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Kent University Student Newspaper

No.20

Issued Free

Mayday



Tuesday May 6th is a historic day for Kent University Students Union, when the first full time Women's Officer is elected. There are three candidates, in alphabetical order:

- Julie Burrows
- Lucy Ellenor
- Auntie Zak (H.J. Kear)

The job awaiting the successful candidate will not be an easy one. Not only is there no precedent here at Kent, but Sabbatical Women's Officers around the country can be counted on one hand. The victor will need to establish the priority issues and organise effective information and awareness campaigns, as well as engage the University authorities on important issues affecting women. National feminist issues will also be high on the agenda, following extensive policy passed at Easter's NUS Conference. As a point of interest, NUS News (a fortnightly bulletin sent to

Student Union Officers nationally) praised Kent University students for their initiative in appointing a Women's Officer and hoped this would serve as a precedent.

It was not an easy task for the Women's Group and their supporters to secure the post. The original motion was submitted to the final UGM of Michaelmas term, but was withdrawn on the basis of an insufficient job description. Rutherford's Annual General Meeting saw the revamped motion overwhelmingly passed but constitutionally rejected due to iniquity. The policy was eventually secured at Darwin's quorate UGM, the University immediately intervened with, firstly, a general objection to the concept. This blatant attack on the autonomy of the Students Union was vociferously denounced and rejected by the S.U. Executive, but The Senate then played a dirty card by announcing

that, according to their records (which were shown to be in order), the S.U. has never correctly changed its constitution to allow constitutional amendments to be passed by anything but a cross-campus referendum. This they used as a reason to prevent the Women's Officer sabbatical from becoming part of the University's Charters and Statutes of which the S.U. constitution is a part. However, subsequent lobbying and negotiation shifted their position and the post finally become bona fide.

So there you have it. The election for next year's first Women's Officer sabbatical will be on Tuesday May 6th. This is an important occasion, please treat it as such, read the manifestos and use your vote to make the post and its portfolio a success for women on campus.

John Craddock
General Secretary

WILL RENTS RISE IF AXE FALLS ?

Amid the prevalent belief that the University Grants Committee will shortly announce major cuts in University funding for next year, the students union are more than concerned that the cuts may need to be offset by a sharp increase in college and Parkwood rents.

Discussion with the Vice-Chancellor on the subject has confirmed that the University is preparing to accept a cut in resources, although he seems to feel that we may escape with less of a cut than most, and that room-cleaning may be the only service to be reduced. How he can make this prediction given the imminent result on a proposal to further cut collegiate universities - on the basis that they receive extra finance through college fees paid by LEAs - seems ludicrous. However, we will not need to wait long to find out, as the UGC announcement is expected within the next few weeks.

The University will no doubt then have to formulate their own austerity proposals to cope with any cut. It is difficult at this stage to estimate which services will be hit, but it won't be good news. Rents rose by 5% last year, along with catering price rises of over 10% and a reduction in service; all against a student grant increase of 3%. This year, students are faced not only with more of the same but the loss of college and parkwood housing benefit if the Fowler Review is accepted. Grant rise: 2%!

It is difficult - almost impossible - to mount a major student campaign in the third term, but students are asked to consider the position both of themselves and October's intake, and to support the S.U. in what may be a bitter struggle.

John Craddock
General Secretary

More low cost fares to more places

Go your own way

STA Travel the world's leading organisation for independent youth and student travel

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The Worldbeaters

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If you're crossing the finals frontier remember STA Travel is for Graduates too!



No Chance Fowler Local Day of Action MAY 2nd

UNION MOVES ON DISABLED

FACILITIES IN U.K. UNIVERSITIES FOR DISABLED STUDENTS

A questionnaire was sent out at the end of the Trinity Term of 1984/5 to most U.K. Universities Students' Unions. A broad cross section of replies were received. A brief summary of results is given.

1. Are there University funds for equipment/grants for disabled students?
YES:50% NO:50%

2. Does the Union provide any financial help?
YES:27% NO:73%

3. Do all buildings on campus have easy access in a wheelchair?
YES:0% NO:27% ALMOST:73%

4. U.K. Law now states that all new buildings being planned must provide facilities and entrances for the disabled. However this does not apply to extensions.

