

# KRFED

Volume Four, Issue Four  
March 2002

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Organised by the Careers Advisory Service and the Communications and Development Office

**UNIVERSITY OF KENT**  
**AT CANTERBURY ■■■■**

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2002

### DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those held by the Students' Union - So please don't sue us.



It's all been a bit quiet on the KRED front, don't you think? Well we're here a little later than usual this term because we've been holding out for the election special. You'll find this pullout in the middle of your magazine. Yes, it's election time again! This is the period when lots of crazed people run around doing mad things to get you to vote for them. Last year there was a forward roll competition outside the Venue, and the famous hostage situation involving a stuffed rabbit...It's really important that you have your say in the goings on at University, so make sure you cast your vote.

I just wanted to say a few words about all this Pop Idol business. Isn't it astounding how gripped everyone was with this show? There were those of you who simply could not accept that Darius had been voted off (you know who you are!) Not to mention those that voted for Will seventeen times to make sure the other cheating \*\*\*\* didn't win. Yet so many things have been left unresolved. Did Gareth fake his stammer? Did mobile phone companies block phone calls in the voting to change results? One thing is for sure, THAT song is terrible.

Aside from that, one lucky KRED reporter chatted to Orlando Bloom this month, so see what he had to say. We've also got a feature on accommodation, so if you're in a panic about what to do next year, read on. There is a sneak preview of what is to come at this year's summer ball, an interview with those Teenage Dirtbags, Wheatus and much, much more...

Sam

# Summer Ball 2002 - Details Announced!

**O**K Folks! I know many of you may have been wondering when you'd start to hear about the plans for this year's Summer Ball and in a shock move we've decided to tell you absolutely everything as and when we know it, instead of just telling you two weeks in advance, so here goes...

The Summer Ball will be on campus this year, meaning no waiting ages for coaches that people are always sick on, the ball will be held on Darwin football pitch and the visitors car park (on Giles Lane). The biggest problem about this area is that there is a slight slope, however the marquee company insists that this isn't a major problem and that the dance floors will be positioned so they are as flat as possible. There will be three main marquees at the ball, the first will be a 2,500 capacity marquee and will have a large area of tables and chairs as well as a dance floor, this marquee will play host to the main acts.

On either side of this main marquee will be two smaller marquees, one will be a live music tent and the other will be a dance music tent, this is so we can be as diverse as possible and appeal to the largest number of people.

There will be a separate food area with a large (and probably covered) seating area on site, catering for a wide variety of tastes and a massive bar in each marquee that definitely won't run out of drink!

The car park will be playing host to a smaller chill out/casino marquee that we are currently looking to have an appropriate outside company sponsor.

There will also be at least two fairground

rides on the car park as well, at the moment we are looking at a big wheel and dodgems, so I'll keep you posted.

If there is one thing that I can guarantee about the ball is that the toilet facilities will be the best you have ever used! The toilets will be intelligently positioned and include, heating, lighting, hot and cold running water and even a full time attendant!

I can't tell you what acts will be at the ball at the moment because there have been a lot of problems with setting the day and obtaining a late licence before print so look out for the ball publicity to be distributed soon!

Tickets will be on sale from the Campus Shop soon (once again keep your eyes peeled for publicity) and will be £35, that's less than last year!

People please push any misconceptions, doubt or negative attitude to the ball out of your mind, this year is a whole different ball game (boom boom!) with different people helping to organise and coordinate as well as a fresh and new approach. Please give us a chance, we are really trying to set a precedent with this ball and are trying to make it so spectacular that you remember it for years, so keep an open mind and if you have any issues you'd like to raise (good or bad) come and talk to me in person or email me on 'union-comms@ukc.ac.uk'

Just so you now once we have something confirmed you'll be the first to know, a summer ball website is in production as we speak so once again look out for publicity!

David Sabbarton  
Communications Sabbatical

## No Go For The Euro

In case you hadn't noticed or not been fortunate enough to attend a seminar where a continental-bound student whipped out his freshly minted Euros, the single currency has finally arrived on Europe's doorstep and about 280 Million people in 12 twelve of the fifteen member states, excluding Britain, Denmark and Sweden, will be using the new currency. Since UKC is a very international campus with many students from continental Europe, we at KRED asked our selves what policy the university pursues towards the single currency. Despite not being part of 'Euroland', many British shops, such as Boots and Marks and Spencer, are accepting the Euro. Will the University providers like the Campus shop, the Gulbenkian, and UKCH do the same? Jean Lynch who works for Cinema 3 said that some people had already asked if they could pay in Euros, however, so far, the Gulbenkian

does not accept them. In the Student's Union I was told that indeed they were considering the matter and plans were underway to accept the Euro in the campus shop. The Lighthouse and Woody's, however, would be excluded. UKCH has no plans to accept the Euro so far. In a statement, UKCH said that "if we were to do so, UKCH would have to consider whether to charge a fee for handling foreign currency, and also how to decide on a daily conversion rate and then how to inform each and every individual cashier across campus of the current rate." So far no students have requested the use of Euro coins at UKCH outlets, but "as with all things, the current situation would be reviewed if lots of students turned up with Euros in our outlets - as yet though, it hasn't happened once."

Florian Stadler

# Praise The Lord!

**C**anterbury has hit the headlines recently. Dr George Carey has officially announced that he is to retire from his position as the Archbishop of Canterbury. He will remain in the post during the Queen's Golden Jubilee Celebrations, leaving on the 31st of October this year.

George Carey is the 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury. The first was St. Augustine, who took the seat in AD597. Carey is the most senior cleric of the Church of England and shares authority with the Archbishop of York. His job involves overseeing bishops, and is incredibly prestigious, he is known as the 'Primate of all England.'

Dr George Carey is 66 and his retirement has been anticipated in recent years as it is usual for Archbishops to leave at 65. He has held the position for eleven years, during which time a few controversial issues have evolved within the church - such as the first ordination of female bishops and discussions over homosexual behaviour in priests, something he has conservative opinions about.

The decision about who may take his place has yet to be made although the press are already making predictions concerning likely candidates. The process starts with the Crown Appointments Commission, who look at possible individuals and draw up a shortlist of two to give to the Prime Minister. Tony Blair will then either choose one of the names and pass

it onto the Queen so that she can officially confirm the choice, or he will ask the Commission to reconsider their selection. Current favourites for the post are seen to be the Most Rev Rowan Williams (currently Archbishop of Wales, his views are more left wing and he supports women bishops and gay priests), Right Rev Michael Nazir - Ali (Bishop of Rochester, who has recently received attention after a tabloid discovered that he was nearly expelled from his Methodist school due to unruly behaviour), the Right Rev Richard Chartres (Bishop of London), the Right Rev James Jones (Bishop of Liverpool) and the Right Rev Christopher Herbert (Bishop of St. Albans).

Jess Fielder



# Blown Off?



Rutherford Dining Hall was forced to close in February after 'high winds ripped off three panels covering a space of around twenty by twelve foot,' according to Assistant Director of Campus Services at UKC Estates, Peter Brown. The heavy plastic panels, positioned near the hall's main window, were situated too close to a skylight to sustain the heavy gusts. The power of the wind reportedly also made 'an immediate repair job too dangerous.' Though the hole in the roof is now covered,

Brown made assurances that similar panels would not be used as replacements. 'We're going to use a kind of felted roof instead,' he said, going on to add that the emergency situation required 'outside contractors to be called in' for a job which 'won't be cheap.'

As a result of the damage, Rutherford's catering services were immediately transferred to Eliot Dining Hall. While this led to an enormous increase in demand at the college, UKC Hospitality catered for all. In a press release written on behalf of UKCH, Chrissy Emms thanked staff for their 'Herculean efforts to cater for everyone and to minimise the inconvenience caused by that dastardly gust of wind.' She went on to add, 'we are very grateful for all the support we have received (from students) during this difficult situation.' UKCH has also made assurances that none of the staff regularly working in Rutherford Dining Hall, many of whom are students, would have lost any money as a result of the closure.

Tim Scudder

# All For a Good Cause

**What will you be doing on Monday 25th March?** Struggling with essay madness?

Partying the last week of term away? Well why not spare a thought for those of us who will be taking this day to raise well deserved money for a local appeal.

Women diagnosed with Breast Cancer also have to have their lymph nodes tested for the disease. These tiny glands are situated under the arm. The only way now to test them is to remove them whilst performing surgery on the breast tumour. Inevitably, this further surgery cause a great deal more discomfort for the patient and places them at lifelong risk of secondary problems. This is not to mention the fact that should these nodes be infected with cancer, a further operation will have to take place to remove the remaining glands.

A leading Breast Cancer surgeon in this area is trying to raise money to invest in machines that can test the glands, eliminating the need for any surgery. The local Breast Cancer support group has already been raising money for this cause with events such as a fashion show and a midnight marathon.

The plan is to spend the whole day in our pyjamas, on campus, and get sponsored to do so. (Bed hair is optional!) We'll be breakfasting in Rutherford dining hall, milling around campus (i.e. bars) during the day and heading to the Venue in the evening. If you think this is a good cause and would like to join the fun, or just sponsor one of us, it would be great to hear from you. Email me on [sjl3@ukc.ac.uk](mailto:sjl3@ukc.ac.uk).

Sam Lennan



## JCC School Disco A Hit

School uniform is something that most of us can relate to. A set of less than flattering clothing we had to wear day in day out five times a week. Detentions for not complying, longing for those non-uniform days, and never wanting to wear anything brown, navy blue, green or maroon again.

However, the sight at the school disco was a stark contrast. White shirts, pleated skirts, ties, blazers and pack lunch boxes flooded the venue and everyone appeared to be having the time of their lives. It was a total reverse of those by-gone school days. Everyone seemed to love being in their uniform and many, it appeared, had taken great care and gone to vast measures to regain that school look. Maybe the saying that "the school days are the best days of your life" is true after all!

Baljit Lall



Hmm... Don't fancy yours much...

The one in the middle's okay, though!

## HEArtworks: enhancing visual art on campus

On 11 January, the first show in a new collaboration between the University and the Kent Institute of Art and Design (KIAD) opened. Paintings and photographs by KIAD alumnae Angela Rumble and Anna Webber can be viewed in the Keynes College Foyer, the Physics Building and Grimond. And along the walkway between Physics and Eliot are sculptures by KIAD students and staff all made from Portland stone, carved in situ on the island of Portland in Dorset.

In a recent interview, the Student Union President, Alix Wolverson, said 'It's great to see Kent University working so closely with other academic institutions. The artwork is fantastic and it's good for our students to see what their contemporaries are doing in their own fields of excellence. Although one sculpture was recently vandalised, I'm sure that this will be an isolated incident and that the students here at UKC will continue to value this art and protect it from any further harm.' This initial four-site exhibition will be up until the end of term and, working with artists at KIAD, the University hopes to bring more visual art to campus in the future.

## Ex-student up for Oscar

**F**ormer UKC student Tom Wilkinson has been nominated for the Best Actor award at this year's

Oscars. Known for his roles in films such as *Wilde*, *Rush Hour*, *Shakespeare In Love* and *The Full Monty*, the 53-year-old has been recognised for his portrayal of a stricken father in the film *In The Bedroom*. However, he faces stiff competition for the award, with Russell Crowe, Sean Penn, Denzel Washington and Will Smith also in the running.

The film has received further nominations: Best Actress for co-star Sissy Spacek, Best Adapted Screenplay, and the coveted Best Picture Award. Wilkinson and Spacek have already won the Special Jury Prize in the dramatic category at this year's Sundance Film Festival.

Tom Wilkinson is well-established as one of Britain's best stage actors, and has previously worked with the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company, but it is only relatively recently that his career in feature-films has taken off.

In 1998 he received a BAFTA award for *The Full Monty* (Best Performance by an actor in a Supporting Role), but this is the first time he has been nominated for an Academy Award. In a recent conversation, made-up UKC lecturer Dr. Harold Groom didn't say, "Tom was a marvellous student and never went near my wife, not like the other shits in my class".

The actor attended the University in the



Tom Thumb

1960's where he studied for a degree in English and American literature, but spent most of his time directing and appearing in student plays. In 2001, Tom Wilkinson returned to Canterbury to be awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree by the University of Kent.

Mike Shaw

## Remember to vote in the Sabbatical Elections!!

**Ballot Boxes will be around  
campus on the following days:**

**Monday 4 March  
Tuesday 5 March  
Wednesday 6 March**

**Voting ends at 3pm on Wednesday.  
Results will be announced  
Wednesday evening in the Venue,  
and all voters get discounted entry  
into the Venue.**

# Is George Bush a wanker or what?

**L**ess than a month into the new year, international politics have a new catchphrase. George Bush coined it in his State of the Union address at the end of January this year, 'the axis of evil'. This refers to the three states that the US suspect of sponsoring terrorism. The states targeted in the speech are none other than North Korea, Iran and Iraq. He, choosing words more befitting a religious preacher than a political leader, declared that 'our cause is just, and it continues'. He did, however, add that 'we have no intention of imposing our culture, but America will always stand firm for the nonnegotiable demands of human dignity: the rule of law, limits on the power of the state, respect for women, private property, free speech, equal justice and religious tolerance.' Apparently, this does not apply to his own back yard. On the contrary, the statement is difficult to reconcile with several recent incidents in Bush's administration. First of all, going against all international agreements, Bush did not until February 7 admit that the Geneva convention should be applicable to the prisoners they are holding in Cuba and Afghanistan, and even then it would not be applicable to all of the prisoners. And he did so only as a result of severe international criticism and pressure. In the same address Bush says that he wants

to 'prevent regimes that sponsor terror from threatening America or our friends and allies with weapons of mass destruction'. Notice how his concern is only for the nations that are on a good foot with the US. The fact is, that the five main nuclear nations still remain the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China. The question that remains unasked is how big a threat they pose for countries such as Iran, Iraq and North Korea? Although these five nations have agreed to scrap nuclear weapons eventually, there is no time limit set to that promise. If Bush continues his so called war against terrorism, will he refrain from using everything in his arsenal? Another interesting aspect is the Israel-Palestine question. Naming Hamas and Hizbollah as forces in the alleged axis of evil, Bush takes, what seems to be, a one-dimensional stand in the complex Middle East conflict, and at least indirectly, supports the Israeli government. From a Palestinian view point, one could say that Israel's occupation of Palestine is state sponsored terrorism. Bush's non-negotiable demands of human dignity seem to be rather arbitrary— whoever one names as terrorists in the Middle East, the (blatant) lack of basic civil rights for Palestinians remain. Margaret Thatcher writes in the Guardian on February 12 this year that 'Islamic extremism today, like

bolshevism in the past, is an armed doctrine. It is an aggressive ideology promoted by fanatical, well-armed devotees. And like communism, it requires and all-embracing long-term strategy to defeat it.' She is on the whole, very much in favour of the foreign policies of Bush, although she does call for greater diplomacy skills. Considering her past friendship with Reagan, this is comes as no surprise. According to Thatcher, Iran does have its redeeming sides, but it is first and foremost an enemy of 'Western values and interests'. As she rallies for a missile defence system and an upgrade of defences, she concludes that 'the good news is that America has a president who can offer the leadership necessary'. It is perhaps fortunate that Mrs Thatcher no longer holds a political office. From a European point of view, it is also a relief to know that not only the opposition in the US, but also NATO leaders and European politicians are not completely won over by Bush's latest bid for world domination. It has been called 'simplistic' and lacking in any compelling evidence. Called the 'Bush Doctrine' it does, like Mrs Thatcher pointed out, have it's historical resonance. The 'Truman Doctrine', some historians claim, led indirectly to a witch hunt and the cold war. What will be the consequences of Bush's legacy?

