



Volume 5 Issue 7

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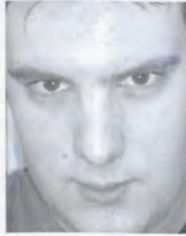
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## Volume 5 Issue Seven

### EDITORIAL

There comes a time in every man's life, when he must stand up and be counted, when he must show his face. Hi, my name's Mike, and for the first time my editorial carries my picture. I feel that after all this time you deserve it. It's a sad day today in the Kred offices. It's time to move on.



It's going to be hard to go, but it has been made easier.

Change and "progress" within the Union is destroying student media. There's no one person responsible, it's just the behaviour of an organisation that cannot bear to hear any form of criticism, and would rather bury its head in the sand and slowly strip away our freedom, than listen to the students it's supposed to represent.

Student media, in every form needs to be kept vibrant and alive – and it needs you to do that. Whether you speak your mind in these very pages, or are moved to create your own publication, it is your responsibility to speak out. Keep it active and honest. Fight censorship.

Personally, I feel this year's Sabbatical team have done a good job, and have gone a long way towards amending the mistakes made by past teams. The organisation as a whole, however, has lost its way. Where students were the prime concern, now it's revenue and public image. Don't rock the boat – it'll damage Kent Union plc. Students and their welfare should come first, lest we forget the Union's purpose. It's about *care*, not *career*.

Due to the escalating restrictions placed upon us, and the "development" of this magazine as a propaganda tool, I fear that this magazine will become defunct and irrelevant to all but the most sanitised and tedious of Kent's students. Prove me wrong. Please.

Finally, thank you. I have genuinely enjoyed my time working with you – my editorial team, students and staff.

I'm off then.

Mike.

#### DISCLAIMER

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

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2003

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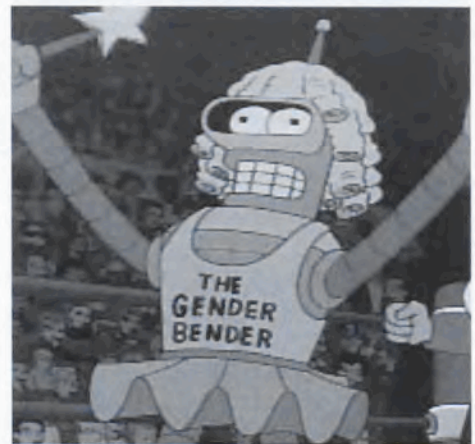
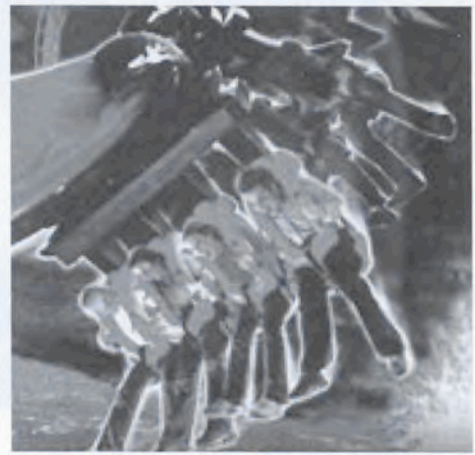
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### Contributors

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## Out with the Old, In with the Venue

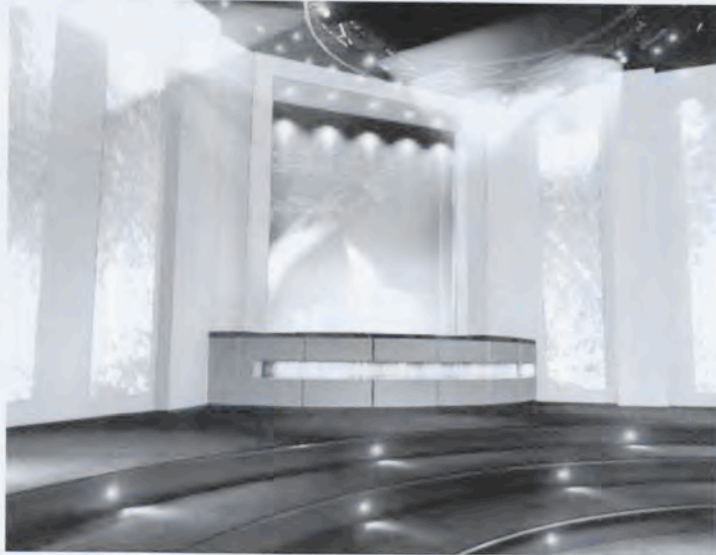
The Venue is set to undergo further refurbishment to compliment the changes made to the Lighthouse and Balcony areas last year. Inevitably, such developments will come at a cost, but it is hoped that this will increase not only the popularity of the club amongst UKC's students, but also the image of the establishment - something vital in securing even better acts and DJs in the future.

Whether or not the new look, combined with the recently instantiated management, will provide value for money is bound to provoke debate.

What can't be denied is that the planned design is a move to a classier Venue. By embracing a more minimalist interior the designers have created a modern appeal that should stand the test of time, perhaps a little better than the kaleidoscope of funky metal poles we all know and love.

There will also be changes made to the

acoustics, making the current system sound better by simply moving the speakers - a relatively cheap operation.



This new look will hopefully give us an on-campus club to be proud of. So what do those responsible have to say to the students who would have been happier with cheaper drinks, better acts and a

more varied music policy?

Communications Sabbatical Matthew Ensor said that the chances for any of this are not harmed by the expense of the reform, as they are budgeted separately. Furthermore, he points out that "aspects of the new design mean the Venue is more open to a varied music policy", and we can assume that with a higher profile and better takings at the door, cheaper drinks can perhaps be justified.

If the pre-completion shots are anything to go by (which is what they're there for, lets face it), then the possibilities for a bigger, better night out are certainly improved. What is made of such advanced facilities, however, remains to be seen. We may be inclined to ask for a better sound-

system and continued access for societies and special evenings to justify them, but ultimately, it's up to the union and the students of UKC to work together to get the most out of the Venue.

## Batman lost in Kent

It seems that Tunbridge Wells in Kent has its very own superhero. In past weeks a man dressed in a cape and mask has foiled various crimes in the area. The vigilante has protected a man from a beating and a woman from being verbally abused by chasing the offenders away, but in both instances did not reveal his identity to the victims. However, he has since been exposed as a hoax of sorts: BBC Kent reported how he started life as a publicity stunt. Yet this does not detract from the good deeds of so-called 'Monkey Man', and we wholly back his knighthood.



## UKC Identity Crisis

As of April 1st the University has officially become the University of Kent, dropping the 'at Canterbury', to mixed feelings across campus. The new name is said to represent the changing role and mission of the University in the national, and international, arena.

Many students feel the old name, with its link to historical Canterbury, held a lot of respect worldwide, and that as they joined the University as UKC, that name should be on their degree certificates.

Sue Shepherd, Director of the University's Communications and Development Office,

says the new name will be just as well respected: "We believe that the new name represents an evolutionary development and, as such, carries with it the prestige and reputation of the institution as it is now." And don't throw away those UKC hoodies yet: "The UKC and UKM name and logos will continue to be used as campus identifiers and for location-specific purposes. The current signage, for example, will not be changed."

However, this year's degree certificates will all carry the new name.

Matt Pawsey

## Sculpture Shock

Something strange is taking over UKC. For 100 days, various peculiar forms will grace the campus and various locations throughout Canterbury, and all in the name of art. You may have already encountered the 'three gherkins' lurking on the grass between Rutherford and Eliot colleges, or the 'nodding donkey' and 'extruded llama-piano' heralding those who arrive by the main road. There are other sculptures around the city however, most notably a colourful chequered stone piece outside of the wall by the city's east gate. Hopefully this will inspire other artistic excursions in the near future. But not involving veg. In the mean time, why not take your friends along?



## SARS Still A Threat

It is now several weeks since the outbreak of the SARS virus became an issue of international concern, but its effects are still potentially harmful. Researchers have predicted that the virus is likely to continue in its current form (not mutating to weaker strains as similar viruses have in the past), and so anyone visiting affected areas or otherwise coming into contact with those who may be infected should take precautions. Although various cures have been suggested (perhaps the most appealing being the prospect of a double vodka a day), the most advisable course is to follow doctor's guidelines.

Full details of the problems involved and the appropriate action can be found on the UKC website, but the main points to remember are as follows:

-You are not likely to get SARS from someone who does not have any obvious symptoms. The risks of infection are minimal during the incubation period (two to 10 days before you become ill) and during the early stages of the illness. It is spread through the interchange of bodily fluids, largely from those who are visibly ill.

-If you do come into contact with someone who you know has the illness, you should notify the University Medical Centre (on 01227 765682), so that your temperature can be monitored.

-The symptoms to watch out for are respiratory flu-like symptoms or a high temperature/fever within 10 days of dealing with SARS infected persons or areas. It is important that anyone experiencing these symptoms should contact the Medical Centre on the above telephone number, as there is every chance that it can be stopped in its tracks and the threat removed.

-There is no reason to assume that those who have travelled to affected areas carry the virus if they have no symptoms, and certainly no need to wear a mask. Most importantly, watch out for the symptoms, but until these are clear, do not make any assumptions!

