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GRAVE ROBBERS - TWO STUDENTS FOUND GUILTY

by Vanessa McCristall

SURPLUS UPDATE: £72,000!

If you were wondering what has happened to the £72,000 accommodation surplus, then read on.

At the moment, it is being decided how to spend the money (plus another £6,000 donated by the university), which President Paul Smith says will be "carved up" to improve amenities in university accommodation. A list of recommendations by Services committee is now passing through the various university committees to be ratified. There are three committees the money has to go through:

- Services who made the recommendations,
- University Council which met on Monday November 5, who agreed to the recommendations.
- Residential Accommodation Committee which met yesterday who implement the recommendations.

Meanwhile the student's union has not been inactive. They have passed on to the RAC a list of improvements drawn up by the Junior Common Room Committees. Paul Smith has also written a lengthy document which deals with how the surplus was made. His account differs considerably from the university report. You are left to draw your own conclusions.

Eleanor Ratcliffe

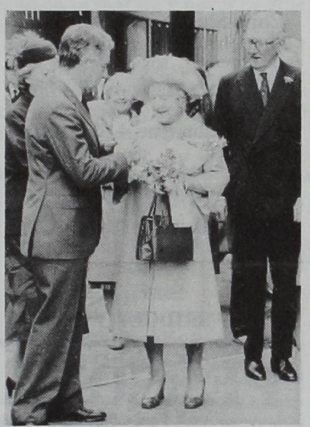
Queen Mother Opens New Medical School

The Queen Mother came to Newcastle University last week to open the new medical school and receive an Honorary Doctorate of Civil Law from the Chancellor, the Duke of Northumberland.

It was a prestigious event for the University with a variety of dignitaries attending the ceremonies and a lunch afterwards in the Refectory.

Many students will have noticed the police security on the day but, despite a scare over a Porter's lost jacket, some rather over-zealous policing of an Animal rights protest and a near panic over Julian Gothard's plastic bag/bomb (!), everything went off without a hitch.

The new Medical School, costing £27m, will be the last of its type for some time in the U.K. and has had its problems,



(left-right) Vice-Chancellor, Professor Laurence Martin, the Queen Mother and the Duke of Northumberland.

the original opening being planned for 1982.

However, the move from the old building has been fairly smooth, and the new facilities were badly needed.

Tony Hay (Photograph by Stephen Hulbert)

"Undergraduate curiosity" resulted in two students from Newcastle University being found guilty of robbing graves, Newcastle Crown Court heard last week.

Sean Dower (19) of Ladykirk Road, Benwell and John Smith (21) of Hartington Street were among five men who admitted plundering graves to find bones which could be turned into musical instruments.

Dower and Smith were both members of a secret organisation called the "Gentlemen of the Club". Other members were John Mylotte (22) of Northcote Street, who was said to be the 'linchpin' behind the offences: Alan English (24) of Jesmond; and David Stewart (23) of Gateshead.

Mr. Maurice Carr prosecuting told the court that 6 bones and 9 skulls had been removed by the gang during two nights of desecration at family tombs in Westgate Hill Cemetery, Newcastle.

Thigh bones had holes drilled in them to make them into 'Tibetan thigh trumpets' which when blown "released the souls of the dead".

The Gang were said to be interested in experimental music and the 'Thigh trumpets' were apparently played by some of the defendants. They denied occult practices, although police discovered that Mylotte's home contained an altar, human skulls, books on magic and a stuffed seagull.

Mr. Glenn Gatland, defending, explained that these were to give the house "atmosphere". Mylotte intended that the broken bones would be made into drums.

The two students Dower and Smith were defended by Roger Thorn and claimed to be the least involved. They were merely interested in bizarre forms of music.

Modelled on Edgar Allan Poe's stories, the "Gentlemen of the Club" were also known as the "Metgumbner bone", a musical band who specialised in playing Tibetan trumpet music. This is said to resemble a "monotonous wailing sound". The ghoulish group made a record three years ago with a Leeds based company, Mission Records.

Mylotte admitted three offences of digging up graves and removing portions of bodies and was jailed for 18 months. Stewart and English were found guilty of similar charges and were each jailed for a year.

Dower and Smith pleaded guilty to a joint charge of grave robbing. Smith was given 160 hours of community service and Dower was given 100 hours.

Judge Myrella Cohen accepted the view that their offence could be attributed to "undergraduate curiosity"!!

S.D.P. and Tories Victorious at Miners G.M.

The S.D.P. and Tory motions were carried at a controversial and extremely well attended General Meeting on the Miners' Strike last week.

Almost 500 students packed level 2, the majority of whom were obviously against the 'left' as was shown by the voting.

Paul Smith (Union President) began the proceedings by asking Becky Osborne to make a statement on behalf of the Union Executive. She said that under the Charity Laws the Union could not make payments to groups or institutions that don't affect students or students' welfare, any such payments are termed Ultra Vires, and in law, would be illegal.

There were five proposed amendments, which stated respectively:

Amendment (1): That £1000 in cash be given to the National Union of Mineworkers by the Union Society (The S.W.P. motion).

Amendment (2): That the Publicity Officer use his position to publicise issues in the dispute that have not received adequate attention. (The first Labour Club motion).

Amendment (3): That N.U.M. education packs be purchased to educate Union members on the issues surrounding the dispute. (The second Labour Club motion).

Amendment (4): That the

Union Executive condemn the intransigence of the N.U.M. and the incompetence of the Coal board, and deplore picket-line violence and the N.U.M.'s links with Colonel Gaddafi. (The S.D.P. motion).

Amendment (5): Called for the banning of collections for miners inside and outside the Union building or anywhere on University property. (The Tory Motion).

The first three amendments were defeated, the first by a resounding majority, the second on a card count of 208 for and 285 against and the third also on a card count 327 against and 136 for. The feeling in the meeting was clearly against these proposals and was shown in the response to the two remaining amendments.

The fourth amendment, in spite of considerable indecision from the chair and attempts to get it taken in parts, was carried on the first vote.

However, the meeting now degenerated as delaying tactics were employed to try to prevent the fifth amendment being passed. A vote of no confidence in the Chair, and in the Sabbatical Secretary were just two such devices. Also calls for the Guillotine procedure to be introduced well before 2.0 o'clock (G.M.T.) were voiced but were disregarded. Finally, with Mark Gamble now in the Chair, the substantive of the fourth and fifth amendments was carried.

Julian Gothard.

A.U. Clubs Finance Under Question

Last Friday the Agric Society's funds were suspended as a result of the society breaking the Union Constitution by holding a private account at Barclays Bank. Although this has been resolved, it has thrown the spot-light on to the issue of Athletic Union finance.

It all began when the Argies lost their Cheque-book along King's Walk. The book was returned to the Union and the funds suspended on Nov. 2nd, at the Treasurer's discretion, but they were then released on Nov. 12th on agreement to the account being closed. Chapter 10, section F, (1) of the Constitution reads: "the accounts of all recognised student societies shall be administered by Council, each society having a separate account within the Union Society (Societies) Account". This effectively prohibits societies from holding outside accounts. Because of this the case against the Agric Society was clear, but some confusion has arisen regarding the A.U.

This is because although the A.U. has its own constitution, the running of its finances is not

specifically catered for in the Union Constitution as a whole. For this reason, A.U. clubs are not expressly forbidden to hold outside accounts.

The vast majority of A.U. clubs have such accounts which contain members' money only, not that which is granted them by the University through the Union. Some of these accounts are at Barclays including those of the boating, caving, golf, judo, lacrosse, parachute, rifle/pistol, sub-aqua and fencing clubs. Last term, a General Meeting passed a motion which called for the Union to "actively boycott Barclays" and "discourage students from banking with Barclays". Consequently the A.U. clubs were informed of this policy but not all the accounts have been transferred.

The Athletic Union Sabbatical Officer, Adrian Drewett, believes that there is nothing to prevent a group of students holding a private account and their club bearing the title Newcastle University Athletic Union. However, the issue has been raised at Communications Committee as to how far A.U. clubs are to be treated as societies and will now be brought to tonight's Finance Council.

Julia Tindall

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A VIGIL FOR SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET JEWRY

On Wednesday 21st November between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., there will be a vigil to show solidarity with Soviet Jewry, outside the Union (depending on the weather).

The vigil is part of a national campaign, and will be occurring on campuses throughout Britain.

The treatment of Soviet Jewry over the last six months has taken an even stronger turn for the worse. Six of the very few Jewish Hebrew teachers have been arrested, two, Mark Nepomniasky and Yacov Mesh in October.

Alexander Kholmiansky, who was arrested in July, has been accused of organising a nationwide Hebrew Seminar. Since September 13th he has been on hunger strike and on October 14th he was admitted to prison hospital where he was forced fed.

On the vigil we intend to highlight this type of case, adopting an ex-student, Karen Armenlovich Khachaturian, who was the only Jew in Moscow University and was expelled because of "behaviour incompatible with the status of the Soviet Student."

We will be sending him a card signed by students; organising a petition to send to the Soviet Ambassador to highlight this and other Soviet Jews plight. Additionally we will be handing out leaflets; having a speaker at lunch-time who has met Soviet Jews, and a poster display.

The situation is urgent, in the words of Sir Winston Churchill, "We must pester, nag and bite . . ."

Help us to help them - show your solidarity with Soviet Jews, attend the vigil.

Ashley Harshak

LASSIE IT'S NOT TO BE SNIFFED AT!

Creative art students at the University were this week warned to be on their guard against direct action from a group calling themselves L.A.S.S.I.E. (The League Against Sexist Sculptures in Education).

This warning follows an attack by a group of hammer wielding women on a number of sculptures at an exhibition at Leeds Polytechnic, as was reported in the national press this week. The greatest wrath was vented against the sculpture of a nude woman, which now lies disconsolate in a pile of ruins.

A Government spokesman from the Department of Monuments and Historic Buildings, last night deplored the attack and indicated that legislation might be introduced to restrict the sale of hammers, as had happened over the sale of glue.

However, the comparison between glue sniffing and hammer blowing seems far-fetched to say the least.

Meanwhile, Leeds Police were still trying to piece together some evidence. (sic)

Jonathan Hill

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IN ON THE A.C.T.S.

Paul Smith and Timothy Brown, President and Deputy President of the Union Society have taken advantage of clauses in their contracts allowing them to join a Trades Union. Both are now members of the Allied Clerical and Technical Staff which is affiliated to the Transport and General Workers Union, the biggest Union in the country.

However, Timothy was quick to point out that this would have little effect on the position of Paul or himself in the Union. They will not negotiate for pay rises as their salaries are voluntarily linked to the student grant. But their rights as employees of the Union Society will now be formally recognised by A.C.T.S. and if either of the two are dismissed from their jobs by improper procedures they will be entitled to take the Union Society to an Industrial Tribunal.

In case of a major dispute, Paul and Timothy now have, in theory, the right to strike but it was empha-

sised that the possibility of them striking is very remote because of their commitments to the Union Society.

Susan Leaver

SLIGHT EXAGGERATION

Hundreds of thousands of potential students are to be denied a University education due to faulty figures and Tory cutbacks, Timothy Brown, Deputy President, has claimed.

He pointed to Government estimates about future demand for higher education and the controversy they have attracted. The Royal Society of Statistics condemned them as under estimates. As Government policy is based on the figures many potential students, perhaps 1:4, will not find a place.

Timothy Brown was not just critical of Tory figures, but also Tory will - "They will not respond to demand for places".

James Baker



Right now we'll have the vote on the point of order to suspend Standing Orders due to the point of information which was a motion of no confidence in me.

The Winners Of Our Glenmorangie Competition Will be announced Next Week (Nov. 22nd)

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STUDENT OPINION

"If a miner asked you for your lunch would you give it to him?"

Rob Kern - 3rd Archeology: "If he was literally starving I'd give it to him. If he just came up I'd tell him to buy his own. I don't like to see people starve".

Patrick Sawyer - 1st Combined Studies: "Yes . . . I agree with their fight for jobs and defence of Trade Union organisation. The strikers have reached a situation where they and their families need food in order to prevent them being starved back to work".

Paul Smith - 3rd Astrophysics/Astronomy: "Yes - depends if he were working or striking? Yes, because they're prepared to sacrifice so much for their jobs, communities and children's futures. It's short term sacrifice for long term gain".

Georgia Hole - 3rd Linguistics: "No . . ."

Anya McNiven - 1st Agric.Eco.Sci: "If he were hungry, broke and his kids were starving yes I would . . . otherwise no. I do support their cause".

Peter Larkin - 1st Economics: "I'd give him one of the meals at Freeman's".

Liz Driver - 1st Economics: "Ummm . . . Yeah cause I'm on a diet".

Gayle Nicholson - 3rd Geography: "No . . . they can go back if they want to".

Chris Short - 2nd Surveying: "I'll tell him get back to work and earn yourself some dinner . . . haven't they all starved to death already?"

Pete Redmayne - 2nd Combined: "No . . . the Government has assured that no miners will lose their jobs. A lot of others would like that assurance. Right now, they're making it worse for themselves. If I gave money I'd like it to go to their families not to the miners striking".

RESEARCH-BRIDGET EVERITT

NATURAL GAS from John McPherson

DON CUPID?

I suppose it is 'business as usual' at Leeds Polytechnic in the wake of their recent shinannigans. Being the Innocent I am I was first drawn to the story by the headline 'Sex-for-Exam Results' which I naively assumed to be a slogan along similar lines, say, to 'Yoga for Health'.

The bitter truth is as depressing as it is revolting. With the complex of factors we spoke of some weeks ago, what hope did the Leeds working party have of proving that a young lady's sexual disposition towards her tutor affected her degree one way or the other?

Even so it is abundantly clear that tutor/tutee affairs are on the increase, but I have not the slightest doubt that we are all agreed, that in a free democracy like ours it is the right of every person in a position of some stature or authority - from the humblest academic to the Home Secretary himself - to take full advantage of the nascent emotional maturity of the unsophisticated youth who flock about them. Amen to that.

Yet the Leeds scandal, upon even scant analysis and leaving aside ethical values, throws up some interesting logistical problems chief among which is the following: if figures supplied by the Student Welfare Office here at home are true, some 40% of students are still virgin at the end of their career at college. How, then, is it possible that at Leeds a mere fourteen Fine-Artists felt able to cast the first stone, so to speak, by refusing their degrees in protest at the transgressor in their midst.

I cannot believe that there are, as we go to press, only fourteen virgins in Leeds and I have a sneaking suspicion that the figure of 40% should read '40% by volume'. I shall check with Welfare Officer Tindall.

A stronger possibility is that this sort of unholy alliance is more common in Arts/Humanities than in Sciences.

This arose out of a recent conversation with a computer dressed like a cowboy who claimed to be a pillar of Havelock Hall and as such to have the details of every woman in Leazes on his floppy disc. It goes without saying that this list is as fatuous as the catalogue Leporello keeps for his own particular Don - none of the details are ever quite personal enough - but it did prompt me to ask whether this is the sort of bait science tutors use to pull students.