Kat Oster

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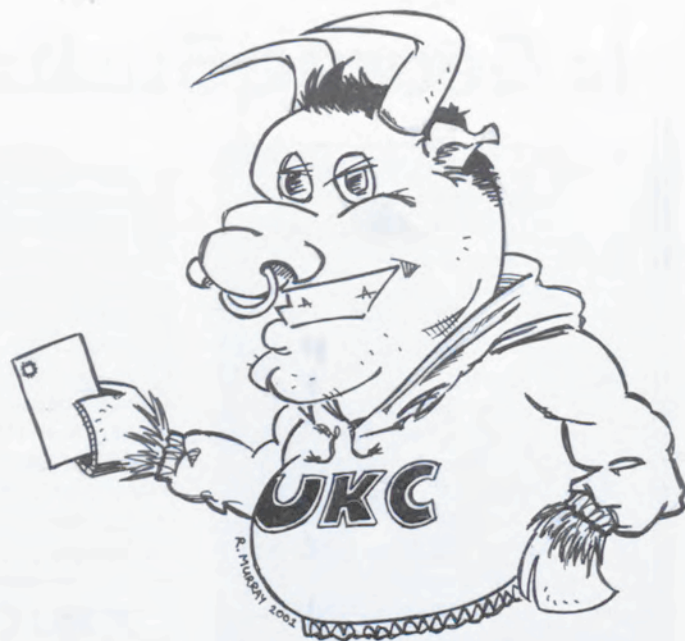
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# KRED BULL

MORE EXAMPLES OF THE SHIMMERING DISCOURSE THAT MAKES UKC WHAT IT IS TODAY!

POST YOUR RANTS, BRIBES AND OFFERS OF SEXUAL FAVOURS TO:

KRED MAGAZINE, THE VIRGINIA WOOLF BUILDING, UKC, CANTERBURY, CT2 7UG



Dear KRED,  
I am writing to you in response to your article on the declassification of cannabis. I think that you, as a union magazine should not be seen to be promoting the use of cannabis, whether you deliberately or inadvertently did. The public opinion of students is already that of lazy, doped up imbeciles, and articles of this type do nothing to dispel this notion. I have 1 or 2 acquaintances who smoke cannabis, but even they feel that decriminalisation is a bad idea through and through. Their reasons are varied, ranging from the inevitable shift in the country's general attitude, through to the obvious health problems. Cannabis isn't addictive?

Yes it is. Many studies throughout the world have proved this. The only people who refuse to recognise this are the users, reluctant to accept that their idea of "fun" is detrimental to their health.

If smoking cannabis becomes acceptable, then where will the line be drawn? What will happen to users who work in professions that rely on quick wits? How much use would a stoned nurse or policeman be? Personally I would not like to find out - I value my health. There is also the question of civil liberty. If it will be acceptable to smoke cannabis in a public place, then it is forcing those who want nothing to do with it to be polluted too -

regardless of desire to have no contact with the substance at all.

I know that the majority of the readers of this will doubtless have a laugh at my expense, and that is why I have left no name to this letter. There are more of us out there who want to see it stay illegal than there are who don't. Peer pressure is powerful, but so is will power, and the sense of saying true to ones self. Don't let a bunch of kids away from home for the first time, trying to do something naughty that will shock mummy and daddy influence your own views.

**Campus Shop**

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**Cadbury** TREBOR BASSETT





# Uncle Ben

Each edition, all your problems will be answered by **Ben Bristow**, the Kent Union Education and Welfare Officer. If you have any problems that you need addressing, or just want a friendly face to talk to, he's your man.

Dear Ben,  
I don't know if people actually send you real letters, but I hope they do. I am having a really bad time at the moment with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, and I have no idea of what to do. It affects every single aspect of my life and no-one seems to take it seriously. I didn't do as well as I should have in my exams because of it, and I have a lot of difficulty writing essays. This letter alone has so far taken me nearly half an hour because of the stupid rituals I have to go through.

Don't tell me to go to the doctors - I saw the doctor, and a counsellor, and a psychiatrist and a behavioural psychologist here at Uni last year, and they did nothing but make me feel like a fucking idiot who is taking up their valuable time. I know that there are other people out there with problems too, and I do feel a bit guilty for taking up people's time with this stupid stuff, but they don't have to make me feel like such a prick. I just don't know what to do next because I can't stop it, and the people at the medical centre last year were no help at all in the slightest. I need to do something though because I am starting to get really desperate now.

Name Withheld

Firstly I want to explain to the readers a little bit about this disorder and how to

understand it. OCD is where a person has obsessional thoughts and compulsive behaviour. These thoughts will

override all others and cannot be ignored; some people describe these as being like a 'stuck record'. These thoughts will compel you to carry out 'ritual actions' to relieve the tension. For example, you may have an obsessional thought that your hands are dirty and repeatedly wash them over and over again. These rituals and thoughts can take up hours and hours of your time and prevent you from doing the simplest of tasks and may effect your relationships. People with OCD are usually aware that their compulsions and obsessions are irrational. They simply cannot find a way of stopping without help. Perceptions of reality are usually not distorted in other ways. OCD symptoms can occur at any stage of your life. If you suffer from OCD you may also feel anxious and depressed, and may believe you are the only one with such irrational and obsessive thoughts. Unfortunately, such feelings may make you afraid to tell anyone or ask for help - which will only delay diagnosis and treatment. Having OCD should not be seen as a sign of weakness, nor should you feel you are lacking in will power because you are unable to stop these thoughts and behaviours.

So why do people get OCD?

There are many different theories; some claim it may be something that occurred in your childhood, a stressful life event such as a birth, death, divorces or separation may also cause the disorder. While the cause of obsessive-compulsive disorder has not been scientifically established yet, it is probably a chemical imbalance in the brain. Many claim that the symptoms are nothing to do with the individual's basic personality, and it does not seem likely that they are caused by childhood experience.

How do you treat OCD?

It is not something that will be cured instantly but treatments can help you to deal with OCD. Most effective treatments usually are cognitive behavioural therapy, and drug therapy (usually antidepressants but this does not mean you are depressed). Social support is also good as a relative or friend you can help by accepting the other person's feelings, being calm supportive and never negative. You can also help yourself as a sufferer by attending self help groups, get to know and understand your own problem, to keep it under control. You can get better and lead a normal life and you are not alone in your feelings. There is a great website at <http://www.obsessive-action.demon.co.uk/> Here you can find more info, chat rooms, and local help groups.

## GOT A PROBLEM?

**CONTACT BEN IN THE MANDELA BUILDING,  
OR E-MAIL HIM ON:  
[union-welfare@ukc.ac.uk](mailto:union-welfare@ukc.ac.uk)**

# Union News

## Taking a look at upcoming events on campus

If you don't know who I am, my name is David Sabbarton and I'm your SU Communications Sabbatical and here

I am, communicating, so there!

Most students walk round campus blissfully ignorant to the role that the Students Union plays in their lives, sure you get the whole blurb in Freshers' Week, but those memories like that first drunken Venue pull are long forgotten!

In a nutshell the Students Union is here to represent your views, as well as running the Student Advice Centre, the Venue, Woodys, Campus Shop and all societies and sports clubs. We also organise some of the most important dates in the social calendar too; balls, but we'll leave that 'till later!

This article is here to let you know what's going on, when and where so listen carefully and I'll begin...

### The Summer Ball

It's that time of year again, the rumour mill goes into overtime and all of a sudden we've booked Robbie Williams and George Harrison's doing a comeback tour! Well this year's gonna be different 'cos as soon as we know, you'll know! It's the new Kent Union No Secrets % Summer Ball policy so here goes (drum roll optional):

Where – This year the Summer Ball is going to be on Campus, spread out over Darwin football pitch and the visitors carpark!

When – The Summer Ball will be held on Saturday 25th May 2002.

There will be 3 different arenas, the main arena will host all of the headline acts and have a capacity of 2,500 with a 90 ft bar, the smaller live music tent will have a capacity of 500 with a 40 ft bar and showcase some of the best up and coming bands from campus and London. The Dance tent will also have a capacity of 500 with a 50 ft bar and will be featuring some of the best crews and DJs from London playing Hip Hop, RnB, Garage and DnB.

There is also a Summer Ball website in development so check the advertising for this!

This is the first time that a Summer Ball has been held on campus for a while so we are trying to set a precedent, the layout will be practical, the tents will be heated if necessary,



the whole event will be well lit, the bars WILL NOT run out of anything, the toilets will be fantastic i.e. lit and with running water, there will be covered walkways between each marquee, there will be funfair ride (dodgems, big wheel), there will be a dedicated food area, casino/chill out marquee, inflatables and loads of other stuff, all in all the Ball is gonna be wicked!!

### Keynestock

Keynestock is the annual Live Music festival held as the name suggests in Keynes College. The weathers usually nice so make sure you get over to Keynes! This year Keynestock is being turned into a proper 3 day music festival, starting on the 17th May and finishing late on the 19th May

### Ents Committee

The Ents (entertainments) committee meets roughly once a month in the Virginia Woolf meeting room (above the Campus Shop) and has the broad remit to discuss and review ents on campus, this includes Balls, The Venue, society events etc. The Ents committee comprising of Sabbaticals, Staff and Students has already decided to fund a large scale live music event, now all we need is people to help us organise it i.e. you! So come along have your say in the organisation and running of Ents on campus.

### Finance & General Purposes

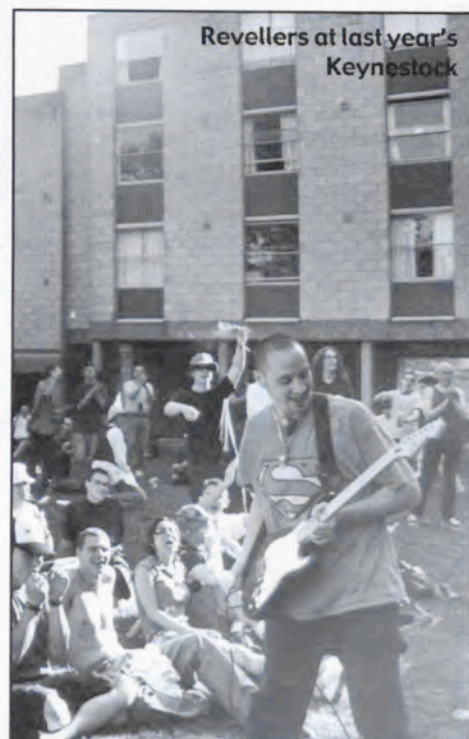
### Committee (F&GPC)

F&GPC meets every Monday at 10am in the Virginia Woolf meeting room (you know where) and is made up of all Sabbaticals and our General Manager Jim Gardner. This is the meeting where decisions are made, budgets are passed and important matters discussed that affect you as students. This meeting is open to everyone, but non-members of the committee must leave when reserved items are being discussed (usually staffing), so if your up in time and have an interest in the decisions that affect you come along!

### Elections

As you may or may not know the Kent Union elections are fast approaching, voting takes place on the 4th, 5th and 6th of March with ballot boxes all over campus meaning you should have loads of opportunities to vote for next years sabbaticals, the part time executive and the NUS conference delegates. There are loads of flyers and posters all over campus (mobile phone 'text message' flyers/posters), so have a read and vote!!

David Sabbarton  
Communications Sabbatical



# A Society That Celebrates Diversity



**L**GBT: You may have heard this acronym but do you know what it means? If you don't then unfortunately you are not alone. Many people are unaware that LGBT

stands for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered society, one of the loveliest and friendliest groups on campus.

One of UKC's best supported societies, the LGBT is open to all students no matter what their gender, persuasion or belief, offering a safe environment for them to meet one another, discuss various issues and generally have an enjoyable time. I caught up with Katie, the current President, to talk about the society.

"The society is currently growing very well and I think that it's progressing with the times. We discuss issues and give everyone the chance to meet friendly and understanding people." Katie continues "We have a well balanced committee who understand that all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered issues are equally important to the society... One look at the society dispels all the stereotypes that are unfortunately still prevalent in today's society, [for example] I am a lipstick lesbian."

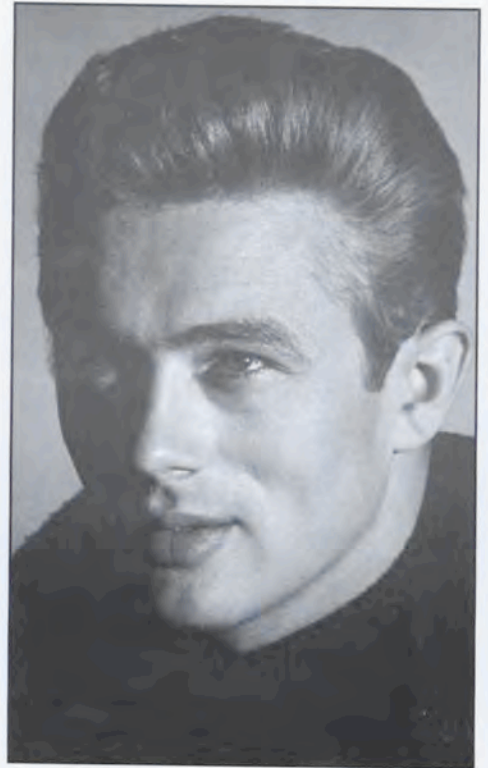
The society offers a highly diverse range of events as well. At its heart is the weekly Tuesday meeting. Recent meetings have includ-

ed a talk about HIV, discussions about marriage and families and trips to the cinema and restaurants. Above all the emphasis has always been upon making everyone feel at ease and relaxed.

The nature of the society is determined by what the members want, rather than a specific interest. It seems bizarre in a sense to assume that just because a group of people are all non-heterosexual they should all get on and share the same interests. It would be equally absurd to assume that a random group of heterosexuals would necessarily get on or want to socialise together. So what is it that draws people to the society, and what do they hope to get out of it?

To answer that it is easiest to consider what different experiences people have when they get to University compared to those of their heterosexual peers. The average straight fresher of some 18 years will have spent a good few years, perhaps from entering secondary school or earlier, developing social skills and learning how to cultivate romantic relationships. They learn how to flirt, how to cope with and express amorous desires appropriately, and what a positive effect these interactions can have on their life and personal fulfilment.

Contrast this with the experience of non-heterosexual freshers and you can begin to understand what a frustrating, isolated and traumatic experience many have experienced. Having lived their life since puberty without the possibility of the innocent playground romance others take for granted, many simply don't know where to start in the dating game... Even assuming they have avoided the chronic depression and poor mental health that besets so many, how do you identify others of a similar 'bent'? Whilst far more accepting than wider society, even university communities can be horrifically prejudiced. For the average fresher leaving home for the first time, University can be very traumatic. The added worry that new friends will disappear should you openly profess your desires means most are caught in a catch 22 position, wanting to come out, but needing a supportive social network they can feel confident in should others react badly. Many have said that when they came out their friends on 'the scene'



became a 'foster family', providing support that had never been there before and an insurance against the potential rejection that loomed on the horizon like a dark cloud.

