

Courier

Newcastle University Student Newspaper

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25,000 students protest against loans

ARREST

The arrest of a Newcastle University student marred an otherwise successful 25,000-strong National Loans Demo in London last Thursday.

Sam Robson, an active member of SWSS (Social Worker Student Society) has been charged with obstructing a police officer and faces a Court appearance in London later this month. He was captured by *The Guardian's* front page photographer on Friday (see picture opposite).

But, while student demonstrators marched the three miles from Battersea Park to Hyde Park, the Student Loans Bill passed through the House of Commons with a majority of 52. Only defeat in the Lords can stop its implementation for the next academic year, following the rejection of University Vice-Chancellors' plans for an alternative graduate tax.

Sam Robson told *Courier* that several policemen pushed into the crowds, told him to "shut up" and forced him to the ground. He said the incident was unprovoked and claimed he had "no idea" why he had been approached by the police.

He was taken to Rochester Road police station, along with another student from Newcastle College, where he was detained for three hours before being released.

New Scotland Yard told *Courier* that they were "fairly pleased" with the overall behaviour of the students, but refused to comment on Sam Robson's arrest. They dismissed claims that a large police presence, estimated at 2,500, was provocative.

The Union Exec. felt that the response to the event was excellent: over one hundred Newcastle students attended. However, President, Graeme Mitchell, described Sam Robson's arrest as "rather unfortunate" and continued: "the only sort of publicity students get is bad publicity. It

could have been anyone, but this kind of incident can spoil the whole thing and does our cause no good at all."

He confirmed that Mr. Robson's legal position was in his own hands and the Union would not be involved in the proceedings.

Despite the arrests, the NUS were "very pleased" with the success of the event and Maeve Sherlock, NUS President, describing the turnout as "brilliant", cited the presence of 250 students from Northern Ireland as typical of the dedication shown by the students. However, she stressed that "the fight against loans is definitely not over yet".

At the demonstration, attended by over 100 Newcastle University students in Hyde Park, several speakers, including Denis Goldberg, British A.N.C. representative, spoke against the Loans Bill. Mr. Goldberg, tried at the same time as Nelson Mandela, brought a personal message from the recently released A.N.C. leader, thanking students for their "tremendous support" while he was imprisoned. He also praised students for their successful campaigning against loans and called "Roar young lions, roar!" to rapturous applause.

Andrew Smith, deputy Labour education spokesman, also spoke against loans, citing the defeat of the Bill as part of a movement towards a "better Britain in a better world" to an appreciative crowd.

Tim Hammond,
Boz Worrall



The revolutionary road to socialism? Police take a firm grip on Newcastle University's Sam Robson. Pic: Robin Mayes, courtesy *The Guardian*.

Students stood up

Three people were left standing in the cold outside the Union on Valentine's Night clutching their tickets for the Loans Demo, after being told that the London coaches were already full.

Chris Bailey, Vice-President Welfare, told *Courier* that there appeared to have been "a slight error" over the allocation of tickets. The tickets were sold from three outlets which seems to have added to the confusion —

the General Office, Chris Bailey's Office and the Welfare Stall.

By Wednesday night, enough tickets had been sold to nearly fill two coaches supposedly leaving two spare seats. Despite this, both coaches filled up which left the three students who had paid, stranded with no means of getting to London.

Chris Bailey stated: "It is clear

two extra tickets were sold due to a counting error. However, this doesn't explain why three people with tickets couldn't board the coach when there was one spare seat. This suggests that some people got on the coach without paying — we know one person did because he's paid me today".

Chris added that official apologies will be extended to the three students concerned.

Richard Carpenter

RESULTS

Another low-key affair, Tuesday's Part Time Executive elections produced a mixed Executive comprising all political hues from deepest red (Richard de Bona) to bright ginger (Mark Drabble). The turnout was about 600.

The results were as follows:
Women's Officer:
Sacha Hayward.
Accommodation Officer:
Simon Evans.
International Students' Officer:
A. R. Abed.
Chair of Representation, Welfare and Campaigns Committee:
Helen Barlow.
Editor of *Courier*:
Robert Cotterill.
Equal Opportunities Officers:
Fran England,
Andrew Burford.
Publicity and Marketing Officer:
Mark Drabble.
Chair of Services, Marketing and Development Committee:
Richard Di Bona.



Pic: Andrew Charlesworth

Sabbatical Secretary Elect Iain Pigg said: "These elections are disappointing in two respects: first because of the low turnout; and secondly because of the dearth of candidates. If not even enough people stand to fill all positions, it is unsurprising — but nonetheless undesirable — that nobody should vote".

Tim Hammond

Rag hike hitch

Last week's charity hitch for RAG week was marred by the arrest of two Newcastle students for a suspected burglary offence in Somerset. They were detained for three hours until their innocence was proven, and later released without apology.

Philip Cunliffe and Jon Cook, second year undergraduates, arrived at Ilminster, seven miles south of Taunton, at twenty past midnight on Monday, 12th February, having completed their stop off at Exeter en route for Southampton.

They were making their way towards the town centre when two cars came by, which the hitches flagged down for a possible lift. The first, a police traffic patrol car, was escorting the second back to the police station after it had been found stolen.

Both stopped and the police driver enquired as to Philip's and Jon's destination and whether or not they had just come from the nearby

village of Donyatt. The officer then made a request to inspect the soles of their shoes before placing each in separate cars to find a few more details.

When an officer from Donyatt arrived, a formal arrest was made on the grounds that the footprints from Philip's Doc Marten shoes seemed to match those imprinted on a piece of foam-covered tiling found at the scene of the burglary at Donyatt. They were then taken to Yeovil police station some thirteen miles east.

Jon Cook told *Courier*: "They stuffed us in separate detention rooms, took our shoes and rucksacks, and left us there for an hour and a half. I lay there looking at the ceiling, pissing myself with laughter. I just couldn't believe it was happening to me". Phil's reaction was equally as stunned. "One moment I was walking along a road, the next I was in a cell. It all happened so fast".

At around 2.45 a.m., they were brought to the charging area to be told that sniffer dogs had followed a trail from the house across a stream. The hitches' dry clothing testified to their innocence.

"By three o'clock, they said we were free to go. They gave us some coffee and let us sleep in the foyer of the station for a couple of hours", said Jon.

A telex was sent to the University authorities informing them of the night's events and a copy given to the hitches as proof of their delay. They then left the station without an apology and continued their hitch along the A30.

A spokesman for Yeovil police station told *Courier*: "It was unfortunate that they happened to be in the vicinity at the time. If people aren't able to account for their presence, then the policeman on the roadside has to make an on the spot decision".

Gary Ross

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Okay, the motion's passed, no Nestles, but as Yorkies taste so good Rowntrees can stay.

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Brief

Mandela celebration

500 people packed into the Civic Centre on the night of Nelson Mandela's release to celebrate this great occasion. Men, women, children and MP Jim Cousins packed the hall to wave flags, to listen, to drink free beer, and to party.

In the words of first year student David Moreton "It was an evening of wild emotion and happiness" marred only by the pathetic attempts by the British National Party who distributed literature stating "Keep South Africa White". Jim Cousins thanked the people of Newcastle for supporting the Anti-Apartheid campaign over the years.

Dylan Champion.

Thalidomide

Some students may remember the notorious Thalidomide drug fiasco of the 60's and 70's, during which hundreds of children were born with gross physical deformities and were only compensated after several years of public struggle. Recently the drug has been used by Leukaemia Researchers at the RVI to treat bone-marrow transplant patients with life-threatening problems.

Head of the research team, Dr. Steven Proctor, also suggests that it could be used to treat blood cancer victims who are at present dying in the absence of suitable donors. He emphasises that the use of the drug in this way on Tyneside is unique to European medicine.

Chris Wood

Work fair

What does the future hold for you? Getting up to catch the 8.15 every day, going to Safeway every Saturday and washing the car on Sunday? If this prospect is unappealing, look in at the Civic Centre, Banqueting Suite, on Wednesday, 28th February, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is the venue for the Volunteer and Alternative Work Fair.

A range of 80 organisations with ideas of ways in which you can volunteer or work at home and abroad are taking part in this year's event. From the Red Cross to the Credit Union Project, from Mencap to Byker City Farm, from VSO to the Soil Association there is a rich variety.

You could fill some spare hours, organise a year out to gain experience or even organise the rest of your life: At the very least it will give you something to dream about as you wait for the 8.15!

The Volunteer and Alternative Work Fair is organised by University and Polytechnic Chaplaincies and Careers Services, the Council for Voluntary Services and the City Careers Service.

Bryan Vernon

Folk Festival

Over the last weekend of February (Fri. 23rd-25th), Newcastle University Students' Union will be invaded by unfamiliar beings in the guise of "Homo Sapiens". These beings will not be Space Cadet and his compatriots. Nor will they be the long lost tribe of Pons Aelius, emerging from their hidden kingdom below the Tyne to perform the ritual celebration of the new millennium (—they didn't have digital watches in those days, so a ten year error was nothing).

Sorry for any disappointment. These people are, in fact, students from across the country, arrived for the INTERVARSITY FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL, probably the largest and certainly the liveliest of its kind in Britain.

At least 500 people are expected from folk dance societies as far as Aberdeen to Exeter for this very popular weekend. Many superb folk dance and music groups, both locally and nationally, have agreed to take part.

During the Festival, which has a reputation for being a non-stop event, participants will have the opportunity of attending FIVE CEILIDHS, including a Playford Ball (17th century court dance), a Scottish ceilidh and several English ceilidhs.

The Festival will not just be confined to the Union. It will also take over the P.E. Centre, the Civic Centre and the Poly Ballroom.

Apart from being an exhibition of folk music and dance, the Festival is a celebration of age-old traditions and customs. It is through song and dance that folklore and history are

recorded. Every traditional dance acts as a window on history, revealing past ways of life.

The Playford dances, with their flowing complex movements — or figures — provided the 17th century courtiers with the only public opportunity they could get of coming into contact with the opposite sex. The figures thus involve a great deal of eye contact and discreet touching. Any obvious gesture was of course considered vulgar.

For those who cling to the conventional image of student-dom, we suggest avoiding this event. You may find it too enjoyable and be in danger of emerging at the end of the weekend with your street cred in tatters.

For those prepared to test the hypothesis that there is life beyond Rockshots, the Studio and Level Two, who wish to broaden your horizons by indulging in something a little less hackneyed, come along. If you have a musical instrument bring that along too. The Festival offers so much diversity you could find yourself trying things you would not, in sane mind and



At the Goosefayre, Ovingham 1988.

spirit, have considered doing. Any Acid trip will appear to be as exciting as an episode of 'Eastenders' by comparison.

Glinka, the Russian opera composer, shocked his aristocratic audience by portraying peasant life and including folk melodies and dances in his work. He is said to have discovered that 'real life' is not the life of fashion, but the world around him "eternally unchanging in the rhythm of folk songs."

