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ISSUE 1157 MONDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2007

THE INDEPENDENT VOICE OF NEWCASTLE STUDENTS

FREE

# FRESHER FACES RACE HATE

BY FRAN INFANTE  
NEWS EDITOR

A STUDENT has made the decision to return home and drop out of her Bioscience degree after just a few weeks, following racial abuse at the University.

The student, who cannot be identified, was in her first year at the University and suffered racially motivated abuse on three separate occasions before making the decision to quit her studies.

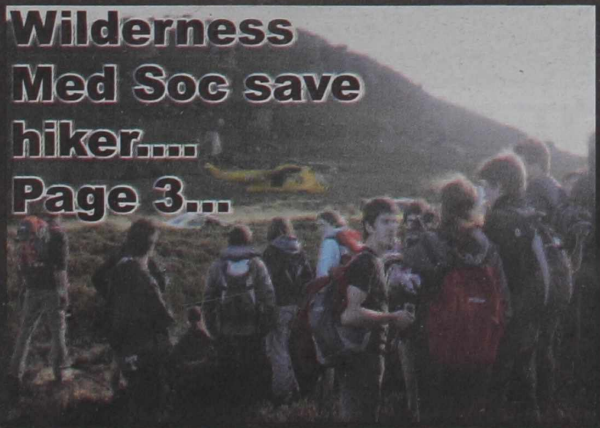
The first instance was at the University halls of residence Bowsden Court when builders working on the site made racial comments. A similar instance occurred at South Gosforth

metro station, this time involving a group of local youths. Following that she was particularly upset to over hear herself being referred to as "the Paki" in a bar in the Union, an issue that led to her decision to terminate her degree.

Pro-Vice Chancellor Ella Ritchie condemned the insensitivity of those for whom the casual use of racially offensive terms is normal. She was keen to highlight that instances such as those encountered by this student are rare and even rarer that they lead to such extreme and negative reactions from the victim, but reiterated that the aim of the University is not to ensure that these circumstances rarely occur, but that they never do.

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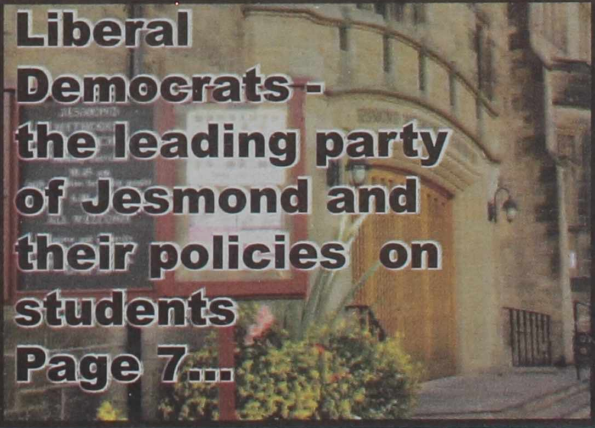
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Med Soc save  
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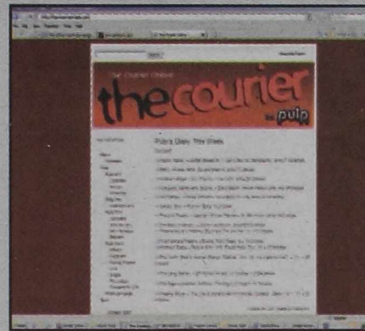
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**Liberal  
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>> On the Web This Week



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>> Weather Watch

Monday should see some sunny spells as the weather recovers from quite a rainy weekend.

Tuesday will see showers across the country, but later on in the week these will become particularly prominent in the North-East. The north can also expect to see a lot of wind.

Temperatures should remain about the same as last week.



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# Getting Our Voice Heard

## Government unveils plans to give students more of a say in the issues that affect us the most

BY PAUL BRANNON  
NEWS EDITOR

**THE DEPARTMENT for Innovations, Universities and Skills held a conference with representatives of student media last Thursday to discuss the initiative to give students more of a say in national government.**

This new department brings together functions from two former departments, including science and innovation responsibilities from the Department of Trade and Industry and Skills, and further and higher education from the Department for Education and Skills.

To build a dynamic, knowledge based economy, the new department will draw together the nation's strengths in colleges, research, science and universities.

The aim of the department is to find a way for higher education institutions to widen participation beyond young people leaving college or school with good A levels; put learners and employers at the heart of their provision; and strengthen their leading position in international education through excellent teaching and innovative research.

The DIUS will also attempt to sustain and develop a world-class research base, maximise the exploitation of

the research base to support innovation across all sectors of the economy, raise and widen participation in Higher Education, raise participation and attainment by young people and adults in post-16 education and learning and most importantly, tackle the skills gap amongst adults.

Under the leadership of Lord David Triesman - Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Intellectual Property and Quality - and the Rt. Honourable John Denham, who is the Secretary of State, the DIUS are working with a fervent belief of higher-education as a high priority.

Lord Triesman, a one time student radical, understands the need for students to have a say within national and local governmental affairs. Lord Triesman is the first ever Minister for Students.

There is to be a creation of 'student juries', which are intended to allow students to be heard at the centre of Government and there are to be regular Ministerial visits to university campuses across England so that Ministers can meet students face-to-face and hear their experiences first-hand. Five 'student juries', each with around 15 members which will made up of students from across the country in the run up to Christmas will look at high profile issues that matter to them such as student finance, widening participation

and learning support. There will also be a new independent National Student Forum, reflecting the diverse student population, with the jobs of informing Government policy and publishing an annual report to Ministers and Parliament.

Secretary of State John Denham said: "This new approach will mean that for the first time students' voices are heard at the heart of Government. I am delighted that Lord Triesman with his wealth of experience and knowledge of higher education has become the first Minister for Students."

Lord Triesman said: "Students are among the best placed to tell the Government what's going right in the system and what needs to be done better."

President of the NUS, Gemma Tumelty, said: "For far too long students have been out in the cold when it comes to decisions about their futures. We're delighted that the government is willing to listen to the voice of the learner in its approach to education. This initiative could give students the ability to advise Ministers on the formation of policy at the highest level".



GETTING INVOLVED...Paul, Lord Triesman and writer Sarah Scott

# Student Suffers Racial Abuse

BY FRAN INFANTE  
NEWS EDITOR

CONT. FROM FRONT PAGE

It seems that the University's response has, despite the potential for controversy, been very good. The student's head of school, Professor Jane Calvert, has been in regular touch with her and Professor Ritchie told me she was shocked to discover that Bowsden Court had been the scene for some of the abuse. She told me, "We're very careful about the builders we employ to work on campus and how they conduct themselves amongst the students."

The official response from the University has also been applauded by the Union's Racial and Equality Officer, Mike

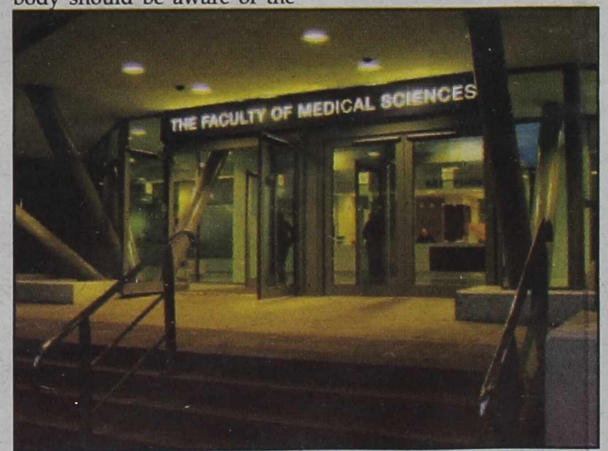
Oliver, who told me, "Racism in any form is unacceptable. I have already taken this matter up with the University and further research and campaigning will take place. However I'm highly impressed with the University's response and their dedication to their race relations policy and equal opportunities policy."

There are a number of support networks which operate through Mike Oliver to help students who feel that they have been victims of race hate; notably the Arches hate crime reporting stations that operate from 2-4pm on Wednesday afternoons and provide students not only with advice, and also support from the local council and practical help. Students are urged to make use of these and to not be afraid or embarrassed to speak out to friends, personal tutors or Degree Pro-

gramme Directors if they feel victimized.

Racism should not and cannot be tolerated in our University and the larger student body should be aware of the

sensitivity and offence that can be caused by terms that many use without thought or intent to cause the very real upset that they do.



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## Drill turns Disaster

Wilderness Medicine Society aid injured climber whilst on practice

BY ALEXANDRA SAGGERS

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY students came to the rescue of a fallen climber recently when a simulated mountain rescue exercise turned to unexpected drama.

The Newcastle University Wilderness Medicine Society was on an expedition in the Northumberland National Park when their newly practiced training was put to the test.

The Simonside Hills expedition on the 14th October was initially a chance for members to practice casualty handling techniques with the Northumberland National Park Mountain Rescue Team.

In the remote setting of the park, the society had successfully carried out a simulated rescue on a mock patient using full stretcher equipment and ropes.

However, they got more than they bargained for when word came through of an injured rock climber, who had fallen from nearby cliffs.

The climber, though still conscious, had suffered chest injuries and was experiencing severe breathing difficulties. A potential neck or spine injury was also a concern due to the height of his fall.

Medical members of the team stabilised the casualty and loaded him onto a stretcher. The patient was then transported down the slope by the students, working alongside members of the Mountain Rescue Team.

The man was airlifted by RAF rescue helicopter to Wansbeck General Hospital, where he subsequently made a full recovery.

The Wilderness Medicine Society was created for students who want to gain first hand experience of dealing with trauma victims in extreme situations.

The eventful recent trip consisted of around 30 new members, most of whom are medical students or non-medics with an interest in medicine and the outdoor environments.

The society president, Ian Taylor, a fourth year medical student, described the encounter as a "great introduction" to the society.

He said: "After having practiced how to secure an injured patient and successfully remove them from a hazardous situation in a simulated environment, they were then able to witness and assist with the highly professional work done by the Mountain Rescue team for real, including the liaison with the RAF in air extracting a casualty to hospital."

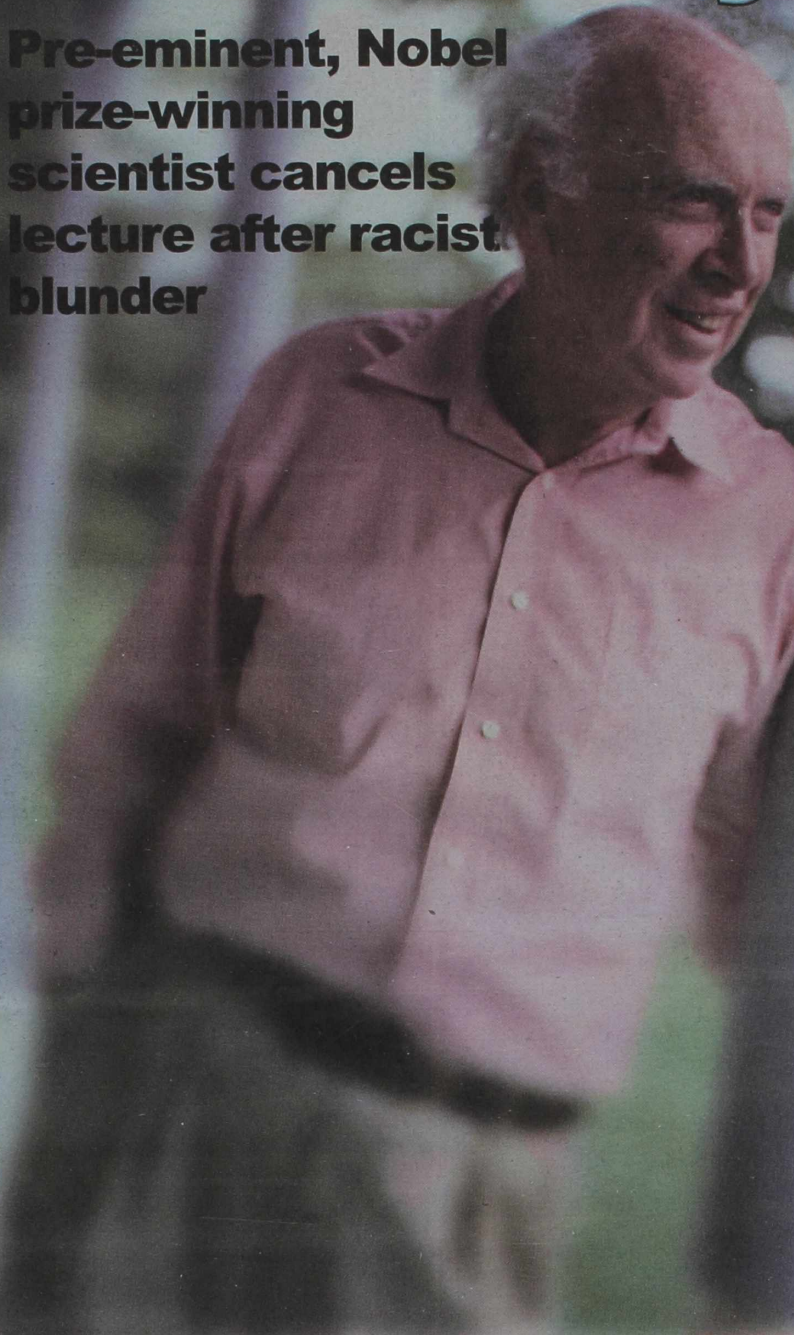
The dramatic rescue was reported by the BBC and on local news.

The society, which was founded in 2002, organise several weekends like these in the outdoors, along with other trips including off-road driving, talks, and social events.

For more information go to: [www.societies.ncl.ac.uk/wildmedics](http://www.societies.ncl.ac.uk/wildmedics).

## Dr. Doo-lally

Pre-eminent, Nobel prize-winning scientist cancels lecture after racist blunder



BY BEN WOODWARD

THE NOBEL prize-winning scientist Dr. James Watson has cancelled an appearance at Newcastle's Centre for Life following his controversial comments about the supposed link between race and intelligence. Dr. Watson has been the patron of the educational facility since 1998, and was due to appear in front of about 350 people on Sunday 21st October, but he chose to return to the United States rather than go ahead with the talk.

This is not Dr. Watson's first brush with controversy. He has in the past suggested that black men have far higher libidos than whites, that a woman should be permitted to abort her unborn child if scientific tests could show it to be homosexual and that stupidity was in fact a disease. In an article published on October 14th in the Sunday Times Magazine, Watson was quoted as saying that he felt "gloomy about the prospect of Africa ... all our social policies are based on the fact that their intelligence is the same as ours - whereas all the testing says not really". He expressed a hope that all humans are in fact equal, but added that "people who have to deal with black employees find this not true ... there are many people of colour who are very talented, but don't promote them when they haven't succeeded at the lower level."

Dr. Watson later apologised and even expressed surprise at what he was reported to have said, claiming that he did not intend to suggest that black people were genetically inferior. But his remarks had already provoked widespread controversy; David Lammy, the Government's Skills Minister, claimed that such statements from a respected scientist would provide far-right groups such as the BNP with ammunition, while a planned appearance at the Science Museum in London was cancelled. Watson remained defiant.

"The overwhelming desire of society today is to assume that equal powers of reason are a universal heritage of humanity. It may well be. But simply wanting this to be the case is not enough. This is not science. To question this is not to give in to racism. This is not a discussion about superiority or inferiority, it is about seeking to understand differences, about why some of us are great musicians and others great engineers."

Linda Conlon, the Chief Executive for Life, expressed her disappointment that Dr. Watson had pulled out of the event and claimed that the a forum for debate would have proved the best way to challenge his views;

"A great many people felt that Dr. Watson's remarks were outrageous and offensive, but we feel censorship is equally as abhorrent. We wanted a rigorous and open debate about his remarks. Many have been denied an opportunity to question Dr. Watson directly about his views and that's disappointing."

Anoop Nayak, a Sociology professor at Newcastle University, also stated that he had been looking forward to seeing Dr. Watson clarify his position and make his argument "crystal clear".

The Union Society's Racial Equality Officer Mike Oliver commented: "As much as I agree with freedom of speech, any speech which incites racial hatred should not be allowed. I'm happy with the result that Dr. Watson cancelled his visit as it could have caused difficulties to our students. This would have been ammunition that groups such as the BNP and National Front would use to their advantage. This kind of racism is not to be tolerated."

## VOX POP: HAVE YOUR SAY

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION, PUT TO YOU BY EILUNED REED:  
What do you think about the pricing of food and drink in the Union?



Ed Mansell-Lewis, 20. Marine Biology Stage 2

"I don't come into the Union a lot, but a cup of tea for 85 pence? I'm sold! It's amazing."



Lisa Guy, 19. Combined Studies Stage 2

"Really, I just come in for the cafés or in between lectures, but I think the pricing is good. I would rather come here than go into town."



Zak Scott, 21. Maths Stage 2

"I think the Union is fairly priced. I don't have any complaints. The Mens bar is well priced in comparison with most places in town."



Laura Hatton, 20. Classics and English Literature Stage 1

"I've never really brought anything from the Union, but I do like to come in between lectures for a cup of tea as the Cochrane Lounge is reasonably priced."



Tom Orchard, 19. Maths Stage 2

"I think personally, because some students don't drink, more money should be put into subsidising non-alcohol areas, such as the shop, because I think that's fairer for everyone."



Oliver Davison, 18. Politics, Stage 1

"I think the smoothie bar is very over-priced, but the rest of the Union is ok for drinks and food and the shop is also quite handy."

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# The price is right

## Union prices called into question by students

BY ROB COOPER

A QUESTION mark hangs over the student-friendliness of the Union's prices, with the new juice bar, Rijo, charging up to £3 for a glass of orange juice. The offending bar, as well as selling orange juice at £3 a pint, offers a number of pricey 'frozen cocktails', which range from £2.75 to £5.75, the most expensive being the 'Skittles Extreme'.

The Union's Director of Commercial Operations, Ian Knox, defended the bar: "Our fruit smoothies are top of the range and made of pure fruit. We are pleasantly surprised at the response in terms of customers."

The Union has carried out extensive research, comparing prices with competitors on Northumberland Street. Mr Knox said, "The idea is right, but unfortunately these top quality organic products come at a price."

Other bars in the Union, meanwhile, remain affordable. The Mens Bar offers lager, such as Fosters and Carlsberg, at £1.90 a pint, with more upmarket varieties such as Kronenbourg and San Miguel at £2.30. Bitter and cider are affordable too, with John Smith's, Strongbow and Woodpecker available for £1.90. Guinness



EXTENSIVE CHOICE...The new Cochrane Lounge sandwiches have been well received

is slightly cheaper than in most bars, at £2.30, and Diesel is £1.90 along with the other standard pints.

Bottles range from £1.85, for VK, to £2.75 for Newcastle Brown Ale. Cocktails are much cheaper than their frozen counterparts in the juice bar, ranging from £2.15 to £3.55.

On the whole, these prices compare well against the majority of pubs and clubs in town.

However, many establishments in Newcastle can claim

to offer substantially cheaper drinks. Union Rooms, for example, offers all manner of pints, including an impressive range of real ales, for well under £2.

Goose is extremely cheap for any Guinness lover, with the heart-warming stout selling at just £2 a pint. Rafferty's is another pub that outshines the Union in terms of value for money, with pints of lager and bitter priced at just £1.65 from Sunday to Thursday. Even clubs, like Attic and Blu Bamboo offer cheaper bottles than the Union.

Said one disgruntled barmaid, "I used to work for the Union, but I moved elsewhere, having become disillusioned with the way things were going."

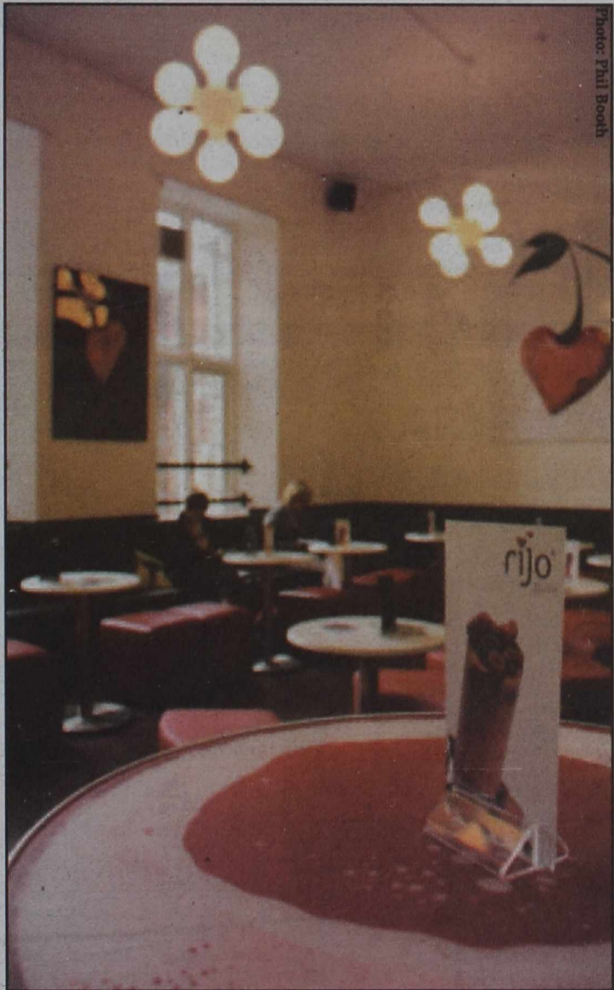
The Union's range of food is another area into which it has carried out extensive research, getting students to point out popular competitors. The Cochrane Lounge offers sandwiches which range from £1.90 to £2.50, whilst, down the road, Frankie and Tony's offers slightly larger and freshly made sandwiches for a slightly higher price range.

The Cochrane Lounge also offers a meal deal for £3, which includes a sandwich, a drink and a packet of crisps. An almost identical deal is offered at Boots.

The Union compares well, in terms of value for money against the likes of Subway and Marks and Spencer. However, a special mention must go to Co-op, whose delicatessen offers sizeable bacon sandwiches for just 89p and huge boxes of chips, big enough for two people, for a mere 85p.

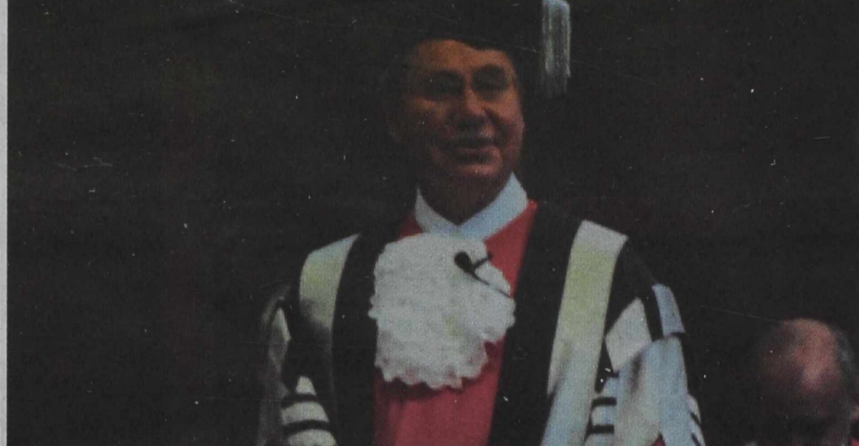
Mr Knox praised the Union's sandwiches, describing the fillings as "substantial", adding that a variety of different breads were offered. He also added that students were free to leave feedback on the comment cards available in all the bars.

The Union is keen to consult with students on all the services it offers and is set to review them at the end of the term.



REFRESHING CHANGE...But some students feel the prices of new the Union outlets are too high

# Warm Welcome



BY GEMMA DAVIES  
EDITOR

PROFESSOR CHRIS BRINK was officially installed as the University's new Vice-Chancellor last week in a formal inauguration ceremony.

Professor Brink set out his vision for the University to not be the Harvard of the UK, or the Oxbridge of the north, but simply the "Newcastle of the world", in a speech delivered at the ceremony.

Selected members of staff, students and others associated with the University were invited to the ceremony in King's Hall, while others gathered in the Quad to see live relays on TV screens.

This was followed by a civic reception in the Banqueting Suite at the Civic Centre, led by Councillor John Shipley of Newcastle City Council.

Our very own Union Society President, Jamie McDonnell, was given the nerve-racking job of carrying the ceremonial wand along King's Road, through the Quad and finally to King's Hall.

Jamie said, "It was only when I got into King's Hall that I realised how tightly I'd been carrying the wand - I couldn't feel my hands!"

"The day was a great success and it was a fantastic honour to be asked to play such a key roll in the event."

"On behalf of everyone at the Union Society I can wish Professor Brink the best of luck in his time at Vice-Chancellor."

# Giving the clap a slap



BY BEN WOODWARD

A NEW study has shown that Chlamydia - the UK's most common sexually transmitted disease - can affect the quality of male sufferers' sperm if left untreated.

Previously thought only to affect female fertility, it has now been discovered by Spanish scientists that severe cases of Chlamydia can cause swelling of the testicles and epididymis - both of which play a large part in reproduction. This makes men with Chlamydia three times more likely to suffer detrimental effects to the concentration, speed and shape of their sperm.

A team from Canalejo University Hospital in La Coruna presented their findings at a conference for the American Society for Reproductive Medicine. They examined 143 men in total, using a new microscopic analysis technique to assess the harm caused by urinary infection. Fortunately, it would also appear that antibiotics can help repair some of the DNA sperm damage by 36% over a period of four months.

In recent years the occurrence of Chlamydia in 18 to 25 year olds has risen dramatically; it is now predicted that one in ten people in

this age group carry the bacteria behind the infection. In response to this, the NHS has launched a new screening programme. Dr Allan Pacey, Secretary of the British Fertility Society, expressed worry that the message was not getting through to young people and suggested that a Facebook group be started up to raise awareness:

"Chlamydia is getting out of control. We have got to encourage men as well as women to go for screening, but men are more reluctant to do this if they don't have symptoms - in most men it is just a low-level, grumbling disease that does not present them with a great deal of problems. That means they do not present for screening, and do not get the treatment they need."

The University runs regular screening sessions in the Union building, affectionately referred to as "Pee in Pot", where students can be quickly and conveniently tested and then texted the result seven days later. The next of these sessions is on the 28th of November as part of SHAG - Sexual Health Awareness and Guidance - week.

Students with any concerns about their sexual health can also visit the weekly sexual health clinic on Friday mornings at the Student Advice Centre.

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# WORDS OF THE WEEK

BY EMILY ARCHER

## Emily's Quotes of the Week

"Nothing like a little good news for y'all to print up. Put a little good news in your newspapers. Be a novel experience for you."

George W. Bush tries a bit of sarcasm towards journalists. It didn't work. The good news wasn't printed.

"I was going to say that they [referees] are the most important feature in rugby. But obviously that's not true. The most important feature in the game, of course, is watching Australia lose."

Jeremy Clarkson's take on rugby.

## American University Will Still Pay For Drunken Parties

ONE OF Harvard University's recent traditions is being prohibited, much to the anger of the student body.

Student leaders at America's oldest and richest university are defying the Dean's orders to stop using college money for alcohol served in dormitories.

Money for private parties started in 2003, under former Harvard President Lawrence Summers, as students and administrators sought to improve social life at the school.

Despite the ban, Harvard Undergraduate Council continued to give out grants of \$100 which is allocated for alcohol purchasing purposes.

This comes as a US colleges crack down on booze and raise awareness of the dangers of binge drinking especially after a death by alcohol poisoning following a fraternity initiation in New Jersey.

Harvard has come under fire from the Youth Alcohol Preservation Centre at Boston University. Chief investigator David Rosenbloom said "the fact that the school was actually paying for unsupervised drinking is simply stupid and shouldn't have been happening in the first place."

However the Harvard Undergraduate Council President, 21 year old Ryan Petersen said "that money is our money and the allocations of funds is completely the decision of the Undergraduate Council".

The money for private parties comes from an optional \$75 activity fee for each student that raises about \$450,000 a year. Dean Judith A. Kidd said the UC gives \$51,000 annually for private parties. UC President, Petersen said the amount is lower at about \$30,000 a year. The funds could only be allocated to students over 21 years old. Despite this arguments Harvard will continue to pay for alcohol purchases at events hosted by student organizations and dormitory committees.

## Facebook University Race Commences

A FACEBOOK group has prompted a battle between UK universities competing for the chance to win a party.

The group 'the battle for the UK's favourite university' has been provided by O2, involves a competition based on the number of members and amount of wall posts each member belonging to a university network can total up.

The competition lasts until 11 November 2007. So far a clear winner is Keele University, followed by, at the time of writing, Loughborough University who have been slowly catching up throughout the week.

Newcastle is currently at 19th position around 24,000 points behind the winners - only just breaking into the 1,000s. Close rivals Northumbria University is in 16th position, but Durham remains trailing at 30th position.