5. a) Do students give help for revision with exams?
YES:50% NO:27% DON'T KNOW:23%

5. b) Do staff give help for revision and with exams?
YES:69% NO:27% DON'T KNOW:4%

6. Is any insurance provided for students involved in lifting or carrying disabled students?
YES:8% NO:73% DON'T KNOW:19%

CONCLUSIONS

Firstly, it should be pointed out that this University is among one of the best in this respect. The following ideas/suggestions have come out in the survey.

1. Improvement of Academic Access
egs. timetables in Braille, a library of tapes of relevant material.

2. Fund Raising
One university has been successfully fund raising since 1981, (£9,000) and has as a result been able to make various improvements to the facilities available, including the purchase of a minibus. The group is in fact a Registered Charity which may not be necessary in our case.

The Union intends to set up a group, containing disabled students, as part of the Union, to report on needs around campus, and to liaise with each year's new students.

Most ideas have or are already being used at this University.

As a result of our attention being brought to the inability of many disabled students to attend some open union meetings, venues have been altered. Student Representative Council is now fortnightly at ELT.2 (except May 13th), 6 p.m. on Tuesdays; these commence on April 29th. Executive meetings are now each Wednesday at Eliot Stirling Room 5 p.m.

S.U. Welfare Committee



DON'T CHEAT BUSES!

Students using concessionary Bus Cards are once more reminded to renew them immediately if they have expired. The authorities concerned are coming down heavily upon those who have 'forgotten' or 'didn't know' to check their validity; not only could prosecution result but East Kent Bus Company have threatened to withdraw the concessionary student cards which are such a help to travelling students since the Tories withdrew travel grants. So please do yourself and everyone else a favour, eh?!

All Change

Please note that the Appointments Advisory Service will be known as the Careers Advisory Service from 14 April 1986

The new Careers Advisory Service will be situated in the 'Keynes Master's House' (on the left of Keynes driveway as you turn off University Road.

APOLOGY

In an article written in Kred and published on the 4th of March, we made reference to one 'T.K.', a barman on duty at the Rag Ball and his involvement in the incidents described by us. The authors of this article wish it to be known that we did not have his permission to do this and subsequently apologise for this and emphasize that the article can not be held against 'T.K.' in any way.

A.S.LANDLES
A.BRIDDEN

Barclays Ban

Since most students have had four weeks of doing anything but think about Students' Union policy and its subsequent impact on world politics, the Executive would like to remind everyone that the Union and its shop no longer accepts Barclays cheques. Please comply with this policy and do not hassle the staff if you disagree - complain by letter to the S.U. Executive.

Ecocourse at Kent

The University of Kent is to validate a training programme mounted by the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust. Successful candidates will be awarded a University Diploma in Endangered Species Management.

The University has for some time been associated with the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust through courses in Natural History and Ecology. The Trust, founded by Gerald Durrell, has a considerable reputation for its work in conservation, the captive breeding of species which are in danger of extinction and in training personnel, mainly from overseas, in these areas.

The Diploma is the first such qualification to be awarded by a British University.

Calling all TADGERS
Paul Hammer - show us your TADGERS!!!
Ian Botham and the Laughing Hack.

ANYONE THERE?

WHAT IS HISTORY (SOC)?

UKC has one of the largest history departments in the country. That is to say there are hundreds of history students on campus. The history society, which was defunct up until last November, has an actual membership of sixty students, most of whom are first years. However, the number of active members is four, excluding the committee.

There is a very funny side to all this. Even the Committee thinks so.

Since November we have had talks on Byzantium, the Mafia, South Africa, Canterbury Cathedral and Missions and Colonialism. We also organised a tour around the Cathedral. Two trips, one to Barfreston and the other to Boulogne were planned. These have both been postponed, due to lack of interest, until next term.

All these talks and events are of general interest and are not degree course based. The

aim of the society is to take history away from text books and to explore it around us.