Every person must be able to

appreciate the world around them to the same degree, as it embraces us all.

If you can honestly say you do not like anything "folksy", then perhaps you ARE one of Space Cadets compatriots.

Who are the real Aliens? IVFDF tickets — £6 for all events, £4 for Saturdays, or £2.50 per Ceilidh, only from Porters' Lodge, Union, from Monday, 19th February. Newcastle University Folk Dance Society.

Rag "Extravaganza"

The Level 6 party of Thursday, 15th February, was a wind down and prize-giving session for 103 excellent young souls who braved rain, sleet and snow to complete the Newquay Steam Beer sponsored hitch-hike.

The race set off on Saturday 10th at 9 a.m. and the winners — having satisfied adjudicator Colin Smith — arrived back on Tuesday evening. The route to be followed was Lancaster, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Hereford, Cardiff, Bristol, Exeter, Leeds, York and finally Newcastle. Faster teams were relegated for not obtaining a union stamp when they had the opportunity.

The main organisers on the sponsor's side, Paul Siviter, Fraser Sheddon and Ruth Blake were kind enough to travel up and present the winning threesome with a weekend in Paris. The Rag Committee thank all entrants and the sponsors for creating a superb start to Rag



The Rag Extravaganza.

'90, and hope extremely big amounts of collected sponsor money will be handed in.

Winners: Jo Turner, Steph Draper and Geoff Hilton in 80 hours 11 minutes. Fastest team, but relegated: S Slater and L. Poole in 61 hours 22 minutes.

Rag event", and in the mind of Jake Chambers, "they kept this promise". After admitting personally to having photographic evidence of the Agrics' naked capers, he swiftly added there was "no trouble, no dirt, I'm sorry". Their influence, he said, "was more positive than negative".

Further allegations of Agrics pinching the Newquay Steam Beer Banner, and depositing it halfway down Percy Street, were also false. Although the banner was stolen, this was the work of a drunken hitch-hiker.

Iain Pigg, Duty Member on the evening in question, said of the night's events, "I was disgusted with the Agrics. I have complained about their conduct to Executive, and am disappointed and angry that Executive have reneged on their assurances to take Agrics in hand. They are as much to blame for this as anyone else."

Dylan Champion

Cross Campus

Cardiff

The first report of an all-party public accounts committee highlights serious difficulties on the finances of universities. On University College Cardiff in particular, the Committee is "greatly concerned".

The Welsh University was targeted for investigation after the embarrassing debt crisis three years ago, which concluded with the resignation of several senior staff, including the principal.

Over a period of several years, the financial management at Cardiff deteriorated. Efforts by the Department of Education and the University Grants Committee to aid the university were, according to the report, "carefully considered and firmly pursued, whilst giving the college every opportunity to put its own house in order".

However, the Department of Education were also criticised for their failure to respond to the state of Cardiff's finances, although the facts had been known from an early stage.

U.C.C., now the University of Wales College, Cardiff, has declined to comment on the report's findings.

James Reid

Those of you in Castle Leazes can take a little comfort from the fact that you're not alone in your rodent worries. Cardiff's two largest Halls of Residence seem to have a similar problem.

Recent sightings of mice in the building have caused concern which was greatly exacerbated last week following a complaint from a student who claimed she had been bitten on the finger by a mouse whilst sleeping. Another sighting was of a small brown mouse sitting in the toilet bowl of one room. The University has promised action.

Oxbridge

The gap in performance between men and women in Oxbridge examinations is widening, despite a considerable increase in the number of women at both universities over the past two decades.

While the number of women studying in each university has risen nearly to parity with men, and while all colleges but a few admit both men and women who are taught in the same circumstances, proportionally fewer women have achieved first class honours.

Many consider that unless women manage to obtain as many firsts as men they will continue to fail in securing the top academic jobs around the country. Recent statistics show that only 3% of professors at Oxbridge are women.

Richard Carpenter

Warwick

A recent spate of false fire alarms will mean a reduction of Friday night bar extensions and the loss of the chance to get disability access for the upper floors of the union.

Warwick executive see this as the inevitable result of the union's loss of credibility in the eyes of the Fire Brigade and Coventry Magistrates, after the fourth false alarm this term.

Julia Offord said that magistrates now viewed Union Entertainment as "a Mickey Mouse V1th form disco". Offord denied that the closure of the union at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays had ever been a serious possibility, and said there was also no chance of the Union losing its licence.

Robert Stannage, assistant registrar, has also offered a £250 reward to anyone who identifies the culprits of last week's false fire alarm.

The sum represents the £250 fine imposed by the fire service on the union.

ALL THESE EVENTS NEED YOU ALL THESE

RAG WEEK

All these events need you!!!

Come to the Rag Table, Main Bar, 1-2 p.m.

Battle of the Bands

Rag/Au Team Challenge at Cochrane Park

Rag Ball

Charity Auction

The Hit Squad

Rag Raids

Rag Day at Monument

Union RAG Toga Party

Bad Taste Party

Rag Raffle

Floats for the Parade

Endurance Challenge

Union RAG Beach Wear Party

This is your RAG Week!!!

ALL THESE EVENTS NEED YOU ALL THESE

Banish boredom — come to the

Volunteer and Alternative Work Fair

Wednesday 28th Feb.

11 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Banqueting Suite, Newcastle Civic Centre

GRASS

For every Beefburger 20m² of Tropical Rain Forest are destroyed.

Union bans Nestlé

Sales of Nestlé brand products are to be banned within the Union building in the wake of last Tuesday's lunchtime General Meeting held in the debating chamber.

A motion calling for the boycotting of Nescafé, Coffeemate and Dairy Crunch in Union shops was convincingly passed 103 votes to one along with a resolution calling for active promotion by the Union of the worldwide Nestlé boycott. No one was present to speak against the motion.

According to Richard Bellamy, proposer of the motion, the aim was not so much to affect

retail sales but to raise awareness of their aggressive marketing tactics in the Third World where poster and leaflet campaigns within hospitals encourage mothers to use bottled milk in preference to breast feeding. This is in direct contravention of Unicef and World Health Organization guidelines drawn up in 1981.

An amendment calling for

Union affiliation to the Baby Milk Action Confederation was withheld until the next Union Council meeting.

Matthew Reiss, seconder of the proposal, said they hope to promote awareness at an information stall soon to be held in the Union at lunchtimes.

Gary Ross

Following the General Meeting calling for the banning of Nestlé products in the Union, Matthew Terry, Vice-President Finance, has told *Courier* that

the proposals passed will be fully enacted as soon as it is financially prudent.

The Union will continue to sell current stocks of Nestlé products but will not re-order once they are sold out. This will mean that the goods may still be available in the Union over the next few weeks—to withdraw current stock immediately would be financially disastrous.

Commenting on another aspect of the General Meeting's proposals, Matthew Terry pointed out that Nestlé also own Rowntree Mackintosh and

wondered why their products were not contained in the motion. He is "concerned that it was merely political posturing in order to get the motion passed" as a ban of Rowntree Mackintosh goods is likely to be much more unpopular in the student population. Such a decision may well have led to another General Meeting at a later date to reverse the proposals.

Rowntree Mackintosh goods on sale in the Union include well-known brands such as "Polo", "Yorkie" and "Aero".
Richard Carpenter

Support for East Europe

A crash programme of support for higher education and training in Poland and Hungary is to be rushed through a meeting of European Community foreign ministers next week.

The package, cleared by the commission last week, represents the start of the community's promised effort to help repair the shattered economies of Eastern Europe. It will comprise a new European Training Foundation and support for some 3,000 Polish and Hungarian students and academics to come to EC nations in each of the next three years.

The decision to put the £80 million proposal to foreign ministers, rather than waiting for the next education council, reflects a determination to offer swift practical assistance. It is hoped that the first placements under the Tempus Programme will be made in September.

An indicative budget for Tempus allows for £14.4 million to be spent in the next academic year, £28 million in 1991/92 and £33.8 million in the third year of the scheme. The money would go on visits of up to a month, placements and study grants of six months to a year and teacher training courses of varying lengths.

A new "Fellowship for Eastern Europe" at Newcastle University will soon enable a Hungarian housing professional to study at the University.

The grant of £5,000, awarded by the Nuffield Foundation, will fund the professionals housing course, run by the University's internationally recognised Centre for Architectural Research and Development Overseas (CARDO).

The Director of CARDO, Professor Miles Danby, pointed out the need for this type of education in the light of the housing situation in the East, highlighted in the recent coverage of the changes in the East, and feels that the problems are "very close" to those dealt with in the course.

The Hungarian Fellow will shortly be appointed and will arrive in Newcastle in a few months time, reinforcing the close relations CARDO have already established with academic institutions in Hungary.

Boz Worrall



Visiting Fellow Carl Lazzari (standing, left), together with Dr. Eric Cross, Head of Music at Newcastle University, and two undergraduate students, Amanda Pyke (foreground) and Shona Robbins (background), in front of his painting of the Lindsay String Quartet.

Visual record

The Music Department at Newcastle University has recently created a Visiting Fellowship with a difference.

This innovative post, which is in effect that of artist-in-residence, is filled not by a musician but by a painter, Carl Lazzari.

Carl Lazzari was until recently Head of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Newcastle Polytechnic. Mr. Lazzari, who lives and has his studio at Winlaton Mill, Blaydon-on-Tyne, sought early retirement in order to re-establish his professional practice as an artist.

This is believed to be the first time that a British Music Department has appointed an artist to create a visual record of the year's activities. At the Fellowship's conclusion there will be a major exhibition of the work produced in the Department by Mr. Lazzari.

Dr. Cross, Head of the University's Music Department, views this development as part of the expansion of the Department, which has recently almost doubled its undergraduate intake, thereby strengthening its position as one of the region's leading centres of music in higher education.

Heather Saville

Police research

A research unit at Newcastle University is working in conjunction with the Northumbrian Police to investigate domestic violence in South Shields. It is the only initiative of its kind outside London.

Jan Walker is heading the project at the University. She explains that there has been much sociological research into the causes of domestic violence, however, "we are concentrating on the process rather than the cause, in particular the police response.

"The problem of domestic violence extends right across the social spectrum. Lower socio-groups live much more public lives, for instance they don't live in detached houses, so the police get called to these more."

She dispels hasty assumptions about the nature of the problem—the victims are not invariably women and, "We must try not to look at it simply as an attacker and victim, but as a much more complex relationship."

She explains a typical cycle of

tension, aggression, then remorse which leaves the police frustrated. Often a young, inexperienced police constable who has no counselling training is sent to a house, the couple are separated but the next morning they may feel penitent and charges are dropped.

"The police have got to change their attitude and see violence as violence, and treat it as a criminal offence, not just write it off as domestic."