The scores are updated each day, official rules say that you can "join this group to get a point for your uni, and get extra points every time you take part in a discussion, write on the wall or upload photos - a point comes from each".

There are currently around 85,000 members though this is increasing by the second. It is a chance to promote your university, and win what O2 is calling 'the ultimate party at your uni'.

## Oxford Union Wants BNP and Holocaust Denier.

OXFORD University's debating society has been criticised this week for approaching controversial figures.

The Debating Society's president Luke Tryl has asked Holocaust denier David Irving, BNP chairman Nick Griffin and Belarussian Dictator Alexander Lukoshenko to speak to their forthcoming events as part of the free speech forum at the end of November.

NUS President Gemma Tumelty issued a statement saying "The Holocaust denier, David Irving and leader of the fascist BNP, Nick Griffin have no place in our multicultural society. NUS utterly opposes racism and fascism wherever it arises and will certainly oppose any attempt by Oxford Union to invite Irving and Griffin to speak."

## Decorum and tradition still alive



Paul Brannon  
News Editor

SOMETIMES, we in this country can be accused of turning our backs on our past, on the tradition and history on which this country and British national identity are founded upon.

However, it seems rash to do so. Many reject tradition, pomp and circumstance and social decorum as the preoccupations of the aristocracy but I strongly contend that such ideals hold a very important place within the lives of all Brits. I've always been a strong believer in the importance of maintaining certain levels of tradition; formal dinners, academic ceremonies and etiquette, to name a few. I feel that too many people believe that tradition and ceremony only hold a place within the Gothic architecture of boarding halls and assembly rooms in Britain's public schools.

Sadly we are being urged to do so by a government undeniably preoccupied with maintaining the pretence of concern for social diversity and the formation of a multi-cultural, tolerant Britain; vote-winning shennanigans and duplicity have utterly replaced real, personal party politics. Patriotism seems discouraged unless it is in support of our football heroes, with some people still believing that

you're posh if you're a rugby union fan and wear a shirt with a collar up. While these two issues are very different, I believe that they're inextricably linked and it disturbs me that people laugh when formal dress is required at a social event, and a business suit is seen to only be necessary for court appearances and funerals.

On Tuesday, I was invited through my role at The Courier to attend the Vice-Chancellor's inauguration ceremony in the Kings' Hall in the Armstrong building and the formal dinner, which was taking place afterwards in the Civic Centre. It was fantastic to see so many kindred spirits

## Vote winning shennanigans have replaced real party politics.

in one place celebrating the appointment of an internationally renowned academic, role model and general nice guy. It was also refreshing to see the kind of tradition and formality, which is disappearing throughout Britain, let alone our University. Between re-branding as Newcastle University to "sound more 21st century" to the compulsory teaching of film on a pure English Literature degree, it seems that for every step forward we take, we take a sideways step in the degradation of tradition. At school, we were re-arranged to take away the house system because too many people saw it as being a symbol of traditionalist conservatism, which has no

place in the comprehensive system of education. The days of competitive intra-house rugby, hockey and cricket were taken away. The 'liberal', ignorant modernists who unfortunately took the reins of management decided that we had to 'modernise', with the head of boys' P.E openly and fervently hating rugby and hockey because he believed them to be "too exclusive" and "upper-class" sports. Sadly, I kid you not. Thankfully he failed.

I honestly think it's important to hold onto some elements of the past, as they are what have enabled the present to occur. In the same way I defend tradition I defend the Pound Sterling and the desire to hold onto what is left of Britishness and I find a confusing hypocrisy within a government, which condones formal aristocratic honours for Lords, Ladies and right-honourables, yet dissuades me from flying a St.

George's cross unless everybody is doing so. Often an issue of discrimination or racial sensitivity, I am not saying that Britishness entails everything it did in the early 20th Century; nor does it entail being white and middle class. I just believe it entails personal integrity, national pride and a stiff upper lip through adversity. Knowing when and where we must elevate ourselves to more stately behaviour is important and all of those things seem to be dwindling. I don't think we should all be walking around in suits and top hats, but it's nice to dress up as something other than spider-man on a pub-crawl sometimes.

## Modern students: pathetic or apathetic?



Kate McCann

HAVING eagerly volunteered myself to write in this week's comment section, I left the Monday lunchtime Courier meeting with a feeling of complete bewilderment, what was I supposed to write about?

And with the editors' comments ringing in my ears ("...just don't get sued") I began to ponder my subject matter. Having quickly disregarded the somewhat controversial debate about who would win the award for best kept barnet out of Boris Johnson and Charles Kennedy, I settled on a close second; the view that "modern" students just don't quite cut it when compared to the more politically involved students of the 1960s.

After dragging them away from the Telly I put the burning question to them; are modern students as bothered about politics and campaigning on the issues of the day as they were in the 1960s? Cue three blank faces and one swift exit and I had just witnessed the response from pretty much every other student I asked.

So why are we so reticent to express our views, a seemingly natural right and something which students have exploited for generations, if indeed we are so reluctant? After a shaky start with the flatmates, a heated debate kicked off - is it racist to campaign against illegal immigration and are students even taken seriously anymore? Both good questions but to be honest, and call me sad if you like, for me the best bit was listening to them argue, occasionally stoking up the fire and sitting back to listen as a further torrent of political opinion was spat out across the table. As

a politics student, and a geeky one at that, I love nothing better than to start arguments which get people wound up and watch as they shout at anyone who dares have an opinion different from their own. And surely that's what people mean when they say us modern students just aren't interested anymore; we are interested, we just don't seem to express it like they did during the student protests in the '60s.

Saying that, the front page of last week's Courier had a picture of students protesting for the Make Poverty History campaign splashed across the cover so there must be some of us who do still protest and campaign, but why isn't it more of us? Considering the growth of the student population across the country since the '60s, why are we still not being taken seriously as a political force, especially when we make up such a large proportion of the population? After posing this question to the flatmates

## Are us students becoming too materialistic and disillusioned?

(the argument was reaching a dangerous peak by now) watching their faces you'd have thought I just asked them the meaning of life. "Maybe we don't care anymore?" came the somewhat hesitant response, "...or maybe politics is just too complicated now, I mean I don't know who the main parties are anymore, or who leads them." (The latter from the lips of a modern languages student, what do they teach you lot?) So is politics too complicated? Are us students becoming too materialistic and disillusioned with the way we are affected by global issues today?

It does make you wonder, and on returning from Last Man Standing on

Monday night (with an already banging head and a 9 o'clock lecture to attend) it got me thinking; how many of the bedraggled looking students trudging into Uni on Tuesday morning were aware of what Last Man was trying to raise awareness for? Posing the question to three sleepy looking flatmates I got the answer I was expecting, not one of them knew that Last Man was even raising awareness for a group of charities, despite the fact it was printed on the t-shirt!

So then, is this the future for us "modern" students? More bar crawls and less campaigning, more dressing up and less dressing down of local MPs and big business like we were notorious for in the '60s? I'm not sure but I hope not; I think it's true, we have become less engaged with politics as a population and shockingly, many of the people I asked felt they wouldn't even vote in a general election, (something which confuses me no end, especially since most of those who wouldn't vote are the ones who have pretty strong views on where global governments are going wrong, and aren't afraid to let you know!)

Maybe then, it's time to whip out the fairy wings and gorilla suits and start taking some lessons from our parents' generation, mix a little of our party spirit with the idea of political participation? We should be getting out the placards and protesting about the tuition fees we have to pay and the fact that in student areas like Jesmond, a lot of us are being discriminated against. Protesting doesn't have to mean you turn into one of those wacky bearded people who stand on street corners shouting into a mega phone, a charity bar crawl or fancy dress protest would work just as well, if not better. As long as we don't lose sight of the issues in the bottom of our empty glasses of Skittles.



# Liberal Democrats: Making the News This Week

A recurring theme of the latest Lib Dem Jesmond newsletter was the impact of students in the area. We take a look at what affects us most...

## Sound Advice

BY LINDSAY GULLIVER

STUDENT residents of popular suburb, Jesmond, are once again finding themselves targeted by the local government.

In the latest Liberal Democrat newsletter - posted through the neighbourhood's letterboxes - residents are offered advice on how to deal with noisy neighbours. The underlying assumption is that noisy neighbours are generally student neighbours.

Cleverly entitled "Sound Advice!", the short piece suggests that homeowners "don't put up with ... late night noise, parties or music". Instead, it offers the solution of 101, the telephone number for non-emergency situations.

It continues: "The enforcement team will call out, have powers to issue formal warnings and fines, and can confiscate equipment if necessary." The fine is a fixed penalty of £110.

Liberal Democrat councillor, Ron Armstrong of Grosvenor Avenue, told The Courier, "Anti-social behaviour by students is a problem in places like Jesmond. The issue is this; students don't see themselves as antisocial, but from the point of view of people with small children - who might be putting them to bed at 9 o'clock - it is very anti-social." He continued, explaining that Jesmond is one of the worst, if not the worst, area for noise complaints in the whole of Newcastle - though he admitted that it is not only students, but also Osborne Road revellers, who cause noise.

The enforcement team that the newsletter refers to is council run 'NightWatch'. Peter Sweet, Group Manager for the council's Environmental Team, explained the process by which equipment - which

can include musical instruments, stereos, televisions, game consoles, speakers and even laptops - might be confiscated: "We can go down the route of equipment removal and will resort to the law if absolutely necessary. Once someone has committed a night time noise offence we can serve an abatement notice. If someone breaches the notice we can enter the property and seize equipment. If we decide not to prosecute, the equipment will be returned within a month."

However Sweet added that if a case is taken to court, then the equipment can be detained and possibly disposed of, pending the decision of the court. He also pointed out that it is not purely a case of residents reporting student neighbours - noise complaints concerning fellow students are apparently quite common come exam time.

On their website, the Jesmond Residents Association suggests the following measure - "If you are having a party, warn your neighbours in advance. You could even invite them. Keep windows and doors shut and if someone complains, apologise and do something about it."

One third year student explained the events of a recent Queen's Terrace party thus: "Officers from environmental health arrived and asked if we could reduce the noise levels. They informed us of their legal right to confiscate sound equipment and issue fines, so we co-operated and they left us to it." The student added, "To be fair, they were considerably more tactful than the police usually tend to be."

The University website has a section of advice for living in the community which can be found at <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/student-progress/community.HTM>

## Lib Dems' plans prove positive

BY SARAH SCOTT

THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS are developing policies which may be beneficial to students living in residential areas like Jesmond and Heaton. These include policies on improving the standards of privately rented houses, security against burglary in homes and tackling anti-social behaviour.

The Liberal Democrats have been in control of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne City Council since 2004, and since then have achieved successes in policies on community safety, recycling, street cleaning and the environment, priding themselves on spending more on the services people say they want.

Currently they are expanding their policies towards students in their 'Private Rented Project', part of the City Council, which is working with landlords in Jesmond and Heaton on issues such as crime prevention and property standards. The Courier spoke with Ron Armstrong, Liberal Democrat Councillor for North Jesmond, who expanded on what these policies entail.

Since July 2006 they have been working with landlords of privately rented accommodation in an attempt to drive up standards and improve the quality of these types of housing. This includes houses having to meet standards on gas, electricity and room sizes, these policies should benefit students who occupy the majority of the 1400 houses like this in the Newcastle area and protect tenants from landlords who do not provide up to standard housing.

They also want to provide 6000 new

bed spaces for student accommodation as the number of students in the Newcastle area has expanded at a rapid pace since 2000. At the moment there are approximately 8000 purpose built bed spaces and they are looking to increase this to around 1400.

However, although these policies will benefit students, they are also trying to introduce a supplementary planning document for developers looking to convert houses in Jesmond into 6 bedroom student type houses, which will prevent them getting planning permission for such projects. This would affect students as it would prevent more moving into the Jesmond area, which is extremely popular with students in their second and third year at University. By stopping more houses in Jesmond being converted into student type accommodation, they are looking to reduce the pressure and stress on these areas created by influxes of students.

The Lib Dems are also working on crime prevention schemes and have been in touch with the local police to recommend top priorities in tackling crime. Firstly preventing burglaries by advising students on how to keep their homes secure from back door burglaries. Secondly they also want late night patrols on weekends to discourage students from having late night parties which can disturb other residents. Along with these patrols they are campaigning to have mobile CCTV cameras established in the Jesmond area, in particular on Osborne Road. This is to prevent disorder when people leave bars late at night along this road; however, this is not necessarily aimed at just students as Ron Armstrong of the Liberal Democrats told The Courier, "Our policies

are not aimed at just students as those bars are very popular with people outside of the Jesmond area as well."

They are also offering an information pack for student households with advice on living in the community. The advice in this pack includes material on recycling and dealing with rubbish in the correct manner for collection. The Liberal Democrats claim their policies are not anti student, Ron Armstrong told The Courier they are, "Designed to get a balance between students and the residents."

Photo: Chris Eaves



## Going Green

BY KATIE BRISTOW

Photo: Olivia Gill



NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL has proposed new plans for recycling and refuse collection but once again, it seems students are difficult to accommodate.

The new plans include the replacement of the existing 'black box' scheme. On top of weekly bin collections, households will also get a separate wheelie bin for recyclable materials, to be collected fortnightly. One of the three ward's councillors, Lucy Keating says; "there are many different recycling options, not all of which are suitable for every area."

When asked how the scheme will affect students, Lucy Keating replied: "We are really keen to get students much more involved with recycling. We are aware that with the regular turnover of student population in places like Jesmond, it takes a while for the new students to find out about the collection days, how to

get replacement boxes etc. We have tried different publicity methods, but if you or your colleagues have ideas for how we can involve students more, we would be happy to discuss." However many students living in Jesmond were found to be unaware of any previous publicity methods despite having lived in there for the past year. The scheme also includes the provision of garden bins but these are limited to specific criteria. Keating says: "The garden waste bins will be for a selection of areas in the first instance - those with gardens of about 50m2 or above and the capacity to handle the extra bin."

Despite the council's wish to "increase recycling rates to 55% by 2020", it seems that efforts to encourage this are being done with limited success. With many students at Newcastle keen on recycling, it appears that not enough is as of yet being done by the Liberal Democrats to ensure that recycling is made accessible to all.

(Lucy Keating can be contacted at: [lucy.keating@newcastle-libdems.org.uk](mailto:lucy.keating@newcastle-libdems.org.uk))

>> GRADUATES INTO BUSINESS NO. 2 OF 5, ON THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER @ 1-3PM, IN THE RESEARCH BEEHIVE



# Glittering Prize

BY EMILY HOPCROFT

THREE Newcastle students have scooped a prize of over £20,000 as part of a major business planning competition. The Blueprint Grand Final boasts entrants from five top universities across the North East.

Dawn Branley came out on top, winning the Business award for Freedom Self-drive Horsebox Hire, which offers the unique service of self-drive horseboxes for hire.

Dawn said she was delighted to have taken part in the competition and to have represented the University with her business.

She told The Courier that "the competition

had been an amazing experience throughout, and has provided an excellent opportunity to network with some of the leading entrepreneurs within the region."

She also added that the event was a great opportunity to further the success of Freedom.

The University also had two students, Beth Macdonald and Amy Openshaw picking up the Science and Technology award, for their Osiris Biotechnology invention.

This involved selling product licenses for specialist breast milk filters in order to prevent the transmission of diseases such as HIV and TB from mother to child.

Amy told The Courier that the money they received at the Blueprint Awards will allow them to get the business up and running as not only did it provide financial support but

it "opened doors and provided an opportunity to introduce our business to lots of influential people."

Along with all of these achievements they were also Highly Commended in the Overall Business award category and they will receive high value in-kind support from a number of local companies as well as their prize money.

Both of these businesses were also the winners of Newcastle University's business planning competition Enterprise Challenge which is annually held in May.

All three of the winners made it clear how much the Newcastle Careers Service had helped them claiming that "their help and support in the lead up to the event had been invaluable".

## Getting Cultural!



THIS week at the Union, we have gone Culture MAD.

Come along and learn some random languages, try some random stuff, eat some more exciting oriental or Mediterranean sandwiches from the Cochrane, or watch a film on the evenings.

Pop along Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons this week, and we will have something for you to try from cultures and traditions from all around the world, including Chinese language tasters, Peeking Duck Sandwiches, dance and drama. If you are eating in the global, check out your goody bag and then do something in the afternoon.

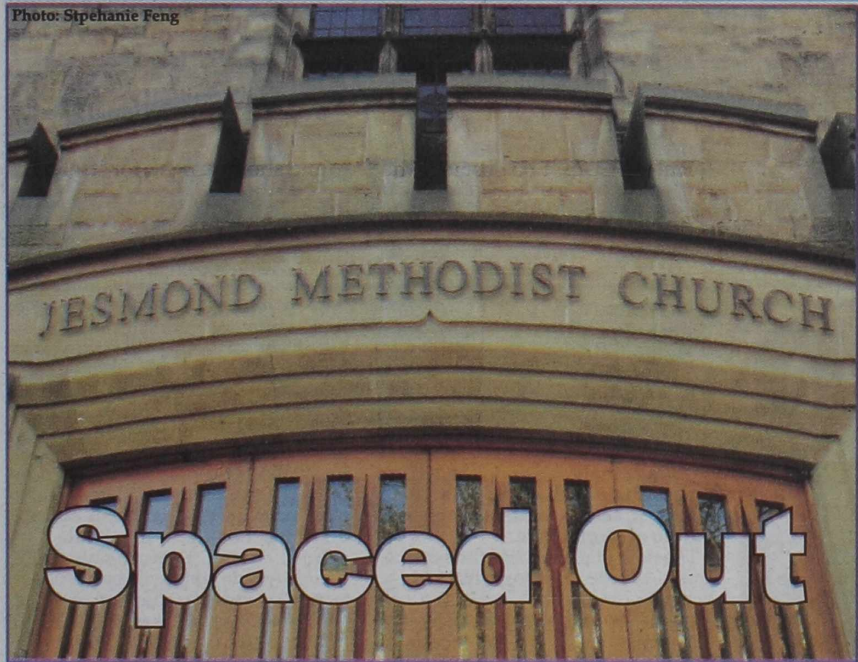
It's all free, and it's all a bit random, but you might learn something. All sessions are short, but will get you kick started with some random fun, and if you love it, we have contacts for where you can take things further!

Full programmes of activities will be everywhere in the Union next week, so drop by and get Culture Kitsch.



The whole thing is sponsored by CCUSA, the international working adventure specialist! Check out their website @ <http://www.ccusa.com> or chat to them as they will be around all week.

Photo: Stephanie Feng



# Spaced Out

BY JOE DAUNT

THE JESMOND METHODIST CHURCH has launched a new programme in the community known as 'Jes'Space'.

It is part of an ongoing scheme by the Church, which provides a room giving students the chance to chill out and relax in a different atmosphere. The Newcastle University chaplain, Rob Hawkins said "it is part of the growing programme of Jesmond Methodist Church, to serve the community, but Jes'Space' is upstairs and separate from the Church itself."

The room is specially refurbished with

leather sofas and equipped with wi-fi. There are also 'surgeries' on site to offer advice on renting property in Jesmond. Rob Hawkins said "if you are thinking of renting next year, we offer advice on some of the pitfalls to watch out for."

At present Jes'Space runs on Tuesday evenings 7-9pm, with coffee and tea refreshments available. The Church is located near the Tesco Metro in West Jesmond on St. George's Terrace. The project is organised by a recent graduate Will Hopkins. For any further enquiries he can be contacted at [will@churchprojects.org.uk](mailto:will@churchprojects.org.uk).

## Labour Students Welcome Browns

BY JOE HEPPLEWHITE

AS REPORTED in previous editions of The Courier, the housing situation in Newcastle is set to become critical to student life over the next few years.

The seemingly anti-student policies of the Liberal Democrat Newcastle City Council, is evident in their area housing mix policy which is attempting to stop all future student expansion in both Heaton and Jesmond.

At a visit last week, hosted by the Rt Hon. Nick Brown MP and Minister for the North East, Sarah Brown the wife of the Prime Minister Gordon Brown had a meeting with the Union Society's Labour Society.

At the meeting Labour students shared their concerns with Nick, Sarah and Jim Cousins MP on the issue of the ghettoisation of the student population in a small area of the city, limiting integration and curtailing the ability of students to become active in the community.

Nick raised the point that the Council was yet to fully enforce Government legislation on housing of multiple occupancy, which most students in Newcastle find themselves living in. The HMO licenses ensure safety standards are met.

Michael Duffell who is a Newcastle student and a Labour candidate in the May Local Elections said "the Council should be addressing the safety

concerns first rather than trying to remove us from the community."

Sarah's visit is the second high profile Labour party figure to address students following the visit of Lord Triesman, Minister for Students, earlier this month. Labour society President, Tom Hardwick said "It's great to have such high profile names addressing Labour students."



PRESSING ISSUES..Nick and Sarah Brown address student accommodation issues

HALLOWEEN



Tricks and Tips

HANNAH BURNS goes batty for Halloween

IT IS without a doubt the most bizarre festival to celebrate, a weird amalgamation of tradition and superstition. You may think it's an American Hallmark holiday (their sixth most profitable), but love it or hate it Halloween was not always the American corporate entity it is now. It in fact originates from this side of the pond, as the Pagan Celtic festival of Samhain (sow-en). The Celts believed it was the night when the boundaries of the living and the dead would be broken and the deceased would walk among the living and cause mayhem and destruction. Their ancient festivals involved building large bonfires, and the revelers would wear costumes and masks in an attempt to mimic the evil spirits and placate them. Throughout the years Samhain has

merged with Roman and Christian festivals and renamed as All Hallows Eve the night before All Souls Day or All Saints Day. Hence the name Halloween. My favourite story of Halloween is that of the 'Jack O Lantern'. It begins, as all good stories do, with "There once was an Irishman". It is an 18th century English legend and roughly goes, "There once was a stingy drunkard of an Irishman named Jack, who tricked the Devil into climbing a tree and then cut the sign of a cross into the trunk preventing the Devil from climbing down. When Jack died he was not allowed into Heaven, because of his drinking and miserly and deceitful ways. Yet Jack was not allowed into Hell either, because of the trick he played on the devil. Therefore Jack

was sent back to walk the earth looking for a place to rest. However the Devil gave him a coal straight from the fires of Hell, which Jack put it in a turnip he was eating as a lantern to light his way." Lanterns were traditionally carved out of turnips and swedes, but the pumpkins discovered in America were found to be easier to carve and so have replaced the more cumbersome turnip.

The holiday wasn't actually that popular in the United States until the large emigration of Irish during the Potato Famine, when balls and dinners were thrown to celebrate their Gaelic heritage. The inherently American creation of Halloween is the idea of 'trick or treating' coined in the late 1930's as a response to the growing vandalism surrounding an old English tradition of mischief night on the 4th of November. Trick or treating draws it's heritage from All Souls Day where the poor would ask for 'soul cakes', so isn't all that American after all.

So what about the origin of fancy dress? I've already mentioned that people believe the ancient pagans donned costumes of animal prints and heads to mimic the evil spirits, but the modern tradition of dressing up is more recent invention like that of trick and treating.

But who cares really? Halloween is the perfect excuse for 'going to town' on fancy dress. You can choose whatever you want, go down the scary route or throw the traditional ideas out the window. Whether you're an old hand at costumes or university is the first time you've gone stellar on it, get out there and enjoy this Halloween like no other.

Me, I love fancy dress. It's a great chance to bond with friends and a brilliant conversation starter - it can make or break a night. And it's a chance to be creative and ultimately pretend to be someone you're not, for one night at least!

13 COMMANDMENTS FOR DEVILISHLY GOOD HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

- Rule#1** Know your audience. One man's fancy dress legend is another man's pillock in tights.
- Rule#2** Budget strictly - check out the talent in Oxfam and Primark before heading to the Magic Box.
- Rule#3** Fairy wings are NOT a costume, neither are horns or a comedy Homer Simpson mask.
- Rule#4** Sticking a label on yourself saying 'God' is not big or clever. Get into the spirit.
- Rule#5** If you go in full body paint be prepared to make, and more importantly lose friends, as you leave a trail of sticky coloured mess wherever you go.
- Rule#6** Don't go as a Nazi - especially if a member of royalty.
- Rule#7** Boys... cross dressing once is fancy dress, twice is a coincidence and three times... you have a problem!
- Rule#8** Girls... getting off with a guy whilst he's cross dressed only reflects badly on you!
- Rule#9** Know where you're going - house parties are safest, the boat is fine, but certain bars in town may not welcome four turtles and a Spiderman on a Saturday night.
- Rule#10** Pick a wide theme - allow people to be individualistic.
- Rule#11** Don't be obscure, the costume should speak for itself.
- Rule#12** Teaming up is fun - Goldilocks looks best with her three bears in tow.
- Rule#13** Short of chaining your costume to yourself, expect some items to go awandering.



HANNAH BURNS gets on her broomstick and asks Newcastle students... "What was your best ever Halloween costume?"

HAVE YOUR SAY



"I love fancy dress as long as it's a good theme; I like to be able to express my individuality. The best ever costume I made was of cupid. Good for getting girls."

- Rob Challen, 3rd year philosophy

"My best costume was definitely when I went as the invisible man"

- Bethan Stacey, 4th year linguistics with French

"My tip for Halloween is that girls should go scary not slutty and use acrylic paint instead of face paint as it doesn't come off so fast in the sweaty clubs."

-Kate, 1st year English

"This Halloween my flatmates and I want to go out as Michael Jackson and the zombies from the Thriller video. I am using my time in first year wisely and endeavouring to learn the Thriller dance moves to match the costume."

-Josh Keating, 1st year History

"I never dressed up much before uni

but I love to do so as I feel no one cares what you're wearing. People here go all out, it's great."

-Tom Mason 1st year Politics

"I don't see that much good dressing up when I'm working in the Union - mostly men dressed as women. My best costume was when I went to an 'S' party and I wanted to be something original so I went as a stamp - first class of course. We all thought the girl who's party it was would go as something sexy like a school girl, but she went as a schizophrenic with full on chains."

-Pip Lucas 3rd year Marketing

"I always end up dressing like an army man; I guess it makes me feel more masculine. However my best

costume has to be when I dressed up as Britney Spears and danced here in the Men's bar. Managed to do it quite cheap too - skirt and shirt aged 11-12 from Asda and a home-made wig of wool."

-Anthony Hood 2nd year Business Management

"I once bought a fat suit, but it was quite expensive and I had to reuse it several times. I eventually won £50 in a fancy dress contest though, making all my money back and more."

-Phil Hunter 2nd year Business Management

"My best costume was as Woody from Toy Story, or maybe when I was a Smurf...I was given dense

Smurf, and my advice to all those dressing up is just DON'T be yourself."

-Henry Smith Town Planning Masters

"My best ever costume was when I went to an animal party as a giraffe."

-Madeline Harrison, 3rd year Dentistry

"When I lived in Castle Leazes and my mates dressed up as zombies, I went as a chav zombie with trackie bottoms tucked in my socks. I enjoyed shouting 'BRAINS-SSS' at everyone I passed."

-Emily Rowling, 3rd year Pharmacology



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Monday 29th October 2007



# FEATURES

courier.features@ncl.ac.uk

## Bridging the Gap



Before you can say you 'divven't knaa' what anyone's talking about, JEN SETH provides the lowdown on the lingo about the Toon

ALREET man! Ever wondered what on Earth those Geordies are nattering on about? It's a foreign language to us outsiders who haven't been educated in proper Newcastle-speak. Isn't it about time we embraced our new homeland and got with the programme?

Newcastle University is a veritable melting pot of people from different places and backgrounds, many of whom had never been further north than Oxford before they arrived and thought that Newcastle was actually in Scotland. It's time to set the record straight and see what the North East has to offer the newcomers to this fair city and what the experienced, old-school students have grown to love about the friendly locals.

Did you arrive at university wondering what a stottie could be, where 'the Toon' is, and who the Magpies are? If so, divven't worry, The Courier is at your service to teach you the ways and wonders of the North Eastern tongue. To help you with your quest to perfect your new dialect, here are some top tips to ensure your speech is "canny like" through and through.

You may have noticed a few unfamiliar words cropping up, but what do they mean? 'Canny' for example is used in so many different phrases that it's hard to give a specific definition, but rest assured if someone calls you a "canny lass" it's a compliment! It can also be used instead of 'very' as in "canny tough", or "canny mint". You can even be "canny canny", a little less eloquent, but how versatile?!

"Ha'way the lads!" the Toon Army

cry as Newcastle United (the Magpies) score. To translate out of Geordie it means, "Come on chaps, score another of those soccer points!" and is chanted by the hordes of fans marching up and down the streets of Newcastle on match days, with a tab (cigarette) hanging, invariably, out of the corner of their mouths. The Black and White Army is widely believed to be one of the noisiest and most loyal supporter groups in the country.

