

KRED

Issue 224
Tuesday
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UKC's Weekly
Student Newspaper



University of Kent at Canterbury



CAMPUS CRASH: THREE SERIOUSLY INJURED



**Elderly woman driven
off in stolen car.**
Driver - UKC STUDENT

by **Alpana Virani**

On Wednesday 9 March at approximately 3.15 pm, an accident between two vehicles, a Honda Accord and a University van, took place on Giles Lane.

The driver of the Honda, a 20-year-old male student from Eliot college, had stolen the car from outside the ATS garage in Sturry Road at about 2.50pm. Mrs Katie Robertson, an 89-year-old resident of Mystole, was sitting in the car waiting for her husband when the student got in and sped off. She was let out in Canterbury city centre a short while later, where she proceeded to walk the four miles to her home to be safely reunited with her husband, Bob.

The student then headed towards the University campus. He approached the Giles Lane bend, near the biology labs, at a speed of 60-70 m.p.h. At this point, it seems he lost

control of the car and skidded to the other side of the road, where he collided into an oncoming University van. The two occupants of the van, maintenance men William Burnett and Kenneth Taylor, both in their fifties, were seriously injured. The student also received considerable injuries.

At press time, Canterbury police have stated that Mr Taylor is in a "critical but stable condition" with severe head injuries. The condition of his passenger, Mr Burnett, who sustained leg injuries, has been described as "comfortable". The two men have been warded at the Kent at Canterbury hospital. Mr Burnett underwent a five hour operation on his leg on Thursday evening and Mr Taylor, suffering serious head injuries, is still in intensive care.

The student, who had to be cut out of the stolen vehicle by Kent Fire Brigade, was then arrested, but, at press time, police have been unable to interview him due to his condition. He sustained neck and head injuries, a broken arm and ribs and a

serious eye wound.

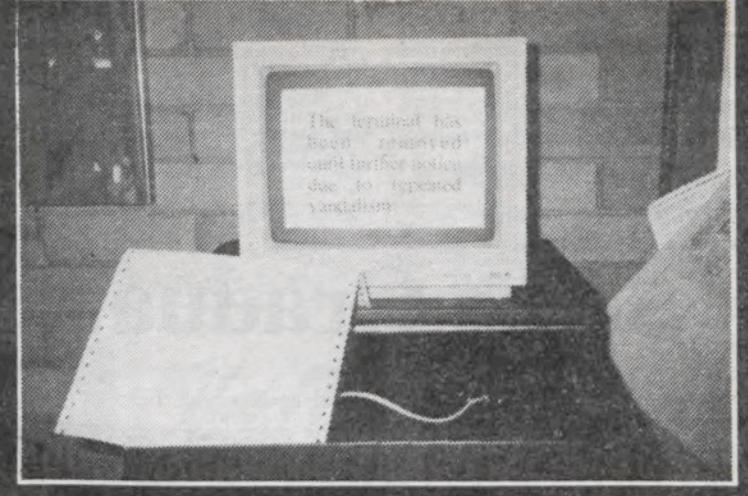
Rajesh Kanani, a second-year Management Science student, who was passing the biology lab, ran to the road when he heard the crash. He said, "I was devastated when I saw the accident. I was one of the first people there and I felt so helpless, especially since all of the men were crying for help."

The University stated that the student has not been attending his courses or been in residence since early February because of medical problems.

Many students expressed shock at the severity of the crash. One student, Jashmin Patel, a first-year Science student, expressed concern because "it happened so near to the pelican crossing; anyone could have easily been killed."

In a press statement, released the day after the accident, David Ingram, Vice-Chancellor of the University stated: "This is a sad and tragic accident... our thoughts and prayers are with the men and their families".

VANDALISM CONTINUES



There is speculation that the computer terminal outside Eliot college dining hall is to be removed permanently after repeated attacks of vandalism. The terminal was vandalised twice in one week, with the second incident taking place the day after the terminal had been replaced. It was after this incident that the Computing Department decided that the terminal could not be replaced again until further notice.

Mrs Mary-Anne Preston, the Eliot Master's Assistant, stated: "I just feel that if people cannot be careful with what they are provided, they will have to forgo the use of a facility for some time. The University offers a lot of facilities to its students and we cannot keep replacing and repairing damaged property".

The terminal may be replaced next term, but the Computing Department is still reviewing this matter.

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What Kind of Peace is This?

O.S.O. Night CANCELLED

by Brendan Montague

OSO Night, the main cultural event of the year, has been cancelled. This decision is seen by many involved as the Students' Union's failure to represent cultural societies. Ambreen Shah, former Rutherford Anti-Racism Officer, stated: "It is a shame that the cultural groups are not taken as seriously as they should be and don't get more support from the Students' Union". She added, "a lot of societies had put a lot of time and effort into preparing acts." The failure to hold the event has left students without a chance, this term, to enjoy probably one of the most renowned of campus events.

Andy Grice, who was coordinating the event, has been held responsible for the cancellation. Kenia Knottage, of the African/Caribbean Society, stated: "They gave this job to a young man who is not capable of handling it". She clarified this statement by highlighting the fact that OSO night is supposed to be the responsibility of Nick Fahy, Union Treasurer, not that of Andrew Grice, E.O. Finance. She argues, the task was not within Grice's capacity and should not have been his responsibility. In Fahy's defence, Grice stated that "this month had been very busy, mainly because of the opening of the Parkwood bar". However, the overriding feeling amongst the societies involved is that OSO night was not given a sufficiently high profile.

Of the cancellation of the event, Andy Grice stated: "It was the decision of the societies themselves, not myself or the Students' Union". The evening was finalised for 12th March, after many changes. It would have coincided with the finale of the African/Caribbean Week of Events, "The Cultural Evening". Grice added "They [The African/Caribbean



Andy Grice - Under Attack

Society] were very unhappy that the OSO night was going to take place on the same night". Kenia responded: "We did not want to cancel, we wanted to attend [the OSO night]". She also stated that many of the people she represented felt that the decision to hold the event on 12th March suggested that: "Our culture was considered so insignificant that they were willing to run without representing it". She stated that 12th March date had already been set when the OSO night was going to be on 5th March

and it was unchangable.

The cancellation of OSO night, according to Grice, was due to a 'noise ban' imposed by Rutherford College. Ms Shah stated "It had been decided that the event should be held in Rutherford because the chef was the only person with adequate experience to handle the job. The noise ban, to be imposed because of the impending end-of-term exams means that such an event cannot take place after 12th March". This, coupled with the fact, Grice argues, that societies responded so late, despite adverts in KRED, rendered the staging of the event impossible. Grice added, "I did everything in my power to try and move the date. The problem was not with me, it was with Rutherford College."

Despite this, there is some optimism that the event may take place next term, as Ian Dickie vocalised: "The cancellation of the OSO night is a great disappointment but unfortunately could not be helped. Hopefully, we will be able to stage the event early next term". Grice added, "If we can, we will stage the event next term. Everything is in place, we just need the rooms."

Equal Opportunities The UKC Way

by Georgina Wood

A new 'no-sex rule', banning students from making sexual advances towards their teacher, responding positively towards sexual advances from a teacher or forming a sexual relationship with a teacher who is teaching them or will be teaching them in the future, is to be incorporated into the Equal Opportunities sexual and racial harassment guidelines for students. Sexual harassment can be defined. If one person does not consent, it's sexual harassment. A sexual relationship between willing partners does not meet this definition, so why has the no-sex rule been included in the sexual harassment clause was the question put to Ann Allcock, newly appointed Equal Opportunities Officer. "The new clause was drawn up by my predecessor and Senate accepted the amendment last year". She recognises that the new 'no-sex rule' is impossible to enforce and that there is no sanction for it, but maintains "It is a step in the right direction. These rules are designed to protect students. A sexual relationship between a teacher and student can cause problems for the rest of the class. It shouldn't go on. People should try and avoid that situation."

"Sexual harassment is often a misunderstanding of what is offensive" says Ann Allcock. "What is acceptable to one person is offensive to another". Elspeth Chasser, Women's Officer and Women's Group Organiser, disagrees there is any misunderstanding. "Every student is issued an Equal Opportunities guide to sexual and racial harassment."

Elspeth Chasser agrees that the University has made the commitment to equal opportunities on paper, but adds, "It is extremely difficult, in individual sexual harassment cases, to convince the authorities that something needs to be done and to get the process moving. I am not against a sexual relationship between a teacher and student," says Elspeth, "but when such a relationship goes sour, any student complaining about the behaviour of a teacher is taking on the establishment. Members of staff will complain of a colleague's appalling behaviour openly, but when asked to speak on a student's behalf, they refuse."

Ann Allcock, Equal Opportunities Officer, says she is committed to an educational approach without recourse to disciplinary or grievance procedures, except in the most serious cases, to overcome harassment of any sort.

Cause For Concern

by Tahsin Guner

Concern over student welfare was fuelled last month following the deaths of two students of meningitis and toxic shock syndrome at the universities of Cambridge and Manchester.

The latter has been of considerable concern to Sam Firth, Rutherford's Women's Officer, who says that one woman dies of toxic shock syndrome each year.

The condition is caused by the use of tampons which have too

high a level of absorbency for an individual's personal bloodflow, or if you leave a tampon in for too long. Symptoms include very high temperatures, aching limbs and severe flu.

Miss Firth advises women to either avoid using tampons at all or to alternate between the use of tampons and towels.

Elspeth Chasser, Women's Officer stated: "the union will continue to campaign on this issue because we feel men and women should be made more aware. However, it is not something to panic about each month".

Some Graduate FACTS

by Rejina Abdulrahim

The Guardian's *Graduate Facts*, one of the largest and most comprehensive students polls turned up with surprising results about the aims, career aspirations, media consumption and personal values of today's graduates.

Two thousand odd final year students at 49 universities around the country were interviewed for this unique survey conducted by The Guardian and Gallup. The results gave an accurate invaluable insight into the way today's graduates lead their lives and their future plans for themselves and the rest of the nation. Questions asked varied from views on sex to social responsibility and future job prospects.

On sex and social responsibility; a high majority (65%) of the students interviewed disagree with the government and believe that single mothers should not be discrimi-

nated against and therefore should receive more state support. 35% of the men polled thought nothing wrong of casual sex although only 20% of the women interviewed agreed with the men.

On the broad issue of university; 47% of those interviewed in the survey could not see the advantages of conditional offers and thought that universities should select prospective students based on their actual 'A' level results. Almost a quarter (23%) think that enough people are receiving degree level education and expansion plans for university education should stop.

When it came to questions about future job prospects, the men polled had higher salary expectations (£13,370) whereas the women anticipated an initial starting salary of £12,460. However, both men and women polled expected their salaries to rise up to £22,000 after five years.

Good news for University Career Offices, those interviewed found their Career Offices to be most

useful when looking for a job as compared to newspaper advertisements, graduate publications, milk rounds and job fairs.

These figures show that today's graduates possess a very strong sense of commitment towards their future. As David Triesman, general secretary of the Association of University Teachers commented on the findings of the survey: "the evidence shows serious-minded and socially-responsible people. They are interested in their studies and engaged: and they want their course to lead towards a vocation; they want to see a further extension to higher education opportunity, and they care about the major social issues of the day."

The same graduates' lives will be tracked through several waves of research and the second round of these research studies will take place in June 1994. This national student survey, *Graduate Facts*, has received the endorsement of the Institute of Advertising Practitioners.

LUNCHTIME

U.G.M.

17th March

12pm

ELIOT JCR

Voting Rights in European Parliamentary Elections

If you live in the United Kingdom, but are a national of one of the other member states of the European Union, then you have a new voting right in elections to the European Parliament.