For the full University guide to SARS visit:  
<http://www.kent.ac.uk/student/sars.html>

## Bing Crosby was fan of UKC

Last week it was revealed that Bing Crosby, the singer of such hits as 'It's Been A Long Time', 'Don't Fence Me In' and 'White Christmas', was a massive fan of UKC. In his late years, he is said to have been in the process of composing a song entitled 'Ooh Yeah, That's Right', which was written about and dedicated to the Uni. The revelations come about as a diary of his is about to be auctioned off at Christies. The words of the chorus, said to be Bing's favourite part reads: 'Eliot, Eliot, Rutherford, Ooh yeah, that's right'. Family members are confounded as to why Crosby would show such an interest in UKC, as he'd never visited Kent.



## Police Issue Drug Rape Warning

Canterbury Police, in association with the Safer Community Partnership, are distributing 10,000 beer mats to raise awareness of the problem of date-rape drugs and encourage people to report on dealers.

The mats are being sent to those pubs and clubs in the Canterbury area that are popular with students and young people.

Drugs Liaison Officer, PC Dale Lowes, commented, "I am glad to say that date-rape drugs are not a problem in the area at the moment but we want to keep it like that. People who spike drinks are the lowest of the low, putting substances in drinks with the sole purpose of taking advantage of

others against their will."

"These beer mats are printed with the telephone numbers of agencies who can help the victims of date-rape and also a number for Crimestoppers where those with information about drink spikers or those dealing in date-rape drugs can inform police anonymously."

"If you are even thinking about spiking drinks or dealing in date-rape drugs, remember that it could take just one call for you to be arrested and maybe end up facing serious criminal charges in court."

Michael Ivatt

## Conviction For Fire Prankster

Malicious false fire alarms are an ongoing problem at the University, and it is very difficult to catch the culprits. However, before Christmas a student was apprehended in the act of sounding an alarm and the Police decided to press charges. In January the student went to court and was convicted of a criminal offence.

On a more positive note the University Safety Office have asked us to pass on their thank to everyone for their extra vigilance and on going support during the recent series of Fire Brigade strikes. Prior to the strikes Kent Fire Brigade had visited all colleges to talk with students regarding fire safety. As an incentive for students to attend a prize draw was arranged and the winner of the first prize (cheque for £200), Craig Curran, is pictured with two of the runners up, Hely Boylan and Evangelia Gymnopoulou, after receiving their prizes from Professor David Nightingale, Pro-Vice Chancellor.

Mike Salmon



Everyone's a winner with fire safety

## Alan Attack

Jonathan Creek, stand-up comedian and the star of the acclaimed detective series 'Alan Davies' is to be awarded an honorary Doctorate of Letters by the University of Kent. Jonathan graduated from UKC with a drama degree before going on to become one of Britain's most popular stand-up comedians. As well as Creek, Jenny Uglow, Jane Lewis, Margaret Griffin, Albert Bullock, Professor Norman Myers and Brian Simpson will be awarded with Honorary titles for various achievements, in fields ranging from social policy to historical biography. The event takes place on July 8th at Canterbury Cathedral.



It's not a perm

# Mass Debate: I'm a reality TV show - should I get out of here?

Reality TV. Whether you love it or hate it, you quite simply cannot avoid it. Every year the number of reality TV programmes grows and grows. Within the last year many have already been very successful, such as *The Salon*, *I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here* and *Pop Stars the Rivals*. Now, I will admit that the ability these shows have to catapult everyday people to 'so-called' celebrity status is somewhat tiresome (or in the case of Jade Goody, damn well frightening!), yet, for a moment, forget all the complaints about how "they play up to the camera..." or "it's a set up..." and just enjoy reality TV for what it is; light hearted entertainment. People have become almost embarrassed to admit that they like reality TV for fear that they will be thought of as silly, if not uneducated. Rubbish! TV's purpose is to provide people with a variance of entertainment and reality TV is undoubtedly entertaining, as well as fascinating for many. Shows such as *Big Brother* (which is soon to be making a welcome return to Channel 4) is secretly enjoyed by many, with people repeatedly reiterating that they don't watch such contrived TV whilst the viewing figures rocket. Well, someone has got to be watching these programmes (kind of like the Cheeky Girls who we all claim to hate yet still their manage to sell records!) and I think that now is a time when people should be comfortable with liking reality TV. Yes, it's probably manipulated by producers and directors, and yes, the contestants probably do have ulterior motives for going on such shows, but as long as people keep laughing and enjoying shows such as *Fame Academy*, *Pop Idol* and *The Osbournes* (which for some reason seems to be acceptable reality TV), why should they be stopped? At the end of the day, if you don't like it, don't watch it!

Vicky England

Most people who claim not to like reality TV shows say it is because they won't allow themselves to indulge in such voyeurism. My reason for not liking them is simply that I find them a bit boring. I'd just like to make one thing clear before I start slagging them off, I love *Big Brother* and I've been almost wetting myself in anticipation of the current series. However, I like *Big Brother* because it has something that the other reality TV shows don't have: originality. It was the first show of its kind, and that novelty factor survives because the format is still very different to others of the same genre. For example, it has real people in it, not celebrities ('*I'm a Celebrity*...') or future pop stars ('*Fame Academy*', '*Popstars*'). Yes, it's all very enjoyable for the first few shows, seeing the celebrities give pointers or witnessing the dire and spectacular auditions, but after a while the people involved grow even more dull and predictable. *Big Brother* on the other hand contains total unknowns who, throughout their stay, have no encounter with their newfound fame, and therefore do not have an opportunity to become arrogant and power hungry any more than they naturally are. In this way we truly see people in their natural state, albeit in a more stressful situation than normal. Another bonus of *Big Brother* is that there is usually some real conflict involved. In celebrity reality TV everybody tries so hard to get on, and the odd bitchy outbursts are soon followed up by an all round arse-licking session and a group hug. After all they're in it to further their careers, not get people's backs up. In *Big Brother* the contestants have no reason to stay friends with people. It is the public who ultimately decide their fate, and this fact has led to the legendary rows between Amma and Stuart, Jade and Adele, and Nasty Nick and just about everybody else. I've been on the edge of my seat waiting for *Big Brother* to arrive and, as far as I'm concerned, all those other wannabe reality survival shows can either get genuinely real, or vanish from our TVs forever.

Katie Roberts



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## A word from El Presidente...

Dear All,  
This could be the last time I address you, or at least the last time in KRED (they never give me any space!!!). So in a way, this is both a conclusion and a report to all of you, after all you are my bosses and I do need to be evaluated.

This year has been a great success in my opinion, thanks to a great team, receptive students and most importantly loads of coffee and Paracetamol.. I was told once before that a Sabb job is based on long hours and no appreciation, that throughout my year in office, I will never hear the words "thank you". Well I disagree with that, because this job isn't done for appreciation or credit, it is done because you want to achieve something for everyone, and if that is not satisfying enough, you're in the wrong job. In fact, I want to thank you. I want to thank you for giving me the chance to serve you, and for showing me the appreciation that I needed to keep me going without saying a single word. It's been a great year, thank you.

### 5 Major achievements:

1- Lobbied the university into giving compensation of almost £100,000 in total for those students that were negatively affected by the accommodation problem in September.

2- Managed to lobby UKCH into cancelling

the mandatory breakfast option that is currently in place with accommodation leases.

3- Established the first ever international student committee, which helped organise ONE WORLD WEEK, a new idea which was very successful for a first time event.

4- Taking over "Parkwood Shop" (handover date 1st August), which basically stresses both the plans for future development and the future relations with UKCH as I said in my manifesto.

5- With the help of the other Sabbs and Exec members, wrote the Union's 5-year strategic plan, including a refurbishment plan for all Union buildings.

6- Got Chicken Goujons back on the menu (an item on my manifesto), thanks to a new catering manager.

**Biggest regret:** Not having done more



politically influenced and welfare influenced campaign, and not having stood again for president.

**Best memory:** Freshers' Week.

Sam Abu Dehays  
President of SU 2002/03

## A Year of Sport at UKC

This year has been one that I will not forget! Organising events, sorting out problems, Student Union politics, trying to make a difference and generally realising that you can only do so much. Being a sabb is great when it's going well but a nightmare when the poo hits the fan.

From the start I was really keyed up for "changing the mould" and the stereotype of the Sports Sabbatical of Kent Union, by trying to get involved within the Student Union political system, ask questions, ruffle feathers and generally make sure that I wasn't fobbed off as another "Sports Monkey".

The highlights of my year are focused around three things, one of which is sport related.

The first, as you probably



guessed is the Varsity match against Christchurch. This for me was my baby! I was adamant that I would do this, not only because it was a key point on my manifesto but simply because I knew what I wanted to do, I knew what other people wanted and I was damn sure that it would be a wicked day. I started planning the day about 4 months in advance, from pitch bookings to meal deals in Woodys, to live music and getting the poly boys and girls up to the Venue in the evening. I had meetings with numerous people but when the day came round it was definitely worth it. I know I've never seen 300 people watching a university hockey match (the miracle being that there were rugby players and footballers in the crowd too). The evening for me epitomised what I wanted to achieve from the day, the place was rammed and there were students from all clubs having a laugh, singing and generally being proud of representing UKC, cheesy but true and that's the way it should be! Lifting the trophy and hearing the roar of UKC come from the crowd was the most unbelievable feeling.