So, whilst we cannot promise romance, we can offer a circle of friends who will never judge or condemn, and will vociferously defend its own. Romance has occasionally occurred, but if we knew how it happened we would be marketing the formula to boost funds. I am afraid it is more a case of lightning striking where it pleases, the same as for heterosexuals.

Looking to the future the society has an interesting program lined up, up to date details of which can be obtained by emailing [ukc\\_lgbt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ukc_lgbt@yahoo.co.uk). Alternatively the society's webpage can be found at: [www.su.ukc.ac.uk/societies/lgbt/](http://www.su.ukc.ac.uk/societies/lgbt/)



# A Room With A View?

If you are worried about accommodation for your year abroad, here's what you can expect...

**F**or all those of you who will be lucky enough to spend their year abroad next year, we thought it might be an idea to give you a couple of tips for some of the places you might go out to. Here are only a few examples, but there are only slight variations from place to place. So don't be too scared, it's a great year, an experience you'll never forget.

## Grenoble, France



Accommodation in Grenoble varies as much as the city itself. University campus room like those at UKC can be either ensuite or shared facilities though as almost always in France even the ensuite costs less. Whichever type of room you decide on there is still a need to supply your own cooking utensils etc. It is the same when you choose to live off campus in private rented accommodation. However, when living off site you can find self-contained flats and bedsits plus balcony and security system for the same price or less as that you search for in Canterbury. In addition exchange students have the same rights to apply for APL (French housing benefit) which can cover up to half your rent, decreasing the price you pay for an off campus flat of 32msq with bathroom, kitchen, living room + bedroom to about the equivalent of £130 a month. Of course the amount you get will depend on income, and the accommodation can be anywhere in the city. It is best to look for places along the tramlines or bus routes. The only place I would suggest you avoid is Tresiere, which has a few ados who cause problems. Even living on campus and paying exchange student level accommodation fees you can apply for APL or the like. Insurance is cheap as well. It will cost you between £10-40 usually to cover everything including computers. It is advisable to get insurance other there as if anything goes wrong they are on the spot and can't hang up on you like some British companies.

Margaret Kinnear-King

## Erlangen, Germany



Germany is the home of cheap university accommodation, normally run by the Studentenwerk, a separate entity from the university itself. Although your host university will probably sort out your accommodation for you, you should be offered a choice nevertheless. Depending on where you are, this choice could be quite varied, but choose carefully because changing accommodation after you arrive could prove to be a long process. In Germany, you get what you pay for. If you are paying sixty pounds a month (yes, that's a month!), don't expect the penthouse suite! Whatever you choose, it won't cost you a fortune and you should be guaranteed shared facilities and a room of your own (unless you choose otherwise). But bear in mind that the more you pay, the better the Wohnheim. At the end of the day, you probably won't be living your life in your room, but if you feel there's anything missing, there is always IKEA!

Kathryn Johns

## Pavia, Italy



Finding accommodation in Italy should not be too much of a trial if you take advantage of the host university's offer to find it for you. You just fill in the form and they do the rest. That said, what type of accommodation you end up with is a bit of a lottery. You could end up with "the works" in a modern college with

an en suite and shared kitchen, or perhaps like me, a shared room in quite a rustic college dating back to the fifteenth century with shared facilities and no kitchen (it is amazing what you'll learn to cook on a portable stove); or something in between. Whichever side your coin lands on, at the end of the day you will be in Italy and chances are you will not be spending all that much time in your room.

Christine Braithwaite

## Cordoba, Spain



Anyone jammy enough to be going to Spain for the second semester of next year should get to know who is going there first, then shamelessly move into their flat, meet their friends, do their courses and generally take their place - here I should thank Sophie Paterson for kindly donating me her life in Cordoba. However, those going first, or who aren't lucky enough to have friends like Sophie Paterson or Carol Crawford there to help - don't panic! (a general Spanish philosophy used by the university of Cordoba) What you do is book yourself into a youth hostel before, or even on arrival. Cordoba has a nice, reasonably priced one in the Juderia (the pretty winding streets surrounding the faculty of philosophy and letters) Then you respond to the adverts you will see in the university. It may seem crazy just to turn up, but it will be OK. You should have no trouble finding somewhere quite quickly. It took Sophie just a week to find me a fantastic flat.

Alex Illsley

# International Night Preview

**F**or those of you out there who have not experienced International Night at UKC, you are truly missing out on the finest evening of Cultural, Religious and Individual representation this University has to offer.

In the past, this well organised non-stop extravaganza has included acts from around the world and has never failed to entertain as well as inform. Whether you enjoy fashion shows, comedy, dance routines, martial arts or the occasional heart-felt ballad, it is always time and money well spent seeing the faces of fellow students on stage as they proudly rep-

resent their countries and beliefs. And yes, there is food as well as a raffle for those not content with the amount of talent to watch. This years show is shaping up much the same,



## You What?!?!?

Bizarre news stories from around the world

**AUSTRALIA** - A faulty weighing machine has been removed from a shopping Mall in Melbourne after instructing one woman to "get off, fat Pig" and calling another man a "fat \*\*\*\*\*". The Supplier believes that someone may have tampered with the machine's hidden keypad.

**GERMANY** - In Hamburg last week it was revealed that a man who had served 10 months of a two-year jail term was in fact the criminal's twin brother. The authorities who had failed to notice the height and three stone weight differences between the two brothers then charged the inmate £1,351 for his stay.

**EUROPE:** - Euro users were warned of the possible dangers of using the new currency. It was revealed that eating in excess of 400 of the notes may cause illness. As one official put it; "So, besides being expensive, it is not recommendable to eat Euro notes."

**ITALY** - Euros have also cause further problems in Italian churches. Since the currency's introduction collection takings have fallen by a massive 70%. One priest confronted his congregation by saying "Were losing quite a lot of income as lots of you put just one or two cents for the offering. This is just to remind you that they're not worth very much."

**BELGIUM** - A woman plagued by a nuisance phone calls has discovered the pranks were instigated by a dairy cow. A farmer had rigged up a system so that in the event of any problems at his dairy farm, his mobile phone would be called. Unfortunately he had programmed his own number incorrectly.

as the past organising team of Ed Klünder, Selman Gunjar and George Sahyoun together with eight dedicated volunteers plan to combine efforts once again for the best International Night yet. With last years Keynestock winners, Jimmy Jones' Band, providing the Jazz-funk music to carry the moments between the acts, I know this night will be excellent.

So if you are part of a society, just feel the itch to get on stage, or want to host the events, then join in the presentation. And for those with a bit of stage fright, grab a ticket and watch what is going to be a night you will remember.

For details concerning International Night and how to get involved, email Error! Bookmark not defined..

B. Adams



## French Letters Part 2

Concluding our article on a year abroad in France

**T**he school provided me with a rent free room on the school campus next door to a Spanish girl. You are only teaching 12 hours a week so you have plenty of spare time to prepare lessons and above all plenty if time to see the area you live in a take part in local life. I spoke very little English all year, other than in the classroom, you hold the role of a teacher and as such have the respect of the pupils. The other teachers are extremely kind and welcoming. They along with the older pupils are forever inviting you out for drinks and meals and it is with these people that I spent the majority of my time. Overall my year in France was fantastic, it's an experience of a lifetime. My advice to anyone is to take any opportunity given to you and use the year as

A snail, yesterday



a chance to live a life that you'll probably never have the chance to do again. Become part of the

town you're living in, join clubs, travel to see other assistants and enjoy. It comes all too soon that you're back in Kent and having to write essays and wishing above all that you were still sitting on a beach in Brittany sipping French wine while the sun is setting - or as those of you who know me might say watching the floods in Redon rising. The highlights of my year are a school trip to Brussels and Amsterdam, the teaching itself - which I enjoyed far more than I thought I would, the opportunity to travel round Europe in my spare time and above all the friends I made. On the down side, your social life will not be as exciting as those who go to universities, be prepared for French bureaucracy - it could drive you insane, and expect very little support from the European departments as a whole, they are fantastic to those who go to other unis but at the end of your year out have no idea whether or not you've even been abroad, they don't even have the courtesy to come and visit you. That asides don't let it put you off, you'll have the time of your life. I'm more than happy to chat to anyone thinking of doing an assistantship next year and can provide lesson ideas and support, just email on: Error! Bookmark not defined..

Shazelle Gregg

# Jump Ahead!

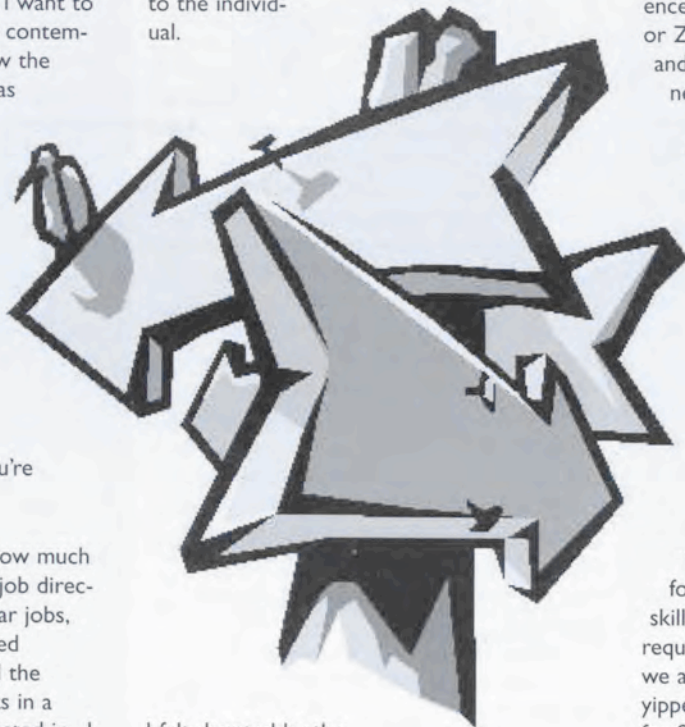
Stop dickin' around and get a job, you lazy scummer, or I'm gonna hit you with an axe.

**D**on't worry, I'm not giving handy hints on queue jumping (although it is tempting when queuing for your coat at The Venue proves frustrating yet again!). What I am doing, or plan to do, is provoke some thoughts on our fates, after uni. life is over. Have you ever thought about your career? Do you have an answer to the generally dreaded question, 'so what do you want to do after you graduate?' Until recently that was a question I dreaded as much as I dread my exams. I dreaded it because, like my exams, I did not yet have an answer to it. What did I want to do or be? I was in my second year contemplating this when I decided to follow the example of my house-mate, who was a final year and constantly wishing she had started career / post-uni. life consideration in her second or even first year. I did what seemed most obvious, I went to the careers library to become acquainted with the services they had to offer. Admittedly, I didn't know where it was either (don't panic those of you who have just thought 'what library?'), so I found out (p.s. next to Keynes if you're wondering).

I was nicely surprised to discover how much information they had, from careers/job directories to leaflets describing particular jobs, to guides on how to get your desired career. Very impressive! I collected the general directories and a few leaflets in a number of career areas I was interested in. I also made an appointment for a careers interview. Probably the most important things I learnt from my first visit to the careers library is how much time and work will be involved in taking steps towards finding out exactly what I wanted to do and what I had to do to get there. I thought 'lucky I started this now'.

Being one of many English students (English and Sociology to be precise), a keen member of the Kred editorial team and reflecting on my general interests and past work/job experience, I found the arena of marketing, media and sales very appealing. You're probably thinking 'that's what I want to do', well exactly is my point. I soon discovered, through research, that my chosen path was very popular and very competitive. However, I would not let this deter me. I had set myself certain criteria to look for in my pursuit. I wanted to

something that above all I enjoyed and that provided a lot of job satisfaction (because I would be really good at it). Although what is important to one person may be different to another. There are many things to consider when deciding your career. I have to admit that money and job status came a close second to my personal job criteria. Other people may have a desire to work in an office in London, or conversely to work in a variety of locations, to be completely independent, or to work in a team. There are many more, but they are all specific to the individual.



I felt daunted by the prospect of getting 'that job' (whatever it may be), but also anxious. Why would a potential employer choose me? I had to work out what I could offer, or what I needed to be able to offer to put me a cut above the rest, so I could 'jump in front'. Most of you are probably aware that jobs are not that easy to come by. The graduate recruitment market is not at its best at the moment, having just a degree is not enough. In fact having a degree is taken for granted, potential employers are interested in other, extra-curricular activities and achievements. For example, my role with Kred and working at The Venue whilst studying, would count towards my advantage, but I need more. If you have similar experiences to offer, great, but always look to see how you can do more (I don't necessarily mean more whilst you're studying). One aspect I love about uni. life are the incredibly long summer holidays. My first

summer I spent in Kos on a working holiday. You're probably wondering how this relates to finding a career, or will benefit my c.v. The point is how I could use my experiences to show how I am an ideal candidate for my chosen career. For example Kos was not an easy, prolonged holiday. I was faced with challenges on a daily basis, living independently and cut off from home I had to adapt, plan and budget myself to make sure I didn't end up stranded and penniless! Common questions asked on application forms or in interviews are purposely designed to find out if we have experiences that prove we are capable of doing X, Y or Z, 'Have you had a challenging goal or task and overcome obstacles to achieve it?' We need to be able to say yes!

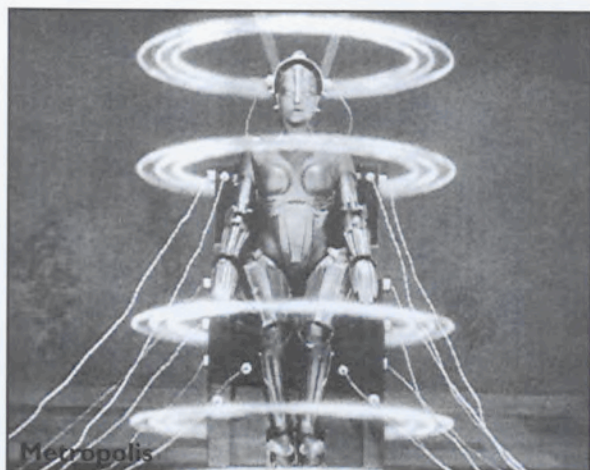
My working holiday was a good way to spend my first summer, but after deciding on my career area, I needed to get some more specific work experience – my goal for my second summer. We are lucky here at UKC to have an excellent JobShop as well as a careers library. On my quest for a summer job, I paid close attention to all the positions advertised at the JobShop (you can get them emailed if you register with them). Soon enough a 'Champions Student Summer Programme' was advertised, perfect!

The programme was designed specifically for students, giving us the experiences and skills needed to equip us with the necessary requirements to actually get that 'dream job' we all aspire to. I applied and got the job – yippee! I spent my second summer working for SpencerHarrods, the mother company of the Champions programme.

Now I am in my final year, the prospect of graduation is very very close and very scary, but I am confident I have as much chance, if not more, of succeeding in my pursuit of my desired career. One last piece of advice, the final year is very chaotic and busy, but if you can work out a plan for the short term, life immediately after graduation. Realistically, not many of us will land a job straight away, but what we can do is carry on building on experiences and qualifications whilst looking for 'that job'. Good luck.

