave chilli. Your body will eventually become tolerant to the level of heat, so to get that same

**"Taking it neat would, he says, be akin to "licking the surface of the fucking sun."**



IMAGE COURTESY OF DR BURNÖRIUM

feeling you have to go hotter and hotter, and that's why people become addicted."

Moore confesses that he has chilli with every meal, except breakfast, which he skips. He also has a clear position on the beloved English tradition of the Sunday Roast: hatred. His preferred dish is perhaps less surprising: curry.

With hot sauce tasting rapidly becoming an extreme sport, Dr Burnörium is the guy supplying the fun. But his wicked streak doesn't stop there, as he reveals his hopes for the future: "If I could, I would open a hot sauce emporium on a high street that would blow your fucking mind, because it would be the chilli head equivalent of Willy Wonka's fucking Chocolate Factory. I'd have little dwarves in there as well, I would love to employ a couple of dwarves... If I had that whole thing, you'd certainly go fucking 'wow' when you walked in, wouldn't you?"

To answer his question: Yes, I believe I would.

## Hot Chilli Chicken Wings

Cut the wings at the two joints and discard the wing tips. They add very little to anything and generally just get in the way. If you want to, you can keep them and use in a chicken stock.

Mix all the remaining ingredients for the marinade. Put wings in a flat container and cover with marinade. Turn wings to coat all surfaces.

Cover container and refrigerate overnight, or for at least 2 hours. This allows the flavours to soak into the chicken, and also tenderises the meat.

Line a baking pan with baking paper. Drain marinade off the wings, reserving the marinade, and place in one layer in

### Ingredients

12 chicken wings  
1 teaspoon crushed ginger  
1 teaspoon crushed garlic  
¼ cup finely minced fresh chillies (optional)  
¼ cup brown sugar  
¼ cup soy sauce  
*Chilli sauce/Tabasco (as much as you feel happy with)*

the pan. Bake at 200°C for 30 minutes. Remove from the oven, and drain off liquid.

Brush wings with reserved marinade or, for more intense heat, brush with full-strength chilli sauce. Not Dr Burnorium's sauce though. No one wants to lick the sun.

Bake for an additional 30 minutes or until crisp. Serve immediately, with potatoes and greens, and a side of yoghurt or maybe cream cheese for those with a less fortified palate. Prepare for chilli symptoms by having tissues within reach.

Tip: you can also add creme fraiche into the wings while cooking to cool the sauce slightly should you have been overenthusiastic with your chillies.

# Jordan: The Land of Milk and Honey

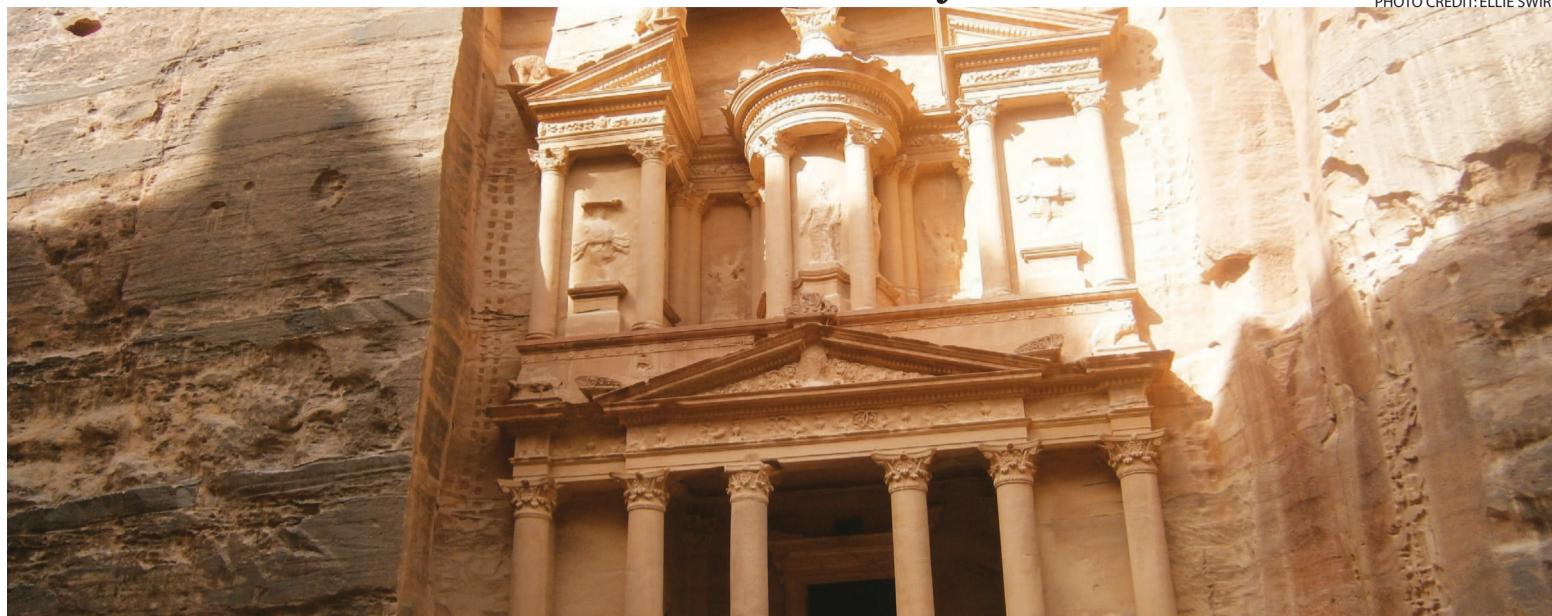


PHOTO CREDIT: ELLIE SWIRE

The Lost City of Petra, Jordan

I have an issue with not understanding menus. Call me picky, but I like to know exactly what is in something before I order it - no shocks or surprises.

So when, having sat down with my family for a meal while on a recent trip to Jordan, I was presented with a menu of about four or five dishes, all written in Arabic, I was a little nervous about what to expect. Communicate with the waiter? Not an option either, really.

What to do? Take the risk and be presented with a plate of raw chicken heart? Mistranslate and get boiled lamb intestine rather than the anticipated salad?

I need not have worried! Like its Arab and Levantine neighbours, Jordanian cuisine is a rich blend of vegetables, meats, fish and spices; food in Jordan is as much a sign of hospitality and pride as it is culture.

And while it would be impossible to write in detail about all of the dishes, there are some which stand out as particularly memorable.

Any meal in Jordan would not be complete without an appetizer of warm flat bread served with hummus or a similar aubergine dip known as baba ghanoush, followed by an assortment of mezze-style salads and snacks – fatoosh, falafel, stuffed vegetables (mahash) and patties. No raw unidentifiables yet.

For the main course, grilled chicken and fish are popular, though it is lamb mansaf, hailed as Jordan's national dish, which deserves special mention.

A recipe which includes fragrant rice and pieces of cooked lamb marinated in spices and plain yoghurt (jameed), topped off with golden raisins and roasted nuts, mansaf is delicious and impressive ('mansaf' means 'explosion' in Arabic).

Mansaf is quite a fiddly dish to make at home, but if you have the time and patience, it is well worth the effort! It is also likely to impress flatmates no end as you reveal that you actually learnt something whilst away. Constructive holiday? What?

## Lamb Mansaf

1 pot plain yoghurt  
1 egg white  
2 tsp corn flour  
60g butter,  
1 onion, chopped  
Turmeric  
Cinnamon  
Raisins  
Nuts (pine, peanuts, or almonds)

Blend the yoghurt, egg white and flour in a pan by stirring continually in the same direction. Maintain the same direction of stirring throughout, as changing will cause the yoghurt to curdle. This can be quite tricky - take care not to overheat.

Heat the yoghurt mixture until it begins to boil then lower the heat and leave to simmer until it thickens.

Meanwhile, place the lamb in a pan and cover with cold water. Bring slowly to boil, skimming the surface to remove particles.

Cover and boil gently for 30 minutes, adding salt and pepper.

In a separate frying pan, cook the onions and then half the nuts in butter until golden brown, stirring in the spices. Add the mixture to the boiling lamb.

After the lamb has been cooking for 1 hour, remove the lid and let the liquid reduce until it only half-covers the lamb. Add the yoghurt sauce and cook on a low heat until the lamb is tender and the sauce is thick.

Serve with basmati rice and any leftover yoghurt sauce, sprinkling the remaining nuts and raisins over the top. And if you want to eat mansaf the traditional way, serve from a large bowl, using your fingers to dip the lamb in the yoghurt.

Ellie Swire

# The Naked Baker: Piñata Cake

Fe Morizet

If you ask a Mexican what a piñata is, they won't come straight back to you with cake. A piñata itself is usually the centre piece of a party; a multi-coloured, papier maché construction filled with sweets or small toys.

However, we're not making inedible things here. What would be the point in that? Introducing, therefore, a showstopping cake. Rather than papier maché, you use sponge cake, and make the whole thing edible! No throwing it on the ground though.

Here, the first cut of the cake will reveal the surprise of candies and treats inside. The cake is baked first, and the candies are added to the cooled cake, so there's no danger of melting inside. As a relatively new recipe, there may not be much history behind it, but it is a lot of fun.

## The Recipe

175 g self-raising flour  
1 tsp baking powder  
3 large eggs  
175 g caster sugar  
175 g butter, room temperature  
½ teaspoon vanilla extract  
An assortment of sweets  
Two large pyrex bowls



Measure the flour and baking powder into a sieve and sift into a bowl, holding the sieve quite high. Add all the other sponge ingredients to the bowl and whisk everything together until you have a smooth mixture.

Grease and cover the two oven-safe bowls with flour. Divide the mixture between the two bowls (or tins), and place on the centre shelf of the oven. It will take 30-35 minutes to cook.

Remove from the oven and after about 30 seconds loosen the edges by sliding a palette knife all round, then turn them out onto a wire cooling tray.

Gently scoop out the inside of both cakes with a spoon, going down a few inches. Be careful not to puncture the cake on the sides or bottom. Place the crumbled cake pieces in a separate bowl and save (they can be used to make cake pops later). Repeat with other cake. You will be left with two, hollowed out cakes.

Place one cake on a plate facing up. Apply butter icing all around, and on the edge to act as a seal, and fill the hole with assorted sweets. Now carefully place the other cake on top making sure to line up the edges.

Cover the rest of the cake with frosting, and place it in the fridge for 15 minutes to chill.

Advisory note: Hide from housemates or birthday person; you will have none left if they find it.

# The Elixirs of Success

Sunaina Suri



PHOTO CREDIT: MEZZOBLUE

What makes a drink a brainpower aiding, IQ enhancing, lovely provider of knowledge? What is the science behind those elixirs of life? Can we actually pass our exams just by drinking coffee? Here are some facts on drinks we consume frequently, to aid you in your studying.

Firstly, alcohol. According to the Journal of Clinical Investigation, drinking alcohol can boost brain energy. Acetate, a chemical normally found in vinegar, is what the body gets as leftovers after breaking down the alcohol. This is broken down into the bloodstream and travels to the brain, improving memory, energy and stamina.

So, drinking alcohol 7 days a week might not be such a bad thing. Since alcohol in excess kills brain cells, moderation is key (until that last exam is over. Cells regrow in time for the next exams, right?). According to some surveys, red wine is the choice of the intelligent, as it is rich in resveratrol, which is a flavonoid that boosts blood flow in the brain.

Grape juice and cranberry juice are also rich in resveratrol. These juices could also keep you from infections as they contain vital nutrients that aid in the treatment of heart disease, cancer, urinary tract, bladder and kidney infections.

Green tea is another great. It contains polyphenols, which are powerful antioxidants that protect against free radicals that can damage brain cells. Green tea also enhances memory and helps keep your mind alert.

Caffeine is problematic. Coffee can make you feel alert, but will make you feel irritable if you drink too much. Energy drinks keep you awake as well, but do not keep you focused as they have too much caffeine in them. Stick to better sleeping patterns to keep you awake. Food Standards Australia New Zealand claims you can get anxious after having 3 milligrams of caffeine per kilogram of body weight. Read the label and do the maths.

Milk, surprisingly. Milk has vitamin D, which we also get from the sun. This boosts brainpower, according to studies done on Alzheimer's disease.

Last up: water. According to *Psychology Today*, brain cells are efficient only when hydrated enough. Short-term, long-term memory and alertness are all dependent on hydration from water. We take water for granted - but if you're not trooping to the library water fountains every hour (and then, one imagines, the toilets...) then it's your concentration that's going to suffer.

# The Orillo Edition



**Kate Frater from Orillo Productions talks to Mary O'Connor about the best kept secrets, teapot cocktails and everyday miracles**

**W**e want people to be curious about Orillo, and explore what it is in their own way."

'Curious', I certainly was. On entering the neatly tucked away studio (a stone's throw from the hipster hangout of Bison Coffee) I soon realised the immensity of the Aladdin's cave I had stumbled into; and that was even before I spoke to Kate Frater, one of Orillo Production's six-strong team. A profusion of vibrant, abstract canvases adorned the exposed-brickwork of the walls, with the open space of the room itself filled with the incandescence of the several clusters of light bulbs that dangled artfully from the ceiling.

It would be wrong to assume that this is just an edgy kid's paradise, as I learn from Kate, everything about Orillo Productions, including the space, has a very personal, human touch, "When we first came, it was completely derelict, so we

did it all ourselves. It took us about four or five months, every day after work, just scraping the walls and sanding the floors." The bar, which has been our saving source of (alcoholic) beverages throughout the day, is another feature which echoes the Orillo personality. Kate explains that the bar top was made of cut stone from a disused quarry on her dad's farm, and I notice that 'Orillo' has been delicately engraved into the side - a quirk which became the centre of discussion at one of their very first launch parties.

Orillo Productions, like the bohemian space it now to boasts, has been lovingly and painstakingly nurtured into a successful media production company. Starting off as the brainchild of four Film and Television students from York St John University, Orillo got its first commercial contract due to the entrepreneurialism of one of its directors, Keenan,

who, after pulling some strings in the marketing department, followed Jack Wills, around the USA with a video camera. It was hardly glamorous sleeping from sofa to sofa, but it is obvious that this was just a small sacrifice for the fruit his efforts would yield. Kate excitedly reveals that after he sent his edited footage to Jack Wills "they loved it, so he shot another one at the Boathouse, and from then on, Jack Wills became our main big clients." A far cry from his days of sofa surfing, Keenan has somewhat moved up in the world. Apart from filming in the USA, he has been to Hong Kong no less than ten times in the past two years.

Kate is keen to stress that staying "true to their roots" is the heart, soul, and driving force of Orillo Productions. Whilst they pursue some commercialised ventures, working with multinational organisations like Ducati and Rolex, it is



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ORILLO PRODUCTIONS

**“We want to promote talented people coming out of university, who can follow their dream of tap dancing or carpentry, or whatever they want to do.”**

obvious that the most rewarding work for them comes from ‘humanity’-based stories.

Love146, a charity that raises money and awareness for trafficked children across Europe and the UK are the subject of Orillo’s latest filmic exploits. As Kate tells me their story, and how the team came to be involved, I understand exactly why the Orillo passion for their work seems inextinguishable. “The guy who started the charity was over in Croatia... He went to where you could traffic these kids, and he said that there was a window in the building, but it was one way, you could see them, but they couldn’t see you.

He said he was stood with these less than savoury looking men and they brought in these girls and lined them up. He noticed that there was this one girl with a tattoo on her that was number 146. The other girls were looking straight at them, this one girl, she was looking at something else, and she had the blankest stare in her eyes. She didn’t even look human anymore. He said that that moment struck him so deeply that he called his charity Love 146 for this little girl.”

Orillo’s directors are following a campaign attached to Love146 on the road, an initiative called ‘Run for Love’, “There’s these three guys who joined the charity and they call themselves “Run For Love” and they’re running 30 marathons in 30 days. They started in Odessa, and they’re finishing in Croatia. Every day they’re running 30 miles a day, and we have a guy who is cycling alongside filming them, and then he’ll go ahead to try and get them accommodation.”

Kate joined the team on graduating from York St John,

and helped create the events side of Orillo Productions, with the concept of the Secret Cinema and the accompanying pop-up bars. You might think cinema and associate it with eating stale popcorn, slumped in a lumpy, grime-covered chair, behind a six-foot coughing giant. Orillo, as you may have guessed, offer a slightly different, even ‘off-the-wall’ experience when it comes to cinema. Think watching *Jaws* in a swimming pool. If the risk of being the supper of the blockbuster’s big fish wasn’t enough to excite you, the Orillos have bigger and better plans in mind.

“We’ve got another cinema on 21st June and we’d like to play *Hook*. We’re actually hoping to do a collaboration with Papakata (a York based company which provides tents and teepees for large scale events) and use their huge teepees to create a Lost Boys theme, with loads of bright food.” On the theme of food, their upcoming third birthday provides many-a-student dream: they want to throw a “quirky” party, with, quite simply, champagne and hotdogs.

As they found with the overwhelming popularity of one of their first cinema events, held at the museum gardens, “people don’t want to pay to just go to the cinema. They want an event.” With this in mind, the bars used dainty (and cocktail-filled!) teapots and teacups to water the crowds. But the team’s newest project involves creating and marketing their own brand of vodka, in a bid to push their pop-up bars even further.

Instead of wanting to rival other leading brands like Absolut and Chase, Orillo Limited, (the name of the vodka

wing of the company) is going to be aimed at fostering a very personal connection between the individual and the vodka. Before this starts to sound like a twisted scene from an AA session gone wrong, Kate explains the refreshing thinking behind this objective: “we’re aiming to sell it like a lifestyle, like we want to have a swing-top on it, so when you go for a meal round someone’s house, instead of taking a bottle of wine, you’d take the vodka for the middle of the table.” Bottoms up, kids. Or whatever ‘cheers’ is in Russian...