The second highlight was the AGM and passing various things, especially the new constitution. A stupid amount of work had gone into drawing

it up and it rightly replaced the dross that was the previous one.

Thirdly, making sure that sports people and anyone with ears were catered for on Wednesdays in the Venue! The welcome appearance of Fever Pitch and the now legendary DJ Lefty proved to be a godsend. I don't think I'll be the only one to say that Wednesdays in the balcony have generally been far busier than downstairs, and have tended to be quality nights out, something we could do with more of at UKC. This I'm sure will change next year.

To finish, being a Sabb has been an experience that I've loved, hated, got bored with and been excited by but at the end of the day it's worth doing. I've worked with some great people and some monkeys as well. I leave you to decide whose who! Politics suck! Sport rules! This doesn't reflect the views of Kent Union but it sure as hell represents mine.

Regards

Tim Klimcke  
Sports Monkey / Sabbatical 2002/03

# Educating Butler



**T**his year seems to have been coming to an end ever since the new sabbs were elected - but now with under two months left the end is actually in sight: offices are being redecorated, hand-over is imminent, this 'farewell' page is being read (hopefully!), and the inevitable question "what are you doing now that you've finished being a sabb?" is becoming more and more frequently asked...

So, to summarise this year in under 300 words.... I think we got off to a great start with an amazing Freshers' Week, which we co-ordinated and worked on together over the summer. I've never been so tired in my life! This wasn't helped by the incredible mess that the accommodation was in as soon as students arrived in September (something which we are still spending time rectifying now), but memories of fire-eaters, James Bond themes, speeches, freshers' fair and alcohol still prevail. Freshers' week was followed by Course Rep training in October, and then awareness campaigns (meningitis and 'if

you do do drink, don't do drunk'). Along came the NUS Funding the Future campaign (thanks to Charlie!) where we bussed or train-ed poor unsuspecting students to get the soaking of their lives through the streets of London. University and Union meetings have managed to keep me busy when the (over) 300 cases this year have failed - more and more academic and concessionary appeals are flooding in now as exam pressure hits. We are currently organising the Summer Ball and also the Graduation Party - we are not quite finished yet and I intend to make full use of my free venue tickets in the next few weeks! However people may have perceived us and the work that we have (or supposedly haven't!) done this year, we have worked incredibly hard - hell, it wasn't all that much fun, but the good times and the successes that I have encountered have (mostly!) made up for it.

Claire Butler  
Educational and Welfare

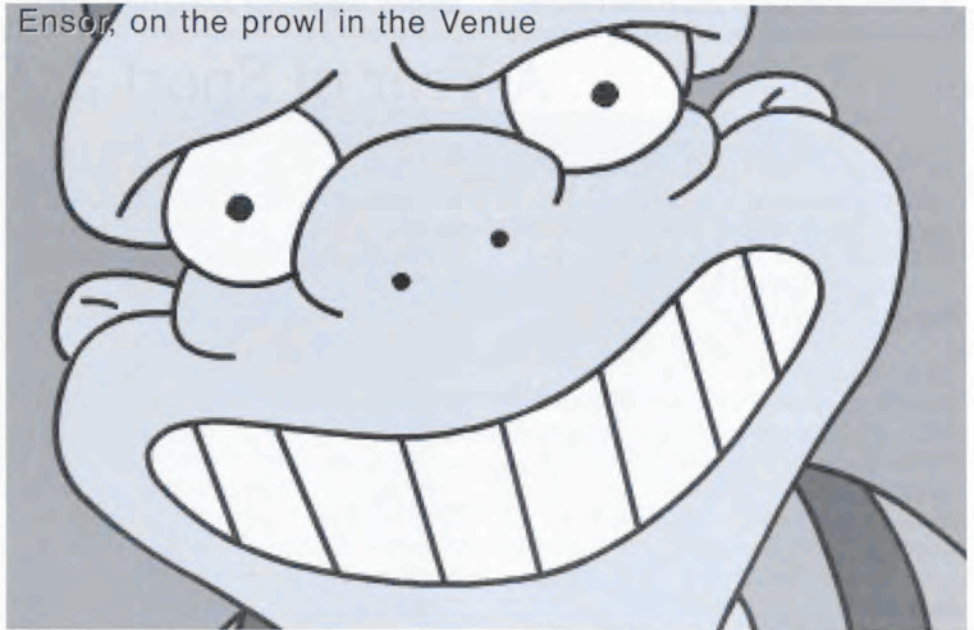
# Communicating! - The Ensor Way

**W**ell, another year at Kent has flown by, and what have we managed to achieve? Not a lot, I hear you say! Let's have a look shall we?

Following on from the work done last year, and continued through the AGM, we had a pretty good idea that there would be no Communications Sabbatical next year. Well, where does that leave me, the last of a dying breed? Firstly, there was an obvious necessity to promote a culture of collective responsibility for communication. The hard thing was trying to get others to realise this, and follow it through! The first hurdle was to encourage others to be more autonomous in their volunteering goals for the Union, but to retain identity and responsibility for everyone's interests. It may sound simple, but the initial step was to be completely honest about where we were as a group of students and staff. This amounted to a harsh realisation that things needed to get better, and that volunteers needed to identify with their union in order for them to be encouraged to better it. The easiest, and most effective way of doing this? Let them get on with it, but be there to help if the need arises....seems to have worked so far!

Where did this all start? Freshers' Week, no doubt one of the most successful to date. Massive amounts of passion and desire were evident in those who helped us during this tricky time, made harder for

Ensor, on the prowl in the Venue



all involved with the accommodation problems that we encountered. Thanks guys, please come back next year!

KRED and UKCR have gone from strength to strength this year, really pulling out all the stops to bring you the services you want. Well done guys, definitely something to shout about.

One of the most underdeveloped areas in the Union (for which I had responsibility) recently was the Website. I have to say I had no idea how long the process would be in order to try to rectify this, and we're

still creating the new, student-run site now. It'll be up soon, I promise!  
Elections! Just finished now, and everyone involved needs to give themselves a pat on the back. NUS South East regional record for voting numbers and lots of candidates filling up the positions. I look forward to working with you all next year, let's see if we can build on the momentum of this year.

Cheers for a great year, let's do it again some time!!

Matthew Ensor  
Communications



# Money Money Money!

**N**o one can say that this year has been boring or dull; there have been ups and downs over the course of the year and I am certain that I will never forget it!

Recently, I have been asked the same questions; "how does it feel now that you are off?" and "so what's it like doing nothing all year?"

My job as Treasurer has certainly not been about looking at figures all day long and 'controlling the money'; I have been involved with the Unions finances, societies and entertainments in The Venue.

I would like to think that freshers week went really well, with lots of activities and support from student volunteers and JCC's. After that, we all had various tasks to do and countless meetings (one thing I will not miss!). Dealing with societies this year has been really enjoyable for me and I will miss that next year. The main regret that I have is not getting involved with the Funding the Future cam-

paign. Aside from what was in my job description I was heavily involved with the events in the Venue from booking DJs to meeting PAs, and have loved it. I have

down and say that it went well (fingers crossed).

All in all this has been an interesting year, which has left me at times wanting to strangle people. As Tim mentions, there are some interesting characters I have dealt with over the year, some good, and some that I will not be sad to leave behind! I have learnt that as sabbs you cannot please all the students here, and if you please the masses then you are slaughtered by the minorities and vice versa, but you have to try! But when all is said and done I will look back on this year with fond memories and will miss the University and the people.



tried to deal with people's issues about what is played in the Venue but have learnt that you can never please everyone.

At the moment the summer ball is the next big project on my list and I am hoping that in two weeks time I can sit

Finally I want to thank all those who have been supportive, both student volunteers and all the staff here. It has been a year that I will never forget.

Minesh Jobanputra  
Treasurer

## Charlie's Talk

**S**o this is it, we're done! It's been a good year, although I'm going to miss the union car, impressive salary and general dassing. Oh yes, and the free drinks tab in the Venue of course! I'm sure you all want to know what we've actually done this year, as no doubt general consensus is very little. So here goes...

Freshers' Week seems like an absolute age ago, but then only last week at the same time – truly bizarre. I've spent the year working on safety and welfare both within the Union and the university, along with heaps of individual casework.

A majority of my time has been spent on the Funding the Future campaign – lobbying the government over recent proposals for Higher Education.

I've also taken a particular interest in RAG, and this is the part where I can brag a bit and say a huge well done to the RAG guys and gals who have doubled the amount raised in previous years.

Perhaps the most crucial thing this year, and that which I'm most pleased with, is

the introduction of the new constitution – the biggest change being the re-shake of sabbatical structure next year. I'm confident that the five sabbatical positions will be much more representative than those at present. So that's a yes – yes, I am happy to get rid of the position of Women's Officer, and so I fully supported it!

It's pretty hard to sum up a year that has been so full of ups and downs, so I think I'll just have to go for 'unforgettable' and, the old chestnut, 'character-building'. I would like to say thank you to all the volunteers in RAG, societies and JCCs that have helped me out this year.