Blank looks all round. Sort of thing unknown in sciences where, quoth computer, "teachers generation older than students". So back to drawing board.

Back, indeed, to the Humanities and back to the question of bait. If one cannot dangle an enticing degree before an ingenious and impressionable student what, without being vulgar, can one dangle? It is painfully indicative of the tendency away from radicalism and towards mercenary consumerism amongst students that old workhorse the well-stocked record collection is rapidly losing business to the compact disc player and something called, I believe, the 'Try-it-on Television'.

All of which is a far cry from the fellow in the Flanders and Swann song who managed on a bottle of Madeira and a stamp album. *Eureka!* I'm sorry I shouted but - well, I'll rewind and you can listen:

'Until the next morning she woke up in bed with a smile on her lips and an ache in her head, And a beard in her Earole that tickled and said, Have some Madeira M'Dear!

Is it a coincidence, I wonder, that the clean-shaven Humanities man I once lived next door to was also clean living, or that all the worst lotharios I encounter favour beards, at least while 'active'? Of course it is.

Joke over. Action needs to be taken before things get out of hand. Should Vice-Chancellor Professor Laurence Martin move to London it is imperative that his replacement be a true keeper of the public morals. "Mrs. Whitehouse", I hear you cry, and indeed we could do worse. Should the opportunity arise, however, I shall back *Spectator* and *Sporting Life* columnist Mr. Jeffrey Bernard, a Pauline choice in the eyes of many, but a man who is at heart as Puritanical as I.

PERSONAL COLUMN

ADS: 2p per word, 10p minimum

ENTSPEAK LESSON 4: The name of the clagging tape that is hard to remember. . . GAFFER tape. Used to gaff/lagg MULTICORE to ceiling. Next week - MULTICORE. And I thought that just good friends was a cure for diddling . . . keep trying Rich, P. Is it true that Busty MacKenzie wears a D-cup? BOUNCY DAVE O NEUTROIC WOMEN 4 Ken and Helene do it on Helvellyn

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For mislaid watch of the greatest sentimental value-my Grandfather's Bentley antimagnetic watch (Swiss made) Last seen Wed. 7/11/84 (Evening)
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Have the RUGBY CLUB moved on from mindless vandalism to the World of politics? HH BOOTFACE let's it all hang out.
UNCLE 'B' is just a Barrel of fun. Did you have breakfast today? Did you have lunch today? Did you have a snack today? Did you have dinner today? Well, 800 million didn't. 3W1

CHRISTMAS PARTY? MOBILE DISCO FOR HIRE FUNCTION SUITE FOR HIRE. Experience with all depts. Societies and Union Ents. Contact Print Shop Union Building and leave message.

To the Heaviest Legal drinker in Annexe Scrum Down with Charlie. BEWARE! Mad Mallinson and cringing Croom are loose!

ANDREW SHACKLOCK - WOT - NO PUBLICITY?
STEVE - when are you going to be kissed - are you always going to be a frog?
To the cuddliest nose in Ethels - I Love You. M.M. and C.C. warn their enemies of Hereward The Were-Hamster. He bites in the night!
SINCERE MINING ENGINEER SEEKS "PURELY PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIP(S) ANYTIME, ANY PLACE, ANYWHERE. APPLY DOUG 'THE STUD' ROOM 64.
PADDY - Thanks for your help on Friday! Now for some creative activity!
Helene and Ken do it now and then.
GARNETT J.C.R. - Postal Address - 9c Rickey Road.

CHARLES - Keep off the dead sheep - you'll meet a live one soon!!
AMANDA - will they hang out on Saturday?
ROB YOUNG - Well, you wanted a name check!

SUNDAY 18th NOVEMBER ROY and SUE'S 1000 GATES RALLY SCAT SEE NOTICE BOARD LEVEL 3.

If you have 52" waist, get tired walking to pub, drink to much, only run to avoid capture, have asked every girl at University if she takes it up the "aggh my" . . . then you probably live somewhere in our flat.
AGGH OUR BOTTOMS!
Oh to be in Ethels, now that Charlie's there, and whoever wakes in Ethels sees some morning unaware, that the lowest boughs on the brushwood sheaf round the Elm tree bowl are in tiny leaf and Charlie's there along with his sheep, in Ethels NOW!
And may the oasis never run dry!
S.T. - Don't be angry. Love to HERCULES. ABAGAIL'S ALTERNATIVE MAP OF ENGLAND - For the next bobble wait for the next cup of tea.
STEVIE - People are still asking me!!
M.M. and C.C. say we'll buy YOU flowers when you die.

Does everyone have to tie drunken flat mates into bed, or are we strange? Must we put up with Paul's desperate attempts to gain alternative credibility in any more Arts Editorials?

Hungry, no? Well come to: 3W1 meeting Friday 16th 1.15 p.m. Union.
To Dave - a Latin lover does it with roses. I have got a comfortable bed, but nothing beats Tony Hay's Courier for putting me to sleep, what has happened to Courier?
HH Caroline, please bring a brown paper bag, and don't forget the 50p. - STUD!
The Newcastle University Award for Public School Chip on the shoulder goes to Mr. ANDREW SHACKLOCK (P.S. - ONLY CANDIDATE).

Marrs' Rules - OK?
If the Left win THAT'S DEMOCRACY. If the right win IT'S UNCONSTITUTIONAL. Does John Walkden believe everything he hears in the Taxi Rank?
DEAR PROCTO MAKE A brw.
HH Hey Hippo leave poor John alone. Is ZEPPO a hobbit or just a large ball of Anal fluff?

K.C. - CHEERS!
Bothered by irritating DROW? Buy New ACME Luminous Drow-Repellant Powder, available in easy-to-use dispensers. Note: this repellent is NOT effective against dwarves, or anybody whose name begins with 'T'. -House of Pendor Marketing Division.
FOOD is a 4-letter word.
WINNIE-THE-POOH SEEKS LEGAL ADVICE.

Our PRESIDENT may be a NAWKER (Anag.) but at least he isn't 73 and senile.
HH Orca the Killer Whale, on show at HH Room 334.
S.T. - WOOF - I.R.
SOUTH GOSFORTH METRO STATION wishes to consult Stephen Jeffries.
Binding - Yes he could, but I'd have to give it to the miners.
KEV - if you can't win fairly change the rules (D.T.W.)
Read this ad yet? Well while you read this 2 kids have just died of hunger in the 3rd World.

SCAN
Kevin is in the MEDICAL SCHOOL, Students' Union Office, Room No. MG070 every Tuesday from 12.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. University Extension 4133

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RELIGIOUS STUDIES SOCIETY

Talk on

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28th November - Armstrong Seminar Room 7.30 p.m.

Dr. M. J. Rodriguez-Salgado
(History Department)

SCAN

REMEMBER THE 5th DECEMBER FESTIVE EXTRAVAGANZA

with

MONKTON GATEWAY CLUB

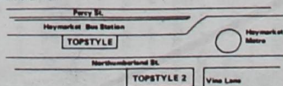
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A Strike for Democracy? Complaints about the General Meeting

Sir,
I have just attended my first General Meeting of the term - that called to discuss the Miners' Strike, and now feel that much needs to be said about the way General Meetings are run.

Firstly, if the Union is to be seen to care one iota about democracy, a word which was freely banded about at the meeting, it MUST make better provisions for the holding of General Meetings. There were, I estimate, around 500 people crammed into half the area of Level 2 this lunchtime. Most of us could not see the Chair, and even fewer seemed to have access to a copy of the motions. God knows where my copy ended up. More importantly I fail to see how any count, even with the new counting toys could have been accurate.

Secondly, the time allowed was obviously pathetically insufficient. I share Robert Wright's frustration at the filibustering of certain students who should be ashamed of themselves - but then filibustering is a recognised fact of life. To expect to handle

six motions in just 60 minutes is clearly absurd.

Thirdly, if time wasting is to be avoided there must clearly be more co-operation between the proposers of motions: including perhaps the amalgamation of smaller motions into a larger whole. Specifically odd amendments were proposed that appeared merely to duplicate each other.

Fourthly, and perhaps most importantly, everyone should become much more familiar with the Constitution. I was appalled to hear Paul Smith say (I think) that he hadn't got his copy with him - clearly he was not fully at home with the Constitution. If people are going to use the Constitution unscrupulously then the way to defeat them is not to scream them down, but to learn to use their tactics. What with motions, amendments, add and delete amendments, points of order, points of procedure, points of information and votes of no confidence I doubt if any of us really had much idea of what was going on.

There are other points of interest raised by this General Meeting. Some speakers (N. Dalton) should realise that just because they are on a losing wicket they should still

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

refrain from insulting students. Robert Wright may be a prat, but his sheer style could be taken good note of by some speakers.

I wonder also if I was the only person to see a member of the M.S.G. loudly collecting money at the meeting. I thought I'd seen a notice banning all such collections in the University, but no, I must have been wrong otherwise one of the Executive would surely have pointed it out.

Paul Smith handled the meeting as well as he was allowed to, and clearly had large support when a vote of no confidence was proposed and defeated. No-one person can be blamed for the appalling spectacle of students ranting at each other across a crowded dining area, but if the Executive and your average intelligent student cannot learn by past mistakes, then God help us all.

Yours etc.,

M. Furse

3rd Year Law and Economics,

Poly Con Soc And Women's Officers!

Sir,
I'd just like to give you a few of the facts about Newcastle Polytechnic Conservative Society. They were originally refused ratification for supporting the racist "Nationality Bill".

As the Polytechnic Constitution is against racism, as decided by a majority of students at a General Meeting, it would be unconstitutional to ratify them. The Executive are not persecuting the Tories, merely doing their job in putting policies decided at General Meetings into practice.

After a month's wrangling, the Tories agreed not to campaign on a racist stance, or distribute racist literature within Poly premises - and hence were ratified.

But then David Brownlow and Martin Callanan deliberately ignored this decision, and started to distribute 'Campus' in the Union - (For those of you lucky enough never to have read it, 'Campus' is a blatantly racist and sexist magazine, often extremely offensive to some people). So the executive again had no real choice but to stand by the original agreement, and ban them from the Union.

Why, may I ask, is the point of having a Constitution decided at General Meetings if the Executive are to be slugged off for upholding Union policy? But then what is the point of having a General Meeting if, as in our case, Union Council is not going to put our decisions into practice - i.e. election of a Women's Officer?

Yours etc.,
C. Smith.
(Labour Club)

Government Of The People

Sir,
Having read the letters column in Courier (8.11.84), I feel I must protest against some opinions expressed.

A persistent comment to be found was that for a small body of elected students to have the power to overturn the decision of a General Meeting was undemocratic, indeed reading between the lines, many people seemed to be thinking the word 'dictatorial'.

This is simply not the case: to quote Abraham Lincoln, "Democracy is government of the people, by the people, for the people". This does not to me imply that any decision must be voted for by a majority of all the people whom it may affect - that is the method of making decisions in a commune. (I do not imply that those who advocate this system are communists).

Surely the whole purpose of electing a Rep. for the Council is to end up with a responsible voice for one's faculty on the Council, who will firstly look after one's interests within the faculty, and secondly will have the opportunity, if necessary, to safeguard against motions pushed through General Meetings at which very few were present except those in favour (I refer only to a hypothetical case).

This being so, I hope all students will think again about whether the Council is democratic or otherwise.

Yours faithfully,
Julian Pye,
1st Year Biochemistry.

Not Addicted to Natural Gas

Sir,
John McPherson is becoming more flatulent every week. The Natural Gas which emanated from his nether regions last week left me gasping for fresh air.

Before he gets too wrapped up in his own self importance I think it is important for someone to bring the windbag down to earth. "LSD is addictive. Addiction will inevitably lead to experiments with harder drugs" he confidently asserts. This is complete rubbish.

It is a confirmed medical fact that addiction to LSD is physically impossible, because the human body builds up a rapid resistance to it. This means that if a person were to take LSD every day, after two or three days the drug would have no effect at all, and the effects would not return no matter how large a dose was taken. And on Mr. McPherson's second point, if addiction 'inevitably' led on to hard drug abuse then every nicotine addict in the world would by now be lying in a heroin daze.

I am not condoning the use of drugs in any way, but before people like Mr. McPherson start moralising they should get their facts right. Statements like his serve only to increase the confusion which surrounds the subject; and it is a poor argument which depends on lies to support it.

Yours etc.
Name and address withheld.

Sir,
I write in total disgust at the 'football terrace' attitude displayed by the moronic majority of the students at last Thursday's General Meeting on the miners' strike.

Now I know that quite a few of you are going to end up earning a lot of money off the backs of other people, but for those of you who aren't let me get you straight on one basic fact among the many abstractions of our 'political system'.

Life's about conflict - the sort of conflict thrown up by the miners' strike - the sort of conflict displayed on level two last Thursday; and in the heartless economic system under which we live, there are in essence two types of people.

There are the workers - and that means EVERYBODY WHO IS PAID A WAGE OR SALARY - in other words everybody who works

for somebody else and is not in control of their own labour, and the capitalists - those employing others.

Now a lot of you, who took such a 'longsighted' attitude at that meeting can't honestly have been seeing much further than the stotties you were shoving into your gobs, because you're going to end up working for those people, or maybe on the dole, and I really do hope that the latter is the case for you.

The miners' strike affects us all. If we don't confront the present dictatorship quickly, they'll have got such a hold on us that we'll never be able to get rid of them.

How much do you really think you know that you didn't even want to listen to a striking miner, that you didn't want an alternative view with maybe some facts for a change from the brain-drain filth of the fascist broadsheets. Wake up, think and fight!!

Paulo.

Support For A Pain In The Head

Sir,
Do we really have to be bombarded by 'Support the Miners' every Friday lunchtime by what seems to be every Socialist - or whoever they are - the University possesses?

Perhaps with so much noise and so

many 'collectors' they feel they can force people to give contributions to the miners. I object to the large number of people who are making their presence very strongly felt. Couldn't they reduce their ranks a bit - at least we aren't subject to megaphones any longer!

Yours, with a headache,
A student.

THE THIRD WORLD CRISIS - FAMINE

30 CHILDREN DIE - every minute just of starvation in the 3rd world; and that's not including Ethiopia. Famine is the way of life for hundreds of millions of people.

"But surely there's not enough food to go round?"

The fact is, enough grain is produced to give every person on this planet over 3,000 calories each day. People in the 3rd World starve because of mismanagement and exploitation of these resources by rich countries. The U.S.A. (6% of the world population) uses 25% of the world's resources.

"But aren't there too many people?"

Holland (1079 people per sq. mile) is hardly undernourished compared to, say, India (613) or Sudan (22). People in these countries starve because their resources are exported to meet extravagant Western demands. They have no choice.