In marketing the vodka, the group’s roots in film are ever-present, “we’re going to do a video once a month, following someone really talented.” Being suffused in atmosphere of creativity breeds more of the same, “so say we meet an amazing carpenter, and we give him the vodka for a month, for him to do what he wants with it, he might then make a box for it, so it would be the Carpenter Edition. So each edition of the vodka will have batch #1 and 2 and so on, so by the time you reach a hundred, you’ll be able to see how much it’s changed.” Much like their own journey of taking a risk to pursue their passions, Kate speaks for Orillo in saying, “we want to promote people coming out of university, talented people, who can follow their dream of tap dancing or carpentry or whatever they want to do.”

The first thing Kate revealed was her wish for people to explore Orillo completely in their own way. After spending just an afternoon there, I couldn’t help but feel that I had been well and truly bitten by the Orillo bug. Or maybe I had one too many teapot cocktails...M

# CABBIES' CORNER

JEFF'S JOB DRIVING A 7-SEATER TAXI APPEARS TO HAVE TAKEN ITS TOLL ON HIS SPORTING CAREER...



**“I used to play rugby myself, but I sure never got the chance to play at a place like Huntington. Lucky boys! ”**

*Jeff  
Driving cabs for 5 years*

## THE STUDENT NOTEBOOK

MARTIN SPURR

As with any sporting weekend this year's Roses has engulfed campus. From the frantic stewards running from each event to the next to the baffling Lancaster tradition of dying one's hair blonde - how this helps any sporting attribute is beyond belief, apart from giving their opponents a good chuckle. As York advanced towards victory the relentless matches drew in avid followers. Though this may be a case of anything's-better-than-revision rather than a new found love for ultimate frisbee.

Yet every major sporting event has the same effect. And even in York's own little bubble there's no doubt this year's Roses will do the same. The enthusiasm non-sporty people find grows and grows until they are out there running 5km every day before breakfast. Or at least for a few days. During the two weeks of Wimbledon every tennis court is booked up, after

the Olympics every athletics club was full, and during the Tour de France numerous cyclists clog up the roads. These are the fair-weather sportsmen and women who blow the dust away on their tennis racket in the summer, or dig out their two sizes too small running shoes from when they were at school. These men and women laugh at year-long gym memberships, chortle at months of training and completely ignore any real sporting etiquette. And although it pains me to say it, I find myself turning into such a person.

Why I thought it was a good idea to run the 10km fun run this weekend despite not having run for several years astounds me. The only fun part is the pint of beer waiting at the end of it, the elixir of life for any unfit athlete. The determination to keep going was only to be found in the knowledge that the decadent

## Tea and Troubles.

Dear Sophie,

*My boyfriend wants to do a threesome, which I would quite like to try. But, the other girl he wants us to do it with is Spanish, and doesn't speak a word of English. How can we avoid any awkwardness?*

Hire a translator. A threesome can be very complicated and you wouldn't want any misunderstandings. Although I've never heard of translators being used in romantic situations before, I'm sure it would work. You might look into hiring one who specialises in anatomy as doing the wrong thing to the wrong part of the body could be somewhat uncomfortable. Perhaps go through a few 'key words' before the evening begins with signs and pictures, and you shouldn't run into any trouble. Suerte chicos!

*My housemate is addicted to Farmville. She has installed a direct cable into the wireless hub so that she can plough her crops quicker, but our connection is now really slow. What can we do?*

Buy her cigarettes. She's going to need to develop another addiction to stop her playing Farmville so much, and, I've heard, nicotine is highly effective. It's not really healthy for someone to be obsessed with video games, especially when they involve animals, so I'm sure she'd gain from improving her social life. Perhaps start off by offering her a cigarette after a meal and she'll soon be hooked. I can't see the attraction of moving chickens around a computer

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M24

07.05.2013



screen, so I'm sure it won't take long for her to prefer puffing to ploughing.

*I've signed up to the York marathon along with some of my friends but now I've realised that I couldn't possibly run 26 bloody miles. How can I get out of doing it?*

Hay fever. Two simple words, and people will understand immediately. High pollen count can be a nuclear reaction waiting to happen and you don't want to inflict that kind of sneezing on your fellow runners. Say you've always had it, and you've been very sensitive about people knowing, and that you've never wanted it to stop you doing anything. Indeed, acknowledge that some people run the marathon with one leg, one arm, visual impairments, you name it, all in the name of charity. But hay fever, is a different kind of battle. No matter how much Piriton you've got, you may win one battle, but you will never win the war; you can never run away from pollen.



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# Politics

## STUDENT HACK



Students in the UK have been urged to campaign to free an NUS president in Swaziland. Maxwell Dlamini was arrested after taking part in a student rally last month. UK Students can show support through the official petition at change.org.



Students and staff at Capilano University are fighting to save two visual arts programmes. University officials are planning to cut a number of programmes to cure a deficit of \$1.3 million, proposing a funding freeze to Arts and Textiles courses.



Students at Dundee University are arguing for a 'living wage' for all staff. Around 50 students attended protests last Tuesday, and speeches were given by councillors, union activists and students. A spokesman at the university has said the issue will be debated in committee in the near future.

# Students with lower grades 'set up to fail' by universities

Rosie Shields

POLITICAL REPORTER

UNIVERSITIES HAVE started to accept students with much lower entry grades than required in order to fill course spaces in whatever way they can. This has sparked new fears that less able students will fall behind at degree level.

It seems that rather than the top universities being filled with Britain's brightest students, they have been filled with students achieving Cs and Ds. Professor Sir Christopher Snowden, who will become president of Universities UK (UUK) in August, revealed that such institutions have been "forced to significantly drop" their entry requirements after demand for undergraduate courses fell.

This is likely to be a reflection on the increase of student fees which has seen many students paying £9,000 for average courses and fewer hours.

Many students are now delaying their university experience, or simply not going at all. With the age of school leavers set to change, we could see even fewer people applying to university.

Will we see universities lowering their grade boundaries to receive any students at all? Many institutions have even granted scholarships in an attempt to attract more students who have been put off from the rise of student fees.

Yet Snowden has argued that by allowing students with lower en-



A-Level students across the country are being disadvantaged by universities who are accepting lower grades

try grades a place on these courses it could be giving the students false self esteem and would struggle later in their university experiences.

Many institutions have argued this is setting students up for failure, pushing them into competition with more able students. In fact, the University of Surrey has denied entry to any students with grades lower than

a B for this exact reason.

However with the Russell Group alone announcing approximately 11,500 vacancies last September, perhaps accepting students with lower grades will have to continue.

As yet there seems to be no real solution short of accepting less able students, often at their disadvan-

tage, or else universities risk leaving courses empty.

Indeed, despite the difficulties universities and students are facing at the moment, Wendy Piatt, director general of the Russell Group, has emphasised that 'for any course, the offers made, and grades achieved, will be both above and below the typical offer'.

## Political Socs react to referenda

Alex Osborne

POLITICAL REPORTER

CAMPAINING AND voting for YUSU's twice-yearly referenda has begun on campus with four proposed motions brought forward for discussion. Following a debate and AGM last Wednesday, voting opened for all students on Thursday with discussion and publicity now flooding social media.

The first motion, coordinated on the 'Yes' side by Helena Horton and 'No' side by Sophie Walker, asks 'Should YUSU stop selling *The Sun*' and has provoked widespread divide among students. Passing the motion would mean that *The Sun* would not be sold in any campus outlet and as such YUSU would not profit from stocking the publication. Supporters of the 'Yes' campaign argue that banning the Sun would prevent the university from profiting from a "sexist, xenophobic and discriminatory" newspaper while supporters of the 'No' campaign claim that banning the paper would infringe on a free press.

Secondly comes the somewhat tongue-in-cheek 'Should YUSU lob-



The Sun newspaper may be banned from Yourshop if the motion wins

by the government to leave the EU' which currently has no coordinators on either side of the motion. A 'Yes' vote would mean that YUSU would call on the government to leave the EU. Both the Lib Dems and Labour party on campus have expressed favour towards the 'No' side of the motion.

However, campus party political support has been particularly notable for the latter two motions, 'Should YUSU pay all its employees a Living Wage' and 'Should YUSU introduce the proposed no-platform policy'. The Living Wage campaign was begun by the University's Labour Club which then became an

independent ratified society, and as such the club will be campaigning for the 'Yes' side of the referendum. A 'Yes' vote would mean that all university employees would be paid a set 'Living Wage' that the pro-campaign says will offer a better quality of life to workers. However, it would also cause side effects such as reduced staff benefits and fewer student staff in order to fund the motion. Other parties on campus such as the Greens have expressed slight concern at the repercussions this might entail as the motion may cause cutting of staff hours and services without consultation, but support the principle of a living wage in general.

The 'No' vote campaign has drawn widespread support from both the University Lib Dems and Greens, with the Greens labelling the motion "vague and paradoxical". The 'Yes' coordinator is Jacob Campbell and a 'Yes' vote would mean that YUSU would not host speakers representing foreign, undemocratic regimes or proscribed under UK Law and NUS no platform policies. The opportunity to vote continues throughout the week.

# Is Ed Miliband holding back Labour?

**Joseph Harrison**  
**POLITICAL ANALYSIS**

In a recent article written for *The New Statesman*, Tony Blair argued that the Labour Party must not "settle back into its old territory of defending the status quo" and remain "as the party opposing 'Tory cuts'". Although Blair never mentioned Ed Miliband by name, this clear attack on Labour under Miliband's leadership left me baffled.

The greatest problem is not that it is steadfastly opposing 'Tory Cuts' but rather that it is barely providing an opposition to the government at all. Despite Blair's fear that the party has reverted to the old ways that existed before his New Labour government, any hope for a return to socialism under Ed Miliband's leadership was quickly quashed and hastily forgotten.

Miliband has repeatedly maintained a weak centralist attitude to many of the Coalition's actions. He presents us with the prospect of an alternative Labour Government under which the country would still be suffering, only just a tiny bit less than it is currently. One of the most striking examples of this was his suggestion in 2011 to cap tuition fees at £6000; despite the fact he voted against the move to raise it to £9000. As a member of the Labour Party who voted for Ed Miliband to become leader, with perhaps the naïve belief that unlike his brother he was heralding a return to more left-wing values. He has, however, consistently infuriated me with inad-

equate attempts to maintain Labour as a party fighting to protect those who have been most thoroughly affected by Government policy.

The troubling nature of Miliband's leadership was emphatically realised in an interview he gave on Radio 4's 'World at One' last Monday. Despite the relatively harmless questions posed by Martha Kearney about Labour's current ideas on policy, Ed Miliband still managed to tie himself in knots over government borrowing.

Although Ed Balls had previously said that if he were Chancellor

**“The greatest problem with Labour is that it is barely providing an opposition to the government at all”**

of the Exchequer he would oppose the current Government's plans to decrease borrowing, Ed Miliband attempted to criticise the Government's failure to decrease its rate of borrowing, refusing to "accept that borrowing would be higher under a Labour government." He has since noted the flaws in his comments, but the interview did highlight the fact that he is a leader who is fundamentally opposed to committing himself to any substantial policies.

In fact almost all of his answers were excruciatingly vague. Despite



**Ed Miliband is increasingly under pressure as Labour leader as questions are asked over his competency**

highlighting the Government's flaws in certain areas, his proposals for change amounted to nothing more than 'something' else: "Let's try and do something about people's energy bills, let's try and do something about wages." His comments were subsumed with a vapid political rhetoric, filled to the brim with buzzwords and irrelevancies: "I [...] talk to people in an old-fashioned

way about politics. I stand in the town centre. I say something about the Labour party. One Nation. How I think we can change the country by using the talents of everybody, that's what I'm about, and then I talk to people about their issues and concerns."

The general election is still two years away; two years during which I hope the Labour Party will begin

to provide viable policies that provide an effective alternative to the current Government's plans. However, it is my opinion that unless Ed Miliband starts to realise that people want to know what Labour's actual purpose is to today as opposed to what it stands for two years in the future, he faces the very real problem of leading the party into obscurity and eventual electoral defeat.

# Marriage tax breaks should go ahead

**Maisie Cook**  
**POLITICAL ANALYSIS**

David Cameron has restated his commitment to introduce tax breaks for married couples by the next election. Supporters had feared that his manifesto promise would be abandoned. However, they have now been reassured that the proposals for a stay-at-home member of a married couple/civil partnership to be able to transfer £750 of their tax-free personal allowance to their working spouse will indeed be fulfilled.

The issue of tax breaks for married couples is not a new one. However, currently the Married Couple's Allowance only applies if one partner is born before 6 April 1935. Conservative plans would extend these provisions significantly, bringing the UK into line with other European countries like France and Germany.

Conservatives believe that these measures would promote the ideal of marriage and thus reinforce family values, creating a more stable society for all. MPs have stressed the issue as 'important' to rectify the present benefit imbalances with single parents. As it is, according to *The Telegraph* single parents who live alone receive about £100 a week more than married couples with children; an undeniably unjust



**David Cameron should consider offering this reform in order to retain much of the traditionalist vote**

situation.

However, not all Conservatives are in favour of the policy. Some fear that the measures will be seen as regressive and thus further distance the party from the public. Indeed, the Conservative party have long been trying to shake off the image

of their party as stuffy and old fashioned. Stressing marriage in an age where divorce rates are rocketing and the nuclear family is no longer the norm is a sure fire route to seeming out of touch.

Cameron's coalition partners are also far from enamoured. Nick

Clegg called the policies 'odd' earlier in the year, saying that 'you don't need the taxman to tell you whether you should get married or not'.

The simple fact of the matter is that marriage does not necessarily equate with a stable family unit. To incentivise marriage in this way

undermines couples who bring up their family in a loving environment without a marriage certificate to prove it. Marriage does not even have a necessary link to bringing up children, demonising those single out of choice or otherwise.

In the current financial climate, this is not where the government should be spending their money. Benefits are being cut and education budgets slashed, yet the economic situation is still dire. Though the policy holds a degree of legitimacy, as the promise of tax breaks for married couples was contained in the Conservative manifesto and later the Coalition Agreement, it sends out the wrong signal to both the international and domestic community of a backward looking Britain.

However, from a purely selfish perspective, Cameron needs a policy like this to go ahead before election time comes around. Traditional conservatives are being drawn towards nationalist parties in response to progressive policies such as gay marriage. Local elections have shown UKIP gaining over 100 council seats, signalling to the Conservative Party that their current strategy is failing to capture the public spirit. In order to regain support, a token gesture to traditionalists may be outdated, but is nevertheless necessary for the Conservatives to fight another day.

**Politics****Politics**

# EU wrong to ignore radical Hungary reforms



Josh Allen

POLITICAL ANALYSIS

Across Europe parties of varying ideological backgrounds are calling into question the unelected bodies of the European Court and Commission. From Zizek to UKIP desires for reinstatements of national sovereignty are coming to challenge the bastions of Euro power in Strasbourg, Brussels and Frankfurt.

A new course is required, and by embracing a right-wing populist agenda Hungary has broken out of the European mould. Could this central European country, once praised for its successful transition to democracy, show us a new course? Or rather does Viktor Orban's regime represent a dagger pointed at the heart of Europe and everything European's believe?

Since 2010 Hungary has been governed at a national level by the Fidesz Party. A nominally "liberal" force, the party grew out of the organised resistance to the Hungarian Worker's Party when it crystallised in the late 1980s.

In the '90s Fidesz and Viktor Orban, its charismatic president and former student leader, were feted by neo-liberal western European politicians for driving through a economic reform program along the lines of the shock doctrine.

The social consequences of this saw Fidesz swept from power in 2002 to be replaced by the Labour Party. Moderate descendants of the Worker's Party, who expanded social programs and public investment. Losing support to the far-right Jobbik Party, in a climate of high unemployment and growing racism against minority groups such as the Jews and Roma, Fidesz re-branded itself in the late 2000s as a nationalistic and authoritarian force. Defeating a tired and scandal torn Labour Party in 2010, they took 70 per cent of the seats in Parliament, enough to amend the constitution at will.

The new government's first act was to declare a "national revolution" with notices to this effect placed in all government buildings.



The European Union has expressed concern at Viktor Orban's drastic changes in 21st Century Hungary

Furthering this, laws were passed granting the governing party significant powers over all areas of Hungarian life. Including appointments to the editorial boards of state owned media companies and powers to suppress publications. Support for Jobbik controlled local authorities attempts to terrorise and ghettoise Roma and a willingness to allow public displays of an anti-Semitic nature at Second World War Commemorations.

New constitutions seem to have secured Orban's position. The word "Republic" was removed from the official description of what the state is, and the ability of the Supreme

Court to make rulings affecting legislation and governmental action

**“Shocking measures in 21st Century Europe have received semi-formal concern”**

was abolished. The constitutions also reduced Parliamentary Committee power and the ruling body of the National Bank is now seemingly appointed by those in political

favour.

Shocking measures in 21st Century Europe. But measures which, despite Hungarian membership of the EU, have received only a semi-formal 'expression of concern' from the Council of Europe.

With countries inside and outside the EU coming under extraordinary pressure to implement EU mandated austerity programs, Europe's silence has been deafening. When it comes to weak EU institutions and democracy, its critics are right, Orban's changes to Hungary support them. Those who once cheered him through their silence still do.

## Anthony Seldon on 'politics, education and happiness'

**Nouse Events**

Nouse Events hosted Anthony Seldon, commentator, author and headmaster of Wellington College on Friday for the first talk of this term. As a man of many interests, Seldon was given carte blanche to talk on the themes of 'politics, education and happiness'.