I've met and worked with some great people this year, whose outlook and focus of the Union has been reassuring and wonderful to see, and it's been fantastic to get to know you. I've met some from the other end of the scale too, but hey, I won't go into that now!

Good luck to next year's team!

Charlie Preece  
Womans Officer





# Freshers' Week Volunteering!

Remember your Freshers' Week?  
 Want to be the first to meet the next lot?  
 Want loads of free goodies for your efforts?  
 Want to get involved in organising it, or just help out when you're free?  
 There are no limits to numbers, so get together with your friends and come back to Freshers' Week and help to start the year off with a bang!!



E-mail [M.J.Ensor@kent.ac.uk](mailto:M.J.Ensor@kent.ac.uk) and sign up before the end of term. Please include Name, College, UKC E-mail, Summer E-mail and Contact phone number.

Training will take place on Friday 12th September, ready for the fun to begin on Saturday 13th September.

## Election Results

### Part-time Executive Officers

- Students with Disabilities – Louise Funnell
- LGBT – Ducctape
- Women's – Sarah Carpenter
- Men's - Si Yeldon



Matt Ensor



Ducctape



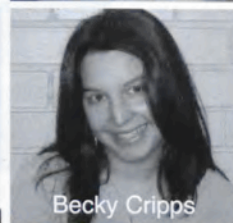
Kirsty Williams



Becky Young



David Budd



Becky Cripps

### JCC Presidents

- Eliot – Josh Roberts
- Keynes – Myrto Fine
- Rutherford – Jon Mahood
- Darwin – Nikki Pitman
- Parkwood – Russell Phillippe



Russell Phillippe



Nikki Pitman



Jon Mahood



Myrto Fine

### Sabbatical Officers

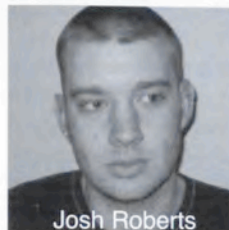
- Education – Becky Cripps
- Welfare – Becky Young
- Sports – Kirsty Williams
- Student Activities – David Budd
- President – Matthew Ensor

1500 votes were cast in all – giving Kent Union one of the highest election turnouts in the South East.

### By-election results:

- Students with Dependents – Sue Bartholomew
- Part-time Students – Stephen Laird
- Mature Students – Judith Aldridge
- International Students – Natasa Louizou
- Ethnic Minorities – Alex Ren
- 2 Ordinary Executive Members – Jonathan Chubb and Liz Main

Congratulations to you all and good luck in the year ahead.



Josh Roberts



Si Yeldon



Sarah Carpenter



Louise Funnell

# We ruck we maul, we drink 'till we fall...

## UKC Womens' Rugby Tour 2003

It was the morning of April 5th that our faithful coach Ollie Rogers was left crying at the side of the road as UKC Womens' Rugby piled on to a coach and headed off for Spain for an unforgettable week of drinking, dancing and debauchery; oh, and a little bit of rugby... We arrived in Calella 22 hours later, after a rather eventful coach journey on which we had to suffer the delightful renditions of numerous Welsh songs by the Cardiff rugby boys, with whom we had the pleasure of sharing our coach, and more importantly the first 'snog' of the tour occurred! The frequently made comment "If you can't remember it, it didn't happen" was rather appropriate in this case! So no names mentioned! On arriving in Callella the sun was shining and the beach was calling so we headed straight out for some sun bathing, little did we know this would be the only chance for such activities, as the weather became rather dismal from here onwards!



The fact that we had to pay £65 each on arrival for club entry and FREE drinks all week, which mainly consisted of pints of vodka and orange, means that I can report very little on our evenings out, that and the fact that "what goes on tour, stays on tour"! What I do remember is that we remained faithful to 'Reach' and of course, 'Relight my Fire', although this led us to discover that the men in Spain are rather less inhibited than those in the Venue when it comes to a lot of young ladies dancing around in just their bras!

The next morning we were made to rise at the ghastly hour of 8am all feeling rather worse for wear and most of us still drunk. We reached the rugby ground which was absolutely rock solid, so we all went home covered in blood rather than mud! Of the four matches we played that day we won... well, none and Kirsty, our marvellous half captain, half chair spent all day lying by the side of the pitch wrapped in a blanket and making full use of the bucket

she had been supplied with. This, of course, was entirely down to the 'dodgy' paella she had eaten for dinner the night before and NOT the combination of larger, vodka, sambuca and sangria she had indulged in after the meal! Despite losing the matches, we did it with style; tries were scored by Boobs, Jeeeeeenn and a virgin try was scored by Kate!

That night the theme was beachwear, and much fun was had, particularly with Cardiff rugby boys, DJs and reps (some who were more friendly than others!).

I'm sure a fantastic night was had by all, I say I'm sure, I can't strictly remember. On the second day of the tournament the number of hangover casualties had increased somewhat and we only just scraped together seven girls to make a team. However two of the three teams we were scheduled to play failed to turn up and this resulted in us only playing one match, which.... WE WON! Final score, UKC 15 - Greenwich 0! Two of the tries were scored by Irk and the lovely Lizzie Legs scored her virgin try with a beautiful run in the last minute of the match! However, the highlight of the match has to be

given to our very own Yank, Dare, who when seeing a Greenwich player cross the try line, decided to run at her with all her strength, pushing her off the pitch onto the concrete, which resulted in the poor wimp (sorry, girl) leaving the pitch, injured. Oh, and we'll ignore the fact that the only team we beat were wearing PINK shirts!

That night fines were distributed by Boobs, these included reading on tour, yes reading! Boobs herself for forgetting her rugby shirt to play in, then getting I.D.'d with Jeeeeeenn when trying to buy alcohol. Others included over-enthusiasm (playing every match) and Anna breaking Claire's



snogging record with no less than ELEVEN men in one night, oh and a certain girl was fined for her antics on the coach journey, but once again, she will remain nameless!

The next day was our day off, well so we thought... but we were up bright and early once again for a trip to Barcelona! This day was spilt into two parts, with half the day spent in the wonderful shop that is Zara, and the other in Familias. The last night was the school disco, always a hit! It was here we picked up our plate, more commonly known as the 'losers' prize! Yet I think we all agree, we could never have achieved such success without each and every one of those pints of vodka and orange! Overall, a quite maaaaaarvellous experience!

Lucy Kirke



# Pulling for Kent

University of Kent Rowing club wins bronze in Paris

**T**he University of Kent Rowing club was off to Paris on the weekend of the 5th and 6th of April for an international regatta. The Croco's cup international regatta attracts clubs from Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, the UK and even Poland and Greece. Beyond the organisational nightmare of shipping 40 people on the other side of the channel with five racing boats, complete with blades, everybody had a fantastic time. The weather was wonderful, allowing the

rowers to coat themselves with various tans, from coffee to the traditional lobster red. On a more serious note, the international competition proved to be tough. In the eights category, two of the French crews had come respectively 3rd and 4th of the French championship, and one other crew had won at Henley the previous year.

Nevertheless, our top men's four still managed to get the best qualifying time for the 1000m event, which got them into the final. The final itself turned out to be a bit more of a disappointment when King's College London took off to a fantastic start, eventually winning the event. Our boys still managed to catch up to third place, narrowly missing silver by .3 of a second in a head-to-head with a French crew. This tight finish brought our 40-



strong team some very emotional reactions, and the organisers kept comparing our encouragements with the "cries of raving animals jumping up and down" (translated from French). Overall this proves to be a very encouraging result for the squad, and it will hopefully serve as an omen of future successes. Well done to our four rowers, congratulations to all those who came along, and King's, we'll meet again next year!



## Kent rowing history written in Nottingham

The Kent Uni rowing team was at the national water sports centre in Nottingham on the 3rd and 4th of May for our yearly BUSA event. After two months of training so intensively that our social life looked like we'd just joined a monastery, the races can be summarised as: "We came, We saw, We opened a can of whoopa\*\*\*". For the first time in the history of our club, both crews made it past the first round. During the whole event we even received comments along the lines of, "wait, aren't you guys supposed to be shit? Where did you say these people came from?"

Our First crew, Kent A, made it to the final and came 6th in their event, under some appalling weather conditions. These guys were rowing with the best teams in the country (Oxford Brookes and Imperial College to name a few) and did superbly given the conditions. Just as a reminder, these guys rowed four 2000m races in the same day. Some heroic moments include:

- The fastest registered starts of the whole regatta. They consistently got the best coxed four splits over the first 500m, even better than some of the championship quads!!!
- The "flying finish": They came 2nd in their semi-final.

The second crew, Kent B, got a good result considering the circumstances. We came 13th in our event (out of 36) and only missed the semi-final by a thread (our time in our repechage race would have allowed us to qualify in any other repechage). We came third in our race in the first round after battling with adversity. We unfortunately lost a blade, then a seat, but managed to put them back in. We got our rhythm back together both times, and come back to finish 3rd and qualify, beating the arch-enemy Hertfordshire by a

good length and a half. Unfortunately the conditions got us in the repechage. Although we made no mistakes and rowed solidly the whole way through it was like rowing through treacle, and we came fourth.