The following information is what you need to know if you are interested in voting. It relates to arrangements in England and Wales.

Your new voting rights

The Treaty on European Union, signed at Maastricht in 1992, created citizenship of the European Union. All nationals of member states are also citizens of the Union and have been given voting rights in the member state where they live, even though they are not nationals of that state.

If you are registered to do so, you can vote in elections to the European Parliament. General elections are held every five years. In the United Kingdom, by-elections are also held to elect a new member of the European Parliament after the previous member has died, or resigned. If registered, you can also vote in any such by-elections which are called.

The next general election to the European Parliament will be held on 9 June 1994.

You will also have the right to vote in local government elections but not until 1995. The Government has no plans to extend voting rights to elections to the House of Commons at Westminster.

To qualify, you must be a national of one of the member states of the European Union. You must also have been resident in the UK on 10 October 1993 and must be 18 years of age or more, or become 18 by election day.

In order to vote, you must be

registered as an elector.

Registration takes place locally, by the electoral registration officer (ERO) employed by every London Borough and District Council. You will need to get a special application form if you want to be registered to vote. Your local ERO will send you a form on request - contact the Electoral Registration Officer, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW.

Applications to register to vote in 1994 must be received by 29 March.

If you wish to register to vote, you must do so in the area where you were living on 10 October 1993.

When you submit your application form, your ERO will check it to make sure you are eligible for inclusion in the electoral register. If there is any doubt about your eligibility, you may be asked to provide evidence to support your application. If your application is rejected, your ERO will inform you of the fact, together with the reason for the decision. You can then lodge an appeal if you wish.

Your name and address will then be included in a special register of European Parliamentary electors, which will be published in draft form no later than 8 April. This draft register can be inspected at your local council offices and possibly other places as well, such as libraries and post offices. You should consult the draft register to check that it contains your name and address, and that ineligible people have not been included by mistake. A final version of the electoral register will be published no later than 9 May.

Registration as an elector is entirely voluntary for you, as a national of another member state of the

European Union. But if your name does not appear on the final version of the register you will not be able to vote on polling day, even if you qualify to vote in all other respects. Voting in the UK is not compulsory.

What about your voting rights at home? If you can vote in your home member state you must choose between voting there or in the UK. Applying to vote in your UK constituency means that you cannot vote in the same election in your home member state. The application form will therefore ask you to declare that, if you vote, it will be in the UK only. You will also be asked to give the name of any locality or constituency in your home member state in which you were registered to vote. Your ERO will send a copy of your application form to the Home Office, who will send it on to your home member state, which may then take steps to prevent you voting there at the same election.

If you wish to vote in your home member state instead of in the UK, then of course you need do nothing beyond what your home member state requires.

If you make a false statement in the declaration in your application form you will be committing an offence, and could be liable to a fine of up to £1,000. If you vote both in the United Kingdom and in your home member state in the same election, you will also be committing an offence, and could be liable to a fine of up to £5,000.

As a national of another member state living here, you also have the right to stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament. Enquiries should be directed to the acting returning officer for your European Parliamentary constituency.

Major Changes in Keynes College

by Andrew Grice

This summer will see a number of awaited changes to be made to Keynes College. A number, such as alterations to the Foyer area, and the area around the main staircase, will obviously be welcomed by residents and students alike, and will make life easier. However, alterations to some of the rooms will be more controversial.

Proposals to make all College rooms en-suite were first suggested in 1993. Unlike rooms in the other three colleges, the majority of Keynes bedrooms lack a basin, due to a decision made during the construction of the College during the 1960s (a money-saving exercise at the time). Various members of the University staff and officials from the Students' Union visited Cardiff University to see how a similar scheme had been implemented there. At the time, proposals were made to install the facilities during this academic year, which would have caused considerable inconvenience to both staff and students alike, and after consultations these proposals were dropped.

Now, final proposals regarding this work have been revived. It has been decided to upgrade Blocks F, G, H and I over the summer holidays. Some 140 rooms will be affected and the hardest hit groups will be the staff who live in the Academic rooms in these blocks. Keynes JCC have been campaigning simply for basins to be installed in the rooms, yet the University feels that "the cost of en-suite facilities is not appreciably higher than the cost of installing wash-hand basins ... (and) the same disruption to College life would be necessary, whatever new plumbing

had to be installed."

The University has promised to consult with Stef Hrycyszyn, President of Keynes JCC, over the timetable of the work and other aspects. The University has stated that "only four Keynes blocks are being refurbished, so the college will offer a range of different facilities and prices." Yet this is hard to reconcile with the University's belief that "the installation of wash-hand basins has become a minimum requirement for all students in every University" Obviously once this process begins, will the University stop at just four blocks? The University may be doing this for the welfare of students, but it has a more powerful motive. In the increasingly competitive world of the Conference Trade, Keynes College, with its poor facilities, simply cannot compete. It seems that many of the improvements are being primarily carried out for this single purpose - for example, a new fire alarm system to bring the College up to the standard of licensed hotels.

These improvements will benefit those students who can afford to pay the increased college residency fees. But worries about the loss of a proportion of rooms offered at the present rates remain, and should the whole college be converted, then the character of the entire college may be altered. It will be interesting to see if the rooms without facilities will be offered at a lower price than those rooms in Eliot, Darwin and Rutherford. Particularly since the University itself admits that it offers "sub-standard facilities to students".

Your comments and ideas would be appreciated. Keynes JCC meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Keynes JCC Office.

PIZZAS	THIN CRUST		DEEP PAN		
	Medium 9"	Large 12"	Medium 9"	Large 12"	Extra Large 14"
CHEESE AND TOMATO <i>Mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	3.70	5.80	4.10	6.50	7.90
HAM AND PINEAPPLE <i>Chunks of pineapple, ham, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	4.90	7.20	5.30	7.90	9.50
HAM AND MUSHROOM <i>Fresh mushrooms, ham, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.20	7.95	5.60	8.20	10.70
VEGETARIAN <i>Fresh mushrooms, peppers, onions, sweetcorn, olives, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
HAWAIIAN <i>Chunks of pineapple, ham, onions, peppers, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
TIFFANY <i>Plain sausage, bacon pieces, onions, fresh sliced tomato, fresh mushrooms, egg, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
THE BRONX <i>Spicy beef, bacon, pepperoni, onions, fresh mushrooms, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
PEPPERONI SUPER <i>Pepperoni, ham, onions, peppers, fresh mushrooms, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
MEXICAN CHILLI <i>Spicy beef, bacon, onions, peppers, hot green chillies, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
NEW YORK SPECIAL <i>Spicy beef, ham, plain sausage, spicy sausage, onions, fresh sliced tomato, fresh mushrooms, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
MANHATTAN SKYSCRAPER <i>Spicy beef, spicy sausage, bacon, onions, peppers, fresh mushrooms, sweetcorn, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
SPICY CHICKEN TIKKA <i>Spicy chicken tikka, pepperoni, onions, fresh mushrooms, sweetcorn, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
SEAFOOD <i>Tuna, prawns, onions, peppers, sweetcorn, mozzarella cheese, tangy tomato sauce and herbs.</i>	5.80	8.30	6.10	8.95	11.00
EXTRA TOPPINGS	60	70	60	70	80
MAKE YOUR OWN					
<i>Take a cheese and tomato pizza and add as many toppings as you like from the wide and tempting selection listed for you below: Mozzarella cheese, Tangy tomato sauce, Peppers, Fresh mushrooms, Onions, Sliced tomatoes, Sweetcorn, Pineapple, Olives, Capers, Hot green chillies, Red sun dried chillies (very hot), Boiled sliced egg, Ham, Plain sausage, Spicy sausage, Bacon, Spicy beef, Pepperoni, Salami, Spicy chicken tikka, Tuna, Prawns, Anchovies.</i>					

STUDENT SPECIAL OFFERS

1-2 PERSONS
CHEESE AND TOMATO 9" DEEP PAN
ANY 4 TOPPINGS OF YOUR CHOICE
2 GARLIC BREAD
1 COLESLAW
1 CAN OF DRINK
ONLY £7.95 SAVE £1.95

2-3 PERSONS
CHEESE AND TOMATO 12" DEEP PAN
ANY 4 TOPPINGS OF YOUR CHOICE
2 GARLIC BREAD
2 COLESLAW
2 CANS OF DRINK
ONLY £10.95 SAVE £2.85

3-4 PERSONS
CHEESE AND TOMATO 14" DEEP PAN
ANY 4 TOPPINGS OF YOUR CHOICE
3 GARLIC BREAD
3 COLESLAW
3 CANS OF DRINK
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STARTERS

GARLIC MUSHROOMS stuffed with garlic butter and mozzarella cheese.	£1.90
GARLIC BREAD (french baguette style).	£1.15
SPECIAL GARLIC BREAD with garlic butter and mozzarella cheese.	£1.70
HAM AND CHEESE GARLIC BREAD with ham, garlic butter and mozzarella cheese.	£1.95

PRAWN COCKTAIL prawns in a seafood mayonnaise and served on a bed of lettuce with a wedge of lemon.	£2.20
MIXED SALAD freshly prepared lettuce, onions, cucumber, tomatoes and sweetcorn served with or without french dressing	£1.60
COLESLAW per tub	60p
SPICY POTATO WEDGES per portion	90p

FRESH CHICKEN BREAST IN A BUN

Standard size fresh chicken breast in a bun (Southern Fried) with lettuce and mayonnaise £2.10

or with lettuce, onions, sliced tomato and tomato relish £2.80

DESSERTS

Alabama soft rock pie.	£1.70
Death by Chocolate	£1.70
Mississippi mud pie	£1.70
ANY OF THE ABOVE WITH CREAM ADD	20p

LOSELEY LUXURY DAIRY ICE CREAM 100ml TUBS

Strawberry and Jersey Cream	
Old fashioned Vanilla	
Rich Chocolate	
Traditional Butterscotch	
Fudge and Almond	95p

DRINKS

Coke, Diet Coke, Orange, Diet Orange	per can 50p
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Bone Contended

Dear KRED,

With reference to the article "Bone of Contention" in Issue 222 I would like to say a few words. My own view is that the age of consent should not have been changed because whether it is 21, 16 or 18 makes no difference, if two gay men wish to engage in sexual activities in their own homes then they will. They're very unlikely to stop themselves because it's against the law! How likely are they to be prosecuted anyway? Not very likely at all if you ask me! Few people would know what they were doing, and there's never going to be unwanted pregnancies to enable people to point accusing fingers! I think it was all a waste of time and money on the part of the government, the Outrage group and for Kred itself. There are many far greater crimes in this world than the act of buggery and making changes to the legal age of consent for homosexuals isn't going to change anything that is happening already. To me it is just a lot of fuss about a small issue which can have little effect on people's activities in their own homes.

My second point concerns the comments made by "Chris" in the article. For him to say, "shoot the bastards" in the same statement as, "But I wouldn't say I was homophobic," is quite outrageous. Why can't he just admit his homophobia? To make a comment about shooting homosexuals and then try to cover his back as he did is simply pathetic. He should be man enough to stand up for his views rather than trying to toe the anti-homophobia line with totally conflicting statements. People should be able to say what they want without fear of reprisals and if somebody had questioned me about the issue then I would have told them that I think homosexuals are a disease on the face of humanity but that they have a right to do as they please just as I have that same right. I would also have said that I do consider myself homophobic and have no qualms about saying so. No bullshitting cover-ups from me, perhaps more people should say how they feel honestly and not try and compromise their own opinions in an attempt to appear liberal. Then it might be realised that people do have differing opinions on many contentious issues and it is very unlikely that everyone is ever going to totally agree, then perhaps we may be able to move towards some compromises which benefit all.