It represented the programme's fifth talk and third in the Bowland Auditorium since being set up last October.

In format, it bore much resemblance to the event when Lord Adonis, former Labour minister and academy school pioneer spoke on education, but in style Seldon was unique.

Seldon took the audience on a sprawling, ex tempore talk, allowing himself to wander way into each subject before switching to the next.

The improvised talk seemed to have the 100-strong audience captivated throughout. Focusing primarily on education, he called for a reconsideration of what we value in school children, calling for educationalists to ask 'not whether a child is intelligent, but how that child is intelligent.'

Seldon talked about the range of intelligences - how there are eight in total, from the academic we are excessively focused on, to the moral, creative, sporting, linguistic and logical.

He talked of how as head of Wellington College he had redesigned both the library and its accompanying water feature with eight pods to represent each type.

On universities, he suggested far too many were falling victim to the obsession with research and teaching to the exam that schools

now do criminally, at the expense of developing the minds of their students. He talked of how he, as an Oxford PPE graduate, only scraped a B when he took AS Philosophy a few years ago - his answers did not match the mark scheme.

But perhaps the most interesting aspect of the event was Seldon's philosophical approach. Students, and the numerous local adults in the audience, were taken on a whistle top tour of his Zen.

Seldon spoke of how we would all be better humans if we embraced 'stillness' and stopped more often throughout the day. If only Blair and Brown had during their premiership, he lamented as their unauthorised No 10 biographers.

Renowned for introducing happiness classes to Wellington, he took his discussion of wellbeing to novel lengths, at one point asking each au-

dience member to send a text of appreciation or affection to someone that they care about.

'The harder it is, the more it will mean to them' he implored. One audience member bravely recounted her sister's response: 'Er thanks. That's nice. Who are you and what have you done with my sister?'

The Q & A followed up on Seldon's points, some querying how in reality Seldon's lofty ideas and philosophy on education can be applied to today's schools and universities.

After organising a unique meeting of all the top student papers in the country during the Easter break, it was a welcome return to the kind of early Friday evening wander into the philosophical and political Nouse Events was set up to create.

Debates on intervention and religion and more high-profile talks are set for the coming months.

3 May

3 May

3 May

3 May

3 May

"People are seriously making the argument that criticising the outcome of an election means you don't like democracy. We're doomed. #UKIP"

3 May

@BBCNormanS  
Norman Smith,  
BBC News

"Nigel Farage says UKIP supporters are "rejecting the establishment" but not just "sticking two fingers up" to main parties"

3 May

# One promise Cameron won't break

The government last week suggested that some rich pensioners should hand back their benefits. Adam Highland looks at whether the wealthy elderly should keep their welfare payments.

**D**avid Cameron has been much criticised for sticking to his pledge to retain universal benefits for pensioners, such as the winter fuel allowance, free bus passes and TV licences.

The Prime Minister made the promise in advance of the 2010 election as an attempt to secure the elderly vote, but many in his own government and party, some of whom supported the policy at first, insist that it is no longer justifiable as austerity bites and the welfare budget shrinks.

Child benefit has been withdrawn from those earning above £60,000 p.a. The benefits cap has kicked in and the universal credit scheme will be rolled out nationwide later this year. The latter two measures are sensible attempts to ensure work pays more than benefits.

However, ultimately all coalition welfare cuts have tried to reduce benefit payments to the bare minimum. As with every other department, welfare has to eliminate 'wasteful' expenditure.

One obvious target is the perks which are still enjoyed by even the wealthiest pensioners. Nick Clegg labelled Cameron's pledge 'completely irrational', while close Conservative ally, Nick Boles, has urged Cameron to have a re-think. Ian Duncan-Smith, the Work and Pensions Minister, has strongly hinted that the benefits will not be guaranteed after 2015 and will become means-tested.

On the one hand, pensioners have paid a lifetime of tax and thus deserve, even during austerity, to be looked after by the state. This is



Whilst Cameron knows the wealthy elderly must contribute, he knows that to do so now would be suicide

beyond doubt. However, no major party has indicated that they would allow any pensioners to slip into fuel poverty.

The hypothetical cuts apply only to those who can look after themselves, in much the same vein as cuts to child benefit. As it is, the retention of universal pensioner benefits is fundamentally inconsistent with coalition austerity.

The key difference is that cuts to pensioners would equate to a broken promise, and in this light, Cameron's refusal to back down makes much

more sense.

**“ Cameron cannot afford to upset the elderly. He can only keep his promise ”**

Remember the outrage and vitriol directed at the Liberal Demo-

crats and Nick Clegg after their broken promise over tuition fee increases. They have been stuck on around 10 points in the polls ever since.

With an election in two years, Cameron cannot afford to upset the elderly. They are among the most reliable to turn out. If Cameron changed his mind, it would go down as another U-turn anyway. In this scenario he can't win. He can only keep his promise.

In theory, if Cameron really does care about deficit reduction,

the savings lost by retaining universal pensioner benefits pale in comparison to the savings lost if Labour won the next election and increased spending, as would most likely happen if the Conservatives lost a significant chunk of support. Pensioners are the relatively small price of a second term.

How small? According to the Department of Work and Pensions total benefits expenditure for 2012/13 was an estimated £166.1bn, of which £109.8bn was directed at pensioners. Free TV licences for the over-75s accounted for just £591m (0.54 per cent) and winter fuel payments cost the government £2.15bn (1.96 per cent).

It is difficult to calculate who would be considered able to live without these benefits. Those who are supposedly sufficiently wealthy at the current time would account for 80% of today's pensioners. By withdrawing winter fuel payments savings would be roughly £1.73bn.

The budget deficit for 2012/13 was £120.6bn. Cuts to TV licences would save substantially less. And frankly, no party would raid 80% of pensioners, so these hypothetical savings are ludicrously hopeful, and in any case do not justify the political cost.

In all likelihood, these benefits will go if the Conservatives or the coalition is re-elected. This way, Cameron keeps his promise but is seen to adapt as the economy continues to flat-line and can claim a consistent welfare policy. Whilst it is right that well-off pensioners share in austerity, this policy has come at the wrong time.

# Should we really be applauding Obama?



THE LAST WORD  
Hussein Kevani

**N**obody can deny that President Barack Obama has a good sense of humour. His speeches at White House Correspondence Dinners are the stuff of legends, with perfectly timed quips and the dead-pan humour most stand up comedians would envy. Plus, who doesn't want to see the likes of Newt Gingrich or Donald Trump be rubbished on stage?

This year's correspondence dinner was no exception. In fact, the *Guardian* even ran an article asking whether Obama was the 'funniest politician ever'. His sense of humour may have won him fans all over the world, and probably helped him win a second term, but I couldn't help but be a bit creeped out by it.

Not because of the jokes themselves, but rather that laughing and applauding a President who has signed off on an unprecedented level of unmanned drone attacks, admitted to having a personal 'kill list' and whose administration has actively

attacked whistle blowers seems a little insincere. Indeed, as the Bureau of Investigative Journalism has noted, Obama has launched over 300 drone strikes in Pakistan and 66 and counting in Yemen. Beyond the scope of 'Al-Qaeda Militants',

**“ His sense of humour has won him fans, but I'm not convinced ”**

the strikes have killed thousands of civilians, including harmless women and children. As Glenn Greenwald has noted, many of these drone strikes are, despite the prominent argument, indiscriminate.

In fact, the administration has frequently played around with definitions of what might classify as a militant; generally, a twenty-something male, living in remote mountainous regions where they are likely to be in some form of contact with suspected Al-Qaeda operatives. Beyond the looseness of this definition, it's also ineffective; it fosters hatred, not just in the Middle East, but in



His sense of humour may have charmed most, but we must be careful

the West too.

While the Nobel-Prize winning Obama was charming a crowd of hacks, policy wonks and public figures, Guantanamo Bay still remains open. Though the President has recently talked about shutting the centre down, we've heard it before with little action. Nor has he condemned continued methods of torture and abuse still actively used by the US military in the prison today.

You might think I'm being a bit unfair to the President. After all,

surely with a hostile, Republican dominated congress, we can't expect him to be the messiah he was more than willing to be characterised by in 2008. Besides, he's an elected official, and to think he'll be honest is a pipe dream.

But what about in areas where the President still retains the greatest amount of authority? For example, when Obama signed the National Defence Authorization Act (NDAA), allowing for an indefinite detention of suspected terrorists.

That isn't the first time the administration showed total contempt for the law, notably denying the Boston bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev of his 'Miranda Rights', or even his repeated requests for legal counsel.

And what about transparency? Well, we still have that rather murky case involving Bradley Manning, the US military officer whose information became a phenomenon across the world through WikiLeaks. Mannings prize for that was a tour of US high security prisons. I'm sure Joe McCarthy would be very proud.

Bring any of this up, and you'll likely either be dismissed as a 'hater', or told to ignore the bad stuff because the President is telling a few jokes. Over a million people have watched the clip on YouTube, with many comments telling people to appreciate a president that can 'relate to the people'. In fact, this probably is the best indicator of how cynical our politics has become; where we praise style over substance, and charisma over integrity. After all, would we dismiss the war crimes, dilution of civil liberties and total disregard for the law if Bashar-Al-Assad brought home the banter once a year?

# Business

## Student Debt Time Bomb

**Georgina McCreadie** analyses what the future holds for both government and student debt

Will it be a surprise if in 2020, the headlines read 'Government has unmanageable amount of debt' or 'Debt soars, Government crippled'? This though, is not debt from government borrowing, rather, debt from one of the biggest government lending plans - student debt.

US student debt is now over a trillion dollars. It is the second largest US household debt (behind mortgages) and continues to grow. These rates show no sign of slowing down as college costs increase far

**“In three years time, students will start leaving British universities with £53,400 of debt”**

quicker than the rate of inflation. This burden of debt hanging over young people has many adverse effects; delaying marriage plans, having children and buying houses. There is even evidence of increased rates of suicide.

The US newspapers are filled with stories of students with PhDs, crippled by \$150,000 of debt, and unable to find a job. Unlike other loans, student loans are not cleared in cases of bankruptcy and delinquency rates are rising.

Trends in the US tend to be mirrored in the UK, yet there is little talk in the UK of the problems with student debt. In three years, students will start leaving universities with £53,400 of debt (estimat-



Rising levels of student debt will only pile further pressure on the governments' already strained finances

ed by the Push University guide), an increase from £26,100 for those who started in 2011. In 2012-13 British students collectively owed almost £20 bn. This is a burden on both students, and the government.

Students who started in 2012 will not need to start repaying their loans until they are earning £21,000 and after 30 years they are cleared. The likelihood of every student being able to pay back all of his or her loan is low.

Using the calculator on the government's student finance page we see that a student on a 3 year course, borrowing £9000 a year for tuition and £3250 a year for maintenance, on a starting salary of £23,000 will have to pay back £7.58 a month for the first year. However, this increases exponentially annually and will

take almost 27 years to pay back, and students will ultimately have to repay £106,867.

It can be said that salaries may rise during that period, however there is also the possibility that stu-

**“Students will ultimately have to repay £106,867”**

dents remain unemployed after university, leave the country or have periods when they don't work. If unpaid after 30 years, the loan is cleared, saddling the government with a lot of excess debt, which they can ill afford given the current state of the country's finances. This 30 year rolling financial time bomb will

be someone else's problem though.

The interest on student loans is calculated on the rate of inflation plus 3 per cent (for loans from 2012). Furthermore, the government has embarked on a money printing spree over the past five years, a fact yet to be reflected in the inflation level. Rocketing inflation will only exacerbate the situation, making these repayments painfully expensive.

The same issues of depression and stress associated with having such a large debt, evident in the US, will eventually manifest themselves here. Both students and broader society remain blissfully unaware of how student debt will grow.

The cost this could inflict on both our personal and professional lives.

## Will you buy into Bitcoin?

Money is accumulated, traded and transferred on the internet every day, but can there be a form of currency that exists only online and yet has real-world value?

That is the premise of Bitcoin, the world's first decentralised digital currency. Launched in 2009 by an anonymous person (or persons) under the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto, it stands today as the world's largest alternative currency.

Online currency has been in the news recently as the value of an individual Bitcoin, which was just \$20 at the beginning of February, hit record highs above \$250, before falling abruptly to below \$150 on April 11th. But what exactly is Bitcoin, I hear you ask, and how does it work?

Unlike traditional currencies, which are issued by central banks, Bitcoin has no central monetary authority. Instead, it is underpinned by a peer-to-peer computer network made up of its users' machines, akin to the networks that support Bit-



Torrent, a file-sharing system, and Skype, the audio, video, and chat service. Bitcoins are mathematical tokens that have a value agreed upon by those who use the virtual currency. It's pretty easy to get hold of a Bitcoin wallet, just download it free from the Internet. They are made even more interesting by the fact that there will only ever be a maximum of 21 million Bitcoins created, making it a truly limited source.

There are certain transactions that are ideal for Bitcoins because the currency is relatively anonymous and does not need to be pro-

cessed by a financial organization or a government. Bitcoins (or fractions of Bitcoins known as 'satoshis') can be bought and sold in return for traditional currency on several exchanges, and can also be directly transferred across the internet from one user to another using appropriate software. This makes Bitcoin a potentially attractive currency in which to settle international transactions, without worrying about bank charges or exchange rates.

Major companies like Apple and PayPal are not fans of Bitcoin due to the wild fluctuations in its value. Although some internet ser-

vices (such as web hosting and online gambling) can be paid for using Bitcoin, the complexity and opacity of the system means it also appeals to those with more nefarious purposes in mind, such as money laundering or paying for illegal drugs. Most people will be reluctant to adopt Bitcoin while the software required to use it remains so complex, and the value of an individual Bitcoin is so volatile. It doesn't seem to be ready for the big time.

If the Bitcoin economy succeeds in coming up with a completely decentralised way to stabilise itself without the need for top-down maintenance, well, that would make it very interesting indeed. At the moment, the more likely outcome seems to be that Bitcoin will remain a small, fringe economy thanks to its inherent instability. It is difficult to predict Bitcoin's chances of long-term success, but my thinking is that since information is king, data does seem like a good currency. I just wouldn't put my money on it yet.

**Chris Robert**

FUTUREOFMONEY

## A recipe for success

**Max Kassam**

Joseph Joseph, a kitchen-ware company started by twin brothers Antony and Richard Joseph in 2003 is now taking the utensil world by storm. Unimpressive as that may sound, that's exactly the point. The brothers have managed to add a trendy and stylish edge to what is largely regarded as a mundane industry.

The Kitchen worktop has undergone a revolution, with the emergence of four different sized spoons slotting perfectly into four different sized salad bowls in a sleek, ergonomic design. Gone are the times when you blindly grabbed any chopping board off the shelf, instead reaching for one which curves up at the sides allowing you to accurately transfer your garlic to the pan. It seems to be the perfect gift for the person that has everything, and the brothers have impressively managed to convince consumers this is now a necessary product. Whatever the reason may be, people's pride in kitchenware has grown and there is now a real demand for these types of goods, on which Joseph Joseph has capitalised.

Antony studied design at Central St Martins whilst Richard studied business at Cambridge. They seemed to have combined their degrees perfectly to comprehensively exploit this market, albeit with a little help along the way from their father. The brothers have gone on to expand globally, and it is this export market which drives their success. Initially everything was made in the UK, but as demand grew, product lines moved to Asia. Expansion into the American market has resulted in soaring pre-tax profits, up 50 per cent to £9.9m. With John Lewis originally declaring their products as "too contemporary", Richard Joseph shared how they "took a bag of supplies and went to France, Germany and Japan." This then resulted in them setting up their first store in Tokyo, followed by subsequent stores in America such as Bloomingdales.

This success story comes across as a real inspiration for entrepreneurial graduates. Concerns are rife following our remarkably slow growth, and protests over the government's persistence with austerity are abundant. So to see these brothers now breaking into the American market despite all the negativity surrounding the economy is a rare beacon of hope.



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# The industry's moral collapse

Satnam Shergill

The recent collapse of a garment factory in Dhaka, capital of Bangladesh, has provoked international debate over the state of the global garment industry.

Factory disasters are unfortunately common in Bangladesh, which is home to nearly 4,500 textiles workshops, employing over 4 million people, with an average wage of \$37 per month. Prior to Rana Plaza's collapse, there have been over 500 garment factory related deaths in the last decade in Bangladesh, this mainly due to the poor enforcement of health and safety legislation. Bangladesh is the world's second largest clothes exporter, behind China.

Since the collapse, five clothing brands have already admitted to using the Rana Plaza production factory: Bon Marche, El Corte Ingles, Primark, Mango and Joe Fresh.

Following a week of mounting pressure and protest presence outside its flagship London store, Primark have announced that they will be paying compensation to those involved in the collapse.

The tragic collapse raises concerns about the moral obligations large apparel firms have, and should make the high-street shopper realise the true cost of buying cheap clothes.

To avoid such a tragedy occurring again, the changes in the industry must come from all stakeholders – with the government enforcing legislation, the suppliers, the global brands and the shoppers all following suit.

Higher regulation in the garments industry is only going to increase the costs of production, which will inevitably be passed onto the consumer. But is asking a consumer to pay a few pounds more in such recessionary times feasible?

I think it is a small price to pay to safeguard the safety of factory workers.

Clothes manufacturers also face a dilemma, as increased costs in supply chains will only result in a loss of competitiveness to other firms operating elsewhere around



the globe.

Bangladesh's government and factory owners will also harbour these fears; if such legislation is pushed through, the resultant increased costs will reduce their competitive edge, leaving a large hole in the Bangladeshi economy.