On April 30th, 5.15 p.m., R.U.S.C.R., for instance, Professor Loades, a Tudor expert, will talk on Marine history, laying particular emphasis on the raising of the Mary Rose. Professor Loades was the official historian during that project. We are also trying to organise a talk on the history of War with Ireland, concentrating mainly on the recent troubles.

The Society is not just for historians. Although we do have information of more specialised lectures and weekend courses. It is for anyone who is interested in the events and the society which surrounds them. If anyone is interested, keep an eye out for 'What's On'. We normally have something every three weeks or so.

Jonathan Cooper (R)

THE ANIMALS FILM

Charlotte Smith

EVERYONE must see this film.

As a cynical carnivore I went to see this film, simply because I felt I ought to support my friends who organised 'Animals Week'.

I spent two highly uncomfortable hours being confronted with fact after horrific fact of the mal-treatment of living beings by a supposedly more advanced animal.

When you eat bacon and eggs you do not consider where they come from. You should. The Animals Film presents the realities of factory farming; pigs live in pens only slightly larger than themselves; sows are tied down so that "the boar can take them at will" - it's called the rape rack in the trade. Electric prods push these intelligent animals towards the abattoir where they are "humanely killed". It didn't look humane.

Battery hens are de-beaked so that they do not peck themselves or each other; eight birds live in a cage the size of one hen's wing-span - but it's all very economical.

In its investigation of our treatment of animals this film makes one thing very clear - economic considerations

dominate - factory farming is unnecessary and cruel, but cheap.

Numerous pharmaceutical companies perform identical animal experiments - why can't they share results? Because that's not the way it works. Surely it should be.

Medical research involving animal experiments is an iffy area - I would support experiments involved in (eg) cancer or aids research - but this film showed the ridiculous nature of some experiments performed in the name of science. From the grafting of one, live, dog's head onto another, live, dog to the 29-year-old (and still continuing) study of the effects of radiation on donkeys; the results mirror the realities of Hiroshima; we already know the effects of radiation on donkeys - what can more experiments prove?

And worse than all this is the fact that each year we feed animals enough grain to feed the populations of India and China. Each £1 you gave to 'Live Aid' helped to relieve a famine which our selfish eating habits perpetuates.

I have hardly touched on the issues and realities this film raises. It disgusts me that our society condones and supports such cruelty. Before you dismiss me as an over emotional fool fond of cute fluffy animals I'd like to point out that I'm not fond of pets, I'm terrified of birds and I love the taste of meat. Yet there comes a time when we have to face the consequences our own actions - I am surviving merrily as a cynical vegetarian.

See this film - you owe it to the people of the 'third' world, to the animals - and to yourself.



the government let pubs in this country stay open all day? Last minute purchases were made, such as croissants, mustard and so on. Despite the fog in the Channel, the weather was lovely in St. Omer with the rare unwelcome sight of a shadow.

The coach then set off for Calais for the journey back to England. After one further unscheduled stop in Calais, there followed a lengthy wait before we could rejoin the ferry. Having done so, further vast

quantities of duty-free were purchased. Gorgeous sea conditions prevailed throughout as the last use of the cheap bar prices was made.

Once back in Canterbury, shadows finally disappeared into the fog of the night. All scattered in different directions to consume the purchases of the day whether it be of a liquid or a solid nature.

Hugh Samuelson.

Didn't we have a lovely day!

Thanks to Darwin JCC, a coach trip was organised to France last term to discover the delights of Calais.

At the unearthly hour of 7.30, 51 out of 52 students gathered outside Darwin. The loss of one is attributed to a non-working alarm clock officially: unofficially he was still too drunk to get up. Once at Dover, thoughts were turning to the race for the first drink on board the ferry. This was won by Darwin's beloved leader, Dominic Stewart, who proceeded to consume large amounts of canned Guinness at nine o'clock in the morning.

Luckily for him and the rest of us, the Channel was as smooth as a mill pond: the same cannot be said for our passage through French Customs at Calais. A Customs Officer, who had

obviously got out of the wrong side of the bed that day, went through the coach and decided that one of the group, a Venezuelan student, was not allowed into the country because he did not have a visa. An extremely petty decision considering we weren't going to be in the country for more than eight hours.