I apologise to anyone who may take offence at this letter but I just wanted to question the comments which offended me.

Chris

(An unfortunate coincidence that the person who offended me shares my name!)

Rutherford Aggrieved?

Dear KRED,

Following the meeting of Rutherford JCRC on Tuesday night, we felt it necessary to comment on this week's issue of KRED (Tuesday 8th March) concerning two separate grievances.

The first of these was the obvious political bias and derogatory manner in which various candidates in the sabbatical election were portrayed in the story on the front page of this issue. KRED should exist as an independent form of student media and thus every effort should be made to retain impartiality. We feel that this was in no way achieved in this article.

The second of these is perhaps even more potentially damaging. The gossip column entitled 'The Tattler' was an example of the worst form of gutter journalism. The inclusion of such material can only serve to damage KRED's reputation, for painting it as a *claque* (*sic*). Is anybody really interested? It was about Union 'hacks' and aimed at Union 'hacks', is this really representative journalism? In reality such 'articles' can only serve to strengthen the argument of KRED's distracters (*sic*).

KRED has shown an improvement of late and every effort should be made to retain this trend.

Rutherford JCRC

Dear Rutherford JCRC,

Following the arrival of your letter (Thursday 10th March), I feel compelled to reply.

My first point is that you need to be more specific about your grievances. If you'd pointed out the article's moments of "political bias" and 'derogation' I could then argue. At the moment I'm puzzled.

My second point concerns your criticism of 'UKC Tattler'. Sense of humour, anybody? After a fortnight of intense

bitchiness and division in Union Land I would have thought you'd have welcomed something so clearly light hearted. Yes, it was cliquy, but following election week (during which most of those mentioned had a high profile) it was considered acceptable. The main point to arise from the elections was that the Union Executive and JCRC reps are considered to be divided from the rest of the student population. How better to bridge the gap than by printing your personal and emotional lives for all to see? My God! You should be thanking us!

As for the compliment - "Why thank you".

Matt Calais

PS. I was unaware of KRED being a "claque", though we can applaud with the best of them, and my only 'distraction' of late has been your letter.

Greek Night - Another Version

Dear KRED,

Regarding your article in KRED Issue 223 of 8 March 1994 "Violent End to Greek Night". I am writing on behalf of the Greek Society's Committee to comment upon the article written by Mr Melhuish.

First of all, I would like to stress the fact that Mr Melhuish did not interview any of the Committee members regarding the facts of that Event. Instead, he preferred to depend on unknown and unreliable sources.

From his article, I also get the impression that he was not present at the Greek Night therefore, he should have been more cautious in respect to the descriptions of the events. Since the KRED is the only source of information concerning events taking place on campus, article writers should be much more responsible and objective.

Although I could give the Committee's version on the events, I will limit my report on one or two points briefly, since Mr Melhuish has chosen apparently, to ignore us. As far as firearms are concerned, there was no evidence of such a case and it is quite ponderous - to say the least - to refer to one. Also, the immensity of the confusion described in your article was more of a fictitious creation rather than a truthful description of the events. Most of the people gathered in Keynes Dining Hall that night, were informed of the particular event by the College member who announced the fight from the microphone. Until then, the fight was only a concern of the groups involved and the security.

Concluding, I would like to express my regret not for the way one of the most successful events on campus ended, but for the way such events are described by people accountable for informing a large student audience.

Maria Skondras

Vice-President of the Hellenic Society

Dear Ms Skondras,

It might interest you to know that my sources included members of your own Committee, the organising committee of the Greek Night, the security staff, several eyewitnesses and even those who were directly involved in the violence. While most of these sources refused to be identified due to the sensitive nature of the incidents, they are nonetheless 'reliable' and certainly well-informed.

Furthermore, it would be wonderful to have a reporter on hand whenever a newsworthy event occurs but this is not possible. This is a fact of life. It is the job of the reporter to gather the facts from eyewitnesses and reliable sources without being influenced by any biases, such as those expressed in your letter. I believe that my article was balanced and non-committal.

Lastly, the firearm incident. The truth (in this case an allegation, widely corroborated, from a "source in the administration of the function" who has no reason to lie) must be printed by "people accountable for informing a large student audience"; this is the responsibility and duty of the press. The students of this University cannot wait for a conviction in a court of law to be informed of events that directly concern them.

Roland Melhuish

Whiting on the Wall

Dear KRED,

With astonishment I read the article on Dennis Whiting. Steven Logan complains about the Union's resolution, but at the AGM itself there were no objections (apart from the RCP) - a broad alliance from the left to the Tories decided that action had to be taken. What's up, Steven? Have you been to the AGM but too spineless to say anything, or haven't you - that's your problem then, but don't complain about the Union's policies.

Do you really think Whiting leaves his personal convictions outside the library and becomes a nice librarian until switching on his white-supremacy-braincells at 5 o'clock again? He has been a member of the NF since 1967 and is a leading member of the BNP now, always having played a very active part in the Nazi movement, standing in elections, writing racist letters to local newspapers or building up the 'Centre for Nationalist Studies', a fascist think-tank.

You think his political affiliation is 'odious' but respect his 'right to do what he pleases' which effectively revolves around the intimidation (well, even more) of Blacks, Asians, Jews, Gays, Lesbians and Socialists? Whose rights are you defending, Steven? How can anybody tolerate intolerance, the use of one's own rights to deny the rights of others?

There is nothing 'nasty' that can be said about Whiting, only the truth. And while he might be recalculating the figures of the holocaust, it's time for us to show him where his place is - in hell, not on campus!

Christian Uffman
Militant Students

Cheryl Gillan & Socialism

Dear KRED,

I refer to Brendan Montague's Viewpoint 'Cheryl Gillan Refuels Enemies' in KRED 223.

When Cheryl Gillan spoke, to what was an event sponsored by KUCA, we billed at as a speech on "Why Socialism Must Be Destroyed", and even though she decided not to speak on that issue the behaviour of the SWSS and Labour Club proved why.

When Labour or SWSS has a speaker, KUCA members try to attend to listen to the speech and then ask questions. This basic civility of a cultural and well-socialised individual is not a difficult social grace to master, its not like learning to tie a bowtie or learning how to address the different ranks of the nobility, it is plain and simple.

However I am afraid the SWSS had not mastered the social grace, they never gave Cheryl Gillan a chance, an M.P. who takes time out to visit Kent at Canterbury should be given respect and not shouted down by childish remarks such as "Tories smell". After all what does that do for the image of this university? Not a lot.

SWSS were given plenty of opportunities to contribute to the discussion. If they cannot act in a manner suitable for people that are supposed to be of above average intellect then I would question whether you appreciate the privilege of a University education.

Stewart Carroll

Student Politics

Dear KRED,

I would like to dispel a few myths about student politics. It is commonly assumed that students are traditionally left-wing. Conservative students are often seen as isolated, marginalised and unrepresentative of students. Kent University Conservative Association has proved this to be quite untrue. We now have nearly 80 paid-up members, making KUCA by far the largest political society on campus. We have considerably more members than Labour, the Liberals and other political societies at UKC. Of these, many of our members are from overseas, including Japan and several continental European countries, and many are also women.

KUCA is backing the trend of national politics and despite low opinion poll ratings for the government, is ever increasing its membership. This not only disproves many stereotypes about students but is also partly a reflection on the dedication and competence of its committee. This achievement is especially impressive when UKC is generally considered to be a particularly left-wing university.

David Westley

KRED MEETINGS
resume on the 1st Monday
of Trinity Term.
Keynes JCR3 at 6pm.

What Kind of Peace is This?

Sarah Laws reflects on the recent massacre in Israel and what it means to the peace process.

At one time, I regarded the presence of guns and the sound of gunfire almost as a natural state of affairs. I was working on a kibbutz in Israel, close to the Lebanese border, having the time of my life in an area renowned for violence and bloodshed. Back in England, I am eager to read about events in Israel, but to my shame, I feel unsurprised and even unshocked by the continual violence and unrest. It is a reflection of today's society that the massacre of nearly 50 Arabs at the Tomb of the Patriarch's mosque by American-born Jew, Baruch Goldstein, on 25 February, was only in the news for a few days. It seems that we are becoming immune to the continual destruction of human life throughout the world, partly because it seems like the same scene, re-played in a different part of the world.

This indifference towards the consequences of violence is alleviated by small human details, which first attract our interest because of our morbid fascination with death and then impress upon us the fact that it is a destruction of human life. The headlines in the papers had less impact on me than the description by Shyam Bhatia, writing in the "Daily Telegraph", of "rows of blood-stained shoes neatly lined up outside the

entrance to the Tomb." A detail such as this bridges the gap between over there and right here, and brings home the tragedy of this taking away of life. When I was in Israel, I left the kibbutz for a few days and went to Jerusalem with my boyfriend to do the usual tourist things, and entering a beautiful Muslim mosque, guarded by armed soldiers, we were accosted by an insistent man who told us story after story about slaughters and killings. These seemed distant to my reality, but what actually brought tears to my eyes was a glass case in the mosque's museum, filled with the blood-stained clothing of children who had been killed in the grounds of the mosque during one attack by Israelis. There were no dramatics involved in this display, and the discolouration on the clothing was a painfully realistic rust colour. Clearly, no place is safe from the hatred which generates this conflict, because both this killing and the latest massacre took place in the grounds of a mosque, which is a religious sanctuary. The impassivity behind these attacks is shown in the more recent attack, carried out while the victims were performing the 'Sadje.' The Muslim ritual of prostrate kneeling which symbolises the faithful's submission to Allah, their shoes left outside in a

gesture of humility. It appears that there is little compassion left in this seemingly never-ending war.

The massacre provoked outrage and fury from prime ministers, politicians and leaders world-wide, most of whom expressed a wish for increased co-operation. Bill Clinton, for example, voiced his desire that the tragedy would act as "a catalyst for further progress and reconciliation," and Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau denounced what he called "the shedding of blood" but evaded, as many others did, using the word 'murder'. Many were content to use the word 'blood-shed' instead of calling it 'murder' which leads me to wonder what the correct term is for such an outrageous massacre, and whether some consider the commandment 'thou shalt not murder' to be applicable only in certain circumstances. The Middle East is a world of perpetual conflict, an environment where some people seem to have an almost indifferent attitude towards violence. I saw this during my stay there and more recently in an episode of 'Assignment' shown on BBC2 on 1 March, which highlighted the problem of Palestinians forced to collaborate with the Israelis. Of the thousands of Palestinians killed during the last few years, many were killed



The 'Golden' Mosque, Jerusalem

by other Palestinians because they were thought to have been collaborators. On the programme, one of the torturers of a young man suspected of collaboration, defended their behaviour, and 'Adel' admitted that he and the others had slapped and kicked the man, burnt him with a cigarette and hit him with a stick, but he added that it was "nothing brutal."

As a consequence of the massacre on 25 February, many families in Hebron are without a father, a mother, daughter or son, but still young children are being told that it happened in order to ensure that peace will never come, because to them, a compromise is worse than death. The Jewish settlers in Hebron, home to the mass murderer Baruch Goldstein before his death, show little remorse, and in a memorable image one woman clutching two children to her said "he should have killed 500." Despite the well-mean-

ing commitments to peace in the Middle East by world leaders, it seems that some inhabitants will never be satisfied with reconciliation.