This is why it is important to have such legislation put in universally, however this is far easier said than done.

Ineke Zeldenrust, from Cle-

**“ Bangladesh is the world’s second largest clothes exporter, behind China ”**

anClothesCampaign, an organisation that works to improve working conditions of workers rights in the global garment industry said that “brands can no longer justify any further delay in signing the Bangladesh Fire and Building Safety Agreement.”

The agreement was prompted by the fire in the Tazreen garment factory in Dhaka last November, which claimed the lives of over 100 people. Zeldenrust went on to suggest that the poor efforts shown by global brands to help clean up the garment industry border on “criminal negligence”.

The owners of and producers in these garment factories must be aware that continuing in this vein is only putting their own businesses at risk; as more frailties are exposed consumers and brand owners will begin to distance themselves and move production elsewhere.

Do the large firms and consumers have a responsibility to question how their clothes are made and what conditions workers have to reside in? Or are high profits and low prices enough to distract us from what is happening in the garment industry?

A delicate balance must be found, guaranteeing Bangladesh's status as a leading exporter of garments, yet vastly improving the working conditions and building regulations to stop tragedies like these from occurring again.

# Government to introduce ‘employee shareholder’ scheme

**Fergus Nolan**  
BUSINESS REPORTER

Following a succession of ‘ping-pong’ disagreements between the Houses of Parliament, a controversial new proposal that could see employees becoming shareholders of their employers’ company is set to become law.

As part of the scheme, workers will have the opportunity to forfeit fundamental employment rights in return for rights of ownership. Since the announcement of the new addition to the Employment Rights Act 1996 there has been significant concerns raised. However, after a plethora of recent concessions it would seem that any apprehension tabled by the House of Lords has since been addressed.

The ‘employee-shareholder’ scheme has been championed by government due to what are be-

lieved to be enormous benefits. The employee has the opportunity to gain share profits of their place of work with the first £2000 being tax-free.

At the 2012 Conservative Party Conference, George Osborne hailed the scheme for its potential to bring “owners, workers and the taxman, all in it together”. Although this initiative is refreshing the possible negative consequences should not be ignored.

Initially, the House of Lords felt there were simply too many issues that could arise, such as whether employees will be adversely treated by their employers if they do not partake in the scheme. In addition, they also raised concern as to where an employee rushes into the agreement without a thorough appreciation of the fact they could consequently lose protection from unfair

dismissal or time off work.

This caveat has since been resolved as the new proposals now require employees to receive independent advice before they agree

**“ The ‘employee-shareholder’ scheme has been championed by government due to what are believed to be enormous benefits ”**

to the shareholder contract. In conjunction to this, the employer is obligated to reimburse any cost accrued in the worker’s consultation.

# China: no longer a workshop economy

Harry Ashcroft

The economy grew by 0.3per cent in the first three months of 2013. Is this news to rejoice at? Or proof that Britain, like Japan before it, can expect years of economic downgrades, stock market downfalls and downgraded deficit forecasts?

Growth figures over the past year have been very peculiar and very uncertain; three consecutive months of negative figures, followed by a strong 1per cent in the third quarter of 2012, then a quick return to negative growth. The British economy has been in and out of recession since 2008, a problem often compounded by weak quarterly figures in structural parts of the economy. At one moment in time housing could be providing small returns to growth, only for manufacturing output to be so weak that the economy once again returns to recession. But how does the UK compare?

Whilst the UK is by no means alone - with the US, Germany, and France experiencing similar yo-yoing in and out of recession - one thing is remarkable, occurring regardless of the respective government's economic philosophy. In France, we see Hollande's Socialist government operating a Keynesian strategy, whereas in Britain we see the state cutting back, limiting its size and role in the economic recovery. Yet in all these nations we see near identical economic trends; with growth being both uncertain, and over a longer period, rather in substantial.

There may be a simple explanation for this: the weak state of the Eurozone is dragging everyone down, exports are historically low and Western nations' payment balances (excluding Germany) are running at deficits. In the most simple terms, there is no demand, and therefore, no recovery. But what if this is a more serious problem; could the growth of China and other developing economic powers, for the first time not only have a detrimental impact on the economic influence of the Western powers, but

a real effect on their standards of living and economic prospects. The BRIC nations' continuous rise to economic powerhouse status could potentially have negative consequences for us here in the west.

Whilst we no longer base our economies in heavy industry, the rise of Huawei indicates the ability of the Chinese economy to move beyond being the ‘workshop of the world’. As well as undermining our natural strengths in high technology industries, this may also create a potential ‘brain drain’ eastwards, as our brightest and best rightly chase the forefront of the global economy.

While the UK, the US, France and Germany still maintain a strong hold over industries like eco-friendly energy, high grade manufacturing and luxury cars, the BRIC economies are not far behind.

The rise of Chinese and Indian universities in the world's 500 best, combined with the ever increasing body of international students in British and American universities, clearly highlight the intentions of these nations and direction that their economies are going in.

China no longer sees itself as a workshop economy; the demands of low paid workers to reap the rewards of their booming economy is causing them to look towards a more innovative economy, one branching into areas where we in the West are traditionally strong, and ironically, potentially creating social problems here in the West in the coming years.

AARON DAN



TULANE PUBLIC RELATIONS

# Science

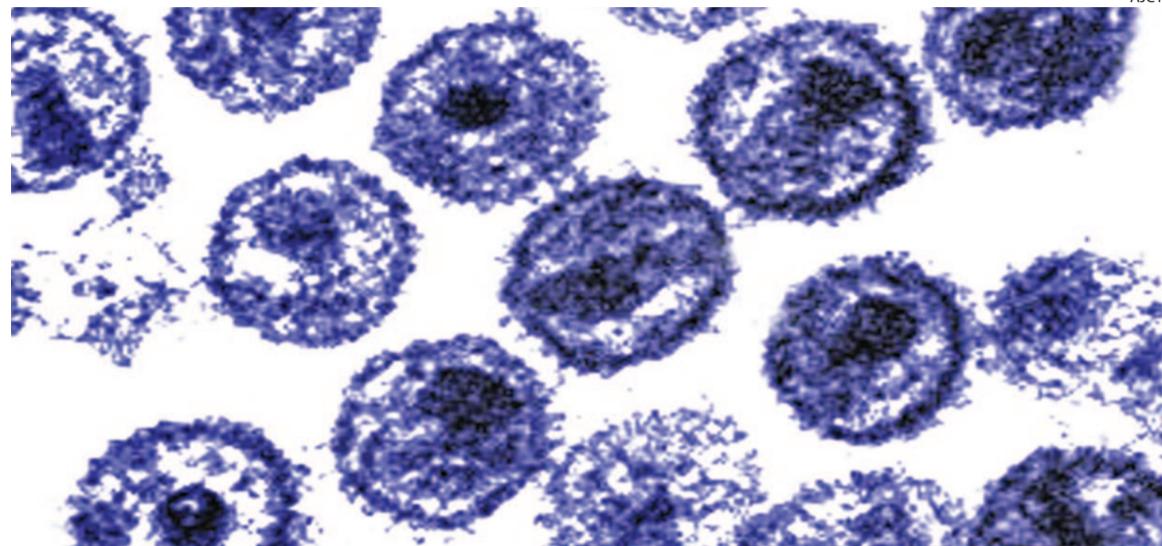
## Hope on the horizon for HIV

**James Cameron**  
SCIENCE EDITOR

RESEARCHERS AT the University of Aarhus in Denmark are hopeful that they could have a marketable cure for HIV "within months". This marks a dramatic departure from the former thinking of HIV/AIDS as an incurable disease that you can only manage through long term treatment.

This new direction in research was partly galvanised by the cure of a 2007 bone marrow recipient who received the marrow from a donor with a mutation for immunity against the virus. Six years after receiving the treatment, they are still free of the virus and this has led scientists across the globe to search for cures and not just treatments that manage the disease.

This Danish treatment focuses on the latent viral load in so called "reservoirs", in the DNA of cells. It forces the virus out where the immune system can then locate and destroy it. This can be complemented by a booster vaccine to help



HIV's ability to integrate into the DNA of the host make it incredibly difficult disease to successfully treat

the body's natural immune system overcome the now free virus. The technique has already proven successful during in vitro tests on human cells; which promises much during the next step in human patients.

The technique has proven so

promising in the laboratory that the researchers have been awarded £1.5 million by the Danish Research Council to move their research into clinical trials. The treatment is already in the human phase of clinical trials. The Danes are able to quickly and efficiently transfer

basic research into clinical trials, as well as being a good example of the re-purposing of old drugs to treat other diseases.

The technique uses Panobinostat, a drug from a class known as histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors, which are more often

used in cancer treatments. Fifteen patients are taking part in the trials, due to conclude in September. However, they have yet to publish any data, so it is impossible to know if the trials will truly replicate the results of the initial laboratory tests; it's important to bear in mind that the pharmaceutical world is strewn with drugs which almost made it but failed at this last stage.

Other studies not yet in the clinical trial stage are taking place here in the UK under the CHERUB (Collaborative HIV Eradication of viral Reservoirs: UK BRC) group; this draws internationally-recognised researchers from five biomedical research centres across the UK to bring together a diverse interdisciplinary team. However, they have yet to move any treatments into clinical trials.

If this Danish research does prove to be successful in producing a cure that can be mass produced, then it could free many from the shackles of their daily drug regime to manage their HIV and save both lives and money around the world.

## Preventative measures for malaria resistance

**Kathleen Long**  
SCIENCE REPORTER

MALARIA IS one of the most common and devastating diseases in the world. Figures from the World Health Organisation suggest about 219 million infections every year, with over 660,000 deaths.

Drugs including artemisinin are heavily relied upon for treatment and protection, but this has been threatened by the discovery of artemisinin resistant populations of Malaria in Cambodia.

Artemisinin was discovered in China in the 1960's, after investigation into plants traditionally used in Chinese medicine. It is an extremely important drug in the fight against Malaria but others are also widely used. It works by destroying the Plasmodium parasite, responsible for Malaria, whilst it is present in the blood stream.

Resistance to artemisinin has



Malaria is spread by female Anopheles mosquitoes and can be fatal

currently been recorded in Cambodia and surrounding countries such as Vietnam, Myanmar and Thailand. Resistance has developed for several reasons, including the incorrect use of treatments by patients. A key reason is the use of 'oral artemisinin-based mono-

therapies'. These are treatments that only contain a single drug, so if resistance is developed to that specific drug, the resistant plasmodium can survive and spread.

The use of ACTs (artemisinin-based combination therapies) is now being encouraged even more

than before. These include two different drugs, so if a parasite is resistant to one, then the other drug can still kill the parasite and prevent the spread of resistance.

However, in parts of Cambodia, resistance is already developing to other drugs. Should this spread to other continents, the outlook is bleak.

Preventing the spread of the resistant parasites is a key measure to combat the problem. Efforts to control malaria have been increased, especially in areas with populations that have a lot of movement. Resistance transfer between different malaria populations is extremely dangerous, although it is possible resistance will develop independently despite protective measures.

The University has a direct link to artemisinin through the Centre for Novel Agricultural Products (CNAP) based in the Biology de-

partment. It is an important research centre for plants that produce artemisinin, although since 2012 work in this area has been reduced and moved to new centres. 'Artemisia Annua' is the source of the chemical Artemisia, which is used in the production of artemisinin.

Researchers in CNAP focus on developing new varieties to increase the yield of Artemisia. They do this using genetic tools to screen plants, they then select the best breeding stock and fast track breeding. Although genetic tools are used, the plants they produce are not GM.

The discovery of artemisinin resistance in Cambodia is alarming, but not yet a cause for worldwide panic. Preventative measures have been implemented, but these must be adopted fully and immediately to have the desired effect. Should such measures unsuccess-

## Ground breaking students seek financial assistance

**Matt Ravenhall**  
SCIENCE REPORTER

THE WEBSITE for the MIT-based International Genetically Engineered Machine competition (iGEM), boldly states "Synthetic Biology will revolutionize the biotechnology industry and have an impact on fields such as energy, health, medicine, the environment, and more."

The possibilities within the field of synthetic biology are endless. For the first time, students at

the University of York have the opportunity to enter the arena.

The contest involves over 150 teams who are given a toolkit of biological parts to be used to create something world changing.

Students work over the summer in research labs, and previous contraptions have performed everything from identifying rotten foods, fighting soil erosion and even degrading plastics.

This year a team of more than twenty enthusiastic first to final year undergraduates from across

the biology and biochemistry departments are developing a bacteria powered electrical battery.

Ivan Gyulev, a second-year Genetics student within the team, highlighted that: "Competing will be a great experience in terms of learning and doing something novel, and will help build our team working skills".

Key members of staff are also backing this exciting project with Dr James Chong, of the Biology department, stating that: "It would be fantastic for York students to win

the competition in the University's 50th Anniversary year."

The concept which the team aims to realise is the improvement of 'microbial fuel cells', batteries which utilise the oxidising power of bacteria in order to produce energy. They aim to achieve this goal through the creation of a synthetic version of E. coli.

The lab-made microbe, dubbed *Electricus aureus*, will be enhanced to secrete gold nanoparticles with these particles being deposited upon the anode of the fuel cell, in-

creasing its surface area. This process should increase the efficiency of the cells, thereby resulting in the generation of more electricity.

But ground-breaking science like this doesn't come for free and the team is actively seeking sponsorship from local businesses in order to cover consumables and living costs.

Currently the team have been generously awarded £8,000 by the York Annual Fund and there has been some initial support from businesses in the Science Park.

# Treating cancer with physics

James Ellis takes a look at the hopeful future of cancer treatment research.



OFID GALLERY

Innovations in plasma treatment promise safe and minimally invasive procedures, as well as quick recovery times and full remission of cancers.

In the last financial year, Cancer Research UK spent 332 million pounds in the hope of finding various cancer cures and yet cancer is still as scary to the general public as it ever has been. In recent years there have been many unique ideas concerning cancer treatments, however, it has only been in the last decade that physicists have joined the fight.

Just last week, Advanced Oncotherapy, a British firm purchased a small spin off company of CERN. The primary aim of this company is to use proton beam therapy (PBT) to destroy cancerous cells. As opposed to conventional radiotherapy this new technique uses protons to destroy the cancer cells as opposed to X-rays, the benefit of this is that protons can be focussed more accurately.

This means that it can target the cancerous cells without damaging the surrounding healthy tissue, this is of particular importance for areas of the body such as the brain and the spine, where damaging surrounding tissue can lead to paralysis and even death.

The idea of physicists turning their expertise to biology is by no means a unique or particularly new idea, and you need not look any

further than our University for an example. The multimillion pound plasma institute in collaboration with the Biology department is developing atmospheric plasma jets for biomedical applications, which one day may lead to cancer therapies. This type of cancer treatment uses the plasma to trigger a biological mechanism in the cell called apoptosis, also known as programmed cell death.

**“This new technique uses protons to destroy the cancer cells as opposed to x-rays”**

Briefly an overview of what a plasma constitutes, is required. A plasma is defined as the fourth state of matter, however, this is more a label than a true description. A plasma is an electrically neutral medium which consists of both positively and negatively charged particles, as well as neutral atoms

and molecules. An electrically neutral medium simply means that the overall charge of the substance is approximately zero.

It is because of these electrically charged particles that a plasma is unique and thus can be classified as its own state of matter. With plasma defined it's possible to say more about how it can be used as a cancer therapy.

Firstly, cancer cells are different from normal cells. The overarching difference is that a cancer cell will continue to divide and spread without undergoing the natural cell life-cycle which ultimately ends in apoptosis. Now if the cancer cells would respond to cell signals and undergo this programmed cell death then the cancerous cells would destroy themselves.

The beauty behind this method is that the cancer cells would effectively destroy themselves without any need for any potentially harmful radiotherapy. This means that surrounding tissue would remain healthy and remove the need to unnecessarily destroy cells.

The science behind this is rather complex, however, the simple version is easy to follow. The plasma creates a series of molecules called reactive oxygen series, one

of the most well known of which is ozone. The plasma creates a series of molecules called reactive oxygen series, one of the most well known of these is ozone. Using a nozzle to channel the plasma onto the desired cells has shown that these reactive oxygen series induce apoptosis.

This nozzle is attached to the end of a hollow syringe which tends to have a radius in the micrometre range. This syringe would then be inserted into the desired location and the plasma funnelled through it. It is then dispersed by the nozzle; this means the treatment is incredibly targeted and able to avoid harm to other cells in the body.

Even though the field has developed rapidly from its recent starting point to the current day, it is however still very early days for this type of research.

It's due in part to this competition that scientific progress can advance as rapidly as it does. Another bonus of this type of project is that it merges scientific disciplines together.

Now that people from various scientific backgrounds are getting on board, the future for cancer therapies is very bright indeed.

# Too hot to handle

**Sara Farish**

DEPUTY-SCIENCE EDITOR

You may always have lived with the quiet uneasy knowledge in the back of your mind that beneath your feet right now there are thousands of miles of boiling rock and metal, with only a thin cracked crust separating us from the inferno. However recent research into the elements that make up the Earth's core suggest it may be even hotter than previously thought - 1000°C hotter in fact: hotter than the surface of the sun.

No direct measurements of the Earth's interior have been made. The deepest drilling attempt to date managed 12 kilometres down from the Kola Peninsula in Russia. It is the deepest artificial point on Earth and sections of the drill core have been retained for scientific analysis. The drilling took 19 years and had to be discontinued due to unexpected high temperatures in the Earth. This has left the surface of the Earth barely scratched. Therefore information about the centre of the Earth has had to come from seismic waves.