Now down to 50, we went in search of St. Omer Hypermarket. Thanks to the knowledge of the coach driver this was found and an assault was made on the beer and wine shelves. Huge quantities of both were loaded onto the coach and the Hypermarket staff were left to fill the shelves. With a few unscheduled stops, the next stop was in St. Omer itself. Once again thirsts were quenched in the local bars: why won't

RIGHTS - WOT RIGHTS?

Housing Benefits

Most students living in college rooms and Parkwood should have received their housing benefit. College dwellers should have received one cheque for £51 if they are the average grant aided undergraduates. That one cheque is their entire benefit for the three terms. Parkwood dwellers should be receiving fortnightly cheques for £4 (again, if you are an average grant aided undergraduate).

Vacation claims can still be sent into the City Council, Military Road, Canterbury and will be backdated providing they arrive by 24th May 1986. If you have just moved into new accommodation you can make a claim for your present accommodation. If you moved during the vacation you have the first four weeks of term to submit your claim.

This is the last year that residents in university owned accommodation will be eligible to claim Housing Benefit. Next year you will have to dig deeper to pay your own way.

An Apology

The Research & Rights Dept. apologise to residents of twin or bunk rooms for misleading information concerning your eligibility for Housing Benefit. We originally believed that you would be entitled to a small benefit. Even we get our calculations wrong. Our apologies.

1986 Housing Survey

The number of questionnaires returned by three of the colleges has been disappointing. Many

thanks to DARWIN students who have returned the most.

If you have your questionnaire still tucked in your file, please return it now to the JCC or S.U. (it can be sent through the internal postal service marked Research & Rights, UKCSU).

The more surveys we get back, the more reliable and accurate our finding will be.

Initial Findings:

a) The main respondents so far are second year undergraduates.

b) A slight majority of male students have responded (59%).

c) Most students who replied stated that they preferred to live in shared accommodation with friends, (over 70%)

d) The successful method of finding accommodation appears to be equally divided between the use of the University Accommodation Office and personal contact with friends.

Many respondents have suggested however that the accuracy of the description of accommodation given by the Accommodation Office is suspect.

Do you disagree with the description given by the University of your accommodation? If so, please write to Mr. Macdonald at Woodlands. It is only by students reporting problems that we can get things done.

At least two houses have been removed from the university lists this year as a result of students' complaints.

Gerry Glyde

stop press:

Beware of Grant Over-Payments

Several cases have come to our attention of Kent County Council miscalculating student grants, and making awards of monies in excess of entitlement. Then, when they manage to sort out their computer errors they send a demand to the student to repay the excess amount.

In one case this meant a bill for over £1,500 for a student. It is quite lawful for a local education authority to claim back any money that has been overpaid. It does not matter if it is the students' error or that of the local authority.

However, it may be possible to argue in a court that it is unfair to reclaim an overpayment in some circumstances. For example; You receive a higher grant than you thought you were entitled, and then query this with the local authority and they initially confirm the award. Later when it is discovered that you have been overpaid and the L.E.A. claim back the money it could be argued that the action you took in obtaining confirmation of entitlement protects you from being forced to repay.

In any circumstance if an L.E.A. asks you to repay monies that you can not really afford in a lump sum, only offer reasonable installments. A reasonable amount, on a student grant would possibly be £5 a month.

If you are asked to repay monies, take action immediately, don't ignore their demands, you could be sued in the courts.

KNOW

YOUR

RIGHTS

PERSONAL &
KLAASSIFIED

Get some
in!

...Kred...Letters...

Dear Editor,

Over the past three issues of KRED the Lesbian and Gay Group has given a column to the Editor to include in the paper. For the past three issues of KRED this column has not appeared.

On page one of the last issue of KRED there was a report on the Work-In, (also appearing on page one, and taking up a quarter of the front page, was an advert for the Student Travel Handbook). The report acknowledged the popularity of the stalls around the foyer and mentioned most of the societies present, but did not mention the Lesbian and Gay Group stall.

The Students' Union has a good policy on Lesbian and Gay Rights, and over this year has been particularly helpful in starting the integration of Lesbian and Gay issues into the university. This integration is necessary.