The Geordies don't appear to have vast imaginations, or perhaps they just like to get their money's worth, as the same phrase - "ha'way man" - can be used in a variety of ways; to express feelings of frustration - "hurry up marra", persuasion - "aw please, wor kid" or even seduction - "ye knaa ye want to".

'Scran' is the delightfully coarse word for 'food'; an integral part of both student and Geordie life - and you thought you had nothing in common! A stottie is delicious, flat bread; round in shape and perfect with all kinds of fillings, enjoyed by Newcastle folk daily. "Eeeeh! Try it with a sav-eloy!" is my Geordie housemate's recommendation (some sort of sausage as far as I can gather). Other foodstuffs preferred by the northern bunch include chips with gravy (impossible to get your hands on anywhere south of the Tyne Bridge).

The phrase imitated by everyone across the country is "why-aye man". 'Man', referring to anyone, male or female as an affectionate term, equivalent to 'mate', and 'why-aye' meaning "Why of course dear, I would love

to". The slogan was made popular by everyone's favourite kids' TV show, 'Byker Grove' (which, incidentally, is not the only thing to come out of Newcastle, and locals will get increasingly riled if you keep asking them to say it, and we all know by now that it's not big and it's not clever to get in a fight with a Geordie!).

Proper Geordies don't fret about the Grove not being in Byker; or the Metro ('metty') not running to the Me'ro Centre (yes, we know it's called the Metro Centre... and yes, it's illogical). And proper Geordies know that the metty goes places beyond Central Station, Monument, Haymarket and Jesmond. And that the Angel of the North is in Gateshead and therefore is only relevant for the credits of BBC regional news bulletin Look North.

Peppering your speech with a few of these Geordie-isms will immediately break down that language barrier between you and your friendly taxi driver (and that bloke who came round to fix your heating... and your landlord... that drunk charver who hurled incoherent abuse at you in the street... that bird you pulled last night in Blu Bambu...).

>> Replace all 'don't's and 'didn't's with 'divven't, and all 'can't's with 'cannit'. Ye cannit gan wrong, man.

>> Pluralise your pronouns, 'us' instead of 'me', 'we' instead of 'us'. It is rather confusing so you might have to practise! "Give it back to uz (me), man!", "Are ya comin' with wuh (us)?"

>> "Our' is old-hat, it's 'wor' up north. "He's nicked wor car!"

>> Put 'like' after everything you say, like.

>> Never say 'my', it's always 'me', like. "Ah here man, you're doin' me head in!"

>> If you ever need to exaggerate something, 'proper' will usually do the trick - "I was proper wrecked last night, like."

>> When quoting a friend you can say, "I was like... and then she was git... and I was git n'all... and she was like ehheh?"

>> Add a few terms of endearment onto your speech: 'pet' is a favourite, 'luvvy' is pretty canny and 'hinny' is always a winner.

So, with all these new additions to your vocabulary, a small tweak here and there to your accent, a gallon of fake tan and a bottle of Newcastle Brown, you too can be proud of your newly acquired Geordie heritage and share it with everyone you run into as you're gannin' roond the Toon, like!

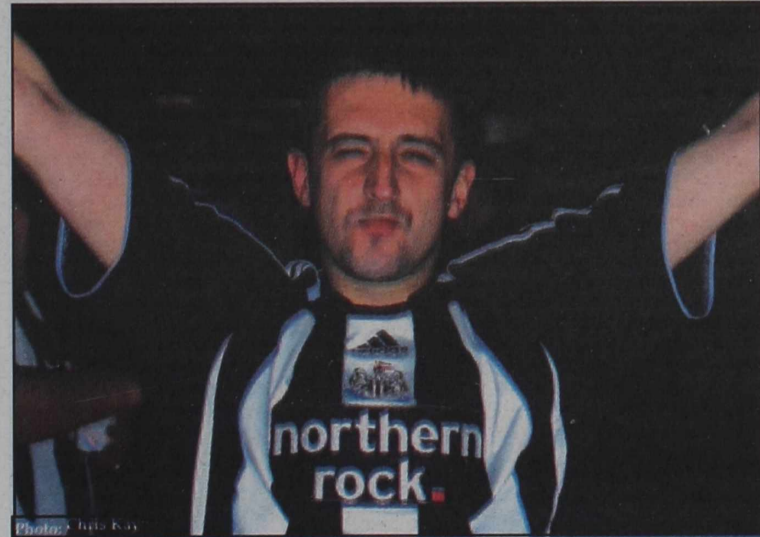


Photo: Jeff Kay

CHRIS KAY waxes lyrical about the positives and pitfalls of the World Wide Web

### Ebay Wahey

WHEN someone spends less than a fiver on an item on Ebay you can almost certainly gear yourself up for an amusing piece of dressed up rubbish to come through their letter box. While their 'great deal' may never live up to its name, you can be certain that their pain in receiving shoddy goods will never outweigh the joy everyone else feels at their expense when the redundant items become the centre of household 'in' jokes.

This is especially true with clothing. When something looks like it is more of a steal than a sale in a Primark bargain bin, you can almost be certain that a tramp wouldn't be seen dead in it. A particular friend comes to mind when he ordered a pair of cream loafers for the princely sum of £1.82. The cream finish turned out to be curdled and the stitching looked like it had been done by my arthritic grandmother. They soon became known as 'the shoes' around the house and after two ridiculed outings they have now adorned the cherished living room mounting of their Sandyford property.

There are obvious no-nos such as my friend's folly in purchasing a cut price iPod from America. After waiting months for its arrival, he was told customs had impounded it and he would have to pay an extra wad of cash just to get his musically starved mitts on it. 1,095 days and counting and it still hasn't seen the light of

day from its Heathrow contraband and containment, much to his annoyance - and our pleasure - at his own stingy-ness.

On the other hand, I'm sure there can be some genuine Ebay deals to be found for the prudent, but I am yet to see a true bargain. But I'm sure that when all goes well the faces of the thrifty are lit up with a warm materialistic glow.



### Application Frustration

I HAVE just checked my facebook homepage. I have: six event invitations, seven group invitations, three vampire invitations, two pirate invitations, two ninja invitations, one zombie-ninja invitation, one vampire bride invitation, one pet peeves quiz, four friend compare quizzes. This quagmire of 'quirky' and 'funny' invites which clog up my screen doesn't even include the various graffiti, video links, top friends, vibrating hamsters, stripper names, petrol head and Jedi vs Sith applications which people choose to include on their profile.

It all trickled in slowly with a virtual gift here, a mini-feed there, then somewhere along the line it spread like gangrene originating in the metaphorical toe nail of Facebook to a point where the whole networking leg needs to be amputated.

The travel map is another gripe of mine, a big boasting wall advertising where you have been in an attempt to boost your ego in the global travelling one-upmanship game.

My theory is that only people who have these things are attempting to come across as 'zany' or 'humorous'. Instead they come across as socially inept people who need a quick ego boost, crave attention and desire wall posts above all. Maybe I'm just a conservative killjoy, but in my mind I prefer my bitterly crafted theory.

Back in the day it just used to be a poke, which while annoyingly stupid, did have a certain cute charm to it. However as soon as my Dad decided to send me a bl\*%\$ slap, via the Superpoke! application, I stressed out into a spasm of intergenerational awkwardness.

The golden days were when Facebook was an exclusive preserve of those privileged enough to have shelled out a nice wedge of money for their education, and I know I'm not alone in arguing this. I call for a return to these elitist glory days. Facebook might be worth trillions of dollars now and can easily ignore me, but that won't stop me starting a group and superpoking Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg to an annoyance induced death.

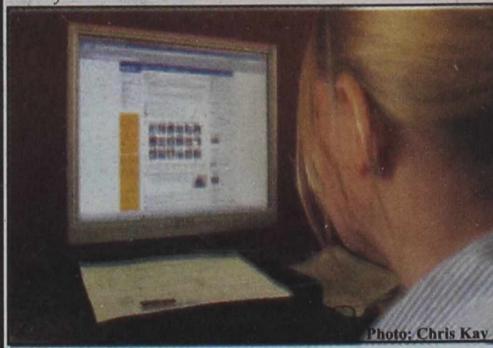


Photo: Chris Kay

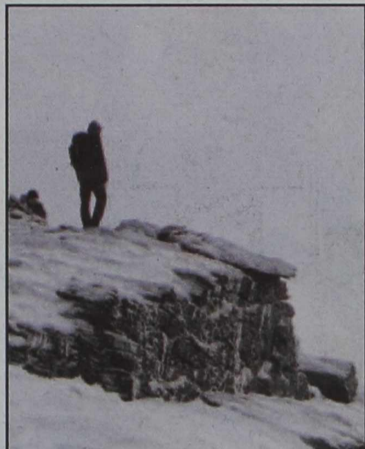


C M Y K

**SOCIETY: PROFILES**

Fellwalking

By JEN SETH



Looking for exhilaration, great views and a very satisfying pint at the end of the day? Fellwalking may well be the activity for you. Getting out in the countryside and walking a few miles, being rewarded with an amazing panorama while you munch on your lunchtime sandwiches (which always taste better when you've worked for them...), and that great feeling of satisfaction when you return to the safe haven of the country public house to enjoy a pint or two of your favourite real ale can be a brilliant way to escape the drudgery of lectures and hectic city life.

The society arranges walks to cater for every member of the group so there's no need to panic about lack of experience or vertigo. If you aren't so keen on taking it to the max then there are gentler routes that take the time to enjoy the most beautiful landscapes and scenery. Superb refreshment after a long week; you'll return to the toon revitalised and invigorated.

For those who want more than just a walk in the park there are opportunities to test yourself with tricky scrambling, steep mountains and harsh terrain, even a spot of rock climbing - perfect for getting the adrenaline flowing! These more taxing adventures are found on the weekend trips to Scotland. Aviemore, Aonach Eagach Ridge in Glen Coe, and

the Cuillin Ridge on Skye are among some favourites with the committee.

The weekend trips involve a night or two in a hostel or on a campsite, so be ready to embrace the festivities with a whiskey or two, coupled with a mug of hot soup to keep the winter chills out!

Day walks are usually closer to home and are of varying difficulties. On the cards in the future are day walks to the Lake District, Hadrian's Wall, Robin Hood's Bay and The Yorkshire Three Peaks, and weekend trips to Glen Coe and Snowdonia.

For more information, and to sign up, take a look at their website [www.societies.ncl.ac.uk/fellwalkers](http://www.societies.ncl.ac.uk/fellwalkers), where you'll also find photos from previous walks, itineraries and contact details for the committee.

# Don't You Worry About the Distance

REBECCA SHARPE discusses whether absence makes the heart grow fonder

HOW WELL do you know Newcastle train station? Many of you will know your way round it from brief visits - on the rare occasion you go home to see Mum and Dad, or more commonly from visiting friends at other universities. Perhaps for some of you your familiarity with the station stems purely from a drunken trip to the night toilets en route to nearby clubs. But for many of us students it's a place we know all too well, the place to greet and to say goodbye to boyfriends and girlfriends. And it's somewhere that always seems colder than actually being outside.

Chances are all of us have or will at some point embark on a long distance relationship, with American surveys claiming up to 4.5 million of dating couples today are living vast distances from each other.

An example many may identify with is the holiday romance that seems worth prolonging at the time! (After all who can resist a sexy accent?) The fact is the UK (or even the world, for the truly brave in love) is a big place full of interesting people with different lives and experiences to our own.

Today is the time to be geographically challenged - everyone seems to be getting free texts and calls on their mobile, most local living couples prefer MSN for arguing and there's always the way of life that is Facebook to make sure your other half is behaving his/herself!

For Newcastle's first years the Long Distant Relationship is perhaps something new to adapt to. It seems leaving home and high school for separate universities is one of the most common causes of a long distance love, with a reported 50% of students starting University with a boyfriend/girlfriend elsewhere.

Is this an underestimated challenge for academia's young lovers? Starting university means adventures in a new place as well as meeting lots of new people. Many students struggle to balance heavy work loads with hectic social lives and part time jobs, so to throw into the equation regular weekends away is where the difficulty sets in. A long distance relationship is a big commitment and tests the character of those who partake in it. Trust, communication and hope become vital.

There are many who don't have faith in the LDR and unfortunately we all know someone whose relationship hasn't survived it. In some cases a relationship is simply stretched out and exhausted by carrying it through the first year of university - the people involved move to a different place literally and emotionally. Sometimes the finances become too much of a strain, for many it's the pain of missing someone and on rare occasions it's meeting someone new. There are lists of reasons for



Photo: Olivia Gill

the failure of a relationship facing long distance difficulties, but equally there are lists of reasons for the failure of any relationship at the young university age. Many of those who don't have faith in its chances of survival aren't in love with someone living far away. It's endearing to see the evidence for couples continuing to accept the challenge. After all, we can't help who we fall for.

Numerous students find comfort in the boyfriend/girlfriend who knows them best during these chaotic university years. As with any relationship, it's a great thing to have someone to call to talk about your day, plus at university there's always interesting news! The feeling of excitement and anticipation of seeing him/her can't be beaten - and nobody can act cool when seeing them arrive at the station.

Weekends away, although at times difficult to fit in, can always be enjoyed. Discovering not only your new city but theirs too is an invaluable source of experience and opportunities. I might also add, being denied the person you fancy the most is just fuel for passion!

My advice would be to plan ahead. There is nothing romantic about spontaneous and surprise appearances that cost over £100 on a Virgin train! A £12.50 to London will set your heart racing in a much better way. The National Express is also a great source - in the right context. Trips can cost as little as a fiver, even when booked at short

notice, and tickets can be sent by text. You will be expected to make up the price in hours of your life mind, and the trick is to balance it. Try to make sure you spend more of the weekend with your loved one than actually on the coach to and from them! I'd also advise a certain level of relaxation - nobody is going to arrive from a 7 hour coach journey looking and feeling effortlessly gorgeous (believe me I've tried) so just be comfy.

Love and trust come without saying in a strong relationship, but the price of visits on a student loan are where care must be taken. The feminist in me urges you to be equals - make sure you visit him/her as often as they visit you and that way no-one begrudges time and money spent on the relationship.

I myself have been recently torn by love - the wonderful boyfriend in London, and my rather intense love affair with Newcastle University life. There are kisses and cuddles, and then there are nights in Solution; with the love of my friends and the power ballads from the Cadbury's drumming gorilla advert to keep me dancing. There are hundreds of books on advice for the geographically challenged, with remarkable ideas like, stay in touch with your partner. There's only one way to find out if a long distance relationship can last the excitement of university life, and even if it costs an expensive train ticket or a 7 hour coach journey, it may be worth every penny.

## WHO'S WHO

EMILY HAMPTON discusses Big Issues with cheery chappy Mark

ANYONE who has ever been to the Robinson Library should know him. Always smiling and in high spirits, the Big Issue vendor, Mark, is always there wishing that you "have a good day now!"

Having such an enthusiastic and optimistic approach to life, I was really moved when Mark told me his personal traumas that led to him becoming a vendor in order to pay off the £5000 of debt that his fiancée left him with over three months ago. Mark was put into a position whereby he felt "there was no way out", felt suicidal, and almost went to jail for being unable to pay his council tax. However, after seeking help from the Big Issue Foundation, Mark saw light at the end of the tunnel and hopes to have paid off all of his debts by Christmas.

Mark has said that by becoming a vendor "the stress has really been taken off me and I am able to work at my own pace but work hard."

Unfortunately he has had trouble from privileged students making accusations and verbally insulting him - "It's hard to swallow when people make assumptions about me and presume I'm a drug addict or something. I'm not a drug addict or an alcoholic or anything like that. I want to work and to stand on my own two feet. People that make these judgements don't realise that this can happen to anyone. It is hurtful when they just look down their noses at me."

Despite these rare incidents, Mark remains enthusiastic about his life as a vendor and was keen to emphasise the positive aspects about his job - "I've been lucky to meet some really amazing people. A Japanese student has taught

me some Japanese and has even invited me to travel to Japan with them!"

Mark particularly demonstrated his benevolent nature recently when he met a 21-year-old student who had been diagnosed with cancer. Despite his financial situation, Mark decided to do a week's work to contribute to charity - "It made me realise that although I have my own financial problems, I have my health. I have learned a lot from doing this job. It means a lot to me to brighten up someone's day. It has definitely made me a stronger person."

The Big Issue magazine includes weekly entertainment and current affairs, much of which is relevant to the local communities and each copy costs £1.50, which makes the vendor a profit of 80p.

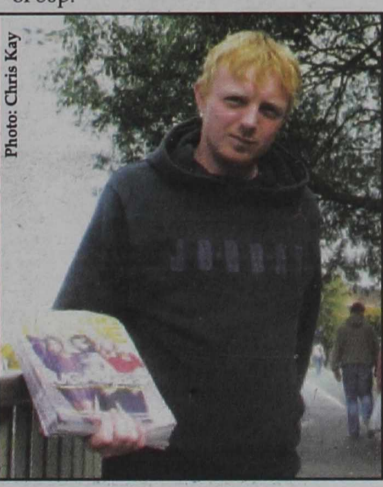


Photo: Chris Kay

**EYE TEST**

**EVERYONE**

**FOR**

**W  
W  
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F**



**Tynedale Eye Clinic**  
**110/112 Shields Road, Byker**  
**Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 1DS**  
**Tel: 0191 276 0242**

# Pulp

black  
sheep

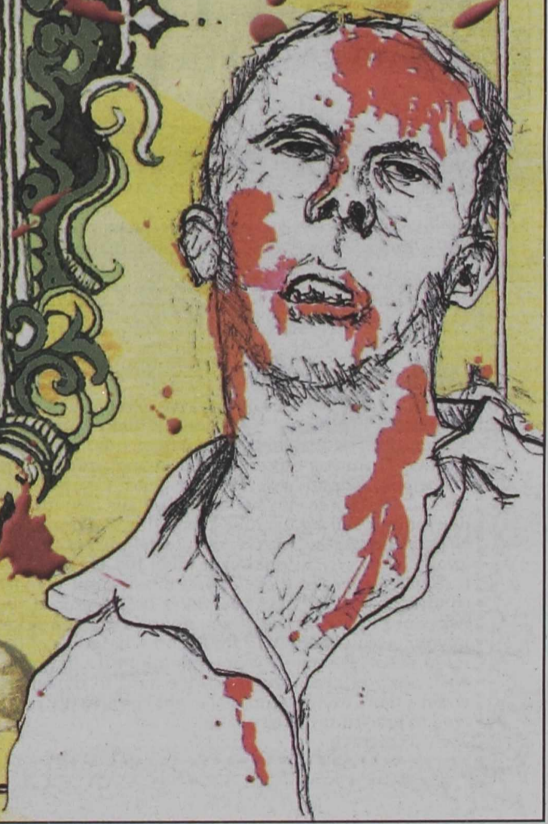
## Halloween

Special

Featuring

1. yo sushi
2. the nut cracker
3. invasion!
4. soulwax
5. dott 07

young  
knives



issue no. 1157

29th october 2007



# MUSIC



## IT'S JUST ANOTHER EXCUSE

THIS week is bloody packed. So dig deep into the reserves of your loan (that can't be too hard at this time of year) and eschew the Bambu for some actual gigs. Apparently we have a good week for rock for those who like to; Soulwax Nite Versions at Digital for those who like to see history being made before their very ears; Kate Nash for all you lovers of cockney charm; The Young Knives and Vice Unitaur for anyone who is, frankly, cool enough. Well I never. So yeah, if you have time, read our magazine too. Thanks to everyone who came to the Pulp Party, the level of wet flyers, dancing on chairs and smashed glass was unprecedented. Rumour has it we may be allowed to put on a few more... we shall have to see.

Jimmy & Ruth xx  
pulp.music@ncl.ac.uk



## TOP FIVE THIS WEEK

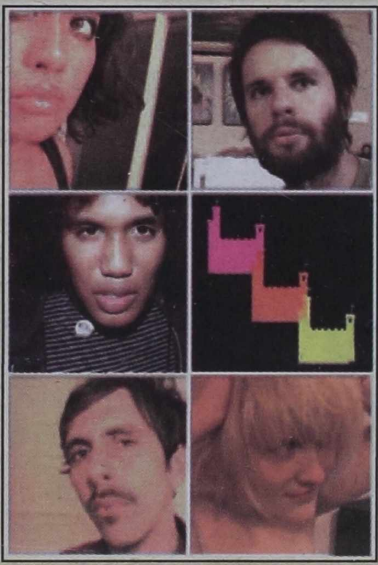


- 1) Soulwax Nite Versions/ 2ManyDJs @ Digital. Friday 2nd November. All the incarnations come together: Soulwax, Nite Versions, 2Many DJs for a monumental night.
- 2) Arcade fire @ Metro Radio Arena. Monday 29th October. Yeah! Shouty boy girl-ness in a huge arena.
- 3) The Young Knives @ The Cluny. Sunday 4th November. The Knives return for a stint at our favourite Cluny, stopping by to chat to us!
- 4) Pirate Soundsystem @ Rouge Pulp. Tuesday 30th October. A filthy mix of electro, breaks and old-skool rave.
- 5) Portions for Foxes & Fake Indie Label 'Hallowe'en Special' @ Head of Steam. Wednesday 31st October. Featuring O'Death, Free Diamonds, Chippewa Falls, The Bubble Project.

## BAND PROFILE BLACK KIDS

BLACK kids make the kind of shimmering, glorious pop music you'd normally expect to find on a 50s surf/girl group record, as anguished yet uplifting as the very best of Phil Spector productions. Frequently hailed in reviews as the new Arcade Fire, their penchant for swelling orchestration and vast, euphoric soundscapes has the potential to earn them similar cult status, sweeping the listener away on a sleepy wave of psychedelic haze and sha-la-las. But don't let the cuteness of their call-response boy-girl vocals and sugary sweet pop communion spin you into too much of a fizz to notice their sour kick. With lyrics like "You are the girl that I've been dreaming of ever since I was a little girl" and "It's Friday night and I ain't got nobody / What's the use of making the bed?", Black Kids are as cheeky and playful as they are life affirming.

Roz Tuplin: BRMC, Richard Hell, Marvin Gaye, Uffie



## VINYLS OF THE WEEK

### HOT CHIP - SHAKE A FIST

HOT Chip finally release some new original material in the shape of this buzzing, clopping, pingy, jiving, schizophrenic scuzz number. Kicking off with cheeky synth and funktron bass, the boys have crafted a dancefloor wonder with a titillating twist thrown in for good measure. This being the "Sounds of the studio" monologue in which Alexis and team unleash an otherworldly blast of alien-synth lasers giving way to a cheesy little funk jig. Blimey! And I thought this "breaking boundaries" stuff was meant to be tough!

BUSTING out with his surprise hit of 2007, Samim has been championed by everyone from Mixmag to Radio 1, and it's easy to see from this, his min-tech riot calling, that this is all much-deserved acclaim. Heater makes me imagine what a Greek wedding would sound like if the DJ was a tech-head! Beefed up with some acid synths and some house-wreck beats, Vandalism's rerun will surely coax more booties to the floor and bring tons more fans over to minimal techno.

### SAMIM - HEATER (VANDALISM RMX)

Jimmy Asquith

## PREVIEWS

### SOULWAX NITE VERSIONS @ DIGITAL, SAT. 3RD

ON the 3rd of November Shindig is going to play host to what is probably going to be the best night of the year in Newcastle. Soulwax are playing Nite Versions live, an event that's grandeur needs to be seen to be believed as they seamlessly blend the craft of a live show with the intensity of a DJ set. But not only that, their other incarnation,

2 Many DJ's, will also be playing, and it won't be just any old set. Over the years they have been responsible for some of the best remixes ever heard on the dancefloor; LCD Soundsystem to The Gossip to Klaxons have all been under their knife and this set will be focussed on these incredible creations. Combine this with a support cast including Sebastian Leger and Riton and every moment of this night will make you tingle. Bloody hell, it will be amazing!

Theo Johnson

### ONE WEEK OF RAWK!

THERE are some big rock-related happenings in Newcastle over the next seven days.

On October 29th, top-rated raw Brit-punk group Spunge play the Carling Academy 2, bringing their wild and energetic show back to town. If you like your rock more classic, on Hallowe'en night Meat Loaf returns to the Metro Radio Arena for the second time this year, playing tracks from the Bat Out Of Hell album trilogy. Sure, the audience for his gigs is usually thirty-something married women, but The Loaf can still put on a great show. On Saturday, the overlords of alt-everything, Wilco, make an appearance at the Carling Academy in support of their new album Sky Blue Sky. And finally, on Sunday 4th November, we're back at the Metro Radio Arena for some heavy metal paradise. Heaven and Hell (alternatively known as the Ronnie James Dio-fronted Black Sabbath) headline, and support comes from Iced Earth and the heavier-than-heavy Lamb Of God.

So, whatever your rock-related interests are, there's something for you this week. Daniel Watkins: Led Zeppelin, Aerosmith, the blues, Rhett Miller.

### ARCADE FIRE @ METRO RADIO ARENA, MON. 29TH

THIS week sees the return of the eclectic Canadian husband and wifeled band to England, fresh from their success at this year's summer festivals. Their first arena tour here promises to enlighten audiences with their ambitious use of instrumentation from guitars to hurdy gurdys and French horns. An awesome stage presence with a line up in double figures, combined with their ability to become enveloped in their own sound, ensures this gig will re create the larger than life sounds from their debut album 'Funeral' and more recent effort 'Neon Bible'. Catchy melodies and emotive lyrics are set to entwine their first appearance in Newcastle. Popular tracks such as 'Rebellion(Lies)' and their latest single 'Headlights look like diamonds' ensure fans are set to enjoy the syncopated dream of Arcade fire.



Suzi Batchelor

### VICE UNITAUR @ THE OTHER ROOMS, WEDS. 31ST

WHAT'S this? A series of free concerts organised by hippest of hip magazines Vice? Actually coming to Newcastle? Held in dingy, intimate venue The Other Rooms? Featuring those talented young upstarts The Teenagers, These New Puritans and Crystal Castles? All I have to do is enter my details into the online lottery? But by the time I read this, the draw will be over and anyone who is going to get a ticket already knows about it? The answer to all of the above is, unfortunately, yes. To those of you missing out, a more condescending preview has never before graced the pages of Pulp. To those of you now clutching a ticket in your sweaty palm 24/7 for fear of what some of the more desperate unlucky punters might do to get in, we'll see you down the front. It's hard to remember when a more exciting musical event has actually bothered to grace our fair city.

David Wingrave



Above: The Teenagers.

# THE MIRACULOUS RETURN OF THE YOUNG KNIVES

**BEDECKED** in tweed, brogues and tortoise-shell glasses, at a time in which the alternative music scene seems headed in an increasingly day-glo direction (the Knives lost the Mercury Prize to The Klaxons this September), The Young Knives stand out for their distinctly rural feel. With songs that evoke scenes of Worcestershire madmen, horses and otters, and album art that features images of archaic English hobbyists such as archers and Maypole dancers, The Young Knives Morris danced their way into many an Indie heart with their second, 2007 Mercury Prize nominated album, *Voices of Animals and Men*.

As Autumn approached, and the leaves began to turn golden, it became time for 'The Young Knives' to put down their Morris dancing sticks and pack away their bee keeping equipment. Having bid farewell to rural Oxfordshire, the three gentlemen of the Knife set forth Northward bound into the dark, urban depths of Glasgow, where they are currently recording tracks for their third album and getting ready for their next tour, which will see them return to our very own Cluny. Pulp had a nice chat with the band's singer, the very affable gent Henry Dartnall, to see how things were coming along.

**Recording:** "It's a pretty painful experience. I mean, I always look forward to it - it's the most creative time isn't it? You've done your writing, and that's all good. And then you do loads to it when you're in the studio. But it can go on for hours! I mean, twelve hour days! And you're just sat around, thinking about these songs, and there's only so much you can do and it can get really on top of you and you start to get confused and stuff. You start going, 'I have no idea whether that sounds good anymore! I might have to go and do something else for a bit.'"

**In big cities:** "We recorded our first album in central London and that does have a

real effect on the sound of it. You feel like a nobody in London because there are so many people around, especially if you're not used to living there, you know? If you're used to living where there's less people. So it does have an effect on how you feel but it's actually quite good because it makes you feel quite insular when you're working in the City and, I think if we went and lived in like a residential studio in somewhere like Wales where all you could see was mountains and streams, I think you'd probably be a bit too relaxed. I wouldn't get very much done, it'd be too nice. I'd be like, 'I've got to go for another walk, really. I've got to go down the pub, really. I've got to go and see a bit of the sights.' In London or Glasgow I'm like, 'I can't be arsed to go outside, there's too many people!'"