Elizabeth Chapman

Vets required

The Page report, published last week, predicts a "significant increase in future demand for veterinary manpower" and suggests that the current Government-imposed limits on places in veterinary education be removed and intakes increased. However, the report advocates the introduction of top-up fees to fund this expansion; in other words, students must provide the extra financial backing for their studies. The proposals must be approved by the Universities Funding Council in order to be put into effect. The report suggests that in the short term, foreign veterinarians

be used to bridge the gap between supply and demand.

The report recommends that more women be encouraged by veterinary schools to enter the profession by introducing flexible working hours, part-time working and job sharing. Original plans to close veterinary schools at Glasgow and Cambridge are now likely to be reprieved if the proposal is supported by the UFC. This looks very likely, in the face of the Government's acceptance that more veterinary places are needed.

Heather Saville

Brief

Tories v NUS

Proposals to make all students in higher Education vote annually on national NUS affiliation and on the ability of Universities and Polytechnics to withhold block grants from Student Unions are to be the basis of a series of meetings between the Secretary of State for Education Mr. John Major, University Vice-Chancellors and Polytechnic Directors.

Also on the Agenda is a crackdown on so-called "no platform" policies which deny alleged racist or sexist individuals from speaking on campus. Even these proposals are unlikely to satisfy Tory backbenchers who are pressing for an end to union "closed shops." The present campaign against the NUS is being spearheaded by the Freedom Association, a right-wing policy group.

Dylan Champion

AIDs rises

During the month of January the death toll for AIDS in the Northern Region rose to 38, whilst the number of diagnosed cases went up by two to a total of 58.

This rise in the North reflects the national trend: the live total reaching 2,920 while the number of dead has reached 1,660. The response of the government to this less-than-expected rise has been to launch a £2.7m Press and TV Advertising campaign, which like the previous one stresses that the disease is insinuating itself into the "general" (i.e. heterosexual) population and that the "gay plague" attitude that pervades much of the publicity of AIDS is not only extremely outdated but also dangerous. However, the campaign has already been criticised by Professor Michael Adler as being ineffective.

Chris Wood

Ball dates

Matthew Terry, Vice-President Finance, has announced provisional dates for this year's Graduation Balls at the Civic Centre.

In previous years there has been just one Graduation Ball on the last Friday of term; however this has caused a variety of problems for graduation ceremonies held on the Friday and Saturday. Many people complain about lack of time to get ready and hangovers for the Saturday ceremony.

Because of this, there will be a ball on both the Friday and Saturday nights this year (June 29th and 30th) with 350 tickets available each night. This will give people the option to choose according to which graduation ceremony they are attending.

Anybody with any suggestions about food, entertainments etc., or comments on the above arrangements should contact Matthew Terry on Level Six.

Richard Carpenter

The Boat: a classy place

Tynetalk

Despite being smartly dressed and sober, a number of students have recently been turned away from the TUXEDO ROYALE—the TUXEDO PRINCESS replacement nightclub-boat (nite-boat?) on the river.

Many thought that the number of students turned away was disproportionately large. This led to suspicions of an anti-student policy at the door at weekends.

However the assistant manager of the boat, Arthur Spanton, denied this—pointing out that there is an engineering student currently on the door staff. He thought that the most likely reason for these students being refused entry was that they belonged to a large group and the staff are very wary of admitting big groups if they are not pre-booked—not an uncommon policy among nightclubs.

"Students are very welcome

here. They are usually well-behaved."

Should you be suitably poned up (no jeans and baseball boots here, mate), in a small, preferably mixed, well-behaved group, you may be treated to an environment produced by an almost obscene amount of lavish spending; à la carte restaurant; bookable function rooms; numerous bars and dance floors, (one revolving)—surroundings as flush, no doubt, as some of the clientele.

"It has everything," said Mr. Spanton—"definitely THE place to bring your woman."

Or, presumably, for "your woman" to bring you.

It is definitely a classy place—you even get your fags lit for you. But at £1.60 a pint and £4 on the door (free before 9 p.m.) you'll have to decide whether the bigger impression will be left on the woman or the bank account.

Will Hare

Your UNION provides so many services

Listed below are just a few

Level 2: Hot Food 8.15 a.m.-2.30 p.m.
Milk Bar 9.30 a.m.-4.00 p.m.
Salad Bar 9.30 a.m.-2.30 p.m.

Level 4: Cochrane Lounge - stotties, pizzas, garlic bread, sandwiches, sweets, biscuits—the famous scone - plus your usual selection of fine beers, lagers, spirits and soft drinks.
9.30 a.m. onwards

Main Bar - selection of pasta, cheeseburgers etc., plus your usual selection of fine beers, lagers, spirits and soft drinks.

Level 6: Spiny Normans - They've got the lot, including Chinese food cooked 'on the spot'.

10.00 a.m.-3.30 p.m.

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Fourword is Courier's viewpoint page. Articles of approximately 500 words are invited, and should be submitted by 5pm on Friday.

In defence of Salman Rushdie

It is likely that Salman Rushdie would be the first person to admit the bizarre manner in which life has imitated art since the publication of "The Satanic Verses"; the fantastic and paradoxical world of his novel has stormed his own reality.

Rushdie is a free man living in captivity; he has been sentenced to death by a religion which he has rejected and a state to which he has never belonged. An Indian Muslim by birth he has been vilified by the very community to whom he has attempted to give a voice.

The right-wing literary establishment has responded to Rushdie's situation with an irritation ranging from dismissals of 'outmoded principles' and 'unreadable' books to cowardly attempts at character assassination. Finally, the Labour Party has betrayed this eminently political and anti-Thatcherite novelist with its ambivalent support for

Muslim opposition based on a mixture of delayed white liberal guilt and cynical concern for the safety of parliamentary seats dependent on Muslim votes.

"The Satanic Verses" can no more be 'unwritten' than can a death sentence be 'unpronounced' by a dead Ayatollah.

The ultimate paradox for Rushdie is that he is a victim who is blamed for his own oppression; he is accused of 'provoking' his own persecution.

This attempt to blame the victim and thereby deny the crime is evidence that the "Satanic Verses" affair has trespassed on a number of British taboos; Namely, the denial of the existence of racism and the extent of non-Christian beliefs. Britain can no longer overlook the strength

of grievance among its alienated Muslim citizens, a grievance which must at least equal the force of racist hostility which they have suffered.

Moreover, the controversy has proved that the multi-cultural ideas of racial equality and tolerance between rival religions and between belief and doubt cannot be trusted to the supposed innate liberalism of the British, which in reality is a complacent apathy.

Only recently has Rushdie broken the public silence he has maintained since the announcement of the death sentence against him. He has eloquently defended the text of his novel in *The Independent on Sunday* and the principle of the freedom of literature to provoke discourse in his Herbert Read

The ultimate paradox for Rushdie is that he is a victim who is blamed for his own oppression.

Memorial Lecture (given in his absence by the playwright Harold Pinter).

These were courageous moves by a man in a seemingly impossible situation: "The Satanic Verses" can no more be 'unwritten' than can a death sentence be 'unpronounced' by a dead Ayatollah. If this deadlock were fictional it would prove rich material for one of Rushdie's own novels but the horror of the half-life to which he is condemned is all too real.

Rushdie's predicament must not become yet another taboo subject; a silence indicating the shame of British liberal democracy's failure to live up to its own self-image. The very least that can be done for Salman Rushdie is to maintain a public vigil of debate over his private anguish. **Rachel Carroll**



Salman Rushdie

REVOLUTION IN EASTERN EUROPE

TODAY!
Debating Chamber, Level 5
1pm

GENERAL MEETING

Space Cadet is the pseudonym of an exchange student from a redbrick university on the planet Mars. Every week he presents his thoughts on Life on Earth.



I was sitting at home the other morning and everything was perfect. I poured myself a mug of cappuccino and chopped some strawberries up to sprinkle on my crunchy nut cornflakes.

Suddenly the cream on my cornflakes curdled and turned into milk that has been left by a previous occupant of my home - a Roman Legionnaire, they also lost their crunchy nuts and my coffee turned to earth. My mood was shattered as the hideous grinning visage of Britain's only (thank God) ski-jumper Eddie 'the Eagle' Edwards appeared on my TV.

You can tell a lot about a country by its sporting heroes. John McEnroe is typically American, an immature, squalling, spoilt brat who seems to be permanently on the verge of 'not playing any more'. Franz Beckenbauer, West Germany's football coach, is a model of cold Teutonic efficiency. A man whose idea of beating the French offside trap is to send six tank divisions through Belgium.

Eddie is totally England. A mental defective whose complete absence of aptitude for his chosen sport has captured the imagination of the British public. Eddie is a 'trier', a good sport, who 'plays the game' and doesn't mind losing. Eddie, quite simply, is a dickhead.

When Eddie went to the Winter Olympics, he was a massive hit amongst all the foreigners. They admired his plucky spirit, his determination and most of all his coming last. Of course, they're going to love him, while Eddie soars through the sky like a stuffed budgie and rolls arse over tit down the mountain on landing, the rest of the world is laughing all the way to the winner's podium. Do you think they like Daley Thompson as much? I don't.

Imagine if Eddie originated from somewhere civilised. There's absolutely no way he'd get away with humiliating his country. He'd be shot or at very least sent to a Labour camp and quite right too. It is a uniquely British characteristic to make a virtue out of being crap. Notice we call him 'the Eagle', not 'the crippled pigeon' or 'the floundering fruitbat' or even 'the useless prat'.

How many of the British competitors who won medals in the recent Commonwealth Games can you name? Unless you are a keen sports fan I'd guess not many, and yet these are the people Britons should be applauding; Winners, but somehow they don't have the same fascination. Perhaps this is the 'English disease'.

However hard he might try, however, Eddie can't be a worse ambassador for British sport than Mike Gatting, whose mercenary tour of South Africa bit the dust this week. Of course I'm being unfair, Mike was planning to go into the townships and teach the people there his cricketing skills, although given England's recent cricketing record I'm not sure these are worth very much. In any case I'm not sure that cricketing skills are any use when you are dodging shotgun blasts or CS gas canisters, or escaping from large policemen with rhino whips. Still as long as your cheque is in the bank, eh Mikey?

Staying in South Africa, they this week released a man who had been wrongfully imprisoned for 27 years, and allowed him to re-enter a world in which he still has no vote and suffers institutionalised discrimination in every social sphere.

Mrs. Thatcher was so inspired by this, that she offered to lift all the sanctions that Britain had reluctantly imposed, missing the point a little bit.

Would it be churlish to ask whether this generosity might be better utilised by releasing the six men wrongfully imprisoned for the Birmingham pub bombings fifteen years ago? Or do we have to wait for another 12 years and another abysmal record by the special AKA.....