Seismic waves that travel through the Earth's core and are detected at the crust can tell us much about the densities of the layers of materials they pass through; the thickness of these layers and their composition. Sometimes only felt by underground seismometers, other times manifesting as city-shattering earthquakes. They cannot, however, give us the temperatures within the Earth. To do this researchers have recreated known pressures and conditions within the Earth on a very small scale.

A sample of iron was held in an anvil made of diamond, then heated and compressed with lasers to recreate conditions at the edge of the core, before finally being bombarded with X-rays. The pattern of these X-rays interacting with the sample is recorded. This allowed study of the temperature the iron reaches as it transitions between solid and liquid states, whilst being subjected to the pressure it would be at the centre of the Earth. The conclusion was 1000°C hotter than the previous 20 year old estimate and at 6000 °C with a 500 °C margin of error it is placed as hotter than the sun's surface temperature.

That atmosphere itself owes its existence to the Earth's core. The movement of iron in the liquid outer core is thought to generate our planet's magnetic field, which has stopped our atmosphere from leaking away into space and shields life from solar winds.

The more is known by seismologists and geophysicists about the activity beneath us, the more accurately they can make studies of how it affects us: from the atmosphere and weather to earthquakes. Maybe knowing you are standing on something hotter than the surface of the sun may not help you to remember to buy milk but knowing more about the insides of the big ball of rock we live on can only make our futures a bit more easy to predict and manage.

# Breakthrough in robot “skin”

**Nicky Farthing**

DEPUTY-SCIENCE EDITOR

Touch may not be our most appreciated sense but it is one thing so far, that we have been unable to replicate in robotics. We can give someone a robotic hand which they can control, but they are still unable to feel with it. There are some things that can still only be done by humans which can prove time-costly and dangerous in some cases.

This week, researchers at the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta have taken a huge step forward in the creation

of ‘robotic skin’ that will be able to feel.

The technology won't only be able to dramatically change the way robots perceive their surroundings, it will also offer new ways for us to interact with electronic devices.

The researchers created an array of about 8000 transistors using bundles of vertical zinc oxide nanowires. These were able to feel (in terms of sensing pressure), in the same range of a human fingertip.

The transistors - or taxels as they have been dubbed - are made of zinc oxide which is a piezoelectric solid. Piezoelectric solids exhibit tiny polarization changes when moved or placed under mechani-

cal stress. These changes cause a current to accumulate in the solid which can then be converted into an electric signal.

Each transistor individually produces a unique electronic signal according to the mechanical pressure that is applied to it. The signals from all the transistors can then be combined to build a picture of 3D space.

Professor Wang, from the project said “This is fundamentally new technology that allows us to control electronic devices directly using mechanical agitation.”

The researchers at Georgia Tech then moved even further; they created a robotic arm which is ca-

pable of distinguishing one object from a group and retrieving it.

“Any mechanical motion, such as the movement of arms or the fingers of a robot, could be translated to control signals. This could make artificial skin smarter and more like the human skin. It would allow the skin to feel activity on the surface,” explained Professor Wang.

In the future, the team hope to produce the taxel arrays from single nanowires instead of bundles. Using single wires could improve the sensitivity of the arrays by at least three orders of magnitude of its current levels. This could lead to robot “skin” far more sensitive than that of humans in the future.

# Carnival D Launch Night

08/05/2013

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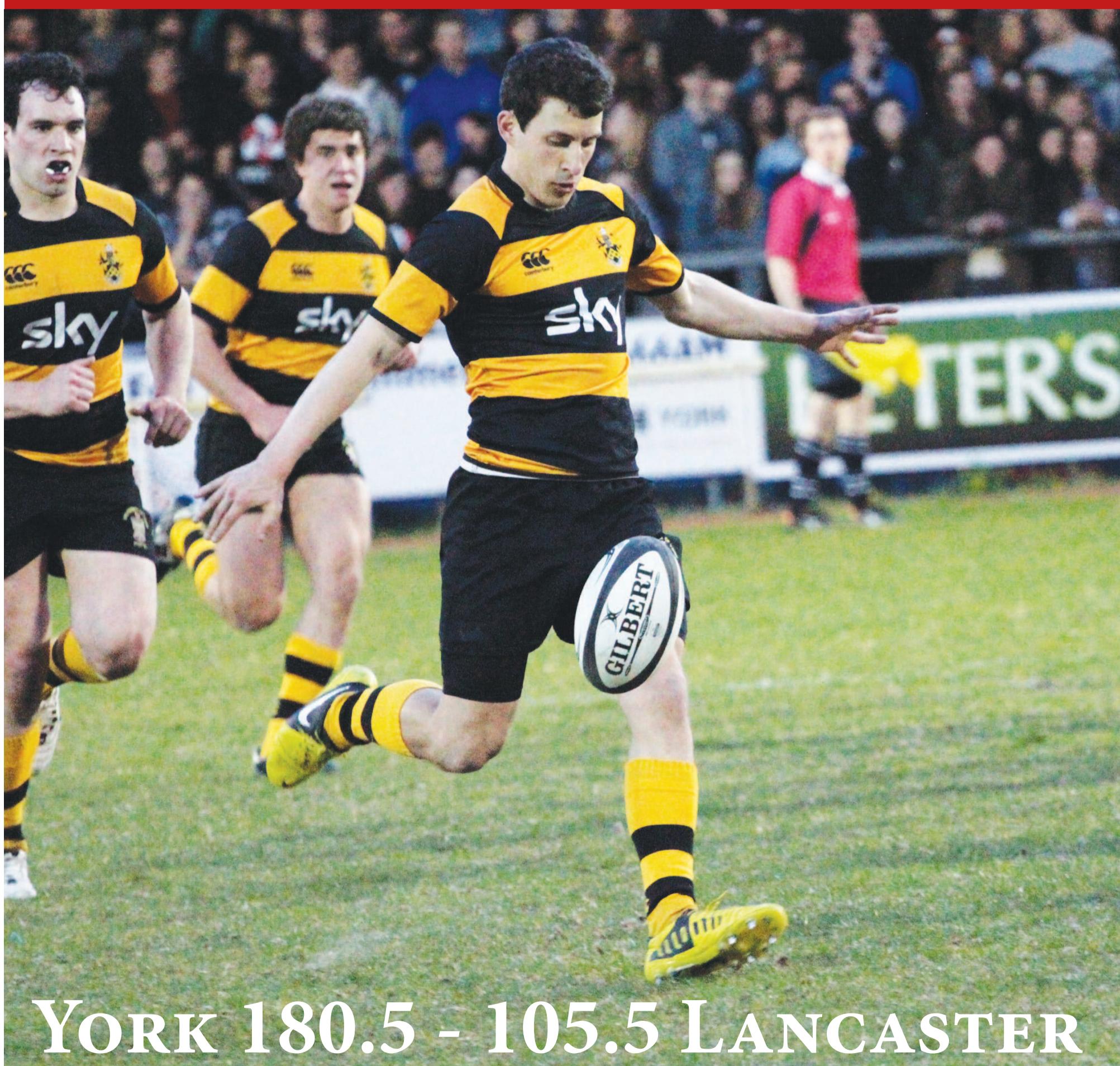
UYRUFC complete  
yet another Roses  
whitewash  
[>> Page 4](#)

Water polo record  
epic Saturday night  
victories  
[>> Page 8](#)

Four wins out of  
five for the Hockey  
Club on the JLD  
[>> Page 9](#)

Women's volleyball  
triumph in instant  
Roses classic  
[>> Page 10](#)

# ROSES 2013



YORK 180.5 - 105.5 LANCASTER

## Roses 2013

Welcome to our Roses 2013 supplement.

Across these 12 pages, you'll find all of the best action from this year's instalment of the largest inter-University sporting contest in Europe.

We've got match reports, roundups, the best reaction, and some stunning photos, as York secured a memorable 180.5-105.5 success over our Lancaster counterparts.

It was a fifth win in seven years for the White Rose and 17th straight success on home soil.

With so many fantastic fixtures on offer, it wasn't possible to fit everything in here, but for even more Roses news, reports, analysis and pictures go to [nouse.co.uk/roses](http://nouse.co.uk/roses).

## CONTENTS

**4** Friday - UYRUFC dominate at Huntington Stadium as York edge a tight opening day of Roses

**6** Roses In Pictures - Some of our photographers favourite shots of the weekend

**8** Saturday - A string of sensational results sees York build a huge lead

**10** Sunday - The Roses Trophy returns to Yorkshire

**12** Nouse's Tournament Highlights and full results list

Front page photo by Agatha Torrance

### Nouse Roses 2013

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## York reign supreme

**Dan Holland**

DEPUTY EDITOR

**I**t was truly a weekend to remember. We were treated to a Roses victory of crushing magnitude, providing the perfect end to an already brilliant year in the world of York Sport.

180.5-105.5, York streets ahead of their Lancastrian rivals to record a monumental success. Wins came and went at a blistering pace at times, with many stories to tell as the White Rose ruthlessly carved a path to victory.

Disappointments, there were a few but nothing that ever seriously looked like troubling York's claims to victory.

The ghosts of last year were banished. In 2012, York were left to reflect on opportunities that were perhaps missed - a sterling away performance that yielded a respectable total but could not be converted into victory.

Questions were asked then as to why Lancaster's win was allowed to come down to little more than the outrageous number of points handed to climbing.

In Roses 2013, there was to be no such questioning. York won, and

for all Lancaster's endeavour, spirit, and support, the White Rose was the dominant force throughout.

Yet it all began so quietly. Friday morning was relaxed, a pleasant spring day at the cricket for those of us in the media pavilion. And while that was going on, Lancaster started the brighter.

**“ York had a taste for victory and it spread like wildfire ”**

The American Football was a highlight for the visitors, revenge for a dramatic Centurions success last year. But while the Red Rose seemed to have come to Yorkshire with purpose, the hosts refused to lie down.

Some stunning indoor hockey comebacks amongst the cacophonous thunder of the Sports tent provided an injection of pure energy to all who were present, and, as the University's sporting royalty packed up to head to Huntington Stadium, Mark Askham brought up his century with the final ball of the cricket seconds to put York ahead overall before Friday night's showpiece.

And what a show it was. The

smoke and fire that greeted York's Black and Gold warriors onto the pitch set a gladiatorial tone for the evening, and what started as a battle soon became a massacre.

Lancaster's bleach-blond team put up a fight in the opening stages and threatened to make a game of things but York did what they have done with remarkable consistency this season. Win. With passion and with flair.

The score line tells its own story of how one-sided the match became, but the individual tales of heroism must not be forgotten. Chadwick, Lord, Draycott, Osborne and more, all of them heroes as UYRUFC took the first steps towards a fifth straight Roses whitewash.

York had a taste for victory and the trend spread like wildfire.

To Saturday. Super Saturday - that sounds familiar. Women's fencing was first up and the team did what was expected, Player of the Tournament Louise Highton completing part one of her personal Roses journey.

The JLD was a source of many a point for York as UYHC turned their home into a fortress. Four wins from five there, and plenty more across campus.



# in glorious weekend

Badminton were typically imperious in their Roses success, while women's rugby provided one of the undoubted highlights of the weekend.

If any club had sour Roses memories to dispel, it was UYWRUFC and they produced a display of extreme character, heart and quality to claim a four points that was thoroughly deserved.

York were dominant on land, and so too in the water. Swimming and a sensational sailing finish brought York's tally up further and that set the mood for water polo.

The heat and humidity of the pool was nothing compared to the stifling intensity of two mesmeric fixtures. Highton led the way with five goals for the women's team, who recorded a historic success.

The team were a picture of pure joy, but their male counterparts had to finish the job. And they did. It was scrappy at times, feisty throughout, but victory rarely looked in doubt.

And while UYSWC made waves on Hes East, back in Derwent there was work to be done. Darts and pool, the spectators' favourites, provided a perfect end to a spectacular day.

Wins over high quality opposi-

tion and in circumstances of ultimate pressure sent York to within touching distance of the all-important magic number.

A magic number that soon changed. The men's 10k fooled almost all of us, confirmation of York's success delayed thanks to some misplaced signs and lost runners.

And while we waited with bated breath, eagerly watching as women's lacrosse looked set to put us over the top with the most one-sided result of the weekend, the confirmation came from an unlikely source.

**“A ‘Team York’ feeling is what Charlotte Winter had promised to deliver and it was well and truly in evidence”**

Far away on the River Derwent, the women's canoe slalom team secured the two points that confirmed the Carter-James Trophy's return to York.

There was more to come as the win became a thrashing, netball and women's football among the star performers, while the women's volleyball match was perhaps the most

heart-stopping of them all.

The weekend would end with a whimper rather than a bang, York's endeavour in the final fixtures of the day was not enough to overcome some of the Red Rose's strongest teams.

But while the visitors could go home with some semblance of pride in crossing the 100 point mark, their late rally was inconsequential.

A three-day epic that had driven York's sporting best to the limit and beyond had yielded a result that matched our wildest dreams.

A 75-point margin of victory was no more than York deserved. To ask for more would have been a tad greedy, perhaps, even for the perfectionists among us.

And for all the individual tales, some of heroism and joy, some of despair, one thing was notable across the weekend.

Roses 2013 had, as is always the case, brought the University together in pride and, ultimately, glory.

A ‘Team York’ feeling was what Charlotte Winter had promised to deliver this year, and it was well and truly in evidence here.

The Carter-James Trophy is back where it belongs. And long may it remain.

# Passion, pride, and megaphones

**Beth Jakubowski**  
SPORTS EDITOR

**A**s soon as I arrived at York, I was reliably informed that Varsity was merely a warm up for Roses.

I was a hopelessly out of my depth fresher, eager to please and desperate to get involved in student journalism.

In a brief, blinding moment of courage, I ran for an editorial position. It wasn't long before I was thrown head first into my first experience of covering a one day tournament, and it turned out to be a logistical nightmare.

Varsity was painfully disorganised and York's teams were woefully disinterested.

But who can blame them? Varsity means very little to York players and back then, I simply could not understand why. I just didn't understand why clubs didn't take Varsity seriously.

After journeying back from Hull with defeat imminent, I thought it was just because we didn't want to be seen as losing to them. Again, I couldn't have been more wrong.

The answer to my question was very simple, York revolves around Roses. Why compete in Varsity when we have the biggest inter-university competition in Europe looming in the summer?

Considering this, I had incredibly high expectations of this weekend. Thankfully, it didn't disappoint.

Friday was remarkably slow to get going and I found myself a little disheartened. Midday came and went with very little action.

But as the afternoon drifted along I ventured over to the indoor hockey, the sheer volume of noise erupting from the Sports Tent easily reached 22 acres.

It was phenomenal. I've never experienced an atmosphere that intense in live sport.

I was sceptical at first about hockey at Roses, particularly indoor hockey. I didn't see how it could

be very exciting.

But this was just incredible. The sports tent was rocking, the players did remarkably well to cope with the abuse that was being hurled at them and at times the atmosphere was positively hostile.

Passion, pride, megaphones, insults, swearing and the audible crash of hockey sticks all jumbled together to create something quite incomprehensible.

That was just one of the highlights of my weekend. The next was followed hours later.

Amidst a veil of smoke, fire and anticipation the men's rugby firsts walked out onto the simmering cauldron of Huntington Stadium.

Pressure was heaped on their shoulders but Sam Lord's men took it in their stride. They cantered to victory and provided some memorable moments along the way.

A duck wandered onto the pitch, mascots brawled at half time, Conan Osborne sauntered across half the length of the pitch and Tom Chadwick fought a blistering wind to nail a top class conversion.

From a York perspective, it was the perfect finish to a less than perfect day.

While Varsity was a bitter disappointment not only because of the result but because of the distinct lack of atmosphere, Roses was a triumph.

We saw the lot this weekend, highs, lows, tears and tantrums, but a personal highlight of mine was watching the netball firsts finish their season, not with a win, but with a smile. In a rousing chorus of 'I can't take my eyes off you' they just so happened to demonstrate the sporting spirit that made the Roses weekend so magical.

While Sunday may not have lived up to the raucous highs of Friday and Saturday I felt perhaps if it had, we would have been spoiled.

As it so happens, my first experience of Roses has been truly remarkable. I was told by one particular fan on the sidelines that you never forget your first Roses. I think they were right.

Next year it's the 50th anniversary of Roses and it's away at Lancaster. I may never forget my first Roses, but I don't think I'll forget my second either!



## Roses 2013

# FRIDAY

York      22  
Lancaster 17

Roses 2013  
Top Tweets

@tdizzle39

"Well done to every club who competed in #Roses2013 - York smashed it!! Well deserved winners of the Carter-James Trophy!"

# Rugby firsts star in stadium rout



AGATHA TORRANCE

York's men's rugby first team romped to a stunning victory in Friday evening's Roses clash at Huntington Stadium, the first of three wins that secured a fifth consecutive UYRUFC whitewash

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| <b>York</b>      | <b>57</b> |
| <b>Lancaster</b> | <b>14</b> |

**Beth Jakubowski**  
**George Barrett**

UYRUFC PUT in a sensational display of attacking rugby to slaughter a lamentable Lancaster side 57-14 in front of a packed audience at Huntington Stadium on Friday night.

Fly-half Tom Chadwick controlled the game with maturity and poise as the White Rose ran in an incredible nine tries.

Lancaster kicked off and immediately won possession but York were able to snuff out any form of attack and began to pressurise the Red Rose at the breakdown, forcing an early penalty. It wasn't long before York engineered their first try, Chadwick offloaded brilliantly to Hugo Watson who powered through the middle of Lancaster's defence to dive over for York's first try.