**How to cook a dead cat:** "Very often you don't eat until you get to about 6 o'clock and you go, 'Jesus Christ! I'm STARVING!' You just get to the point where you're so hungry you'll eat a scabby dog on the road. You just go, 'Go and find the closest food thing!' which is pretty bad. I'd like to do it healthily, though, like... have you seen that guy? The road kill chef? Hugh Fernley Wormley! That kind of thing."

**The rolling hills of Oxfordshire:** "It does

feel very close to home because we grew up in rural England. So, we know Morris dancers and things like that. I used to do Maypole dancing when I was a kid, so I do have a thing with it. I think there are a lot of urban sounding records and although we're in a similar sort of genre, it's nice to do something a bit different sounding. But with record label pressure, they may want us to change the look for the new album. We'll go, 'We want some horses pulling a plough!' and they'll go, 'No, because that's the same as the last time'. There's always that kind of crap to contend with."

**The new album:** "It's nearly done actually. We're two days away from finishing it. I don't think that 'Terra Firma' (the first single) is a true representation of the rest of the album. If we did everything else the same that would be well boring! We've done a few really loud ones and we've written a few really good melodies. We've done a few more singy-songs. Before we had loads of chantey stuff... but then, that song's pretty chantey really. It's not much of a tune, it's

just a kind of a shout along thing. Which is probably why it's a single. That's the kind of thing record labels like to go for. We've done some really quiet, folksy stuff and we've done some crazy stuff. Sonically though, it's quite a good representation. There's a lot of quite full production of a lot of the stuff which is quite different from last time. And yeah, there are more melodies."

**The next tour:** "I really like [The Cluny], so I'm really glad we're going back and doing that. The first gig we did in Newcastle was in the Cumberland Arms just up the hill from there, just to a crowd of about 15 people, which was great. I've done Bullet Proof club night in front of about 2,000 people. I do like Newcastle, there's always a good atmosphere - and the Cluny's great! They always give you nice food as well. Treat you well!"

So, here's an advance warning to those fine folks at The Cluny, The Young Knives are coming, and they're hungry. They've been eating road kill for Christ's sake!



## THOU SHALT NOT

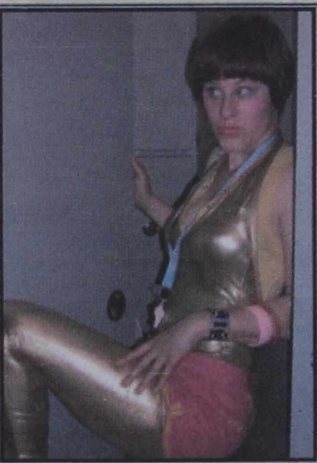
...LOUDLY DISCUSS ONE'S FRANKLY IRRELEVANT OPINIONS ON THE DJ/FRONTWOMAN / BAND THAT YOUR MATES ARE HAPPILY DANCING TO

**SERIOUSLY**, I'm all one for engaging musical discussion. Indeed, why make music if it's not going to be listened to, and consequently be the subject of discussion and opinion? If that was the case we'd have no punk, or grime, or any genre at all - although it would spare us the appalling mediocrity that is James Blunt.

However, there is a time and a place. The last thing I want to hear when shaking my booty to the Soulwax remix of Standing In The Way Of Control, is how Beth Ditto shouldn't get naked. Not only is this comment one that has been discussed ad nauseam in the letter pages of every rag from NME to Heat, but the conclusion that she'll get naked anyway has been reached and there's nothing we can do about it. Also, I don't care if she should or should not get naked. She's going to have to get naked to wash, and have sex, and spouting off about it so loud I can't even hear the track I'm trying to dance to won't change this.

It seems like a pretty normal social convention, but keep your musical opinions to the pub, or the flat, as opposed to the dancefloor; especially if they regard the SO overdone topic of Beth Ditto's obese nudity.

Alice Vincent



**SIGUR Ros** will be releasing new film *Heima* on 5th of November, apparently the film is "as much a record of Iceland's remote beauty as of the band and their music". (MTV UK)

One of the world's biggest sites for illegal downloads, **OINK**, has been shut down by Interpol in a raid. The agency notes the band, you div!

The BBC had to apologize last week when Iggy Pop used a racist slur on TV. Apparently he was probably unaware that the P-word has now "passed out of polite usage". Idiot.

The Long Blondes have just started working on a new album with the wonderful Erol Alkan. Can't be bad. Well, it can't be worse than their first!

If you were to pre-order a copy of Amy Winehouse's new live DVD, you may well receive a free pint glass and ash tray emblazoned with the Winehouse logo. Charming. According to the Rolling Stone they may as well produce a line of bongas and syringes. Also charming.



## TURNING POINT

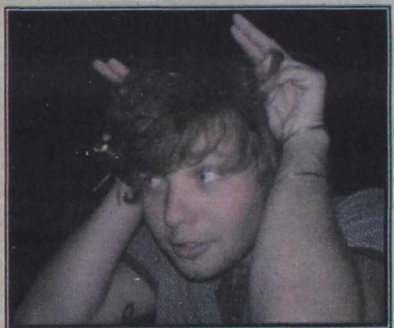
**KRAFTWERK-THE MODEL**

THERE are very few songs that come along, which make you completely re-evaluate your musical tastes. I first heard The Model as a young child, after looking through my Dad's record collection, and finding a copy of Man Machine, the album upon which The Model appears. After putting it on I was instantly drawn in by the minimal and futuristic sound that was coming out of the speakers. The opening bars lay out the template, and instantly draw in the listener.

It has a rare quality that few other songs have; it is both experimental, yet familiar, never alienating the audience. Additionally, the song juxtaposes a sense of warmth, along side bleak, desolate and almost Orwellian imagery, which I feel makes the song stand alone.

The artwork of the album enhances this image; striking and bold while at the same time, soulless and robotic. The bizarre Germanic vocals combined with the entrancing, repetitive synth hook sounded unlike anything I had ever heard before. To me, The Model deserves a place, as one of the 20th centuries greatest works of art.

Arran Collinge



# REVIEWS

## ALBUMS

### THE LIBERTINES

TIME FOR HEROES

Listening to a supposed compilation of their best songs ever, I discovered that I actually quite liked The Libertines. I feel like I have been missing out on the catchy choruses and melodious tunes which have been offered up on this greatest hits album. Obviously the classic singles "Can't Stand Me Now" and "Time For Heroes" are included in this collection of album tracks, singles and B-sides. If not a reminder of a turbulent relationship between the two front men and a more articulate Pete Doherty, but also of the Libertines' unique chaotic genius released over a short two and a half year career. I'm sure there will be much debate on whether this really is the ultimate 'best of' by the Libertines, but I am definitely satisfied.

9/10

Claire Oberlander: The Kooks, Air



### VARIOUS ARTISTS

RADIO 1 LIVE LOUNGE VOLUME 2

The Live Lounge has become a bit of a Radio 1 institution, and this compilation album demonstrates exactly why. There are many great acoustic and live performances such as "Fans" by Kings of Leon, but the cover versions are the most fun bits. With a stomping version of Amy Winehouse's "You Know I'm No Good" by the Arctic Monkeys, and a quite fantastically chilled out version of Kanye West's "Stronger" by "30 Seconds To Mars", this double disc album possesses many gems, and is one of those records that is just simply very hard not to like.

9/10

James Trueman: Hot Chip, Justice, Arcade Fire, Arctic Monkeys

### ROISIN MURPHY

OVERPOWERED

After the remix-friendly first single "Overpowered", and whispers of a helping hand from reliable tunesmiths such as Paul Dolby of Bugz In The Attic and pop overlord Richard X, the former Moloko singer's second album started to sound promising. Sadly she fails to deliver, with chilled out beats and husky vocals giving the record too much of a laid-back, old school vibe to appeal to contemporary audiences, and too much sophistication to reach a market of pop lovers who still pine for the Spice Girls. The melding of pop and dance is seamless, but lacks the vigour of Roisin's less classy pop rivals, whilst dance fans will find it tame.

4/10

Roz Tuplin: BRMC, Richard Hell, Marvin Gaye, Uffie

## SINGLES

### THE CRIBS

DON'T YOU WANNA BE RELEVANT?

There must be something in the water in Wakefield, apart from sewage, as the Cribbs have yet again produced another single that gleams with a catchy-as-hell riff and vocals that are in your face. It prides and distances itself from being a polished, generic single which makes a change from most singles produced today.

Daniel Bos



### ELLE MILANO KINGS OF MY BROTHER THE ASTRONAUT

You may remember these Brighton-based purveyors of blistering, spasmodic art punk for last year's "Swearing's For Art Students" EP. Well fame (of the er, Artrocker variety) hasn't changed them and they're back with the usual mish-mash of crunchy riffs and daft yelping, as kinetic and furious as ever.

Roz Tuplin: BRMC, Richard Hell, Marvin Gaye, Uffie

The fluctuating and relentless bass line certainly moves the speakers on this one, and when that first screech hits you it's evident that this is something in contrast to their usual blend of soft, timid rock. The song is a heavy reminder of work by the Pixies and is a song they would be proud of.

Daniel Bos

### SIGUR ROS

HLJOMALIND / STARALFUR

This double A-side previews tracks from 'Hvarf-Heim', the forthcoming two disk album. Hljomalind is light, airy and typical of Sigur Ros' distinctive sound. 'Staralfur' is a reworking of the track from the Agaetis-Byrjun album. It is more polished and ornate than the original, but loses its original grit and sparseness.

Alexander Bowell: Radiohead, Belle & Sebastian, TV on the Radio, Sufjan Stevens

## PHOTOS

### PULP PARTY!



# FILM

HERE'S some topical pub waffle, on me.

The most successful horror films in history usually reflect in some way the social and political fears of the decade that produced them.

Some case's in point then.

During the 1950s, the most popular horror films were tales of science-fiction: *The Thing From Another World* (1951), *The Thing* (1959) and of course, *Invasion Of The Body Snatchers* (1956).

Why? Because they reflected the Cold War paranoia about scientific advancement, the fear that science, in its hideous incarnation as the A-bomb, was about the wipe us all out. Hence the popularity of *Godzilla* (1954), the story of a monster given his destructive powers by atomic radiation.

Fast-forward to the 60s and 70s, and social fear inverted: in a time of sexual and cultural rebellion, drugs and, most significantly, the pill (1960) contributed to a fear that the family was a dissolving concept, its values going up in smoke. Think of *Rosemary's Baby* (1968), *The Omen* (1976), *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre* (1974) or this week's Must See Movie, *The Shining* (1980). In all of these films it is someone: the child, the father or an entire family that are out to get you.

The decadent 80s. *The Return Of The Living Dead* (1985) became Romero's hit of the series, Freddy arrived in *Nightmare On Elm Street* (1984) and Cronenberg's *The Fly* (1986) shocked everyone. Why? Because they were so gratuitous, so explicit and so disgusting. Just like the yuppie, capitalist culture that horrified anyone with mild socialist or environmental concerns at the time.

The 90s. For many during this insulated, pampered decade the biggest social fear was of the alarming growth of mass media; of televised wars and the intrusive ubiquity of advertisements. So it was *The Blair Witch Project* (1999) that most captured the imagination - filmed on the medium of the journalist and the voyeur, the camcorder. In addition our sense of privileged security was threatened when affluent, educated teenagers started dying in their own homes in *Scream* (1996) and *I Know What You Did Last Summer* (1997).

And finally we arrive at today, the noughties. Has there been anything but remakes so far? *The Ring* (2002), *The Grudge* (2004), *Chainsaw Massacre* (2003) and *Hallowe'en* (2007)? Consider the theory that, as a new millennium turned us back to zero, society is suffering from an identity crisis, a sort of insecure longing for the past. The fact that, with the fear of terrorism seemingly so tangible, we have become almost nostalgic for the things that used to scare us, things that weren't so real...

Of course, all of this sounds a lot more convincing after a few pints. Which is why it's handy that I drink on the job.

Enjoy our Hallowe'en special.

- Sam  
pulp.film@ncl.ac.uk

## RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION

DIRECTOR: PAUL WS ANDERSON  
CAST: MILLA JOVOVICH, ODED FEHR, ALI LARTER

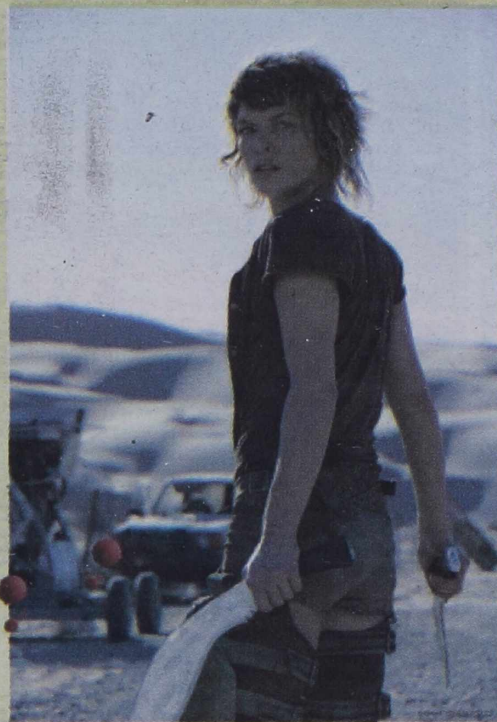
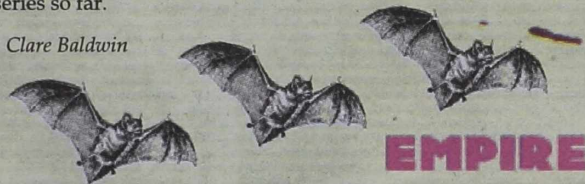
AS LONG as you keep in mind at all times that *Resident Evil: Extinction* is a sequel based on a video game, it's actually quite fun to watch.

After a disorientating opening scene, which might make you think you're watching the first *Resident Evil* again, the premise for the film is revealed and you can get on with enjoying the (slightly cheesy) zombie and mutant action.

This third film is set in a newly deserted, post-Apocalypse world, the scientific reasoning for which leaves something to be desired. This does, however, set the scene for numerous references to other films, although this could equally be interpreted as the director showing a lack of originality.

Either way, while *Extinction* isn't going to win any major awards, it certainly isn't boring and may well be the best of the series so far.

Clare Baldwin



## HALLOWE'EN PIE

Ashley Fryer shares her essential culinary tips on how to make a good horror movie...

**TEENAGERS** - Key ingredient, this. A Hallowe'en pie without beautiful, athletic young people simply won't rise in the oven. Imagine *Scream* set in an old peoples' home. It just doesn't work.

**SEXUAL TENSION** - Once you have your handful of gorgeous youths, you need to add some sexual tension, just to help bring out the flavour in the mass murder. A good tip for this is to use a dumb blonde, preferably racing through the wood at midnight in itsy bitsy teeny weeny garments.

**A HOUSE WITH HUGE WINDOWS AND DOORS THAT DON'T LOCK** - A decent roux to get things started. Might be worth removing the phone lines, or your pie will be finished before anyone's ready.

**THE BAD GUY** - Don't worry about using a disfigured or slightly rotten Bad Guy. This merely lends the pie spice.

**BLOOD AND GUTS** - Your salt and pepper. Add liberally at each stage of cooking.



## THE INVASION

DIRECTOR: OLIVER HIRSCHBIEGEL  
STARRING: NICOLE KIDMAN, DANIEL CRAIG, JEREMY NORTHAM

THE HOLLYWOOD remake machine rolls back into town again.

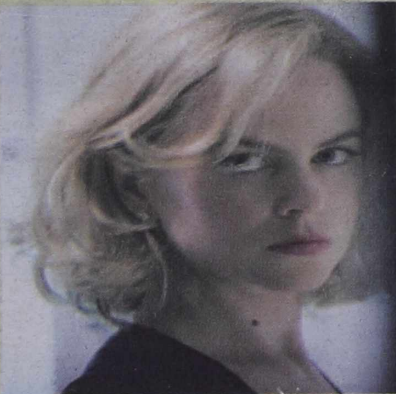
We've already had the 'reimagining' of Hallowe'en by Rob Zombie earlier this month, now it seems it's the turn of *Invasion Of The Body Snatchers* in the form of *The Invasion*.

The Story follows Nicole Kidman as psychiatrist Dr Carol Bennell, who starts to become suspicious when her already paranoid patients start to become even more paranoid ("My husband is not my husband...").

Add to that the fact that her neglectful ex decides out of the blue that he wants to start spending more quality time with their son, and soon so she and 'just friends' Daniel Craig are setting out to find out why everyone around them is starting to act so alien.

This remake of a remake of a remake seems disjointed at times, which may be because, if rumours are to be believed, the studio weren't happy with Hirschbiegel's cut so the script was rewritten and James V for Vendetta McTeigue was drafted in to shoot the new scenes.

In short the film plods along in a predictable fashion with some nice flourishes of



originality (the alien virus soon sorts out the trouble in Iraq), but after setting the scene the story doesn't know where to go and just descends into an OTT Die Hard-esq. action set piece.

Stuart Young



## BLACK SHEEP

DIRECTOR: JONATHAN KING  
STARRING: NATHAN MEISTER, DANIELLE MASON, LOTS OF SHEEP

GENETICALLY ENGINEERED KILLER SHEEP!!!

If you're still reading and still interested, after hearing that premise then *Black Sheep* is definitely for you.

The film follows Henry Oldfield (Mestier) as he returns to the family farm to combat his fear of sheep (a slight problem for him in New Zealand, where the film is set, and where sheep outnumber humans 10 to 1). Problems arise when animal rights activists accidentally release some toxic material, which spreads to the animals, who promptly go mad and develop a taste for flesh.

The result is a very entertaining gross-out

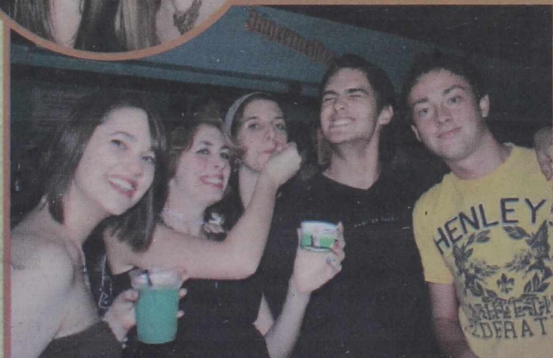
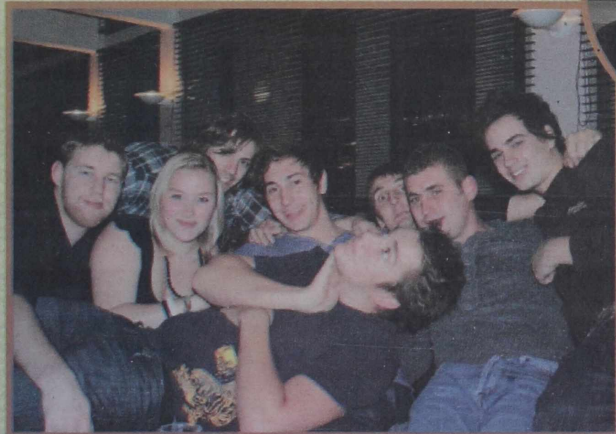
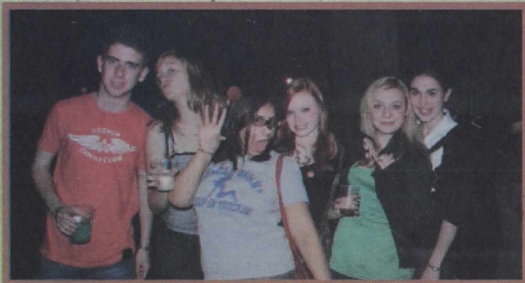
horror-comedy hybrid. The script contains plenty of quotable one-liners, and the special effects - handled by Weta Workshop, who were responsible for *Lord Of The Rings* - are brilliantly gory and very reminiscent of Peter Jackson's early films *Braindead* and *Bad Taste*.

*Black Sheep* is destined to become a cult classic - jump on the bandwagon now.

Daniel Watkins



# SOLUTION



If you're lucky enough to be circled you and a friend have won guestlist places for this week's Solution. Pop into The Courier office (opposite Cochrane Lounge) with your smartcard to claim your prize by 10am on Friday (ask for Gemma).



All Photos: Mindaugas Miskinis

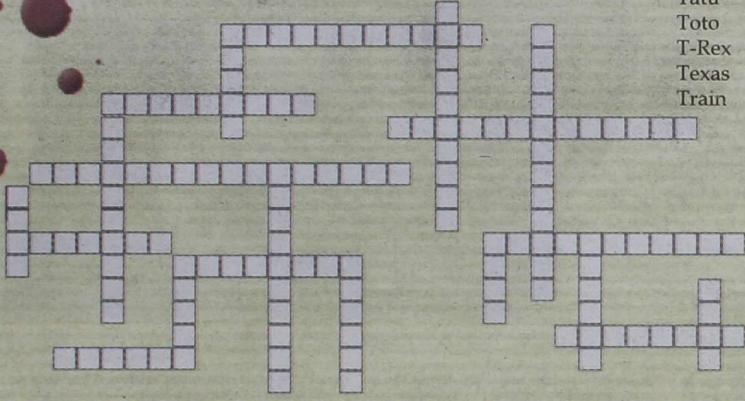
# PUZZLES

Compiled by Puzzles Master Megan Darby

## KRISS KROSS

Fit the words in the list into their correct positions in the grid. Compiled by Caroline Melloy

- |       |           |             |               |             |
|-------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Tatu  | Troggs    | Tom Jones   | Temptations   | Blind       |
| Toto  | Travis    | Thin Lizzy  | Turin Brakes  | The Rolling |
| T-Rex | T-Spoon   | Tenacious D | Tracy Chapman | Stones      |
| Texas | Thrills   | Timberland  | man           |             |
| Train | Take That | Tina Turner | Third Eye     |             |



## QUIZ CORNER

This week, every answer in the quiz includes the name of a country. For example, if the question was, "Which supermarket's adverts feature former Atomic Kitten and reality television personality Kerry Katona?" then the answer would be... 'Iceland' as Iceland is both a country and a supermarket. Good Luck!

Compiled by Joe Ambrose

- 1) Which famous pianist and keyboard player was a founding member of the 1970's New Wave band Squeeze, and hosts a late night music show introducing world and popular music?
- 2) Which actress plays Betty Suarez in "Ugly Betty"?
- 3) Which Man City player withdrew from the Republic of Ireland international squad following the Euro 2008 qualifier against Slovakia?
- 4) Which film features James McAvoy as a young Scottish doctor who travels to Uganda and becomes the personal physician to the dictator Idi Amin?
- 5) What is the name of the capital city of Trinidad and Tobago?
- 6) Which James Bond film features Sean Connery as Bond, and the characters 'Rosa Klebb' and 'Red Grant'?
- 7) Which former female wrestler's nickname was 'The Ninth Wonder of the World'?
- 8) In ten-pin-bowling, what is the term used to describe three consecutive strikes?
- 9) In 'The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy', which curse word is the rudest word in the universe, and is "completely banned in all parts of the Galaxy, except in one part, where they don't know what it means"?
- 10) Which 2006 film features writer and director Shane Meadows as 'Combo', a skin-head National Front member?

- ANSWERS: 1) The Last King of Scotland 2) The Last Love 3) Stephen Ireland 4) From Russia With Love 5) England 6) This is Scotland 7) Turkey 8) Belgium 9) Turkey 10) King of the Ring 11) China 12) The Last Love 13) Healed 14) Bisque 15) Lead 16) Esels 17) Clue 18) Satsumas 19) Vet 20) Cada 21) Demonstrates 22) Entrap 23) Preserve 24) Improvements 25) Guerilla 26) Healed 27) Bisque 28) Lead

### Halloween Word Search

bat  
black  
bones  
broom  
caldron  
cat  
costumes  
creepy  
dracula  
frighten

ghosts  
goblins  
halloween  
haunted  
monster  
moon  
mummy  
night  
owl  
pumpkin

scary  
skeleton  
spider  
spirits  
spooky  
trick or treat  
vampire  
werewolf  
witch  
zombie

SUDOKU...SUDOKU...

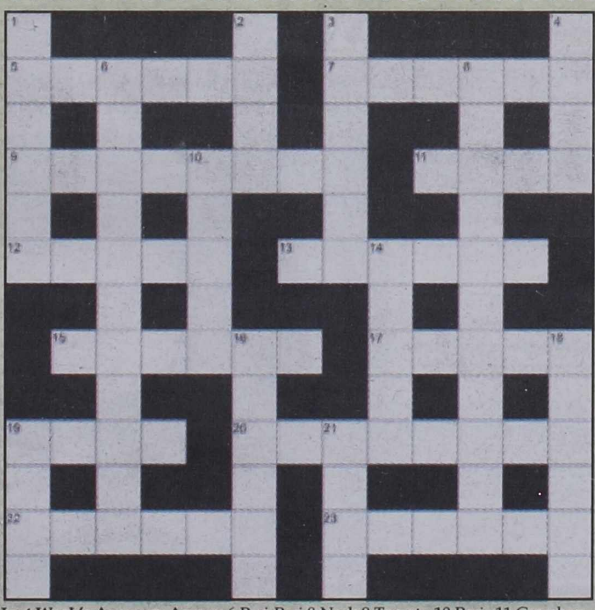
8	6	1			4	3
	5			3		1
4				2		7
	2		6			5
	8	9	3		6	
6			4	9		
1		2				9
	4		1			2
2	7			5	1	4

SUDOKU...SUDOKU...

## COURIER CROSSWORD

The first person to drop their completed crossword into The Courier office (opposite Cochrane Lounge) will win guestlist for themselves plus a guest to this week's Solution! Crossword compiled by Katya Chatterjee.

- Across**
- 5 Individual who no longer has both parents (6)
  - 7 Undead being that rises from the ground; also popular cocktail (6)
  - 9 Time of month werewolves enjoy (4,4)
  - 11 Eye of \_\_\_\_: important ingredient in many magic potions (4)
  - 12 Relation of Wednesday to Uncle Fester on the Addams Family (5)
  - 13 In working order (6)
  - 15 What Shrek's loved one turned into at sunset (6)
  - 17 Music festival touring UK for charity (5)
  - 19 Wicked (4)
  - 20 Noises made by moving ghostly chains together (8)
  - 22 Costume (6)
  - 23 Lower oneself on ropes, e.g. down a cliff (6)
- Down**
- 1 Dracula's resting place during the day (6)
  - 2 To erase, do away with (4)
  - 3 Gases forming a layer over the earth protecting it from the horrors of global warming (6)
  - 4 Wicked Witch of the \_\_\_\_ - melted by Dorothy. (4)
  - 6 A "noisy" ghost; also name of 80s Hollywood horror movie. (11)
  - 8 Popular halloween movie starring Johnny Depp (11)
  - 10 Saying: You're the apple of \_\_\_\_ (2,3)
  - 14 To terminate (5)
  - 16 To cry out with a piercing scream (6)
  - 18 Person of non-magic ancestry (6)
  - 19 Scariest single period during a student's semester. (4)
  - 21 A witch's faithful warty companion (4)



Last Week's Answers: Across: 6 Peri-Peri 8 Nark 9 Tomato 10 Paris 11 Grasshoppers 12 Rechargeable 15 Inapt 16 Esels 18 Clue 19 Satsumas Down: 1 Veto 2 Cada 3 Demonstrates 4 Entrap 5 Preserve 7 Improvements 11 Guerilla 13 Healed 14 Bisque 17 Lead

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## SURVEY

WE asked 100 of you, who is your favourite horror movie character of all time. Your survey said...

### 10. Damien (The Omen)

Damien deservedly takes his spot in this list, not only because being a boyishly innocent spawn of the Devil commands at least some measure of respect in horror circles.

It's also because The Omen features possibly one of the best decapitations in cinematic history when a sharp pane of glass administers some satanic justice...

### 9. The Creeper (Jeepers Creepers)

Though Jeepers Creepers is hindered by that annoying jingle signifying impending doom, there's no denying that the Creeper's hobby of collecting body parts is a perfect horror ingredient. His truck's pretty cool too.

### 8. Leatherface (The Texas Chainsaw Massacre)

Although this chainsaw loving cannibal only makes it to No. 8, he would surely take a prize for being the most morbidly gruesome character on your list, namely because he is very attached to masks made from human skin.

### 7. Regan McNeill (The Exorcist)

Despite The Exorcist having a Marmite-like effect on horror buffs (it's either the scariest film ever made or hysterically funny), this possessed little girl has to be included for the controversy she stirred up.

Urban legend has it that original audiences back in 1973 required paramedics to deal with people fainting from fear, so she must have done something right.

### 6. Laurie Strode (Hallowe'en)

Wholesome and reserved, this bookworm was a perfect trendsetter for female heroines upon Hallowe'en's original release in 1978.

Intelligent and strong when put under the kind of pressure that will literally take years off your life, there's a little bit of Laurie in most modern horror heroines.