Letters

Why the electorate didn't vote

Sir,
I feel I must make comment concerning the issues raised in Iain Pigg's and Angry Agric's letter.
Firstly, people don't vote for many reasons: some apathetic, some not. I think this is because they've worked out that whoever wins, nothing changes and it's probably the last you will hear from them anyway. I know that when I've run for posts (win or lose) I've made MANY promises (we all do). I've kept more than most, but in the end promises become forgotten, as do your reasons for going for the post in the first place.
If we want a better Union, we need people who can make a difference so that people will vote and or get involved. There are people here who do care (I know some and count them among my friends) but they hardly ever take posts or win them - these Exec posts just become places for political stooges who care more for themselves and their political careers than the people they represent.
If the people who are meant to care really did, there would have been more than four of this year's Exec, and one of next year's on the Loans Demo in London, or at least an apology sent by those who couldn't come. It might have been cool if Chris Bailey had booked another coach so that people didn't get turned away. No wonder people get pissed off and don't vote!
As for the mass use of paper in the election the Angry Agric is right. But we get no choice: it's all or nothing, as the Green's policies passed last year were never implemented, and if anyone should be called a hypocrite, it's me more than anyone else.
I remain, Sir,
Obedient servant to no-one,
M. V. Crowhurst,
Sab. Sec. loser by a trifling 18 votes

Sir,
With the annual round of elections just finished, I would like to commiserate with those who lost the election - that is, all the students in the Union. The victor in the sabbatical elections was APATHY, with less than 1,300 students voting, out of 8,000.
But with certain candidates not declaring their politics in their publicity (are they scared to admit to which organisations they belong?), and breaking election regulations, such as door-to-door canvassing in Halls, I feel the result is not as strange as first it seemed.
But if the Athletic Union is cut, if SCAN is closed, if welfare provision is reduced, if the University take over, then I suggest that firstly you look to the senior Sabbatical officers (President, Secretary and V.P. Finance), and then consider blaming those who did not vote. Presumably, these students either do not care what happens, or they have no wish to carry on being forced to be members.
Although I feel that some of the winners will not be an asset to the Union, I wish them all luck. I just hope that there is still an independent, secure, viable and democratic Union at the end of next year (!?!).
I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
George W. F. Dawson

Sir,
The recent low turn-out for Union elections is not simply a case of apathy amongst students. In my opinion, it reflects a more important consensus that such occasions are merely the soap-box for a bunch of petty-minded egotistical militants that obviously prefer to further their names than their studies. Given the wide opportunity to vote over the two days, it would be fair to conclude that 85% of Newcastle University students didn't want to vote - why?
Perhaps they felt they couldn't see the candidate for party politics in the way. I was labouring under the misapprehension that the Union represented us and not Thatcher, Kinnoch or Uncle Joe Stalin. You only have to look at the pathetic bickering between Chris Bailey and Douglas Turvey for an illustration of how shallow Union politics is.
The day the Union drops totally irrelevant issues and methods to the everyday student at the University (e.g., banning Nestlé?) will be the day the ballot boxes are full once more - I may even vote myself.
I appreciate my Union - will it ever appreciate me?
Yours cynically,
Andy Sprake

it's available) on cardboard plates.
If I believed things would change with the next batch of petty careerist C.V. merchants then I would perhaps vote. But I cannot believe that the vision of those elected will ever extend beyond the chance of a civil service pension.
The low electoral turn-out is not necessarily due to apathy but a reflection of the impotency most of the electorate feel.
Not voting is still a choice - perhaps the most eloquent of all.
I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
S. Twat-features

Sir,
The hassle of trying to enter the Union Building and Castle Leazes on election day was enough to put anybody off voting. On King's Walk, I was repeatedly asked if I had voted yet. Each time I answered "No". In the end, fed up with placards being shoved in my face, I replied "Yes", only to be further asked by the candidate (one that has since been elected) "Did you vote for me?" Surely this is not democracy, and the way I vote (which I did not) is my own business. This type of harassment is not necessary.
Perhaps, if this type of so-called campaigning was tamed down a bit and if the everyday student was given some say in the way the Union is run throughout the academic year, and not just at election time, maybe more people would have voted.
Yours, etc.,
Clux

Courier

Newcastle University Student Newspaper

Union Society, Kings Walk, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8QB
Telephone: (091) 232 4050

WHO CARES? How ironic it is that East European students should have come to Britain looking for lessons on how to run a new democratic student movement.

In Newcastle, this year's Union elections have been greeted with widespread apathy: hardly democratic, hardly any students, hardly dynamic. Tear down the Wall? Tearing down a "bloody poster" is as near as many "floating" voters got to the ballot box.
Yet call those who didn't vote "short-sighted", explain that "they have no grounds to criticise those in office", as Union officials did last week, and the Letters Page of *Courier* becomes inundated with Mr. Angries from Purley, Studentsville.
Readers' replies to the charges levelled against them complain about the constant, anti-social haranguing of candidates, and the petty bickering of Union politico-careerists. Not to vote is to protest about these people.
What nonsense! Why don't they admit it? Elections are unfashionable, and they have been for a long while. After all, who wants to "ruin" their Union card with a hole-punch in the cause of student democracy? As for the candidates, well, let the fools strut and fret their hour upon the stage at hustings. It's all a good laugh, eh?
Sadly, even those who did care about the elections had problems organising the annual bonanza. A few of the candidates chose not to speak at the Level 2 hustings - some vote of confidence in the system. Council members couldn't always be found to man the ballot boxes.
But this week's letter from a defeated candidate, Mark Crowhurst, is perhaps the most negative by-product of the recent elections. His morale-boosting message explains that even the most radical of Union Executives can't change things, and must play only a minor role in the world of student politics.
If Mark really believed that nothing could be done to change the lot of students, why on earth did he stand as an election candidate? The students' role in East Europe's revolution shows just how much can change.
Mark's arguments give credibility to those with a low opinion of elections and a cynical attitude towards candidates, and are as damaging as they are false.

Editor	Tim Hammond	Sport Features	Kevin Rinchey
In Depth	Debs Dudgeon	Listings	Rebecca West
Music	Rob Cotterill	Business Manager	Rob Cotterill
Stage & Screen	Iain Pigg	Permanent Secretary & Advertising Manager	Monica Doughty
Sport News	Andy Weatherston		

Gig reviews

Sir,
I feel compelled to write after reading Colin Swift's review of the 'Under Neath What' gig at the Riverside. The support band, 'Ugly As Sin', were repetitive and their only redeeming feature was the power and intensity of the female vocalist's voice.
UNW then took the stage and proceeded to blow most of the audience away. Their energy and sense of humour (which rivals 'For

Halibut Fans Only') carried the day. As Ray Wilkinson said in *Sounds* 21/10/89 (reviewing UNW's debut album) - "UNW achieve the sense of dimension that rock monoliths from Purple to Budgie found".
In conclusion might I suggest that gig reviews in the *Courier* are written not by those who have pre-decided views on the band but by those who are more open-minded.
I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Tom Sawyer,
Unbiased Northern Writers' Soc.

Apologise, Space Cadet

Sir,
I refer once more to that apology for a columnist Space Cadet and I urge all students to seriously consider leaving this University. To his previous list of wrongdoings may we now add hypocrisy, untruths and the ultimate crime of misleading every single member of this Students' Union.
The libel laws in this country were promulgated to protect individuals from people wrongfully accusing them in print; I hereby request that Space Cadet apologise for the slur on my name and makes it known to all that I am not and never have been a Nazi or neo-Nazi, nor have I believed in such doctrines.
The reason that I urge students to leave Newcastle is to protest against the intolerance shown by an officer-elect of this

society in calling me a c**t and a Nazi for daring to suggest a political viewpoint slightly removed from his own warped and rather peculiar ideas. I challenge that officer to go on record as saying that he will not be so blatantly intolerant and discriminating towards other views once he takes office.
For Space Cadet to dare suggest that I was trying to hide my identity by signing purely my initial and surname is hypocrisy of the greatest order.
For his information I was christened Charles Ian Talbot and I find it totally within the bounds of normality to sign myself C. Talbot. I further challenge Space Cadet to stand up, identify himself and come clear on his political allegiances. If he does not, others will.
Yours, etc.,
C. I. Talbot

Rag Week death pact

Sir,
The Rag Committee have signed a death pact in blood; if Rag Week 1990 fails they will don concrete shoes and go for a swim in the Tyne.
We can make posters, 'phone calls and sponsorship deals all day long. But it means nothing without

the students. Please, will people get involved. It is all here for the taking. This could be the best Rag ever. All they have to do is find us and talk to us at the Rag Table, Main Bar, 1-2 p.m. every week day.
Yours, etc.,
Jake Chambers,
Rag Organiser

SWSS saved Mandela

Sir,
With the current changes in South Africa, culminating in the release of Nelson Mandela, I think I speak for the entire country when I applaud the success of SWSS.
Evidently, their hard-line strategy of meetings in Room 27 and harsh letters of disapproval has finally scared the South African government into reform.
Perhaps you might turn your relentless, merciless attention to those nasty men who chop down rainforests - perhaps by growing bottle gardens in your living rooms; maybe a burger boycott by your thirty members might necessitate change.
When things are going so sour for our boys down there in Eastern Europe, it's nice to know the beacon burns bright in the hearts of the SWSS - the only workers society where nobody has a job.
Yours in admiration,
Ayatollah Winegum,
- Special Abuse Squad

Poem

Sir,
I write to you in heart-felt pain,
Although it may be quite in vain,
To tell you how I hate the Sloanes,
Even more than student loans,
For though I find the scheme a curse,
The Hooray Henry's are much worse.
"Sure thing. Oh Waw and OK yah -
Let's all get in my sporty car.
And head for 'Henders' really fast,
This really is a jolly blast!
As long as daddy sends the cheque,
I really couldn't give a heck."
So what's the moral of this tale?
That Sloanes at 'Henders' will prevail?
And be as ever stupid prats
Who think themselves aristocrats?
Well maybe so, but I'll say this
They'll only have my arse to kiss!
Yours, etc.,
A Henderson Hooray Henry
Hostage

RAG WEEK

The eighth week of term
Saturday 3rd March

Floats in parade
Night:
Union Toga Party
featuring
Rag Campus Travel
Endurance Challenge
Prize:
Weekend for two in Paris
1st. round: Eating dog food
It gets worse than that.
(£5 to enter)

Then:

Rag Charity Auction:

buy signed Queen albums,
Steve Cram's running vest autographed,
Simply Red memorabilia, etc.
Watch for posters, or get details at:
The Rag Table, Main Bar,
1-2 p.m. every weekday

Solomon's 'wisdom'

Sir,
I am writing with reference to Enver Solomon's article in *Courier* (8/2/90) edition, and would like to lodge a complaint against Mr. Solomon. *Courier* is available to the whole student population and anybody else who happens to come across one.
After an accurate description of the incident Mr. Solomon carries on in the penultimate paragraph to inform any would-be thief, of when to break into the Terrace, and also that the keys open every

door throughout the building.
Does Mr. Solomon not realise that such an open broadcast of this sort could lead to a disastrous breach in Security?
Since Mr. Solomon is himself a Leazes Terrace resident, I can only hope that if there is a break-in, Mr. Solomon is one of the unfortunate people involved. Maybe that would teach Mr. Solomon a little bit of tact in such a delicate situation.
Yours, etc.,
An Irate Embleton House
Resident

Bamrah, K.P.S. B.D.S. & Associates

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Stage and Screen

Chris Losh and Emma Walker review Charles Dance in Shakespeare's "Coriolanus"

Royal Shakespeare Company
CORIOLANUS
William Shakespeare
Theatre Royal

CORIOLANUS is a play of domestic, international and personal conflict: relations between the Roman Empire and her neighbours, the Volscians, are none too good; the masses are rebelling over a lack of food; and Coriolanus, the central character, must face up to the difficulties created by his uncompromising pride.