All in all, it was a very positive result, which the club hopes to build on during the summer regattas and hopefully bring back a few trophies!

Sylvain Barde



# Some Like It Hot

**"P**roceed immediately to the brand new 'Nemesis Inferno' ride and try it out right away!" - these were my orders, and I didn't need a second invitation. Making use of the park's handy 'Fast Track' service, me and my fellow Thorpe park ranger leapt into the running for what would be a volcanic voyage of white knuckles and fast-held breath.

After no time at all, we could see the riders ahead of us anxiously boarding, and all we could do was speculate as to just how twisted the well-hung coaster was. Due to this fact - the carriages being suspended like Christmas tree decorations - the floor (or lack thereof) was clearly visible, making the exit look worryingly high. A beaming trainful of lucky riders returned soon after, and we were ready to find out whether their faces shone with hunger for more, or sheer relief.

Everything clunked and clicked, and we were ready to rock in a truly molten stylee. Well, this certainly put the "Aaarrghhh!" into magma. Away we sped, and instead of halting for a speculative ascent, we were thrust into a snake trail, skipping along brutal corners high above the terra firma. Shortly, the obligatory ramp climb did make an appearance, but before we had time to let the tension build, we were at the top. Then comes the juicy bit: storming down a flame-red track, the cruel inversions and jolted chicanery are literally relentless. There's nowhere to admire the scenery from, nowhere to hopelessly reconsider the size of your breakfast; just twist after turn, after loop, after spin, and then you're, back looking agog, wishing you could go straight back on it... like when Cartman buys his own theme park and won't let anyone in. And it's not just fast (77km/h), it's big boned too, with frankly dizzy heights and a 4.5 G Force to boot.

Though rides like the ten-looping behemoth 'Colossus' may make the hot new



recruit seem a bit too short, it's this intensity that makes Nemesis Inferno so very exhilarating. Like Song 2 and Fisherman's Friends, it's all about the rush-factor. And speaking of Colossus, if you haven't checked that out yet, this Summer may be the perfect time to do so - what with the additional arrival of 'Quantum' and 'Eclipse'. Yes, they do sound like new editions of Lynx body spray, but don't let that put you off. The first is a sadistic spin-dry, whizzing a giant platform up and over, churning your insides good and proper in the process (think Chessington's legendary 'Magic Carpet' painted green and yellow). The Eclipse, on the other hand, is one for all the family. So if you want to look mature, or you just want something a little more "iiiiicccccce...!", why not survey the park's festivities from a healthy 80ft.

As if all this isn't enough, Spiderman himself will be joining proceedings in an arachnatastic showdown. Catch him (if you can!) at various times throughout the Summer season, for pyrotechnics, acrobatics and all-round spidey goodness. Thorpe Park is clearly re-establishing itself as one of the big boys, and Nemesis Inferno is an exciting taste of things to come. Bolstering all of the new talent are classics like Tidal Wave and Vortex, so there's no excuses - especially since we're offering two pairs of tickets to the lucky winners of our competition, so ho-foot it to the top of the page now!

If you're not as fluky as a fire safety fan, then details for buying tickets and the like are available at [www.thorpepark.com](http://www.thorpepark.com).

Nick Madeira

## Win Tickets to Thorpe Park!

Well, what you wanna do is go there, don't you?! Now you can, because Kred loves you. Well, four of you anyway. All you have to do is answer the following question, for a chance of winning a pair. The two best answers win a pair each!

Q: If you could design a piping hot roller-coaster, what would it be called, and in no more than 100 words, what would it do. Bonus points will be awarded for originality, number of loops and mentions of 'fire' in the title.

Send your answers to

[kredworld@hotmail.com](mailto:kredworld@hotmail.com)

by 2nd June 2003



# Singin' In

## Rain, rain go away - I want to hear The

**A** famous philosopher once wrote, "Britain's weather is crap," and how right they were, as this years Keynestock Battle of the Bands once again fell foul of Ian McCaskill.

This year though, it was a real shame. Everything was more impressive than in previous years, with ever-so-rock stacks of amps piled high at either side of the stage, and decent sound engineers endeavouring to make even the most garbled of lyrics decipherable. Whether it was the professional assistance or not, the overall quality of the bands far surpassed those of previous years.

Bad weather aside, the only other problems were caused by ridiculously over-zealous members of the "Keynestock Crew" and overweight security guards with delusions of grandeur, who caused more problems than they solved with their incessant demands to see proof that Kred and other journalists (as well as band members and regular punters) were who they said they were. Sort it out next year. Enough of these minor grievances though, on with the show!

The first band to take the stage was Intrinsic, who kicked off with a decidedly lacklustre cover of Hendrix's Foxy. After this shaky start, they came together whilst playing their own material, which the Brian Molko-esque vocals of singer Andrew "Spode" Miller were much more suited to. The star of the band though, was lead guitarist, Jon Clarke – the most



unassuming and least rock looking person of the day –but whose frenetic guitar work and solo flourishes lifted Intrinsic above being 'Just Another Band'. Intrinsic set a high standard from the outset, and were the band to match for much of the day.

Intrinsic were quickly followed by Burning Cow who, sounding like Muse, should have ruled the day – but were let

down by an entirely unremarkable singer. If they re-appear next year with a new vocalist, they will stand a very good chance of a place in the final three.

With the audience's spirits dampened by both the weather and Burning Cow, something special was needed. Enter Simon Valles. This man is a god. Year on year, Valles makes an appearance and steals the show. Year on year, he is not rewarded in any way. 2003 was no exception. Whilst his band, The Darkies set up, he entertained the crowd with an impromptu version of Nessun Dorma. Nestling alongside SARS gags and coughing fits, the highlight of their set was a song that I am not allowed to mention because it's just too rude - honestly. Alas, despite the genius of the songs and the obvious adoration of the crowd, they were overlooked

once again. Kred spoke to a member of the Keynestock judging panel and pleaded for The Darkies to be recognised, but were told, "Yes, they are the best band, but we can't allow them to win." It's heartening to see that a nice fair system was in place. Cheats.

The Darkies also momentarily brought the sun out, which promptly vanished upon the appearance of The Source, newly renamed Tom And The Matchetts. Whilst Valles and co. were cool through virtue of their couldn't care-less attitude, The Source's try-too-hard onstage behaviour and Stroke-alike outfits enamoured them only to the fan club that they had brought along themselves. Musically, they were more than competent, and some genuinely



# The Rain

**Darkies play.** Words by Mike Shaw. Pictures by Matt Pawsey

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We had to wait until The Leftover Jam Sessions for the next band worth mentioning. They were excellent. Clearly they had no chance of winning anything, because violins aren’t cool enough for the judging panel, but the proficiency and good nature of the band raised morale

The Young Playthings

excuse the singing, the naff saxophone solos and the vocalist’s Eminem-style ball grabbing. He even got his trombone out. Unfortunately for Three Sixty, hip-hop styling and brass instruments don’t go together well at all, and combined with a confused cover of Elvis Presley’s “Hound Dog” all

The Darkies



swing of things. Unfortunately, they seemed to have lost the tunes from last year, and though their playing was tighter and more proficient, a song’s not a song without a killer melody.

Time seemed to speed up once inside and, following a flying visit from The Grits (which included a very, very cool version of Mundian To Bach Ke), the Black Strips stepped up. A White Stripes tribute act, but called the Black Strips – do you see what they’ve done there? Rubbish name aside, they were actually very good. A blistering rendition of “Seven Nation Army” got the audience going, and despite some twat throwing things at them, they were very well received.

As ever, winners must be chosen, and after a lengthy wait the final verdict was announced. The Young Playthings were deemed the third best band of the day, with Elysia granted second place. Much to the surprise of many though, the overall winners were the event’s first competitors – Intrinsic. Arguments continued into the night, throughout the Battle of the DJs and beyond. Were the final positions fair? Probably not – but at least it got people talking, and planning to return next year with their own bands, and that can’t be a bad thing at all.

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As the day drew on, and people got drunker, the audience’s need to dance increased. The Young Playthings were exactly what was needed. Effortlessly cool, with a comfortable stage presence, two excellent singers in Robert Batley and Warrick Harniess, and melodic pop tunes, The Young Playthings were the best band of the day.

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When it was time for “UKC’s best new band” Elysia to step up, the rain was falling heavily and the wind was picking up. Cue a move inside. One long, long wait later (although kudos to Keynes JCC for getting it all restarted and look quite cool once inside) and Elysia picked up where they left off.

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The Darkies







# Give a little - Get a lot!



**F**or me, volunteering abroad means living in a scabby hut in some desolate foreign village, sharing your "bed" (an itchy blanket on the floor) with more cockroaches than you can shake a stick at. I've been fully vaccinated against the travelling bug, and so the idea of lugging a ruddy great big backpack around for 6 months just ain't my cup of tea. I'd love to do some volunteering work, but only in a country where I couldn't be bought for a couple of camels. So I was surprised to discover that not all volunteering schemes involve teaching underprivileged kids in a remote town in India with only a pet gnat for company.