And so our governments and multinationals are largely responsible for the deaths of millions of the world's poor. In order to make any headway in the eradication of world hunger we must question and press for change in a system which perpetuates world hunger. Please support Third World First in this aim. SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS.

J.B.3W1

On Tuesday 6th November there was a demonstration by the Animal Rights Society and Tyneside Animal Rights against the opening of the new Medical School by the Queen Mother.

The demonstration outside the new Medical School in the morning was successful. We were able to put our point over to the press, hand out leaflets and despite police intervention, our peaceful placard demonstration briefly caught the attention of the Queen Mother.

However, we were shocked by the police suppression of our demonstration in the quadrangle. This time there were only four of us (hardly a threat to the Royal personage!) again intending to demonstrate amongst the crowd and make our point peacefully, as we are allowed to do under the law.

Despite stating our peaceful intentions, two policemen and a

Protest Suppressed. A View From Hamish Anderson: Animal Rights

policewomen grabbed our placards and dragged us back from the crowd. Naturally we protested and for this we were threatened with arrest for "obstruction of the police in the course of their duties". The police kept the placards and only returned them to us after the Queen Mother had left the area. We intend to take this matter further, making official complaints to the police, the press and the University about the disgusting breach of civil liberties.

In fact, as we explained, we have no quarrel with the Queen Mother, we just wished her, the press and the others present to know what she is endorsing by attending the opening of the new medical school. These new buildings represent an enormous

waste of scarce resources, there are increasing cutbacks on staff due to spending cuts throughout the university.

In the 150 years of the medical school's existence, countless animals have been killed in the name of science. A blind faith in the usefulness of animal experiments worldwide, killed more people than it has supposedly saved. At present, in Britain, 10-15,000 are killed every year by prescribed medicines and one million people suffer from side effects (ranging from headaches and migraines to blindness and deformity). Drug disasters like Thalidomide (which was tested on thousands of animals with no ill effects to them - or their offspring) happen regularly.

Conversely, penicillin was initially kept off the market because

of animals tests - it killed the test animals. These are just two examples amongst countless others which show how unreliable and unscientific animal tests are.

Here is just one example of over 100 cruel and useless experiments on live animals carried out at this university: Piglets were subjected to severe malnutrition for a year, then killed and the bones measured. The startling conclusion that the experiments (Doctors C. H. Tonge and D. J. Reid) reached was that malnutrition stunts growth!

Cancers, leukemias and heart disease are on the increase (with miracle cures promised - if we are just patient and leave it to the scientists) when the causes are largely known and prevention within reach. But instead of teaching people health care and natural cures without side effects (the Queen and Prince Charles both use homeopathy and naturopathy for these reasons) the government spends millions training doctors to "cure" preventable diseases.



Third World First

30 Children die of starvation every Minute

WHO CARES ?

We need your support this weekend.

SAT. 17th 10 a.m. DEMONSTRATION
at a government grain store in
Newcastle

Then
STREET THEATRE
at Grey's Monument

Please come to a meeting Friday,
1.15 p.m. (Tomorrow)
lunchtime in the Union Building.

LOOK OUT FOR OUR POSTERS



S.R.S.



It's November again
(observant aren't I?)
and interviewees are queueing up
on
LEVEL 4
to give away £1000s to students.

If you wish to accommodate an
interviewee why not call into the
S.R.S. Office on Level 4, anytime.

YOUR S.R.S. NEEDS YOU!

SCAN PROJECTS

Every Week S.C.A.N. is involved in:

- Tuesday**
Tyneside Torpedoes Swimming Club
5.30 p.m. at Elswick Pool. (Note new time)-
Tyneside Challenge Club 5.00 p.m. at SCAN
- Wednesday**
Decorating 1.30 p.m. at SCAN
Inflatables 1.00 p.m. at SCAN
Monkton Gateway Club 6.15 p.m. at SCAN
- Thursday**
Deaf School Youth Club 6.30 p.m. at SCAN
- Friday**
Pendower Junior Gateway Club 6.00 p.m.
at SCAN

Babysitting, Elderly Visiting, Soup Runs and lots more.
See Kevin at SCAN for more information.

ALL WELCOME

Transport provided for all projects.

I interviewed Nick Brown in his Newcastle residence in Heaton, which turned out to be about two streets down from a place I'd lived in for a year. Just think I could have been sitting next to an M.P. in the launderette on Heaton Road and not realised it.

I think if I'd sat next to Nick Brown in the launderette I would not have guessed his profession. In the interview he was

unassuming but displayed the kind of thoughtful intelligence that has made him a valued mentor to many of the new Labour Party M.P.'s.

His path to the post of M.P. for Newcastle East reflects his unassuming nature. The Newcastle East Constituency Labour Party, was thrown into disarray when Mike Thomas the then sitting Labour M.P. was drawn under Shirley Williams influence, into the then fledgling Social Democratic Party. The Labour Party picked another candidate but after one and a half years as a Prospective Parliamentary Candidate, for personal reasons, he stood down. So with the whiff of an election in the air, the Constituency had no labour candidate, Nick's name was put

forward and he was chosen to fight the seat.

The rest of the story is history, as he trounced Mike Thomas to regain the seat for Labour and became one of a meagre handful of Labour gains in a Conservative dominated Parliament.

Nick Brown hails from Hawkhurst in Kent. He was brought up in Kent. He was brought up in Hawkhurst and when he failed the eleven-plus was sent to a Secondary Modern School. Displaying promise at a later age, he managed to be transferred to a Technical College where he gained the relevant qualifications to be accepted for a place at Manchester University.

I asked him about his time at Manchester University: "I got very heavily involved in student politics at Manchester. I think looking back on it, I was a pretty obnoxious and unlovable individual, but maybe real politicians grow out of being student politicians".

A warning I think from someone who's seen it all, to all student politicians, especially those of Nick's own persuasion, not to take themselves too seriously!

After graduating from Manchester, he did a further year at the Manchester Business School, before coming to work for Proctor and Gamble up here on Tyneside. Nick was unable to settle in his job, and after a spell in the dry cleaning industry he applied for a job with the General and Municipal Workers, which he got. He became their first regional research officer, a post in which he enjoyed 'great job satisfaction'.



Nick Brown - Doesn't wash his laundry in public.

Nick Brown M.P. Newcastle East

In the second of five interviews with local M.P.s., Michael Rutter interviews another of 1983's new Parliamentary intake.

I asked him about his early political beliefs bearing in mind that as a Labour supporter he would be a rare commodity in his part of Kent. He described his village as a place: "Where if seventeen people stood for the sixteen Person Parish Council then the one person who wouldn't be elected, was the Labour Candidate".

An uphill struggle like that, must have been good political training!

Nick joined the Labour Party when he was seventeen and has transferred his membership to wherever he has moved within the country and it is this dedication to the party, above his own personal ambition, which has shaped his own political views.

I questioned him about his relationship with his Constituency Party, bearing in mind the often stormy relationships in other parts of the country. He was at pains to point out his support for the re-selection procedure as stated.

"I am very careful with my own Constituency Party to thoroughly explain myself" and went to put on record his belief that supporters of re-selection are: "Only looking for a decent, hard-working M.P. who is prepared to be accountable."

Nick's own political ambitions also take second place to the needs of the Party, his political ambition being to "Make a contribution to my political party rather than hold political office".

Bearing this in mind, it came as no surprise that when I questioned him about his views on Party Political System in Britain, that he

was an emphatic supporter of Party Politics.

When I asked him about the efficiency of the British Parliamentary System he was scathing of Parliament's ineffectiveness: "I don't like the House of Commons and I don't believe it to be an efficient method of government".

Moving from Parliamentary efficiency to Labour Party efficiency I canvassed his views on Neil Kinnock's leadership of the Labour Party: "I like Neil Kinnock very much. I voted for him and am very much committed to doing everything I can to make sure that his leadership works".

Nick Brown is very much a mainstream Labour Politician, the type that now seems to dominate the Shadow Cabinet, thus when I asked him if he believed any areas of Labour Party Policy needed overhauling I was not surprised to receive the Kinnockian answer. "I support the existing programme" but certain "things need to be refined".

On education issues he displayed a genuine knowledge and concern for student problems and urged "A fundamental review of student remuneration" as the present system is "not satisfactory".

On Travel awards he believed students should be paid "The money it costs to do the journey from home to College" and believed that grants and travel awards had been cut because the Government "Think they can safely stand up to students because it will do them no electoral hurt".

On the future of education Nick believes that the "Conservative Party are bitterly prejudiced against Arts subjects particularly against Social Sciences" and that attitude he believed to be wrong headed.

Finally, I asked Nick about the best way for his student constituents to contact him. He firstly expressed his eagerness to help on any problem and suggests that constituents write to the House of Commons, or use his telephone answering service and leave a message, or turn up to one of his weekly surgeries conducted throughout the constituency.

I left Nick Brown thinking I had met an intelligent hard-working M.P. but not an M.P. I could ever envisage urging his supporters with rhetorical eloquence 'to go home and prepare for government'.

One thing is certain next time I'm in a launderette I will be paying closer attention to those around me!

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TYNE OUT

THURSDAY 15th

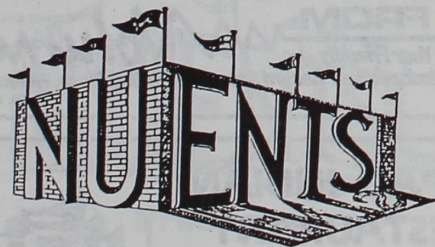
- ★ **ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA.** 7.45pm. in the City Hall.
- ★ **ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW.** This is the film in the Curtis Auditorium at 7.30pm.
- ★ **CLOUDZ DISCO.** On Level 6. Agitat Bar will be open until 12.00pm.
- ★ **THE DAVE HOLLAND QUINTET.** At Newcastle People's Theatre at 8.00pm.
- ★ **INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE.** An open evening at 2 Jesmond Road. Starts at 8.00pm.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'The Hit'. This is the North East Premiere of this fast-moving psychological thriller. Performances at 5.00, 7.00 and 9.00pm. on Cinema 1.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Another North East Premiere, this time of 'Heart Like A Wheel'. 7.30pm. on Cinema 2.
- ★ **'CALL ME MADAM.'** Performed by Newcastle Operatic Society. Sally Adams is U.S. Ambassador to a tiny European State and a 'Hostess with the mostest'. Romance and affairs of state entwined—with memorable songs such as: "I hear music and there's no one there". (Which I've never heard of). Tickets from £1.00-£3.75.
- ★ **NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY THEATRE SOCIETY.** In 'Black Comedy' by Peter Schaffer. Set in a small London flat, the characters are plunged into darkness by a power cut... inevitable confusions ensue, until the lights come back on again... but it doesn't stop there! £1.50 for students.
- ★ **WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENCE CLASSES.** From 6.00-7.00pm. in Room 27, the lessons are free and there's no waiting list.
- ★ **THE DRUM CLUB.** At the Sunderland Mayfair with alternative music, funk, soul, punk and reggae. From 9.30-2.00am. at a cost of 90p.
- ★ **LADIES KEEP FIT CLASSES.** In the Community Centre, Jesmond House, Clayton Street from 7.30-8.30. Costs £1.00.
- ★ **FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING.** At 5.15pm. in the Debating Chamber.
- ★ **SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING.** 11.00am. in the Exec Committee Room.
- ★ **BLOOD DONORS.** This is your penultimate opportunity to give blood. Extraction occurs in the Student Common Room, School of Education from 9.30-4.30pm.
- ★ **ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA.** This programme is especially designed for children aged 7-11. At 2.00pm. in the Washington Arts Centre. Costs 80p.

FRIDAY 16th

- ★ **UNION.** Double-decker Video Disco. That's a Video Disco on Level 2 and Cloudz Disco 6.
- ★ **FUSION FACTORY.** In the Mayfair from 10.00pm. until 2.00am. playing alternative music. £1.50 for non-members, £1.20 for members.
- ★ **JOHN CARLISLE M.P.** Conservative M.P. speaking on South Africa and Sport at 8.00pm. in the Debating Chamber.
- ★ **THE DRUM CLUB.** At the Sunderland Mayfair. Same as Thursday night but it's £1.50 instead of 90p.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'The Hit'. See Thursday.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'Heart Like A Wheel'. See Thursday.
- ★ **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING.** 1.00pm. in the Exec Committee Room.
- ★ **BLOOD DONORS.** Last chance to give your blood to help others who may desperately need it. See Thursday for venue.
- ★ **'CORNUCOPIA.'** They're a Jazz-Funk 5 piece band playing in the Washington Arts Centre at 8.00pm. Costs £1.50 (£1.00).
- ★ **NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY THEATRE SOCIETY.** Performing 'Black Comedy'. See Thursday.

SATURDAY 17th

- ★ **'DIVINE.'** In the Union Building, Level 2 with a disco. Costs £4.00. The Wine and Long Bars will be open until 12.00pm.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'The Hit'. See Thursday.



Presents:

THURSDAY, 15th NOVEMBER:
LEVEL 2, THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
Dress: OUTRAGEOUS, you arsehole
Hopefully: A SMIRNOFF PROMOTION.

FRIDAY, 16th NOVEMBER:
DOUBLE DECKER VIDEO DISCO.

SATURDAY, 17th NOVEMBER:
DIVINE, plus Beat the Square.

MONDAY, 19th NOVEMBER:
Cocktails in the Cochrane.

TUESDAY, 20th NOVEMBER:
"MAREKS".

THURSDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER:
Promotion Level 27 If not, Happy Hour in CLOUDZ.
Film in Curtis Auditorium "THE GRADUATE".

- ★ **ARCHERY CLUB MEETING.** In the main gym at 2.00pm.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'Heart Like A Wheel'. See Thursday.
- ★ **'BEASTIES'.** In 'Blow The Candle Out'. Tales told by firelight of strange visitors at midnight, mysterious footprints in the snow, feasts, fights and foolery. Starts at 2.00pm. and costs £1.00. Sounds good. Washington Arts Centre.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing the children's film 'The King And Mr. Bird'. At 2.00pm. in Cinema 1.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Late show at 11.00pm. showing 'Fritz The Cat' and 'Heavy Traffic' on Cinema 1.
- ★ **DAVY LAMP FOLK CLUB.** With Bram Taylor - a local artist rapidly making a name for himself. In the Washington Arts Centre at 7.30pm. Costs 70p (50p).

SUNDAY 18th

- ★ **UPSTAIRS AT SPIKEYS.** An 'action-packed alternative disco' at The Broken Doll from 7.30pm. until 10.30pm.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'Gallipoli'. Peter Weir's tragic tale of 2 young friends caught up in the first world war. Performances at 4.30pm., 6.40pm. and 8.50pm. On Cinema 1.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'Tibet Trilogy'. (Tibet not Tebit). An impressive 3 part documentary 4 hours long on the culture and politics of Tibetan Buddhism. At 6.00pm. in the Club Cinema.
- ★ **ORIENTEERING CLUB.** Contesting for the Griffin Trophy at Strines Forest near Sheffield. Will cost about £3.00, see notice boards for further details.
- ★ **GOLF CLUB.** Playing South Shields Golf Club. See notice boards for further details.