### 5. Jason Voorhees (Friday The 13th)

Jason's legend only truly took off when he first donned his infamous hockey mask in the third instalment of Friday The 13th, and he hasn't looked back since.

He is one of the biggest cash-cows in the film industry, and has even won the MTV Lifetime Achievement Award, providing more evidence that mass murderers are always welcome in popular culture.

### 4. Michael Myers (Hallowe'en)

Michael Myers has to be the hardest horror icon: he has been shot around twelve times, beaten, burned, stabbed, hanged and electrocuted yet still avoids meeting his maker.

The emergence of yet another edition of Hallowe'en this month is further testament to his staying power.

### 3. Jack Torrance (The Shining)

Jack Nicholson will probably be most remembered for his arresting performance as demented writer Jack Torrance. Although he isn't one of the more frightening horror icons, the fantastic collection of quotes derived from Jack has secured his popularity - being the scholars that we are I'm sure we can all emphasise with 'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy'.

### 2. Jigsaw (Saw)

Saw has well and truly cemented its place in horror culture and even if the impending release of Saw 4 may have had a hand in pushing Jigsaw to number two, nobody who has seen the original will forget the agonising foot/handsaw climax. One student's analysis resulted in the conclusion that he is 'an absolute bastard'. Indeed.

### 1. Freddie Krueger (A Nightmare on Elm Street)

Wonderfully eccentric and looking as if he was created on a very tight budget (rumour has it that his striped top was a £4 steal from Primark), Freddie strikes a healthy balance between the terrifying and the comic.

His name and image is instantly recognisable, and his position as number one horror icon according to Newcastle students confirms this.

Whereas others in this list are remembered for the barbaric and gory, Freddie's skill for entering your dreams is a tad more cerebral, making him your thoughtful lot's official King of Horror.

Well done sir!

Matthew Stoppard



## COMPETITION

Tyneside Cinema

Where your passions go to enjoy themselves

## TIME!

EVER the innovators, Tyneside Cinema have decided to mark this years Hallowe'en in spectacular fashion by screening the spookiest silent film of all time *Nosferatu*, in the atmospheric All Saints Church on the Quayside.

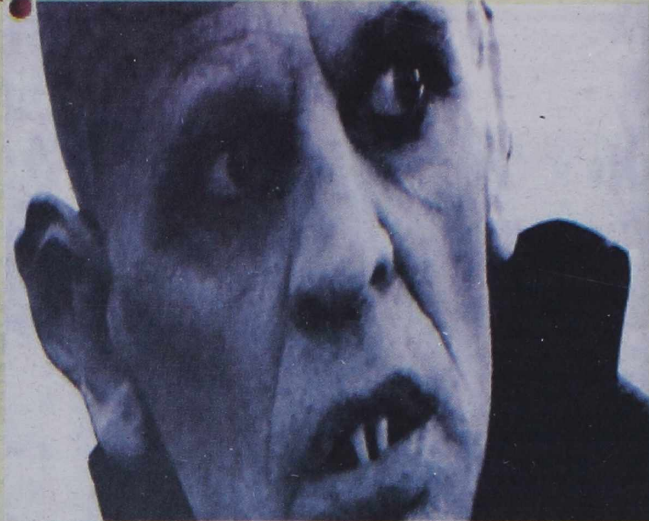
The soundtrack is being supplied live by outstanding double act Jazzfingers, fresh back from playing the Sonar Festival in Barcelona. Their mixture of melody and everyday sounds is certain to provide the perfect back drop to the ultimate Hallowe'en movie.

With a pre-screening selection of classic ghost stories courtesy of The Murder Club and an on-site bar to keep out the chills, this is the perfect way to spend the scariest night of year and a unique experience unlikely to be repeated.

Cos we're so nice, Pulp has two free tickets going for this event to the first brave soul to email in with the correct answer to the following question:

What is the original meaning of the word 'Nosferatu'?

Answer to pulp.film@ncl.ac.uk - good luck!



## WHY US??

DANIEL HESSE WONDERS WHY STUDENTS ARE ALWAYS SUCH EASY TARGETS FOR CINEMA'S NASTIEST CREATIONS.

WE'RE YOUNG, skint and useless. Our problems include alarm clocks, on screen balances, and bouncers, quite enough to be getting on with, without the treat of grisly dismemberment thank you. With Hallowe'en upon us, the time has come to analyse what the world of horror could possibly have against students.

To soften the blow, we'll start with the easy option: blame the yanks. For a prospective assassin, the advert could almost read: "Young, naive college student seeks obviously avoidable gruesome death. Offers spacious, deserted house; trophy girlfriend/boyfriend for practice; and own transport for easy isolation. Kitchen cutlery provided". Given the cultural similarities, we must appear equally attractive; a smaller, but less clichéd cornfield waiting to be scythed.

Secondly, we're the target audience on both levels. We love watching these films, dissecting the victims' shortcomings, and then recreating events to dem-



onstrate how easily one can avoid a horrific death. Problem is, by the series' third dodgy prequel, the killer pretty much knows what they're doing, and, as it's always scarier when the core audience feels the most threatened, why mess with a winning formula?

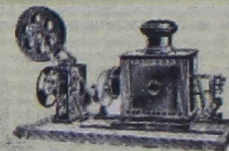
And, as if to make life easier for our executioners, those of us who aren't stupid enough to try and outsmart them, aren't the hardest to outsmart. During the dead of night, we're not usually to be found in a safe house with a gun, a stake and a clove of garlic handy. Instead, we'll be in the most convenient places, doing inadvisable things: stumbling around the streets or involved in illicit activities in bushes and back alleys.

Which brings me onto the final reason why students get such a rough deal out of horror: because we deserve it. For all their shortcomings, killers are a moralistic bunch, and with our kamikaze lifestyle, tendency to freeload, and sexual deviance, you would have to say we're kind of asking for it.

Daniel Hesse

## MUST SEE MOVIE

IN A GHOULISH TWIST ON OUR REGULAR FEATURE, PETE DUGGAN ARGUES WHY THE SHINING IS THE GREATEST HORROR MOVIE OF ALL TIME.



Nicholson was desperate to read Duggan's article.

THE SHINING, based on the novel by Stephen King, is to me the Citizen Kane of horror movies. While the Exorcist, The Omen and Psycho are all worthy contenders, there is just something about Jack Nicholson's signature film that makes it the ultimate horror experience.

To me the film represents what the horror genre is truly about, not cheap jumps or OTT murder scenes but about actual terror, suspense and in the case of Nicholson's protagonist Jack Torrance, slow descent into chaos and insanity.

For those unaware, the film tells the story of a newly appointed caretaker at the 'closed for winter' Overlook hotel and the haunting events that befall him and his family. Kubrick's horror masterpiece builds slowly with a spine-chilling score, a stunning display from Nicholson and a sequence of horrific and yet technically brilliant shots.

What I love about the film is the blurring of the natural and supernatural events - is what we are seeing real or all in Jack's imagination? Furthermore, Kubrick turns his Overlook hotel into a character itself, looming ominously over the Torrance's; the mysterious room 237, the labyrinth and the endless maze of corridors and rooms all of which have their own bloody stories to tell. At the end the film is wound so tightly the audience can barely breathe and with a twist ending to boot, The Shining is truly the greatest horror film of all time.

Pete Duggan



# MENTS



I AM writing this editorial off the back of Last Man Standing so I am pretty much void of anything to say that is either witty or of much interest. Much the same as every other week really. However this week I don't even have a new piece of philosophical knowledge to share with you all, which I'm sure disappoints you all deeply. I am therefore going to use this space to rant about office politics, namely Jimmy Music a.k.a. the office bully. Today, in the midst of my post-drink vulnerability, I was told by said person that my profile pictures made me appear 'common'. A bit harsh I'd say particularly

considering Jimmy is from Brighthouse and speaks like a dunce.

I have now developed a profile picture complex, which is in danger of becoming a fully fledged anxiety, worrying about how I am going to appear more refined. I have contemplated perhaps posing with a glass of Moet or astride a racehorse, but I don't want to look like a try hard. I have also contemplated simply ringing the boys from home to 'sort him out' and make him take it back. However, I am not an unreasonable person, and I can see Jimmy does have a point. My past profile pictures have certainly lacked finesse. Despite

this I would like to draw attention to the wise words of Jesus who said 'beauty is on the inside' and 'you shouldn't judge a book by its cover'. I'd also like to point out to Jimmy that I often go to the theatre, do outdoor activities and read high brow newspapers. I have even spoken the queens English on at least two occasions when my dad has requested it. Actually. So you can kiss my sweet...sorry. Anyway my point is I am not simply one massive wreck-head. So, returning to the issue in hand, I will show you Jimmy Music.....

starting next week. Obviously.

## LAST MAN STANDING WALL OF SHAME.....

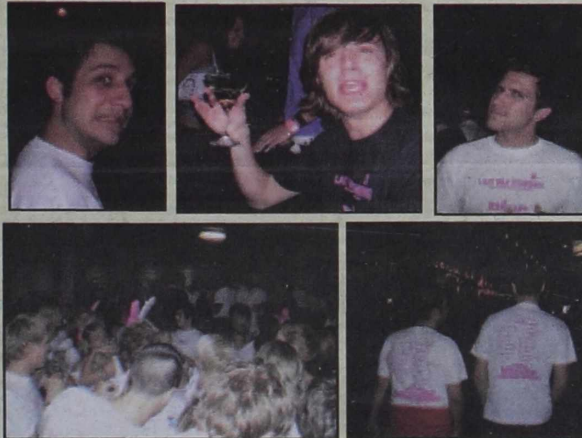


### KING OF THE CRAWLS

THEY ADVERTISE themselves as the original, the biggest and the best bar crawl in Newcastle, and they weren't messing.

In essence the crawl comprises of two routes, East and West, and one club 'The Boat'. A simple formula for a bloody good night out I'd say. Me and my friends decided to go East, and I have amusing, if fairly vague recollections of many a bar - Box, Hoko 10 and Chase to name a few, and some extremely student friendly drinks offers. The collective spirit was notable, it was like one big happy family of white Tshirt clad party goers. Astounding.

I have to say though that the most impressive thing about this particular bar crawl was the fact I didn't have to queue. At all. Considering the sheer volume of people in attendance this was a pleasant surprise I can tell you. 6 rooms for differing musical tastes finished the night off perfectly, although next time I am planning to attach myself in some way to my companions, as come one o'clock I found myself pulling some dodgy moves in the D&B room by myself. Real cool. If you missed out there'll be another in RAG week, we'll keep you posted.....



## READER REVIEW FRIDAY NIGHT @ MR LYNCH



IN MY opinion one of the best things about a bar is the chairs. It can make or break a place. So when we bagged probably the two best chairs in Mr Lynch - even Mr Lynch himself would be hard pressed not to enjoy himself.

Great music, a swinging covers band (but delving into modern bits like Red Hot Chilli Pepper's), the place was really buzzing. It was busy and noisy (like a normal bar would be on a Friday night), but you could still talk to people with-

out having to cover your mouth. The Bar Staff were numerous, and their cocktail menu was a sophisticated pallet sensation. Its also free before 10.30pm, so there really is no excuse. The problem? It's still slightly expensive, £2.70/2.80 for a pint, and you have to break into a note for the cocktails. Still, if you're looking for a toe tapping place to go, that oozes stylish chic, then hit Mr Lynchs. You won't be disappointed!  
Izaak Carlisle

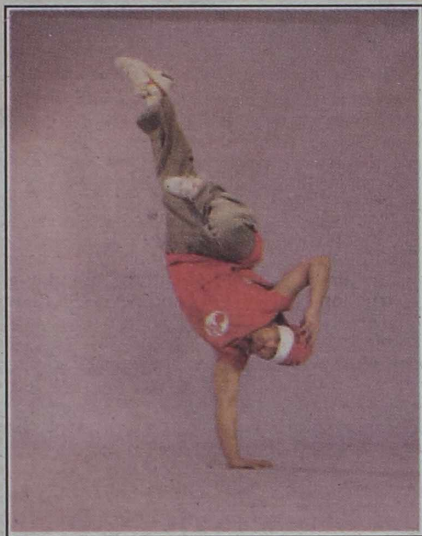
Archbold Terrace (next to Jesmond metro), Jesmond  
0191 2813010  
Live bands Friday & Saturday nights. Entry - £4 after 10.30pm



## PREVIEW 31ST OCTOBER

MR LYNCH are hosting a Hallowe'en night special in aid of Grace House North East Children's Hospice Appeal. The night features live entertainment from Dirty Weekend, Sundown and Hungover Stuntmen, with free drinks for all those dressed as the living dead, or just in a generally spooky fashion (!). The event starts at 8pm and it's £2 on the door, all the proceeds go to charity. So go invest in some face paints and get creative!

# LOVEDOUGH FEAT. MOUSE @ DIGITAL



TUESDAY 30TH OCTOBER

GOOD NEWS for all the break dance enthusiasts out there, Mouse - currently the reigning World B-boy Champion - is coming to Lovedough @ Digital on Tuesday 30th October.

The leader of the Soul Mavericks b-boy crew, Mouse has gained international respect as the forerunner of the UK breaking scene. His impressive resume includes dancing in Madonna's 'Hung Up' music video and featuring as a character in the PSP & PS2 game 'B-boy'.

Set to a soundtrack of the cream of the urban music scene, this night promises to amaze. Who knows, perhaps the excitement will even prompt you to throw a few moves of your own (although this isn't obviously advisable). Alternatively, and if you're anything like me, you can just stand mesmerized by the impossibly masterful moves, wishing your parents had encouraged you to do street dance instead of ballet. Either way, it's a night not to be missed, and frankly yet another top class act bagged by the Lovedough organizers. I will be there with bells on.

[www.pro-dance.co.uk](http://www.pro-dance.co.uk)  
[www.funkstylerz.co.uk](http://www.funkstylerz.co.uk)  
[www.myspace.com/mousesweed](http://www.myspace.com/mousesweed)

## GLAMOUROUS GIVEAWAY

FREE ENTRY TO SEE MOUSE FOR UP TO 15 PEOPLE, INCLUDING VIP ENTRY INTO THE BOX!!!

THE EXTREMELY generous people at Lovedough are offering this fantastic freebie for all you Pulp readers to fight over.

They're even throwing in a couple of bottles of bubbly on arrival to help get you warmed up. You can't say fairer than that.

If this takes your fancy then email me at [pulp.ents@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:pulp.ents@ncl.ac.uk), include your name, phone number and why you think you and your mates deserve such a night of luxury! The most inventive answer will be chosen, and then you'll be free to enjoy a spectacular night courtesy of Lovedough. Think of me, I'll be freezing in the queue outside.

BE QUICK, deadline is Monday 29th October @ 7pm  
 The winner will be contacted on Tuesday morning!



## WILD CARD



I'M AS modern as the next man has to be, but I can't stand the thought of losing at anything involving balls to a group of women. Arguments, board games, fist fights - no problem - but balls are a naturally male territory, particularly when the exercise involves checking them constantly, during long periods of looking at a television screen.

So it was with mild trepidation that I went bowling in a big unisex group the other week, secretly knowing how truly naff I am at the game which has only ever looked appealing to me in The Big Lebowski.

For those in the same boat, I might as well

## TENPIN BOWLING STRIKINGLY GOOD FUN! @ AMF BOWLING

get it out of the way immediately: Fenham Bowling Alley does not do White Russians. The waitress looked at me like I'd asked for a literal white Russian, as though they doubled as a brothel and I was a racially discerning deviant.

Don't be deterred though - there is a magical button by the panel where you enter your names with a little pint glass on it. Press it, and before too long someone kind will come along and offer to fetch you a passable pint of lager or bitter. They even have bumbags on for the change, which I thought was adorable.

The games are only two quid a go and yet the lanes all work, which impressed me considerably. The place is endowed with a fast foot point and lots of arcade games. Even the shoes, in festive green and red, don't smell nearly as badly as they look. And even

though I lost to girls and lost badly, I enjoyed every minute of that weird game, and I'll tell you why - you can leave the sides up on the lane, which means even I scored at least one strike.

For £2 I can't help but think this is a bit of a bargain, and if you book ahead you can bag a game on a day other than student Tuesday!

Sam Parker

Westgate Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE4 8RN  
 Telephone 0191 273 0236

Student Tuesday - £2 a game  
 Book in advance for more cheap rates  
 (excluding Fri & Sat nights)

## AN EXOTIC TREAT @ YO SUSHI!

Unlimited Miso Soup: £1.75

Soft shell crabb and Mizuna hand roll: £3.50

Spicy chicken Katsu: £2.50

BORED OF sausages, chips and mouldy looking fridge remnants? Then head to Fenwick's food hall for a real 21st Century Japanese food experience, where

Photo: Stephanie Feng



after successful chains in Harrods and Selfridges, Yo Sushi! has come to the Toon. Luckily for us however, the Harrod's prices haven't followed.

The food travels around you on a conveyer belt and you just take whatever you want out of an incredibly wide range. Each piece is individually colour coded, ranging from £1.50 for a small salmon roll to £5 for the more unique eel dragon roll. At the end they simply add up the price from the colours on your empty dishes! As well as sushi, they make hot noodles, tempura, hand rolls and duck dumplings, all on the premises in front of you. For the more adventurous, there is yellow tail, eel, sea bass and octopus and for those not fond of raw fish there

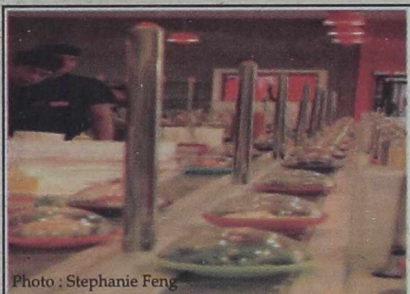


Photo: Stephanie Feng

are veggie options such as mushroom teriyaki, and tofu and wakame salad. Eating at Yo Sushi! is a real Japanese experience, a world away from the M&S and Pret Sushi packs. It's also convenient, fast and delicious with a relaxed minimalist feel, and fast, friendly service. Perfect for an exotic snack mid shop, though the sight of all the food whizzing past you on the conveyer belt may prove too much and too expensive for those whose eyes are too big for their stomachs.

Hattie FitzGerald

YO! Sushi Fenwick Newcastle  
 Northumberland Street  
 Newcastle Upon Tyne  
 NE99 1AR  
 Telephone: 0191 406 0801

Top Tip: Log onto their website [www.yosushi.com](http://www.yosushi.com) where students get 25% off. Bargain.

## UNION ENTS ACOUSTIC COMEDY JAM

WHERE: MENS BAR  
 WHEN: EVERY THURSDAY  
 OF TERM  
 STARTS: 18:00  
 ENTRY: FREE



FANCY A chilled out night with a difference?

Bring a guitar, a sense of humour or even just a pair of ears down to the Mens Bar on a Thursday evening and prepare to be entertained, as we hand our microphone over to you! Anything goes, from rib-tickling comedy to soothing acoustics; the entertainment of your fellow students is in your hands! Whatever you're into, no two Thursdays will ever be the same again...

And best of all, it's totally free!!

# ARTS



## A GOOD FIND

SOMETHING that has caught my attention recently, is the discovery of a J. M. W. Turner masterpiece of Bamburgh Castle that hasn't been in the public eye since 1889 when it was last exhibited.

During the 19th Century, Bamburgh Castle was renowned as a place of refuge for sailors in distress. Turner depicts a ship struggling in a rough storm amongst a whirlwind of his typical swirling brushstrokes and dramatic clouds as the ship tries to make its way towards the Castle.

When the painting was last seen it was sold for the record price of £3,309 in 1872. The painting then vanished, to be found over a century later amongst the dust in an American's private collection.

The watercolour of Northumberland's very own Bamburgh Castle has been estimated to reach £2.5 million in auction on December 5th in London - not bad hey!

The painting has been declared as one of the finest watercolours now known in the world. Clearly Turner agreed with all of us - the North East landscape ain't bad.

Holly Willats, Arts Ed.



Photo: Courtesy of The Round

## OKAN NIJO AT THE ROUND

CROUCHED DOWN from the soaring fire ducts and stark Byker lights nestles the three week old manifestation of a touring theatre company's dream for solid foundations.

The Round has become the most recent addition to Lime Street's 'corner of culture', following the construction of The Cluny and Seven Stories children centre.

Its origins, discovered in the middle of the 80's, were plastered in a bottled out whiskey factory that had become a scruffy purveyor of rubbish and pigeons.

With the help of volunteers and less than a million pounds, it became The Round, a youth focused theatre bursting with workshops, advice, free shows, Q&A sessions and acting opportunities.

By having the theatre 'in the round' as its namesake suggests, the audience is never more than four rows back from the actors, giving a direct sense of connection.

It houses the roving Brothers Theatre Company, who 37 years ago, pledged to take theatre to disadvantaged communities and now, by boisterous guarantee, are touring five times a year.

While most of the world was in or out with the World Cup and the Springboks, I ascended The Round's red staircase and was held in a corresponding suspense by the Bode Lawal Sakoba Dance Theatre's similarly powerful squad.

Its members moved together on stage like a giant muscle - twitching, contorting, writhing, stretching - a relentless, unflinching ligament of manifold muscle which sprang to the exerting pulse of the three piece percussion ensemble and additional stereo excerpts.

The entire performance was flawless; strong in strength, spirituality and force.

The line up for forthcoming events at The Round look equally as innovative; from magic shows and comedy, to our very own NUTS appearance at the end of November.

Miriam Davies

## LITERARY QUOTE OF THE WEEK - A HALLOWE'EN SPECIAL

"A HOUSE is never still in darkness to those who listen intently; there is a whispering in distant chambers, an unearthly hand presses the snib of the window, the latch rises. Ghosts were created when the first man awoke in the night."

J.M. Barrie

Thanks to Daniel Watkins for the quote this week!

## NUTS IF YOU MISSED IT

FOR BALLET enthusiasts, it was the usual suspects on at the Theatre Royal, as the St Petersburg Ballet company presented Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*.

St Petersburg Ballet Theatre is a relatively young company but that hasn't stopped them gaining excellent reviews since its formation in 1994.

The audience's expectations for spectacular choreography to accompany the instantly recognisable music, performed here by a 38-piece orchestra, weren't disappointed.

*Swan Lake*, is the whimsical tale of a prince's encounter with a beautiful princess who has been transformed into a swan by an evil sorcerer, whilst *The Nutcracker* is a fairy-tale story of magic toys.

Both these performances must have delighted both ballet and classical fans, and were excellent introductions to the genre for the uninitiated.

Robert Weedon



Photo: Joe Curtin

## DOTTY ABOUT DESIGN?

DELAY your entrance to the Baltic by half an hour or so and poke around in the large tent that has been erected in the square opposite.

What is it you say? Some sort of travelling

circus?

No! it's the Dott (design of the times) festival 2007! A year of community projects and events that explore how design can make a positive difference to our daily lives.

So silly hippy stuff then? No, well yes, but at least this has a major grounding in design and the arts; features include a giant sculpture that is built gradually by members of the public and a map outlining where each visitor travelled from.

It's all rather intriguing really, with a free design guide as a bribe, sorry - incentive - to those of you who visit each of the six zones.

David Wingrave

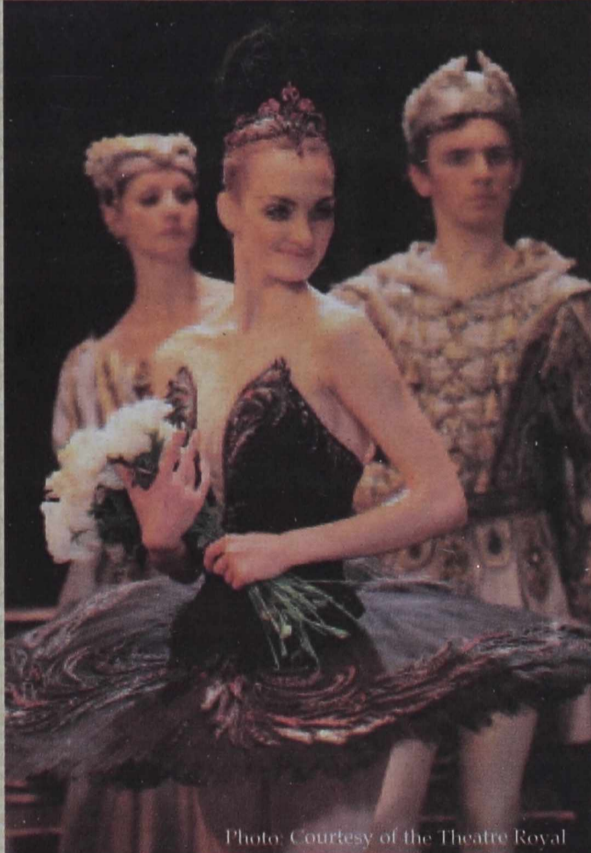


Photo: Courtesy of the Theatre Royal

## A LLAMA ON THE LOOSE!

The Laing Art Gallery is currently showing the work of emerging Spanish born artist Manuel Saiz, who uses medium such as film and photography to comment on issues of urban living.

*Parallel Paradises* is a critical look at what can happen when nature and the 'artificial' world are brought together.

It comprises two screens with the first showing two young girls dancing the popular Japanese dance routine 'ParaPara' in a forest, clad in funky disco clothes.

Their movements appear to be completely out of place in the surroundings and in particular to the sound of the forest around them.

The second part of the piece is another screen showing a lama (which should really be on the plains of South America) wandering lone and lost around the bright, clinical environment of a supermarket.

Saiz comments once again here on how strange nature and mod-



ern life are when brought together.

The second piece *Being Luis Porcar*, has a more positive message, and shows the famous Spanish voice-over actor Luis Porcar speaking about dubbing the voice of Hollywood star John Malkovich. But instead of hearing Luis Porcar's voice, the video has been dubbed by John Malkovich himself.

The way in which the two actors collaborate for the piece shows

Saiz's view on how different cultures and languages can be connected in a world that is rapidly losing its diversity through globalisation.

In all, the exhibition succeeds in making us question ourselves on the way we live in modern day society.

Joanna Sweeney  
Laing Solo Exhibition: Manuel Saiz,  
20th October - 6th January.

## SHOWCASE SPACE

**THIS WEEK:**  
**GERALDINE TRUEMAN**  
I am in my fourth year of a Fine Art degree, and the one theme that I have pursued throughout my experiments in various mediums is that of the female form and the perceptions and exploitations of the female body in today's culture.

Issues that surround personal identity form the backdrop to this interest.

This 'painting' is more in the 'mixed

media' field of art, as the canvas is made out of a skirt.

I love the feel of different fabrics - their patterns, weaves, opaqueness or transparency.

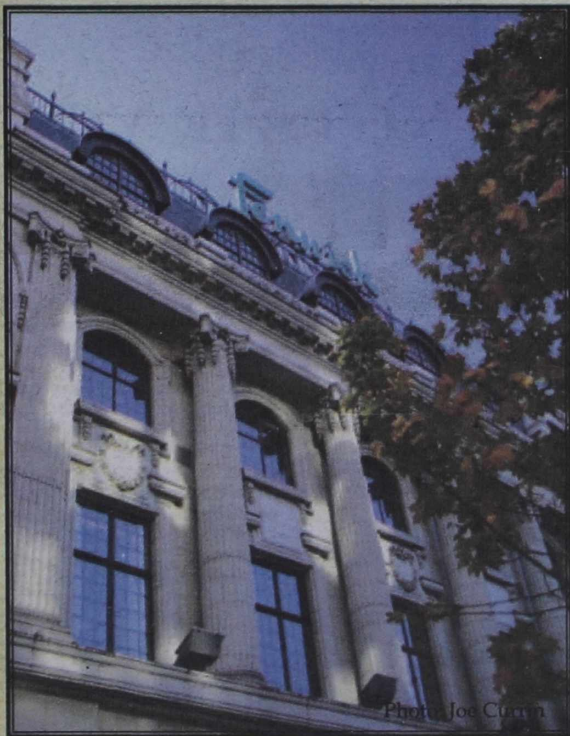
Fabric gives the body a voice or a language, whether it exhibits, conceals, distorts or uniforms the figure and the flesh.

The conversation between skin and fabric fascinates me and informs my work most.

Geraldine Trueman.



## BRILLIANT BUILDINGS



### FENWICKS

NEWCASTLE'S FENWICK'S department store is the company's flagship store and one of the most famous shops in Newcastle.

A stalwart of Northumberland Street, it was founded in 1882 by local businessman John Fenwick.

The store itself is now one of the largest department stores in the UK, and the five storey building owes much to the classical influences of the Empire, with its white stone colonnaded frontage, which

was added in 1913, a symbol of pre-war English confidence in the continuation of the Empire and British world dominance.

The store has always been keen to show off its upmarket credentials, shown on the Northumberland Street building by the ornate, intricate wreath carvings between each column.