Laura Smith

# CINEMA.3



Tue 26, Wed 27 & Thur 28 Feb - 6.20pm  
**2001: A Space Odyssey (U)**

Fri 1 Mar - 6.20pm  
**Kandahar (PG)**

Bollywood  
 Fri 1 Mar - 8.50pm, Sun 3 Mar - 2.50pm  
**Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham (PG)**

Sun 3 Mar - 8.50pm  
**A Skin too Few: The Days of Nick Drake (PG)**  
 Plus 2 short films

Mon 4 & Tue 5 Mar - 6.20pm  
**The Last Castle (15)**

Wed 6 Mar - 6.20pm  
**Metropolis (PG)**

## Kent International Film Festival (KIFF) 7 - 17 March

Each KIFF screening will be accompanied by a short film selected by Kent Film, New Producer's Alliance, and Kodak. See festival programme for more details (available from 1 March).

[www.kentfilm.com](http://www.kentfilm.com)

Thur 7 Mar - 6.20pm  
**The Girl on the Bridge (15)**

Fri 8 Mar - 6.20pm  
**Nobody Someday (15)**

Fri 8 & Sun 10 Mar - 8.50pm  
**Va Savoir (Who Knows) (PG)**

Sat 9 Mar - 10.50 am  
**The Hairdresser's Husband (15)**

# GULBENKIAN Theatre



Friday 1 March 7.45pm  
**EDge**

**The Post Graduate Performance Group of the London Contemporary Dance School**  
 Twelve young dynamic dancers in works by:  
 Javier De Frutos, Jeremy James, Martin Lawrence, Stephen Petronio & Athina Vahla  
 £8 Concs £6 Standby £5

Saturday 2 March 7.45pm  
**Finbar Furey in Concert**  
**With special guest Martin Furey (Bohinta)**  
 Finbar Furey is a pioneer and a superb champion of the cause of Irish music  
 Wonderful piping, jigs and reels combined with songs old and new make this a night to savour and remember  
 £11 Concs £9 Standby £5

Saturday 9 March 7.45pm  
**Mark Steel**  
 Half a million fanatical radio fans aren't wrong - subversive comedy at its best  
 £8 Concs £6 Standby £5

Saturday 23 March 7.45pm  
**Ben Andrews**  
 "Born to sing the blues" **Washington Post**  
 Blues guitar is making its debut at the Gulbenkian  
 £10 Concs £8 Standby £5

**BOX OFFICE 01227 769075**  
[www.ukc.ac.uk/gulbenkian](http://www.ukc.ac.uk/gulbenkian)

# Downs and Out

## Look, look, houses, look!



**T**he application deadline for next year's on-campus accommodation, was on 31st January. If you had hoped to apply and missed the deadline, don't despair – you have plenty of options still open to you. Firstly, you need to know that only applications from Non E.U. international students, or people with proven medical problems are guaranteed accommodation, so even if you had applied you wouldn't have necessarily secured a place. In other words, people who actually applied within the deadline, may find that they haven't been offered accommodation.

At this point you will have to decide whether you want to take your chances with UKC Hospitality (UKCH) and reapply over the summer, or if you are going to venture into the big, wide world and rent accommodation off-campus from private landlords. Reapplying over the summer is, in my opinion, the riskiest option since you are not only in competition with fellow returning students but also with first years, who have either secured places with UKC or who are coming in through clearing. As was the case when you were a fresher, first years will be given priority over returning students, and the stories you may have already heard involving people camping outside UKCH just before the beginning of the year, are not as exaggerated as you might think!

Renting off-campus is usually the safest option, and as with most things, the sooner you start looking, the better. Depending on what you prefer, you can try to find a house individually or with a group of friends. UKCH issue an Accommodation List of private landlords which is available as of 8th March and can be

great help. The accommodation offered by these landlords has been approved by UKCH, and most of the houses have been tested for basic risks. Also, the landlords in the UKCH Accommodation list are student focused, and so are

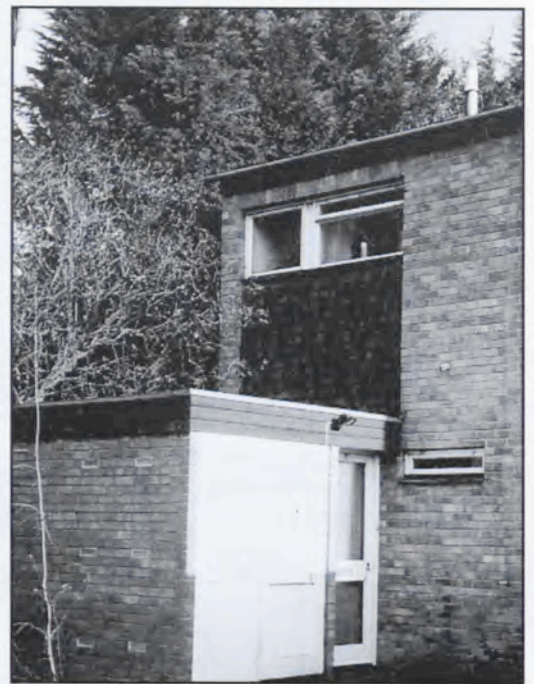
more likely to ask for half of the rent, rather than the entire amount, if you will not be living in the house over the summer, Christmas or Easter holidays. More importantly, prices are also within student reach, usually ranging from £50 a week to a maximum of £80.

Your third option, is to pay a visit to the estate agents and the letting shops in the centre of town. They are situated in Castle Street, which begins from the turning point near Lloyds Bank in the High Street, and continue through to St. Margaret's Street, by the Slatters Hotel. Prices here can vary considerably, and you

could find places starting from £50 a week through to £100 a week, if not more. Most agents will charge a handling fee, sometimes as high as £40 per person, and some may even request that you have a guarantor present when you sign the contract.

Lastly, landlords also advertise in the local papers, so be on the lookout for houses available to let in Adscene or the KM Extra. A final word of advice, make sure you read and fully understand your contract before you sign it, and be attentive when you visit properties – things are not always what they seem... Good luck and happy hunting!

Good luck and happy hunting!



**'UKCH issue an Accommodation List of private landlords which is available as of 8th March....the accommodation has been approved by UKCH and most of the houses have been tested for basic risks.'**

The University announced yesterday that in an effort to prepare some 1st year students for their 2nd year off-campus housing experience, members of the Kent community were to be housed in Park Wood.

"Many Park Wood residents, at present, lack the social skills necessary to live in Canterbury, particularly in the Downs Road and London Road estates", gushed a University Housing official, "to rectify this, we are planning to house local residents on campus so students can get used to the off campus experience, such as children skateboarding through their gardens, and having 'Student' scratched onto their door with a knife."

Further plans announced include the hiring of 18-24 year old males to drive recklessly around Park wood in high-performance Citroen AX's and Mark III Vauxhall Astra's, as well as the distribution of stray cats in the area, so students can get used to dodging vehicles and spending their food budget on Whiskas to feed other peoples pets.

"We will also be integrating a small elderly population", added the University official, "who will alternate between popping around with baked cakes and spare eggs, and complaining about noise levels at 7:30 pm."

"If our budget is large enough," he continued, "we may be able to afford to have one or two houses a year burgled and set alight by drug-crazed juvenile delinquents."

Mark Craven





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# Packed Full Of Wheaty Goodness

Sam Lennan chats to Wheatus

**P**icture the scene.... It's raining, it's windy, it's down right freezing, it's Folkestone. A lowly KRED reporter is fighting the elements to get to an interview on time. The band patiently waiting her arrival? Wheatus. Clasp a hot coffee in the foyer, I chatted to the tour manager, keen to gain an insight into what the band is like to talk to. I am warned of their habit of giving one-word answers. Immediately, I realise it is not going to be easy, and how right I was. We are then lead into a room backstage where the guys are waiting and are immediately scrutinised by Brendan (lead singer). He is introduced to my friend I, and promptly forgets our names, shrugs and continues his conversation with his brother, Peter (Drums). I manage to break the conversation pretty swiftly as I'm warned that there are only a few minutes in which to do my interview.

**BRENDAN:** Canterbury, isn't that like, the Canterbury tales, Chaucer?

**KRED:** Yes that's right, have you been there?

**BRENDAN:** No, but each kid in the class had to read a different story in school, like 'The Wife of Bath'.

This sparks off debate amongst the band, reminiscing of their high school days in New York. However, unfortunately this is eating out of my few minutes so I have to press on. I enquire into the success of their tour so far...

**BRENDAN:** (in a somewhat sketchy Australian accent) It's great.

**MMmmn,** I can see exactly what my friend the tour manager meant.

**PHIL:** (percussion, keyboards, backing vocals): We started off in Milan though. I always feel rich in Milan. Throwing around a million is no big deal there.

We all laugh. I then make several attempts

to ask another question, only to be deployed by the guys talking amongst themselves again. Phil then looks at me and says:

**PHIL:** It didn't go down as well as I thought. A moment's silence passes as we all look blankly at him. Moving on I enquired as to whether Mena Sivari and Jason Briggs had to be paid to star in the 'Teenage Dirtbag' video. Rumours were flying that they did it for free.

**PETER:** They were obligated to star in it because they were in the movie.

**BRENDAN:** Yeah, they signed a contract.



**KRED:** I heard that they liked the song so much they wanted to feature in the video without being paid.

**PHIL:** We say that for them sometimes.

**BRENDAN:** But they played the parts of the characters in the song rather than the ones in the movie. That was cool for us, yeah.

**KRED:** What made you cover an Erasure song?

**BRENDAN:** It's a good song.

**PETER:** Erasure came to see us and said 'you'd better cover this fucking song.'

**PHIL:** Yeah we're fans, we like them.

**BRENDAN:** One of the better eighties Pop synth bands that I've known.

This led me onto asking what sort of music they listen to. They all claim to be into so-called unknown bands like 'The Frames'. Brendan listens to a lot of Stereophonics at the moment and treats us to his personal rendition of one of the songs. Unfortunately, KRED was not able to determine which one it was.

We get onto the subject of embarrassing stories, thankfully this livens the guys up slightly. Peter apparently couldn't find his way off stage in front of ten thousand people at 'Party in the

Park.' Perhaps the most interesting of their stories is Phil's tale of a semi-naked stroll around the Leas Cliff Hall earlier that morning.

**PHIL:** I just got off the bus, about two hours ago and went round to the bay to get my clothing...

**PETER:** You kept the bay key, they were really pissed.

**PHIL:** Yeah, this is part of the story I am about to tell. I went back wearing just shorts, as I had no idea how cold it was. No shoes, no shirt, no nothing. I locked myself out of the bus, only Mike was there and he was sleeping. I had to walk to the venue in nothing but shorts and two fans saw me and said 'You changed your hair!' And I'm like no, I'm naked is what it is. Alas, it would seem my few snatched moments are at an end. As the lads get up to do their sound check I managed to ascertain that if they were not Wheatus they would be fat or dead. Their thoughts on the recent terrorist attacks in New York? "Fucking Bollocks".

The concert itself was very entertaining. The other songs they played were just as riddled with teenage angst but that is, after all, what they are about. Despite a certain 'attitude' they are very good at what they do. Perhaps had I more time, I would have warmed to them a little more. However, I had to be satisfied with a superb rendition of 'Teenage Dirtbag' to leave me humming on my way back to Canterbury.

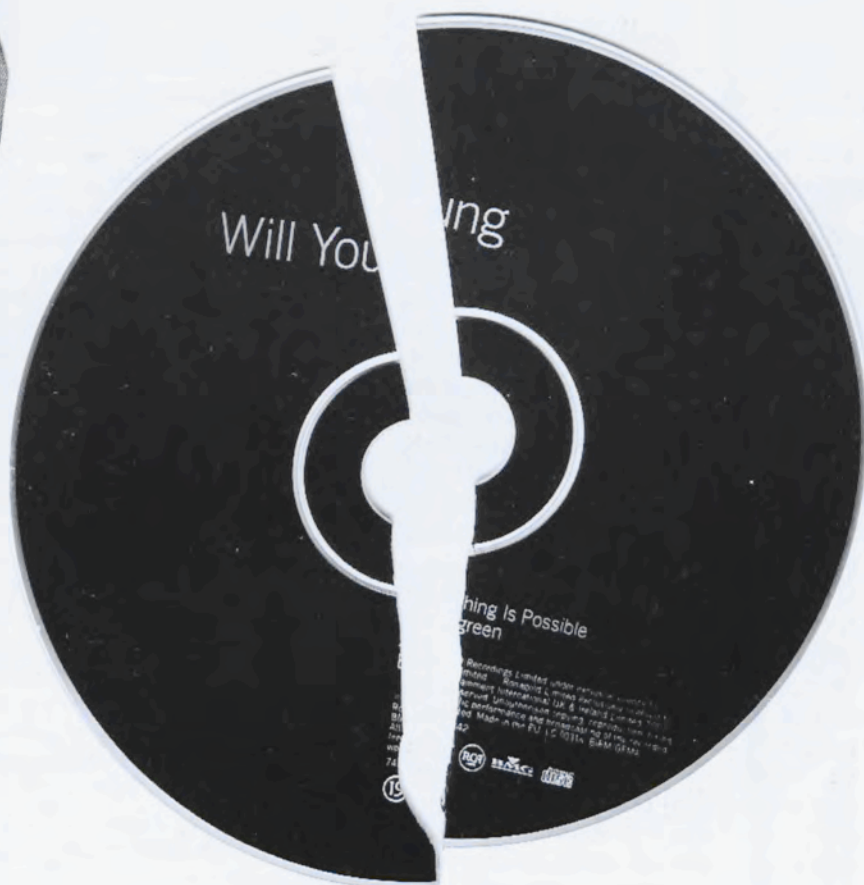
**'Erasure came to see us and said 'you'd better cover this fucking song.'**

# Uncle Will Says....



"Hi I'm Will from Pop Idol. This is my new single. I don't think KRED like it very much.

Maybe it's because on the television I was funny, charming, and altogether funky - but my first release is a pile of boyband stinking shit....oh well! Are Tesco's looking for staff?"



## KEYNESTOCK 2002

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For more details contact Chuma Emembolu on ce9.

# Albums

L-R: Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, Haven, The Cooper Temple Clause



## Black Rebel Motorcycle Club - 'BRMC'

In 'Grease 2,' Stephanie dreamed of seizing her 'cool rider.' If she had owned this CD, her desires would have been tripled. This trio, named after the club in Marlon Brando's 'The Wild One,' are hot tipped to become the band of the year. The cynic in me wanted to hate this record, but like Stephanie, I ended up falling in love with it. Flowing effortlessly from Stooges fuelled punk to melodic rock, it is hard to believe this LP is a debut. These guys look fantastic, and with superb tracks like 'Love Burns,' sound even better. They kick The Strokes' skinny rear-ends into orbit. This is the future of music.

Philippa Bigham

## LBH - 'Tell Them Who We Are'

'Tell Them Who We Are' is LBH's first album in three years. So don't be surprised if you have never heard of them. It's a bit hard to describe, no doubt there is a very specific term to qualify their type of music but I'm afraid I don't know it. Some of the tracks have lyrics, others don't. The instrumentation is mostly electronic and all the tracks swing along to a steady modern beat. So steady in fact that you sometimes don't notice that one has ended and another begun. This is one of the reasons why it's a bit monotonous for active listening, not very gripping. However it provides an excellent backdrop for working to. All in all quite a pleasant album but not packed with tunes you hum all day long.