"... not one of Shakespeare's best..."

As a soldier Coriolanus is a proven hero and therefore well-liked by the senate. Unfortunately, he is also from the Norman Tebbit school of charm and, aside from beating the merry hell out of people on the battlefield, his favourite pastime seems to be infuriating the peasants.

When, (with customary arrogance) he seeks their consent in order to join the senate, they refuse and Coriolanus storms out of Rome nursing his injured pride and swearing revenge. But his intention to join forces with his erstwhile arch-enemy and raze Rome to the ground is halted by his mother's intervention, and when Coriolanus



RSC Coriolanus

returns to the Volscian camp with a peace treaty, he is stabbed to death as a traitor.

The difficulty with *Coriolanus* lies in its one-sidedness. There is a great deal of shouting, but very little humour; plenty of aggression, but not much compassion; and many accusations with no easy answers. As a play it is as unbalanced dramatically as Coriolanus is mentally.

Thus it is a tribute to the RSC that they succeed in extracting as much humour and warmth as possible without labouring overtly to do so. Through stark sets, harsh lighting contrasts and some fine performances they also managed to emphasise fully the bleak anger of a play which is not, to be frank, one of Shakespeare's best.

Chris Losh.

CORIOLANUS, Shakespeare's final tragedy, is a political play, written in approximately 1608. It is one of the

"... a refreshingly new interpretation..."

lesser-performed tragedies, and yet the questions that it raises are as relevant and important today as they were when it was first performed.

Coriolanus is a remarkable soldier, but politically naive, and unable to communicate with the people of Rome. Charles Dance magnificently encapsulates his arrogance, the self-doubt, and finally, the resolution which

he has been searching for throughout, but which is only discovered shortly before his murder.

Volumnia, played superbly by Barbara Jefford, contains the self-conviction and loyalty to Rome which Coriolanus lacks. The energy and strength which Jefford exudes is quite outstanding.

The RSC always manage to create a refreshingly new interpretation of every play they choose to perform. *Coriolanus* is no exception. Menenius (Joseph O'Connor), Sicinius Velutis (Geoffrey Freshwater) and Junius Brutus (Joe Melia) provide the play with some humorous interludes which wonderfully juxtapose the tension of the rest of the play.

Malcolm Shorry who plays Tullus Aufidius is a perfect contrast to Dance's Coriolanus. Here, we encounter a character who is convinced about what he wants and is not willing to let anything prevent his achieving his aims. The unassailable manner with which he delivers his lines is superb.

It is difficult to criticise the RSC in anything they attempt. The costuming, set and music were, although unflamboyant, exactly right for the mood created by the company. To bestow praise upon the RSC and Charles Dance may appear somewhat predictable, however, I make no apology for enthusing about such a powerful performance.

Emma Walker.

GARY ROSS ON TELEVISION

TAKING LIBERTIES

BBC 2, 13 February, 1990

"They didn't say why they suspected me, and I don't know yet why they suspected me. The fact of the matter is we were all Irish." (John Connolly).

"The raid was relevant, pertinent and quite correct in the light of information received." (Isle of Man Constabulary).

So said victim and instigator respectively of the government's Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) in the last of David Jessel's documentary series *Taking Liberties*.

John Connolly, an Irish pensioner resident in the Isle of Man, was arrested on the grounds of boarding in an hotel concurrently with a gang of Irish labourers, which appeared suspicious to the local constabulary. He was later released without apology.

The main inadequacy of the Act which the programme highlighted was one of intelligence and reliability of information received. In one case, an ex-soldier who had served in Northern Ireland was arrested on the strength of an overheard conversation in which he blamed his slight deafness on an explosion in the province. Even this seemed hard evidence compared with the other grounds for

arrest on which it is estimated a million people are detained each year, if only for a few moments, be it on overheard conversations or a sergeant's "natural instinct".

However, a more sinister aspect of the Act was brought to light. Danny McBrearty, an Irish labourer in London, was arrested after the Deal barracks bombing. After four months' detention, he was placed in internal exile in Ulster; evidence against him proved negative, but his security files label him as officially a suspected IRA terrorist. Recent security leaks have placed his file in the possession of Protestant para-military groups making not only himself but also his family a possible target for loyalist assassination in a country in which he is forced by law to stay.

When people of the stature of Lord Colville, whose 1987 review of the Act was generally supportive, recognise the extra strain which internal exile places on the security forces, it is perhaps time that the Act's powers were reconsidered thoroughly in the light of the cases brought up in this programme.



MEASURE FOR MEASURE
Gulbenkian Studio
Theatre
Feb. 27th and 28th

Rendezvous Theatre Company's production of *Measure for Measure* will be an entertaining and thought provoking exploration of one of Shakespeare's most problematic plays. The production is a modern interpretation of aspects of a society as relevant today as for Shakespeare: judicial and political corruption and the marginalisation and enforced subjection of women. It sensitively explores the predicament of those who are com-

promised by the injustices of those in power, concentrating on the essential human relationships and situational comedy to create a dramatic "thriller" rather than an abstracted poetic piece. Comedy and wit will make the production entertaining and enjoyable as well as relevant.

At a time when the RSC is playing to full houses at high prices, we are offering a good quality and an alternative approach to "main house" Shakespeare at a price that even students can afford. Don't miss the opportunity to see this fast growing theatre company in its two days at the Gulbenkian.

Stage and Screen

Next week sees the publication of Phil Best's monumental *There Is A World Elsewhere* - a review of the NUTS Drama Fortnight at the Gulbenkian; and continues with Robert Cotterill, and (again) Mr. Best on Webster's *Duchess of Malfi* at the Playhouse. Look out also for the imminent return of Simon Evans...

Stage and Screen is edited by Iain Pigg

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Also for Rag:

Blind Date and Bad Taste Party

on Wednesday, 7th March

Details at the Rag Table, Main Bar 1-2 p.m.
every weekday.

Music

**JAZZ
GARLIC
GROOVE**

Dave Dunston and The Garlic Breaths - The Live Theatre 11/2/90

The relaxed informal atmosphere of the Live Theatre provides the perfect setting for Sunday lunchtime jazz sessions.

The tables around the stage are packed out with a varied audience ranging from trendy young arty-types to flat capped pensioners, all of whom settle down to recover from hangovers, sup a pint of Burton's or scoff-out on the curry.

This week, it was the turn of 'Dave Dunston and the Garlic Breaths' to bring everyone back from their Sunday morning blues with a bit of classy entertainment down at the Quayside.

Based at the Poly, Dave Dunston and his band performed a tight set with a mixture of styles from modern to trad jazz with a little bit of salsa thrown in to add to the excellent taste. The nine piece band filled the place with skilfully rehearsed pieces of their own interspersed with a few originally arranged covers. Each band member added their own improvised performance as the set progressed, leaving the audience in no doubt over their ability to play solid jazz music. Altogether a thoroughly enjoyable way to spend a Sunday lunchtime. My only criticism being that you need to get down there early if you want to eat. Perhaps a sign of its increasing popularity.

Richard Carpenter

**FIRING
BLANKS**

GUN/SLIDE

Newcastle University 14/2/90

Slide bought their particular brand of Americanised rock to Newcastle and to these ears they couldn't have left quickly enough.

Take an average rock band, place them as support with current chart favourites add a hint of hype and yes, you have Gun. Slightly heavier (by a few grammes) than Slide but nonetheless their AOR, MOR BORing has been heard many times and will know doubt be heard again. Some of the crowd (who spent a lot of their time punching the air) enjoyed the cliched stadium antics (such a shame they will never be that big).

I was surprised that all their egos fitted in level 2 never mind on one stage. The music wasn't up to much, an average pub band made good, really. Their encore of "pretty vacant" was truly lacklustre, which showed they can even make other bands sound terminally dull

C. Swift

PREVIEW

IN THE UNION

Again, not a lot this week, but the **Busking Competition** will change all that next Thursday.

IN THE CITY

Tonight, **Loop** and their endless guitars at the Riverside. **Sunday, Chumbawamba** bring anarcho-punk to the Riverside, while on **Wednesday** the **Stranglers** play the City Ha'



Above: The Blue Aeroplanes
Below: 'Five Guys Named Moe'



ON THE DECK

The Cramps - Stay Sick

The Cramps return with their first studio LP for four years; they're essentially a blend of fifties rock with the occasional fuzz guitar and distorted bass. This record seems less chaotic than their previous outings, they occasionally dig up their past but they still come up with the goods. Tunes such as "Saddle Up A Buzz Buzz" a crunchy cacophony with an odd guitar break, the noise driven "Journey To The Centre Of The Girl" and of course chart success (!) "Bikini Girls With Machine Guns" showed that the cramps have indeed after 10 years stayed sick.

Everything But The Girl - The Language of Life

Easy listening that too quickly fades into the background, their single "Drive" was recognised not from the radio but from Boots in Eldon square! In fact, "Drive", together with "Take Me" form the strongest songs on the album, and "Me and Bobby D" has a brilliant saxophone melody". The rest is very much a sameness, pleasant harmonies above a jangly tune. Without listening for lyrics it becomes difficult to distinguish between songs.

Since "Idlewild" Everything But The Girl now sound much closer to the Deacon Blue mode of pop. There's nothing revolutionary about "The Language of Life" and it doesn't seem worthy of the time taken to arrive. It's not bad though, and their fans will love it!

Pale Saints - The Comforts of Madness

A mellow album mainly of slow songs with some strange guitar noises thrown in. At times it is reminiscent of the Spacemen 3's mellow moments, Sonic Youth circa "Sister" and Primal Screams first LP. There is not a single bad track amongst them, the quality being consistent, highlights being "Sight Of You" with its nice mix of guitar styles and the opener "The Way The World Is" with its pounding drums and weird guitar noises. Not the most original record ever, but pleasant nonetheless.

Five Guys Named Moe - RCA Demo Tape

This begins with a finely crafted pop song "Selfish Days" a pleasant tune and a nice twangy guitar. Unfortunately its downhill from there "She's On A Mountain Top" is a fairly lightweight mediocre affair, "If I Were A Man" is very ordinary and the last track "Beneath The Willow" fairs little better. Lightweight pop in the Deacon Blue Mode.