Chadwick added the conversion to make it 7-0 and the York crowd began to create a spine tingling atmosphere around the stadium.

Despite managing to control possession, errors started to creep

into York's play. Conan Osborne knocked on a high ball, and the White Rose then conceded a penalty at the scrum. Lancaster started to move the ball into the York 22 and they were running through the York tackles with worrying ease. After a powerful driving maul off the line-out, it was clear that the men in red were not going to let the occasion get to them.

Lancaster mounted an attack, sending forward after forward into contact to inch their way towards the line, before they managed to muscle their way through the defence to score a converted try. Lancaster started to threaten the Black and Gold again from the restart, and soon found themselves camped in the York 22.

**“The final score of 57-14 told no lies. York reigned supreme at Huntington Stadium”**

York gained some breathing space after a barrage of brutal hits when Lancaster were penalised for holding on in the ruck. But Sam

Lord was on hand to rally his troops and York soon had the momentum.

Out of nowhere, Osborne spotted a gap in the Lancaster defence on the half way line to surge through, showing electric pace to sprint half the pitch and touch down in the corner. Chadwick missed the conversion against strong winds, but York were back in the lead.

York now looked dangerous with the ball in hand, working through the phases swiftly and effectively. It was not long before scrum-half Will Ward received a deft offload to dart through for York's third try. Chadwick added the extras to make it 19-7.

The crowd had only just settled back into their seats before Osborne went over for his second try, showing brilliant hands to receive a long looping pass from Will Peters to batter his way over the try-line. Chadwick failed to make the conversion, but York went in at half-time with a comfortable 24-7 lead.

After the break York were immediately on the scoreboard again. Watson offloaded to Hugh Draycott, who shrugged off two tackles to rumble down the right and score a converted try, making the lead 31-7.

Draycott proved a menace for Lancaster, constantly wreaking havoc at the breakdown, and looking dangerous with the ball in hand.

**“That was the perfect end to the perfect season”**

Lancaster managed to muster a soft try, edging over after multiple phases. But it was not going to rain on York's parade. Chadwick responded immediately, showing remarkable vision and deceptive pace as he shredded his way through the defence, making the score 36-14.

Lancaster's hopes were now fading fast as York refused to break their intensity. Soon Draycott was over for his second try and Chadwick converted an extremely difficult kick in blustery conditions to extend York's lead to 43-14.

York's forwards proved effective at the scrum, with the front row of Tristan Burd, Fraser Kirkley and Draycott consistently punishing Lancaster's feeble effort and winning almost every engagement.

As the Black and Gold drove the ball up the pitch, Chadwick again

showed brilliant vision to put Will Sharp through under the posts with a delicate offload. York were now 50-14 and the match had descended into a rout.

Lancaster knocked-on after a spell inside York's 22, and immediately Sharp pounced, scooping up the ball and sprinting the length of the pitch to score and round off an emphatic night for the White Rose. The final score of 57-14 told no lies, York reigned supreme.

After the match, influential captain Lord was satisfied with the performance. "That was the perfect end to the perfect season." Speaking of Club President Draycott, Lord told *Nouse*, "He's been fairly average all year. But it's safe to say that this is Hugh Draycott's Roses." Draycott himself thanked the crowd for the "unbelievable atmosphere."

Meanwhile *Nouse* man of the match Chadwick said that though the team were "hyper-critical" of themselves this was the "complete performance."

This was a real send off after what has been a near-faultless season for Lord's men, and it meant York went home at the end of Roses day one with a 22-17 lead overall.

## FRIDAY AS IT HAPPENED

**10.30**

Day one of Roses gets underway with the men's cricket seconds on 22



**12.22**

Lancaster win the second team match of the women's rugby VIIIs.

**13.20**

York win their first match of the day, in the mixed Ultimate Frisbee contest

**13.50**

York complete an unlikely late comeback in the women's seconds indoor hockey.

**15.22**

Lancaster Bombers' Jordan Wilson caps a fine performance with one final touchdown.

**@YorkSportPres**

"The Carter-James Trophy is ours!! I couldn't be prouder!! Thank you for making this year amazing!! #roses2013"

**@YUSU\_Welfare**

"Just got given cake by Greg Dyke. My life has taken an odd turn. #Roses2013"

**@CassandraBrown**

"A Lancastrian on Central Hall: 'that is a weird ass building' #roses2013"

**@Sam\_Shepherd1**

"Jackets are off now. 'In 10 years I've never done this' says Brian Cantor. Wow. #Roses2013"

**@TomWitherow**

"Breaking at the rugby: THERE IS A DUCK IN THE STADIUM. A REAL DUCK FROM CAMPUS"

PHILIPPA GRAFTON

## Bombers demolish Centurions



YORK WERE UNABLE TO CAPITALISE ON A STRONG FIRST HALF DISPLAY ON 22 ACRES

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| <b>York</b>      | <b>20</b> |
| <b>Lancaster</b> | <b>43</b> |

**James Ellis**  
SPORTS REPORTER

LANCASTER BOMBERS showed grit and determination to come back and beat York Centurions in their Roses match up.

Lancaster came back after being behind 20-13 at the half to win 43-20, exacting revenge for their narrow 15-14 defeat on home soil in last year's competition.

The match started well for the Centurions and saw Sam Parke put early points on the board to give York a 6-0 lead. Lancaster quickly responded when running back Reggie Ademiji broke free to level the score, the subsequent conversion saw the score become 7-6 in favour of Lancaster.

Some brave play calling from Lancaster produced a well executed fake punt which resulted in David Messenger storming down the field for 55 yards to produce a touchdown.

York responded in an emphatic

manner, Robert Wickham at quarterback produced a sensational throw which was caught comfortably by Seb Booth. Another flash of brilliance from Wickham saw the two-point conversion completed, putting York once again in the lead at 14-13.

A perfect throw from Wickham saw a 35-yard pass completed, however, a questionable call from the Lancaster side resulted in the pass being ruled as incomplete.

York were not to be denied however, the following play resulted in a similar throw this time from Wickham to Booth which lead to Nathaniel Blackmore getting the ball across the line to see York going into the half leading 20-13.

Ademiji secured another touchdown after the half to put Lancaster within one point of York.

York never looked to get into the half with Messenger producing another touchdown to give the Bombers a 31-20 lead going into the fourth quarter.

The Centurions however could not do anything with the ball, another long throw by Wickham was picked once again by Jordan Wilson which lead to Messenger producing another touchdown for his side.

Another sensational pick by Wilson lead to him getting his second touchdown of the game, leading to the final score of 43-20 in favour of Lancaster.



INDOOR HOCKEY PROVIDED AN AFTERNOON OF STUNNING COMEBACKS

## White Rose prevails in hockey thrillers

**Tom Fennelly**  
DEPUTY SPORTS EDITOR

YORK'S MEN'S FIRSTS INDOOR HOCKEY SQUAD PRODUCED ONE OF THE MOST ENTERTAINING AND HIGH-OCTANE MATCHES OF FRIDAY'S FIXTURES IN THE TENT AS THEY WON 6-5.

Hugo Christie was the star of the game as he netted four of York's six goals, with his first coming in the very first minute when he finished with ease on the second time of asking from a short corner.

Lancaster finally found an equaliser at the ten minute mark when they broke against the run of play behind the York defence; their striker provided a cool finish at the near post.

Five minutes later, Lancaster took the lead; the striker found the angle to slot the ball past Chaundy. The Red Rose managed to reclaim possession with an instant goal. This rattled York and the game became more heated as they looked for a response.

It came only a few minutes later, when Christie scored with a superb finish from a short corner. And immediately after, the captain had his hat-trick with an identical goal to draw the teams level at half

time at 3-3.

York retook the lead from yet another Christie short corner. Leo Watton received a green card and was sin-binned shortly after, and Lancaster's extra man was telling as they scored from a dubious short corner.

York reacted well two minutes later when Watton returned to play the ball across goal and provide Laurie Torrington with an easy finish. However, Lancaster once again reacted instantly from the push back to level things up at 5-5.

It was Johnno Butler who grabbed the late winner. York won a free hit in midfield, which Butler quickly latched on to with a sneaky flick at the near as the crowd erupted. Watton received a yellow card in the dying moments, whilst Lancaster squandered their final chance of forcing a draw from a short corner.

Earlier in the afternoon, York had secured three draws in the other indoor hockey fixtures. The women's seconds battled back from two down to draw, while the men's were held 5-5.

That was before a late Izzy Hutchinson strike levelled the women's first team match at 4-4, UYHC undefeated for the day.

## York on top after close day one

**Beth Jakubowski**  
SPORTS EDITOR

IN A TIGHT FIRST DAY OF ROSES 2013, YORK WERE JUST ABLE TO EDGE AHEAD BY THE END OF THE DAY DESPITE A STRONG START FROM THE RED ROSE.

The opening Roses fixture was the cricket and the men's seconds won in emphatic fashion, bowling Lancaster out for 209 and then reaching 211-4 in reply.

Thomas Waghorn and Callum Rabbett spear-headed a York comeback, pegging Lancaster back after a very positive opening ten overs.

York were able to limit Lancaster to 209 on a very flat wicket and were in a strong position to win the match.

And so it was to be for York, Mark Askham magnificently reaching a century off the last ball of the innings to seal the win and the two points.

THE ULTIMATE FRISBEE WAS A DRAMATIC AFFAIR, WITH BOTH THE WOMEN'S INDOORS AND THE OPEN INDOORS BEING WON BY LANCASTER. BOTH MATCHES FINISHED WITH 5-6 SCORELINES IN LANCASTER'S FAVOUR AND BOTH WENT DOWN TO THE WIRE.

But in the mixed indoors encounter, York came out as victors. After Lancaster managed to equalise, it came down to the final game and York held their nerve to take a 6-5 win, York's first points since Wednesday's riding fixtures.

IT WAS NOT TO BE FOR YORK IN THE WOMEN'S RUGBY VII'S, WITH LANCASTER WINNING BOTH MATCHES. YORK'S SECOND TEAM LOST 5-19 DESPITE A MONUMENTAL SECOND HALF EFFORT. THE WOMEN'S FIRSTS FELL TO A HEAVY DEFEAT WITH LANCASTER WINNING 5-35. DEE OTUNLA SCORED YORK'S LONE TRY IN THE DYING SECONDS OF THE MATCH, WITH CAPTAIN LUCY DAVIES SAYING AFTERWARDS THAT "WE ARE ON EQUAL PAR WITH

LANCASHIRE WALKED AWAY WITH FOUR OF THE SIX POINTS ON OFFER FROM FRIDAY'S ULTIMATE FRISBEE MATCHES

THEM SKILL-WISE BUT THEY FOUND THE RIGHT SPACE".

THE BADMINTON MIXED FIRSTS GAVE YORK SOME MUCH NEEDED POINTS AS LANCASTER WERE STARTING TO BUILD A LEAD AFTER THE RUGBY AND THE AMERICAN FOOTBALL WENT THEIR WAY.

THEY WON EMPHASITICALLY WITH AN 8-1 MARGIN TO GIVE YORK FOUR POINTS. IT WAS A FANTASTIC BOOST GOING INTO THE TITANIC CLASH AT THE HUNTINGTON STADIUM LATER THAT EVENING.

NEWS WOULD COME LATER THAT EVENING OF A DRAW IN THE SNOWSPORTS OVER AT CASTLEFORD WHICH MEANT THAT YORK ENDED DAY ONE OF ROSES 22-17 AHEAD.

**16.44**

Johnno Butler grabs the winner for York in the men's indoor hockey firsts.

**20.20**

Hugo Watson opens the scoring at the stadium for UYRUFC.

**20.45**

Conan Osborne produces a brilliant individual try to regain York's lead.

**21.21**

Tom Chadwick shows superb pace and vision to blast his way through the Lancaster defence and score.

**21.53**

The full-time whistle blows after Will Sharp runs unchallenged from his own half to add the final try.

Roses 2013

# ROSES 2013 IN PICTURES

Photos by:  
 Agatha Torrance - 3,6  
 Philippa Grafton - 1,5  
 Lily Grant - 4,8  
 Petroc Taylor - 2, 7, 9



## Roses 2013

# SATURDAY

## Superb win for women's rugby

**York** 15  
**Lancaster** 5

**George Barrett**  
SPORTS EDITOR

THE WOMEN'S rugby team pulled off a spirited 15-5 win despite multiple injury disruptions in Saturday afternoon's Roses clash.

After last year's 60-7 defeat, York were determined to walk away with the Roses points this time. The White Rose showed real character and nerve to seal a hard-fought win with tries from Susie Herron, Kat Underhill and Morven Robertson.

York put pressure on Lancaster's defence straight from the off. The pack dominated the scrum, winning several against the head. But errors from both teams disrupted any flow in the game.

As the first half wore on Lancaster gradually started to grow in stature, manufacturing a number try-scoring opportunities.

But it was York who struck first as they were rewarded for their dominance up front, Herron going over to score a fabulous try.



15-5 was the score as UYWRUFC recorded a memorable Roses win on Saturday afternoon

However, Lancaster responded to bring the scores level at 5-5 as the whistle blew for half time.

After half time York showed incredible nerve as six injuries disrupted the match, an ambulance being required on four occasions in total. York were rewarded for their perseverance, though, as Underhill scored a brilliant try after a slick move from the backs.

Soon Robertson darted over the line after a deft pass from Thulani Kimbugwe to seal a 15-5 win.

Influential captain Lucy Davies described it as a "tough game." Herron was "ecstatic" after the win and thanked the home crowd for their "amazing support."

## SATURDAY AS IT HAPPENED

**9.25**

Louise Highton, Sophie Mason and Lori Button get the women's fencing underway.

**10.45**

Men's hockey thirds finishes 4-1 to York. First York points of the day

**10.51**

York win the women's fencing 135-61. A complete rout

**11.11**

Lancaster win both the dance and the volleyball to claw back 6 points

**Roses 2013**  
By Quotes

**York** 138.5  
**Lancaster** 76.5

## Double joy for water polo

**Dan Holland**  
DEPUTY EDITOR

THERE WAS double delight for York's water polo teams on Saturday night, as both the men's and women's sides triumphed in the intense humidity of the York Sport Village.

First out for their 7.15pm start were Sophie Gorman's women, who were looking to improve on a draw with Lancaster earlier in the season.

Despite an early missed penalty, Kate Richards and the irrepressible Louise Highton put York 2-0 up after the first quarter.

A Hannah Carter penalty made it three soon after, and though Lancaster pulled one back, York were about to enjoy a spell that came to define the match.

With the Red Rose coach sent off, York embarked on a scoring streak that saw them hit three quick fire goals without reply courtesy of Jago and a Highton double.

Lancaster were glad to hear the half-time whistle, and came out fighting in the third quarter. But any momentum gained from scoring their second was quickly dispelled by the razor-sharp Highton, who would end with five goals but could have had even more.

Jago and Highton completed the scoring in the final quarter, leaving it at 9-3 York, but that was only half the job done.

The men's encounter promised to be even more fiery, and so it proved.

In what was a scrappy and occasionally bad-tempered affair, York



It was a glorious night at the York Sport Village for UYSWC, with both men's and women's water polo winning

again took an early lead that proved key to the outcome of the match.

Captain Joe Marshall pulled the strings, providing assists for two of York's first three goals, before keeper Chris Snowden was eventually beaten in the York goal.

4-1 was the score at half-time thanks to a goal from Perkins, but Lancaster refused to lie down. Each time they fought their way back, however, York had an answer.

Marshall took it upon himself to keep the Red Rose at arm's length with a thumping finish, but at 6-4 going into the final quarter things were far from settled.

York were not to be denied, though, as Perkins and Gabriel Cramer finished things off with a goal apiece.

8-4 was a solid enough win for York, and they perhaps deserved an even wider margin of victory, but

eight points to add to the six won by swimming earlier in the day was exactly what they hoped to deliver.

The close of the men's match was marked with jubilant celebrations, with almost all of the UYSWC contingent ending up in the pool to join their fellow White Rose crusaders in victory.

Once again, water polo proved to be a highlight of Roses, as UYSWC more than met expectations.

## Brilliant badminton take home the points

**Jamie Summers**  
**Tom Fennelly**

THE WOMEN'S badminton firsts recovered from a slow start to steal victory from Lancaster, completing another superb year for York badminton in Roses.

Early on, Lancaster dominated with some skilful teamwork, defeating York Sport President-elect Cass Brown and Dani Farsiani amid controversy over the score. But York levelled through Farrington and Cowell.

Later, Travers and Canon won their first set before being pegged back, but won the decider.

Meanwhile, Farrington and Cowell lost their first set but won the final two to make the score 5-3. Brown and Farsiani then finished with a flourish to make the score

victory then gave the White Rose momentum as Canon and Travers won again, beating Campbell and Turner in a gruelling fixture 23-21, 11-21, 21-17.

However, Lancaster seized the initiative again to take the lead once more. Yinai and To overcame Brown and Farsiani amid controversy over the score. But York levelled through Farrington and Cowell.

Later, Travers and Canon won their first set before being pegged back, but won the decider.

Meanwhile, Farrington and Cowell lost their first set but won the final two to make the score 5-3. Brown and Farsiani then finished with a flourish to make the score

6-3, and complete a marvellous win for the women.

The ever-reliable men's badminton firsts squad effortlessly carried on their gallant BUCS form to claim four easy points for the White Rose.

The talismanic Baillie Watterson and his doubles partner James Davies won their first match, whilst Tom Dainty and Andy Henderson cruised through their match 2-0.

Davies and Watterson then used similar tactics to clinch convincingly win their match. Dainty and Henderson had a tighter second match but pulled through to put the overall score at 4-0.