MONDAY 19th

- ★ **UNION.** Cocktails in the Cochrane.
- ★ **THE CORNER HOUSE.** Playing there are Ray Stubbs R'n'B All Stars.
- ★ **S.D.P. MEETING.** From 1.00-2.00pm. in Committee Room B. Level 6.
- ★ **LADIES SELF-DEFENCE CLASSES.** In the Community Centre, Jesmond House, Clayton Road. From 7.00pm-9.00pm. at a cost of £1.00.
- ★ **YOGA CLASSES.** Same address and price as above but is from 5.30-7.00pm.
- ★ **CONSERVATIVES AND UNIONISTS ASSOCIATION.** 1.00-2.00pm. in Committee Room A.
- ★ **THE MONDAY CLUB.** In Tiffany's Plaza Suite from 9pm.-1.00am. Costs 50p.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'Yentl', Barbra Streisand's touching tale of a young Jewish girl who disguises herself as a man to further her education. Performances at 5.50pm. and 8.25pm. in Cinema 1.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'The Fourth Man', apparently it's the most controversial film since 'Last Tango in Paris'. Performances at 7.30pm. on Mon., Tue., Thur., and at 6.00pm. and 8.15pm. on Wednesday and Saturday. No performance on Friday.

TUESDAY 20th

- ★ **UNION.** Level 2 will be closed for a University dinner while on Level 6 Marek will be playing his funky stuff. The Agitat Bar will shut at 12.00pm. and there will be a happy half-hour from 10.00-10.30pm.
- ★ **JAZZ GUITAR SPECIAL.** At the Corner House Hotel.
- ★ **HOLY COMMUNION.** An informal service in the University Chaplaincy Common Room. Includes a 50p Bread'n'Cheese Lunch with any profits going to Christian Aid.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'Yentl'. See Monday.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'The Fourth Man'. Again, see Monday.
- ★ **BALLET RAMBERT.** At the Theatre Royal at 7.30pm. This is Programme 1 and comprises of 'Wildlife', 'Intimate Pages' and 'Entre dos Aguas'.

WEDNESDAY 21st

- ★ **HAWKWIND.** Well, the Mayfair will be nice and empty with Hawkwind playing there tonight. Costs £3.50. (They ought to pay you to go).
- ★ **INTERNATIONAL LUNCH.** In the Common Room of the University Chaplaincy at 12.30 until 2.00pm. Open to Home and Away students.
- ★ **LABOUR CLUB MEETING.** In Committee Room A at 1.00pm. until 2.00pm.
- ★ **EXEC MEETING.** 2.00pm. in the Exec Committee Room. Open to everybody, not just the Level 6 clones.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'Yentl'. See Monday for details.
- ★ **CATERING COMMITTEE MEETING.** 10.00am. in the Exec Committee Room.
- ★ **BALLET RAMBERT.** See Tuesday.
- ★ **NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY THEATRE SOCIETY.** Showing 'Knuckle'. At 7.30pm. for £1.95 (£1.50). Leading contemporary playwright David Hare entertains with a punch... his vision of the corruption and hypocrisy of wealthy Home Counties society is presented as a fast and moving thriller. Witty, entertaining and highly critical. Sounds good. At the Gulbenkian Theatre.

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THURSDAY 22nd

- ★ **OSLO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA.** 7.45pm. in the City Hall.
- ★ **'THE GRADUATE'.** This is the film that will be shown in the Curtis Auditorium at 7.30pm.
- ★ **CLOUDZ DISCO.** On Level 6. Happy hour from 10.30-11.00pm. Agitat Bar stays open until 12.00pm.
- ★ **WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENCE CLASSES.** Free to attend, they're in Room 27 from 6.00-7.00pm.
- ★ **'THE DRUM CLUB'.** At the Sunderland Mayfair with alternative music, funk, soul, punk, reggae and disco. From 9.30-2.00am. and costs 90p to get in.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** Showing 'The Fourth Man', see Monday for details.
- ★ **TYNESIDE CINEMA.** North East Premiere of 'Laughter-house'. When his small plucking team goes on strike, farmer (Ian Holmes) is forced to drive his geese to market. (Sounds really interesting...!) Directed by Richard Eyre and starts at 5.15pm., 7.10pm. and 9.05pm. Showing on Cinema 1.
- ★ **N.U.S. DISAFFILIATION.** At 1.00pm. somewhere in the building (see the posters). This is a very crucial meeting to see that we maintain the services that N.U.S. provides for us. Anyway it's a general meeting so you'll need your Union card with you for your vote to be counted.
- ★ **BALLET RAMBERT.** See Tuesday. Programme 1.
- ★ **BALLET RAMBERT.** Programme 3 at 2.00pm. Titled "Let's Face The Music And Dance", this is a special programme for young people of secondary school age and above.
- ★ **DURHAM THEATRE COMPANY.** In the Secret Agent. Joseph Conrad wrote this classic novel of a double agent who involves his family in his attempt to blow up Greenwich Observatory, with appalling results both for them and himself. Costs £2.00 (£1.50).
- ★ **NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY THEATRE SOCIETY.** In 'Knuckle'. See Wednesday.
- ★ **'GURNEY'.** At Dunelm House. See Wednesday.

CINEMAS

ODEON

- Screen 1 - "1984".
- Screen 2 - "Bachelor Party".
- Screen 3 - "The Company of Wolves".
- Screen 4 - "The Woman in Red".

For performance times of Odeon films see local press.

STOP PRESS

The Odeon is running a student concession system at the moment whereby on production of your Student Union card you can get into any film for £1.40, Monday to Friday inclusive!

ABC

- Screen 1 - "Tight Rope". Complete Performances at 1.15, 3.35, 5.15 and 8.15pm.
- Screen 2 - "Philadelphia Experiment". Complete Performances at 1.30, 3.30, 5.50 and 8.10pm.

JESMOND PICTURE SHOW

- Screen 1 - "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom". Complete Performance at 7.00pm.

IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE ANYTHING PLACING ON THIS PAGE FROM EMERGENCY GENERAL MEETINGS TO MONDAY CLUB CONFERENCES EITHER LEAVE A MESSAGE IN THE 'WHAT'S ON WHEN' BOOK AT THE PORTERS LODGE OR BESTOW THE INFORMATION ON MONICA IN THE COURIER OFFICE (TEL. 324050).

THIS PAGE COMPILED BY GENNY FAY

COCKTAILS

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Tequila Sunrise	1.25
<i>Tequila, Orange juice, Grenadine, Ice</i>	
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Dinacclada	1.25
<i>White Rum, Coconut Liqueur, Pineapple juice, Ice</i>	
Blue Hawaii	99p
<i>Blue curacao, White Rum, Ice</i>	
Dry Martini	1.00
<i>Gin, Dry Martini, Ice</i>	
Wallbanger	1.25
<i>Vodka, Galliano, Orange juice, Ice</i>	
Mardi Gra	99p
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Union Special	1.25
<i>Gin, Southern Comfort, Orange juice, Ice</i>	

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SCENE ONE

PAULO SPEAKS TO THE ASSEMBLED MULTITUDES

We are gathered here today in reverence, for it has come to pass that the ones known as The Cult are to journey to a sacred place of worship in Newcastle that some call Tiffanys, on the day of the twenty-first of November, year of big brother, nineteen eighty four.

The ones known as The Cult have recently recorded and disseminated a selection of their preachings on a long-playing disc entitled 'Dreamtime', which followed similar releases as Death Cult.

Here endeth the preachings for this week, except to remind those assembled that those known as REM will preach tonight, again at the place known to some as Tiffanys, and that the one known as the gargantuan growler will be flexing his flesh at the place known as Level Two, in Divine worship on Saturday night.

Paulo.

ATTEND! -OR ELSE!

Comrades!

It has not escaped the notice of the Entsburo that you have stopped attending the Level Two and Six discos on Friday nights in your initial (sellout) numbers.

Level Six has been particularly affected, not least last week because of the clash with the Lords of the New Church gig at the Polytechnic.

So this Friday, get back into the habit or members of the Entsburo will be forced to approve Comrade-Secretary Becky Osborneslav's proposed glorious One Week Plan (applause), which involves the infliction of atrocities on those dissenting with official Entsburo policy (more applause - cut).

The One Week Plan includes discos on Level Two at lunchtimes playing Lotus Eaters and Orange Juice records at previously unknown levels of loudness.

It does not end there, comrades, for we still have the ultimate weapon at our disposal. An Entsburo officer has a record by a little-known band of hardcore status called the Swans. This will be inflicted at excruciating levels unless attendances at discos improve.

Authoritarianism? No comrades, subtle persuasion. You have been warned.

Comrade Paulo,
(on behalf of the Comrades in the Entsburo).

BEHIND BARS

THE WALL
TYNESIDE CINEMA - 12 NOVEMBER

"The Wall" like many other Guney films, is a passionate indictment of the Turkish military regime he was exiled from; centring around a children's dormitory at Ankara prison, and the institutionalised violence they daily endure.

The film, despite its impeccable humanitarian values, often lacks subtlety (the almost childish symbolism and uneven photography sometimes give it an amateurish edge), but its gritty realism is well-suited to the subject. Guney uncompromisingly depicts the penal system as brutal and corrupt, yet never sensationalises the violence but shows it as part of daily life. It gives "The Wall" an authentic feel, so often lacking in "prison films".

"The Wall" often touches on wider Turkish issues as high unemployment, the repressive police force, and the rising level of violence; indeed the prison is gradually shown as a microcosm of the outside world. Incident after incident is painstakingly built up, until the inevitable (and futile) revolt is shown as the only answer to their repressive conditions.

Guney's "The Wall" is often as harsh and brutal as the system itself, but it's a brave and uncompromising film that refuses to make any concessions to Western audiences, as each one of its themes is chillingly brought home. Rarely has such a study in organised tyranny been so well portrayed.

Adam Powell.

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LORDY, LORDY

LORDS OF THE NEW CHURCH
WALL OF VOODOO
POLYTECHNIC
9 NOVEMBER

So much for going to a gig with an open mind. The Lords Of The New Church was absolute rubbish and that's about all there is to it. They are like a third rate Hanoi Rocks without the sense of humour and here's the pretentious bit) every song that I bothered to stay and listen to was completely structureless and devoid of any interesting lyrical content whatsoever. Trash band? I wouldn't give them dustbin space. Don't buy their new album. Don't accept free tickets to go and see them. Stay at home and pick your nose. You'll have a lot more fun. Here endeth the slag off.

Wall Of Voodoo deserve credit simply for suffering the embarrassment of playing support to the above set of cowboys. They don't really need it, though, as it's obvious that

they should have headlined on this tour. Now with a new singer (former frontman Standard Ridgway decided he wanted to help Policeman Stewart Copeland with the soundtrack to the film "Rumble Fish") they put together an exciting show despite a bit of a slow start.

Things began to look up with the song "Ring Of Fire" which was closely followed by some weird tale based on poems written by the guy who took a pot-shot at Reagan a couple of years ago called "The Far Side Of Crazy." It only remained for them to tune in to the brilliant "Mexican Radio" to get everyone dancing and put the seal on a good performance. A pity they didn't have time to do an encore or six to delay the arrival of the 'bash your head against a wall' gang. F.M.

CHILLY WILLIES

THREE OF A DIFFERENT KIND
UNION LEVEL SIX
10 NOVEMBER

Jenny Lecoat has the answer for all you men with chilly willies - chop 'em off and boil them in the kitchen! The result can be the most gorgeous Willy Chilli with beans and pitta bread.

If that sounds odd, you should have seen the rest of Three of a Different Kind last Saturday.

The show was hilarious and should have been entitled: 'How to make men feel small' (literally). With Jenny mercilessly taking the piss out of the male sex, Simon Fanshawe and his 'gay activist' sperm questioning all heterosexuals and Oscar McLennan showing us how small his chilly willy is, there was little time for concentration to lapse.

The two hour 'performance' was the best entertainment in the Union I can remember, the shame being that so few turned up. "Medium Rare Sirloin Steak".

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A HIT!

THE HIT
ON AT THE TYNESIDE CINEMA TODAY AND TOMORROW

LONDON 1973-

Cocky cockney Willie Parker (Terence Stamp) turns supergrass and heads for a luxury villa in Spain courtesy of the British Government. His criminal colleagues, cheesed off at the prospect of porridge, say their goodbyes with a chorus of "We'll meet Again" from the dock.

SPAIN 1983

Mob-boss, Mr. Corrigan, out of jail and in Paris, has gone out of his way to arrange Willie's funeral. Willie is snatched from his home and John Hurt dons dark glasses and steely expression to play supercool killer, Braddock.

Braddock and his ridiculously ineffectual sidekick Myron, played by newcomer Tori Roth, transport their apparently willing victim across Spain, picking up a well-endowed Laura del Sol en route. The trail of death and destruction they leave behind them is religiously followed by the Spanish police.

A bond gradually develops between the seemingly impenetrable Braddock and his intended victim. The killer begins to feel a deep admiration for Willie, the enigmatic fatalist and would-be mystic who appears to accept death as a natural process in life.

The relationship between Braddock and the kidnapped Spanish girl, who literally fights tooth and claw for her freedom, develops into a hatred so intense that it could almost resemble the opposite emotion. Braddocks come to respect her determination to stay alive and finds himself unable to kill her. The hit man seems to be losing his grip.

Without revealing the climax of the film it can be said that people are not what they seem, and one's sympathies are increasingly drawn towards the disillusioned killer. The final scene is poignant and strangely optimistic.

The director of 'The Hit', Stephen Frears, is principally a director of British TV drama (Going Gently, Walter, Saigon: Year of the Cat...). He employs an English sense of the ridiculous to draw a very fine line between farce and serious drama, producing a film which can be funny, exciting, horrific and very moving and combines beautifully a number of apparently opposing elements.

The characters are perceptively written and sympathetically played, making it well worth spending a couple of hours in their company.

Sarah.



POOR GORE

MAD MAX
CURTIS AUDITORIUM
8 NOVEMBER

Prone in bed, the next morning. A few scenarios whizz through my head: some nasty, some not so. No matter how insignificant a movie may seem to the critics, there are always those redolent visions that make one ponder over the limits of the human mind (i.e. how vulgar the imagination can be), the frailty of the human being (i.e. how easily one's arm falls off) and the prospects and occurrences of a human world in the context of this film (i.e. how scenes like this really do happen).