For lesbians and for gay men it means that their voice is being heard, that there is no exclusion and that there is no marginalisation of either people or ideas.

But this integration also has another function, it creates an awareness on campus that sexuality can be discussed (and this need not be just by people who wish to define their sexuality in terms of "being" a lesbian or "being" a gay man).

For those who were at the EGM during the Work-In, recall the comments made by Dick De Friend; that present governmental policies are creating an atmosphere whereby people are becoming afraid to speak out. The next step is that people do not speak out, that they do not believe they have a voice to change their lives.

Excluding the voices of lesbians and of gay men (however unconscious this process is) adds to the oppression we are all

trying to change. If the exclusion in KRED is for reasons of space, question your priorities (do we really need a whole quarter page ad. for the travel handbook?) and realise the importance of creating that atmosphere in which people are not afraid to define and discuss their sexuality - whatever conclusions they have come to.

Ian Warwick (D)

The Editor adds...

Your complaint is justified. For the last five issues we have had nearly ten pages of submitted copy to fill eight, and inevitably articles have fallen. I sincerely hope you do not see this as discriminatory in any way. The point is, however, well received and will be observed.

John Craddock

Dear KRED,

I wonder if I could use your columns to remind all students, who are intending to go abroad in the long vacation, to come to see the Sister in the Medical Centre in plenty of time should they need a course of immunisation. Almost invariably, several injections are involved which have to be given at intervals and a minimal of 6 weeks needs to be allowed in order to obtain maximal protection from injections.

Dr. R.J.A. Buss

Dear KRED,

I am writing to you because there appears to have been a considerable amount of worry over the situation as far as Pregnancy Testing on Campus

is concerned, as a result of the withdrawal of some of these facilities by the hospital pathology services.

The situation here is that we do, and have for some years, perform Pregnancy Tests as required, at the Medical Centre. We do our own test which is able to give a result within 2 minutes. The type of Test we use, however, is dependant on the level of a certain hormone in the urine. This is not sufficient in quantity until 6 weeks after the date of the beginning of the last menstrual period, thus anybody requesting a Pregnancy Test needs to be at least 2 weeks late with their period and there is no point in doing the Test early as the result would be inconclusive.

I do hope that this makes the situation quite clear to everybody.

Dr. R.J.A. Buss

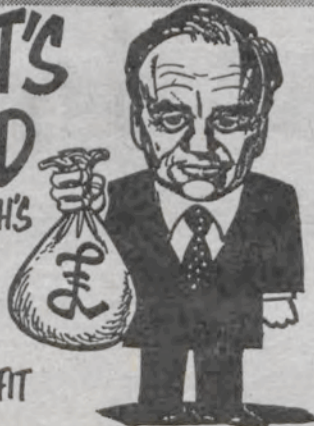
Doctor, Doctor!

Union Policy

★TRADE UNIONISTS BEWARE!★

RUPERT'S
REWARD

RUPERT MURDOCH'S
NEWSPAPER
WORKERS
HAVE MADE HIM
MILLIONS IN PROFIT



THEIR REWARD -
THE SACK!

Show solidarity, BOYCOTT...

THE Sun THE TIMES
NEWS OF THE WORLD SUNDAY TIMES

UKC Hat Trick

UKC Mens Hockey 1st XI ended their Kent league Division One programme with a run of three unbeaten games in the last week of the Lent Term.

Firstly, lowly Orpington were beaten 4-1 in a match where Kent could afford to miss two penalty-flicks in the first half. Abbas Acole put the university into the lead early on following winger Jones's cross. However, the visitors soon struck back to equalize from a well thought out short-corner routine. Andy Parkes had the misfortune to miss two penalty-flicks either side of the Orpington goal so the interval came with the scores level at 1-1.

The second-half saw UKC move up several gears and Liam O'Connell and Parkes began to dominate the game from mid-field. Acole scored his second just before skipper Jez Cassell rifled home a short corner to make it 3-1. Left winger Robbie Baird added a fourth to complete the rout on the hottest day of the season. Mention should be made of Nigel Booker's goal-line clearance which totally defies description.