## The Cooper Temple Clause - 'See This Through And Leave'

These foxy young things hail from Reading, bringing with them their energised and sprightly electronic rock sound. The first track from this debut is misleading in its quiet and sober way, as the album soon kicks into snarling guitar riffs, punchy vocals and gutsy keyboards. Combining this with space-age electronics the sound of this band is refreshingly original. The lead singer, sounding like a Liam Gallagher-Johnny Rotten hybrid, swaggers

confidently through the songs, which range from thrashing rock tracks to mellow acoustic tunes. Exciting, impressive and damn good.

Philippa Bigham

## The Streets - 'Original Pirate Material'

The Streets is Mike Skinner, a 22 year old Brummie. Apparently this is the "future of garage". I'm afraid not. This is as far from the guff that So Solid Crew churn out as Jonathan King is from Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. That's not to say it's bad music, because it's not, far from it. Just don't call it garage. Yes it has some distinctly two-step beats, but calling it garage would be to undermine the wealth of musical diversity this album offers.

Many people will be familiar with the recent hit 'Has It Come To This?' but those expecting a CD full of similar sounding tracks will be disappointed. Present is a lyrical dexterity that is absent from the work of most of his contemporaries. Rather than bling bling rhymes about having lots of girls/cars/money/all three, The Streets paints an often bleak picture of modern Britain. 'Original Pirate Material' is also used as a platform for the biting wit and sarcasm that Skinner uses to tackle the hypocrisies he sees in British culture. The Streets is more Day One than Oxide and Neutrino.

It would have been nice to hear him tackle a wider-range of subjects, as what's offered here is rather limited - but this is a minor complaint. The Streets are alive with the sound of music.

Levte Lyton

## Haven - 'Between The Senses'

'Between The Senses' is a triumphant album. Leading you from melody to melody, 'Haven' have made a seamless and timeless record. It is hard to believe that they are a band, as the sound is so unified it seems more like that of a solo artist. This record has not been over polished in the production stages, letting the LP have a live sound, which complements the emotional rock guitars and vocals. The lead singer is a fantastic talent, whose voice is remi-

niscant of Jeff Buckley. The album is packed full of shiny gems, with tracks such as 'Say Something' and 'Til The End' being particularly sparkly. Keep an eye out for these fellas - they're going to be huge.

Philippa Bigham

## Nine Inch Nails - 'And All That Could Have Been'

This album is a great comeback from the notorious band, that shot to fame with their spiral album. The live aspect to it, still shows that they are great performers which include songs that fans will know and love. Their especially powerful performance is shown by tracks like 'Wish' and 'Terrible Lie' and their more mellow tracks are still on their. It feels like a return to the era of early 90s but in a good sense of reminiscence and not the regurgitating kind! It contains 16 tracks of fast paced metal lyrics that have not bowed down to the current popularity of nu - metal and still reinventing themselves, while still keeping the essence of their individual metal sound. A must for NIN fans and those who need to listen to high quality metal.

Lianna Brinded

## Various artists - 'Hammond Street'

It's not every day that we at KRED receive a Hammond Organ compilation CD in the post. This can only be a bad thing, since, to quote from the liner notes of this little gem, 'I've yet to meet anyone whose frown doesn't turn to a smile upon hearing the heart-rendering, gut wrenching sound of a hammond running at full tilt' (Sir tristan Longworth).

The record's running order showcases many of the best contemporary jazz acts, who have taken the lowly organ and made it their very own plaything. Of particular note are 'Itchy Feet' by The Past Present Organisation, and 'Car Chase' by The James Taylor Quartet. But the compilation's high-point is easily Pleasure Beach's reinterpretation of Nirvana's 'Smells Like Teen Spirit', which transcends the norm and soars above the genre like a giant mechanical blue tit.

Rob Murray

## Singles

**The Hives - 'Hate To Say I Told You So'**

As the most hotly-tipped band of 2002, The Hives have leapt screaming into the limelight after years of obscurity. This new single from the Swedish quintet marks that transition, and acts as an excellent introduction to their work. 'Hate To Say I Told You So' is a confident blend of new musical invention and the kind of visceral rock instinct that defined New York punk. If The Stooges had written 'Teenage Kicks', this is probably what it would have sounded like. It's reassuring then, that unlike last year's disappointment *par-excellence*, The Strokes, The Hives are clearly living up to the hype.

**Rob Murray**

**Elbow - 'Asleep in the Back'/'Coming Second'**

This double A-side single from Elbow features the brand new (previously unreleased) track 'Asleep in the Back' alongside 'Coming Second'. This single represents a shift from old to new for Elbow, and with it seems to come the shift from brilliantly dark and brooding songs to a more contented and lighter sound. 'Asleep in the back' drifts along pleasantly without going anywhere. Having said this, 'Coming Second' is one of the best songs on the album, perfectly demonstrating Elbow's

darker, more menacing side. To put these two songs together for the single probably makes a lot of sense because fans of Elbow will want the new track and people previously unfamiliar with the band will get a balanced view of their capabilities for both soothing and ominous melodies.

**Catherine Maskell**

**A - 'Nothing'**

If something is pants, then why would someone want to copy it? A used to be my favourite band, now they sound like Fred Durst fellingating the decomposing corpses of Linkin Park....while Papa Roach film it. Why, why, why?

**Mike Shaw**

**Natalie Imbruglia - 'Wrong Impression'**

It's been a while since I heard anything by Miss Imbruglia. I did like Left Of The Middle but, being a bit out of touch with the world in my Parkwood bubble, her last song passed me by. So, this being the first song I'd heard from her new album, White Island Lilies, I was quite curious to see what it sounded like. The answer is that it is actually decent for your average soap star turned singer. It does sound to me like it belongs on a Friends soundtrack. I don't think this is such a bad thing. It's catchy enough and quite inoffensive. I can't see hardened Slipknot fans going for it, but if you like watching Friends, listening to

Hootie and the Blowfish and all that jazz, then maybe it would be worth a listen.

**Alex Illsley**

**Depeche Mode - 'Goodnight for Lovers'**

Depeche Mode, release another song from their new wave of come back music. Although this isn't their strongest material, it is still haunting and beautiful, like much of their music. It is very mellow, and dark, which creates another side for the band. The single, includes two other re mixes to the song, along with one other song, which are interesting but I don't think you need to listen to two other remixes of a song, that virtually sound the same anyway! But it's a song, to fall asleep to or just wake up to, but nothing to get your adrenalin pumping.

**Lianna Brinded**

**Relish - 'Heart Shaped Box'**

"Relish"? "Absolutely bloody rubbish" more like. OK, so it's not very clever but then this isn't the most sophisticated sounding song. A whining, over produced vocal competes with an embarrassingly cackhanded funk lick to create what is quite possibly the most irritating noise this side of Toploader. The lyrics are some rhyming dictionary effluence about a lovely girl and the second half of the track is covered in pointless fart noises. Stop it, you awful, awful men, you're scaring the children.

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# Plop Idols



**A**s my mobile beeped early on Saturday night I saw that an old friend had texted me. As I hadn't heard from him from a while I eagerly opened the message to see what he'd written. "Vote Will" was what he'd written. That was it. No "how are you?" or "let's get together soon!" Not even a lousy kiss at the end. It seems that Pop Idol fever swept the nation – with more and more tuning in each week and a massive 8.7 million calling on the last night to vote for William Young and Gareth Gates, the two finalists. Despite Gareth being the favourite to win, Will was crowned Pop Idol 2002 on Saturday 9th February after notching up 4.7 million votes. Now begins his music career. He is filming the video to accompany his debut single overseas in a "secret location", (see, he's a pop star already!) - a Double A side of a cover of Westlife's Evergreen and Anything is Possible, a song written by former pop star Cathy Dennis. The single will be released on the 25th of this month. Both songs were performed by Gareth and Will on the final show.

Will has admitted he isn't keen to churn out more bubble-gum pop, though it seems this is somewhat inevitable. Nikki Chapman, former manager of Billie Piper and Simon Fuller, former boss of the Spice Girls, will be acting as

his managers. Bubble-gum pop at its finest you might say. However the 23 year old singer recognises that this is only the beginning as he told the Guardian recently: "I do realise that there will be things that you have to do before you get to a stage where you can make your own decisions." Nevertheless it will be a while before Will can break free of the restrictive clauses of his new contract. In fact, all ten finalists are contracted to 19 Management, Simon Fuller's company for three months after the series ended. This prevents any of them from releasing a single until well after Will's debut, even if a rival company snaps them up. This may continue at the discretion of 19 Management for the next three years, in which time they may demand 20% of their musical earnings. And still it doesn't stop there. Fuller could continue this for the next fifteen (yes, fifteen) years, claiming 20% of earnings in the first nine years and 10% in the final six. So, Pop Idol is likely to prove quite profitable for Fuller and co. Boy George even commented recently that, "if you did that on the stock exchange, you'd be put behind bars."

And Boy George hasn't been the first to criticise the Pop Idol format. Although it has had undeniable success, many have commented on the cruel way in which auditionees have been

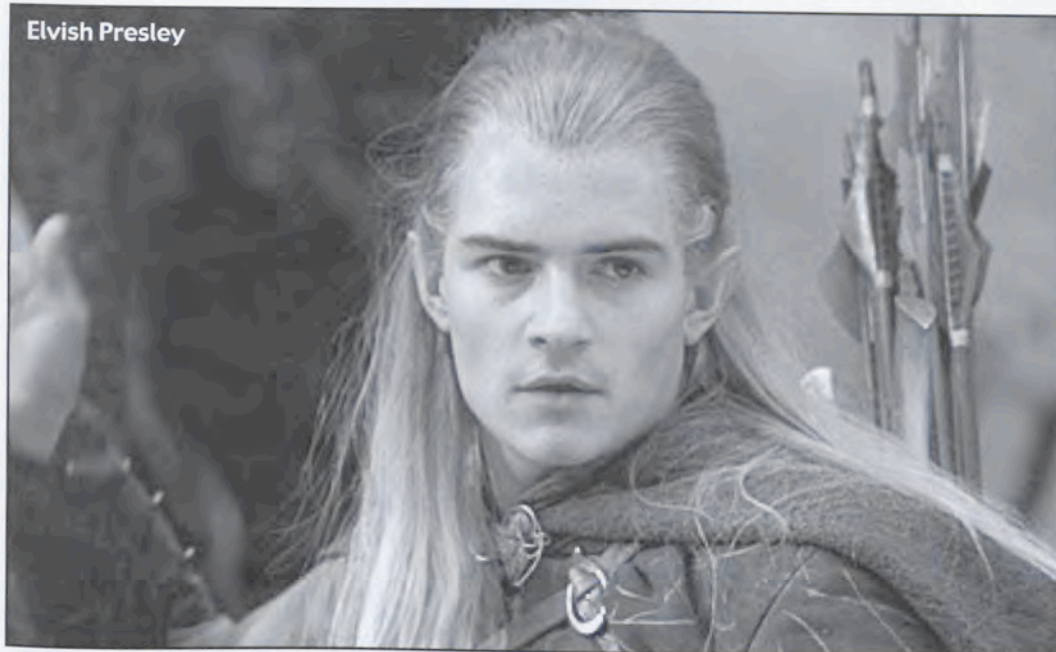
humiliated and ridiculed at the hands of the merciless judges. Ex-Take That manager, Nigel Martin Smith claims that many have been victimised for the sake of ratings whilst singer Alesha from girl group Mis-Teeq points out that Pop Idol gives wannabes false hope and thus puts them in danger of burning out too quickly. This could certainly be said about Hear'Say who, after a year of being chosen from thousands in the Popstars auditions, have had poor record sales on their latest album, lost a member of the group and consequently auditioned for a replacement, only to be branded as a naff publicity stunt. Let's just hope that, unlike Hear'Say, Will has the power to have some longevity in the business. And as for all you Gareth fans, don't despair. After the show he was signed by Simon Cowell himself who said, "I am not going to let some other record company snap him up. There will be an announcement as to when his first record will be released and there will be some very exciting news attached to that." So, perhaps the battle between Will and Gareth hasn't quite finished yet. In fact it looks like it's only just beginning. I look forward to finding out who the real Pop Idol is.

**Suzanne Scatliffe**

# A Talent In Bloom

From Canterbury to Middle Earth: Holly Grigg-Spall talks to local boy and *Lord Of The Rings* star Orlando Bloom

Elvish Presley



**T**he dreams of Orlando Bloom to one day inhabit a world of characters 'larger than life' were first sown in the modest city of Canterbury.

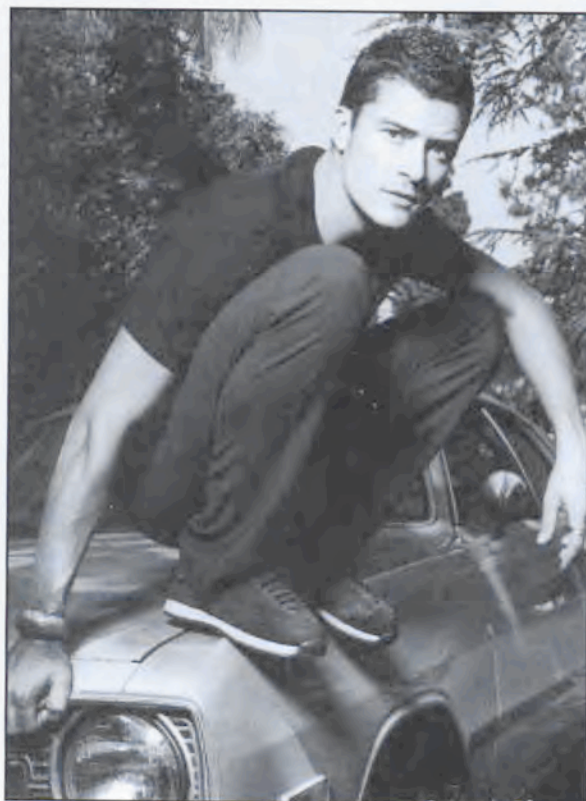
When he was nine years old he watched *The Hustler* with his film director cousin in the living room of his Canterbury home. As I hear him relate this significant story over the phone his voice at first softened by jet lag grows in enthusiasm and intensity. Paul Newman encompassed all that was heroic and spectacular in a film star to his impressionable eyes, a moment highlighted as when he knew he wanted to be on the silver screen. From pool game hustler to elf warrior does not seem a simple step, but Orlando tells me it really was just that.