According to Mr David Ramati, a Chicago born settler in Israel, Goldstein saw the Muslim worshippers not as innocent victims, but as "potential terrorists." This murderer, who apparently changed the cartridge of his weapon several times without uttering a word, is seen by the anti-Arab 'Kach' movement as "a sainted hero who died sanctifying the name of God," an attitude which makes talk of peace seem like a sick joke. On one of the news reports about the massacre, I watched one of the injured Arabs, lying on a hospital bed, turn his ashen face towards the cameras and whisper the question that I would like to ask: "They're talking about peace, but what kind of peace is this?"



Ashdown signs his new book

The room is hushed, the air conditioning loud. In front of fifty or so onlookers, a man sits on a table; tie loosened, arms gesturing. Paddy's telling us a story. It's a story with a point to it, a

moral; it's a modern fable of sorts. It's a story of a boy born in a faraway land who, while still only in his fourth year, travels to Ireland with his parents where he lives on a farm for a number of years. He later joins the

Paddy Ashdown Ha, Ha, Ha

Philip Parvin and Naomi Harris laugh all the way to the bank with the Lib Dem leader.

Royal Marines and travels the world; and after a subsequent job in the Foreign Office and a period of unemployment during which he becomes a Youth Worker in Dorset, he is elected first to be Member of Parliament for Yeovil and then to lead the Liberal Democrats. Upon gaining this new position of authority he journeys the country in an attempt to experience life as the majority of Britain do and later writes a book on his travels. It is, of course, his own story; a selective history of his life up to this point.

The Paddy Ashdown showcase [comprising of Paddy Ashdown] rolled into Waterstones, Canterbury last week to celebrate and publicise the publication of his new book, prophetically entitled "Beyond Westminster: Finding Hope in Britain". It is an episodic account of his journey around areas of Britain as he attempted to witness first-hand the state of the country. It came as little surprise, however, that his assembled audience were more interested in confronting the views of this moderately famous, moderately influential moderate rather than enquiring where he researched his book. After a quick

introduction [and a quick "nudge-and-a-wink" type gag about how he'd been in the papers "for all the wrong reasons lately"] questions were offered from the floor.

Mr. Ashdown's main concern was an issue with which students are all too familiar, that of political apathy. According to Mr. Ashdown, people are less likely to involve themselves in political activity nowadays because there now exists a "gulf" between the Government and the people. Anyone who would have previously involved themselves in political action of any sort is less likely to in today's climate because they perceive their actions to be so distanced and removed from Government decision-making that they are rendered useless. If people no longer bother to act politically, it is because the system has created and continues to perpetuate, this division between the people and those who "represent" us. What is needed, according to Mr. Ashdown, is a relaxing of government procedure in favour of giving people more freedom to govern themselves. Curiously, this statement was followed by a commitment to strengthen laws against the use of

drugs in society, including "soft" drugs which, in his opinion, lead in many cases to experimentation with "harder" drugs such as heroin and cocaine.

However, Paddy Ashdown's visit was not one of an intensely political nature; although as a PR exercise (no pun intended) it was very professional, which returns us to the moral of his story. It's a moral that works on two levels. The first is that by overcoming our apathy we can actually change things. His rhetoric was one that centred round taking control of your life and acting to better it and it is a philosophy he carried through into his life [his political career beginning in his thirties]; he believes that apathy is wrong, but an inevitable product of our system and it is up to the individual to do something about it. The second level at which this moral works is by appealing to a crowd's sense of occasion [that is, if you get someone famous who's written a book and sit them in a room full of nice new copies of that book then people start handing over fivers].

Another New Wave?

David Van-Cauter goes fishing.



Elastica - under the sea

Elastica! S*M*A*S*H! Sleeper! Compulsion! Echobelly! Do you think the music press is trying to tell us something here? Well, at the risk of giving further publicity to the over-exposed New Wave of New Wave (NWONW) debate, I have my own wave theory which I'd like to share with you ...

In the big, roaring ocean of Youth Culture, there are lots and lots of fish, swimming and splashing, occasionally jumping to the surface to let people know they're still there. The good ships NME and MM sit serenely on the water, wave spotting, dangling their rods and nets in, trying to catch the fish.

What happens is that the bigger fish tend to attract lots of smaller fish and a lot of fish make a big wave [okay, so this isn't quite ecologically accurate, but I'm on a metaphor roll here]. A boat spots a big wave, makes

a lot of noise and eagerly throws a huge net over it. Anything they catch gets pulled out, dissected and then tossed back in again. Some fish get more mangled than others by this process - the weakest ones usually die from the exposure. Others end up quite big and healthy but only once they've been tossed back in and start making their own waves.

So the waves wash over the ocean, time and time again, raging briefly before the fish are either plucked out or leave on their own. Of course, when the sea swallows a wave, all its rough edges vanish, all its cutting-edge uniqueness merging into the mainstream - a wave soon ceases to be interesting, once its fish are caught and then it's gone forever.

This new, new wave is interesting for a number of reasons. The first is that it seems to be happening at the same time as the "explosion" of

all things dance, or at least the general acceptance of dance music as something worth putting on the front cover. NWONW is proudly PUNK, and many people have accused the press of championing it in a blatant attempt to stave off the Death of Indie Rock in the face of stiff competition. Personally, I don't really go along with this conspiracy theory, especially considering the fact that it has largely been NME who've been hyping NWONW [a paper long associated with a lot of dance coverage], while MM are more interested in embracing dance in a big way, having concentrated for many years on guitar bands [Goth, "The Scene That Celebrates Itself", Riot Grrl...]. NME were the first to put Elastica on the cover [Jan 8th] while MM were the first with Underworld [Jan. 22nd] and there's currently a big debate going on in MM's letters page about it all.

Perhaps there is an element of guitar-protection behind NME's hype, but I think they're just doing what they always have done, the new year giving them an excuse to rally round a bunch of up-and-coming bands and throw their clumsy net over the lot. They all play loud guitar, they all have ATTITUDE and they all [supposedly] have something to say. Grouping them together, however, has the unfortunate effect of making it sound like they are all saying the same thing, i.e. we are loud, we are outspoken and we don't give a flying one what YOU think. PUNK ROCK.

Well, no actually, the point

this time is that there's more substance to NWONW that lifts it above the level of sad Punk retro horror. That's the theory, anyway. Is it justified?

ELASTICA were on TOTP the other week. Their second single went straight in at No. 20. Their first single was limited to 1500 copies and sold out in two days. They are the leaders of the pack primarily because of their early live shows grabbing such OTT reviews, plus the fact that Justine used to be in Suede and is going out with Damon from Blur. All of this is more than a little, erm, fishy, but it should be said that both the MM and NME readers' polls voted them Brightest Hope for 1994. A case of thousands of readers can't be wrong? Well, I don't know. They can. Look at *The Sun*. I don't want to make predictions, but, well, so far I'm not too impressed. What they're trying to say in "Line Up" [kind of what's above, really] is utterly distorted by a farting guitar and a singular lack of inspiration. Quite how they got more votes than TINDERSTICKS I'll never understand.

COMPULSION have been around for some time. They played to 2 students and a dog at UKC last term [supporting THE SEA]. Their new single "Mall Monarchy" is fantastic, somehow combing subtlety with a guitar overload and a great tune to boot. They're on the THERAPY? end of NWONW, but much better.

SLEEPER have released one single, "Swallow" and that shows a whole lot of promise, good evidence for their argument that there is still life in the Great Song Well Sung department of Indie. ECHOBELLY are about to release their second single. The first one was very Smiths, but they're unusual enough to de-

velop in good ways. I look forward to the debut LP.

S*M*A*S*H have had almost as much attention as Elastica lately. Probably the punkiest of the lot, they're more likely to burn out than fade away. Whether it'll be in a blaze of glory is highly debatable. We certainly don't need another Manic Street Preachers, thanks. Other bands on the fringes of NWONW are slightly more eclectic, and are all very different: OASIS, SHED 7, THESE ANIMAL MEN ...

What seems to be emerging here is the fact that these bands are all pretty diverse. I hesitate to group groups, but then that's been done already - I'm trying to disengage them, I suppose. But do I really want to? Most people interested in music are too lazy to fish and just ask the fishermen. A wave has to be huge before the rest of the world, who aren't too keen even on asking the fishermen, takes any notice at all. And then they're always a year late. Whatever, I'm no Moses. This is just my view from the shore.

Surely it's much better to go fishing yourself. The best fish are always the hardest ones to find, because they swim way out on their own, leaping around, not caring how big a splash they make or who follows them. Waves are fine to watch from a distance, but that's about all. This new one is going to collapse sooner rather than later, but the fish are a lot sturdier this time round. Or at least, there's more of them. They're not really a threat to the huge monster called dance, but I think that lumping them together has strengthened their defences against it. At the same time, it has highlighted a lot of small fry who would otherwise still be swimming about in the depths, blindly smashing into each other without anyone noticing.

So There I Was . . .

This Week: Nat High can't get to sleep

SO THERE, as ever, I WAS, shuffling uncomfortably in one of those chairs they sell wholesale to schools that are physically impossible to fall asleep in, when the 'careers' duffer looked up, peered over his inch-thick specs and said, "High, be a doctor". I stared at him for a second or two. Then laughed. And eventually stopped when I realised he wasn't joking. I pointed out that I was doing dull, book-based cack like English and History for my A-levels. I casually referred him to my woe-fully miserable science GCSE grades. It was all having no effect whatsoever, so I asked him what the hell he had based his (excuse me) diagnosis on. "Well", he said in his wanna-be imperious voice that was supposed to command attention but actually induced a near-comatose state on the listener. Unless you were in one of those chairs. Which I was, so I had no option but to listen. "Well," he said, "I hear you in class and just like a medic, you never speak plain Eng-



But why?

lish - you forever use twenty words where one would do!". And he pretty much barked the last half of the sentence in a manner similar to the one which you would use to cry 'that's my mother you're pissing on!'. Not that I cared, of course. I think this was his convoluted way of making a joke. I don't know.

His name was Chicken. Well, of course it wasn't, but that's what everyone called him. I've long since forgotten his real name, and no-one even bothered to explain how he had acquired this mysterious nickname.

Still at least it gave me something to do during his Economics classes, as well as the aforementioned careers 'chats' (oh how hard he tried to be all hip and relaxed when he was, essentially, picking futures for us according to whatever poxy mood he was in that day), but that was a shame. When we arrived at the school we were handed no end of dead trees, all telling about the prestigious Great Hall and how many pupils from the class of '66 made it to Oxbridge, when all we wanted to know was who was the school bike? Where could we sneak off for a fag? Which teachers wouldn't give a shit if they found your bottle of Teachers? And what did so-and-so do to deserve their nickname? Like Chicken. And when no-one would tell me, my mind strayed dangerously to thoughts of illicit sex acts involving innocent livestock and several jars of Marmite. Or something.

Anyway, I was reminded of all of this last week by an article I read about the latest 'fashionable' "illness"

to sweep America - its name is TATT and in a rather uncharacteristically helpful flash of genius, this stands for Tired All The Time. Basically, its symptoms are little more than the obvious and if you take some Provac you'll feel much better. So I wondered why all illnesses weren't as easily named: it'd make the patient's life less confusing and this new breed of simplicity would also prevent boffed-

week, so make sure you're not around, yeah?). Isn't that simpler?