At roof level, there are iron railings, which suggests a real attention to detail, and a belief in the structural wonder of the building - as if passers by would look up at the building in amazement, and need a finishing touch to cast their eyes upon.

At eye-level, the store boasts a formidable Christmas window each year, most recently a Gulliver's Travels display and The Snowman, which always draws crowds of people and has now become a Newcastle institution.

Today, a hundred and twenty five years later, the Fenwick brand is the premier independent UK store, with eight stores around the country.

The company is looking stronger than ever: in 1987, the group acquired Rice-mans of Canterbury and more recently Bentalls, a family owned store chain based in Kingston-upon-Thames.

Sophie Robson

## PULP'S DIARY THIS WEEK

- >>>The Round Theatre - The Comedy Network: Alex Horne, 28th - 30th October.
- >>>Bite Size Theatre - Swan Song by Lee Mattinson, 30th October - 2nd November.
- >>>Northern Stage - The Suggestibles, 1st - 3rd November.
- >>>The Theatre Royal - The Importance of Being Ernest, 29th October - 3rd November.
- >>>Queen's Hall Arts Centre - Tynedale Writer's Festival, 2nd - 4th November.
- >>>Globe City - 50 Years of Helvetica, ends 3rd November.
- >>>The Sage - Ian Bostridge & Julius Drake, 2nd November.
- >>>The Sage - The Magic of the Musicals, 1st November only.
- >>>The People's Theatre - She Stoops to Conquer, 30th October - 3rd November.
- >>>La Boca - Amanda B Keen, ends November.

## THE TOP 3 VAMPIRE STORIES ... THAT AREN'T DRACULA

**THE VAMPIRE** looks a little lost in the 21st century. It inspired respectful dread and terror for the Victorians and left a trail of blood across the last hundred years.

But in a modern world of high-tech weapons and plentiful electric lighting, what place is there for vulnerable bloodsuckers?

Perhaps the upcoming *30 Days of Night* will breathe fresh death into the genre. Meanwhile, here are some of the best post-Dracula stories of recent times.

### 3. INTERVIEW WITH A VAMPIRE, BY ANNE RICE

The fact that it inspired a generation to dress up like 18th century aristocrats and suck blood from each other's thumbs shouldn't be held against it; it's a good story in its own right, and features acts of violence, cruelty and revenge, so Rice's vampires aren't all sissies.

### 2. I AM LEGEND, BY RICHARD MATHESON

Richard Neville is the last man on earth. Every night he sits drinking whisky in his barricaded house and listens to his vamped former neighbours roaming the streets, calling for him to come out.

By day he drives from house to house, armed with stakes, working his way through the entire city.

A threatening tale of the apocalypse.

### 1. SALEM'S LOT, BY STEPHEN KING

When dealing with Stephen King, it's often important to look past the "world's bestselling author" label and remember that he is, in fact, bloody brilliant.

*Salem's Lot* was his second novel, dealing with old-fashioned undead villainy as a vampire infestation takes root in a New England town.

This is the antidote to reinvented modern vampires and "romantic" goth subcultures; these creatures are Satanic, alien, and terrifying, and proud of it.

Come to think of it, *Salem's Lot* is basically *Dracula*, translated to '70s America, and its main villain is a gleefully vile clone of the Big D.

So I guess the Count wins out after all.

Peter Shelton

**STUDENTS ONLY!**

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FREAKY DANCING IN WONDERLAND



# Freaky Dancing

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**THE BAGHDADDIES • ASHRAM**

FULL LIVE BANDS • BALKAN GYPSY PUNK • REGGAE

**RADIOACTIVE MAN** DJ SET • LADY K

ROOM 3 • BACKLASH • 1<sup>ST</sup> BIRTHDAY PT I,  
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**SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER**

**NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY UNION**

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www.statravel.co.uk



**IZAAC CARLISLE**  
discovers there's more  
to Four Lane Ends than  
a few sports pitches

SPREAD your wings away from the West Jesmond - Haymarket route that is travelled upon almost methodically every weekday, and travel to Four Lane Ends. It's a relative unknown in the 'tick all the Metro stations you have been to' game, but I recommend you to get that box ticked. It's a purpose built Metro Station; one of the flagship stations on the integrated transport network (Wikipedia said so) and has recently been renovated.

Without going into a history lesson, this station has had traffic crossing it ever since Newcastle was a city - it was used as a crossroad for trade. Therefore historians should take their cameras here and set your eyes down Front Street, where the road hasn't changed for at least 100 years. I wonder what archaeologists will find within the 1920s buildings around the Metro Station, and architecture students will not want to leave when they see 'Pulse', the sculpture by Andrew Stonyer. Finally, you budding sports fans will have to travel to the Longbenton Pitches. (Yes, you use Four Lane Ends Metro for that. Ingenious.)

Four Lane Ends has within its radius, a vast variety of cultural aspects. Newcastle Racecourse runs a 'bus hopper' scheme, so you can travel in style to watch your favourite horse. Or why not travel to Quorum Business Park and sample the delights of Atmel and other exciting companies.

Therefore travel to Four Lane Ends. Have a couple of hours there, it's something you don't want to miss.



Photo: Claire Gunn

STA TRAVEL ARE GOING  
**BANANAS**  
FOR 5 DAYS ONLY  
BIG HAIRY SAVINGS, BOOK BY MIDNIGHT 29th OCT

# La Belle....

**SUZI BATCHELOR** is wine and dined in Europe's most romantic city

IS PARIS really one of the most beautiful and amorous cities in the world? Two years ago I decided to find out. It made sense to bring my boyfriend along to complete the clichéd image of the city, but it was evident that this city has much to offer all groups of travelers.

For around twelve pounds, a good guide book offers you access to information about the sights, a map of the city and the metroline (the Paris tube). Book in advance; preferably morning flights, not only to get the best deals (ours were around £35pp return with thomsonfly), but it also gives you an extra day in Paris, and I guarantee that you will leave wanting more! Book a hotel with breakfast - it gets you out of bed at a reasonable time and croissant energy can last you until dinner.

We did all the typical Paris sights, including Sacre Coeur, Notre Dame and the Eiffel Tower. I recommend checking the weather before venturing up this epic structure. We queued for about 3.5 hours (average queue time 3 hours), got a mere halfway up before it got closed due to a worsening storm. We got no refund (€11), got very wet and lost out on those magical moments I expected to enjoy at the summit. Taking the steps up reduces queuing time and helps with the guilt from those French pastries you have been sampling! The Louvre was another tick off the tourist list and, although we caught a glimpse at the disappointingly small Mona Lisa, was by no means the best gallery.

Centre Pompidou (€8 NUS) hosts modern art exhibitions and allows you access to some breathtaking panoramic views of Paris from its escalators on

the exterior of the building. However, my favourite gallery was the Dali museum (€6 NUS), nestled away in Montmartre, where the great impressionist once resided. Despite my minimal knowledge of art, the paintings, furniture and dresses on display had me enthralled. Many attractions offer a student discount even with British NUS card, so do not be afraid to try and use it!

As evening set on the Paris streets it was time for food and drinks, an area which the French specialise in. Our guide book helped us locate middle of the range restaurants, with dinner costing around €10 each. When in Paris, do as the Parisians do and drink wine! If you need to accustom yourself to it then do, a large glass of wine will set you back a mere €3, and at one Irish pub a pint of wine guzzled in at €6!

When wine bores you, visit one of the many happy hours and savor a fine cocktail. Cheap bars are found in the student area of the city, located in the Latin Quarter. Check out the Café Universale jazz café for fine live jazz and tasty drinks. If you are in Paris for more than a weekend why not watch the world go by in a street café - these are open from about 7am-2am, so you can always find somewhere for a tippie or a bite to eat.

Our cheapest night with some wine and brie (total cost €3) was spent on the sands of Paris Plage. Every July tonnes of sand and beach huts are relocated onto the banks of the Seine to create a seaside feel, adding a new dimension to the city. Do not feel as though you need to be dining out expensively to soak in the atmosphere of Paris.



WHILST perusing options for activities this summer, my wandering eye happened upon WWOOF - an organisation offering voluntary work on organic farms. This seemed ideal - quaffing Bordeaux wine in a straw hat, lazing in an open shirt against a table stacked with fine food after a day of light work in the sun-soaked countryside.

Several months later as I stood up to my ankles in pig shit, shovel in hand, I contemplated that perhaps my preconceptions had been a little naïve. Luckily, I have always considered myself a country lad, as this was only for those prepared to get their hands dirty. Excrement aside, I learnt a huge amount ranging from cheese-making to the correct technique for catching an enraged pig.

Having chosen a farm to improve my French (an idyllic spot in Dordogne), I found that certain words soon entered my vocabulary: 'frotter'

# ...et les Bêtes

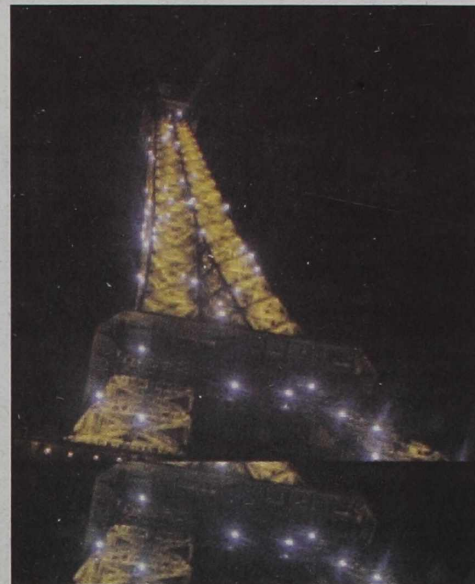
While **ANDREW MCKEANE** sees a dirtier side to France in the Dordogne

(scrub), 'balayer' (sweep) and notably 'chier' (shit; pig-related). Living on a small-holding in close quarters with French people does more for your language than any amount of grammar revision. In no way was this the only lasting benefit of life at 'La Chevalerie' - on leaving I was the strongest, fittest and healthiest I have ever been, thanks to good food, hard work and swimming in a nearby lake.

What makes organic farms appealing is the farmers. 'Les patrons' were very well-informed, and conversations around the dinner table ranged from Austro-German history to bio-dynamism. These were people not only willing to share their land, food and drink, but also ideas.

A surrogate family was forming in this small corner of France, with my hosts and their daughter (Mathilde), her boyfriend (the irrepressible Manu), as well as an Austrian (Brigitte), two Americans (Lucy and Adam) and a Northern Irish student (Fran). These were my siblings. I was made incredibly welcome, from celebrating Mathilde's 21st birthday with family and friends to becoming known as "Sir Andrew McKeane esquire" after explaining the House of Lords and honours system. I had found a home from home.

It is appropriate that food should have its own paragraph. I had stumbled across a form of gastronomy. Never before have I eaten a meal when all the ingredients have been picked, made, milked or slaughtered that day, all organic and all from the



If you don't feel like drinking there are other late night attractions to enjoy. We headed to the red light district and stumbled across the Erotic Museum. This place was bizarre with its cavemen era phallic carvings and 18th century 'videos', and for only €7 made us both laugh. If your budget is bursting why not stroll down to the Moulin Rouge and enjoy one of their world renowned shows (from €99).

Whatever you do have fun and stay safe - if people are overly friendly they probably want some money! Budget so you can still do fun things towards the end of your stay and ensure that you visit places in your guide book that are off the beaten track, as these are often the gems of your stay!

farm. For anyone with an open palate, WWOOFing is something to be tasted.

As with any trip, there were downsides. The pigs were as intelligent as I had heard. One managed to escape by breaking the top plank of the pen, standing on a companion and jumping out. Instructions for catching them sound like a moral as, just as with life, you have to take it by the ears. There is also the harrowing tale of a sow who, having been impregnated by her brother, ate her own piglets as they died. Orwell may have had more experience of pigs than previously thought.

Pig excrement is the filthiest substance, and was surpassed in unpleasantness only by cleaning out the human toilet, a shack suspended over a sawdust-filled dustbin. This proved to be as hygienic as a conventional toilet, and to anyone who has never answered nature's call in the fresh air at dusk to the tune of birdsong, I would suggest you try it at least once. However these downsides were eclipsed - even a bitter old cynic like me could only be moved by a new born calf struggling to her feet and taking a few nervous first steps. I named this calf Laura, and a young bull Jorge.

So what is the end result? Well, I now appreciate my food more, irritate my housemates by insisting on recycling everything, and most importantly, I know that leather gloves do not protect against electric fences...



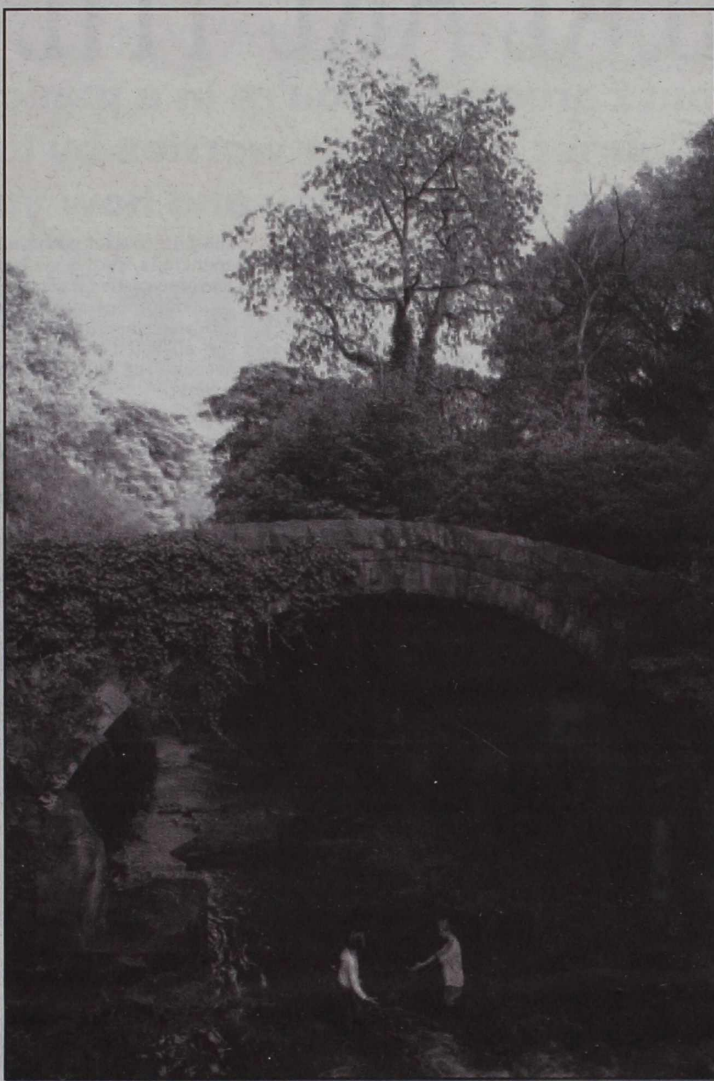
>> YOU CAN NOW BUY YOUR SOLUTION TICKETS IN ADVANCE! AVAILABLE OUTSIDE THE UNION EVERY WEEKDAY

# MY NEWCASTLE

Have you got a picture that epitomises Newcastle for you? It might be a favourite city view or a picture that shows your best night out with your friends for some reason. Whatever it is we want to see it! Send your snaps, along with a short description of why the photo shows 'My Newcastle' to editor.union@ncl.ac.uk. The best photo of the year could be chosen to be the front cover of next year's Alternative Prospectus!

BY CHRIS EAVES

"This picture was taken last autumn in Jesmond Dene. I feel it shows an adventurous side of childhood that is too often looked down upon today as being too dangerous. It also highlights the wealth of natural beauty that can be found within the city."



## AT UNION COUNCIL THIS MONTH

Union Council oversees the management and control of the general business of the Union Society. Lots of different representatives sit on Council to manage the running of the building and to decide action that the Union could take to represent the students to the University and other outside bodies. Council means that the Union is run by students for students!

At the last Union Council the following motions were passed:

- >> That the Students with Disabilities Officer no longer has to be a student with a disability
- >> That the Welfare and Campaigns committee shall be the Student Support Officer, the Campaigns Officer, one SCAN representative and six appointed members from Union Council and they should recruit a crew wanting to help with campaigning
- >> To change the Union Society aims and objectives
- >> To delete the law and election regulation so that student members of Elections Committee may also be members of the Steering Committee, and vice versa
- >> A fine of £30 shall be put in place for any Union Society members caught smoking in the building
- >> The Racial Equality Officer will work with the Director of Membership and Democratic Services to review a new Equal Opportunities Policy by January 2008, and to report the findings to Union Council
- >> To mark Remembrance Day (11th Nov) every year with a two minute silence at 11am in the Union Society building which will be announced by the loudspeaker and also be promoted by posters etc. Additionally, Union Council representatives will attend the memorial service at King's Hall on Remembrance Sunday when invited.

The following motions were passed, but are subject to being accepted again at the next Union Council:

- >> That constitutional motions should only be accepted onto the first Order paper and not as Late Notice Motions

If you disagree with any of these motions that were passed then why not make a difference and get involved! E-mail Michael at chair.union@ncl.ac.uk for more information.



### Q&A: Council Tax

**What is Council Tax**

It's a property tax payable by all adults over the age of 18. The amount you pay depends on the value of the property.

**I'm a full time student - do I have to pay?**

Usually not, most full time students who live with other full time students are exempt from paying, but you still need to show evidence to the local authority that you are a full time student. You will also automatically be exempt from council tax if you live in University accommodation, for example halls of residence or university flats.

**What evidence do I need to show to prove that I am a full time student?**

A council tax exemption certificate. For undergraduates, you can get this from University reception at 6 Kensington Terrace, for postgraduates, you can collect this from your graduate school office.

**I am an international student, do I get an exemption?**

Yes, but for those students who have brought their family with them to the UK, the situation is a little different. Please check with us for more information.

**I am a full time student but live with people who are not full time students - am I liable to pay?**

Any property that has a mixture of students and non students living together over the age of 18, will be liable for council tax. The amount payable will depend on individual family or household circumstances, check with us for more detailed information.

**I am a part time student - will I be liable to pay?**

Most part time students will be liable to pay council tax, but depending on your circumstances, the bill may be reduced.

**What happens if I don't pay?**

The local authority will usually begin legal proceedings against you to recover the monies due.

**Where can I find out more information?**

Contact the Student Advice Centre on 0191 239 3979, or visit our website at [www.unionsociety.co.uk/sac](http://www.unionsociety.co.uk/sac) or there is further information on the University website at: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/student-progress/ctax.htm>.

Sponsored by  
**jobshop**   
**CORUS**  
[www.corusgroupcareers.com](http://www.corusgroupcareers.com)

To apply for the positions below, just call into the Job Shop when we are next open and bring along your student smartcard every time you visit. These positions and many more are also listed online at [www.unionsociety.co.uk](http://www.unionsociety.co.uk).

**Vacancy 5042 - 25+ Sales Consultants needed**

Job description: Wanted to work in a clothing shop in Metro Centre. Duties will include stock merchandising, cash handling, till operation and other duties. These positions are temporary, but there is the possibility of permanency for some.  
Person specification: Must have good customer service and be able to meet targets. Previous experience in a clothing retail store preferred, however this is not essential. All relevant experience to be included on job application form, this will be used for sifting purposes.  
Hours of work: Various - 8 hours/week up through full time  
Start date: ASAP Contract:

Temporary with possibility of permanency  
Rate of pay: £5.57/hour  
Closing date: ASAP Location: Gateshead - Metrocentre

Apply by: Calling into the Job shop for the application details when we are next open

**Vacancy 5037 - Promotions staff**

Job description: A major high street store based in Newcastle City centre are looking for three highly motivated candidates to actively promote their products in their local branch. You will be provided with a microphoned headset to speak to customers as they gather round you to hear what you have to say. The role will be extremely varied - one day you could be selling "strawberries and cream" and the next day could be ladies "3 for 1" socks. You will be provided with the information and your job will be to sell, sell, sell!!!  
Person specification: You should have loads of energy, confidence and patten and be highly motivated to sell and promote the company's products to its customers. This role would ide-

ally suit a student interested in drama / acting or public speaking, or simply someone who likes showing off their talents in public.

Hours of work: 16 hours in total, made up of all day Saturday + another day (flexible, but preferably Thursday or Friday)

Start date: ASAP Contract: Temporary contract until 29th December 2007 with the possibility of being made permanent

Rate of pay: £5.75 per hour + free uniform + subsidised staff catering

Closing date: ASAP - urgent Location: Newcastle - City Centre  
Apply by: Calling into the Job shop for the application details when we are next open

**Vacancy 5041 - Floor and Grill Staff**

Job description: Wanted to work in a restaurant/cafe in the Metro Centre. Your duties will include serving customers, taking orders for food and drink, cash handling, also preparing and cooking food, keeping the kitchen and restaurant areas clean and tidy.  
Person specification: No experience is required as full training will be given.  
Hours of work: 10-16 hours/week  
Start date: Not specified Contract: Permanent  
Rate of pay: £5.52/hour  
Closing date: ASAP

Location: Gateshead - Metrocentre

Apply by: Calling into the Job shop for the application details when we are next open

**Vacancy 363 - 25+ Bar and Waiting Staff needed**

Agency Name: Direct Recruitment

Job description: They are looking for experienced bar and waiting staff to work in Newcastle. Your main duties will be serving customers, using a cash register, and keeping work areas clean and tidy. The work will start immediately. They offer part or full time hours, it is flexible therefore if you are only available for one month or six months they can accommodate you.

Person specification: You must have at least one years experience, be able to give two UK work references, have a 'can do' attitude, be reliable and have excellent customer service skills.

Hours of work: Variable  
Number of vacancies: 25 Contract: Temporary/Ongoing  
Rate of pay: £6.08/hour  
Closing date: ASAP Location: Newcastle

Apply by: Collect application details from the vacancy boards outside the Job Shop

The Student Job Shop is located on the first floor of the Union Society Building. Our term-time opening hours are Mon - Fri 10am-2pm.

FROM 12-2PM AT THE REDUCED PRICE OF £3 (£4 ON THE DOOR). FREE SOLUTION MERCHANDISE ALSO AVAILABLE!

# ASK AN OFFICER

**Q:** Hello, I'm an international student and have only arrived in Newcastle this year. I really do like the city, but I feel that I'm missing out on a lot of things, because I am not aware of them being on offer. How could I learn more about what is going on in the whole of Newcastle?

**A:** There is an event coming up precisely for this purpose. This Wednesday (31st October) the third annual International Community Day will take place. It's hosted by both Newcastle and Northumbria University and by the City Council as well.

Taking place in the Civic Centre it is right across the road from our University. There will not only be stalls where organisations from the region will tell you about themselves, you'll also find out about the cultural scene, about opportunities for volunteering and community work or simply where you can go to socialise and meet new friends.

In addition there will be a number of talks, starting off with the Lord Mayor welcoming everybody and again underlining how much we international students are seen as a part of Newcastle's community.

There will also be presentations by officers from Newcastle and Northumbria University, so you won't just hear about the city, but you will also get to know your university even better, while also hearing what Northumbria has on offer.

You will also have the chance to learn more about the city and the wider region in another one of the talks. If you feel that other students will know best about what is attractive for international students in Newcastle, then you should not miss the Students Panel, where you will have the opportunity to ask questions which will then be answered by international students who have been living in Newcastle for longer.

For those of you who are graduating this year or just like to plan ahead, there is the chance to go to a talk about working in the UK as a foreign national, visa issues and everything else you will need to know to successfully start your career in the UK.

Quite a lot of interesting stuff you say? Then just drop by at the Civic Centre this Wednesday between 1.30pm and 4.30pm. Or go to the website [www.ncl.ac.uk/internationalfair/contents.php](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/internationalfair/contents.php) to find out more about the event and to reserve your place online. See you there.

Phillip Becker  
International Students' Officer



# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Clueless about careers? If you're in a panic about what job is for you, let The Courier ease your worries by looking at where Newcastle graduates are today and how you can do the same...

**Name:** Sam Allwood  
**Year of Graduation:** 2005  
**University Subject:** Mechanical Engineering with Material Science  
**Job Title:** Operations Machinery Engineer  
**Company:** Air Products

**Past working history/How did you get to where you are today?:**

I applied during my final exams; my application was accepted and I sat an assessment exam in August to start in October. My career has seen three completely different roles, as the Engineering Development Programme (EDP) scheme is set up so the candidate can get as much experience as possible in different parts of the company. I started in plant design, moved to manufacturing and am now in operations, where we assess / improve the oxygen and nitrogen plants that are owned and operated by Air Products.

**Describe a typical day in your job:**

A typical day would be hard to define as the job can be so varied. For example, in the past three weeks I have been up in Hull commissioning a compressor, in Manchester taking vibration and noise readings in a compressor-room, and have spent the rest of the time working on various technical and research problems. These are the first three weeks I've spent with the department.

**What did you wish you'd known when you first left university?:**

Mechanical Engineers are very employable in the Chemical Industries sector.

**What makes you employable?:**

Aside from a Mechanical Engineering degree; team working, communicative and analytical skills.

**Best thing about your job:**

Friendly atmosphere and challenging, real life problems.

**Worst thing about your job:**

There is nothing that is bad about my job, but the worst thing would probably be the distance from my friends and family. Air Products do have a vibrant social community and starting here has been a great experience. If I could change something I'd move the office and all the people back home.

**Why should someone do your job?:**

Nobody can have my job; it's mine.

*NOTE: Air Products also employ chemical engineers.*

**LIKE WHAT YOU HEAR?**

Then let the Careers Service help you out!

**What are the main skills I need to demonstrate for a job in Mechanical Engineering?**

You will need to demonstrate that you:

- > have excellent analytical skills and an innovative approach to problem solving
  - >> have excellent technical knowledge
  - >> are able to work as part of a team
  - >> have excellent communication and presentation skills
  - >> are able to prioritise and plan effectively
  - >> have a high level of computer literacy, particularly computer-aided design
  - >> have good commercial awareness
  - >> are flexible and able to work under pressure
  - >> are well motivated
- (Source: Learnirect)

**Where do I find out more information about this job?**

You might find the following websites useful to research this job:

- >> Inside Careers [www.insidecareers.co.uk](http://www.insidecareers.co.uk)
- >> Institution of Mechanical Engineers [www.imeche.org.uk](http://www.imeche.org.uk)
- >> learnirect [www.learnirect-advice.co.uk](http://www.learnirect-advice.co.uk)
- >> Prospects [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)
- >> Real World Magazine Engineering section [www.real-worldmagazine.com/page/168/Engineering?rootTagId=44](http://www.real-worldmagazine.com/page/168/Engineering?rootTagId=44)
- >> Scenta [www.scenta.co.uk/](http://www.scenta.co.uk/) Career information and jobs in science, engineering and technology
- >> Society of Operations Engineers [www.soe.org.uk](http://www.soe.org.uk)

**How can I find vacancy/employer information?**

Employers of mechanical engineers include engineering, manufacturing, construction and process companies, research and development organisations, consultancies, utilities, the Civil Service and the Armed Forces. Self-employment via consultancy and contract work is possible for individuals with several years' experience.

The UK is still facing a skills shortage in engineering, and mechanical engineers are in demand. With fewer people entering mechanical engineering courses, this skills gap will widen and so the demand is predicted to stay high. (Source: Prospects)

It's worthwhile finding out about employers before your final year and

making contact with them at recruitment fairs/shows, such as Jobfest and the Newcastle Graduate Recruitment Fair. Look out also for presentations from engineering employers - these are all listed on the Careers Service website at [www.careers.ncl.ac.uk/events](http://www.careers.ncl.ac.uk/events)

The following websites list vacancies in Mechanical Engineering:

- >> Engineer Jobs [www.engineerjobs.co.uk/](http://www.engineerjobs.co.uk/)
- >> Engineering Jobs [www.engineeringjobs.co.uk/](http://www.engineeringjobs.co.uk/)
- >> Inside Careers [www.insidecareers.co.uk](http://www.insidecareers.co.uk)
- >> Just Engineers [www.justengineers.net/](http://www.justengineers.net/)
- >> Professional Engineering [www.profeng.com/](http://www.profeng.com/)
- >> Real World Magazine Engineering section [www.real-worldmagazine.com/page/168/Engineering?rootTagId=44](http://www.real-worldmagazine.com/page/168/Engineering?rootTagId=44)
- >> Scenta [www.scenta.co.uk/](http://www.scenta.co.uk/)
- >> The Career Engineer [www.thecareerengineer.com/](http://www.thecareerengineer.com/)

**What kind of work experience will help me get into this job?**

Pre-entry experience is not needed, although a relevant sandwich or vacation placement can be advantageous and is highly recommended. Industrial placements are common and usually involve spending six months with an organisation and assuming a role similar to a full-time employee. You might be able to count some of the experience gained during a sandwich placement towards qualifying for Chartered Engineer status. Vacation work, placements and sandwich courses all provide evidence of skill development and commercial awareness.