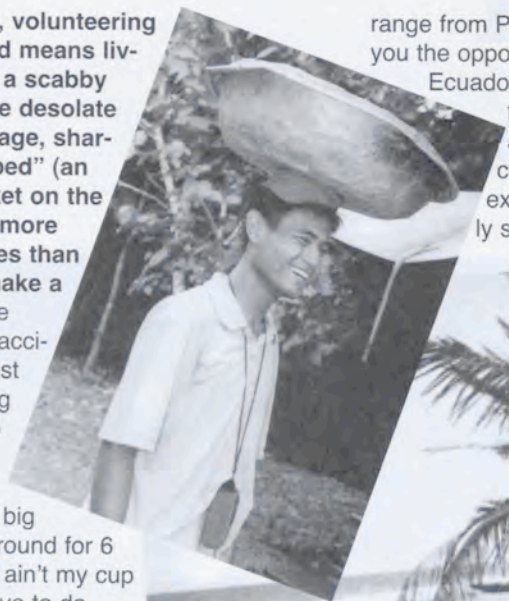
i-to-i is a leading international volunteer organisation, which offers placements in a whole variety of job sectors, in 20 countries worldwide. A placement can

range from PR to kick-boxing and can give you the opportunity to work in Australia, Ecuador, South Africa, or even closer to home, Ireland. Volunteering abroad can give you the chance to gain valuable work experience in jobs that are highly sought after in the UK,

Advisory Service acknowledges: "Volunteering looks impressive, but volunteering abroad really is something extra. It shows you can be resourceful, you are willing to use your initiative and that you have the ability to adapt to new situations. These are all good skills to demonstrate to an employer."

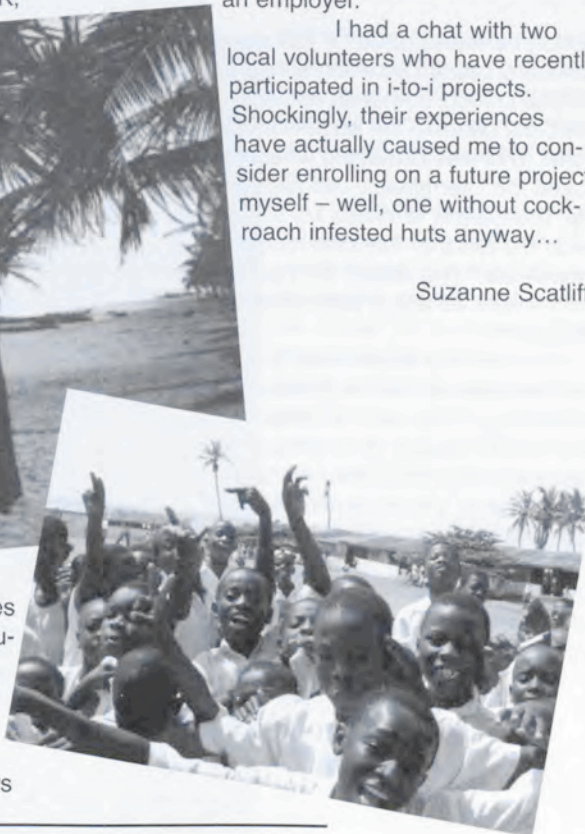
I had a chat with two local volunteers who have recently participated in i-to-i projects. Shockingly, their experiences have actually caused me to consider enrolling on a future project myself – well, one without cockroach infested huts anyway...

Suzanne Scatliffe



Snapshots of one volunteer's experiences (no scabby huts in sight!)

such as a placement at The Times of India, whilst having the opportunity to explore a new culture (oh, and get a tan too!) It's a great way of boosting CV skills whilst doing something rewarding, as Jenny Keaveney from the Careers



**Phillip Elcombe, 26, from Folkestone, travelled to Ghana after graduation last autumn. He spent three months working on radio station, Choice FM...**



## Why did you choose that particular project and location?

My degree was quite media-based and had included writing both news pieces and plays for radio. i-to-i offer 2 different radio placements in Accra: Choice FM, which deals with serious news and political issues (similar to BBC Radio 3 or 5 Live); and Atlantis FM which is aimed at a younger audience with more modern music and is probably the Ghanaian equivalent of BBC Radio 1. Ghana was the only project that i-to-i offered at the time that involved working in a radio station, and having never been to Africa (let alone Ghana) I found the whole thing generally quite appealing.

## What were your most memorable experiences?

Obviously the main purpose to the visit

was to work, but, perhaps the most memorable times were the weekends when we would go travelling and exploring. Undoubtedly the best trip we took was to Mole National Park (pronounced Mow-Lay) which is a fairly basic but eminently inexpensive destination for wildlife enthusiasts, and contains elephants, waterbuck, crocodiles, baboons, monkeys and a plethora of other flora and fauna. Twice a day the rangers offered tours of the park, so on our first morning at the park we all woke at 5.30 and blearily made our way out of our dormitory to discover a family of warthogs playing on our doorstep. Our excitement then turned to rapture when we noticed a wild elephant through the branches of a nearby tree who was then joined by seven friends. They made their way down to the water and bathed and played in the cool, dawn sunshine. The moment is difficult to express in words, but more than one of us had a tear in our eye at such a magnificent, beautiful sight.

## Why would you recommend i-to-i schemes to other students?

I would definitely recommend i-to-i schemes to anyone who is interested in travelling or working abroad. Life is so simple in Ghana, they make do with what they

have. The average Ghanaian family have no washing machine, or television, or any of the modern electrical appliances we rely on so heavily. Hardly anyone has warm water and malaria is caught more often than the common cold, but it is the way that these people cope in such circumstances that is really heart-warming and moving. The actual work that you do is only a tiny part of what being a volunteer is all about. The people love having you in their country, and will always welcome you and treat you like old friends. Experiencing a completely different lifestyle to one that we are all far too used to and take for granted is something really quite special and I really would heartily recommend volunteering to anyone that was interested. In terms of career prospects, if you are really passionate about what you have done and illustrate how your experiences as a volunteer have benefited you, then it always stands you in good stead. One of my housemates, after having been back two weeks, had an interview in London and took her photos of Ghana with her. The employer was very impressed by the qualities that she could offer to the company from her experiences in volunteering. She got the job.

**Lisa Page, 26, from Whitstable, worked as a school teacher in Honduras last year. She spent eight weeks teaching 6-14 year olds...**

**Why did you choose that particular project and location?**

I wanted to take a career break from work and I decided on Honduras because it was less "Americanified", less built-up than some of the other teaching placements. I looked around and found that i-to-i was much cheaper than rival companies.

**What were your most memorable experiences?**

Having to trek for half an hour through the woods to get to the school was pretty memorable! It was wonderful seeing another way of life; the children I was teaching lived in little clay houses and were completely content with their diet of tortillas and fried beans and nothing much more. I was very proud when they started to speak the names of the months in an English accent!

**Why would you recommend i-to-i schemes to other students?**

Without a doubt, it was the most rewarding experience of my life. I travelled completely on my own but by the end of the trip I'd made many new friends. The support of the company was also excellent; I was

assigned a co-ordinator who was always there if I needed her, but I never felt that I wasn't living and working independently. Now I'm back in England I've been to a few interviews for new jobs and I've found that the trip is always a good talking point - many employers have been impressed by my experiences in Honduras.



A classroom in Honduras

- i-to-i projects can last from as little as two weeks to a whole year

- i-to-i travel to Australia, Bolivia, Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mongolia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, South Korea and Vietnam

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- i-to-i offer 24-hour access to an emergency support team on arrival, along with local language lessons, regularly inspected accommodation and comprehensive insurance.

For more information visit the i-to-i website [www.i-to-i.com](http://www.i-to-i.com), email [info@i-to-i.com](mailto:info@i-to-i.com) or call the Work and Travel Advisory Team on 0870 333 2332



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# Wish You Were Here?

**In recent weeks, all forms of media have been flooded with news of one top story; war against Saddam Hussein in Iraq.**

All acts of war have now been officially declared over, yet the legacy of the war will still, it seems, be seen for years and perhaps even decades.

The Iraqi war was a largely unpopular one, with many thousands demonstrating against it, providing us with a very public display of the anger they felt at America and Britain's determination to go to war with Saddam Hussein. One can only wonder whether support for the war would have faltered further had more people considered the bigger picture; in particular the seemingly hypocritical claim made by America, that war was the only option available because of Saddam's gross human rights violations.

There can be no endorsing violations of human rights of any kind. Of course, such violations are usually only found in far-flung places that most of us have never even heard of, or so the West would have us believe, but if we look a little more closely, even America appears to be carrying out more than a few violations of its own. Since 9/11, the world, and America in particular has become obsessed with terrorism and how to prevent it. This includes the capture and arrest of many members of the Osama Bin Laden-led terrorist organisation, Al-Qaeda. There are few who would be critical of America wanting to take a tough stance in its handling of the terrorists who killed so many thousands in a few short hours. However, we must question how long the world should turn a blind eye to America's treatment of the hundreds of terrorists who remain in its 'care', still awaiting trial.