Still, none of this nonsense was getting me to sleep, not even by promising myself a dream in which Richard, the 'Countdown' presenter gets to say something funny and Carol cocks up the maths. But no. I tried the 'herbal tea' we won from next door in a financially-challenged game of pass the parcel last Christmas, but

'That's my mother you're pissing on!'

out medical students from killing themselves. Probably. I therefore propose to make the first changes myself: Halitosis becomes GARLIC - Girls Avoid Repeated Lingering Intimacies Constantly ('I had a nasty patch of GARLIC last week, but my Euthymol saw to that'): Diarrhoea becomes BEANS - Bum Endlessly Aches; Never Stops ('I had BEANS while I was in Russia and their bog roll's rougher than Julie off 'Neighbours') and periods can now be simply named DIE - Dreaded Internal Excretions ('I'm going to DIE next

that was fruitless. So was ripping open a couple of the bags and smoking the contents, as was repeated exposure to the mentally malnourished world of 'small-hours TV' (try it sometime and you'll never knock Anne and Nick again, I swear), so I eventually plumped for the only foolproof method for slumber known to students (my mate Mr Absolut, in this case). And, as I gradually drifted off into my vodka-fuelled haze, I thanked God for Nurofen, but I still couldn't but wonder why they called him Chicken . . .

by Rejina Abdulrahim

Malaysia and Britain: The love-hate relationship

Malaysia became an independent country thirty-seven years ago this coming August 31st. In this short-time Malaysia has risen to become one of the fastest growing economies of the world, being one of the 'four dragons' (Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan and South Korea). Although it may be true that Malaysia as a developing nation had in the past, a subordinate relationship with the more advanced Britain, this relationship has now developed into a more equal one. The latest dispute between the two countries on the linking of arms and aid, and the ensuing trade ban on British companies by the Malaysian government shows that the tables have been turned.

This dispute is definitely not the first row between two countries. In the last ten years, British - Malaysian ties have not always been perfect as Malaysia has grown into a very assertive nation and were no longer willing to be the "good ex-colony". In the early 1980s, the Malaysian government had a "Buy British Last" policy. The British press still believes the policy was instigated because British universities started charging Malaysian students full tuition fees. Whatever the under-

lying reason, the British government was scared enough of losing the excellent contacts formed by good relations over the years to try and make up. This is the basis of why Mrs. Thatcher came over in 1988 to Malaysia's capital to try and patch things up. It seems to have worked because many British firms like Biwater and Laing started to secure contracts with the Malaysian government worth millions of pounds. By the late 1980s, the "Buy British Last" policy was dropped.

It seems sad that *The Times* had to disturb the good status quo on the basis that it is the "public's right to know". Undoubtedly, the public do have a right to know where their money goes to but this whole issue has been blown way out of proportion, thanks to *The Times* making personal attacks on the Malaysian Prime Minister. The whole Pergau dam affair started during Mrs. Thatcher's time. In 1988, a series of arrangements were made between the two countries. At the heart of the row, is an aid programme known as the Aid and Trade Provision (ATP)



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designed to help British firms sell abroad. Mrs. Thatcher however, made deals that were in contravention of government guidelines. 234 million pounds of taxpayers money were given to Malaysia to build a hydro-electric dam on the Pergau river near Thailand. In return (as

implied by the British press), Malaysia agreed to buy 1.3 billion pounds worth of military equipment from Britain. The Foreign Office denies it and the Malaysian government says that the two deals, although made at the same time, were independent of each other.

Malaysia is not the only South-East Asian country having trouble with the Western press, Thailand, Indonesia and Singapore all have had their share of adverse publicity but only Malaysia has dared to take such a drastic action of imposing a trade ban against British companies. Whether or not this is good for Malaysia is very much a moot question. Undoubtedly, the British press is having a field day with Malaysia's reaction. The trade ban would not have been imposed if the British press had not portrayed Malaysia in such unfavourable terms, naming Malaysia 'banana republic with officials who take bribes.' Maybe the British press should look more closely at their own Government's actions instead of being so harsh on other nations. Is the British press xenophobic

? In *The Times* on March 5th, it was reported that a Labour MP has tabled a Commons questioning on the GEC contract that sold Malaysia a package for 200 million pounds as part of the arms deal when it had previously sold the package for less than 100 million pounds to others. *The Times* did run the story but ran another story on the same page that gave the impression that the Malaysian Prime Minister is a dictator trying to control the British press as he does his country..

Since the trade ban, imposed on February 25th, it does seem as though the dispute is now on its way of being resolved. The Guardian on Monday, 7th March published an article saying that a senior Malaysian diplomat spoke of the Malaysian government undergoing a series of discussions aimed at resolving the dispute. In the mean time, the aid for arms affair select committee is investigating the matter in depth and discussing whether to call upon Lady Thatcher to give her side of the story. At present, it is still unsure whether the trade ban will go on indefinitely and how the select committee will conclude its investigations. However, one thing is for sure, both countries stand to lose a lot from this dispute; contracts and jobs for thousands of people. For the sake of the people of both countries, the two governments must resolve this dispute soon.

The Campaign Against Militarism by the RCP

by Laurence Webb

On 5-6 March the Revolutionary Communist Party held their conference "War Drums and Peace Talks". I entered the plush Wembley Conference Centre with some trepidation, as my previous contact with the RCP had revealed two things. They are more interested in direct debit than direct democracy, and it is impossible to hold a conversation with an RCP member without the phrase "the reality of the situation is ..." being employed at least 10 times.

Their main argument goes something like this: we are living in an age of militarism, with a massive escalation of wars and conflicts since the end of the Cold War. The cause of these conflicts is the West, particularly America; NATO and the UN Peace-keeping Missions and Humanitarian Aid are just as bad as military intervention, providing a more subtle form of imperialism. The interest Third World countries pay on debt far exceeds the amount of aid received: as Britain has just shown in its dealings with Malaysia, aid can be big business when tied to arms sales.

Apart from the Gulf War itself, over 100,000 innocent Iraqis have probably died since then, due to sanctions. In Somalia the so-called peace-keeping Mission has caused

4,000 deaths. As for Yugoslavia, the Western powers caused the war by prematurely recognising the independence of Croatia, Bosnia and Serbia, through their own rivalry in the New World Order. The West is only capable of acting cynically in its own interests and can never be altruistic.

This is certainly a powerful argument. The star of the conference, UKC's own Frank Furedi, does not stop there. To morally rehabilitate imperialism the West sets the standards of democracy and judges everyone else, defining "universal" human rights but being highly selective in attacking its abuses. Moral superiority is the basis of intervention in Third World countries, and, according to Furedi, non-governmental organisations like Greenpeace and Amnesty International reinforce this moral superiority by defining the problems of human rights abuses, environmental degradation, drugs etc. as *their* problem, in need of *our* correction. The main target of Frank's speech was no longer the American military but those liberal do-gooders, like Bob Geldof. He argued that Band Aid was totally misguided (charity is for liberals), and that Amnesty "is part and parcel of the Foreign Office". The idea that any independent charity or international organisation that saves lives is complicit with Western military imperialism, is the strange conclusion that only a talking shop could come to.

The RCP "reveals myths of

our times" only by producing some of its own. Images of starving Somalians followed by American soldiers arriving as the saviour is, of course, biased and selective, but no less partial is their version of events: the famine was basically over before the Yanks invaded, and by flooding the country with aid the local economy has been ruined. The only way to really know what is going on in Somalia (or Russia, or Bosnia), is to actually be there. "The reality of the situation is ..." claims knowledge of the truth, and is always done so in terms of black and white, villain and victim, active and passive, the West and the rest. This kind of analysis which blames the West for everything is grossly simplistic: even if you agree that Western powers catalysed the Yugoslavian war, the Peace-keeping Mission does save lives. Noam Chomsky (see *Manufacturing Consent*) who invented the RCP's conspiracy theory long ago, has the flexibility to favour intervention. Ethnic rivalries in the ex-Soviet Union and ex-Yugoslavia long precede 1990, and cannot be explained by simply blaming capitalism or Western involvement.

The conference ticket was £30, or a mere £15 for students. After travelling expenses, accommodation costs, expensive Wembley conference centre food and drinks, one thing is clear: being a revolutionary is expensive. Direct democracy or direct debit?



by Derrick Khan

Big! Try huge! By the year 2005 it will stand 200ft higher than the Statue of Liberty. I'm talking about the Great Pyramid of Fresh Kills. It's not David Lynch's next haunting TV series. Not even he could dream up something this disturbing. It's a modern monument to the wastefulness of our society. The Fresh Kills landfill site on Staten Island in New York started out in 1948 as any other dump. Now the largest of its four mountains has rubbish heaped 180ft high. No wonder when each New Yorker produces more than a ton of trash every year. Sorry are the neighbours they pass it on to. The stink of the heaps festering reaches most inhabitants of the island. Its undelicious aromas have been such that they've tried perfuming it, but to no avail. The seagulls, however, are fat and happy with their heap, and it's a good place to see the skyscrapers of Manhattan.

If you saw the rubbish piled

The Festering Pyramid

by Sacha Hauer Iodice

outside the library on Monday during Green Week then you'll know that we are working very hard on our own waste mountain! That rubbish represented the amount created by the average family in one month. Each individual creates over 300 kg of 'rubbish' a year!

Is this necessary considering the amount of recycling facilities available which re-create jobs, profits and resources? Also it has been estimated that £10 out of every £75 spent on groceries is for packaging alone. Details of recycling facilities and waste-reduction are available from the college Environment reps or by mailing the Environment portfolio at the Mandela Building. Don't dump on your world!

Please use
the college
can crushers

A Conspiracy Granted

Steven Yates outlines the real effects of student grant cuts

Look at the following figures very carefully: Back in 1984 the Student Grant was £1,775. In 1990 it was £2,265. This October it will be down to £2,040, 1995 - £1,836, and in 1996 - £1,652. It will be less in 1996 than it was in '84 and take into account that in those days students, on top of their grants, also got travel costs, extra equipment allowances, AND Housing Benefit if they weren't living in halls (i.e. so they wouldn't be paying more). What's more, in their vacation they could also claim Income Support. On top of this they got free dental treatment, prescriptions and glasses.

Now that I've outlined the differences between then and now, it appears we've lost quite a lot due to cuts. I could go on - in those days there were enough books to go round in the libraries (even the Templeman) up to a week after reading lists had been out. Today's students may find it a surprise that in those days students were still considered poor. They were complaining, marching, even demonstrating about how they had to live their student life on the bread-line. What they didn't know then was that they were living in relative luxury compared to what we have now.

Those who support the cuts in the student grant believe it is only fair that the increase in the number of students means that the government is paying more money out in real terms. The truth is something quite different. The Government pay more to those who are on Income Support (including Housing Benefit) than to students in full-time education. This creates a real conspiracy when we look at the increasing numbers of people who are now being encouraged into full-time education. For one, this keeps unemployment figures down, but with these numbers at University, the quality of education and personal contact with lecturers, etc. must inevitably decline. University is now becoming like a conveyor-belt system.

Here at Kent, many of us are finding it more and more difficult to be able to speak personally with our lecturers and tutors. Even during official office hours, many of us are left waiting, or even disappointed. Even when we are fortunate to catch them, we are often only able to get a brief word. All this is because of the increasing numbers of students they have to deal with. The effect is that lecturers become overloaded, and the students themselves are left disappointed or unbriefed.

What's happening at Kent is inevitably happening at other Uni-

versities too. With the expansion of students should come an expansion in the University itself - more lecturers, more buildings, more facilities - if this is happening at all it is at a much slower level than the increase in students.