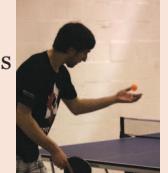
York now only needed one more

win to secure the match as a whole but Dan Hirst and Jinlung Tang crashed out to a 21-15 and 21-14 loss.

Hirst and Tang sealed the overall win in their second game, holding out for a 2-0 win.

Having won the fixture, York relaxed. Hirst and Tang lost in straight ends. However, Davies and Watterson claimed a win followed by Dainty and Henderson to cap a marvellous day for the badminton team.

Captain Dan Hirst said that "it all went pretty much to plan", after these eight points added to the three wins UYBC had already secured, leaving one of York's most reliable clubs with another whitewash.



“ Number 42, you're an embarrassment to your team - go home. ”

Mr Megaphone  
Simon Varley

“ The only thing I can remember from the 1972 Roses was the alcohol. ”

University of York Chancellor  
Greg Dyke

“ I was genuinely high for the entire weekend of Roses. ”

York Sport President  
Charlotte Winter

“ It doesn't matter anymore. There's literally nothing we can do. ”

Demoralised Lancastrian  
Unnamed Netballer

“ I used the flag to pick up the bird and take it away. True Yorkshire principles. ”

The Huntington Bird Whisperer  
Hayden

# Four wins from five as Hockey Club rack up the points for York



LILY GRANT

The outdoor hockey was a huge attraction on the JLD as only the men's seconds lost out in a very successful day for York's Hockey Club

## Will Light Aaron Stennett

SATURDAY SAW a fabulous day for the outdoor hockey as UYHC won four of their five matches to finish the season on a high.

Throughout the day York's vocal efforts did appear to better the Red Rose, a testament to the enduring powers of a special seoffer crate of Budweiser and a loud-hailer.

The men's thirds opened the day on the JLD with some scintillating Hockey. Within three minutes of the push back York took the lead, but Lancaster were quick to respond with an equaliser.

However, the thirds did not let this rock them and, after dominating possession, two quickfire goals gave York a 3-1 lead. Chris Daniels made it 4-1 shortly afterwards.

In the second half, York continued to control the game but the scores stayed as they were, York clinching a comprehensive victory.

The women's seconds were up next, looking to continue where the men had left off.

The Black and Gold controlled the opening exchanges of the game, with Emily Arter a real handful for Lancaster's defenders.

York were soon rewarded for their early dominance with a beautiful goal from Nina Rawlings.

They carried a 1-0 lead into half-time, but immediately after the break York grabbed another goal; Rawlings bagged her second before finishing with a hat-trick to make the final score 3-0.

It was not all plain sailing, however, as the men's seconds fell in a closely fought contest.

The final score of 2-0 to Lancaster did not do York justice for their tireless work up front.

However, a composed and classy performance from the women's firsts saw them gather four Roses points in fine style. The White Rose always maintained a level of control over their ill-disciplined Lancastrian opponents, who finished the match with nine players.

The first half saw a cagey opening period to proceedings, with little attacking play.

However, a piece of forward play from York led to a panicked Lancaster foul on the goal-line, with the referee awarding a penalty flick. Izzy Hutchinson stepped up and smashed low beyond the stretch of the Lancaster goalkeeper, to the delight of the fans.

The second half featured more

play around the D, with both sides enjoying early penalty corners. But both came to nothing; York's defence were in superlative form.

Captain Sally Dolton led by example, putting in a great tackle and clearing under intense pressure from Lancaster attackers in the area.

After this slight spell of Lancaster domination, York began to push for a second goal.

Lancastrian frustration began to tell. Unusually, a substitute earned a red card for abusing the referee, and she had to be physically removed from the pitch by her team-mates.

With Lancaster down to ten, York began to dominate in the final stages, with a Vaila Ormiston charge ending with a low shot just beyond the post. The final action

of the game saw a Lancaster player sin-binned for an illegal knock-back of the ball.

In the end, this was a well-earned victory for a professional York side. Dolton was delighted with her team's display, telling *Nouse*, "Our best victories have always been 1-0. Throughout the match, everybody kept their heads and nobody lost their cool. Really well done to Izzy Hutchinson for the penalty flick as well."

The men's first team later ran out convincing 4-0 winners against a Lancaster side largely unable to trouble their opponents.

A stunning reverse sweep from Leo Watton played through Phil Ratliff, whose initial effort was parried by the keeper. The ball fell back to Ratliff however, who produced a tidy finish from a tight angle to open the scoring.

Whilst both teams were reduced to ten men during parts of the match, Lancaster never looked like producing a real threat to anyone other than megaphone-toting spectator Simon Varley.

Laurie Torrington doubled the York lead 20 minutes into the first half, with a trademark short corner routine sending the ball flying high into the net. York were now cruising and Torrington quickly added another to his tally after half time. Smart play from the York midfield allowed him all the time in the world to tap home York's third goal at the back post.

York lost another player to the sinbin later, but Lancaster simply could not make their numerical advantage count; short corner after short corner routine was repelled, much to the amusement of the crowd.

To complete the rout, Watton again turned on the style, gliding past two hapless defenders, before unleashing a tidy reverse shot low into the corner of the goal to finish the scoring at 4-0.

Overall, the hockey proved to be one of York's most successful and popular events of the tournament on the JLD. It was still an enjoyable event for all involved, apart from any Lancastrian goalkeepers that fell foul of Varley's megaphone antics.

**13.25**

York win the sailing after the Lancaster boat capsizes!

**15.30**

Morven Robertson scores UYWRUFC's third try to seal four more York points.

**15.38**

UYRUF white-wash Lancaster as the seconds win 15-12.



**20.18**

The women's water polo team win 9-3.

**23.12**

Wins in darts and pool put York within touching distance of reclaiming the Carter-James Trophy.

**Roses 2013****SUNDAY**

**York 180.5 | Roses 2013**  
**Lancaster 105.5 | By Numbers**

**25**

Number of York wins in the 49-year history of Roses

AGATHA TОРRANCE



Despite their best efforts and the goalkeeping heroics of Jonny Sim, UYAFC firsts can't prevent Lancaster from taking the lead and winning the match 1-0 to take four points for the Red Rose

# Volleyball women in heroic win

**York** **3**  
**Lancaster** **2**

**George Barrett**  
SPORTS EDITOR

THE WOMEN'S volleyball firsts claimed a remarkable five set win over Lancaster on day three of Roses after saving four match points.

There was nothing to separate the two teams throughout, but York held their nerve to stare down match points in the fourth and fifth sets to run out 25-23, 23-25, 23-25, 27-25, 17-15 winners in possibly the tightest match of the tournament.

York claimed the win on their third match point as Lancaster sent the ball out, with the crowd reacting in raucous fashion, charging onto the court to sandwich the team in a mass bear-hug.

Captain Christina Sechel was stunned, hardly able to control her emotions, whilst other members of the team lay on the court in fits of

tears. York started the match off in impressive style, carving out a 5-1 lead with some effective work at the net from Selena Yeung and Jilka Jizerova.

However, they were soon pegged back, as Lancaster managed to stay within a point of the Black and Gold throughout the majority of the first set, briefly leading at times.

The standard was incredibly high, with long rallies characterising much of the game. Early on York showed great team chemistry, communicating well to earn them several crucial points.

Lancaster headed into to the business end of the first set with a 23-22 lead and the momentum firmly with them. However, at 23-22, York made a number of crucial last-ditch efforts to keep the point alive. Rosy Rubini made an incredible dive to set the ball up for Jizerova to smash the ball into Lancaster's side of the court. York then held their nerve to seal a spectacular first

set 25-23.

The second set continued in similar vein, with York building an early lead, before Lancaster seized the initiative to make a comeback.

At 20-16 York looked as if they may run away with the second set, with Rubini in fine form, but after a long rally Lancaster managed to scrape ahead.

The Red Rose won a tense second set 25-23, much to the disappointment of the White Rose after blowing their lead. York came out at the start of the third determined to take the lead, and so they did, racing into a 10-3 lead.

But yet again Lancaster showed true passion and spirit to roar back into the set, levelling the scores at 16-16 with a graceful winner from Lancaster's brilliant Louca Irene.

The scores stayed almost neck and neck; only for Lancaster sneak the third set.

York looked as if they were drifting away, falling 8-4 behind despite brilliant net play from Cherrie

Wong. But York surged back into the game after a crucial time out, with Lucia Linares playing out of her skin to win York a number of important points.

The scores were tight throughout, and at 23-23 all the Sports Hall went silent, the crowd knowing how important the point was.

If York won the point, they'd have a set point to take it into a decider, but if Lancaster won it, they would have a match point.

Lancaster seized the initiative with some smart communication and a lovely finish from Miele Chiara to bring up match point.

With the score at 24-23, York showed immense grit and determination to save match point in emphatic style, Sechel leading her troops by example.

This lifted York's spirits and after four big points, York seized the set to take it into a decider. Lancaster would have been forgiven if they had folded at this point but they did not. Instead the scores stayed close

throughout the final set, until Lancaster built up a sudden late burst of form, snatching a brutally long rally to make it 14-11 and give them three match points.

On the first, Lancaster served a fault, giving York a brief glimmer of hope. On the second, York held their nerve in incredible fashion, Joanne Lee making a crucial last ditch dive to keep the point alive. On the third, Lancaster crumbled, unable to cope with the insurmountable pressure.

Now York seized their chance. At 14-14, York played a marvellous point to bring up a match point of their own. But the Red Rose was not finished yet, drawing level to make it 15-15.

Some fabulous play from York, however brought up their second match point and they sealed the match in spectacular fashion.

Sechel told *Nouse* that the match was "absolutely crazy. I have no words for this." Meanwhile, men's president Chris Stent described it as "the best match I have ever seen."

**SUNDAY AS IT HAPPENED****10.51**

Confusion reigns as York come home first in the men's 10k, but that doesn't secure the points needed to win Roses.

**11.28**

The 10k points are scrapped after several athletes get lost.

**12.36**

York's women's lacrosse firsts cruise into a 17-2 lead and look set to gain the all-important points.

**13.05**

But the women's canoe slalom team get there first, with a two-point victory.

**14.06**

York win a tight trampolining contest



**2**

Number of BUCS places separating York and Lancaster (Y 42; L 44)

**5**

Number of consecutive UYRUFc Roses whitewashes

**1985**

The year Lancaster last won a Roses tournament in York

**1**

Number of Roses shuttle buses that crashed into trees

**547**

Number of Lancaster complaints about Simon Varley's megaphone

# Successful day for York netballers

PETROC TAYLOR



**Claire Thomas**  
**Beth Jakubowski**

AS THE final fixture of Roses 2013, the pressure was on for York and Lancaster's netball firsts clash to deliver high drama and sporting excellence, and – despite York losing to a team that possessed greater finesse and pace in the centre of the court – it absolutely delivered.

Both teams shot out of the blocks, with rapid passes seeing the ball travel end to end. Despite strong interceptions by Lancaster players, the ball was delivered to Amy Moye, who converted her chance with great composure to put York in the lead. However, a free pass was swiftly given to the opposition, levelling the score.

The first quarter continued to be a closely fought out battle, with outstandingly rapid play. Ferris, playing centre, was hugely influential, with her energetic style of play. More goals from Moye and Neblett saw York keep up with Lancaster.

Dalley-Smith, Daymond and

Ferris pulled off a series of breathtakingly long, fast balls, to see possession regularly streaking down towards the York goal, but the Lancaster players were also insurmountable in possession, and their goal shooter was able to use her height to her advantage time and time again to get goals past the reaches of Pullman and Knight, and the quarter ended 9-6.

Lancaster were swift to build on their lead, with a succession of stunningly accurate passes. Despite Dixson and Ferris making some lightning-fast interception, Lancaster had fixated on the tactic of hurtling the ball down the court and to their unstoppable goal shooter, and York's deficit escalated to 20-9. By this point the momentum was with Lancaster's and the half finished 23-12 to Lancaster.

Lancaster again took first blood in the next quarter, and moved swiftly on to 25-13, and they continued in this fashion – working as an extremely slick, drilled force to score another five goals, despite

Moye and Loft working well together to secure York's fifteenth and sixteenth points. Dixson's wonderfully accurate passes set up two more for York, and Pullman's pressure in defence was notable with Lancaster only scoring five in this quarter.

The final quarter saw Lancaster move with supreme confidence to score five more, without the White Rose retaliating. The final score was 41-23, and a jubilant Lancaster flocked together to celebrate although smiles were also seen on the faces of the vanquished, who had utterly exhausted themselves, and done themselves proud against a more experienced and drilled team.

In other Roses netball, James lost 26-32 in the College A Winners game but the Halifax seconds were victorious in their College B Winners match as they won 37-12. York's College Barbarians won 26-23 to cap a good day for college netball.

The university third team won 26-13 and the seconds also triumphed 30-22 in an overall good weekend for York netball.

## York seal Roses win

**Beth Jakubowski**  
SPORTS EDITOR

YORK SEALED Roses victory on Sunday from an entirely unexpected source. A win in the canoe slalom gave York the one point they needed to ensure the Carter-James trophy would be coming back to York.

After an early heavy loss in the women's basketball 24-71, the athletics could have been the source of the mere seven points York needed for Roses victory.

Despite a win in the women's 5k, the farcical men's 10k was eventually abandoned after several runners got lost after following the signs for the fun run. Contrary to reports, York had not won Roses yet.

A win was on the cards for York in the trampolining and it was another four points in the bag.

The two big stories of the day however were to take place after the trophy was decided. The netball and the football were some of the final Roses fixtures scheduled and they had vastly contrasting fortunes.

The spring term college league winners, Wentworth, fell to a 1-0 loss to Fylde college. It was the start of a Lancaster whitewash in the

football. The men's thirds lost 3-0 and the seconds also fell to an unfortunate 1-2 loss.

A bright spot for the football was the women's firsts who won 3-1, with goals coming from Ellie Whitaker and Jess Craig. It was a wonderful performance and the perfect way to end a very strong season.

One of the most heart breaking defeats of the weekend was the men's football firsts who lost 1-0.



Men's basketball was one of the late fixtures won by Lancaster along with men's football and volleyball

Club president Tom Day was clearly distraught at the loss only a week after they so brilliantly won the County Cup.

The men's basketball also spelled another loss for York as they couldn't contain a very strong Lancaster side and lost 35-72.

But the fact remained that York had done enough to secure Roses victory. In the end, that was all that mattered.

## Lacrosse claim Roses whitewash

AGATHA TORRANCE



**Tom Fennelly**  
**Sam Shepherd**

THE WOMEN'S lacrosse team completed the biggest thrashing of the tournament as they brushed past an almost non-existent opposition in the form of Lancaster.

York routed their Lancaster opponents 37-3 on 22 acres. Georgie Saunders and Sasha Greane were amongst the highest scorers of the day, whilst team captain Alex White-

hand was also very impressive. York cruised to an 8-0 lead with steady goals throughout the first quarter as Saunders pieced plays together with her penetrating runs through the centre. Lancaster managed to muster one goal in return before the quarter ended.

Lancaster managed to pull one back straight away in the second quarter. The score read 18-2 at half time and that was increased to 26-3 by the third quarter; Lancaster

snuck their final consolation goal before the end of the quarter. It was Greane who aptly rounded up the scoring at 37-3.

York's men dominated in a highly charged affair on the 22 acres. A superb team performance saw them secure victory against their Red Rose rivals. After only ten minutes York had raced into a 4-1 lead through goals from Andy Thomas and skipper William Chun.

Lancaster did have a spell of pressure at the end of the first quarter, but that was as good as it got for the visitors. Thomas continued the domination at the beginning of the second quarter, smashing home after a sustained spell of pressure. Soon after, a quickfire double saw York take the game by the scruff of the neck.

The domination continued in the third quarter, with York rapidly accelerating to an 11-1 lead. Lancaster then had their best spell of the game, and they managed to secure a second goal.

The fourth quarter was a formality for York, they added three more to make the final score 14-2 in a match where in truth, York could and should have scored many more.

**14.55**

Jon Gill pulls a goal back for the football seconds from a penalty, but they still go on to lose 2-1.

**15.07**

The Sports Hall erupts as York win a stunning women's volleyball match.

**15.18**

Full-time at the women's football as York win 3-1.

**16.55**

The dream team of Taylor, Cantor and Dyke secure York success in the croquet.

**17.40**

With the final whistle in the netball, Roses 2013 comes to an end.

**Roses 2013**

# Nouse's Tournament Highlights



## Best Sport - Rugby

THIS YEAR, Roses was easily dominated by York's rugby teams. The men completed a fifth consecutive whitewash, starting with a sensational 57-14 victory in the Huntington stadium on Friday night.

Captain Sam Lord led from the

front and the likes of Tom Chadwick and Hugh Draycott were in imperious form.

The whitewash was completed on Saturday with the thirds winning with a whopping margin of 40-0. The seconds rounded things

off nicely with a tense 15-12 victory.

The women were also in fine form, recording an astonishing 15-5 win the year after losing 60-7 away to Lancaster. The rugby truly provided some of the most memorable moments of this year's Roses.

## Best Match - Women's Volleyball

IN TOTALLY unexpected fashion the women's volleyball firsts served up a treat of a match on Sunday, with York winning in 5 tense sets.

The standard was incredibly high throughout the contest despite

clear fatigue from both teams in the final set, which York won 17-15.

Heroically, the women's volleyball team saved four match points before sealing the match in style.

The raucous crowd at this point

charged onto the court amid scenes of absolute bedlam, which included the *Nouse* reporter promptly throwing his notepad and pen into the crowd and joining in the wild celebrations.

## Best Player - Louise Highton

YORKSPORT'S CHOICE as Player of the Tournament, and ours too!