The boulevards of Hollywood are far from the cobbled streets of Canterbury, yet when you have lived as Legolas, the great archer in *Lord of the Rings*, and occupied a magical imaginary land in the valleys of New Zealand the transition is easy. Inspired by actors such as James Dean, Marlon Brando and especially Daniel Day Lewis, Orlando left home at 16 to attend the Guildhall School of Drama and with only the experience of a small part in the film *Wilde* he was propelled to fame immediately after graduation. From teen magazines to high-class journals he is hailed as 'The One To Watch,' the hottest and most charismatic young star. Despite the attention, Orlando is not daunted, claiming with endearing modesty to feel just plain 'lucky' and incredibly 'blessed' to have the opportunity to fulfil his dreams. It is clear from our conversation that he loves acting in the pure way inherent in the per-

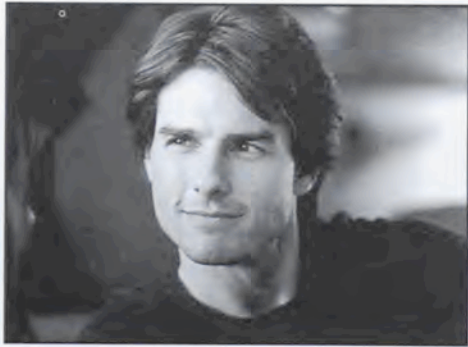
formances of his idols Dean and Brando. On the phone he sounds relaxed and contented with his new life, immensely enjoying the acting and having the chance to work with two 'amazing' film directors for *Lord of the Rings* and *Black Hawk Down*. Orlando is overwhelmingly appreciative of his 'privileged' situation and it is this enthusiastic elation for every aspect that is communicated in his description of his life. I asked him if he felt pressured as a young British actor and he agreed that America is 'a big nut to crack' but does not think of it as strain. Absorbing every minute of the thrilling lifestyle, he lives in the moment, utterly Zen, with an attitude that has been labelled bohemian. Proud of his achievements, Orlando is happy in the present, too busy and too wise to be troubled by the future, he is only excited about what it may entail. His experience on the set of the biggest movie in recent history was one of a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere. Having not even had time to read the abundance of articles dedicated to him since his real debut, the thoughtful and friendly Orlando is pleased to be told that the response has been enthusiastic. When I mentioned the appearance of a plastic figure of Orlando as Legolas he admitted that it was 'odd, very odd, but kind of cool too' and assured me that the copious merchandise and publicity surrounding

*Lord of the Rings* was not 'in his consciousness' at all as he did not have the chance to be overtaken by the mountain of figurines, stationary and hype. His genuine and admirable desire to just be 'happy' and make the most of his life as the actor he always wanted to be is apparent in the sincerity of his voice as he reiterates his 'blessed' situation. Believing it is important to keep up a 'pace' and 'momentum' Orlando has been getting many film offers, apparently a large number of teen horror movies have been refused in favour of 'something a bit more special' and these 'exciting' projects are being discussed at the moment. Enjoying his short stay at home in Canterbury, he values the unhurried and 'mellow vibe' of the city and revels in this time as he does in his experiences away. His father was

one of the founder members of the university and a lecturer in Law, there is a room in the library dedicated to his memory. As Orlando bids me 'good luck' for the future I appreciate that the emphasis on his own lucky fate masks the truth of his success: his admirable decency and an honest love for his work and life. As he grows towards the bright lights of stardom, the roots of Orlando Bloom remain certain.



## Cinema



**Vanilla Sky** (15)

**Director:** Cameron Crowe  
**Starring:** Tom Cruise, Penelope Cruz, Cameron Diaz

Mad, mad, mad, mad, mad. What the fuck is going on? I'm not sure – but I like it! *Vanilla Sky* is a remake of the Alejandro Amenabar film, *Open Your Eyes*, which also starred Penelope Cruz. The original's pretty good I suppose, but it's all in foreign, what's that about? This updated version is helmed by *Jerry Maguire's* Cameron Crowe, and he's done a fairly commendable job. The film has a superb soundtrack and opens with a dynamic use of both music and camerawork – unfortunately this gradually dissolves away, and we are left with a conventionally shot film that is peppered with the occasional beautiful frame. It is brave of Crowe to follow both *Jerry Maguire* and *Almost Famous* with a film of this nature, and the risk of alienating fans of his previous work has paid off. *Vanilla Sky's* high-points come when the envelope is pushed and the audience is forced to sit through some of the more "difficult" scenes – particularly when it all becomes a bit *Total Recall*, and the more fair-weather filmgoers are likely to drop out. It is an engrossing film, but one can't help but think of what it could have been with a more adventurous and experimental director, such as Darren Aronofsky.

Tom Cruise stars, and his performance is rich in its emotional intensity, despite the fact that through most of it, his face is obscured. His real-life love Penelope Cruz is passable in her portrayal, and they have an undoubted onscreen chemistry. The real surprise, however, is Cameron Diaz. Whilst most people are only familiar with her more lightweight appearances, here she takes full advantage of her relatively minor role and truly makes it her own – mixing devotion with obsession in a worryingly realistic way.

*Vanilla Sky* is psychologically challenging, yet still retains the ability to hold you captive inside its make believe world.

Mike Shaw

## DVD



**Men of Honour** (15)

**Director:**  
**Starring:** Robert De Niro, Cuba Gooding Jr.

With a movie containing two famous and good actors, Cuba Gooding Jr and Robert De Niro one supposes that you can't go wrong. Carl (Gooding Jr.) is a patriotic young American who decides to join an elite Navy division where Billy Sunday (De Niro) is his trainer. Sunday decides to push Carl to the limits of training, not to better him, but in the hope that he will falter and fail in his 'life quest.'

The film itself is quite standard, that same feel good family watch where there are all-star heroes with the cliché patriotism and to be the 'best of the best.' It is an easy watching film, but holds not sort of originality as the storyline seems to be like 'G.I. Jane' where one must defy all and conquer enemies no matter who you are.

As usual there is a 'Making of' featurette and interviews and the theatre trailers. If you do want an easy film to watch then watch this, but it is definitely not worth forking out twenty quid of your student loan on!

Lianna Brinded



**eXistenZ** (18)

**Director:** David Cronenberg.  
**Starring:** Jennifer Jason Leigh, Jude Law, Ian Holm

When a film title is spelt incorrectly, you know it's a bit special; throw in a couple of capiTal letterS in odd places and you're onto a winner! Actually, eXistenZ's unorthodox appearance is forgivable; it's the title of a computer simulation adventure. Leigh is well cast as its creator, showcasing her latest masterpiece to an eager focus group. When things go a little awry, in steps 'PR geek' Law to save her and her game-pod from certain death. Yet a fear-induced visit to the virtual world of eXistenZ soon introduces a host of proto-philosophical dilemmas, spinning with untold danger. Some neat ideas enrich the storyline: the organic weaponry and slimy gaming apparatus for example. Overall, the film teeters awkwardly on the edge of worthy and roller-coaster-ish, but Cronenberg pulls it off with some original slants and a healthy dose of his trademark squelchiness. Oh, and if you thought Ian Holm was scary in *Lord Of The Rings*, watch out for his accent in this!

Nick Madeira

### Ooh, some free films

I don't know anyone Swedish. I suppose it'd be quite nice though. I do however, know someone Norwegian - that isn't so nice. Nothing against the Norwegian people in general you understand, just this one individual mentalist. He talks a little like the "Wait this blue movie isn't ready yet" man from the Grolsch adverts. The man in the adverts is funny. The man from Norway isn't. He frightens people, and not in a good way. He thinks he hears voices that tell him that everyone hates him. He's right. We all do. Every one of us. *Together* is a Swedish film and from what the voices in Norway-boy's head hear, it's very good.

Monkeys. They're good aren't they? I Once tried to stare out a monkey but it didn't work, he just kept looking at me. But, I did manage to stare out a panther - that was quite cool. I honestly did. Then a bit later I tried it with a lion but it got really angry and I ran off. This is all true. It was at a zoo. Do you want to watch *Planet of the Apes*? I've already seen it - it was alright I suppose. So, to summarise we have got, to give away: *Together* on video and DVD and *Planet of the Apes* on video. Do you want this stuff? Answer this question:

**How much money would a multi-millionaire have to pay you for you to kiss a Swedish monkey?**

**Answers to: kredworld@hotmail.com**

Tim Burton's *Planet Of The Apes* is out to buy from 18th February and is available from Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment.





## Video



### Hedwig And The Angry Inch (15)

**Director:** John Cameron Mitchell  
**Starring:** John Cameron Mitchell

Lou Reed kicks arse. So does Iggy Pop. And David Bowie's not that

bad either. But that doesn't mean I want a transsexual to talk to me about them while she's sitting with her head in the oven.

*Hedwig And The Angry Inch* tells the story of a young transgendered German, who agrees to a sex change operation so that she can marry an American G.I. This will mean her route to freedom, but unfortunately the operation is a mess, leaving her in between the sexes. What should she do? Why, become a rock n' roll performer, of course.

Hedwig's story is intercut with 'present day' performances of relevant songs, clearly influenced by the work of her glam rock idols. The film attempts to present its heroine as strong, defiant, abnormal and desirable. She's not quite as sexy as a real woman, though.

**Rob Murray**



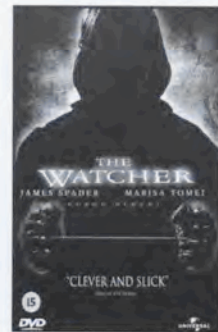
### The Prime Gig (18)

**Director:** Gregory Mosher  
**Starring:** Ed Harris, Vince Vaughn, Julia Ormond

*The Prime Gig*, is a suspense thriller that lacks both suspense and

thrills. The story follows the improbably named Penny Wise (Vaughn) as he becomes embroiled in a lucrative telesales scam with Harris - the Keyser Soze of the telesales world - and Julia Ormond, who he has sex with. The basic flaw of the film is its reliance on the premise that Vaughn is a masterful salesman who can persuade anyone to part with their money, when actually his tactics (which include shouting 'Get your fucking chequebook out!') would simply piss people off and not sell anything. Adding to this is a disappointing 'twist' at the finale, bored acting and the fat guy out of Cheers. Harris is only in it for about 20 minutes, and Ormond is given little to do but have rather elaborate orgasms. Sadly, *The Prime Gig* is a film that could have been quite good, but ended up as a wholly unsatisfactory 93 minutes.

**Mark Craven**



### The Watcher (15)

**Director:** Joe Charbanic  
**Starring:** Keanu Reeves, James Spader, Marisa Tomei

*The Watcher* is a serial killer movie with a twist - the serial killer is Keanu Reeves!

Okay, this may be an obvious selling point, but *The Watcher* is good enough to stand alongside other recent films in the genre such as *The Bone Collector*.

David Griffin (Reeves) is a Los Angeles serial killer, who has moved to Chicago to 'reunite' himself with Joel Campbell (Spader), the detective who tried to catch him back in California. Campbell's previous run-in with Griffin has left him a drug addicted burnout having regular therapy sessions with a psychologist (Tomei). Griffin starts killing again, so Campbell gets off his arse to complete the unfinished business.

What makes *The Watcher* enjoyable is not Reeves playing against type but Spader's masterfully shabby turn, bringing credibility to the 'burnt-out cop' part. There is also genuine tension created as the killer toys with the police. For another entry into an already bloated genre, *The Watcher* is definitely watchable.

**Mark Craven**

## PSOne

### Power Diggerz

If you miss that feeling of playing with your Tonka in your sandpit or on the beach, then I think we've found the game for you. *Power Diggerz*, for the Playstation One, could fill that void. The idea of the game is simple. You drive a "digger" around and solve a number of simple problems, in order to obtain your licenses. Although it says that this game is designed for 6-9 year olds, it's the kind of game that you and your mates could get together and play after a hard night at the venue, while your waiting for your grease-coated Kebab to arrive. Highlights of the game including destroying a house, crushing a car, and generally driving a "digger" around, trying to run over anyone and everything that gets in your way! All in all, *Power Diggerz* is a tractor load of fun for anyone who likes fun and original games, or just liked destroying stuff when they were a child!

**Tom Canning**



## GB Advance

### Pocket Music

The classic late-night psx game has been re-jigged and re-sized to fit onto the small screened Gameboy Advance. Obviously the less powerful machine cannot cope with as many samples and the sound quality is not great, but nonetheless it's still a lot of fun. The game opens with a gameboyified version of "My Name Is" by Eminem and this gives you a good idea of the type of songs you can create. As with all GBA games, headphones must be used to take advantage of the stereo sound that is available.

This isn't going to have the huge appeal that the original had because, due to its format, it's not the kind of game you can play with a group of your mates, but it is still a fun, well created, kick arse game on a machine that is just getting better and better with each release.

**Levte Lyton**



# A Monster Hit

KRED comes out from behind the settee for Disney's *Monsters Inc.*

**“Pixar is a pioneering company, we always want to be breaking new ground. Everything we’ve ever done, no-one has ever done before, no-one has ever seen before and to me that’s just intoxicating...”**

John Lasseter, executive producer of Disney and Pixar’s latest offering *Monsters Inc.*, displays an enthusiasm for his work which is clearly reflected in each and every meticulous detail of this beautifully crafted movie. Thanks to Pixar’s ground-breaking technology we have, over the last few years, been transported to places that have only ever existed in the world of our childhood imagination. We have been privileged guests in the secret world of toys, caught up in the whirlwind adventures of Buzz Lightyear and Woody, then been shrunk to the size of an ant, so we can peep from behind giant blades of grass for an amazing glimpse into *A Bug’s Life*. Now we are taken onto another world that we have never before been allowed to visit, we go through the closet door of children’s bedrooms, into the scary world of monsters that we all know exists beyond.

*Monsters Inc.*, directed by Lee Unkrich, John Lasseter, and Pete Docter, hits our screens this month. It tells the story of Sulley and Mike, two employees of Monsters Inc., a company which dispatches its monsters through the doors of children’s bedrooms, bottling the ensuing screams as the child sees the terrifying

intruder. These collected screams are the source used to power the entire monster world.

The story is so carefully woven together that the world of the monsters, which exists through the closet door, not only seems entirely plausible by the end of the movie, but becomes a reality that should never be questioned. When asked where he got such a unique idea from, Docter told us, “When I was a kid, there were a couple of things I knew were definitely true: 1; that my toys came to life when I wasn’t in the room. And 2; that there were monsters hiding in my closet waiting to scare me. It seemed like a lot of people had the same experience.”

**“When I was a kid, there were a couple of things I knew were definitely true: 1; that my toys came to life when I wasn’t in the room, and 2; that there were monsters hiding in my closet.”**

**Director Pete Docter on his inspiration**

detail is meticulous. Sulley, whose voice is performed by John Goodman, was, according to the directors, the biggest challenge to the animators, due to the fact that he is covered in fur. Lasseter told us; “The fur was probably the biggest technical advance in this film, the more organic something looks or moves like, the more difficult it is to do with a computer.



Sully ended up with 3.2 million hairs, individual pieces of geometry that all react and move and blow individually in the breeze.”

The combination of the fantastic animation and brilliant story line makes this movie a must-see for all ages. Its appeal extends far beyond an audience of under-tens, as its directors confirmed: “We make movies for adults, we just happen to include kids as well. If we make a movie just for adults, we are excluding a huge chunk of our audience.”

John Goodman’s hugely entertaining, yet touchingly sensitive performance as the furry protagonist, inspires a depth of feeling from the audience which many would consider reserved purely for those who have severely regressed, or are of intensely dubious mental stability. A hilarious contrast to Sulley’s touching sensitivity is provided by the brash, yet charming, character of his one-eyed green buddy Mike, played by Billy Crystal. The combination of these vocal talents together with this movie’s clever and witty script is guaranteed to have you chuckling throughout.

And for those avid Disney and Pixar fans, there is the added entertainment of watching out for all the little references to previous Pixar films. The best ones to look out for are the Pizza Planet trailer truck, that Randall (the baddie) finally ends up in, this truck is the one object that has been in all four Pixar films. The bit where Boo gives Sulley her Jessie doll, and finally the names on the sign which lists all the top scarers at Monsters Inc. are actually the names of all the people who worked on the film. With hundreds of little details like this to spot throughout, it is definitely a movie you will be desperate to see more than once.