What does all this lead to? It appears now that with an increase in

University is becoming a conveyor belt system

student numbers, most of whom are in relative or absolute poverty, each of us is spending more years sacrificing ourselves in order to reach an educational level that will equip us for the job market and a decent career that also pays well. The paradox is that it seems getting a degree now is only equivalent to the prospects of attaining 'A' levels. In other words, those of us who want to be successful will inevitably have to go into further study like Postgraduate degrees (for which grants are now an extreme rarity) and face the problem of raising money in order to do this. For many of us, with Student Loan debts accumulated over three years, this could prove to be near impossible.

Now that the student grant is being reduced by 10% for the next 3 years, we also have to face an increase in the heating bills of 8% (VAT) and the cost of living rises at an estimated 4% a year. Student poverty is going to increase for every one of us (apart from those rich enough to have Mummy and Daddy to pay it all for them) and more and more young people are being encouraged to join this poverty trap.

What's worse, most of us are spending a whole lot more, since there are costs for 30 weeks of term time and not included are the vacations at Christmas, Easter and Summer. We've seen or heard the unemployment situation. Those of us who manage to find any kind of paid employment for these periods are among the lucky ones, and for what? To pay off the debts incurred by a cut in the student grant. After the stressful months of studying and exams, we are supposed to be resting during these periods, with a substantial grant that is able to cover us. Surviving student life in the 90s is taking most of us to the brink and it's becoming a struggle to hold on.

The End of Socialism is Nigh

by Simon East

Page 8 of last week's KRED consisted of three articles waving banners for the cause of socialism, two of them by Brendan Montague whose views I have had cause to attack before. He thoughtfully prefaced one of his articles with a warning; I shall do likewise: this is an unrelenting attack on socialism.

The most telling of the three articles I thought was not by Mr. Montague, but by Suzanne Cottrill on the recent rally held in London in support of students. Ms. Cottrill was disappointed by the lack of support at the rally, which only amounted to three coachloads, a number of whose occupants were not demonstrating at all, but taking advantage of a subsidised ride up to London for a bit of shopping! She complained that only 120 students could be bothered to turn up to this rally, whereas a few days later 800 had paid £10 each to go to a ball in Darwin. The real unanswered question here is why?

Ms. Cottrill never really tackled this question, but I think the answer is obvious: people are happy as they are. It would hardly be ethical to spend £10 on a ball and then go on

a march complaining that you didn't have enough money to survive. British students receive the most generous state-handouts of any country in the E.C. yet still a small minority moan, whinge and complain. These people expect something for nothing, and are never satisfied. Even if the student grant were £1000 a week plus car they would find something to complain about [no state-subsidised harem, etc.] If people can afford to go to a ball then they can't be too badly-off, so perhaps the NUS are barking up the wrong tree.

As for the wider issue of socialism in general, Mr. Montague's report of a meeting with three left-wing groups raises several issues. The question of poverty is always used by the left as a stick to beat the Tories, but the fact is that even if the gap between rich and poor has increased over the last 100 years, the standard of living of the poorest 10% is infinitely better than that of the equivalent sector a century ago. The reason: capitalism. Only the dramatic growth of the economy and its consequential wealth creation, which reaches the poor through trickle-down, has enabled the poorest to have a comfortable standard of living. 100 years ago there were no state-benefits of any sort and people had to accept what

charity was on offer.

This point may go some way to answering to the other question raised, when will the Revolution come? I find it hard to believe that since the collapse of the USSR some people still believe in this fanciful notion, but I can answer this question very simply: there isn't going to be a revolution, so stop deluding yourselves that there is. And why will the revolution never happen? For the same reason that only three coachloads of students attended the march in London - people are happy as they are. The average 'worker' who would presumably be in the forefront of this revolution owns a car, a television, a video, a Hi-Fi, probably owns his own house, takes a fortnight's holiday abroad each year, and is generally content with his standard of living. If the militant socialists think that he is going to give it up for the sake of some Utopian dream, they are sorely mistaken.

If people wanted socialism and its anti-democratic ways then they would vote for it. They had a chance in 1992 but 14 million people voted Conservative. Even the Labour party has all-but abandoned socialism, because it's old-hat, disreputable and disliked. Socialism's days are numbered.

Why All The Fuss About All The Fuss?

Helen Jordan reflects on the 'Circus' on Cromwell Street

Unless you've been on a desert island for the past few weeks, you cannot fail to have noticed all the palaver surrounding the bodies found at 25 Cromwell Street. However, there was a different slant on things one morning last week when, on Radio Five, Liz Kershaw began discussing the rights and wrongs of the exploitation of the murders.

Apparently, neighbours have been charging the press for the use of their houses so that they can get better views of the garden where the bodies have been found. Some have been spotted selling tea and sandwiches to both journalists and sightseers, and one is known to be currently producing T-shirts with 'A Nightmare on Cromwell Street', printed over a skull. One media-studies group from a local college even came to take pictures of the scene as part of their course.

All this, combined with the presence of newspaper, radio and television reporters, was what Liz referred to as the 'circus' surrounding the incident. She took a call from one of the reporters in Gloucester and tried to make him admit that what he

was doing was immoral.

When it was pointed out that her own programme was highlighting the episode even more, she huffily replied that she was only 'reporting' on the interest in the incident and not sensationalising it in the way that the press were.

Unfortunately, during the time I was listening to the programme, nobody really seemed to have any problem with the media exposure involved in the case.

The reason is simple: It is not often that England produces a real horror story like this one and everybody is interested to see what will happen next.

Let's be honest, there's not that much to be excited about these days [apart from Terry Venables' England team] and, of course, the press are going to sensationalise - the case is sensational. I'd be more worried if everyone had ignored the whole thing, that would mean that it was no longer something unusual.

Also, the fact that the case has not been brought to court yet has left reporters gagged and bound - I'm quite sure that there's an awful lot of gossip going round in journalistic

circles that can't be printed, at least not yet - and, therefore, only the scene and police updates on the findings are available for scrutiny.

In my opinion, all this fuss is healthy; it shows that something completely out of the ordinary has happened and that people still care enough to want to know *how* it happened. Of course, I am sympathetic to the feelings of the families whose relatives are involved in the case, but now the whole country's thoughts are with them.

If we all protest loudly when something bad happens, you never know, we might be able to avoid the same thing happening again, and maybe the victims will not have died for nothing.

If it makes us shudder and think "Thank God that isn't next door to me", then it has at least some cathartic value. Whichever way you look at it, it's the first time for a while that the top story in the news hasn't been about some new political failure or scandal, so don't feel so guilty next time you make a grab for the last copy of "tabloid daily", it's only natural!

by Matthew Calais

Jean-Jacques Annaud & Louis Malle on Video

Louis Malle's *Lift to the Scaffold*, a late 1950s thriller, tells the tale of an industrial spy, Julien Tavernier, who, after killing his unscrupulous boss (who is also his lover's husband), gets trapped in the office lift. Meanwhile, a teenage Jimmy Dean wannabe steals Tavernier's car, assumes his identity, and takes his gal on a one night, fast-car adventure. The two kids end up murdering a German, but it is Tavernier who stands accused. His only alibi is to confess to the other murder. The pace of the film is initially fast and full of suspense, but toward the end things grind to a halt; it is all wrapped up a little too easily. As a character in the film actually predicts, the crimes are solved in a mere 24 hours. *Scaffold's* main point of interest rests with actress Jeanne Moreau, playing Florence, Tavernier's lover and accomplice. Armed with a distinctively pensive gaze, Florence's prolonged nocturnal search for Tavernier leads her to dwell upon the ephemerality of human existence. Both the fact that she is now an middle-aged widow and the underlying possibility that she may be executed for her involvement in her husband's murder helps form a touching and melancholic portrait of a fast fading belle. Moreau is also the star of

Lift to the Scaffold (1957, [PG])
& *Les Amants* (1958, [15])

— released for sale 5th April

The Lover (1992 [18])

— released for sale 14th February

Malle's second feature film *Les Amants* and plays Jeanne Tournier, a bored housewife seeking excitement with the 'in crowd' in Paris. Even this racier life soon proves to be banal. During a tense evening at her house in Dijon, where her husband, her lover and her best friend are spending the weekend together, she begins to sense that her life is rapidly becoming a farce. Later, in the moonlit garden she finds Bernard, her newest acquaintance; and so begins a sensual and erotic night with a second lover. Moreau is stunning in *Les Amants* and the film is made by the 'characteristically Malle' final moment of melancholy. Finally in control of her life, the protagonist still predicts uncertainty and we are left with the overwhelming sense that

even this new passion may be quick to pass.

The Lover, a lesser tale of passion, begins promisingly, with an aged Marguerite Duras writing her novella to the accompaniment of a pleasingly haunting soundtrack. But, unfortunately, the over-romanticising of the auto-biographer's pen, or, more likely, Jean-Jacques Annaud's lens, takes over as we enter an over-nostalgic, fantasy world where a detached 15-year old nymphet, dreaming of fratricide, enters into a forbidden affair with a Chinaman. That's about the sum of it. Rather than seriously representing Duras' self-discovery and development as a novelist, *The Lover* is, bar a few token moments, merely well-filmed soft porn. The storyline is completely undermined

by bad acting and bad dubbing; the characters, even those using their own voices, appear to be talking to themselves and fail to interact. The choice of narrator, wait for it, veteran Jeanne Moreau

playing a wizened Duras, creates nothing but confusion as to how child Duras' Received Pronunciation ever became so French. Previous attempts to gain the film high art status after the British media focused solely on the authenticity of its sex

scenes have now been abandoned and the promoters seem to have finally accepted that the sex is *The Lover's* main point of interest. So if you want to see the beautiful Jane March make 'Sharon Stone look like Snow White' then buy it.



by Tristan Macdonald

Cinema 3 Screenings

Though Japanese films aren't that common these days, *Tokyo Story* will probably strike a chord with a European audience with its central theme of the family trying to adapt to modern life. Family duty and respect of one's elders, important concepts in Japanese society, come under severe strain when an elderly rural couple decide to pay a visit to their offspring in the town (Tokyo).

They realise soon after their arrival that family ties come second to the demands of modern daily life. There are no confrontations but the parents can't help feeling that they're in the way, especially when finally they're packed off on holiday elsewhere.

The film has been praised for the social comment it makes about post-war Japanese society and the new younger Japanese generation. The film was originally released in 1953 but was largely ignored. Ozu himself is widely regarded as one of Japan's most important film directors. Before his death in 1963 he had made over fifty films.

Like Water for Chocolate, adapted from the best-seller of the same title and coming at a time of new interest in Mexican cinema in general, follows the experiences of a young woman condemned by her family never to marry. As the youngest daughter her future role (yes, we're back to the family) is laid down as



her ageing mother's minder.

In her new surroundings, the family kitchen, she tries her vengeful hand at cooking with some unexpected results ...

Set against the 1910 Mexican revolution, *Like Water for Chocolate* has become the most successful Latin American film ever.

Lent term at Cinema 3 finishes with Beineix. Jockey, a young black rapper, and Tony, a graffiti artist, are joined by Leon Marcel (Yves Montand) who they find on the back seat of the car they've just nicked. The film moves from Paris to Toulouse via Grenoble in search of snow

and Gloria, the nurse who looked after Jockey's alcoholic father and who's become the apple of Tony's eye.

IP5 is a departure from Beineix's earlier films such as *37, 2 le matin* (*Betty Blue*). Attention moves away from the characters, concentrating at times on the French countryside in all its splendour. The film grabbed the spotlight when it came out in France two years ago due to the death of its principal actor, Yves Montand.

... Don't forget Cinema 3's Dario Argento - Film Conference on Saturday, 19 March, starting at 11 a.m. in the Gulbenkian (Cornwallis).