Names matter not, except for the concept of 'Mad Max'. The acting was too machoistic, too exaggerated (I s'pose to reinforce the film's message) and the overdubbing rough and contrived. But who's bothered so long as the elements of action and stunt are headlining?

Briefly, the sequence of events: comrade of motorbike pack is killed by cops. Revenge sought by thugs and after formalities over, once we get to know heroes/anti-heroes on intimate scale, Max intimidated by gang. Events lead to pack leader after Max's wife's blood, and, naturally, she's a gonner. Max out for damages and does away with them one by one.

The film, then, neither innovative (for me) nor gory enough (for the insensitive) and I'm sure it set out to depict the latter. There vaguely promised to be gruesome incidents, but they were averted at the last moment (presumably for the sake of family viewing).

Mad Max II, set in the future, should have been shown, but wasn't. I think that if one wants to glorify violence, one should set it in a fantasian atmosphere: Sci-fi, large scale and technologically-aided. Not some puny location like a few cornfields in the American South.

Andrew Masliver.

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MARCH VIOLETS

RUN OUT OF 'STEAM'

MARCH VIOLETS
TIFFANYS
7 NOVEMBER

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
I loved you till last Thursday
When I went to see you . . .

Smoke billows forth and from the depths of the stage emerge mysterious figures. The sound begins. It's a bit slow perhaps, but you wait till these sexy devils get started!

I remember relatively recently reading an interview with the Violets in 'Sounds' where they said that the best beat to dance to is the F-Beat, the rhythm naturally

reached during sex. Well, what happened tonight then?

The mistake. The adoption of a 'real' drummer who lacked the power and tempo of the drum machine employed on the Violets' excellent vinyl excursions to date.

'Crow Baby' was turned into a half-speed hybrid dirge. The



D-Beat in operation? The audience certainly thought so. I've rarely seen a headlining band treated with such utter indifference. Talk about 'children on stun'.

What was instrumentally the best P.A. mix I've heard for a long while was undermined by the vocals being too quiet. The sound was clear, and the Violets competent and tight. They would have been OK to listen to whilst sat on a comfortable settee at home - but there was no spark to make this a good live gig.

The loss of the drum machine has meant the loss too of the Violets' trademark of originality, because now with a drummer they have relegated themselves to the status of a sub-standard rock'n'roll band. All the pace and drive has gone.

The band themselves looked somewhat bored, except for the mini-Meatloaf, hippy bassist - yeuch! Peace, love and Violets for the masses! Not yet awhile my friends. It's gonna have to be a very mad March . . .

Paulo



INTO THE OPEN

ON AT THE
NEWCASTLE MEDIA
WORKSHOPS

"Into The Open" at the Newcastle Media Workshops comprises new work by black artists. A varied and powerful exhibition, the most stunning contributions come from Keith Piper.

"Four Assassins" blends the visual and the written word. Here is the statement that Art without action is

futile. Artists must take up political arms. The painter realises this truth when she at last "carves her brushes into spears to gash the fat belly of the enemy", in this case the callous businessmen with interests in South Africa.

That this is the purpose of Art - to change the order - is shown by the fact that these assassins are 'Saints'; indeed, their cold faces head what seem like canvass monuments roughly stitched together.

The anger that is Africa is revealed most strikingly in Piper's "Afrika". A bloodied relief image of the continent is stretched on a

frame like a rat for dissection. Around it are the words, "Afrika is a lot like me - black, angry, complex, creative, confused, over exploited, under-developed, and not yet free (but soon to be)."

This affinity with another country and the bitterness it inspires is a theme running through the whole display - but there is no pathetic wistfulness, more a proud and arrogant hope.

The exhibition runs until November 30th - you'll find the Workshops in a grubby alley-way off Pilgrim Street.

Julia Tindall

SCENE TWO OF ORGIES AND MYTHS

THE ODYSSEY
GULBENKIAN STUDIO
7 NOVEMBER

The Compass Theatre Company have set about the difficult task of recreating on stage Homer's epic myth "The Odyssey" with both energy and imagination.

The story is that of Odysseus who returns home after twenty years of adventures only to find his house and wife besieged by suitors and who, with the help of his son, reclaims them both.

Avoiding the trap of lavishly recreating ancient Greek costumes and exotic scenery the stage is minimal as are the props and the actors' clothes. Much use is made of sound, mask and mime giving the production both a classical and a modern feel.

The actors themselves play several roles each (excepting Odysseus,

the central figure) and do so skilfully, managing to switch from one to the other smoothly and convincingly. Thus the immediate effect of the play is not lost amidst an anonymous cast of many. Particularly good is Queen Penelope, Odysseus' wife. Mary Bullen makes her proud, defiant yet also resigned to the supposed loss of her husband.

Two scenes in particular impressed me. Firstly those with the suitors, lecherous, cowardly, drinking and leering at the Queen all day. Though at times slightly forced, these scenes convey by the use of exaggerated mime and rhythmic diction, the atmosphere of a non-stop orgy soon to be cut short by Odysseus' bloody revenge.

Secondly what is for me the best scene of the play. Down in Hades Odysseus is confronted by the dead souls of past friends and enemies. White masked faces in the blackness, disfigured and bloody, the souls wail and scream, each telling their tale till their groans become a hellish chorus of lost spirits.

The play is fast paced and well executed. Using an almost poetic dialogue the cast avoid making it stilted and manage to sound convincing even when addressing "almighty Zeus" and various deities, not easy on a bare stage and without epic cinematographic effects.

The Compass Theatre Company are to be congratulated for this original and ingenious production.

Patrick Sawyer



HAND JIVING

ALISON MOYET
CITY HALL
7 NOVEMBER

Alison Moyet deserves better than the City Hall on a wet Wednesday.

Alison is one of the finest female vocalists in the country and she proved this beyond any doubt last night. In a brilliantly produced concert, she covered a wide range of material from Northern Soul to Blues/Jazz.

Although she resembles an ever inflating barrage balloon, Miss Moyet has style. She gyrated onto the stage to rapturous applause and proceeded to warble beautifully with minimum effort.

Alison started with a funky rendition of that old favourite 'Love Resurrection'. Obviously her original plan was to have us all dancing, the management at the City Hall had different ideas (as usual, Ed.). A compromise was reached and we all hand jived.

Admittedly, Alison can sing other people's songs, but she is better when she sings her own. The Billie Holliday and Marvin Gaye material faded into oblivion when the earthy rhythms of 'All Cried Out' reverberated around the Hall.

One thing which marred the evening was the lead guitarist who wanted to strut his funky stuff, toss his pretty blonde locks and wiggle his fat arse all at the same time. It was him who needed the kaftan.

After an hour on stage, Alison gave us two encores. We would have liked three.

Vanessa McCristall

HISTORY TODAY

WORKERS! UNEMPLOYED
ON AT THE
SIDE GALLERY

'Workers! Unemployed!' at the Side Gallery uses photography to contrast the response to unemployment in the '30s and the '80s.

Using the work of groups of unemployed as well as that of professional photographers, the exhibition looks at the closure of local industries such as Consett Steel and Vickers Scotswood works, as well as at protest marches and demonstrations against unemployment. Images from the current coal dispute are included, accompanied by text from various sources.

As an exhibition of photography 'Workers! United!' is, however, disappointing. For all the hopelessness the pictures succeed in conveying, they are largely uninspired, unoriginal and cliché-ridden, of interest more for what they portray than how they portray it. Like much social documentary photography they are likely to be of greater interest to the historian of tomorrow than to the photographer of today.

Dave Cornock



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Wildlife (Alston)
Sergeant Early's Dream (Bruce)
Entre Dos Aguas (North)
& Death and the Maiden (North)

'quite marvellous' Punch
'a lovely fluency of movement' S. Times.



BALLET
PAMBERT

CLASSICAL ARTS

King's Hall Thursday 1st

When players of the calibre of Tamas Ungar sit down at the keyboard and play, mere mortal undergraduates like myself do not criticise, that is left to the grand masters of the music world. Instead you tend to sit there in awe, marvelling at such beautiful playing, and afterwards, sit and wonder why you spend hours of practice in rehearsal rooms, knowing that in two lifetimes you will never approach his standard of performance.

Criticism must therefore be thrown out of the window, and a mish-mash of inadequate adjectives and adverbs attempt to convey the emotions he expressed in music. The two Chopin Nocturnes were a combination of delicate pianissimos, smooth lyrical passages and dynamic dexterity all combined in rich harmonies. But the main course of the day was Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, one of the best known pieces from the late 19th Century.

Any adequate performance of this marvellous music is an experience, but Tamas Ungar gave it that little bit extra, that secret ingredient which changes the ordinary into the extraordinary, he breathed life into the dots and dashes of the manuscript paper.

'The Gnome' became sinister and contorted, 'The Old Castle' mysterious, 'The Market Place' lively and full of chatter and 'The Catacombs' haunting. The famous re-occurring 'Promenade' melody was at various times full of anticipation, wonder or pensiveness. 'The Great Gate of Kiev' perfectly rounded off the work; it was proud and pompous and full of verve. And all too soon the performance was over.

It was one of those marvellous

events when the total was far greater than the sum of each part. Players in the audience, who in comparison fumble around the keyboard say, fantastic, brilliant, beautiful, but after five minutes of applause, and an encore the only way to describe it is, you should have been there.

Alan Dick

PREVIEW

The characteristic differences of attitude and function between Eastern and Western European art will be brought to light when an exhibition of contemporary paintings from the German Democratic Republic comes to the Hatton Gallery from November 27th.

Willi Sitte, one of the fifteen artists whose work is to be shown, is

quoted as saying "Nobody can live in a society and at the same time be free from it. Hence everything we do or don't do has a political dimension". The exhibition shows how deep this concern for social change runs in the work of artists like Sitte, who view Western artists as too intent on satisfying personal needs and too content to live on the fringes of society.

The work on show challenges the moral decline of the Twentieth Century and unashamedly sets out to shock, whilst remaining accessible and intelligible. It comprises paintings, graphics and studies for murals.

The exhibition is organised by the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford in conjunction with the Ministry of Culture of the GDR. It closes January 19th.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT

THE KOSH is "dance, acrobatics, theatre and live music". They provide "non stop action" at the Lipman Theatre on Monday November 26 and the Gulbenkian on Monday December 3. They are performing THE ACT which features the Zio Angels - their show and their story. Tickets are £1.50 and the show starts at 7.30 pm.



Music and Movement with The Kosh

Literary Festival HARRISON

Those people fortunate enough to be at the Gulbenkian Studio on November 3rd were treated to a world first when Tony Harrison, one of Britain's most important living poets gave the premiere public airing of his latest (as yet, unfinished) poem, entitled 'v'.

Taking some twenty minutes to read, the poem he first began in May is a powerful poem connecting conflict, vandalism and the family cycle. 'v' was one of three long poems in the repertoire of the Leeds-born poet, who now part-resides in Newcastle - the sensuous 'A Cumquat for John Keats' was also read.

Mr. Harrison delivered his poetry in a manner which would have inspired enthusiasm among even the most dormant of listeners. Good poets are frequently disappointing when it comes to reading their own work - but not in Tony Harrison's case. To share in his acute intensity was an experience of sheer delight.

We were exposed to almost two hours of non-stop brilliance, during which time my attention never wandered. And judging by the awed silence of the other listeners, neither did theirs.

Each poem was accompanied by an explanatory introduction, which made the poems both more accessible and more personal.

Harrison's working-class background and his relationship with his parents occasioned many of his poems. 'Bringing Up' told of the effect of his mother's rejection of his work as "mucky books", while the expressive 'Bookends', written on the day of his mother's death, recognises the divide between father and son. He called the gap left in his life by the death of his parents "an abyss of nothingness".

This poetry is remarkable in itself. When read aloud in the mild Yorkshire tones of its extremely talented formulator, it spills over with rare passion: I was literally entranced.

Morwen Williams

NORTH BANK SHOW

Melvyn Bragg had them glued to their seats last Friday night at the Royal Station Hotel. Aided somewhat by two powerful and extremely talented writers, the master of the 'arty' interview steered a course well into the sunset.

On his right a grey-haired, boiler-suited, rather maternal, almost Jesmondian woman... Angela Carter. Where I expected black, flowing locks, flashing eyes and sinister tones in the voice I got none! However, having recovered from this revelation and heard the lady read I was once again carried away by her prowess. Her new novel, 'Nights at the Circus' concerns a Bird-Woman heroine of whom she is 'rather proud' and is a departure from her tales of little girls and their macabre dealings with the wolves. Written with a subtle wit it is a novel of which she can justifiably feel 'rather proud'. Of the film 'The Company of Wolves' based on a short story of hers and for which she wrote the screenplay she says she is satisfied. Those who have seen the film will agree that this is surely Carteresque understatement!!

Martin Amis, on the left, an undeniably wrong seating for this Conservative young man, also surprised me. I expected to hear the egotistical ramblings of an arrogant Man-with-a-capital-M. While this summary may still be correct I did not expect to be entertained nor God forbid to LAUGH! He has an undeniably hilarious way of describing events which is tempered only by his knack of ignoring reality. He states quite emphatically that he writes about the Real World - but where is the real world in the Opera and cocktails for two?

On being asked to comment on each other's work, although Melvyn fatuously tried to change the subject, to the obvious interest of all, the two gave some pretty interesting comments. However Martin Amis unwittingly though succinctly summed up both his view and Mr Bragg's in joking, 'She writes pretty well for a chick', with smug sincerity ringing in every word!

Julia Henderson

Focus On BALLET RAMBERT

Ballet Rambert are returning to the Theatre Royal from Tuesday 20th to Saturday 24th November.

They are doing two programmes made up of three works. Programme 1 consists of WILD-LIFE which was recently premiered at the 1984 Brighton Festival and was commissioned by Ballet Rambert and the designs are by Richard Smith, one of Britain's leading fine artists, and INTIMATE PAGES by Christopher Bruce, who has used Janacek's SECOND STRING QUARTET to capture the deep emotions the composer felt during his life.

The third ballet is Robert North's ENTRE DOS AGUAS, which combines three different styles of dance with flamenco and jazz music, as well as a composition by Paco de Lucia from which the title of the ballet (which translated means "Between two Waters") is taken.

The second programme opens with a new ballet SERGEANT EARLY'S DREAM, again by Christopher Bruce. The ballet is concerned with the emotions of leaving the old world for the new, and uses, appropriately enough, British, Irish and American Folk Songs.