Saddam was portrayed as an inhumane dictator, but America is hardly presenting itself in a better light when,

some years after the 9/11 attacks, prisoners in Camp X-ray continue to be treated abysmally. Yes, these terrorists may be dangerous and should be treated as such, but America appears to be taking liberties with the human rights laws of the Geneva Convention. There can be no justification of keeping prisoners not only handcuffed, but largely in isolation, blindfolded and with earmuffs on for almost 2 years. Conditions where the terrorists are kept have been described as appalling with witness accounts claiming that terrorists have been transferred from place to place in metal cages, always chained to one another and with heads and beards shaven. Once in an aircraft the inmates are then locked into their seats.

One American army chief claimed '...our job here is to take these terrorists out of the fight by locking them up... We'll make it humane'. Yet, months later little appears to have changed at Camp X-ray and news of any developments is sparse. Websites have been set up by Camp X-ray, in order to explain to ordinary Americans why it is so vital that human rights violations are not breached. However, even if Camp X-ray is miraculously outside a human rights violation, one thing is certain; America would not have wanted the world to be so acceptant if American citizens had been kept in such horrific conditions and subjected to such a miserable existence.

Even the fates of the so-called terrorists are already being ghoulishly pondered on, despite the fact that no concrete time scale for a trial has been disclosed. One website says it is important that America be seen to be following the Geneva convention 'before we [the US] start executing people'.

Yet, even British citizens appear to be suffering contradictory treatment in



Camp X-Ray. Shafiq Rasul, from Tipton, near Birmingham has, so his family claim, lost three stone in weight and been shackled to a stretcher whilst being interrogated by MI5. This is a clear violation of the Geneva convention. Therefore, only one question remains unanswered: where was Mr Blair's conviction and morals during Camp X-ray's hour of need? Answers on the back of a postcard please...

Becky Sawyer



# Nato "Quietly" Enlarges

**T**he North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) was established in 1949. Since then both its size and range of activities have increased. Now as the European Union is finalising its fifth enlargement NATO is also preparing to grow. Whilst debates have raged over its activities, their legitimacy and efficacy in recent times has allowed plans for enlargement to quietly move ahead.

NATO enlargement will follow the same eastward direction of the EU proceedings. The states to join are Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovakia, and Slovenia and the two remaining EU candidates Romania and Bulgaria. Hungary, Poland and the Czech

Republic already joined the ranks which include UK, Norway, Turkey and others in 1999. The accession treaties were signed on 26th March 2003.

This has assisted the dismantling of barriers, to EU usage of NATO resources in European Security and Defence Policy activities, but questions remain. What of Cyprus and Malta – will they be invited into the 'club' at a future date? In the light of global developments and the evolution of the ESDP what exactly will be the significance of NATO? Will the US dominate a larger NATO, or is it actually undermining NATO through its actions as it has the UN?

## Truth: The First Casualty of War?

**O**ne of the most striking aspects regarding the recent war in Iraq has been the extraordinarily high number of so called "friendly-fire" incidents that resulted in unprecedented levels of casualties amongst the journalistic community. Amongst those journalists who died in the recent Iraqi conflict was ITN correspondent, Terry Lloyd. He had worked for the company for twenty years and was the first ITN journalist to be killed whilst reporting in the company's 48 year history. Lloyd was killed when the two car convey he was travelling with, just outside of Basra, came under tank fire from coalition forces, whilst a group of Iraqi soldiers were reputedly attempting to surrender to them. Lloyd's body was later identified in a hospital in Basra, but cameraman Fred Nerac and translator, Hussein Othman, who were travelling with Lloyd at the time are still missing in Iraq, more than a month after the incident took place, in spite of an intensive campaign to locate them.

Another cameraman, Daniel Demoustier, who was also travelling with Lloyd at the time, escaped the attack, and was subsequently rescued by Mail on Sunday correspondent Barbara Jones. Demoustier told Jones that the experience "was terrifying. I'm so angry that we were fired on by the allies. The Iraqi's must have been their real target but I'm sure they were all surrendering and anyway they were all dead within minutes".

This incident is just one example of a whole series of accidental killings of journalists that occurred during the course of the conflict. According to The Guardian, just a few days after this particular incident, coalition forces successfully managed to target all the main western and Arabic media headquarters in just a single day. Additionally, a statement made by the

British military only specifically promised to safeguard the lives of 'embedded' journalists, i.e. those who were attached to a military regiment or company.

Military sources have denied that any of the attacks were deliberate, but ITN, whilst not openly accusing coalition forces of intentionally killing any journalists, did go as far as to say they believed that the allies knew what happened to Lloyd and his team, but were withholding the information.

Other sources, however, have accused the allies outright of being reckless with the lives of reporters, and having a blasé attitude towards protecting them. One unnamed BBC journalist, for example, even claimed that the military often disregarded information media companies gave them regarding the location of their reporters, saying, "I know al-Jazeera gave the Pentagon all their GPS [global positioning system] co-ordinates. ...my sources at al-Jazeera are saying the attitude of the Pentagon seemed to be 'maybe we'll take your details'."

In total, fourteen journalists lost their lives in the six short weeks of the war, and a great many more were injured, resulting in it being dubbed "the worst ever for journalists," by The Guardian, and provoking speculation from journalist Martin Bell that it could spell the end of free reporting of any future conflicts. "I think it is very worrying that independent witnessing of war is becoming increasingly dangerous and this may be the end of it," said Bell. An inquest into the disappearance of the two journalists opened on Tuesday 15th April, but was adjourned for ten weeks on the same day, and it is now likely to be some months before its findings are made public.

Jon Cade

## You What? Bizarre news stories from around the world.

### Moscow, Russia

A prisoner who escaped by digging the longest tunnel in Russian jailbreak history has been returned to his Siberian penal colony to serve a longer sentence, a news agency reported. In a feat reminiscent of Hollywood's "The Great Escape," Yevgeny Pechenkin and two cellmates dug a 370-foot tunnel two years ago, adding beams, electricity and a ventilation system.

### Hessen, Germany

A German dentist found a Second World War bullet lodged in a pensioner's neck during a routine check-up. Walter Henning, 83, from Climbach in Hessen, had no idea the Russian bullet was in his neck until his dentist told him he needed an x-ray. Henning said, "it must have happened in 1944 in East Prussia. Our tank was under heavy fire from the Russians and I remember feeling a little scratch. The doctor says I shouldn't take it out now. It's been there the whole time and didn't hurt me."

### Baia, Romania

A Romanian teenager who won the lottery jackpot couldn't collect his winnings for two weeks because he couldn't afford the train fare. The unemployed 17-year-old, from Baia village in Suceava county, had to wait for his benefit money to arrive. He told the Jurnalul newspaper he and his father tried to borrow some money from neighbours but nobody trusted them so they had to wait. The boy needed less than \$32 to buy his train ticket to Bucharest where he had to collect his prize of around \$1,277,831.

### Huddersfield, England

A man who revived his son after he stopped breathing repaired the ambulance when it broke down taking him to hospital. Engineer Chris Wilkinson revived two-year-old Ian when he fell off a bed, hit his head and stopped breathing. Chris brought him round with the kiss of life but as an ambulance took Ian to hospital in Huddersfield, the vehicle slowed down and stopped. He said, "suddenly it slowed down and stopped. I was terrified Ian would have a relapse. Then the ambulance men said they would have to wait for another vehicle because it wouldn't go. I said there was no need to wait as I've worked as a car mechanic and told them I'd take a look. I got out my pliers and torch and crawled under the ambulance."

# Ugly Ginger Brat...

**“That’s the whole point. He’s a little bit rubbish. He wants to be everything, but he’s actually - he’s actually nothing.** And I think that’s when people sort of find it amusing, when he’s trying too hard... he’s just an arse”. These are the words of Darren Walsh, creator and director of ‘Angry Kid’, the new animated series currently enjoying a spell on BBC 3. Kred caught up with Darren and Clay Saunders, the man who acts the part of Angry Kid, at a recent press viewing of the series.



Darren and Clay explained that they use 400 masks with different expressions, which are worn by a motionless Clay Saunders, who has to remain perfectly still for hours at a time while the various masks are put on his face! And if the punishment of that wasn’t enough, Clay is told to

shave his hands so that he looks like a boy!

The main character of the show is a ginger haired rascal based on how Walsh’s older brother was when they were kids, and insists that some of the sketches are based on real life events. If you had a git of a brother when you were younger, I’m sure you understand the type of character this is. The whole series consists of short sketches of Angry Kid’s daily life, including escapades involving puke, snails and his little sister, several times over.

The series was produced through Aardman, well known for Wallace and Gromit and Chicken Run, but it shouldn’t be grouped with these. Whereas the aforementioned productions were inoffensive and “cuddly”, to quote Darren Walsh,

Angry Kid is rude and hilarious. Not to say that Wallace and Gromit isn’t funny, but was there ever a scene in it where Wallace wees on his sister? There is in Angry Kid. The beauty of Angry Kid is that even though there is a family entertainment production company behind it, Walsh is allowed to be as outrageous as he wants. When asked if anyone at Aardman doesn’t like it, he replied, “I’m sure there are loads of people who don’t like Angry Kid, but you know, I just tell them to sod off”.

Dave Shaw

## Competition!



To win your own copy of Angry Kid on DVD courtesy of Pathe Distribution, send us a picture of you or a friend being a really angry kid to the address below by 2nd June 2003.