Tuesday 15 March
Life is Sweet & Riff Raff
(Dir. Mike Leigh) UK 1991 / (Dir. Ken Loach) UK 1987

Wednesday 16 March
Like Water for Chocolate
(Dir. Alphonso Arau) Mexico 1991

Thursday 17 March
The Stolen Children
(Dir. Gianni Amelio) Italy/France 1992

Tuesday 22 March
Tokyo Story
(Dir. Yasujiro Ozu) Japan 1953

Wednesday 23 March
IP5
(Dir. Jean-Jacques Beineix) France 1992

As a rule Cinema 3 organises each year a conference based upon a cinematic theme. Final year students may remember previous subjects such as *Deviants* and *Film in Taiwan* in earlier years.

This year the event will focus on the horror/thriller genre and more particularly on the work of Italian film director Dario Argento. Lectures and debates will alternate with four screenings.

Worth a try as this is a rare chance to see some of the work of this little-known director. Expert analysis is guaranteed from members of the UKC film department, co-or-

ganisers of the event.

Screenings:

- *The Bird with the Crystal Plumage* (1970)
- *Four Flies on Grey Velvet* (1972)
- *Tenebrae* (1982)
- *Inferno* (1980)

Student entry price: £6.50.

And finally... next term's programme is just being finalised. It will include screenings of Chen Kaige's *Farewell My Concubine*, Robert Altman's *Short Cuts*, *Les Visiteurs* from Jean-Marie Poiré and Woody Allen's *Manhattan Murder Mystery*.

Classical Beginnings

Nicky Malliaros in *Kred 220* correctly noted that classical music is often thought to be dull or dead, by those who never listen to it. A different complaint, just as frequent, is 'I would listen to it, but I don't know where to begin.' Therefore, a few comments on the three composers that should form the core of a classical music collection.

Mozart is a painter. His series of piano concertos bears this analogy out best. He begins with an introduction to the piece by the orchestra, without the piano. This sketches out the canvas on which he will paint the whole symphony; we hear a few major themes which occur through the concerto. After this introduction, the piano often gives us a few solo piano bars before the rest of the orchestra joins in. Then he moves into new themes with the piano, strains we have not heard before; they seem to have little reference to what the orchestra has promised us. As the symphony proceeds, the orchestra comes back to the piano's melodies, taking them and modifying them. The compliment is returned; the orchestra makes its own music and the piano replies later. Mozart is painting here; on a canvas, the artist does not start in the bottom left corner and fill up to the top right; he knows the overall plan and works on different areas as he wishes. A viewer will not understand this; in the bottom

by Nolime Tangere

corner he sees one colour scheme or picture; then the artist moves to another area of the canvas, painting in an entirely different colour. It's a most pleasing development, but how can he possibly link them up? He knows; and as the painting proceeds, eventually we gasp 'ah ... *that's it*' and see what he is showing us. As he gets nearer to the conclusion of the concerto, the diverse elements coalesce to a glorious, unified finish.

Beethoven is an architect. He, too, has a musical plan; but he builds his symphonies up from the ground, block by block, creating a towering structure. His is no simple child's block building, though; he is putting up a skyscraper with his hands here; building a pyramid there; and an aqueduct there. In his piano concertos, he gives the piano a block, leaves it there. The piano struggles with it, playing, furiously, faster and faster as the pressure of the weight of the thing overwhelms; it is teetering on the top of the pile, about to smash down and blast the whole symphony to pieces; the piano builds to a vast crescendo, it is almost about to explode, and back rushes Beethoven, hands up against it, shoring up the building, another block on top, a new theme to modify and support the one beneath it. His piano sonatas are true

to this description; the sheer piling upnotes in the presto movement of the 'Moonlight' (not Beethoven's name for it - he wasn't *that* twee) is a test of skill to daunt the best piano players; ten fingers *can't* be enough, one feels on hearing it. The first movement of the sonata is dreadfully genteel; the *presto* - it makes the bad-boy amp-wreckers of rock and roll pussycats.

Bach (JS) is the mathematician. His music has a purity and precision to it that never ceases to amaze; I am reminded of nothing so much as the DNA double helix on hearing his violin concertos (the piano had not been invented in his time). The science and the mathematics of him keep coming, an endless dizzying spiral of pure numbers, pure intellect; his is the music of the spheres, a vast awful system of wheels within wheels, numbers in numbers, closer in and ever more microscopic; and never cold, never emotionless. When one is in a receptive mood, Bach can pin one to a chair, hold one there in manacles of iron admiration; like Beethoven's Fifth Piano Concerto, his music can *hurt*.

The best advice for anyone wishing to listen to classical music is to start with Mozart. Unlike Beethoven and Bach, if you are new to the genre, Mozart does not grab you hard and *make* you listen. Mozart's is ideal background wallpaper music; you listen to it, enjoy it somewhat, but don't feel too strongly either way. After a dozen or so listenings, you will realise that this was an erroneous judgement; that you have been listening to something profound, divine. And from this point, the delights are endless ...

Klub Anima

by The Kosh
4th & 5th March, Gulbenkian

by Siân Magee

The Kosh are famed for their bold approach to staging, mixing medias such as dance, drama, acrobatics and live music into one performance. Klub Anima was just such a fusion, choreographed and executed to produce an astounding overall effect. Not only did the production combine theatrical genre, but also dance and movement styles from around the world and throughout time. Their mixed media approach found its home in this piece, inspired by Jung's ideas on the psyche, which he illustrates with reference to myths.

Jung's idea that each of us has masculine and feminine qualities within us inspired the writers to set the piece in a surreal nightclub, where costumes create characters and dictate their movements until clothes are exchanged or rebuttoned for new effects, or until two characters meet and swop gestures.

The nightclub atmosphere, once established, became merely a structuring device: the stage was transformed to depict the thoughts and feelings of the characters in the club as they interacted. A huge spider's web made of rope covering the black wall, trapezes, ropes and frame-

works meant that the movement explored all dimensions of the stage space, and at one point Siân Williams, the choreographer, walked up a wall, spun around to catch a man thrown at her by others. Dancers rocked on and strode over a huge metal moon, which later became a spiral staircase. Such effortless interaction with the set made the show a wonder and stimulating throughout.

Flamenco, classical ballet, Charlie-chaplin type antics body popping, amongst others, were fused seamlessly into the physical score. A percussionist, dressed only in breaches and resembling the mythical figure Pan, first entered in silhouette with instruments on an armour like framework. At other times he simply wove in and out of the action with drumsticks or chimes, and in this way the musical score also found its way onto the stage.

The dancers also received a standing ovation at their Saturday performance for their powerful execution, dynamic style and thrilling performance.

Albums Singles

PRIMAL SCREAM - *Give Out But Don't Give Up* (Creation)

For those disappointed when 'Loaded', 'Movin' On Up' and the single release of 'Come Together' proved to outshine the rest of drippy trippy *Screamadelica* ('Damage excluded) then *Give Out But Don't Give Up* is the late arrival of an unfulfilled promise. Yep it's retro, yep it runs alongside The Black Crowes and the much maligned Kravitz in the world of pastiche, but good pastiche requires respect and Primal Screams have got it. The album is a genre catalogue - soul, funk, jazz, rock, dance - and the whole lot is eminently groovable. Their songs may hold little for the lyrically minded, as the tongue in cheek 'Rocks' will testify, nor do they belong to the 'make it new' school of song writing, but the new album certainly constitutes a full volume thrill. (3/5) - MATT CALAIS



Flying the flag - Primal Scream

VARIOUS ARTISTES - *The Three Musketeers Original Soundtrack* Blockbusters about 'ye olde days' have become a persistent feature of Hollywood, as have their soundtracks. *The Three Musketeers* soundtrack is in effect so similar to

that of *Robin Hood*. *Prince of Thieves*, that the strike off between the two is remarkable. Both have a smash hit by a big rock star, in the case of *Robin Hood* - 'Everything I Do' by Bryan Adams and for *The Three Musketeers* - 'All For Love' by surprisingly enough Bryan Adams, Sting and Rod Stewart. The rest of the album is instrumental and contains several tracks that all sound very similar. Don't get me wrong, the composition of the music is not that bad, but to spend £13 on the album would definitely be £13 well wasted, (especially if you have *Robin Hood*). - ALPANA VIRANI

SOUNDGARDEN - *Superunknown* (A&M)

The only thing that's vaguely interesting about Soundgarden's latest is the shocking drop in quality since *Badmotorfinger*. There is a certain pleasure in hypothesizing on how the grunge superstars spent the three years since the release of that seminal album: writing solid material

does not seem to have been on their agenda. Chris Cornell manages to howl in monotone over tunes and riffs that drift dangerously toward the worst of 70's heavy rock. The best tracks are those which opt for a slow grind instead of fiddly speed metal - '4th of July' is particularly sinister and compelling - but generally this sounds like a rehash of 1989's boring *Louder Than Love*. - MAHESH RAMACHANDRA

MARILLION - *The Hollow Man*

'The Hollow Man' is the first single to be released from the album *Brave*, their third after the departure of Fish and a movement away from their comparatively noble past. Oh how very pleasant this single is too. It fills me with rampant indifference. Instantly forgettable. This is soft rock of the lowest order with typically meaningless lyrics, and would suitably grace any elevator, airport waiting lounge or Macdonalds. Brings new meaning to the word bland. (3/10) - SIMON BIBBY

NEW KINGDOM - *Cheap Thrills*

This is hip gyratingly good stuff. Taken from New Kingdom's debut album *Heavy Load*, 'Cheap Thrills' is suitably mellow-

something to be spliffed out to (But then again so is Pink Floyd!) Admittedly formulaic but the jury believe this is top stuff. Sexy. (7/10) - SB

VARIOUS - *New Electronica*

Hmmm. If you get off on Orb and Aphex Twin material, then this is for you. *New Electronica* brings together a diverse selection of trance, techno and ambient music from such folks as Max 404 and Underground Resistance. No, I haven't heard of them either. Somewhat unexciting but then what do you expect from ambient music? Not up to the standard of Sasha, but promising. (5/10) - SB

VARIOUS - *Here Ain't The Sonics*

Music with attitude. Here we are presented with a tribute to the Sonics, an early 60's American rock band with the occasional hint of R+B. Think of a mixture of The Clash, Sonic Youth, The Cult (Sonic Temple), Sex Pistols and a very angry Jim Morrison and you have an inkling of the raw power of this album. Shit hot stuff! Play at full volume on a good stereo for full impact. RUSH OUT AND BUY! (9/10) - SB

Dippy's Dying Second Dynamite!

Kent women's rugby continued their challenge for the UAU plate last Wednesday as they defeated UEA by the closest of margins to progress to the semi-final. For the first time this season Kent managed to win after going behind and this showed the spirit the team has, as well as the confidence they gained by defeating Bristol in the last round.

Kent started poorly and did not seem at ease with their game. Their tackling lacked fire and they were pressured heavily because of this. A sustained period of UEA pressure saw a rather weary Kent defence stretched for the first time in the competition. They seemed to have survived much of this pressure when they went behind to a try driven over in the corner, despite brave tackles. In this early part of the game Kent seemed to lack the passion and the confidence of past matches, but after the try was scored they began to pull themselves back into the game. They began to look interested, they began to regain their aggression and desire to win and this showed dramatically. The tackling, and ruck and maul play of the forwards improved dramatically. Kent began to get a grip on the game and they battled hard against a strong UEA side as they

**Women's Rugby
UAU Plate Competition
Quarter-Final
(sponsored by
Commercial Union)
UKC 10 : 5 UEA
by Simon Carter**

fought to get back on level terms. Half-time saw Kent still 5-0 behind but well in the running now for the semi-final place.