VOICES AND LIGHT FOOTSTEPS is by Richard Alston, Resident Choreographer of Ballet Rambert. It was

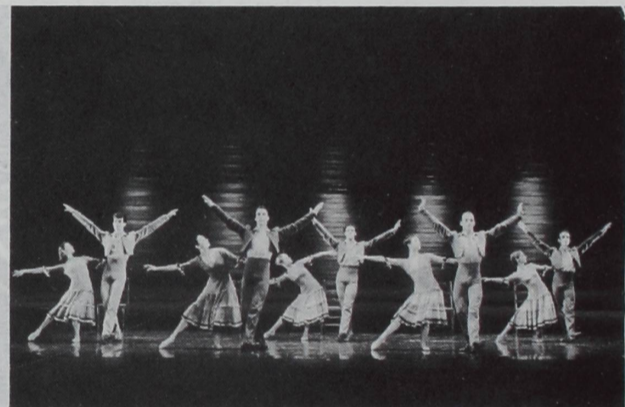


Scene from Sergeant Early's Dream

premiered at Sadler's Wells earlier this year, and consists of seven Monteverdi madrigals, choreographed for nine dancers. The last piece, DEATH AND THE MAIDEN is by Artistic Director, Robert North, is set to Schubert's music of the same title. It is in two parts, the first dealing with the continued presence of death in our every day lives, while the second movement deals specifically with the Maiden facing her own death.

Programme 1 runs from Tuesday, November 20th to Thursday November 22nd and Programme 2 is being performed on Friday, November 23rd and Saturday November 24th. All performances start at 7.30 pm.

Eleanor Ratcliffe
Classical Arts Editor



Ballet Rambert performing Entre Dos Aguas

OPERA NORTH - Theatre Royal

NABUCCO

A youth misspent in the company of Gilbert & Sullivan taught me that even the very best of Verdi's opera walked the fine line between magnificence and risible excess. 'Nabucco', the first true indication of his genius, is no exception and Opera North, whilst giving the work an energetic and well wrought airing, did little to curb its natural tendency to plunge over the top.

Musically the performance was really very good: with chorus master John Pryce-Jones in charge in the pit the chorus dared not put a tonal wrong and Verdi's nationalistic set-pieces were sung with controlled fervour.

Giovanni Gusmeroli (Zaccaria) and Jonathan Summers (Nabucco) presented respectively the passive and active portraits of nobility; Gusmeroli with long, resigned vocal line and resonant lower register throughout, Summers changing from victorious snarl through deranged wailing to final calm in his acceptance of Jehovah. Elizabeth Vaughan schemed prettily as the upstart Abigail, tossing off the most intricate colouratura passages and fiendish changes of register as easily as one sings in the bath.

But sumptuous as many of the scenes were, one got a little fed up with the large raked stone platform that defined each set, appearing as it did in such diverse locations as the throne-room in the Babylonian palace

and on the banks of the Euphrates.

The shifting scenes and the dramatic contrast between enslaved Hebrew and revelling follower of Baal give excuse for operatic effects in the grand manner; it is here that Verdi can become difficult to watch without giggling. Mark Henderson's lighting effects: the swirling follow-spots, the low-level light sources and the 'cage' of spotlights that symbolised Nabucco's incapacitating madness were excellent. At the other end of the scale, the rubbery entrails produced from the bowels of a



A close shave for Fenena (Margaret McDonald) but not so close for Zaccaria (Giovanni Gusmeroli).

sheep-style prop and flourished like a rabbit out of a hat caused titters. The huge temple of Baal collapsing on itself for all the world like a drunken erection caused open mirth in the stalls.

John McPherson



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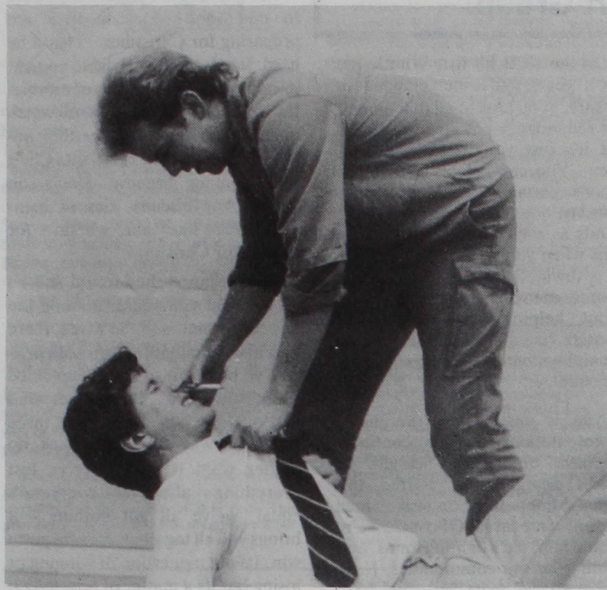
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N.U.T.S. - REHEARSING THE ARTY FARTY BITS!

It's 1.10 pm on a Wednesday afternoon, the smell of the greasepaint and the roar of the crowd calls. Trooping nervously into the Gulbenkian studio theatre one notices the faces around - the typical arty-farty crowd! Trendy as hell!

However it is easy to surmise anything on first glance and in this case wrong as well as suicidal. For although Newcastle university theatre society (or NUTS as it is known) may have the appearance of a faithful clique of actors who time after time get The Best Parts, this isn't really the case.

Like any other society, once the first year fervour evaporates, the numbers dwindle every week and, like any other society, NUTS suffers because it can only be judged by its few set plays a term. While these are usually excellent there is a general feeling that there should be Other Things too.

NUTS is run on a co-operative basis so that everybody gets a chance to say something and

nobody gets to dominate the group, in theory. This is probably where the problem stems from as despite all efforts to the contrary there are certain people whose voices are always evident and the rest just listen.

However, enough bitching, as that's an oversimplification anyway. Suffice it to say that the meetings can be quite lively and more informative than you'd think. Every term the society is given a couple of slots in the Gulbenkian schedule. Plays are proposed and voted on at the weekly meetings after everybody

has had a chance to find out about them. (Voting itself being pretty complicated as everybody has two votes which has been known to mess things up somewhat!)

Publicity for NUTS is surprisingly well attended too. There is no shortage of volunteers for selling tickets and the hand bill and poster rounds. Although a quick glance at a lot of people's bedrooms would probably give you a reason for the latter, it does go to show that people are willing, when asked, to help!

This term's plays, as any NUTS member will no doubt tell you, are 'Black Country', 'Knuckle', and 'Dirty Harry and the Peacemakers'. The last one is particularly interesting as it shows just what can be achieved and what NUTS is aiming for. The play is written and improvised by the actors with only the framework provided by the director. Also, some of the cast are first-timers on the Gulbenkian stage which blows the clique myth out of the

sky. A play about violence and people's attitudes to violence, it will definitely be one to catch. The other two plays, no less interesting or worthy, will be on soon, so look out for details.

Being a '4-weeks-old' member of NUTS I suppose I'm qualified to bring out the old cry of 'But what else is there?' Well, apart from the Gulbenkian arranged workshops (incidentally extremely good), following a discussion in a recent meeting, members of a longer standing have agreed to arrange workshops also. Being honest and stating I've not actually been to one of these yet, not only brings a blush to my face but just goes to show how apathetic you can be! People who have been told they're good and really the whole point of a theatre society is that it's members, without feeling inhibited, can learn about acting.

There's nowhere better than a workshop for this, especially when it's arranged by people of the same age and circumstances (i.e. NOT professional actors). So, that's a step in the right direction we should all get off our arse and take!

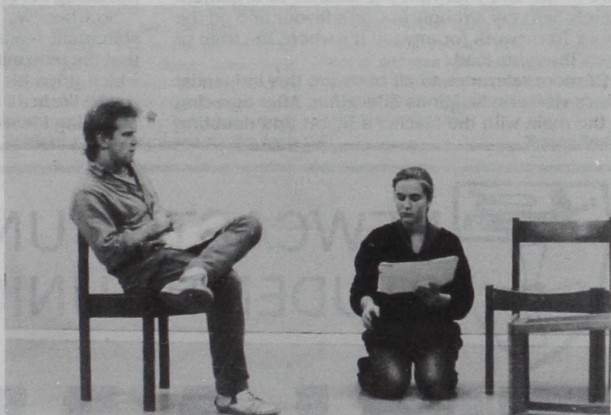
The general feeling seems to be that if you think NUTS isn't doing enough for its members then you should arrange something your-

self. All fair and good but its at this point that terror strikes (and maybe apathy) and you think 'but I don't know what to do!' With a good selection of willing and more experienced (though admittedly they are generally busier also) actors around this shouldn't be a problem but it does tend to be a sticking point. Ideas and enthusiasm are all it should take to cope with, say, street theatre or small, informal productions in the union or elsewhere. Perhaps its not that scary after all.

On a lighter tone, the social aspect of NUTS is good. Although it seems daunting at first, after you've been to a few meetings you can easily be swapping arty-farty-isms with the best of them! Upon listening in you also discover that

there are a few other things going on, such as a current collaboration with 'Hungry for change' on some street theatre. Not to mention the infamous NUTS parties at the Cooperage.

Interestingly enough there'll be auditions for next term's productions soon (not half as daunting as you'd imagine, though finding that they're not so bad as all that does not, as I recently discovered, go hand in glove with getting a part!!) So, if you would like to be involved, and its as good a time as any to join, then come to one of the weekly meetings (Wednesday lunchtimes in the Gulbenkian), or, to use what seems to be a catchphrase, 'see the NUTS noticeboard' (level 4, opposite the Oak room).



REHEARSING FOR "KNUCKLE"

SOVIET JEWRY

The Soviet Union has never been particularly renowned for its good record on human rights, but if any one group seems to suffer particularly, arguably its the Jews. And the plight of Soviet Jewry also suffers from a great lack of coverage in the Western press.

In the Soviet Union, Jews face a great deal of persecution when it comes to practising their religion so, not surprisingly, many of them would like to emigrate, either to Israel or the West. This is where their problems really start. Application for exit visas is a long, complicated and expensive process and most applications are turned down, sometimes on the flimsiest pretexts.

If a person has spent some time in the army, no matter how low their rank or how long ago they left the army, they are told to wait for seven years because they have "had access to military secrets." Sometimes no reason is given but after a refusal, the "refusenik", as someone who has been refused an exit visa is called, faces a hard life under an atmosphere of oppression.

If they haven't already been sacked from work they face ostracization by their colleagues on two counts, firstly because they are Jews, secondly because they are deemed to be "enemies of the state" as they want to emigrate. They face sporadic raids on their homes by the KGB, they face being denounced by local media and they face being arrested, often on false charges.

Young people are particularly affected by their parents' decision to apply for an exit visa. For the past four years, I have been writing to a person in Leningrad who is now 22. In the late '70s she and her mother applied for visas, since then they have been refused several times. She applied for University but, although she gained good exam results, did not get in, partly because she is Jewish, partly because of her efforts to leave the country.

Trained as a scientist, she had to take a very junior secretarial job, way below her capabilities. On the rare occasions when we have spoken on the phone she hints strongly at the anti-semitism which she has to live with - she can't say anything directly of course, as her phone is tapped by the KGB.

Some refuseniks who are ar-

rested are given long, harsh prison sentences and the most famous of these is Anatoly Shcharansky. He was a human rights observer who was accused of CIA membership. This charge was denied by him, the CIA and the US authorities but, after a show trial, he was sentenced to imprisonment in Siberia. His health is now deteriorating rapidly and his wife, Avital, now an Israeli citizen, travels around the world campaigning for his release.

The trickle of Jews allowed to leave the USSR is drying up rapidly. Last year only 1,300 Jews emigrated compared to over 50,000 in 1979. In denying Jews the freedom to leave, the Soviet Union is violating the Helsinki Agreement, of which it is a signatory, which recognises the right of the individual to enter, or leave, any country they may wish.

So what is being done about this crisis? Jewish communities all over the world have organisations which lobby the USSR, and in Britain there is an all-party parliamentary committee on Soviet Jewry. Many non-Jewish organisations are also involved in the struggle. All of these organisations are frantically trying to increase awareness of this growing problem. The Jews are certainly not the only group affected by the USSR's emigration policy, but seem to be the group hardest hit by it.

Susan Leaver

Blue Line

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Ann Lilburn's husband and her two sons are miners. For eight months the family's total weekly income has been £6.45. 'You wouldn't think you could manage but you can', explains Ann. You don't eat breakfast, you have a coffee for supper. Sunday's the worst, because we get the food parcel on a Monday. Sunday lunch is potatoes and an omelette. My husband grows some potatoes and vegetables in his garden. Most have a garden, it goes with mining around here.'

Ann is a member of the Whittle Wives Support Group, one of dozens that have sprung up around the

£6.45 A WEEK

country to support the striking miners. 'A year ago I wasn't involved, she continues. 'I'd play hell about the price of butter but that was as political as I'd get. If anyone had said to me a year ago that I'd be speaking at meetings, I wouldn't have believed it. My main concern was bingo on a Saturday night and saving up for the holidays.' Last month Ann spoke to 20,000 people at a rally in London.

'The first meeting I spoke at, a man stood up and asked me what sort of mother I was, letting my sons have such a dirty dangerous job. That got me angry, I was nervous until then but that got me angry. I told him: I didn't want my sons to go down the pit. It broke our hearts to see our lads go down there, it really did, but there wasn't anything else to do. It was that or the dole.'

'She doesn't know what she's started, doesn't Thatcher. There's a women's movement, honestly there's thousands of us. When this is all over what are we going to do? We'll never go back to being just Mrs. Jo Bloggs or whatever.'

Whittle pit, where Ann's family works, is in North Northumberland, far from the labour movement strongholds. The local council, Berwick, is Liberal controlled and they voted to stop the Wives Support Group collecting on the streets. In nearby Alnwick they are allowed two collectors, just one day a week.

The support group was set up on May 1st. 'People were running out of cash. We decided we had to do something concrete. By May 6th the first food parcels were going out.' At first food was delivered to 315 families and they could give out weekly parcels worth about £8. Now there are over 390 families: 'A lot of people had savings to start with. We didn't claim until the 13th week. It's an awful feeling taking stuff, taking

Henry Stewart, Miners' Support Group, Interviews Ann Lilburn of the Whittle Wives Support Group.

grub off other people but there's nothing else we can do.'

With more people, and less money coming in, parcels are down to about £4 worth of food a week. We met when the collection from the student union was delivered. On that trip we took £104 worth of food, about a third of the total collected so far this term. It didn't seem like much compared to what was needed but we were met with much gratitude and with great warmth and hospitality.

Ann Lilburn's family is better off than some. They haven't had to pay rent during the strike because the houses are colliery owned and the money normally comes out of the wages. Some younger miners with mortgages have lost their homes. And as winter approaches many are under threat of having their electricity disconnected, if they don't pay £5 a week towards the bill. That wouldn't leave much out of £6.45.

On the NCB hit list, Whittle has got 10 years, and is then planned for closure. 'You look at all that money, the redundancy pay. It seems a lot, but it's just your dole in a lump some. You can't claim as well and there's certainly no other jobs.' Consett, just south of Newcastle, stands as a memorial to what happens when you take all the jobs out of a town. Several years on, and despite many British Steel claims about helping small businesses, Consett remains a wasteland with unemployment among the highest in the country.