Transverse City - Warren Zevon

American rock music and pretty standard at that. A similar style to John Cougar, lots of harmonica and the obligatory guitar solos three quarters of the way through each song. Alright I suppose if you like that kind of stuff.

The Blue Aeroplanes - Swagger

With a title like "Swagger", it comes as no surprise that this is a confident album, and it should be as they have already had four previous LP's in which to perfect their sounds and ideas. Gerard Langley's half sung/half spoken style of vocals (backed up on one occasion by Michael Stipe of REM fame) take a little getting used to, but the accompanying music is more direct, which adds up to an interesting package. Their obvious intelligence may at first be slightly alienating, but Swagger should see The Blue Aeroplanes become a fixture of the all-important U.S. college radio play-lists, as well as gaining a sizeable army of followers here at home. The Blue Aeroplanes play the Riverside on March 1st; it would be well worth your while checking them out before they jump another few rungs towards large-scale success.

Records reviewed by Colin, Helen and Simon.
Records supplied by Volume Records.

**MONSTER
NU
EVENTS**



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

- TONIGHT** **CANDLEMAN SUMMER** are playing in the Main Bar - well worth it after their sell-out Broken Doll gig.
- FRIDAY** It's the **BUSSTOP** Disco on Level 2 for £1.50.
- SATURDAY** It's the Inter-Varsity Folk Dance Festival on Level 2.
- SUNDAY** The same as Saturday but with **EASTENDERS**.
- MONDAY** Dave calls the tune at the Bingo in the Main Bar.
- TUESDAY** The Cochrane Quiz with the Real Bastard Question.
- WEDNESDAY** Rock Soc. are thrashing away on Level 6.
- THURSDAY** **THE BUSKING COMPETITION** on Level 2. Only £1.50

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- Sat 10** **THE CHARLATANS** £3.50 adv
- Sun 11** **GIL SCOTT HERON** £6 adv
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plus **THE FAITH HEADS**
- Wed 14** **WOLFSBANE** £3.50 adv
- Sun 18** **SENSELESS THINGS** £3 adv
plus **THE CANE TOADS**
- Mon 19** **THE ICICLE WORKS** £5 adv
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- Sat 24** **GARY CLAILS ON-U SOUND SYSTEM** £4 adv
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RIVERSIDE

In Depth

NEWCASTLE RAVE ON

Chris Wood turns on, tunes in and drops out . . .

With bands like the Stone Roses, Happy Mondays, Technotronic, etc. riding high in the charts, it is becoming obvious that the acid house/raving scene has become highly popular and socially acceptable. But underlying this is the publicly unsound nature of the drug scene which forms the core of the culture they represent.

I spoke to two local "ravers" who wish to remain anonymous for reasons that will become obvious. They first told me about the major acid house drugs: Extasy and LSD.

Extasy (or 'E')

This can be obtained, they claim, at any major nightclub where dance music is played. The cost of a tablet is between £15 and £25 depending on current availability. They described the immediate effects to me as "like being in a cosy little family, or beautiful secret world," wherein the user experiences a feeling of total self-confidence. There is no disorientation involved and the most significant effect they noted was a vastly enhanced sex drive. These effects can last up to 12 hours and leave the user with no form of hangover the next morning, in fact a "feeling of immense well-being and warm satisfaction."

LSD (or Acid)

This is the cheaper of the two drugs (£4 to £8 a tablet) which has the well-documented effects of psychotic hallucinations, intense paranoia and total confusion. Our ravers said that the main difference they experience is that whilst extasy gives one a heightened or enhanced reality effect, Acid opens a door in one's mind which leads into a completely irrational and unfamiliar reality in which one can see sounds, hear walls and talk to chairs.

The prevalence of these drugs in contemporary youth culture is very evident in both the attitude of the music that ravers listen/dance to and the members of the bands who make this music. The most obvious instances of the latter are the Stone Roses and Happy Mondays, who perform, record and most importantly interview in a state of

complete drug-induced intoxication, under the influence of cocaine as well as Acid or Extasy.

However, it is not just people who are involved in the "raving scene" who are now using these drugs, and it is this point that our ravers emphasised the most: "The cross-over nature of the acid house culture means that the use of 'E' and acid has reached epidemic proportions in this city."

They estimate that in central Newcastle alone, over 4,000 people go out over the weekend with the intention

to consume either extasy or Acid, but usually Acid. This has led to the emergence of the "Geordie Acid Terrorist" whereby the Bigg Marketeer enhances his pint-downing capabilities with untold doses of LSD. Whilst most ravers would not dream of imbibing alcohol with drugs, the GAT will consider it just a further opportunity to boast the extent of his manhood. They cite one example of a GAT who claimed to have consumed 13 LSD tablets in one night. The most worrying extent of this total abuse is that it gives the user almost superhuman strength and an incredible sense of paranoia which the GAT will not fail to take out on, say, a passing student.

It is these types of people our ravers believe will come into contact with the police when they try to close down warehouse raves. These events, like one that occurred three weeks ago in Jesmond, are communicated by word of mouth to those who make up Newcastle's fashion elite. Such events throughout the country are at present the subject of police action which has been criticised as "illegal" by the National Council for Civil Liberties.

However, this is not the full story as the government has proposed legislation on raves which intends to outlaw their organisation of such events. If this legislation is passed, which it almost certainly will be on March the 9th, our ravers predict that the thousands of people who embody this culture will "rise up and fuck the police". When one considers that in the South of England the major rave organisers have 20,000 people buying tickets at £20 a throw each weekend, then a "White Riot" does seem imminent. Instead of legislating with the intention of stopping raves occurring, our ravers argue, the government should attempt to control the activities of the gangs who make vast profits out of selling Acid. The only effects of the legislation they can foresee are rioting after the entire culture is forced underground.

Whatever happens, the raving culture will continue to expand: Happy Mondays have confirmed a live date at the Wembley Arena for June, and now every student seems to possess a coat with a hood.



A DRUG-FREE HAVEN

Ask any raver where the best dance in town is to be had, and he'll probably tell you to visit Rockshots on a Thursday night. However, unlike certain nightclubs it has a completely different approach to drugs. I spoke to its main organiser, Tommy Trent, who emphasised that he and his collaborators Mickey, Audrey and Adrian are "working to create a dance scene where drugs are not necessary, as we have been since we started out." Known drug dealers are searched on the front door—Tommy cites one example of a 15-year-old lad who was discovered to have strips of speed concealed under his foreskin.

He claims that despite this clampdown on drug abuse in the club that his team, Determination INC., are "Number One in Newcastle and the North-East". With the intention of substantiating this rampant egotism he further claims that through Determination's various nights in North east night clubs they "club more people in one

week than the competitors do in three months." This support he attributes in the main to the influence of students, who cause "an influx of new blood and ideas each year which makes the difference between a scene and a town."

I asked Tommy to comment on the views expressed by the anonymous ravers we featured in the previous article. He stated that "Drugs are narrowing the horizons of modern music" because they reduce a person to "a raving machine who just listens to the bleeps". He went on to say that without drugs, bands such as the Happy Mondays "would still be playing to 200 kids in a dive in Manchester." Instead, Rockshots on a Thursday night should concentrate on "a unification of races, sexes and sexualities, which is at the very heart of Determination INC."

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Friday 23 February
The Challenges of the Future
Professor Frances Young
Birmingham University

Given by the Department of Social Policy

SOCIAL POLICY AND THE CHANGING FAMILY
Tuesday 27 February
Making Provision for the Family in Northern Sudan
Dr. A. Al-Shahi

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In Depth

REVOLUTIONARY PLANS

ENVER SOLOMON TALKS TO A STUDENT FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA

"Comrade is now a dirty word, nobody ever calls me Comrade Vitek, simply Vit or Vitek," explains Vitek Polanka, a student from Czechoslovakia who was involved in the recent revolution that took place in his country. He prefers to call it a "gentle revolution as there was no real violence or bloodshed as in Romania".

Vitek is presently on a month's visit to the U.K. touring around Universities and Polytechnics throughout the country. The purpose of his trip is to examine how our student unions function and what role the National Union of Students plays. Plans are underway in his own country to set up a Czechoslovak Union of Students. It is hoped to model it on our own system in Britain.

"Before, we only had one student youth organisation in Czechoslovakia. This was a front for the communist party it was corrupt and did not represent the student's interests", explains Vitek. "It was during the national strike at the end of last year that we began to form an independent student union". Vitek was a member of his local student strike committee in Olomone, Moravion (central Czechoslovakia). He later went to Prague where he joined the Central co-ordinating student strike committee.

A young humble man, Vitek has no pretensions of being a great revolutionary. Instead he talks about the students' achievements with great modesty, describing them as part of the "spark" that began the events which led to the over-throw of the Communist Regime.

He tells the story of how on 17th November 1989 students in Prague decided to strike in protest against not being permitted to demonstrate against the government. At first they joined

"British students are a stage ahead than us - you will be demonstrating in London against loans, we do not yet have a system of grants."

the theatre workers and then other workers joined them. The strike soon spread to the major cities, becoming nationwide. In Vitek's home town over half the inhabitants met at a rally in

the main square to show their solidarity with the nationwide strike.

Vitek explains that these recent demonstrations were the first time since Communist rule that students have had a real chance to openly voice their discontent. "In the past, every independent initiative we have taken has been crushed by the authorities." He cited an example, at the beginning of last year when students peacefully demonstrated to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Jan Palach, a national martyr who fought against the Russian invasion in 1968, the demonstration was broken up by tear gas and water cannons. Many of the organisers were expelled from their colleges and charged.



Vitek Polanka - during his visit to England.

Vitek hopes that now he and his fellow students will be able to openly criticise and voice their grievances. They will also be demanding changes to the present education system. "We no longer wish to have compulsory lessons of Marxism and Leninism. We also want to have a full grant", he says. The majority of Czech students do not receive a grant to cover their accommodation, books and living expenses. "British students are a stage ahead than us - you will be demonstrating in London against loans, we do not yet have a system of grants."

However, Vitek does acknowledge that the British system

"I want a decent standard of living. Freedom is not enough. What is freedom without having the money to improve education or to travel."

is not perfect. "Of course I realise there are good and bad points, it is not true to say your system is perfect". But this view is not apparently shared by most Czechs. "People in my country realise the old system is finished for them, they would choose anything else since they feel this would be better. They look to the Western Capitalist countries, particularly Austria and Sweden as the ideal models."

Vitek believes this is a naive view. He feels that it is not so simple. "People forget what Western Capitalism has done for Argentina or the third world."

What does Vitek want for his country in the future? "I want a decent standard of living. Freedom is not enough. What is freedom without having the money to improve education or to travel." Vitek does not lack realism, though: "Of course there will be hard times with inflation and unemployment, but we must prepare ourselves for that."