Highton already had a reputation as one of, if not the, best sports-women in York and after guiding both women's fencing and water

polo to victory on Saturday, that has been enhanced even further.

There were plenty of candidates for this particular title, though, not least many of the rugby firsts squad on Friday (Tom Chadwick was our

Man of the Match there).

Honourable mention as well to the likes of Hugo Christie and Nina Rawlings, but there were plenty of fantastic York performances out there!

## Funniest Moment

THERE WERE two defining moments of Roses 2013. Duck-gate and Crash-gate. Both as terrifying as they were humorous. As two unsuspecting sports journalists attempted to venture to the water polo on Saturday night, one scarily amateur-

ish bus driver had other ideas. The bus only made it five feet towards its destination before it promptly crashed into a tree and lodged itself on the curb. The alarmed passengers were then required to go out and push. In the battle of man ver-

sus bus, bus won.

In other news, York's affiliation with poultry stretched all the way to the Huntington stadium when a duck invaded the stands.

No ducks were harmed during the course of Roses 2013.

## RESULTS IN FULL

| Fixture                        | York | Lancs | Pts | Fixture                      | York | Lancs | Pts | Fixture                   | York | Lancs | Pts |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|-----|------------------------------|------|-------|-----|---------------------------|------|-------|-----|
| <b>Wednesday May 1</b>         |      |       |     | Swimming Women's             | 2    | 2     | 4   | Climbing B                | 1    | 0     | 2   |
| Equestrian Mixed 1sts          | 4    | 0     | 4   | Hockey Women's 2nds          | 3    | 0     | 2   | Climbing C                | 0    | 1     | 1   |
| Equestrian Mixed 2nds          | 0    | 2     | 2   | Volleyball Mixed 1sts        | 2    | 3     | 4   | Snowsports - Racing Ski   | 3    | 1     | 4   |
| <b>Friday May 3</b>            |      |       |     | Debating                     | 4    | 0     | 4   | Snowsports - Racing Board | 3    | 2     | 4   |
| Cricket Men's 2nds             | 211  | 208   | 2   | Squash Men's 3rds            | 15   | 0     | 1   |                           |      |       |     |
| Ultimate Women's Indoors       | 5    | 6     | 2   | Indoor Football Women's 2nds | 3    | 2     | 1   |                           |      |       |     |
| Ultimate Open Outdoors         | 5    | 6     | 2   | Ultimate Open Indoors        | 15   | 7     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Rugby 7s Women's 2nds          | 5    | 19    | 1   | Tennis Women's 1sts          | 0    | 4     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Rugby 7s Women's 1sts          | 5    | 35    | 2   | Lacrosse Mixed 1sts          | 17   | 3     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Indoor Hockey Women's 2nds     | 2    | 2     | 1   | Darts - College Select       | 0    | 1     | 0   |                           |      |       |     |
| American Football Men's        | 20   | 43    | 4   | Squash Women's 2nds          | 2    | 2     | 2   |                           |      |       |     |
| Ultimate Mixed Indoors         | 6    | 5     | 2   | Rugby Men's 2nds             | 15   | 12    | 2   |                           |      |       |     |
| Indoor Hockey Men's 2nds       | 5    | 5     | 1   | Hockey Men's 2nds            | 0    | 2     | 2   |                           |      |       |     |
| Badminton Mixed 1sts           | 8    | 1     | 4   | Badminton Men's 2nds         | 2    | 0     | 2   |                           |      |       |     |
| Indoor Hockey Women's 1sts     | 4    | 4     | 2   | Badminton Women's 2nds       | 2    | 0     | 0   |                           |      |       |     |
| Indoor Hockey Men's 1sts       | 6    | 5     | 2   | Snooker                      | 3    | 2     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Rugby Men's 1sts               | 57   | 14    | 4   | Indoor Football Women's 1sts | 5    | 2     | 2   |                           |      |       |     |
| Snowsports - Freestyle         | 2    | 2     | 4   | Squash Men's 2nds            | 15   | 1     | 2   |                           |      |       |     |
| <b>Saturday May 4</b>          |      |       |     | Tennis Men's 1sts            | 4    | 0     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Fencing Women's 1sts           | 135  | 61    | 4   | Rugby Women's 1sts           | 15   | 5     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Hockey Men's 3rds              | 4    | 1     | 1   | Computer Gaming              | 1    | 0     | 0   |                           |      |       |     |
| Volleyball Mixed 2nds          | 0    | 3     | 2   | University Challenge         | 370  | 150   | 0   |                           |      |       |     |
| Dance                          | 2    | 3     | 4   | Fencing Men's 1sts           | 116  | 127   | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Archery                        | 5    | 5     | 10  | Cycling - Mountain Biking    | 4    | 0     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Table Tennis Mixed 1sts        | 5    | 9     | 4   | Squash Women's 1sts          | 1    | 3     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Table Tennis Mixed 2nds        | 1    | 15    | 2   | Hockey Women's 1sts          | 1    | 0     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Cycling Road Race (TT)         | 4    | 0     | 4   | Darts Women's 1sts           | 2    | 7     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Tennis Men's 2nds              | 2    | 3     | 2   | Squash Men's 1sts            | 3    | 0     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Sailing Mixed 1sts             | 3    | 2     | 4   | Canoe Polo - Open            | 2    | 4     | 2   |                           |      |       |     |
| Sailing Mixed 2nds             | 3    | 2     | 0   | Canoe Polo - Women's         | 4    | 1     | 2   |                           |      |       |     |
| Dancesport Beginners' Ballroom | 35   | 7     | 1   | Badminton Men's 1sts         | 7    | 2     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Dancesport Beginners' Latin    | 18   | 24    | 1   | Badminton Women's 1sts       | 6    | 3     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Dancesport Advanced Ballroom   | 12   | 51    | 1   | Hockey Men's 1sts            | 4    | 0     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Dancesport Advanced Latin      | 26   | 37    | 1   | Pool Men's                   | 5    | 4     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Cricket Men's 1sts             | 216  | 266   | 4   | Pool Women's                 | 3    | 5     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Rugby Men's 3rds               | 40   | 0     | 1   | Water Polo Women's 1sts      | 9    | 3     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
| Swimming Men's                 | 4    | 0     | 4   | Darts Men's 1sts             | 5    | 4     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
|                                |      |       |     | Water Polo Men's 1sts        | 8    | 4     | 4   |                           |      |       |     |
|                                |      |       |     | Climbing A                   | 1    | 1     | 3   |                           |      |       |     |
|                                |      |       |     |                              |      |       |     |                           |      |       |     |

## Sunday May 5

# College Cup 2013: Team by Team

With College Cup kicking off yesterday, Dan Holland takes a look at each college's chances of success on the JLD

## Alcuin



ALCUIN 1sts have a good draw, with Halifax 2nds likely to be their only potential obstacle to reaching the quarter finals of the Cup.

They will probably finish second in Group C as they lack the firepower of Goodricke, but will likely be reliant on University midfielder Graham Kimber to pull the strings for them.

Alcuin 2nds will be vying for second spot in Group A - we know Langwith are weak this year and could very well be forced into the Plate by either Alcuin or Wentworth, perhaps even by a 3rds side.

For Alcuin's 3rds side it might be a case of damage limitation and hoping to make the Vase ahead of Goodricke 3rds in Group B.

**Key man:** Graham Kimber - Will have to dictate play in midfield if they are to have any hope of going beyond the quarter finals.

**One to watch:** Andy Fernando - Only started playing college football recently, scored the winner against Halifax last term, and should give Alcuin 1sts some more creativity going forward.

## James



JAMES 1sts have an undeniably strong squad but I can't help but feel they missed their chance last year.

James Davies and Tom Clarke remain - but they have lost Oscar Lynch, Nick St George, Richard Baxter, James Offord, Josh Brownlow, Sam Mellor, and Angel Sahi from 2012.

Davies, Clarke, Freddie Ferrao and Josh Spurling need to be on top form throughout and hope their new blood can make this James team something like the one that was, to many people, the best in College Cup 2012.

Group B could be a dangerous one if James can't match their standards from last year.

The 2nds' fortunes may depend on how crossovers Andrew Jopson and Ralph Gill adapt to the JLD - this is a team with potential so are maybe a good bet for the Plate, which I think is the best they can hope for.

It's a good draw for the 3rds in Group A, and they will be hopeful of making it into the Plate.

**Key man:** Tom Clarke - There were times last year when he looked like he could win College Cup single-handedly (remember THAT overhead kick?), and needs to find that form again if James are going to challenge this time around.

**One to watch:** Ralph Gill - Likely to play at centre-half alongside Matt Bainbridge, Gill will have to stand up to the tests of the JLD at the first time of asking.

## Derwent



DERWENT 1sts are my pick for the title at this early stage. They are arguably the only 1sts side who look stronger than this time last year with the additions of Belshaw, Easter and Trant. Derwent versus Vanbrugh is the showpiece tie of the group stages but expect both to go through and perhaps meet again later in the tournament. They won't concede many with Brandreth and Belshaw at the back, and look far stronger going forward than in 2012.

The 2nds are looking to cause an upset. If James take a while to get going and Wentworth don't hit the heights they managed last term then a quarter final spot in that group is up for grabs. A decent looking team who underperformed last year and will hope to do better.

Derwent 3rds snuck into the Plate last year and will look to do so again - there are winnable games for them in Group A if they can be solid and follow the kind of example set by Vanbrugh 3rds last year.

**Key man:** Joe Easter - Derwent were lacking in midfield compared to their main rivals last year, but Easter should rectify that and help them control play in a way that they sometimes struggled to in 2012.

**One to watch:** Jon Garness - A consistent goalscorer for in the past few years, and a perpetual Fantasy Football favourite.



## Goodricke



GOODRICKE 1sts look in decent shape for College Cup; Luke Parker and Stu Dunk form a solid defensive partnership, while they have creativity and goals going forward with Joe Mann and James Gutteridge.

Dalton Harris is the big addition for them though, providing a real threat up top, and should be amongst the goals if he can adapt to the JLD.

Expect them to top the group, but the real test will come when they face either Vanbrugh or Derwent 1sts in the quarters.

It's a nightmare draw for the 2nds and reaching the Cup quarter finals is surely beyond them in Group D. Joe Mann is a crossover again, though, and that gives them a very good chance of 3rd and a shot at the Plate.

On paper, it should be a battle between Goodricke and Alcuin 3rds to reach the Vase in Group B, as they come up against two of the stronger second teams.

**Key man:** Dalton Harris - the lack of a top class centre forward held Goodricke back last year, but ex-pro Harris gives them a serious edge in attack.

**One to watch:** Will Ward - 18 Fantasy Football points for the 2nds last year has earned him a promotion to the 1st team squad.



## Langwith



A REALLY tough year with has seen them lose some of their best players without them being sufficiently replaced. Putting 11 men on the pitch has been an issue, never mind winning a match. After a dismal two terms so far this season, there is little to suggest they will make the quarter finals of the Cup, though they are fortunate that they don't have one of the stronger second teams in Group A with them.

The 2nds can only look to do the same as I can't see them getting out of Group C, but Andy Doyle makes their squad and was very impressive in his appearances last year, scoring a couple of screamers if I remember rightly.

Langwith 3rds will be the target for the likes of Phil Taylor in Group D, and the big teams will no doubt see them as a chance to rack up some heavily one-sided scorelines. Damage limitation is the name of the game.

**Key man:** Kris Cheshire - a top goalkeeper let down by a leaky defence in front of him, Cheshire has been at the heart of every creditable Langwith display this year.

**One to watch:** Andy Doyle - Looked a quality player after joining mid-way through 2012's competition.

## Vanbrugh



VANBRUGH - the defending champions. They weren't strongly fancied last year but were a really good outfit on the JLD - with Phil Taylor and Jon Gill on form they can be unplayable. The squad looks pretty similar to the one that claimed the title last year, and expect them to go far again.

The 2nds have Tom Parish and Adam Lewis to call upon from the 1sts, so boast some decent firepower. It will be interesting to see who comes out on top between them and Derwent 2nds.

Vanbrugh 3rds were the fairytale story of College Cup 2012, the underdogs turned near Plate winners. A decent group means that a Plate run might be on the cards again.

**Key man:** Phil Taylor - Mr College Cup. With 24 goals in three years on the JLD, the stats speak for themselves.

**One to watch:** James Wilson - Scored a whopping 33 points in Fantasy Football last year as Vanbrugh kept a string of clean sheets.



## Halifax



HALIFAX 1sts always enter College Cup as one of the favourites. Last year they never really hit top form, but only lost the final on a penalty shootout.

If Tom Day finds his shooting boots then expect big things from them.

Fax have plenty of options, especially in midfield, now Matt Darling has to find a way to get the very best out of the likes of Matt Mawdesley and Ash Daly.

A comfortable group gives them a good chance to bed in and get a system going that suits them.

The 2nds will be looking to reach the quarters - Alcuin might be vulnerable in Group C if they underperform and Halifax get the best out of the likes of Elliot Ragan, Connor McCoy and Dave Lewis.

Halifax 3rds made second in their group last year, but it will surely be impossible to do that again, with Derwent and Vanbrugh 1sts there to meet them in Group D.

**Key man:** Jonny Sim - The UYAFC keeper has proven his worth recently in University football and futsal, and can certainly be a difference maker for Halifax.

**One to watch:** Jonny McGuinness - Impressed on the JLD last year and has earned himself a promotion from the 4ths to the 2nds.

## Wentworth



WENTWORTH have been very impressive so far this year. They are a well-drilled team, really solid and do all the basics right. That, along with no little attacking flair, saw the postgrads win the Spring League and record big wins over James and Vanbrugh in the process.

But College Cup is a different ball game, with 60 minutes on the JLD providing a very different challenge to the grass leagues. I'd still expect them to make the quarters after the year they've had (which would represent a vast improvement on 2012) but a generally unspectacular record in College Cup would suggest not much beyond that. There is a big prize on offer for whoever takes top spot in Group B, though, with second place in Group A likely to go to a weaker side.

Wentworth 2nds were Plate winners last time out and have a nice draw in Group A. They will be looking for a shot at the Cup quarter finals this time, with an all-Wentworth match in prospect.

The 3rds, meanwhile, will be looking for a Plate spot in Group C.

**Key man:** Dom Green - a class act up front, and Wentworth will need him firing if they have any realistic hopes of making it to the latter stages.

**One to watch:** Dan Horsfall - 'Stalwart' doesn't even begin to describe Horsfall's relationship with College Cup. The man is a JLD institution and is back this year with Wentworth 3s.

# Sport

Summer Term Week Three  
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## College Cup Analysis

We take a look at each college's chances of success this year on the JLD as College Cup 2013 kicks off

>> Page 30



## Emphatic York reclaim Roses trophy

George Barrett  
SPORTS EDITOR

**YORK SEIZED** back the Roses trophy this weekend in style after completing a comprehensive 180.5 to 105.5 mauling of Lancaster.

The Carter-James trophy, which has been contested since 1965, headed back to Yorkshire after Lancaster had claimed the victory last year by a narrow margin.

The tournament, played from Friday to Sunday, had been a closely fought affair on day one; however, a series of results on what is now being labelled as 'Super Saturday' spearheaded York's charge towards another title, their fifth in seven years and 17th consecutive home success.

Charlotte Winter, York Sport President, and the York Sport Committee collected the trophy amid raucous cheers in Central Hall on Sunday evening as part of the closing ceremony.

Winter had made it clear that it had been her "main aim" as York Sport President to win back the Roses bragging rights after last year's disappointing defeat. She added that the win was "extra special considering it is York's 50th anniversary this year."

Winter was visibly overjoyed, stating that the win had "made my entire year perfect". She also praised the York Sport Committee for their "tireless work" and apologised for sometimes giving them "strange jobs - like polishing trophies."

Meanwhile, Brian Cantor, in what was his final Roses as Vice-Chancellor of the University, praised the work of Winter and all those involved in making Roses 2013 such a special event.

"We have a good, tough and friendly rivalry," he said. "When I started as Vice-Chancellor we were two behind in the overall tally of Roses wins... but I'm pleased to say that I am finishing my time as Vice-Chancellor with a lead over them now."

He also stated how important

the annual croquet tournament was to him: "I have now won six out of seven croquet fixtures at Roses which I am very proud of. I will miss Roses enormously."

Louise Highton of the women's fencing and water polo teams was named Player of the Tournament after a breathtaking set of performances at that helped her sides secure eight points for the White Rose.

This included a near flawless morning for the fencing team on Saturday, which York won emphatically 135-61, and 5 goals for the water polo team on Saturday night in a feisty encounter.

*Inside >> Page 26*

Analysis of every team's chances of success in College Cup 2013

Kallum Taylor, YUSU President, opened the closing ceremony by playing a series of short video clips, one of which was the official Roses 2013 promotional video, which he described as "pretty epic". He then announced the prize winners of each sport and praised the effort of York's athletes.

In particular he singled out Darts President Nick Hall as being pivotal to "not just York's success, but also the growth of university darts across the UK". After stating that the Saturday night darts was "one of the best things I've ever seen" he added, "Nick Hall - you're an absolute legend!"

University Chancellor Greg Dyke pointed to the growth in internationally renowned Alumni events as a result of Roses, highlighting the fact that the York-Lancaster ten-pin bowling match had taken place only a week before in Los Angeles.

He closed with a thought on the importance of sport, stating that it was vital to "life as a whole."

"Roses has a great array of sport and that's one of the things that makes this such a special competition."



# ROSES 2013

*12 page Roses supplement inside with results, reports, reaction, analysis, and photos from all the weekend's action*

07.05.13

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