The second-half saw Kent camped in UEA's half. The forwards began to dominate the play winning ball in the lineout and in the mauls, although losing out to a strong UEA pack in the scrum. Early Kent pressure saw a worrying injury to Becky West as she was trodden on in the maul. Luckily though she was able to carry on and certainly made her pressure felt. Kent pulled themselves back level after winning a lineout ball. The backs moved the ball quickly, Eleanor Abrahams received and drove at UEA. She was tackled, but great support from the Kent forwards saw her driven over the line to score. This

try drove Kent to greater efforts. They were unlucky not to score again when the referee called a forward pass, after Abrahams had gone under the posts. Becky West drove superbly at the UEA backs and was tackled just short of the posts. Kent created attack after attack and made tackle after tackle, but the try just did not come. Kent continued to run penalties when kicking looked a better option, but they were rewarded for this policy. Sarah Thompson made a superb blind-side run before being forced into touch just short of the try line. Kent won the line out and the forwards drove superbly before Clare 'Dippy' Pearson picked the ball out superbly and drove over to score in the dying seconds of the game. The conversion was missed, but it mattered not. The whistle blew, Kent had snatched the game at the death and booked their semi-final place, they were ecstatic!

This win was thoroughly deserved, to come from behind against such a strong team was a superb credit to them. It must be said though, that they must have confidence in their ability, as well as greater aggression if they want to win the plate. They have the team spirit, the ability and the desire to win it, but they must believe in themselves.

UKC Breathe Fire on St Georges

**Men's Football 2nd XI
Royal St Georges 1 : 7 UKC**

Continuing the 2nd XI's great sequence was an emphatic win over a poor home side. UKC were only a goal ahead at half-time through the inimitable talents of Phil Godwin. Following a rousing team talk from Dibs, UKC demolished St Georges in the second half. Godwin netted three more, breaking the off-side trap with ease. Dominic Wright scored an excellent individual goal, rounding the keeper in style. John Lundie forced home from close range, a deserved goal for a battling mid-field performance. Nick Price was also excellent on the right side mid-field. The best goal fell to Steve Percival. Starting from

deep inside his own half, he evaded two desperate tackles, advanced into St Georges' half and cheekily lobbed the keeper from 37 yards, not quite matching Bob Bevil's 46-yarder at Derby, but a brilliant goal nevertheless. The defence had a very easy game. John Farley and Guy Milligan dealt with the occasional hopeful long-ball comfortably. Jamie Burton, returning after injury, performed well at right-back. Duncan Hunt had little to do for much of the game, except to pick the ball out of the net after Dibs scored an exquisitely flighted own goal. An undeserved consolation.

**U . G . M
17th March**

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Spurs Struggle to Regain Sharpness

Tottenham are tottering dangerously,
comments Helen Jordan

Following Tottenham's recent appalling run of form, you would be forgiven for thinking that this is a team in serious trouble. And you would be right. However, there seems to be little understanding of just how bad the problem is.

If you think you've got problems, just imagine yourself as Ossie Ardiles for a moment. As well as not being able to speak an intelligible word of English [we can see how the trouble may have become worse on the training ground: "What was that Ossie? Did you say *eleven* in attack and no defenders?"] you find yourself in charge of a team that would be more aptly named Tottenham Hospital.

Although it can be argued that Ardiles has made mistakes such as not buying a replacement for Sheringham soon enough, and not playing a defensive midfielder, any team would surely struggle with so many key players out of action.

Until the loss of main striker Teddy Sheringham in October, Spurs were in a healthy fifth position. Sadly, this was not to last, and Tottenham now have only two or three first team choices who have not had serious injuries this season.

As well as Gary Mabbutt's highly publicised skull fracture, the catalogue includes casualties that would make your eyes water. Take for example the result of Chelsea striker John Spencer's wicked lunge at right back Justin Edinburgh. The poor lad narrowly escaped losing a testicle in a tackle so bad that it gained brief fame on David Baddiel and Frank Skinner's 'Fantasy Football League'. (Shameful plug, Fridays, BBC2, 11.15 p.m. if you're not already watching it!)

The list continues with the loss of goalkeeper Erik Thorsvedt (knee ligaments), Mickey Hazard (ankles), and David Howells, etc.

The latest update came this week, when Nick Barmby was

stretched off in an England U21 international, with suspected knee damage.

This leaves Tottenham more or less playing their youth team (at least what's left of it), leading a Radio Five DJ to observe recently that Spurs would be the first football team to field a foetus in their starting lineup.

Even bright young future hope Ryan Anderton, brother of superstar England midfielder Darren, managed to break his leg in two places in a trial for the club. It makes you wonder if there isn't a voodoo high priest somewhere in an Arsenal shirt, sticking pins in little subbuteo figures.

So next time you berate Tottenham's lack of defence, attack and midfield strength, spare a thought for the team mascot. They haven't got him in a Tottenham strip for nothing you know ...

Success for Ski Team

After an outstanding performance at Southampton on Sunday 6 March, the UKC ski team secured a place in the University Ski Championship in May. Racing alongside teams of such high repute as Sussex and Southampton, Kent was proud to finish in 5th and 7th place at Southampton, the penultimate race of this academic year. The team are all in good form this term after their trip to St Johann, Austria, in January. They have raced several times this year at their 'home slope' in Chatham, taking fourth place at their last race in February. With a little more excellent tuition from Mark Boyd, the team has the potential to reach new peaks. - SUZANNE COTTRILL



Aiming High – GILLINGHAM F.C.

Helen O'Reilly and Nigel Goodacre visit Kent's only professional football team

NOW WE'RE AFTER
YOU!

Gillingham, Kent's only professional football league side, are celebrating their centenary this season. They still play at their original home, Priestfield Stadium, which is just a thirty-minute trip down the M2 from Canterbury. So is Gillingham worth a visit for students? Considering the age of the stadium and the financial considerations which any Third Division club have to work under, the Gills boast an impressive set-up. Admission to the terraces costs just £6.00 and between £8 and £10.00 for a seat. Anyone who watches football regularly will know that these prices are considerably cheaper than those of the bright lights of the capitals Premiership and First Division clubs. Director Tony Smith stated that the club already offer concessions to juniors, OAP's, the unemployed and free tickets to

parties of accompanied school children for mid-week afternoon features and reacted favourably to the idea of student discounts on production of a valid ID card.

In spite of its age, Priestfield stadium has much to offer both home and away fans. Refreshments and the necessary facilities, are offered all around the ground. The match itself is played on a perfect pitch, which has deservedly been recognised with awards for 'Best Pitch in the Third Division' and was a runner-up to Wolves ground, Molineux, for 'Best National Pitch'.

This month the pitch and Gillingham's centenary were celebrated with the prestige of staging an Under 18 International between England and France, quite an achievement for a club that is not particularly recognised in the annals of footballing super-stardom. Nevertheless, anyone wishing to travel to Priestfield Stadium should make sure of their directions beforehand. Reaching Gillingham is essentially the easy part: the ground itself is situated in Redfern Avenue, and is not, if at all, well

signposted (at least not to these eyes). Parking may also be a problem, as it is predominantly on-street.

Being over-shadowed by houses and essentially, residentially based, it is not surprising that Gillingham has such close links with the local community. The resident community officer, Phil Attfield, organises activities such as trips to away games and first aid courses. Soccer schools during school holidays and the presence of a scout at some local school matches are beneficial to both budding youth stars and to the club itself as, bearing in mind Gillingham's financial status, it means that players can be nurtured through the ranks of both youth and reserve teams, which obviously does not involve the expense of the transfer market. This community awareness has provided the basis and instigation for the launch of the new 'Gills Supporters Club' which is of great importance to both the club, from a financial, atmospheric and empathetic viewpoint, and also to the supporter who will benefit from improved communications with the club and will also be able to promote the understanding of,

and raise the standard of facilities for, the supporter. The supporters club has signed former Gill's player, Steve Bruce, as its first member, providing a perfect opportunity for widely publicising a very worthy venture.

Gillingham will look to build on such links with the community if they fulfill their ambition of moving to a multi-purpose stadia. Tony Smith has said that the club are currently looking at three possible sites in the Medway towns, subject to local authority reports. Such a plan would take Gillingham admirably into the twenty-first century and fulfill all the criteria of the Taylor report, which has to be met by the year 2000.

However, such a plan depends heavily on the team's on-field performance. Relegation from the football league would spell the end for Gillingham and thus end Kent's interest in league football. As we write, Gillingham are 18th in the Third Division; only five places from the bottom of the table. However, Manager, Mike Flanagan, believes his team are capable of improving their current position which is not too great a hurdle

considering a matter of only four-to-five points separates them from consolidating a safe 'middle of the table' position and, despite them being fifth from bottom, are only ten points away from a play-off position. This season's relatively safe position is, at least, an improvement in comparison to the previous season's last-gasp escape from relegation and demotion to the realms of non-league football.

With the price of players obviously restricting the transfer capability of a club like Gillingham, we asked Tony Smith if the club had considered sending a scout to watch the University matches. Any budding UKC talent can take heart from the fact that Gillingham does have a scout in the Canterbury area ... so you never know!

We would like to thank everyone at Gillingham Football Club for their hospitality and a smashing time, but especially Bill Williams for arranging the visit, Dave Taylor for being an excellent and informative guide for the day and Tony Smith, Mike Flanagan and Mark Agar for their patience and valuable time.

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Sometimes it Snows in April!

Erlend Linklater rues the lost opportunity of becoming an Olympic luge competitor

In case you didn't notice, the Winter Olympics have passed by for another 4 years. What opened with some Norwegian nutter throwing himself off a huge ramp with a lit torch in order to display "the Olympian spirit" has disappeared in a snow drift. And who cares? Will anyone notice its absence? It just seems to happen. Every 4 years some of the strangest sports around are treated like normal British behaviour. Sue Barker beams on BBC2 with sparkling white teeth and tells you once again how friendly the Nor-

wegians are and how good the atmosphere is, rubbing it in that you're not there. Ha. But Torvill and Dean are, weaving their magic and giving their all for Queen and country. Pass the Kleenex please. We may hear more from them but will we see anymore of the rubber men in the luge event hurtling down custom made ice slides until Japan '98? Isn't this taking sledging a bit far? What appears to be a high speed, high risk event is made no less dangerous by the apparently impracticable, uncomfortable and highly vulnerable position

they choose to lie in on their souped-up trays.

And then you have the commentating. The comments range from the obvious to the simply ridiculous. Ones like "Whoever claims gold is going to be the winner of this competition", to good old David Coleman giving impossible tips during, yes, you guessed it, the luge. "It is absolutely vital" Dave said as a petrified German shot past, teeth bared, "to stay relaxed". This may be true but at the best of times, let alone in the position he has contorted

himself into, this is quite unrealistic. Oh well. Maybe I'm just bitter that I don't have a future in the sport.

Perhaps any cynicism is due to the excitement, speed and danger of many events being lost on the flat TV screen. For midway through watching those magnificent men on their flying sleds, coloured suits seemed the only difference between each competitor. If, however, a strange whim seized me and I did want to throw myself passionately into some Olympic sport or other, how would I do it? I mean, how did the British bob sleigh take up bob sleigh. I obviously went to the wrong youth club. We didn't even have ski-jumping.

I'll conclude on a more positive note as a lot of the sports did hold a lot of excitement. In particular, the ice hockey which just seemed to be legalised, high speed violence on ice. Entertaining nonetheless. Most did involve high speeds but fortunately it's now back to the best of British on our TV screens. So make yourself comfortable for the World Indoor Bowls Championship.