In general he is optimistic for his country. However, he expressed his fears of adopting western capitalism. "I am afraid of simply adopting the free market structure. Czechoslovakia still needs to retain some of its socialist ideals such as social welfare. If not there is a danger of turmoil in the future."

MONSTER
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EVENTS



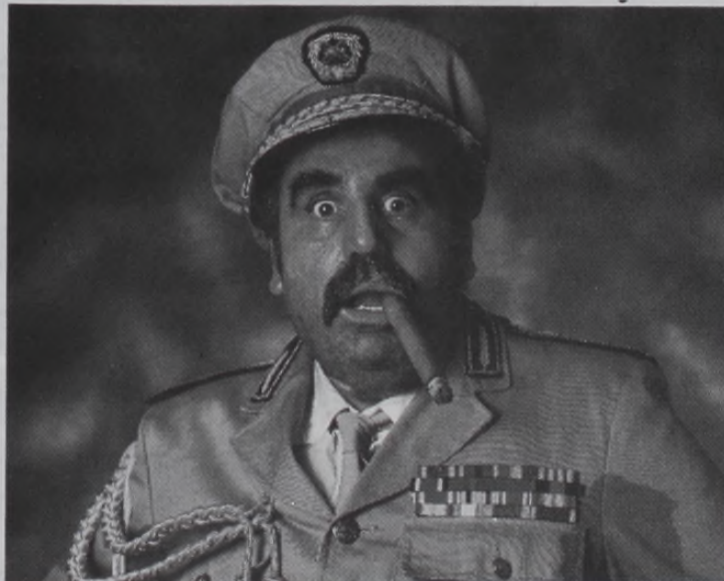
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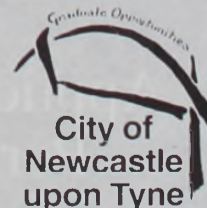
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ALTERNATIVE MAGPIE

RICHARD FOSTER SPEAKS TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MAG" MARK JENSON

Intro: Mark Jenson is the editor of "The Mag", the monthly fanzine for Newcastle Utd. supporters. For many people, the Mag has become part of the match ritual, along with the half time pie. Richard Foster talks to Mark about the Community, The Mag, and fanzines in general.

For me, this is seventh heaven. I'm sitting in a room decorated on all sides with Newcastle Utd. paraphernalia. Opposite me is Mark Jenson, editor of my favourite fanzine.

Without further ado, I press the record button...

"What do you think fanzines are there for, Mark?"

"I think that fanzines are there to give an outlet to people who wouldn't otherwise get the opportunity to make their views known. Usually, it's only a very small group of people such as jour-

"Maybe a lot of people thought it was the 'John Hall magazine' "

nalists, who are allowed to say publicly, what they think."

There's a lot of fanzines around. Can you see the phenomenon growing, or is it just a fad?

"In the last year it's just rocketed. Now, every club has at least one - West Ham have 4 or 5. I think that it will reach a plateau where things will level off - but I don't know where that level is. There is certainly a place for them."

The conversation now turns to his own involvement. Why did you want to start up the Mag?

"I think that there's more to write about at Newcastle than at any other club; the interest is astronomical. The Evening Chronicle sells itself solely through the back page - they need a story every night. We felt the supporters were getting a raw deal off the club, and the fans wanted to say their piece, but weren't getting a chance to say it. At the time it just seemed right."

Do you get a lot of local reaction to the Mag - do many people write in?

"Quite a few - well, maybe not as many as we'd like. If there is a problem, it's that our fanzine, compared to others, looks quite professional, and so when people see it (especially when it's on sale in WH Smiths) they think it's like the Chronicle, and not for the ordinary supporter. I'm pleased when



people do write in, but it's not nearly enough."

I'll press him further on this, I detect a raw nerve somewhere. Is there any section of the community you'd like *The Mag* to reach?

"I think there is more to write at Newcastle than at any other club."

"Are you thinking of anyone in particular? Anyone really..."

"Well, I dunno... one of the problems initially was

when *The Mag* started, the majority of stuff written in it was a reaction to the board. Maybe a lot of people thought it was the 'John Hall magazine', backed by his money, it is truly independent. I would like to see the traditional supporters buy it - the ones who go in at 10 to 3 and get a pie at half time. I find it frustrating when people don't give it a try - that's the worst form of apathy."

"How long would you edit *The Mag* for, Mark?"

"I don't know. I've done it for a year and a half - it's only natural that you want to move on to other things, but I feel as though I would always be involved in some capacity. Everybody wants to progress."

"Is there anything you don't want *The Mag* to become?"

"I think you're thinking of the match programme! Well, as long as it doesn't compromise, and keeps a free hand, I don't mind where it goes. Maybe the fanzines are the thing the match programme should be up to a point..."

Nice bloke, Mark Jenson. In a perfect world *The Mag*

would be the match programme, and a rejuvenated Newcastle would be flying high in Division One. But that is another story...



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- Henderson - Thursday 22nd February
- Union Society - Wednesday 14th March

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Speakers: Richard Park & Hilary Dawson, Welfare Advisors,
Students Union Welfare Office
Jan Morris, Housing Officer, University Housing
Mark Crowhurst, Students Union Accommodation Officer

Listings

What's on and Where

UNION

Tonight
CANDLEMAN SUMMER
Playing in the Main Bar
Friday
BUS STOP
Level 2, £1.50
Saturday
INTER-VARSITY FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL
Level 2
Monday
BINGO
Main Bar
Tuesday
THE COCHRANE QUIZ
Wednesday
ROCK SOC
Level 6
Thursday
THE BUSKING COMPETITION
Level 2 only £1.50
In the Main Bar
THE PANAMA JAZZMEN

Fri. 23rd Feb.
BROKEN DOLL
THE BIG GRIN
8 p.m.

Sat. 24th Feb.
ART CENTRE
ROCK 'N' DORIS
£2/£1 7.30 p.m.
BROKEN DOLL
CLUB GOD
TRANCE ENDINGS
+ CHICKEN DURGE
POLYTECHNIC
IAN COGNITO
+ TIM BELL
TONY MENDOZA
£1.50 8 p.m.

Sun. 25th Feb.
BARKING DOG
NELL MANGEL (etc.)
FREE 8 p.m.
BROKEN DOLL
RIDERS ON THE STORM
FREE 1.00
RAY STUBBS R&B
ALL STARS
FREE 8.00 p.m.
WHOOSH (upstairs)
THRILLED SKINNY
RIVERSIDE
CHUMBAWUMBA + SHRUG
£3.50/£3 (2.50) 8.00

Mon. 26th Feb.
BROKEN DOLL
DAN TO DAN
FREE 8.00 p.m.
JUDITH CHAIR (up) 8
LIGHT PROGRAMME
£1 8 p.m.
RIVERSIDE
PALE SAINTS + SUNFLOWER
£3.50/£3 (2) 8 p.m.

CITY HALL
BOURNMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
7.45 p.m. £2-£10

Tues 27th Feb.
POLYTECHNIC
THE CORN DOLLIES + WOODCHILDREN
ST. JAMES INFIRMARY
£3.50 8 p.m.
RIVERSIDE
A GUY CALLED GERALD
£4
KINGS HALL
RACHEL BOTTOM AND CAMERON LECKIE
£1 10 p.m. FREE

Wed. 28th Feb.
BROKEN DOLL
BITTER END CLUB
THE HOTSHOTS
50p 8.00 p.m.
CITY HALL
THE STRANGLERS
£9/£8 7.30 p.m.
RIVERSIDE
NIRVANA
+ DEAD FLOWERS
£4.50/4 (3) 8 p.m.
PLAYHOUSE
CHAMBER MUSIC SOC. - MEDIC. STRING QUARTET
7.30 p.m.

THEATRE

GULBENKIAN (Tel. 232 9974)
Wed 21 Feb - Sat 24 Feb 8 p.m.

AFTER THE FALL - NUTS
Tickets £2.80/£2
Tues. 27 Feb. and Wed. 28 Feb. 7.30 p.m.

MEASURE FOR MEASURE - Rendezvous Theatre Company
Tickets £2.80/£2.

LIVE THEATRE (Tel. 261 2694)
Thurs. 22 Feb. 7.30 p.m.
FOREIGN LANDS by Karen Hope

Fri. 23 Feb. 7.30 pm.
SHORT THE SEASON by Michael McGrath

Sat 24 Feb. 7.30 p.m.
NOW LIKE THIS IN AMERICA by Alan Spence
Tickets £1.50, concs. £1.

Wed. 28 Feb. - Sat. 10 Mar. 7.30 p.m.
GREEN FINGERS by Michael Wilcox
Tickets £4, concs. £2.50

PLAYHOUSE (Tel. 232 7079)
Mon. 19 Feb. - Sat. 24 Feb. 7.30 p.m.
Thur. 2 p.m. and 2.30 p.m.
PERICLES-RSC

Mon. 26 Feb. - Sat. 3 Mar. 7.30 p.m.
Mats. Thur. 2 p.m. and Sat. 2.30 p.m.
THE DUCHESS OF MALFI - RSC
Tickets £5-£15.

THEATRE ROYAL (Tel. 232 2061)
Thur. 20 Feb. - Sat. 24 Feb. 7.30 p.m.
mats. 2 p.m. and Sat. 2.30 p.m.
AS YOU LIKE IT - RSC

MUSIC

Thurs. 22nd Feb.
ART CENTRE
SAID LIQUIDATOR + LAVERNE & SHIRLEY
£2/£1 50 8.00 p.m.
BROKEN DOLL
EMPIRE DAY
8 p.m.
FIGHTING COCKS
LEE TWOMEY
FREE 8 p.m.
QUAY CLUB
LOUD GUITARS
FREE 8 p.m.
RIVERSIDE
UNDERGROUND
with
LOOP + GODFLESH
£4.50/£4 (€3) 8 p.m.
CITY HALL
BOURNMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
7.45 p.m. £2-£10.
KINGS HALL
MOZART
1.10 p.m. FREE

GALLERY

NEWCASTLE ARTS CENTRE, WESTGATE ROAD
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THE ENGLISH LANDSCAPE - new photography

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RAINDOOR PEOPLE: THE SAAMI OF LAPLAND



"After Betty Blue comes Roselyne and The Lions"

HATTON GALLERY, UNIVERSITY
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POLYTECHNIC GALLERY
until 2nd March
BENSON AND HEDGES GOLD AWARDS

FILMS

TYNESIDE (Tel. 232 1507)

Thurs 22 Feb.
ROSELYNE AND THE LIONS (12)
3.30/8.30
MYSTERY TRAIN (15) 6.00
ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE (15)
4.15/6.30/8.45

Fri. 23 Feb.
ROSELYNE AND THE LIONS (12)
1.00/6.00
MYSTERY TRAIN (15) 3.30/8.30
ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE (15)
4.15/6.30/8.45