Ann is angered by the media representation and the continual emphasis on Arthur Scargill. 'It wasn't Scargill that started this strike. Miners went on strike, then Scargill came into it. Of course we're behind him. He's fighting for us, he's fighting for our communities. If we had a weaker man we would have crumbled. We don't want conces-

sions. We don't want some compromise where we go back to work and in a short time they're closing pits again.'

But she doesn't expect the strike to end soon. Already they are preparing for Christmas. 'That'll be hard. It must sound trivial to you but its important, its a matter of morale. Its awful for the parents to watch that, to see their kids getting nothing. You can't tell kids Santa Claus isn't coming because Dad's on strike. Any biscuits, tins of ham, little treats like that, we save for parcels for Christmas.'

Ann assumed they would still be on strike at Christmas. Among the miners we met, and the wives, there was a determination, a resilience. 'We've been out so long', explained John Nowles, a young miner who had only been down the pits three years. 'No way we're going back, no matter what it takes. We've lost everything already. Everyone's equal, we've all got nothing - it brings you all together. You've gotta win. Its not a question of winning or losing but its a matter of how long it takes.'

For a man at the centre of such controversy in both religious and political spheres the Bishop of Durham, the Rt. Rev. David Jenkins, is surprisingly moderate.

Perhaps this is his crime in the eyes of religious literalists and perhaps also in the eyes of the present Government. Yet after half an hour with him it is easy to see how he has got into such trouble due to his habit of explaining both sides of an argument without giving a clear conclusion.

Where this is avoided the rational nature of the answer makes it horribly persuasive to that large section of the community who are scornful of religion but are either not brave enough to be, or are persuaded by the Atheists.

For them the question is inevitably, how can you possibly believe all that God and Jesus stuff? This clergyman would typically reply, "Yes indeed, how

The Rational BISHOP

can you?" for he does not recognise theology as being in any way reliable, and as other newspapers have made abundantly clear, he does not believe it all. But there is a large core of faith which he explains as an "Intersection of probabilities" The 'probabilities' of God coming from three strands, science, ordinary human experience or rather emotion and religious revelation.

In science it is God as an explanation of the inexplicable. With emotion the basic idea, it brings you "to wonder whether there is something more to it than me and the things I see". God here is not just an explanation more an answer to the depths and heights encountered in human experiences such as love.

Religious revelation was strongly emphasised, the others made you wonder or suspect, it gives an answer. This category was extended to clergy in that

Edmund Baldwin talks to the Bishop of Durham, the Rt. Rev. David Jenkins

they speak and you are receptive, agree and believe. This part of the argument being the weakest brought out some of the ingenious statements in that visions etc. COULD be recognised and distinguished from the para-normal, fantasy and sheer fabrication in that the others would tend to move a person away from reality while a vision could only illustrate reality more fully, thus it would lead somewhere.

This whole line can be seen as reasonable but the Bishop himself finishes with the acknowledgement that faith is not fact and "we don't know anything for sure in the end", for him the balance of argument merely lies very strongly in God's favour and on the above framework for anyone it's where the train of one's thoughts lead.

Of more relevance to all of us are this influential man's views on Religious Education. After agreeing in the main with the teacher's report and doubting

the usefulness of Assemblies we went on to the possibilities beyond 16; indeed at University.

It is at this stage that he believes Religious Education would be most important so students could "explore for themselves". The form of this was left vague "you couldn't after all build us into every syllabus" and although it was admitted to be totally beyond the Church's capacity, at the moment it can "only fly flags", as the man is an evangelist it may not, in the future, only be the Christian Union which tries to shake you from an easy going, secular University life.

This development would be a pity as for many University is the first time away from enforced religion either from the home or school, one would hope that at least at this level one should have the freedom to choose.

Still you leave the Bishop with the impression of a man who is prepared to argue, to face and admit the weaknesses of religion, above all the rarest of qualities in people of public or private position, of not being set in his ways.

So whenever you hear of his latest "outrageous" statement realise it is probably out of context and that the reasoning behind it is more sound than that which grips his critics. People like him show there can be life in a State Church, whether this is a good or bad thing I leave entirely up to you.

GULBENKIAN STUDIO

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WORKSHOPS

All workshops for the rest of this season are now sold out... EXCEPT FOR the DANCE WORKSHOP with DIVERSIONS DANCE COMPANY on Wed. 28 Nov. at 2.30 p.m.... everybody welcome. TICKETS ONLY £1.00.

NOTE: Postal Applications for tickets for the R.S.C. Spring Season at the Studio are now welcome. Booking over the counter and by phone will open on Mon. 26 Nov. at 10 a.m.

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NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS UNION

FINANCE COUNCIL TODAY

5.15 p.m.

DEBATING CHAMBER

COURIER SPORT AND RECREATION

O—Kellas!

Sunday, 4th November, saw the Orienteering Club take on some stiff competition at Kellas plantation near Hexham.

PETE MAINWARING and DAVE "bender" BENDELL led the assault on the tough Brown course but were thoroughly excreted on by British No. 2 Steven Hale. COLIN "Pissed Jock" SIMPSON made a brave attempt at the Brown but was bested by the tough weather.

JANE "Bunny" WARREN in her first

event since July produced a stoic performance on the Red, whilst SIMON "scum" WATTS ran what was a weak run for him on the easy Blue course. Perhaps he was suffering withdrawal symptoms, not having seen DIANE "fatty" BEAL for at least two minutes (she was at home eating chocolate biscuits).

Thanks must go to the Rose and Crown at Slaley for serving fourteen dirty, smelly people. Also to the new members of the club whose names I'm not sure of and who (I think) enjoyed themselves.

Next Sunday's event is near Sheffield, see the Orienteering notice board for the sign up sheet.

Pete Mainwaring

MUDDY IDIOTS

Once upon a Saturday a nice clean happy party of Waders set off in their little coach to go to The York University Cross Country Relays.

But oh dear me! Having to pick up their best friends (the Durham team) and the heavy traffic everywhere they went meant that, despite frantic phone calls by Captain GAVIN, these daring souls missed the start of the race.

And the rain it rained. And the wind it howled. And the mire lay thick and deep all around.

They were not to be thwarted though! The majority donned vest and shorts and plunged headlong into the battle with the elements. And all this now just for FUN!

Actually, two of the troop, ALISON PETTIT and ROB POWELL were present for the start and so these were our 'official' runners for the event. ROB must've enjoyed himself with a spiffing

6th position on the first leg. Eventually, however, bedraggled and cold, they all got back on the coach and went home for tea (albeit minus the cup which had to be handed over from last year's victory).

Addy

Jumping Jodphurs

Back down at the ranch Newcastle University Riding Club were having an intra-club competition and started the season off with dynamic success. Thirteen competitors and eight helpers bundled into the minibus and zoomed off down to the delightful Durham countryside and South Causey Equestrian Centre.

The standard of the dressage was extremely high and was won by a PH.D. reject from Reading—CAROLINE RYMER, followed closely by delectable (?) DAWN ROSS, then peroxide PAULA the computer punk processor, and sneak water polo defector IAN (who was at an advantage borrowing Rogue Ross' hat and boots).

A fair jumping course was built which led to some good jumping rounds—although some were rather fast! However, this final phase succeeded in altering the final results which were:-

1st CAROLINE RYMER, 2nd PAULA BISHOP, 3rd DAWN ROSS and IAN ROGERS. Specials went to SARAH TAYLOR (who managed a good dressage test despite the dark), and JILL RHODES (Honorary member and dedicated team groom making a spectacular return after a broken wrist last term!) followed closely behind.

Our thanks go to all who helped—CLAIRE, SUE, RANDI, RALPH, JONATHAN, FAY, JEREMY and SPOTT (not with us in body—doomed to lie in the grounds of Ethel's forever—but with us in spirit!!!)

Next year's budding "JENNIE-LONISTON-CLARKE'S" and "HARVEY SMITH'S" stayed on for a gruelling lesson, spoilt only by the disastrous diagonals saga.

The competition was followed by a wild Halloween Party, joint with the Conservation Society, with extremely interesting games at which the Riding Club came out tops!

Paula and Dawn

GOBLINS GALORE

Laugh laugh, Talkin Tarn 'ere . . . This is one of our more exclusive dive sites, as we seem to be the only club to dive there. Fortunately, we only dive there when the sea is too messed up. Unfortunately this was one of those week-ends. So, early Saturday we braved the cold and rain to blitz across country to the Tarn (nr. Carlisle). Luckily, we were spared the misery and discomfort of kitting up in the car-park as we were allowed to use the sailing clubs shed.

The water was suprisingly warm—relative to the air temperature, so training started with minimal fuss with snorkelers doing their open water tests. Meanwhile, the aqua-lung divers blundered around in 1½m visibility doing their open water tests, navigation exercises or just for the sake of it!

WRECKER GOBLIN somehow found a bayonet rusting on the bottom while HOOLIGAN GOBLIN set a new world record of 12m maximum depth when diving with Jack Jones. Later on he also set an endurance record of one hour fifty minutes in the water—in a wet suit! This was done by diving a second time with BOG-OFF GOBLIN and WARE-ARE-WE GOBLIN who tried to use his compass as an altimeter/speedometer. We then leapt out of the Tarn to defrost in a near-by pub.

At the uncivilized hour of 4 a.m., fourteen sleepy divers loaded the fun bus, hooked up the boats and hit the road to Oban. Through the fun and windy darkness the fearless team slogged across country then, in the cold grey light, trundled around Glasgow three times before hitting the Oban road again.

Eventually after a nine hour drive we rolled into the dive centre to stare gloomily at our rain soaked bunk-house. Inside, it was dry, draughty and cold but the shingle floor brightened the place up. After selecting a shelf to sleep on, we squeezed into wet-suits and headed to the harbour to get a dive in before dark. Emerging from the cold murky water ("Magic dive" etc.) we zoomed back to our abode to defrost. Recovery was not complete until sitting comfortably in a suitable pub.

Depression set in when we rolled off our warm shelves the following morning. However, we struggled noisily into our icy cold, damp wetsuits and steamed in the bus as we drove down to the harbour in the pouring rain. Once in the water we quickly found a small wreck complete with conger eel and lobster then, after half an hour, we leapt out again. Returning home, we sat around until it was time to go for another dive. As we prepared to go "SMASHER GOBLIN" decided to drive over three kit bags—twice! At the dive site the broken masks, regulators, life-jackets and helmets were extracted and the micky extracted a little more.

The weekend passed quickly with several good dives from the boats when the "GALE GOBLIN" let us out. A certain hooligan is reputed to have made the "Banana boat" fly at one point—this is an exceptional feat! Many of the boat dives were on the numerous wrecks sunk around Oban and proved to be worthwhile even if the water was so dark and murky. The grand finale was "HOOLIGAN GOBLINS" 100th dive since starting diving way back in October 82. This was celebrated by drinking a can of beer as he surfaced after a 30m wreck dive.

All in all, it was an excellent week-end even if the group sex in the sauna had to be abandoned, as the sauna wasn't working! (and it was too cold down on the jetty). We finally got home to comfort on Monday evening.

SWIM FOR IT

It was 9.30 a.m. on the 3rd November when the more insane members of the club met in the pouring rain outside the Union for our gala in Sheffield.

However, a fourth member of our ladies team had to be reconitered after two others had succumbed to the comfort of their beds. This poor being was LIZ who was dragged from her bed complete with hangover!

Our journey down was fast in the hands of STUART and thanks to his skill we arrived on time! To our amazement we were competing against ten other Universities including our good friends Loughborough! Still undeterred we fielded our team with amazing results—an excellent swim by all concerned, with our resident superstar KEVIN winning two medals, for the 400m freestyle and 100m fly respectively.

This was a large contributory factor in our overall 5th position. Oh what a crisp performance! Finally we arrived home to an excellent reception of fire works on the Quayside.

Regatta In The Rain!

I'm afraid I seem to be putting the clappers on every sporting event I go near at the moment. On Wednesday, 31st October, the N.U.D.E. Parachute display was called off, and on Saturday it was the turn of the Boat Club to suffer as the Northern Universities Regatta came to a premature and soggy end.

It really was a foul day. As I looked, bleary eyed, out of my window at 8.30 a.m. to find the rain bucketing down I heartily regretted having ever let myself in for this one. Realising, however, that hardier souls than mine had already been on the water for about half an hour. I mournfully donned my wellies and made for Durham.

The weather was even worse at Durham. My first priority was to find the wretched event before my map dissolved into papier mache in my hands. Having successfully reached the Boat House I was briefly cheered by the sight of the boats and their brightly dressed occupants on the water, but the realisation that my jeans already felt as though they had just come out of the washing machine soon dampened my enthusiasm once more.

Boat Club Captain ANDY MENNIE greeted me with a number of suitable expletives directed at the weather before plodding off to continue his duties.

Looking around it would be fair to say that most of the crew members did not look overjoyed at the prospect of having to survive another 6 hours in such wet and windy conditions. You might argue that it was a picturesque scene, with the golden autumn leaves forming glorious backcloth to the Regatta; unfortunately none of us felt able to appreciate this as we were drenched to the skin and generally fed up!

When the first rumours were heard that the Regatta had been called off most people put up only moderately competent attempts to hide their excitement behind a mask of despair. When the news was confirmed at 10.20 a.m. a few jubilant whoops were distinctly heard. I was delighted to note this. I had suspected that rowers were of that abominably obstinate and indestructible variety of sportsmen who refuse to be put off by a drop of rain, and I was delighted to find that they were human after all.

As if afraid that the officials might change their minds the crews began to place their boats back on their trailers without delay. You had to feel sorry for them, particularly those who made wasted journeys from as far afield as Aberdeen. The sight of gallons of water being emptied from the boats just went to emphasise what a glum and gloomy day it

was. I was told that the decision to cancel the event had been taken because the level of the River was rising considerably because of the rain. When this happens the River flows faster, making conditions dangerous for racing. Besides it was wet and horrible.

From Newcastle's point of view the day's outcome was particularly painful, since in the races which had been completed before 10.20 the Men's Firsts, the Ladies eights and the Novices had all been successful, with only the Senior Four's failing. ANDY MENNIE was clearly exasperated: "we've been training really hard for this one" he said. "We've been out five times a week and then you get a day like this. I think we would have definitely won the Senior event today".

He added that he hoped to arrange a contest with Durham next week, though clearly this will not compensate for the cancellation of the term's biggest event. Poor Andy! As rain oozed from his red pom-pom and dripped down his nose he looked rather like an oversized garden gnome approaching retirement age.

And so the occasion petered out. Without further delay I was back on the train, into a hot bath before pneumonia set in, and then I planted myself firmly in front of Grandstand for the afternoon! Maybe the 'Armchair critics' have got the right idea after all!

Trevor Burton

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS UNION



working together

MATURE STUDENTS - FORGOTTEN?