Medway United provided stiffer opposition the next day but Kent fought well to earn a 1-1 draw. Medway are a very skilful Indian side and patience was required in tackling by UKC. The first half was devoid of many goal chances and ended goal-less. Most of the game was fought in a packed midfield with neither defence or attack employed much. Midway through the second period Medway took the lead through a penalty-flick and it was not until they were only five minutes left that UKC exerted any pressure on their opponents goal. A short-corner was well earned by Rob Lang and then the somewhat inevitable Jez Cassell found the net for another set-piece goal. A minute from time Kent nearly snatched

victory but Nigel Jones could not take full advantage of O'Connells deft aerial pass.

The final league game of the season also ended 1-1 with Wellcome. UKC should have beaten inferior opposition but fell behind in the first-half. Debutant John Jenner equalized for a below strength university who finished the 1985/86 season with 19 points; a considerable improvement on last year.

Andrew Frank.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Intra-Mural Cricket

Entry forms for 11 a-side competition are now available from the Sports Centre reception. Matches start at 5.30 p.m. and are 20 overs per side. A full set of rules are attached to the entry form.

Forms must be returned by 30th April.

Sports Centre Entrance

For the first two weeks of term, access to the Sports Centre by the normal entrance is likely to be severely disrupted. Please use the entrance through the secondary hall for the time being. Work is likely to be completed by the middle of May.

Help the Children

The mens and ladies hockey clubs staged their annual 12 hour sponsored indoor charity marathon towards the end of last term. This year it was decided to raise funds for the children's ward of the Kent and County Hospital in Canterbury. The specific aim was to raise £250 to purchase an alarm which warns the nursing staff if children are having breathing problems.

So good was the response to the event that over £900 was raised, enough to buy three alarms. An enjoyable day was had by all and credit is due to the organisers Dave Hudson and Anita Reynolds and particularly to Brian Lohead who raised, himself, £120 - it clearly pays to be popular!



GET INTO SPORT

UAU:CRICKET

Despite the gloomy news from the West Indies and the gloomy weather there is much enthusiasm for the coming cricket season at UKC. 1985 was a good season for the "leather on willow" fraternity and 1986 promises to be as good if not better. The Club 1st XI are led this year by next year's Sports Sabbatical Chris Lane and his new ball partnership with exciting fresher Patrick Roche promises much in the bowling department. The first UAU group game takes place on April 30th away at LSE and a repeat of last year's victory would be a fine start and a large step towards the knockout stage. UKC play in a preliminary group of four with City and then Sussex both at home completing the first batch of fixtures. The top two in the group progress further.

The 1st XI batting line-up has only lost one player from last season and the consistent Nigel Jones is likely to open the batting with the prolific Scott Moen. A middle order of Jones (D), Talbot and Cassell looks solid and newcomers Thomas, Molyneux and Khan have all laid claim to a place in the upper order. The wicket-keeping spot appears wide-open while spinning duties will be fought out between Dhaman Khissoon and West Indian Doug Adams (a Caribbean spin-bowler!! What next?). Captain Lane will be hoping that his side can improve on 1985's UAU win when they reached the quarter-final before falling to Southampton complete with the odd dodgy umpiring decision. The side appears strong in batting and pace-bowling and given reasonable luck a semi-final

UAU berth is well within the realms of possibility.

The 2nd XI to have lost few players from 1985 when they also reached the quarter final of the UAU. Led by Andrew Frank they will again be strong in seam bowling with Messrs. Pickett, Buckley and Horner still available to repeat last year's sterling efforts. spin can be provided by the captain, Dominic Stewart and dependant upon 1st XI selection, Adams or Shaun Thomas. At times last year's UAU run is within the side's capabilities.

All that's needed for a great season is fine weather, an influx of tea ladies and for the University to offer Michael Holding a part-time degree place.

A. Frank

UGM KEYNES
May 8th

CAPTION COMP.



Can you put a caption to this beautiful Keynes portrait? Try to keep it clean! Send entries to John Craddock at S.U. by Monday May 5th. The winning caption will be published in KRED!

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