Sat. 24 Feb.
ANIGHT ON THE TOWN (PG) 1.30
MIDNIGHT EXPRESS (18) 3.30
MYSTERY TRAIN (15) 6.00
ROSELYNE AND THE LIONS (12)
8.30
ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE (15)
4.15/6.30/8.45

Sun. 25 Feb.
MIDNIGHT EXPRESS (18)
4.00/8.25
ANGEL HEART (18) 6.10
ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE (15) 4.30
ASK THE DEAD THE PRICE OF DEATH 6.45
MYSTERY TRAIN (15) 8.30

Mon. 26th Feb.
ROSALIE GOES SHOPPING (15)
4.30/8.45
LADDER OF SWORDS (15) 6.30
MYSTERY TRAIN (15) 4.00/6.15
CONQUEST OF THE SOUTH POLE (12) 8.30

Tues. 27 Feb.
ROSALIE GOES SHOPPING (15)
4.30/8.45
LADDER OF SWORDS (15) 6.30
CONQUEST OF THE SOUTH POLE (12) 5.00
MIRROR (U) + TARKOVSKY 7.30

Wed. 28 Feb.
ROSALIE GOES SHOPPING (15)
2.00/6.30
LADDER OF SWORDS (15)
4.15/8.45
CONQUEST OF THE SOUTH POLE (12) 4.00/8.30
MYSTERY TRAIN (15) 6.15

ODEON
HONEY, I SHRANK THE KIDS
1.25, 3.55, 6.10, 8.30
PARENTHOOD
12.20, 2.55, 5.30, 8.05
SHIRLEY VALENTINE
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Fri. & Sat. 6, 8.25
OLIVER & COMPANY

Fri. & Sat. 1.40, 3.40
SEA OF LOVE
1.05, 3.30, 5.55, 8.20
Sun. 3.30, 5.55, 8.20

WARNERS
DRIVING MISS DAISY
Fri.-Sun. 2.25, 4.40, 6.15, 8.15
Mon.-Thur. 4.40, 6.15, 8.15
HONEY, I SHRANK THE KIDS
Fri.-Sun. 12.15, 2.15, 5.35, 7.55
Mon.-Thur. 2.55, 5.35, 7.55
PARENTHOOD
Fri. 2.10, 4.50, 8
Sat. & Sun. 12.55, 3.35, 6, 8.20
Mon.-Thur. 3.35, 6, 8.20

SEA OF LOVE
Fri.-Sun. 1, 3.25, 6.20, 8.40
Mon.-Thur. 3.25, 6.20, 8.40
TURNER & HOCH
Fri.-Sun. 2.10, 4.10, 6.10
Mon.-Thur. 4.10, 6.10
WHEN HARRY MET SALLY
Fri.-Sun. 2, 4.05, 6.25, 8.40
Mon.-Thur. 4.05, 6.25, 8.40
BLAZE
Fri. & Sat. 1.20, 3.30, 6, 8.30
Sun. 1.20, 3.40, 6.20, 9.05
Mon.-Thur. 3.40, 6.20, 9.05
BLACK RAIN
Fri. & Sat. 5.30, 8.35
Sun.-Thur. 5.40, 8.20
SHIRLEY VALENTINE
4.20, 6.45, 9
OLIVER & COMPANY
Fri.-Sun. 12.15, 2
BACK TO THE FUTURE II
Sat. & Sun. 2 p.m.
DEAD POETS' SOCIETY
Fri.-Thur. 8.30

OTHERS

Thur. 22nd Feb.
LAING GALLERY, HIGHAM PLACE
TALK-DAVID DYE: INSTALLATION WORKS
4 p.m. FREE

Fri. 23 Feb.
CURTIS AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY
LUNCHTIME LECTURE-ANGELA CARTER/CHANTEL CHAWAF: RE-WRITING THE DOMESTIC
1.10 p.m.-1.55 p.m. FREE

Fri 23 Feb.
CURTIS AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY
LUNCHTIME LECTURE: THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE
1.10 p.m.-1.55 p.m. FREE

Tues. 27th Feb.
MORDEN TOWER, HIGHAM PLACE
TALK ON FRED REED AND DIALECT POETRY
7.30 p.m.

CURTIS AUDITORIUM, UNIVERSITY
LUNCHTIME LECTURE: MAKING PROVISION FOR THE FAMILY IN NORTHERN SUDAN
1.10 p.m.-1.55 p.m. FREE

Wed. 28th Feb.
LAING GALLERY, HIGHAM PLACE
TALK-TRAVELS IN INDIA
12.30 p.m.-1.15 p.m. FREE

SUBSCRIPTION DRAW

1160 wins a dozen cans of beer donated by Vaux Breweries
1375 wins a £5 voucher donated by Kard Bar, Cross Street
436 wins lunch for two (value £5) donated by the Barley Mow, Sandgate
223 wins 2 complimentary tickets donated by the Gulbenkian Studio (by arrangement)
215 wins a £5 voucher donated by Flip, Cross Street
555 wins an LP or tape (value £6) donated by Volume Records, Ridley Place
988 wins 2 complimentary tickets donated by the Tyneside Cinema, Pilgrim Street
793 wins a meal for 2 (value £5) donated by Wemy 24 Northumberland Street
154 wins 2 free tickets to a Union Event. (See Chris Pyne, Ent's Officer) by arrangement
16 wins bottle of wine donated by Gibbeys Vintners
336 wins Sunday lunch for two, donated by Luckies Corner Bar, St. Mary's Place East
1515 wins lunch for two or Happy Hour meal (value £5) donated by the Rupa Indian and Vegetarian Restaurant, Bigg Market
609 wins T shirt donated by Vaux Breweries
59 wins a £5 Book House voucher, Ridley Place
1408 wins a meal for two (value £5) at Spiny Normans, Level 6, Union Society
294 wins a haircut and style donated by Top Style II for Men, 142 Northumberland Street
931 wins 1 Bus Stop pass to Level 2 Friday Night Disco
22 wins Free Session for two persons in Last Resort (by arrangement)
174 wins film developed (1 hour service) donated by Quick Pics, 37 Nelson Street
Prizes to be collected by Monday, 26th February, 1990.

Personal Column

Red Wine means trouble for at least five hours.
Calling all fatty's from Kirk-ireton. Disgusting faces, smelly socks and antique bag for sale.
See "Dave you're crap" for details.
Venus Man: Leave some flies for the insects. Where did Miss Hayton lose 18% and was it all in one night?

COOCHOPS
We stand through time, immortal. As love's brief candle flickers. And still, a tin of tuna. Brings back memories of your knickers. So much for bets with you! Crusty Bedsread.

To Queen of the Blue Hitchers
The "C" Word until next year
the almost managing theatre company proudly presents a fundraising
JUMBLE SALE
11 a.m. Sat. 24th Feb.
St. Augustine's Church
Brighton Grove, Fenham

IAINY Why do you keep waving at us? You're under starters orders And Away they go...
Loads and loads of thanks to all of you who helped and put up with my campaign:
Helen, Catherine and all at the Moulin Rouge.
Carol and Jeremy, Andy & Rich and all the rest.
Cheers!
Rob.

RAG - 8th week of term
To the Cop of Trendy Hendy. You will never win. Because Pushers Corruptors and users will always be there.

KATIE - Are you sure your score was 79%?
JON: How's your Banger?
PHWOARR! There goes Lucy - What a Foxy Chick!
Rachel G. - To be the latest Mermaid in Durham Lake? - Soon we think - Revenge will be sweet. - Watch out Claret here I come!!
We love hot fudge brownies, but so does BGA.
TIFFANY: You've done the Bridge Hotel, which Supermarket are you in next? We'll be there.

Come to the RAG table in the Main Bar 1-2 p.m. TODAY to sign up for RAG RAIDS TO LONDON AND YORK.

Gonzo, Bob is alive and well and living in Henderson. Red on the other hand! GWB.

PANAMA JAZZMEN
Dixieland Jazz available for functions * Parties * etc.
Reasonable
☎ Blyth (0670) 361930
or
Tyneside (051) 2374354

Happy 21st Birthday MANDY - A woman who wouldn't hurt a fly, granted she could get it open.

NEW EDITION OF VIZ
starring -
Bob Taylor, Gay Saylor
Reuben Noot goes toot toot on his flute.
George Bacon, 2 pints will take him.

WANTED
Female Companion,
Must be brainless and a
Martial Arts Freak
Contact AL.

Puppy trainer - are brillo pads good in bed, or do you prefer something warm and furry?
Knee high Nazi - we love you!
CB NEXT time you're shopping on Guildford High Street, please will you take me! JAWS.

To Spot and Stripe, thanks for the floor, food, lifts, conversation and videos. Well Done on 2nd.

RAG - 8th week of term
Colin K. Swift - I want your body - Uncle Reg.
JO: How has your week of Passion been? Did you get enough sleep for it last weekend?



Bernie Slaven. Local Derby ends in close fought draw. Guess we're both Kings of the Road, love Mickey Quinn.

Happy 25th Birthday
Hevva
Have fun
Jooley
X

SOMEONE TO TALK TO
Niteline
☎ 261 2905 8pm-8am

The Halibuts - now available for children's parties.

Newcastle University Athletic Union
RAG WEEK
CHARITY SPORTSDAY
SUNDAY 4th MARCH
Football rugby mixed hockey, netball, tennis, lacrosse.
Entry forms from Rag Table, main Bar 1-2 p.m. weekdays
Get together and form a team
Prize for winning terms.

JOOLS: I won't leave as long as the bastards don't grind me down, Arnold xx.
IAIN: I owe you at least as much as you owe me! Thanks for everything.
Love Always
HELEN

BEN: Used you bedsread for emergency stairs yet! Why does it smell of chops?

--- ROCK SOC ---
Rock Soc DISCO
Level 6 - 8.00 p.m.
The E.T.W. thank everyone for the tremendous apathy shown during the recent Elections.
Keep up the good "work".

FIRST YEAR CONFERENCE '90.
LAST MINUTE APPLICATIONS FOR STEWARDS/DRIVERS WILL BE ACCEPTED TODAY
COLLECT AND RETURN FORMS AT PORTERS LODGE

RAG - 8th week of term.
At last an offer which can't be refused
A BARBAIN ROOM available in Henderson Hall.
For any female wanting to move ASAP only
£20 p.w. with 2 meals a day.
Contact: Debs Brown 1st year
Fine Art Department

IAIN, JO, VIN Many Thanks Car - Nations
You're insignificant too Uncle Reg!
Stylohyoid, M.

EDINBURGH RAG RAID!!
Total £446.29
Highest collection of the day:
A. Mutch with £54.45.
Thank you for helping, London next!!
Sign up at the Rag Table, Main Bar, 1-2 p.m. (weekdays)

Wanted, someone who can understand Charlie's messages.
MORGAN now's the organ, we've heard you play well!

Thanks to everyone who helped especially IAIN for the publicity, PETE for the photos, and FRANK for the moral support.
Love 'n' Stuff
Helen

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