Elena Alsina



Head to Head: Mike and Sulley

# Yeah, but they were a bunch of freaks, weren't they?

KRED visits Tate Modern's major Surrealism retrospective, *Desire Unbound*

**F**or me, Surrealism has always been about a bunch of dodgy people from France who took acid, were called Dalí and did paintings with strange dripping watches. Well, I was wrong, very wrong as the Tate modern exhibition on Surrealism proved. Surrealism did start in France, and the surrealists did want to expand their minds through art. However, there was a lot more to surrealism than I ever thought, as the exhibition's thirteen rooms showed me, starting with the erotic and in particular the excellent gender bending photographs of Man Ray (he can make a woman look like a penis, damn what a talent). Moving



Marcel Duchamp, *The Bride Stripped Bare by her Bachelors, Even*

on from the influence of Freud and psychoanalysis to the city streets where hidden desires are lurking, though some are more hidden than others. Other key things were also to be found, such as automatic writing which is where they wrote the first thing that

came into their heads, Andre Masson started automatic drawing, where he intended to capture thoughts and impulses like never before. One thing that seems to be true of many of the people in this exhibition is that they seemed to be as interesting as their work, and many thoughtful pieces of information calculating their lives was given in this exhibition. In the Love Poetry room of the exhibition there was enough tales of depression, insanity and promiscuity to give the Venue a run for its money! At least they were doing it for the sake of art! The last few rooms were the most disturbing or at least slightly dodgy. The themes of sex and the idea of taboo were explored,



Salvador Dalí, *Lobster Telephone*

everything from Dalí's Lobster Telephone to films, violence and Hans Bellmer's life size dolls which questioned the desire for both women and young girls. By the end of the exhibition, I had moved from the 1920s to the late 1960s showing the last traces of surrealist art. In all viewing this exhibition was an intense and overpowering experience that left you feeling rather messed up. Guess it worked just fine then!!!

Simon Halsey

Visit Tate Modern's current exhibition, *Warhol*, showing until 1st April. For more information log onto [www.tate.org.uk/modern](http://www.tate.org.uk/modern).



## Dalí: Artist and Exhibitionist



Salvador Dalí was born on 11th May 1904 in the small Catalan town of Figueras. He was a highly acclaimed artist, self-publicist and showman. As an artist he produced a range of astounding images including *The Lugubrious Game*, *The Great Paranoiac* and his *Magnum Opus*, *The Persistence of Memory*. As a self-publicist he was armed with an artillery of ambiguous profundities. And as a showman his haughtily inverted moustache completed an irresistible formula for success.

Dalí studied art in Madrid from 1921 to 1926. However, in 1927 he became increasingly drawn to Surrealism, which was a Parisian movement based on the psychoanalytical theories of Sigmund Freud. With the help of Gala Eluard, Dalí became a member of the group in 1929. Eluard subsequently became Dalí's lover, wife and muse.

Between 1929 and 1939 Dalí produced some of his best works based on his own 'paranoiac-critical method', which regularly incorporated ambiguous images that changed according to the viewer's perception. However, Dalí always maintained a flawlessly scholastic technique, which most of his contemporary avant-guard artists regarded as *passé*.

In 1940 Dalí fled to America where opportunities for him to reveal his talent were abundant. He consequently became a celebrity artist and exhibitionist, which lead to him staging 'happenings' and starring in television commercials. However, Dalí's succeeding years were clouded in controversy as a result of his estranged marriage to Eluard and the circulation of plagiarized works attributed to him. On 29th January 1989 Dalí died at the age of eighty-four and was buried in the Dalí Museum in his native town. Nevertheless the images of Salvador Dalí and his works, which remain as dazzling, poignant and evocative as ever, are etched in the common consciousness of contemporary culture.

Andrew Roughton

## New London Musicals

This spring, three new musicals will spice up the London stage: *We Will Rock You*, *The Full Monty*, and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. *We Will Rock You* features the collaboration of Ben Elton and Queen, and boasts over 30 Queen songs. The musical, however, does not centre around the band itself. Instead, it takes place in a futuristic world where all musical instruments have been banned, and where kids watch the same films and wear the same clothing. Legend dictates that hidden instruments still exist on the planet, and thus the Bohemians must seek out a hero to lead them towards these precious artefacts. An intriguing combination of Science Fiction and Comedy with a wicked score, *We Will Rock You* opens at the Dominion Theatre in May. The theatrical adaptation of *The Full Monty* will finally cross the Atlantic from Broadway to London's West End in March. The musical is based on the most profitable British film ever released, which gained nominations for four Academy Awards, including Best Picture. The stage version of this story, however, finds its setting in Buffalo, New York, a steel town which bears a similar history to that of Sheffield, where the film was set. After a successful run on Broadway, the long-awaited musical is now poised to stun British audiences at the Prince of Wales Theatre. The first stage adaptation of the hit film, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* will recount the adventures of a magical car that can fly and sail. The car's eccentric inventor and his children must outwit the devious Baron and the evil Child Catcher in a fast-paced musical promising entertainment for all ages. The production features elaborate sets, numerous special effects, and a score written by The Sherman brothers, whose repertoire includes songs for Disney films such as *The Jungle Book* and *Mary Poppins*. Starring Michael Ball as Caractacus Potts and theatrical newcomer Emma Williams as Truly Scrumptious, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* takes the stage of the London Palladium in April, following mid-March previews.

Susan Civale



# Musical Masterclass

**I**f you have ever dreamt of performing on a West End stage, then The Creative Masterclass Company can offer you the ultimate, unforgettable experience.

Since 1997 Simon Warwick, has been offering - with the permission of Cameron Mackintosh Ltd - exclusive three and a half day non-residential Masterclasses based around the international hit musicals *Les Miserables* and *Cats*, which culminate in a private performance for friends and family, on the stage of the shows' West End homes.

No professional experience is required to take part - the aim of these Masterclasses is to encourage theatre lovers and performers from all backgrounds to "have a go". However, it's suggested that people who wish to take part in the *Cats* Masterclass have some kind of formal basic dance training. The Masterclasses are held at Pineapple Studios in central London before transferring to either The Palace or New London Theatres where the closed performance of the course work takes place on Saturday morning. Participants work with a creative team from within either production, so the quality of direction is incredibly high. Actual sections of each show are worked on and students are treated as if they were entering the cast.

The course fee also includes a top ticket to see the professional show on the Wednesday evening. A full backstage tour takes place on late Friday afternoon. The Saturday morning showcase can be attended by two members of family and/or friends.

For me, this really was the ultimate offer. I have always wondered when seeing a show in London what it would be like to actually stand on that stage. Having danced with a dance company in Germany for over ten years and being more familiar with *Cats*, I arrived in London for my four-day experience of London

theatre.

We spent the first day getting to know each other, with the normal ice-breaking games to form a kind of group spirit. Then the resident director gave us an insight into the creation of the musical, giving you inside information straight from "the horse's mouth".

Furthermore, if you've ever wondered what *Cats* is all about - a musical lacking in plot based on poems by T.S. Eliot - there is actually more to it than meets the eye. Every cat has its own history and character and these have to be developed artistically. Most of the time was spent learning the dance sequence to the prologue and actually plotting the sequence. Choreography-wise *Cats* is very sophisticated with great attention to detail, and so the rehearsal process is very intensive. Of course, watching the performance by the professionals was inspiring and enlightening. After having worked on a section thoroughly ourselves we actually saw the show in a completely different light. The backstage tour provided you with some further knowledge about the set, the tricks and techniques used in the show.

The actual performance on the final day is something no one will forget. It is an indescribably good feeling to be on stage in the first place, but actually in the West End on the set of a now legendary production is something that doesn't happen every day. I was amazed by the amount of talented people who attended the Masterclass. Some, like myself, only did it for fun, and others were seriously contemplating a career in musical theatre. For all of us it was an experience we will never forget, especially since *Cats* has just posted its closing notices, but for all those who just want to find out what it's like, there's still *Les Misérables*...

Florian Stadler



# Springer Sings

**E**veryone loves trash TV. The kind of salacious, sleazy shows that leave you both wildly amused and strangely pitiful at the same time. This is why Jerry Springer is so successful on both sides of the Atlantic. Take the blurb from the Valentine's Day "Special", screened in America. The show entitled "Lovers Do Battle" features Amy who has never been with another woman,



but says now that she's a stripper she wants to have sex with a woman... her friend, Angela. Or Keisha, who tells her girlfriend, Netra, that she's cheating... with Netra's brother. The twisted plots with their caustic characters just keep on getting worse. And so with this in mind, British composer Richard Thomas decided to write an opera about it all...with hilarious consequences.

"The Jerry Springer show is very excessive and so are most operas," Thomas says. "Although this must be the first opera to include lap dancing as a subject." The inspiration for the Springer opera came from Tourette's Diva, a previous production performed by the same company, Kombat Opera, concerning a psychotic mother and her child. From this Thomas produced a one-man show in which he sat at a piano with a case of beer, improvising songs about Springer's show until he ran out of ideas. Then the audience could actively participate in the "Beer for an Idea" scheme in which each audience member won a bottle for each idea offered. Two months later he experimented with the Springer concept again, this time with four professional singers, and so the production grew to the current performances at the Battersea Arts Centre.

The opera is a satirical version of the show, featuring the scandalous guests, a trashy audience and Jerry Springer himself – complete with Steve the security guard. There's a whole host of shameful scenarios; "Chick with a

Dick" Kylie who tells her lover she's really a man, Montel who has secret kinky desires of dressing as a baby and "shitting his pants" and a Ku Klux Klan member who harbours the sordid secret "I prefer flowers to people". All in all, your average Springer show. I've often wondered where Springer has "discovered" his guests and more to the point, why they have wanted to go on the show, only to completely humiliate themselves and their "loved ones". The song "This is My Jerry Springer Moment" answers my question. Baby Jane (Montel's kinky baby partner) performs the song and relishes the glory of being centre stage. It's her fifteen minutes of fame and she loves every moment of it, singing "I don't want this moment to end, so dip me in chocolate and throw me to the lesbians".

Despite the crude words, the singing is sensational. All the performers are classically trained and the accompanying music is a fantastic fusion from Mozart inspired sequences to rock opera. In fact, there is an overtly intellectual aspect to the production, particularly in the second half when Jerry hosts a show in Hell, after being shot on the show in Act 1. His guests feature Satan, Jesus, Adam and Eve who appear to do battle with each other, and more importantly Jerry. This expresses an important message. On the real show we often see Jerry as the omniscient father figure with his 'final thought' at the end. Yet, throughout the show he provokes the arguments. His guests seem to be chosen for their explosively antagonistic personalities and worst enemies are sat next to each other and encouraged to be frank about their feelings. Springer knows what his audiences want – fights, tears and scandals and he delivers the goods. In the opera Springer is confronted in Hell by his guests after appearing on the show – all now worse off. Springer turns to the audience and says, "I guess this is what guilt should feel like." And then, staring us in the face, is the real point of Thomas' opera.

Suzanne Scatliffe

# Reviews

## Garth Marengi's *Netherhead* Gulbenkian Theatre, 30th January

After reading about a 'spoof of a best selling horror writer,' I wasn't sure what to expect. But there really is no other way to explain it, as Garth Marengi and his two fellow actors pretend to perform one of his 'famous' horror novels. The timing was perfect as Marengi stepped in and out of character, explaining obvious details, a similar style to Steve Coogan as Alan Partridge. The purposefully bad props and wooden acting along with this had the audience laughing throughout at the pompous character Marengi creates for himself. It was a shame there were few there to enjoy this performance, as in my opinion Marengi definitely deserved the 2001 Perrier award.

Dawn Marrington

## *The Pirates of Penzance* Marlowe Theatre, 4th February

Joseph Papp's modernised version of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operetta recently debuted at the Marlowe Theatre. Although Papp's production gained glowing reviews last year, the local staging fell short of its reputation. The show's entertainment derived from overstated, unimaginative (often physical) humour, and consistent song-and-dance numbers. Karen Evan's voice marked a high point in the performance but the repetitive musical numbers did not adequately compliment her talent. In addition, the choreography was dominated by simplistic, do-it-at-home moves that failed to inspire. Undoubtedly, *The Pirates of Penzance* achieved its aim—to provide light, family-style entertainment to a (primarily) 50+ crowd. To the average student, however, it might be best summarised in its own language: "a particularly rapid unintelligible patter that isn't generally heard—and if it is, it doesn't matter."

Susan Civale

## *Fame* Cambridge Theatre, Covent Garden, 15th January

The stage version of the classic dance film follows the highs and lows, loves and ambitions of a group of star-gazing students at the High School for Performing Arts in New York. The acting is mesmerizing, the singing awe-inspiring and the dancing breathtaking. Every role receives meticulous attention from a group of exceptionally talented performers. Both male and female protagonists are truly inspirational and a self-assured performance by Rebecca Wheatley as the stern English teacher lends the performance a degree of maturity, sagacity and accessibility.

*Fame* is an inexhaustibly dynamic and powerful musical with a menagerie of irresistibly melodic songs.

Andrew Roughton



# Ready Steady Book

How to cook: DISASTER

- 4 rapacious University students
- 4 overdrawn bank accounts (prepare in advance)
- 2 empty cupboards
- 1 half-guzzled bottle of vodka
- 1 fridge: (1 carton mouldy milk)
- Plate of pre-Christmas leftovers
- As much beer as can be squeezed into the vegetable compartment)

1. Thoroughly soften the students. The best method for doing this is saturating them in vodka. This will bring out the full flavour. (NB. Chef's tip – if you are short of time, this step can be hastened by mixing spirits.)

2. Put the students in a nightclub and simmer them gently under the bright lights. This should induce hunger.

3. Remove them from the club and blanch them in a student kitchen. Whisk them around the room in desperate search of something worth eating.

Yes, it's true, even budget-constrained students require food. And generally, it is cheaper and healthier to cook fresh food than chuck a ready meal into the microwave. Unsurprisingly, cookery books were ubiquitous in the best-sellers lists for non-fiction last year. A host of celebrity chefs brandishing dinner party planning advice are dominating our bookshelves. So we set out to review a few:



Judy Finnigan

## Ainsley's Big Cook Out Ainsley Harriott

I don't know about you, but I when I open a cookbook I expect to be confronted with vivid glossy photographs of sumptuous food that causes salivation vehement enough to make even Pavlov's dogs proud. I don't really expect to find countless pictures of Ainsley Harriott grinning inanely from an abundance of enviably exotic American destinations, whilst he sips cocktails in barely-there shorts. Not that there's anything wrong with Ainsley's legs. They just don't help me much when it comes to deciding which of the many delicious sounding recipes will look most impressive on my Bar-B. This book cries out with the essence of the ebullient celebrity chef. Other than his face smiling out from every page, there is the language. The dishes have names like 'Ooh-la-la red wine marinade' and the descriptions are so typically Ainsley that you can imagine him standing beside you, shaking his derriere and the salt with equal enthusiasm. As for the recipes: the instructions are clear and simple which is a definite bonus, and you don't necessarily have to use a barbeque to cook them. Unfortunately, the ingredients are often unlikely to be found in the average student kitchen and vegetarians are not well catered for. But if you're a fan of Ainsley's legs than the pictures alone are enough to leave you smiling for days.