Student Unions and Universities are for everyone - not just for 19-year old school-leavers. But often they seem to work mainly for the benefit of younger students and mature students don't seem to get much attention.

But we can't do anything about it unless you tell us what you want. We can't help you to find out what your fellow mature students think unless you're prepared to come along and get to know them.

So, in true time-honoured Student Union tradition, we're holding a meeting specially for mature students where you'll be able to complain to us and where we'll be able to listen to you. We're meeting:

ON WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 1984
AT 1 o'clock (roughly)
IN Level 1 Seminar Room University Library

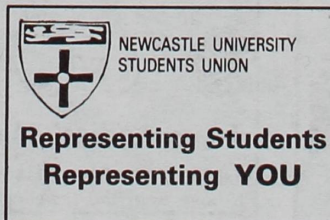
FOR MORE INFORMATION Contact Timothy Brown, Student Union Deputy President, Level 6, Union Building - 328402 ext 273

TEACHING IN THE UNIVERSITY

- So you don't know how to complain about your boring lectures
- So you think you don't have enough seminars
- So you think your lecture classes are too big
- So you can't do the projects you want
- So they won't let you do an option you want to do . . .

Well . . . Don't Panic!_____

The University has set up a top level investigation into teaching especially at undergrad level. Student reps on the investigation are, from whom more information is available:



Timothy Brown—Deputy President
Level 6, Student Union and

Rebecca Todd—School of English

They're you're reps—make your feelings known.

COURIER SPORT AND RECREATION

U.A.U. vs YORK

On Wednesday, 7th November 1984, another four coach loads of students left Newcastle University at 11.00 a.m. on the road to a huge victory - the second co-ordinated fixture of 1984/5.

Once again the teams and individual competitors put on an impressive display of talent and skill that totally overwhelmed the York students and which must surely take Newcastle all the way to the top this year.

The final co-ordinated divisional fixture for this year was held yesterday at home against our traditional rivals - DURHAM! Watch this space next week for all the results and an overall round-up.

RUGBY:

1st XV Walkover
 2nd XV Won 7-6
 3rd XV Won 32-0

SOCCER:

1st XI Won 6-0
 2nd XI Won 4-3
 3rd XI Won 11-0

MEN'S HOCKEY:

1st XI Won 3-0
 2nd XI Draw 0-0
 3rd XI Won 3-0

TABLE TENNIS:

..... Won 9-8

LADIES HOCKEY:

1st XI Won 5-2
 2nd XI Won 6-0

MEN'S SQUASH:

1st V Lost 3-2
 2nd V Won 4-1

NETBALL:

1st Team Won 42-17
 2nd Team Won 63-18

BADMINTON:

Men I Won 7-2
 Men II Walkover
 Ladies Won 6-3

Centaurus 7 York 1st 6

Despite ageing bus drivers, two near "prangs" and wrong turning the gallant Centaurus and the Ping Pong Boys eventually arrived at York.

After a slow start, "Taffy" TURNER, the ubiquitous Skipper, presumably on the payroll of the opposition conceded an early penalty to give the Milk Bar Kids - or was it Yorkie Bars, an early and thoroughly undeserved lead. Almost before the (very dodgy) ref. could restart, "Moaning" JOE MARTIN was found "lurking with intent to score a try" in the far corner, and following a 30 yard gallop duly obliged. "Piggy" HOGGE failed with the extra points. End to end stuff followed until half time.

PING-PONG

Newcastle 9 - York 8

The Table Tennis Club match was nothing like as close as the score line suggests, York were never really in the game and they only managed to salvage a few points at the end due to a sloppy finish by Newcastle.

Newcastle's No. 1 MARK SEARLES started the demolition by hammering the York No. 2, followed by wins from IAN PATTERSON, and HENRY BALDEH against York's No. 2.

Newcastle's EDDIE TSIDZI lost his first game but later found form and produced 2 good wins. HENRY BALDEH played very well in his debut match inspiring Newcastle after their demoralising defeat at Hull.

MARK SEARLES confirming his position as Newcastle's No. 1 showed flashes of brilliance against the England-ranked P. Rainford (York's No. 1) but was unfortunately not quite consistent enough to pull off the win. However, SEARLES added two more wins before SEARLES and PATTERSON who must rate as the worst doubles partnership in the history of the game, lost the doubles.

Our thanks to HENRY for supplying the beers on the way home and to EDDIE for negotiating piss-stops with the driver, also to the Captain IAN for falling in the Lake and especially to MARK for helping him do so.

MATCH BREAK DOWN

	Played	Won
1. M. Searles	4	3
2. I. Patterson	4	2
3. E. Tsidzi	4	2
4. H. Baldeh	4	2

SQUASH

York 3 Newcastle 2

Something happened at York last Wednesday that hasn't happened for many years - Newcastle Men's Team lost to York at Squash. We are ashamed.

PHIL LOVEJOY was first on fridge (court?) and was surprised to find himself playing an "over 35's" student who beat

1st XI v York
Won 6-0

After a competitive first fifteen minutes Newcastle took control when LEONARDS cross was met emphatically by the agile WALLWORK.

This opened the floodgates. SMURTHWAITE headed the second and WALLWORK drove home the third (a shame he couldn't drive to Hull!) from the edge of the box. After DOWNIE latched onto a PATMORE header that man WALLWORK stole in on the blind side to complete a fine hat-trick, once again underlining his importance to the side.

The only bright spot in an otherwise dull second half was a rare header from the golden boy LEONARD. Bring on Durham!

Univ. 2nd XI 4 York Univ. 3

The Newcastle side, described by a spectator as the finest team he had ever seen, played with their opposition as a cat plays with a ball of wool. Goals by the gifted JIMMY JONES, a sizzling DARREN COWEN and a York defender with no control over his limbs proved sufficient. The three goals conceded? Well, who cares when you score four?

SOCCER

Newcastle University III 11
York University III 0

A cohesive, positive and flowing

performance gave the Soccer third team this emphatic victory at York on Wednesday which should see them through into the next round of the U.A.U. Cup.

A poor York team were overpowered in every area of the park. Newcastle were 4-0 ahead at half time through goals from DAVE PEGLER, two from MARK BAMFORD and an own goal.

York disappeared in the second half and Newcastle added another seven goals, two more excellent finishes from MARK BAMFORD and one each from ANDY CORRY, DAVE ROBERTS, DAVE PEGLER, PETE KELLY and nippy NICK KORNJACA.

If Newcastle continue to play in the same vein, it will take a very good side to end their challenge in this year's U.A.U. Cup.

Michael Walker

BASKETBALL TEAM IN NORTH EAST DIVISIONAL TRIUMPH

NEWCASTLE	75	DURHAM	57
NEWCASTLE	84	HULL	50
NEWCASTLE	2	YORK	0 (Forfeited)

Predictions about the success of Newcastle Basketball team in the U.A.U. were proved valid on Saturday at the N.E. Area U.A.U. in Claremont Sports Hall. Newcastle sent Durham, York and Hull packing still dazed from crushing defeats by a side in a league of its own. York even forfeited their match at the risk of humiliation.

Dominating through height Newcastle were never troubled by any of their opposition and the majority of the points came from classic moves inside the key linking TIM BAILEY, SAM ABBAS, and ROGER COLBRAN.

In defence hard work from the rest of the team, notably King of the Boards DAVE CARRASCO, denied Durham and Hull any chance of settling their offence. ROBERT HEGARTY and NIK PAPARODOPOULOS controlled the Newcastle side as play makers allowing their potential to be realised. Top scorers of the day were SAM ABBAS with an outstanding 48 points, TIM BAILEY 32 and RUSSEL COOKE 26.

Newcastle now look forward to a play-off against a North West Area side to be held at Claremont Sports Hall in early December.

Victory here would send Newcastle to the final tournament in London. Any support will be welcome. A photograph will be in next week's Courier so you can see what they actually look like. Some of them even pass for good looking especially the Coach. Here are their names for the meantime, addresses can be supplied on request. N. PAPARODOPOULOS, T. BAILEY, R. COLBRAN, R. COOKE, S. ABBAS, C. MORRIS, P. O'KEEFE, R. HEGARTY, D. CARRASCO, B. NYGREN. J.M.

RUGBY

York were again in front, early into the second half when SPOORS forgot his "curlies" thought it was "straight" and paid the price. There then began 20 minutes of unco-ordinated confusion with only "Ugly" KEMSLEY and "Jumbo" JIMMY MAC emerging with any credibility. It was Timmy Tampax, however, dosing out of position who managed to find "Lost" JOHN lurking on the wing who obliged with a 25 yard charge from which PIGGY HOGGE made amends for his earlier failures with a very lucky dropped goal.

Tactical injuries and some dodgy refereeing could not save the Yorkie Boys

and our gallant, if somewhat knackered Centaurus emerged from the gloom into the safety of the bar, where York were conspicuous in their absence - perhaps fearing another "Oak Room"??!

The team: UGLY KEMSLEY, JUMBO JIM, TIMMY TAMPAX, VIDAL SASOON, GABBY RHOADES, PIGGY HOGGE, ANSMELL, LOST JOHN, BIGGLES JONES, SLIM MOONBY, SPOONS, DUNC, TAFFY, THE SKIP, LUMBERJACK CLIVE and CAPTAIN BIRDSEYE.

Newcastle 3rd XV v YORK
Won 32-0

Our Yorkshire Superstud dominated

R. Cundall

York 0 Newcastle 3

The Men's Hockey 1st XI are through to the Challenge Round with a game to spare!

A splendid second half performance which saw the blue shirts of Newcastle swarming round the York D like bees round a honey pot, led to a fine three goal win and, with Hull and Durham drawing, qualification from our group is now certain.

BADMINTON

The Men's 1st, 2nd and Ladies Badminton teams are now all assured of a place in the Challenge Round.

The Men's 1st won 7-2. It should have been 9-0, but two bad lapses in concentration from Messrs. 'Count them Rackets RAILTON' and 'Bust them Rackets JOHNSON' together with 'B.O.B. WEAVER' and 'Gut Bucket C.-J.' lost us our 100% record. Thanks also to a seemingly effortless performance from 'ex-Gizzard GARY CARLESS' and ANDY KNOX.

The Men's 2nds travelled all the way to York, only to find that they had no opposition and so walked into the Challenge Round.

The Ladies won 6-3, completely demoralising their opponents who had taken an early 3-0 lead due to another two-thirds turnout (half of whom were borrowed squash players - thanks very much CAROLINE and CAROL). Thanks to JULIA and BELINDA also for a fine spirited performance.

The only low point of the day was when we had to leave all that superb hand-pulled nectar behind at 5.30 p.m., because some soccer players wanted to go and see Ipswich wallop Newcastle 2-1 in a Milk Cup Replay!

Rich Johnson

butante... put an end to any worries. LAURI scored twice and then rushed off to see Alf! And BRIDGET another to put an end to any fight York might have had in mind.

An excellent performance a tribute to a bit of hard graft on a Monday evening. Through to the next round, and one to play, and a chance to put Durham OUT!!! To be relished. See you in the Men's Bar... After Dallas of course.

Result: Won 5-2

Team: EMMA DUCKWORTH, HILARY BELL, CATHERINE RUSSELL, LIZ GRANT, SHARON BAYTON, KATE BOXELL, BARBARA SAWYER, SALLY FISHER, BRIDGET ALLEN, LAURI KENNEDY, HELEN MCAY

Coach: GYP WOSAINSMARKOV-ZYCH.

S.B.

HOCKEY

Score 0 0

After a late start due to female interference the reformed 2nd XI Men's Hockey team squad prepared to give York the slaughter they gave Hull (5-0).

The first half gave the impression that a menacing repeat of last week's performance was forthcoming.

STEVE CARR sharp as a dart made some intrusive attacks from crisp balls delivered by ROSS WHELDON from the right wing, but, however, by half time no result was imminent.

After an enlightening evaluation at the break by 'King Kong' SMITH, we set to with invigorated hearts. However, York had an unproductive spurt that had the team temporarily dethroned. Hence we reprised with several short corners, two of which shot by the ignominious HOOD, narrowly missed the goal.

The team was sad not to have captured a win here, however, we are fully armed for Durham.

BARNACLE BILL

After indulging in the first sport of swimming to the pitch the Ladies 2nd XI Hockey team settled down to the serious business of hockey!

Skidding around on the car park come

the back row play - aided poorly by KEMPO - ban him - again and well by FROUDY. The first half started off slowly and tries by CHARLIE NEWBY and CHARLIE BROWN took us to 10-0.

Half time talk by Skipper CUNDALL proved fruitful and tries came left, right and centre in the second half. Playing mostly at their try line - GEORGIE BEST managed two tries - fly half FRASER HARDIE scored one try and converted four. GUY FROUD also scored taking our lead to 32-0.

Our ugly touch judge just opened his mouth too much. ADO - TOM CLARKE and VICTOR DOOGAN all played well - in fact the whole team played well.

hockey pitch SALLY VERGETTE scored two early goals. We dominated the first half and had two frobbitten backs. Two more goals by SHARON SCOTT and WENDY ROBINSON were small compensation for the number of goal mouth cock-ups.

We're a bit concerned about Ms. RAMSDEN'S inability to score and we hope this is not reflected in her private life!

We recommend contact lenses for our left wing, AMANDA STEEN.

In the second half York were a different team i.e. we noticed they were there and goalie JACKIE COLLINS got to kick the ball. But the stream of encouragement from BO on the side line and two more goals from SCOTT and ROBINSON made the score 6-0.

We could have done with a few more to up our goal average, but the team work was good and York's umpires were nearly as bad as the apes match feast. Jolly (cd!) good show lasses!

Team: JACKIE (I know all the words) COLLINS; TRACY HERON; JILLIAN KELLY; ELAINE FROST; JO DOWTY (Captain); BECKY WATSON; SALLY VERGETTE; WENDY (I'd rather sleep with my mother than Angus) ROBINSON; GILL (why can't I get it in) RAMSDEN; SHARON (Ace) SCOTT; AMANDA STEEN.

Newcastle 3rd XI showed their true form by disposing of York by 3 goals to 0. R. THOMPSON opened the score sheet after only 5 minutes finishing a fine attacking move. Continued spirited resistance coupled with a difficult surface continued to cause problems until D. HORNER slotted in the second mid way through the first half. Though constant pressure was maintained no further goals were forthcoming.

York applied much pressure in the second half but a resistant Newcastle defence prevented York from reaping any fruits from their endeavours.

D. A. V. SWATHWATE wrapped up a convincing performance by converting the third after a particularly penetrating counter attack. SIMON WRIGHT played a brilliant but inconspicuous role throwing himself all over the field. Further note must go to "Robert" FISHE who created a chance but was unlucky not to convert.

Final Score 0-3
Half Time 0-2

Scorers: R. THOMPSON, (1); D. HORNER, (1); D. OUTHWAITE, (1).

A. R. Garrod

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(back of Central Library)