Although most engineering employers prefer penultimate-year engineering students for industrial placements and internships, it's best to start planning your sandwich year as early as possible. Increasingly, the emphasis is on engineering students to organise their own placements so don't sit back and wait for your department to work something out for you. You can always apply speculatively in advance to any organisations that particularly interest you, including details of your availability.

Many engineering employers recruit a significant proportion of their industrial placement students for their graduate positions.

The following websites list work experience opportunities in Engineering:

- >> Inside Careers [www.insidecareers.co.uk](http://www.insidecareers.co.uk) Go to Engineering section.
  - >> Prospects [www.prospects.ac.uk/links/workexp](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/links/workexp)
  - >> Target Jobs <http://targetjobs.co.uk/graduate-jobs/> Search for work experience or internship opportunities.
- Also check out [www.careers.ncl.ac.uk/vacancies](http://www.careers.ncl.ac.uk/vacancies) for work experience opportunities or call into the Careers Service and speak to an Information Officer - no appointment necessary.

**How much will I get paid?**

Range of typical starting salaries: £18,000 - £25,000 (salary data collected Mar 07).  
Range of typical salaries at senior level/with experience (e.g. after 10 - 15 years in the role): £40,000 - £50,000 plus (salary data collected Mar 07). (Source: Prospects)

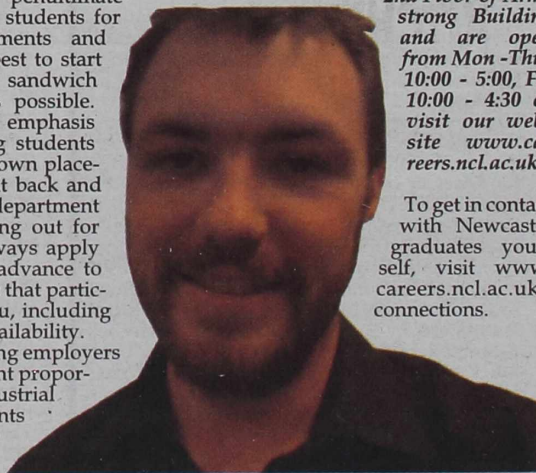
**How can the Careers Service help me?**

Our philosophy is that you can 'be what you want to be'. We have a huge range of services on offer to:

- >> Help you work out what you want to do after you graduate
- >> Give you information to make informed decisions about which option to choose
- >> Give you practical experience of working or running your own business and support in starting your own business
- >> Help you find your 'dream job' or course
- >> Ensure that you market yourself professionally.

**Call in and see us - we are on the 2nd Floor of Armstrong Building and are open from Mon - Thur 10:00 - 5:00, Fri 10:00 - 4:30 or visit our website [www.careers.ncl.ac.uk](http://www.careers.ncl.ac.uk)**

To get in contact with Newcastle graduates yourself, visit [www.careers.ncl.ac.uk/connections](http://www.careers.ncl.ac.uk/connections).



**TEXT THE COURIER**  
07964921116

**Got books to sell? Want to say happy birthday to someone? Then text The Courier!**

D.d. you were crap and you know it!	We love the new VC!	summers day? mh	have just wasted ten seconds of your life!
Read the report about Stan Calvert game - who is Hart? No one plays for the Poly called Hart! Good accurate reporting - not!	Well done Caroline for taking position of racial equality rep on divcom, keep the halo clean :-)	The netball girls are slags. Love LO x	Well done Taity, u did us proud!
	Ba. can I compare thee to a	Timmy Mallet screwed us over!	Happy birthday Hewy! Have a great day xxx
		If you are reading this you	



# Betsy Knows Best

"Let Betsy sort your life out!"

E-mail your questions to: [courier.letters@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:courier.letters@ncl.ac.uk)

## One Last Tipple

Dear Betsy,

I fear that the day is soon coming when I shall depart this earth. Unfortunately I just have not lived at all. I feel like I have been oppressed all my life and have never had an alcoholic drink and before I go I would like to do this one thing. How-

ever I fear if I start drinking too soon, what with my depressed nature and bleak outlook, I will become an alcoholic. So I have made the decision I will have just one alcoholic drink. What should I choose for my one and only drink?

Memento McDonald (remember

you'll die)

MM,

I would say that your morbid attitude is the most pressing issue here rather than the alcohol. How do you know you're going to die? Do you know something we don't? On the other hand, you

sound like an intelligent bunny so if you must die soon let's skip the cider with which we all began. Bypass alcopops as well and dare I say it, Lambrini. Leave the wine to the French. I'd personally hit the hard liquor, vodka does nicely but if you're only going for one drink and you're going to die anyway, drink 100% alcohol (most chemistry labs do a nice little selection), let us know what it feels like, then die.

Betsy

## So Tired and Confused...

Dear Betsy,

I hate my job. Everyday I have to see these snivelling, spoilt brats stare down at me from their ironic position of elevation. They cough and sneeze through every lecture and text on those infernal phones and generally make a complete nuisance of themselves. I keep getting this infernal 'Freshers Flu' and I never understand what they're saying. What on earth does felching mean?

Love Tired of Teaching

Dear Tired of Teaching,

Quit. Or failing that, lock the doors of the lecture theatre. I find that most students will give up very quickly and go for a coffee instead. Or, you could arrive ten minutes late in which case most of them will have left. A sure winner to have minimal turnout is to e-mail students an hour before the lecture is due to start and change the room. I wouldn't encourage felching.

Betsy

## False Advertising

Dear Betsy,

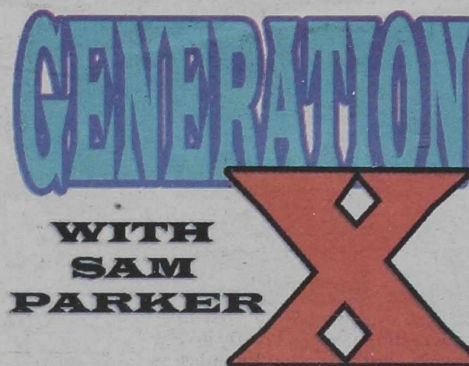
I recently went home with this lad. He promised me a good time and through various innuendos indicated a generous manhood. However, when push came to shove he failed to deliver. Can I sue him for false advertising?

From Bitter in Bed

Hey there Bitter,

Interesting theory and one I actually bothered to research. Wikipedia (the font of all knowledge) says that "False advertising is the use of deliberately false statements or deception in advertising, in order to gain a commercial advantage". So the real question is, did you buy him a drink? If yes then legally you are entitled. Awesome news.

Betsy



## Theory Three: The PC Generation

ANYONE remember this year's Big Brother? When a white girl called her black friend the unmentionable word and she was turfed out on her pretty little arse? No great shame. But whose outrage exactly were Channel 4 pre-empting? Ours?

More likely it was our parents, for whom political correctness remains a conscious act; a code of conduct that contradicts the one they grew up with.

For those who can remember Golly Wogs, Bernard Manning and Love Thy Neighbour, political correctness draws a line between old shames and modern morality, and the line couldn't be clearer.

Attitudes, behaviour, and, most obstinately, words, are all set out clearly on the sides of right and wrong. This is why, when a white person utters said word on television, context is buried beneath a march to righteousness, as the generations before us fall over one another to condemn and Guardian.co.uk/blog (take a look) swells with polite indignation.

Racism, sexism, ageism - all kinds of heinous bigotries - are common place among me and my friends.

We throw slurs across the room like ping-pong balls, the comments often coming back harder and harder, an ironic arms-race to see who can flail themselves furthest from the 'line'.

You see, our generation - the PCGeneration - are fine with political correctness.

It comes naturally to almost all of us.

We don't need to hoist it up like some coat of arms to prove to ourselves that we tolerate and respect one another. Such is our ease with the concept, we can play with it like mischievous kittens, sharpening our claws against it harmlessly, yawning and stretching and spraying out litter trays with postmodern irony.

Emily Parr's stupidity was in failing to recognise this distinction between our generation and the rest.

The PCGeneration, black, white or Asian, on the radio waves or in our bedrooms, are reappropriating attitudes, behaviour and language in our own, more secure and relaxed terms.

Where the line of political correctness remains a taunt rope neatly dividing morality, such racist words retain their venom. In our hands, the ghouls of previous generations are being gradually castrated, until we can finally discard of them forever.



DO THINGS 'CORRECTLY'...Gone are the traditional PC values of the 1950's



### KITCHEN ESSENTIALS

#### #4 - George Foreman Grill

No student household should be without a trusty 'George'. If you thought you couldn't cook when you came to uni, a George Foreman certainly shows you that you can! Not only does it make cooking chicken, sausages, bacon (anything, really!) simple it also cuts out far more fat than standard grilling or frying does. Better still, now that they've been around for a few years, other companies are catching on and you can get cheaper versions for as little as £10 - an investment worth making.

Have a go at our easy recipes which aim to break the 'beans on toast' student stereotype and get you into the kitchen!

#### Spaghetti Carbonara

Serves 2

**Ingredients:**  
200g spaghetti  
Salt and pepper  
150ml double cream  
25g cheese  
150g sliced mushrooms  
½ tablespoon olive oil  
1 small onion, chopped  
1 teaspoon oregano  
60g bacon or ham  
½ garlic clove, chopped/1  
teaspoon garlic puree  
1 egg yolk  
Small glass white wine



1. Cook the spaghetti in a large saucepan of boiling water with a pinch of salt
2. Meanwhile, heat the oil in a frying pan and cook the onion with the bacon/ham for 5 minutes
3. Add the garlic and mushrooms to the frying pan and cook for a further 2 minutes
4. Then add the cream, wine and grate in the cheese gradually, continuously stirring
5. As the sauce thickens add the oregano, salt and pepper
6. Drain the pasta and add the egg yolk to the carbonara sauce to thicken then serve immediately

### WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE COURIER THIS YEAR?



Tell us what you think of our new features by e-mailing:

[editor.union@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:editor.union@ncl.ac.uk) or text 07964 921116

We want YOUR feedback for YOUR paper!



official  
**TEAM  
 NEWCASTLE**  
 Bar Crawl

**Wednesday 7th November**

Starting with FREE food in the Union  
 at 7pm



T-Shirts £5

Available outside the Union & in the  
 Activities Centre

Get yours before they sell out!

*Sam Jacks*

**boykillboy**  
 with Lights Action  
 and Viva City

**SUNDAY 4th NOV - BASEMENT - 7.00 DOORS - £8 adv+bf**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM NEWCASTLE  
 UNIVERSITY UNION, BEATDOWN RECORDS, RPM, CITY HALL BOX  
 OFFICE, REELEY, ALL VINYL HOT BATS (SUNDERLAND) AND DAM (DURHAM)  
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## Avalanche of Success

With the Ski and Snowboarding Club gearing up for yet another busy year, Sports Editor JAMES PARKER caught up with club President Sam Smith to get his thoughts and opinions on whether or not it could be, yet another silverware filled season

So Sam, give us an overview of last season.

Last year was a really successful year for the club. We were the top ski and snowboarding club in the country and that has been the case for a few years now. We accumulated the 2nd most BUSA points for the university which was a wonderful achievement for us. An achievement which we perhaps don't always get full credit for, but nevertheless it was a hugely successful campaign and everyone deserved it after all there hard work which is continuing into this season too.

With so much achieved last year, how can you improve this season?

We've got to keep building on what we've already accomplished, we train about twice a week. Our club is very technically based and requires a great deal of time and effort in order for us to be ready to compete. The club aspires to go from strength to strength; we're largely self-sufficient in terms of finances, with sponsors and contacts through club members allowing us to buy subsidised equipment. We're always looking to get better both on and off the ski slopes, the backroom is just as important as the actual sport itself. We're all very dedicated and as long as that continues this year, I'll be delighted.

Any dates we should be looking out for this year?

Well there's always lots going on with the club, we have trips to the Alps at Easter and Christmas- that always attracts a lot of interest from our members. Last year we took around 300 people with us at Easter which was a tremendous achievement within itself. Our next big dates coming up though are on the 9th and 10th of November, a tournament in Edinburgh (BUDS). We have many regional competitions which lead onto national events, including leagues. With both mixed and single sex competitions, we've enjoyed success on all fronts.

Snowboarding and freestyle have become a much more recognised and prominent sport with regards to competitions and recognition.



HITTING THE SLOPES...Sam Smith looks ahead to an exciting year

Have you managed to recruit many freshers to the club?

We had lots of interest at the Fresher's Fayre at the start of the year, but as is the case we tend to recruit most of our new members after Christmas. This gives the new students opportunity to settle in, which is one of the reasons why our Easter getaway is becoming ever increasingly popular. Students wanting to get really involved with the club see this as an ideal opportunity to get to know everyone. We're delighted to have a core group of freshers who are showing real promise and commitment. We have socials every week and are delighted to welcome newcomers along. We're very keen to keep the social side of our society up alongside our performance sports, as it allows everyone to get together and have a good time. We have Intra Mural sides who play all

kinds of sports. The social nights out help the club bring everyone together whether they be skiers, footballers, whoever. Keeping in contact is very important to us which is one of the reasons why I think we've been so successful over the past few years.

How do you think this season will go?

More of the same hopefully. All the money we raise from the sale of hoodies and from bar crawls goes straight back into the club, no profit is made and any money is invested back into the club. This gives us a solid platform on which to build every year. This coupled with our wonderful season last year bodes extremely well for the future, so I am full of optimism for this as well as the coming years.

Finally, your role as President. What are your main duties for the Ski and Snowboarding club?

I was captain of the Snowboarding side last year and so I have an idea of what's expected of me now that I'm President. I'm quite laid back in my approach. I let the captains and senior members get on with their roles, as long as they run things by me I'm happy to let them go and do what they think's best. We have a committee in place to help with the overall running of the club, we all deal with organising the trips and travelling to tournaments. The coaches tend to deal with the actual training aspects of the club; all of which do a superb job making my life ten times easier. Thanks to everyone for their fantastic support and help, I'm confident of a yet another excellent season



ACTION PACKED...The ski and snowboard club accumulated an impressive BUSA tally last season

## TOON WATCH

BY JAMES PARKER

### Goldfish Bowl

Last Monday saw Newcastle extend their unbeaten home record with a 3-1 win over a depleted Spurs side. Depleted in the sense of confidence rather than personnel, Tottenham, who saw their manager Martin Jol, sacked a few days later, were subjected to a torrent of humorous Geordie chants. Cries of "you're getting sacked in the morning" were echoing around St. James' Park as was "3-1, to the goldfish bowl". That chant of course referring to Jermaine Jenas' reasons for leaving the Magpies claiming that he felt he was a "fish in a goldfish bowl". Jenas also serenaded last weeks game by playing notably poorly, something that is becoming all too apparent in Spurs' lacklustre displays this season.

### Tait, Wilko and Flood

After England enjoyed a wonderful World Cup this summer, Falcons stars Matthew Tait, Toby Flood and Jonny Wilkinson all returned home to the North East full of praise for their fellow national heroes, but keen to get back to playing club rugby. Flood who spoke to reporters outside of Kingston Park last week enthused, "It's been a great summer for English rugby but it's back to club action now, and me and the rest of the lads are focused on getting the Falcons back onto winning ways". The Falcons have endured a difficult start to the season and will look to their inspirational Englishmen to fire them up the Guinness Premiership.

### "National Geordie Beard Day"

Newcastle Falcons have announced that Sunday December 16th will be 'National Geordie Beard Day', in recognition of All Black signing Carl Hayman. The entire Geordie nation is invited to cast aside its razors for what promises to be a festival of facial fur at Kingston Park, with prizes for the top beard and the chance to raise money all in the name of charity. No doubt most Geordie folk will just turn up as normal then, men and women alike. The Falcons host Irish province Connacht in the European Challenge Cup that day for what could well be Hayman's home debut, with supporters invited to join in the stubble spectacular. The bristly Falcons commercial director, Mike Hogan, said, "Real men wear beards and National Geordie Beard Day represents a chance for all Falcons followers to welcome Carl Hayman to the North East in the hairiest way possible. Rigorous scientific tests have proved that Carl derives his immense power and scrummaging ability from his trademark beard, and we have received the full support of the National Beard and Moustache Association. As well as being a bit of fun, National Geordie Beard Day promises to raise funds for rugby's very own charity, The Wooden Spoon Society." A number of Falcons players will be getting in on the act with their own weird and wonderful facial attire. Our thoughts go out to the changing room cleaners who will have to endure a very hairy encounter indeed after the game.

## New Athletic Union Committee Confirmed

BY LYDIA OXENHAM  
AU PRESIDENT

WITH THE BUSA season now fully underway, the Athletic Union is facing its busiest time of year both on and off the pitch. Luckily, last week's AU General Meeting saw the election of the Athletic Union Executive Committee, who will assist the AU President, Lydia Oxenham, in successfully running sport at Newcastle.

The AU Executive Committee essentially acts as the primary decision making body for the Athletic Union, and ultimately, holds the AU President accountable for her actions. It also acts as the voice of students involved in the AU, both to Union Council and external organisations who are directly involved with it.

Some of the main roles for the AU Executive Officers also include planning and organising

the main sporting calendar events of the year, such as the annual AU Ball and the Stan Calvert Cup, along with ratifying new sports clubs, approving grant allocations and devising strategies to achieve the long term aims of the Athletic Union.

The AU Exec consists of 10 voting members; the AU President (who is also the Chair of the Committee), 2 Vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Publicity Officer, an Events Officer and 4 Additional Officers. Additionally, two other representatives sit on the Committee as advisors; the University's Director of Sport, Colin Blackburn and the Honorary Treasurer, Peter Rowlinson.

Even though its members work very much behind the scenes, the AU Executive Committee is thus a hugely important part of the Athletic Union and the Union Society. It is through the voluntary work of these individuals that the AU continues to go from strength to strength, and this year looks no exception as we fight to maintain our national top 10 position.

The AU Executive Committee for 2007-8 is as follows:

AU Vice President:	Ali Thompson (President, Athletics & Cross Country)
AU Vice President:	Dawn Logan (1st Team Captain, Ladies Hockey)
Secretary:	Ian Pooleman (Former Canoe Club President)
Events Officer:	Rachel Murray (Vice Club Captain, Netball)
Publicity Officer:	John Pette (Secretary, Men's Rugby Union)
Additional Officers:	Weronika Tobiasiewicz (President, Ultimate Frisbee)
	Fred Gill (Men's Captain, Boat Club)
	Holly Dinsdale (Treasurer, Ski & Snowboard)



RACHEL MURRAY  
Events Officer



JOHN PETTE  
Publicity Officer



DAWN LOGAN  
Vice President



IAN POOLEMAN  
Secretary



## Intra Mural Rugby

MEDICS 29  
LARRIKINS 18

BY JAMIE HOLTRUM

A SUPPOSEDLY depleted Medics side overcame Larrikins, who certainly did not put in a performance to remember on a chilly afternoon at Close House last Wednesday.

Larrikins, after experiencing a heavy defeat against the Cheeky Ladies last week have not built on their excellent start, whilst the Medics have been firing on all cylinders - shown especially when they clinically disposed of Armstrong two weeks ago.

The first twenty minutes of the game were even; both sides experienced some good possession and Larrikins in particular looked very dangerous on the counter attack. But they were unable to make the period of pressure count due to some solid defensive work by the Medic back line and through the Larrikins pack failing to present and recycle the ball to the impressive and rather vocal James Jupp at scrum half.

The Medics however, soon found their attacking rhythm and began to dictate proceedings, with Murray Pratt finding the opening between the Larrikins centres and with some good vision and a burst of pace rewarded his side the lead with an excellent try that was easily converted.

Larrikins hit back with some possession in the oppositions twenty-two, but just didn't seem to have the impact from their forwards to penetrate through the Medic defence. Larrikins fly half, Rob Teare, wisely saw the need to get points on the board and kicked his team back into contention with a difficult but expertly taken penalty.

Then there was a simply bizarre passage of play, just before half-time, that blew open this rather cagey affair. Firstly after some wonderful handling by the Medic centre Jamie Briers, Richard North on the wing, romped home to extend the lead. But straight after, Larrikins replied with the best individual try of the intra mural season so far. Tom Harding, the Larrikins winger, gathered the ball about thirty yards away from the try line, blasted through two Medics, nipped round the outside of another, inches away from the sideline, chipped over the full back and with some explosive pace, dived onto the ball to give Larrikins hope of a comeback. This was the definition of champagne rugby.

But this glimmer of hope seemed diminished as just on the whistle of half time, the Medics scored again. After some excellent work from the dominant forwards, Rob Stewart rolled over from the maul. The try was also converted.

The second period was much more scrappy with the Medics starting to show their class and the difference between the two packs became noticeable. James Lowe, who is having a superb start to the season at full back, pushed the match out of Larrikins' reach by showing his electric pace. Minutes later, it looked as if Medics would accumulate a cricket score after their forwards were once again superior in the ruck and scored another try.

But in the last ten minutes, Larrikins showed their fighting quality and determination by scoring two consolation tries. It seemed the Medics had thought this game to be wrapped up. The enigmatic captain, Charlie Clarence-Smith, took his try well but the score line flattered Larrikins since they had been totally out thought by the Medics, especially by their forwards.

# Barca lay down the Law

## Lawyers continue impressive early season form

DIVISION 1

BY PAUL CHRISTIAN

BARCE-LAW-NA 1  
GARNETT A 0

BARCE-LAW-NA maintained their perfect start to the season after grinding out a 1-0 victory against Garnett A at Longbenton.

There was no shortage of quality in a game packed with attractive football and played at a furious pace. Garnett were the first of the two sides to settle into the game, using the width of the pitch to their advantage. The away side were unfortunate not to go in front early on when Oxy saw his 20 yard strike turned round the post by the Barca keeper.

Barca hit back almost immediately though when the ever impressive Satch plucked the ball out of the air, spun and shot, only for Pearson to stand tall and save well. Garnett broke from the resulting save and came up with the move of the match, ironically forcing the save of the match at the same time. Kilvington played a neat one-two with Christian in the centre before teeing up Aki on the edge of the box. His strike was destined for the bottom corner, but the excellent Barca keeper managed to get his fingertips to the ball and turn it wide. A great full stretch save.

A period of pressure from the lawyers ten minutes before half-time resulted in the only goal of the game. Garnett failed to clear their lines, and when the ball fell to Sam on the edge of the box, his shot was instinctively redirected goal-wards by the Barca forward. A true striker's finish.

The second half failed to emulate the quality

on show throughout the first. Garnett could not find a way through a resolute Barce-law-na defence, while the lawyers midfield dominated the aerial battle. Not even a late push from Garnett could see them gain that elusive equalising goal. It seems that Barce-law-na are certainly the team to beat this year.

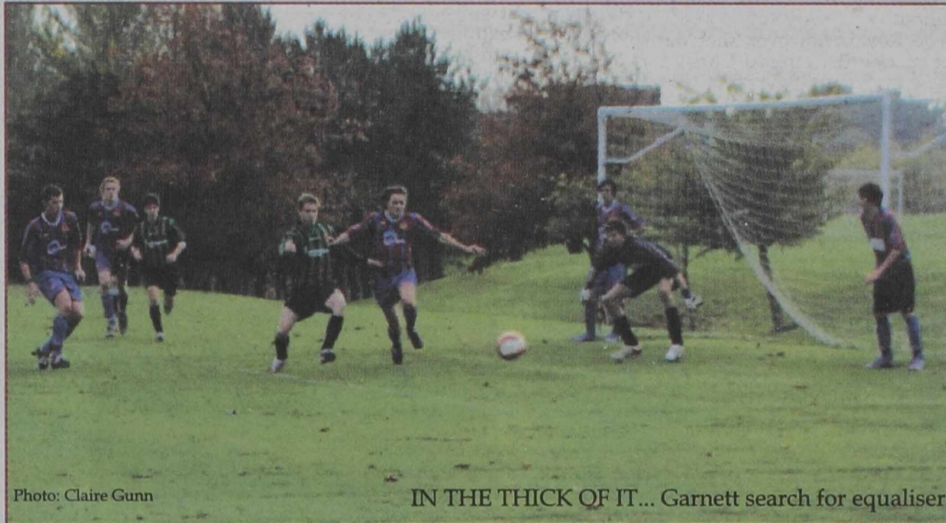


Photo: Claire Gunn

IN THE THICK OF IT... Garnett search for equaliser

## Real Lion Tamers Denvers goal puts Z's to bed

DIVISION 1

BY OWEN MARRIOTT

REAL MA-DIVIDEND 1  
Z-LIONS 0

A SOLITARY first half goal from defender Paul Denvers was enough to give Real Ma-Dividend victory over Z-Lions in a closely fought Division One encounter. The margin of victory might have been greater but for Lions keeper Alasdair Lindop, who spectacularly saved a second half penalty from Daniel Trodden.

The game was a tight affair throughout with little in the way of clear cut chances, particularly in the first half. The Lions did create a few half chances early on. Firstly, Ben Kemsley headed narrowly over from a Barry Overend cross. Then Tom Clarke went close with a low shot that was parried by Real 'keeper James Howarth and eventually cleared to safety.

Denvers hit back almost immediately though when the ever impressive Satch plucked the ball out of the air, spun and shot, only for Pearson to stand tall and save well. Garnett broke from the resulting save and came up with the move of the match, ironically forcing the save of the match at the same time. Kilvington played a neat one-two with Christian in the centre before teeing up Aki on the edge of the box. His strike was destined for the bottom corner, but the excellent Barca keeper managed to get his fingertips to the ball and turn it wide. A great full stretch save.

Despite these efforts it was Dividend that opened the scoring with their first real attack on goal. A Danny Shevill corner was flicked on at the near post by Will Scales and Denvers looped his header over Lindop and past the despairing lunge of Overend.

The Lions came forward with renewed purpose,



Photo: Claire Gunn

and Clarke almost levelled with a header from the edge of the six yard box that just dropped the wrong side of the Real crossbar.

After the break it was Dividend who took the game to the Lions, but the home side failed to capitalise on any of their chances. Real should have doubled their tally when the referee awarded them a spot kick, after Shevill was brought down by the onrushing Lindop. However, Lindop deemed himself with a brilliant double save from Daniel Trodden's penalty and then recovered to block the follow up from Adam Smith.

Further chances went begging as Mark Addy cut inside the full back but dragged his shot wide. Scales was denied for a second time when his turn and shot looked to be heading for the top corner but Lindop again came to the rescue and turned it over.

Lions were restricted to mostly long range efforts in the second half. The away side did have a good appeal for a penalty turned down however, when one man appeared to be hauled down in the box while contesting a high ball.

The result leaves defending champions Dividend reasserting their title credentials after a set back against Dyslexic United last week. The newly promoted Z-Lions are now perilously close to the foot of the table, and urgently need points to avoid a quick return to Division Two.

## Lokomotiv steam to second half come back

DIVISION 2

BY PAUL BRAMWELL

LOKOMOTIV FC 3  
CRAYOLA 2

AN INSPIRED second half comeback from Lokomotiv FC maintained their unbeaten record this



Photo: Claire Gunn

season, ending Crayola's run of two consecutive victories in a riveting Division Two encounter at Longbenton. Going into the break staring down the barrel of a 2-0 defeat, Lokomotiv's resurgent second half display saw them seize control from a complacent Crayola side. New-boy Steve McLachlan was in particularly strong form up-front to lead the impressive come back.

The early exchanges between the teams were no more than scrappy; each side tentatively striving for possession during a physical period of play. Crayola forged the majority of goal-scoring opportunities, exploiting Lokomotiv's defensive frailties when facing the ball over the top. Superb link-up play between the Brazilian, Leuan, and Jimmy Rae placed persistent pressure on a stretched Lokomotiv defence, with Rae's physical presence causing many a problem. Crayola finally reaped the rewards of their ascendancy with a beautifully flighted 30 yard free-kick from midfielder Dan Gray. To add insult to injury, Lokomotiv 'keeper Alex Hewlett injured his hand trying to save the goal, forcing centre-half, Will Smith, to don the gloves.

Rae compounded Lokomotiv's woes with an expertly placed header midway through the first half, latching onto a pinpoint ball from winger Nick Cooling. Going into the interval there seemed

little hope for the Lokomotiv boys, the difference between the sides being the aerial prowess of the Crayola strike force.

The second half saw a rejuvenated Lokomotiv revert to a more solid 4-4-2 formation, an expert tactical move that paid immediate dividends. A mishandling of a Rob Jacobs cross by Ali Laban in the Crayola goal, gave McLachlan a simple opportunity to poach the crucial first goal of the half. Yet another defensive lapse ten minutes later allowed McLachlan in again to bag a brace, with a delicious lob over the charging Laban, placing Lokomotiv in firm control of proceedings. Capitalising on their momentum, Lokomotiv stepped up a gear, stringing together numerous passing moves and spreading the play with Jon Woodhams bombarding the wing from left-back. The inevitable goal arrived in the form of a wonder-chip from central midfielder, Rob Jacobs, who, spotting Laban off his line, deftly glided the ball into the back of the net.