## The Ready Steady Cook Book Various Dullards

Shock! Horror! This book opens with a devastating revelation. In her foreword, Fern Britton admits that 'I have tasted a few raw potatoes and some crispy pasta in that time.' It's true, the chefs on the whip-up-a-veritable-feast-in-twenty-minutes programme don't always completely finish cooking their dishes. I apologise if I've ruined anyone's week.

The book comprises the favourite dishes of all of Ready Steady Cook's best-loved chefs. It starts with a list of all the goodies we ought to keep in our larders in order to be the perfect caterers – cardamon pods, cornflour and soy sauce are apparently all essential if we are to

Will Young from Pop Idol



achieve any sense of gastronomic fulfilment. But there is a great choice of all sorts of recipes as each chef describes a rounded meal – with starter and dessert. The main problem, in my opinion, is that the recipes are often complicated and require lots of 'pinches' of herbs and spices. The chefs may be able to conjure up such delights in twenty minutes, but it would take me half an hour just to weigh out the ingredients. The greatest words of wisdom are offered by Valentina Harris, 'The traditional saying is 'il riso nasce nell' acqua e der morir nel vino' (rice is born in water but must die in wine). In other words, always drink wine when eating risotto!' Cheers!

Jess Fielder

## How to Cook: Book One Delia Smith

I did a Delia. Heartened by the knowledge that the woman allegedly responsible for nationwide enlightenment concerning the art of egg boiling is now immortalised in the dictionary, I turned to her cookbook for culinary inspiration.

The dense instructions are slightly daunting for a cookery novice. Call me a wimp, but I like the numbered step-by-step approach, with every stage broken down into easily digestible segments. Once you see past the thick blocks of writing, though, and actually begin to read the words, the directions are lucid and easily followed. Description of the food's appearance at various points is particularly comforting. When you've got a glutinous clump of goo sticking unpleasantly to the side of a bowl, it's a great relief to know that such mess is normal. So what about the recipes themselves? This is a woman with a passion for eggs. I have spent my entire life under the misguided impression that eggs were eggs – to be enjoyed either hardboiled or as 'dippy eggs with soldiers'. I am now educated. Delia exploits eggs in all possible ways – and does, as promised, take the reader back to the basics. Recipes are typically English – featuring national treasures like toad in the hole and stuffed jacket potatoes. There are also more exotic ideas thrown in for those of us with more eclectic tastes. In short, the variety is good, the instructions are clear and the pictures look scrumptious. This is the kind of book that you can delve into every now and again to impress your housemates. (It even teaches you how to cook toast!)

Jess Fielder

**The Return Of The Naked Chef  
Jamie Oliver**

Jamie Oliver returns! And he still hasn't found out who pinched his clothes, poor lad. However, luckily, he seems to have man-



Anthony Worrall-Thompson

aged to borrow some for the photo shoots of his new book, which contains a few nice ideas for tasty food. Imaginative stuff some of it. Personal favourites include: Baked fennel with garlic butter and Vermouth, and mixed leaf salad with mint, peach and prosciutto (that's parme ham to most of us) and chocolate pots.... However it's not all taste bud shattering novelties, I mean who needs a recipe book to tell you how to make Maltesers and ice-cream?

I would still refrain though from naming this the all-time-student's-cookery-bible however. Although his recipes are, to be sure, simple and easy to follow :you don't have to make things three days in advance or find yourself five pages latter still mixing the sauce. And the vocabulary is of a level that I think we could all manage, no fancy technical terms. But using words like loadsa, a handful, a knob of or a good lug of.....doesn't alter the fact that it's fresh ginger, coriander, pecorino cheese or extra virgin olive oil he's referring to. Something called a "pukkolla", yes that's right because he reckons it's a pukka recipe, is enticing until you realise that it contains five ingredients you have never heard of and that it would eat up the rest of your student loan ordering them from some exotic organic place if you had. However if pak choi, bok choi, and Jerusalem artichokes are to you what baked beans and toast are to the rest of us then you have found your culinary soul-mate!

**Philosophy  
Files**

**S**o you thought that philosophy was all about waffling on about shadows in caves and that philosophers were all aged bachelors with long grey beards and weird Greek or German names? The books they publish hefty tomes full of circular arguments and long and boring demonstrations that end up proving that the reason we can't find the answer is that we are asking the wrong question? Far from it. Here is a book that illustrates important philosophical concepts with little green men from out of space called Blib and Blob a cowboy called Murderous Murphy. The pink pig on the cover of Stephen Law's "Philosophy files" may convey the impression of a less then serious book but don't be fooled. Although some of his characters may be a little colourful ( it is after all a children's book) the core of the philosophical discussions will stimulate almost everyone's intellect. (obviously if you are a final year philosophy student then most of

these ideas should not be new ). Not having any children of his own yet he used his publisher's daughter, Sophie, to test out chapters of his book on to see if the style was accessible. So having been tested on a 13 year old it ought not be too difficult for even the most mentally challenged among us. The book tackles important issues such as the existence of god, morality, and the mind and brain distinction in an interesting way. It goes into the problem of the use of language in the formulation of problems and looks at the line between virtual and reality. Stephen Law himself doesn't exactly conform to everyone's idea of a stereotypic philosopher either. When explaining the difference between a faith and a belief he states that "Elvis is alive and well and living in Swindon" and that although eggs make him retch this is not an intrinsic property of eggs (although perhaps one of Rutherford dining hall ones). Although he lives in Oxford he teaches at a philosophy and theology College in London, where his students must be highly entertained if his lectures are also populated by colourful characters such a smart pigs and aliens from planet Varg (no not the home of Blib and blob

another planet entirely) and illustrated by the "Boo-Hoorah theory" (that deals with the concept of the development of morality as if it wasn't obvious.) When asked why he wanted to write a philosophy book for children he answers that his aim is to make philosophy more accessible to everyone. He believes that everyone is a philosopher, although they don't realise it. Philosophical issues are important things and should be considered by everyone at some point so that that don't end up leading "sad and impoverished" lives. The questions surrounding morality in particular can save us from the 20th century "moral sheep" effect. If you are still not convinced and misguidedly think that Blib and Blob are too infantile for you, despair not. Another book, this time aimed at adults is due to come out in the spring of 2003 investigating issues such as whether morality is like a pair of glasses, and if gay sex is wrong? Again although it may seem odd, this is another attempt to familiarise people with some of the main philosophical debates, admittedly in a novel but highly enjoyable way. Watch out for it!

Rachel Rodgers

## UKC Skydiving Club Arizona Trip

**S**ince the UKC Skydiving Club began, we have constantly been searching for a bigger and better way to go completely crazy! Skydiving is an exhilarating sport, complete with high-speed freefall and large adrenaline binges. This year, our quest began by following the sun to 'Skydive Arizona' over Xmas, at the world's largest and arguably best DZ on Earth. They had everything a skydiver could possibly dream of, a fleet of 8 aircraft that included a bi-plane, hot air balloon, a DC3 + Beech (old WWII planes) and a tailgate plane. The staff were friendly, as was the atmosphere, and the jumping was non-stop all day with an average of 80 plane-loads a day!?

At 13,500ft we'd exit the plane and fly either alone or with friends ogling at the sunswapt landscape and breathtaking rocky mountains. Unusually special jumps were equally made by the club. High altitude jumps were done from over 21,000ft. This required oxygen on the way up, but increased freefall to 2 minutes (double the usual time) before the parachute was deployed. Also jumps were made from a hot air balloon which were thrilling for even the most experienced members. Jumping out of it in an inflatable raft was something else altogether. As far as we know, this was a world first!

Our 2 newest members, James Clarke + Adam Dunn, became fully qualified skydivers. Furthermore we clocked up two more club records: Our Hely did 19 jumps in two days and Kris managed 11 in a single day. Exceptionally, most of us got to jump with world champions. Thank goodness the bar was welcoming to knackered Brits at the end of the day!?

Overall, UKCSC did 400 great skydives. This was just one of the many fun activities that the Skydiving Club does throughout the year. To join up or for more information, log on to [www.su.ukc.ac.uk/societies/skydive/](http://www.su.ukc.ac.uk/societies/skydive/), or email us on [skydive@ukc.ac.uk](mailto:skydive@ukc.ac.uk).

**Michael "Wizzy" Wisdom**  
Secretary, UKCSC



## GO TO THE XTREME

**O**n the border of the menu in Bar-X-treme (a haven for townies and tarts, neither having any serious interest in endangering their own lives through the pursuit of a physical goal), there is written a list of so called extreme sports. Rock-Climbing is not among them. In fact Rock-Climbing is often excluded from the genre of extreme sports all together. Why is this? My personal opinion is that the only experience the general populace have of climbing is when they were twelve, wearing a bright red helmet and top-roping a pissy little thirty foot sandstone crag at a PGL or some other activity weekend. Not particularly extreme, granted. However, that is not what climbing is about. Climbing is not a competitive sport, it focuses rather on self-betterment; one chooses a goal for oneself and perseveres on the rock until that goal is achieved. Neither is climbing a wholly safe and easy sport. When climbing is taken to its limits, there is nothing further than a pretty picture of innocent kids belaying each other in the summer sun.

Imagine hanging a hundred and sixty feet above ground by just your finger tips, you are cramping up in your other arm and are trying to shake it out, not only this but you have just noticed that because of rope drag, poor positioning, your last three runner placements have popped, meaning that if you fall it is highly unlikely that the gear beneath you will hold. On a fall the rest of your gear will pop out and you will probably drag your belayer off the wall as well (we've all see 'Vertical Limit'). All in all, if you fall you're pretty fucked. So what do you do? Its not snow boarding or surfing, you can't just call time out and paddle back on into the beach, you've got to persevere. If you let go you probably die, so you chalk up and make your next move out into the lip of the overhang. You ankle hook, hanging upside-down by one hand, one leg firmly placed while the other hangs uselessly. With your free hand

you reach over and start slapping about, frantically searching for a huge jug that you know just ain't there. All you find is a tiny finger crimp with room enough for two fingers. You have no choice, you simply have to pull as hard as is humanly possible, balancing precariously, out onto the exposed face of the climb. And that's it, you've made it.

Sound easy? Fancy having a go? Come and learn a sport that is really character building, with serious training, in a few years you will be able to impress your mates with one arm pull-ups and cripple them in games of mercy. The University of Kent Mountaineering Club offers the chance to learn to climb properly. As one of the largest and best funded clubs on campus with over sixty paid up members, we offer the chance to climb all over England and Wales. We train in the sports hall on a Wednesday night between 7-9pm. On Tuesdays and Thursdays we travel to Rochester to a purpose built indoor Rock-gym. Once a month we leave Canterbury for a very cheap weekend of climbing on real rock. If you feel tempted come along on a Wednesday and give it a go. Your first week is free and if you want to join, a years membership will only cost fifteen pounds, with weekend excursions ranging from twenty to thirty pounds all inclusive.

**Christopher Searle,**  
President UKCMC





# JON BRASSE - AN INSIDE VIEW!

**W**e finally managed to get hold of our Sports Sabbatical Jon Brasse, who is somewhat elusive due to the busy life he leads as sabb, to give us an insight into what it is he actually does.

**Why did you decide to campaign for sports sabbatical? Were you confident that you would win?**

For many reasons really, I had seen Ben Maher and Trudi Else work over the last couple of years and they made the job look like quite an attractive proposition. That and the fact that I wasn't ready to leave for the big wide world in a year made the idea a more lucrative one. I am a strong believer in setting myself challenges and this one for me was a whopping one. I was quite confident but not completely sure that I'd win at all. The task was made a little easier with Welsh Tom and Tom Leadbitter dropping out due to one reason or another, however Hoogie was a more than capable competitor. Put it this way, I wouldn't have been shocked if he had won.

**What are the main roles / objectives of the sports sabbatical?**

It's not an easy one to describe right now, as the job will be modified quite a bit for next year. The new structure of the Union over the last year has had consequences for not only the Mandela building and the Venue but also for the Sports Federation. Whereas formerly the role of the Sports Sabbatical had been rather admin orientated with BUSA and Kent Leagues etc taking up the majority of my time; next year, with the arrival of the Sports Fed Coordinator position, the Sabbatical will have more time to be able to work on case studies like the wonderful Lashings match we held last year. Indeed, with the admin responsibilities shifted, the role will be more about widening the face of Kent Sport as a whole. The effects of this change, I think will be brilliant for both the Union and the status of the University.

**What is a typical day for you as sports sabb?**

A typical day would consist of 30 phone calls, 45 e-mails, 1 disciplinary, 70 PR's, 1 angry team, 2 meetings, 1 finance run, BUSA arrangements, minibus stresses, Insurance problems, a few natters with Helen about Eastenders, lunch in Eliot, a bit of training, a number of visitors who use the office as a social club and a partridge in a pear tree!

**Is there anything you are or planning to innovate / change with regards to the organisation of - sport at Kent - your role - any current policies you disagree with?**

A controversial question! Well, I've sort of answered a bit of it by previously describing the changes that will be made. And as I did



have a hand in implementing them, I think from that one can decipher what I wasn't completely happy with and what I wanted to happen. I think though with whatever job you take on, there will be aspects you're not happy with and at the same time, those which couldn't be better ( the diplomatic answer!!)

**What sports do you play?**

I'm a Rugby player, though I used to be heavily involved with Athletics. I'm also a keen Hotpotabmintontennis player. It's a wonderful Sport involving a Squishy ball, Tennis rules and a badminton court. Doubles is fantastic!!! (Sorry, a bit of an in-joke....I really don't promote cliques.)

**Are you pleased with UKC's results in the BUSA matches and/or other events?**

Its a been a good year so far, Notably with the Netball 2's, Basketball are unbeaten, Volleyball have been beating professionals and Rugby have won their league unbeaten as well. In all most of our clubs have done really well and none of them can really be faulted for effort. I have only had to give a handful of walkovers which is excellent considering I've had to accept quite a few.

**What are you planning on doing after your year here?**

I have the last year of my degree to do so I'll potter away with that. I'm still going to sit on the Sports Fed committee but mainly to see what happens and to give advice when needed.

**Do you still have time to go out, student style, or is life completely different as Sports Sabb?**

It is completely different as a Sabb. You do still

go out, but I'm generally knackered quite a bit. Actually I'm painting a gloomy picture, it isn't that bleak at all, in fact you get to meet so many new people that going out is usually always fun. Free Venue tickets and ball tickets generally enhance this experience! Also over this year you get a bit more money so you can go out a little more if you want.

**Do you have any advice for anyone who is campaigning for sports sabbatical or any other position?**

Just be different, people always remember that person who is or did something different. The fight against apathy for the elections is a hard one so if you can do something that will spark off the image of you in someone's mind just before voting then you will get their vote. That is of course unless they remember you specifically because you turned them off voting for you!

**Do you have any comments/statements you would like to add?**

Only that I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all those who don't generally pay an interest to student sport to come and either give it a go or at least support our teams. They have been working very hard and deserve the backing of the students of the university they represent. The matches can be of a standard similar to professional and you never know, you may be watching the next national superstar in the making!!!!

**Do you have a girlfriend?!**

Yes I do!!!

**There you have it.**

Laura Smith

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