Against the run of play, Crayola were forced to throw everything forward in search of the equaliser; Leuan failing to convert a gilt-edged opportunity facing a defender and an open goal. Unlike the first half, Lokomotiv's defence held firm. Smith was performing solidly as a makeshift keeper.

Definitely a game of two halves, Nick Bone's men fully deserved their three points for the spirit they displayed in reversing the deficit. That's four games unbeaten for Lokomotiv, which undoubtedly places them as Henderson Hall's arch rivals in the race for the Division Two title this year.

## Table Toppers

RUGBY UNION 2NDS

BY SHAUN STEPHENS

LEEDS MET 2NDS	12
NEWCASTLE 2NDS	27

**NEWCASTLE'S second string faced tough opposition in rival league toppers Leeds Metropolitan.**

The Royals however shot out the blocks like Linford Christie. Some trademark fancy footwork from number ten, Max Nimmo, put Newcastle under the posts, giving Nimmo an easy conversion opportunity.

An abundance of clean line-out balls from ever improving hooker, Andy King, allowed Newcastle control and all important territory. Another break through the centres, this time through number 12, Anthony Haynes, put Newcastle another five points ahead, with Nimmo adding the extras.

Leeds' discipline, along with

their wild card captain, Tom Hart, let them down throughout the game and gave Nimmo the opportunity to score two penalties before the break.

The Newcastle pack didn't quite have the same control in the second half, despite strong efforts from the props 'Little' Jon Barclay and Dave 'Fridge' Morgan, having to play eighty minutes due to the injury of the front row replacement in the warm up.

Opportunist winger Dan Campbell worked extremely hard and was unlucky to be disallowed a try. Eventually, sustained forward effort allowed hooker King to crash over, being fed by scrum half John Pette. Replacement fly-half Rich McCartney added the extras.

Leeds did not go down easily, with man of the moment Hart taking an interception pass to race under the posts, followed shortly after by the Leeds winger as Newcastle took their foot off the gas. This does not take away from what was essentially a strong performance.

Photo: Phil Booth



## Hero Hutchings



WOMEN'S RUGBY 1STS

BY KELLI NUSUM

NEWCASTLE 1STS	17
LEEDS 1STS	15

**THE ROYALS 1st team had a close win over Leeds with a conversion by Rebecca Hutchings (captain) making the overall difference in the end.**

Leeds opened the scoring very early in the game, but Newcastle battled back through solid tackling and some great handling, resulting

in two tries by Nadia McPherson. Newcastle dominated throughout with a string of well drilled set pieces.

Lizi Nicol was denied her try as the referee deemed that she was blocking the defence; however she had a massive impact on the game with great runs, tackles and kicking which aided the Royals' narrow victory.

The winning try was scored by Diane Purvis, who also had an amazing game making great covering tackles at full back. Hannah Lines, played her first game of the season and showed great promise with impressive tackles and play off the scrum as flanker, certainly one to watch out for this season.

The win puts the 1st team at the top of the league, tied with Sheffield, who they will play next in what will be a crunch encounter.

Meanwhile, the women's rugby 2nd team lost their first BUSA game, slipping to a heavy defeat against neighbouring Sunderland. The new look side went down 65-0 but still took positives from the game.

## - AROUND - The Grounds Our monthly look at University 32 sport outside of Newcastle

**Bath:** Team Bath FC midfielder Matt Townley has won the coveted FA Cup Player of the Round award after scoring a six-minute hat-trick in the FA Cup's second qualifying round. Townley netted on 50, 54 and 56 minutes as Bath went on to thrash Moneyfields from Portsmouth 8-1. The 23-year-old has been rewarded with two VIP tickets to Wembley Stadium to see the FA Cup Final in May.

Team Bath have since gone on to book a place in the fourth qualifying round of the FA Cup where they will take on AFC Hornchurch. The university side are now just one win away from reaching the first round proper and emulating the team of five years ago, who famously became the first student team to reach that stage of the competition in 122 years. Their epic cup run in 2002 ended with a 4-2 home defeat to Mansfield Town in front of the Sky Sports cameras and no doubt the class of 2007 will be chomping at the bit to have another shot at the first round.

**Edinburgh:** Edinburgh University are looking for another cup run of their own as they entertain Highland League Deveronvale FC in a Scottish FA Cup 2nd round tie next week. In the newly revamped cup competition, both Edinburgh and Glasgow University gain automatic entry to the first round, as longstanding full members of the Scottish Football Association.

Edinburgh's footballers were one of the university success stories of last year, as they battled through three Qualifying rounds on their way to the second round of the SFA Cup. This year the SFA have changed the format, meaning teams no longer have to go through the rigorous Qualifying Cup competition and Scottish League clubs enter from round two onwards.

Glasgow have already been knocked out, going down 2-1 against Highland League Buckie Thistle FC, so it is down to Edinburgh to make sure that the university flag is still flying come the latter stages of the competition.

**Leeds Metropolitan:** Leed Met cruised to victory against the University of Leeds in their Varsity head to head earlier this month, winning 18 of the 23 titles on offer. The highlight of the day was the rugby union finale at Headingley Carnegie Stadium, where five thousand people saw Leeds Met crush their rivals 23-0. The Met have now won all the Varsity ties between the two universities since the invention of the competition three years ago.

**Durham:** Alistair Simmie of Durham University has made history by becoming the first non professional rugby player to be selected for England Sevens since the game turned professional twelve years ago. Simmie received the call-up earlier this month and will travel to St Mary's University College at Twickenham to join the first Sevens training camp of the 2007/08 season.

## Brad Oh So Bad

NETBALL 2NDS

BY HANNAH LUCAS

BRADFORD 1STS	5
NEWCASTLE 2NDS	55

**AFTER A DISAPPOINTING start to the BUSA season, the Netball 2nds were determined to make a positive impact on their visit to Bradford. The unusual challenge of playing on a small sand Astroturf court appeared to be met well, with the starting eleven racing into a 19-0 lead during the first quarter.**

Defenders Issy Retberg and Rochelle Quigley were a solid force at the back, blocking any chance for the Bradford attack whilst the ball was worked dynamically up the court between team captain Kate Jones and confident centre Kathryn Hurrell. Hannah Lucas proved to be a nippy wing attack, feeding some good high balls into

Photo: Sarah Bruce



**GUNNING FOR GLORY... Player of the match Hannah Lucas in inspirational form**

the Newcastle attacking circle. Shooters Fran Terrace and Ellie Hatt had a fantastic first half with Terrace drawing out the defence providing Hatt

numerous scoring opportunities. She converted these chances with great conviction.

At half time Newcastle were confident of a good win, sitting on a comfortable 35-2 lead. The Royals took this opportunity to bring on some fresh legs and experiment with new combinations. Sarah Bruce came on at wing defence and quickly made her mark with some good interceptions, as did Georgina Thompson who took command of the shooting circle at Goal Attack. Sarah Ashworth at centre added further strength to Newcastle's attacking and defensive play.

The fresh players instilled a new energy in the team and after three quarters, Newcastle had extended their lead to 46-3. The final quarter saw Kathryn Hurrell back on court as wing attack and the team steamed ahead towards the final whistle. It was a brilliant overall performance by the team, who finished with a fantastic 55-5 final score, with Hannah Lucas awarded man of the match after a solid attacking performance. The team seemed to gel together brilliantly, supporting each other with a new found confidence.

## Golfers despair at poor early season form

GOLF

BY OLIVER BRIGGS

DURHAM	5
NEWCASTLE	1

**AFTER A DISAPPOINTING loss to Lincoln last week at Sleafy Hall, the golf team were eager to try and make amends by overturning a newly promoted Durham at their Brancepeth Castle home course.**

One change was made to the team that faced Lincoln, with Charlie Hawes, a new recruit and ex-American college golfer, came in at number 4 to steady the ship. Hawes experience was evident in his professional and classy performance that saw him defeat his opponent on the 16th 3&2. The team's two front men, Irishman Paddy Welch and Elite Athlete Squad member Ross MacKay (who were un-

beaten last week) both crashed to 6&4 defeats on the 14th hole.

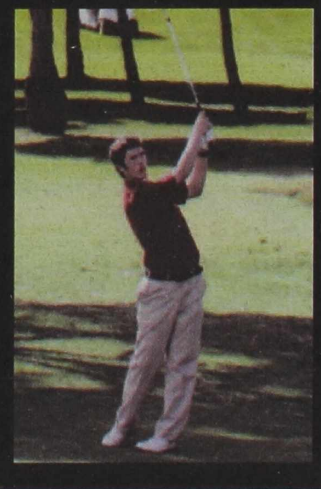
Team Captain and number 3, Oliver Briggs, lost an early lead and hit a rough patch at the half way point losing 3 consecutive holes before being finally beaten on the 14th 5&4.

For the second week running Team Secretary, Carl Downham, seemed to have drawn the short straw by being placed against the opposition's man in form. Downham never got ahead in a match in which his partner carded no less than seven birdies in twice as many holes, finally condemning Downham to defeat on the 13th hole 6&5.

James Smith was the final golfer on the course and was unfortunate not to beat his opponent, eventually losing 2&1 on the 17th hole.

Newcastle will be very disappointed with their opening defeats, after looking to produce a strong start to the season. Next week's match against BUSA finalists Birmingham now becomes all important in the search for that elusive first victory. Newcas-

tle will be looking to welcome back David Findlay in this game, with his recovery from a wrist injury almost complete.



BY david coverdale

# Finishing with A-Plum

## WOMEN'S HOCKEY 1STS

BY CLAIRE GUNN

NEWCASTLE 1STS	6
DURHAM 2NDS	0

"THE THREATENING figure of Jos Plummer rattled the bones of the Durham defence," said Rachel Lesser as she left the pitch following Newcastle's crushing win over their North East rivals.

Newcastle were the dominating team from the first whistle of this match between the two northern cities. Rosie Innes, the vice-captain and the voice of the home side, encouraged the team from the start, maintaining their concentration and energy. With Innes as the last player in Newcastle's back line, Durham never looked like getting past the Royals'



SIX OF THE BEST... Newcastle destroy hapless Durham

solid defence.

Lesser was also in inspired form,

providing support in the middle of the pitch and distributing the ball

wide for some excellent runs from Fiona Taylor and Tori Harries, who worked well together up the left hand side of the pitch.

The first goal of the afternoon came from Plummer, who began her run of fantastic goals with an early reverse stick goal and gave Newcastle exactly the start they were looking for.

Another aggressive attack riled the Durham defence and Plummer was again on target to take Newcastle up to a 2-0 lead. The unstoppable Plummer was having a great afternoon and she shortly fired a rebound into the top of the oppositions net to complete her hat-trick and put her side in full control.

A good team effort and fantastic use of the pitch enabled a further attack for the Newcastle forwards. Plummer and Harries used their speed and agility to fool the opposition, and it was Jenny Simms who capitalised and get her name on the

score sheet to make it 4-0 just before the half time whistle.

As the second half got underway, some excellent channelling from Anna Butler and some determination and skill from Kirsty Osbourne stopped Durham from taking an early goal.

The game was still all Newcastle though, and Simms added her second goal of the game five minutes later, fed from captain Dawn Logan, holding her position in the middle of the pitch.

Some excellent running from Jojo Gwynne-Jones offered Francesca Gilbert a shot on goal, but a near miss kept the score at 5-0. Gwynne-Jones's efforts were later rewarded however with a pass to Plummer, who finished off her fourth goal taking the Royals to a final score of 6-0.

The score reflected the home team's exceptional skill and domination throughout the game.

## York prove a bridge too far for Waters and co

## WOMEN'S HOCKEY 2NDS

BY CLAIRE GUNN

NEWCASTLE 2NDS	1
YORK ST JOHN 1STS	3

THE 2NDS lost a hard fought battle against York, in what was a frustrating game for the home side. The Royals failed to convert their chances in the first half, but kept a strong defensive line to give a 0-0 score line at half time.

The second half was a different story in terms of goals, both teams fought hard with some excellent defensive work from Sophie Avant. Newcastle kept the majority of the possession, with their strong midfield of captain Kate Waters, Ollie Townley, Rachel Waugh and Cat Graham, however the sneaky Yorkshire Ladies managed a few breaks from their speedy attackers and scored on their chances.

York were first to score, closely followed by a successful short corner finish from Newcastle attacker Camilla Handford. York were riled by Newcastle's attack, and picked up their game

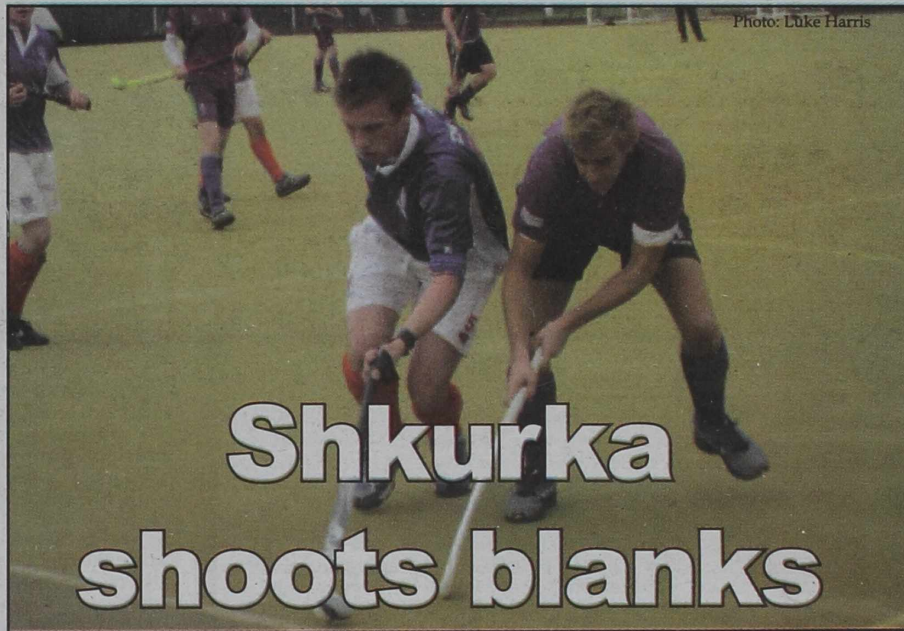
with another break and successful shot on goal, taking the score up to 2-1.

The flustered home side went on the attack, keeping the ball in their attacking 'D', but a disallowed goal, followed by an injury to Handford's head hindered Newcastle's cause. St John seized on the Royals' misfortune, and regained control when an excellent strike plummeted into the top of the Newcastle goal.

Club captain Kat Bastford tried to match the opposition's feisty and physical play, fighting hard to maintain possession and stop the yellows from widening the score line. On the other half of the pitch, some fantastic defending from Claire Herdman, fresh back from injury, saved the Blues from York's attacking spurts.

The whistle blew at 3-1 to York St John, a frustrating score after Newcastle's continuous battle. Coach "Uncle Brian" said, "We were robbed, it was a very positive game, and we just need to be more clinical in our finish".

Newcastle's skipper and man of the match Kate Waters summed up the disappointing score by saying, "Unlucky, but not a result to be ashamed of". This positive outlook bodes well for the rest of the season.



## Shkurka shoots blanks

## MEN'S HOCKEY 1STS

BY PAUL BRANNON

LEEDS MET 1STS	2
NEWCASTLE 1STS	0

AN UNDERPERFORMING Newcastle team travelled to Leeds Met Carnegie looking to cement their position at the top of their BUSA league. However a much weaker Leeds side had other ideas.

After arriving considerably early, Newcastle were made to warm up three times, as Leeds took to changing the start time in a bid to throw Newcastle off their stride. When the game finally got underway, on a pitch that is best described as resembling a beach, both teams were looking to gain an early advantage.

Unfortunately it was the home side who struck first after five minutes. The Newcastle defence failed to clear the ball from their 'D', which allowed the Leeds forward in to slot the ball into the net from close range.

Having conceded such a scrappy goal, Newcastle finally woke up and began to play the better hockey, but were unable to find the killer edge in front of the Leeds goal. Continuing to have most of the possession, Newcastle kept pushing forward and Harry Santa-Olalla almost picked out the surging run of John Yarrow, only for the pass to be cut out by the last defender.

Midway through the first half, Newcastle won their first short corner of the game, giving them a first clear-cut opportunity to level the scores. However, the well practiced routine came to nothing as Leeds easily cleared their lines. As Newcastle kept searching for that elusive first goal, Leeds looked to catch the North East team

on the break, but the Uni's central defensive pairing of Ben Evans and makeshift sweeper Charley Wright snubbed out any chance that came Leeds' way.

As the half time whistle drew closer, the sides traded two penalty corners each, with Matt Collison unluckily striking the post for Newcastle. A lack of communication between Newcastle's rear guard, saw Ben Evans have to make an unbelievable last ditch sliding tackle to deny the opposition a certain second goal. The half finally ended with Newcastle spurning another half chance in front of goal, as man of the match Rollo Lewis' deflection was easily cleared by the keeper.

A stern half time team talk was administered and Newcastle started the second period of play looking to even up the score line. However, the next goal fell the opposition's way as Leeds scored a well taken goal to double their lead. Newcastle's frustration then began to show, as attacker Ollie Fraser was given a warning and shown a green card by the umpire for dissent.

As the game wore on, both sides came close to scoring. Newcastle upped their game and won three consecutive short corners, but Harry Santa-Olalla's two resulting drag flicks were well saved. In desperation, Newcastle threw on all their attackers in a bid to find the goal that could bring them back into the game. Another chance came and went, as Ollie Fraser showed good speed to get away from Leeds' last defender, before lashing his reverse stick shot wide of the target.

With the game now looking beyond Newcastle's reach, a deflection by Mike Shkurka forced the Leeds goalkeeper to pull off an amazing save by tipping the ball just over the bar. The final whistle blew and Newcastle were left to reflect on an overly poor performance, as they made the journey back north empty handed and now sitting fifth in the league.



STICKY SITUATION... Blues slip to hard fought defeat

# BUSA MATCH REPORTS

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Monday 29th October 2007

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## Happy Munday

### MEN'S RUGBY LEAGUE 1STS

BY KEVIN DAVEY

NEWCASTLE 1STS	30
LEEDS 1STS	10

A MORBID SKY greeted the Leeds team and pathetic fallacy was ready to dance its cruel jig over the corpse of the lacklustre Yorkshire team. The match started with Neil Barrett shoeing the ball deep into Leeds territory and there it remained as a fierce NURL defence line coaxed mistakes from the opposition.

Newcastle found an opening early on when some def offloading allowed Michael Ward enough space to beat three markers for the opening try. A robust defence was led with brutal tackling from Michael Bryan, and the pressured Leeds team were again left loitering under their sticks, when bruiser Andy Stanton biffed over four defenders for the second score.

Newcastle maintained their imposing intensity, but conceded after a dog-like boy in a Leeds shirt managed to make the break for an impressive 40 metre try. Buoyed by the try and some lackadaisical offloading, the Loiners managed some good defensive work around the ruck, before Newcastle could re-assert their ascend-

ancy. Rob Munday closed the stanza with a spatula pass to Paul Wood, who ran a curve as if on the cusp of a vortex, beating three players over 60m before returning the ball to the ram-paging loose forward.

Leeds managed to start the second half with a try, after NURL crabber Wood was sin-binned for lashing out when his opposite number allegedly called him a "turkey". NURL responded to the ten-minute penalty in the best possible way, casting the ball out wide and catching two whoppers with impressive fresher Liam Mcgee crossing for his first. Newcastle were now bossing the game and Munday touched down twice more for an impressive brace.

With the frenzied support of the AU President, NURL restored their defensive dominance with firebrand prop Chris Blain leading the entire front row shoulder first into a hapless Leeds forwards sternum. The 400kg tackle fired the backs up enough to see out the match with two more scores, the best of which saw Rick Davison smash over with some impressive handling after a Ward offload.

Despite carrying surplus off-season weight, captain Ed Ainscoe led from the front and was proud of the "encouraging bash out". This reporter agrees, the lads at Cochrane Park will need a JCB to rid the pitch of champagne corks if NURL keep this up.

## Poly pocket points

### MEN'S FOOTBALL 1STS

BY MARK LEVINE

NORTHUMBRIA 3RDS	6
NEWCASTLE 2NDS	4

Newcastle players woke up on Thursday morning with a migraine and bad taste in their mouths. This however, was not due to the delights that Blu Bambu offer the whole of the AU, but because of the alarm bells ringing inside every player's mind after a heavy defeat that was hard to swallow.

Make no mistake, the 2nds are playing Russian Roulette now. The problem is that two out of six bullets have already been loaded after two straight defeats, which now leaves their promotion ambitions in serious doubt. It is this result however that is the hardest to comprehend. At one point, the Royals were 6-1 down. True, they weren't quite as bad as the scoreline suggested, but they needed to do much more on a day where everything seemed to be going right for their rivals. The final score offered some consolation for the Blues, but the result was still hard to take.

It all started so promisingly for Newcastle. In only the second

minute of the game, Dan Jackson played a neat ball through to Fred Brunt whose delightful cross was met by Levine at the far post. Levine pulled it back for Aaron Lowery and Lowery coolly finished to put the Royals in pole position.

Despite the willingness to build on this, Northumbria pulled level as little as ten minutes later. Worse was to follow, as club captain and coach for the day, Paisley, could only watch head in hands, as Northumbria turned the game on its head within 20 minutes, scoring twice more to put themselves 3-1 up. Their first goal was arguably against the run of play, but it was their second and third strikes that cemented the feeling that every time they attacked they looked dangerous.

Never being totally outclassed, Newcastle, even in this period of play, put some good moves together. Brunt, Mosounda and Levine all had efforts on goal which narrowly missed the target. Thus, there did seem to be

some hope. Indeed, half time came at a good time for the former Polytechnic as Newcastle ended the first 45 on top, but still two goals down.

However, the optimism the Royals possessed come the start of the second half was wrecked by the quick counter attacking plays of Northumbria. Using a 'Wimbledon' style of days gone by, the Newcastle defence was breached by the long ball and that enabled the Poly to further pull ahead. Three more chances were taken and three more conceded by the boys in blue.

At 6-1, Northumbria seemed to be cruising. Indeed, it was this attitude which enabled the 2nds to restore some pride on a day most would rather forget. Dan

Jackson, who had been outstanding for most of the second half clawed a goal back with a superb spinning lob from 35 yards out on the right flank. Northumbria again pushed forward, but it was Newcastle who would add to their tally. Ryo combined well with Brunt and his composed finished followed the move. Less than five minutes later, that man Jackson weaved through the complacent Northumbrian defence to add a second string to his bow and pull the game back to 6-4.

There was however to be no saving grace. Newcastle 2nds mission is not yet impossible, but unless three points are added next week, it could be improbable.

Photo: Joe Currin



DOWNWARD SPIRAL... Football sides struggle again

## BUSA RESULTS 24/10/2007

TEAM	OPPOSITION	RESULT
Badminton Men's 1	Central Lancs	W 7-1
Badminton Men's 2	Huddersfield	W 8-0
Badminton Women's	UW Bangor	W 8-0
Basketball Men's 1	Sunderland	W 71-38
Basketball Men's 2	TASC 1	W 66-50
Basketball Women's	Durham	L 38-90
Football Men's 1	Teesside 1	L 1-2
Football Men's 2	Northumbria 3	L 4-6
Football Men's 3	York 2	L 1-2
Football Women's 1	Sheffield 1	W 3-1
Golf	Durham	L 1-5
Hockey Men's 1	Leeds Met 1	L 0-2
Hockey Men's 2	Hockey Men's 3	W 2-1
Hockey Men's 4	Leeds Met 2	W 4-3
Hockey Women's 1	Durham 2	W 6-0
Hockey Women's 2	York SJ 1	L 1-3
Hockey Women's 3	Sunderland 1	W 4-0
Hockey Women's 4	Bradford 1	D 2-2
Lacrosse 1	Birmingham	W 7-3
Lacrosse 2	Liverpool	W 10-8
Netball 1	Leeds	L 34-39
Netball 2	Bradford 1	W 55-5
Netball 3	Northumbria 3	L 23-24
Netball 4	Northumbria 4	W 34-16
Rugby Men's 1	Leeds Met	L 26-28
Rugby Men's 2	Leeds Met 2	W 27-12
Rugby Men's 3	Teesside 1	W 16-10
Rugby Men's 4	Leeds Met 3	L 0-60
Rugby Women's 1	Leeds 1	W 17-15
Rugby League 1	Leeds 1	W 30-10
Rugby League 2	Napier 1	L 2-62
Squash Men's 1	Durham 2	W 5-0
Squash Women's 1	York 1	W 3-1
Tennis Men's 1	Durham 2	D 5-5
Tennis Men's 2	Teesside 2	W 10-0
Tennis Women's 1	Durham 2	D 5-5
Volleyball Women	Lancaster	L 0-3

# Close House coach chaos

## Intra Mural footballers left stranded as bus company shoots own goal



BY ED ELLIOTT & DAVID COVERDALE

INTRAMURAL FOOTBALL was yet again thrown into disarray on Wednesday after appalling transport arrangements left a large number of players waiting at Close House until 6.45pm, two hours and 15 minutes later than normal.

The breakdown in communication between the Sports Centre and the coach company concerned was clearly evident right from the start of the day.

The Snaiths coach, scheduled to pick up 40 of Intra Mural's finest footballing talents at 1.15pm from the Union, did not arrive until 2pm - the time that games were due to kick-off. As a result, the matches had to be delayed by almost 45 minutes, with frustrated players waiting patiently at both ends.

Referee Paul Brown, commonly

known as the Pierluigi Collina of the Intra Mural world, was equally unimpressed with the delayed kick-off.

On arrival of the missing men, Brown ordered that the game between Castle Leazes and Dyslexic Untied kick-off immediately, leaving the late players without a warm-up and barely time to change.

Transfer-listed Castle Leazes full-back, Ben 'Statto' Stephenson was incensed, epitomising the understandable feeling of frustration felt by all. "This is completely unacceptable," he said, "they want to get something done about this."

Due to the delayed starts, Denis Murphy, the Sports Centre Recreational Service Manager re-arranged the Snaiths coach to pick up the Close House footballers at 5.30pm rather than the usual 4.30pm. However, come this time, there was no sign of any coach.

By the time the clock had reached 6.30pm, players were left wonder-

ing whether the bus would ever turn up and were starting to look at other possible alternatives to get home. In fact, some members of Intra Mural heavyweights Fluffy Wilson were wondering whether they may have to delve into some Ray Mears survival tactics as the temperature began to drop, along with the night sky.

When questioned the day after the outrageous happenings at Close House, Denis Murphy explained the mix-up.

"The reason the bus company gave for not picking up from the Union in the first place, was that they did not think we needed their services on that date because it was half term. This was despite the fact that we gave Snaiths a list of all the dates we needed coaches for at the start of the season and also, the fact that Universities don't even have half terms."

Murphy went on to explain the shambolic scenes after Wednesday's games had been completed. "We

had re-scheduled the coach to pick up from Close House at 5.30pm.

When we found out that the coach had not turned up, we rang them a number of times to find out where they were."

"We only managed to get hold of anyone from Snaiths quite a bit later on, which is why players were waiting till that late hour. The reason they gave this time was that they were waiting at Close House at 4.45pm and for some reason, unknown to us, drove off at that time."

Denis Murphy has had serious words with Snaiths and they have promised him there will be no repeat of Wednesday afternoon's farcical events. As compensation for the players, Murphy has arranged with Snaiths that all footballers who paid their four pounds to get to Close House last Wednesday will be given a free ticket for their next Close House journey.

**Inside Your Courier Sport This Week...**



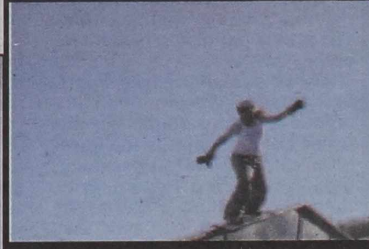
**Rugby league club storm to rare win**  
>>> see p.35



**Men's hockey team frustrated in Leeds**  
>>> see p.34



**Intra Mural match reports**  
>>> see p.32



**Ski and snowboard club interview**  
>>> see p.31

## Plummer drains Durham

### Four goals for Jos as hockey girls hammer North East rivals

**FULL MATCH REPORT**  
>>> SEE PAGE 34



Photo: Claire Gunn

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT

BY ROB

R.B.Smedley@ncl.ac.uk

The Bank Robbery was going well. Then suddenly everything went pear shaped...