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# Women on top?

**You may or may not have had the chance to catch the latest in a long line of Top 100 shows on C4: The Top 100 Movie Stars, shown over two star studied nights.** If you missed it, you missed some top entertainment, albeit highly subjective. It’s inevitable that these lists, voted for by a mixture of industry insiders and the general public, are going to cause disputes, but with merely twenty-eight actresses included in the list, with only two in the top 20, it’s clear that there’s either



respected for wearing nice dresses and being glamorous. However, times they are a-changing, and for once women seem to be coming out on top. Stars such as Nicole Kidman and Angelina Jolie are proving you can be a pretty face and a wonderful actor, and others are matching the men in the salary stakes, lead by Reese Witherspoon who’s reported to be getting \$15m for Legally Blond II. So if the meaty roles keep on coming for today’s potential movie icons, perhaps in ten years time we’ll see the likes of Nicole Kidman and Winona Ryder right up there with De Niro in the Top 100 Movie Stars 2013.

Katie Roberts



something wrong with the list...or the industry. Now, before I’m accused of being a bra-burning feminist, I actually think the list was a fairly accurate representation of women, and men, in film. I believe that most of the men in the top 10 fully deserved to be there above the women (with the exception of Harrison Ford at no.5). It seems to me that the problem lies in the film industry itself. Up until very recently, women have been very much secondary to men in Hollywood. They’ve had lower salaries, less gritty characters, and fewer leading roles. You only need to compare the highest polling actor to the highest polling actress to see the differences. Al Pacino is an actor respected for such films as The Godfather, Audrey Hepburn is an icon



# Buffy The Vampire Slapper

If you're a fan of Buffy The Vampire Slayer, and even if you're not, you may be shocked to learn that when Sarah Michelle Gellar leaves the show at the end of the current series, her replacement is tipped to be...wait for it...Holly Valance! The Australian 'singer' is reported to have said it would be a great opportunity for her 'to get away from her lad's mag pin-up image'. I can only say this to the makers of Buffy: what are you thinking? It would be an absolute disaster to put Holly in the role of the most famous vampire slayer in the world, not

least because she is far from loved by the female population, who make up most of the show's audience. Why continue the show when Gellar, the face of all that is Buffy, leaves, and end up making the show a joke? I say end it now while it's still good and before Miss Valance turns our favourite high-kicking heroine into a scantily-clad slapper. Still, I could be wrong, Holly could shock us all and win an Emmy for playing the tortured superhero...but I won't hold my breath.

Katie Roberts

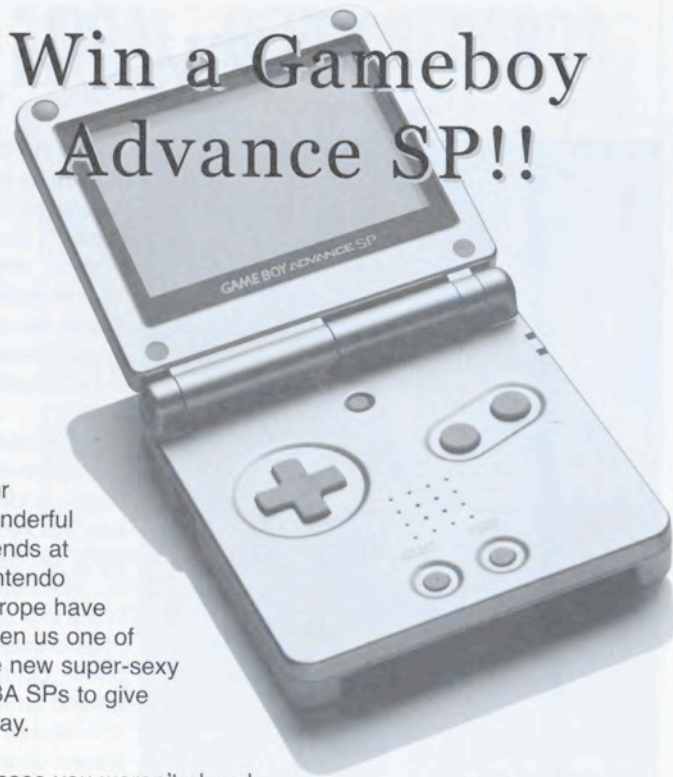


Buffy



Ruffy

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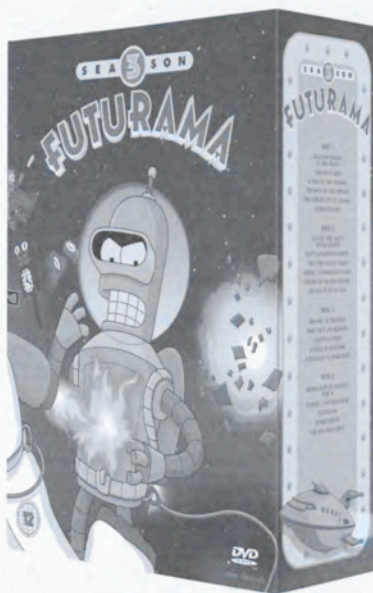
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# Very Slight Return



during the Britpop era is just as jubilant as it always was. The Bluetones consist of the two brothers Mark and Scott Morriss. Mark is the lead vocalist and Scott is the bassist. These two are accompanied by Adam Devlin (lead guitarist) and Ed Chesters (drummer.)

However, just as the band themselves have not altered (except for the addition of the keyboardist Richard Payne) neither have the venues they perform in. The Forum in Tunbridge Wells is a small venue, which does create an intimate atmosphere, but it is disappointing that a band as well established as The Bluetones still has to play in places usually set aside for unknown groups. Having said this the veteran Bluetones gave the newcomers on the indie scene a run for their money, blasting through an hour-long set of new material and classic favourites.

This was the second date in their fifty-date tour, their largest ever, which ends at the London Astoria on May 22nd. The tour is to promote their new album, as yet unnamed, which will be their fifth, and is said to be their

best yet.

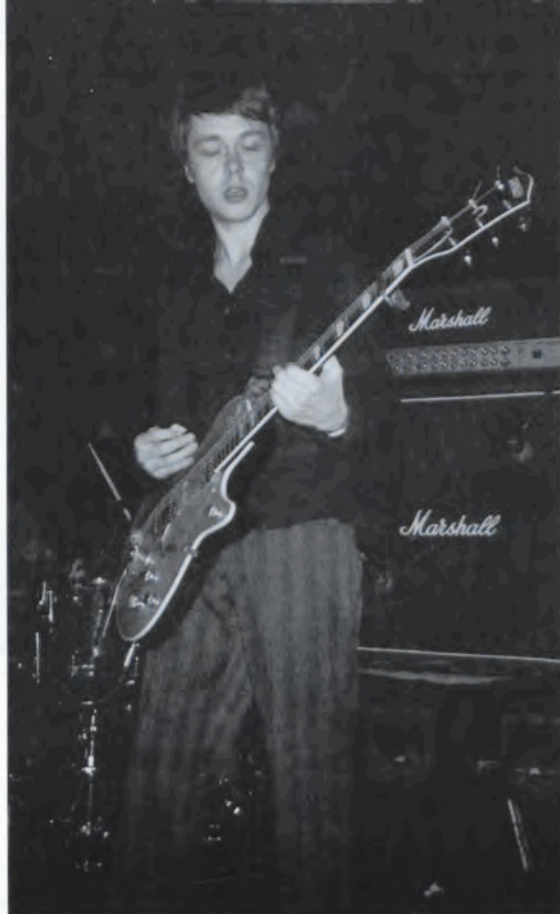
From hearing some of these tracks being performed this could certainly be true, with

**'They are still as cheekily suave and dapper as they always were'**

**H**aving last watched The Bluetones play live six years ago, I was interested in seeing how they might have changed. It was therefore a surprise that there was virtually no change at all. They are still as cheekily suave and dapper as they always were, and the fantastic indie-pop sound that they created

their new single 'Fast Boy' being a particular gem of delight. Even though fans received the new material well, it was the old songs that caused the most joy with people jumping along to 'If...', 'Bluetonic,' and 'Solomon Bites the Worm.' The passing of time hasn't altered The Bluetones in the slightest. They're still sexy, they still swagger through their fantastic tunes and they still have a smile on their face...let's hope they will continue to do so for many years to come...they deserve it.

Philippa Bigham



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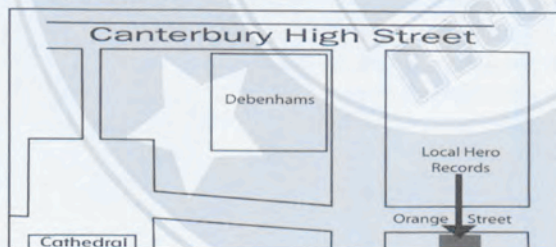
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## Accelerating into the fast lane...



**T**urin Brakes are undoubtedly one of the most talked about bands of the year so far. Best mates since primary school, Olly Knights and Gale Paridjanian got together and formed Turin Brakes in 1999 whilst Olly was studying a film degree at St Martins. The result is an amazing duo performing some of the most eclectic, thought provoking and emotional tunes of the new millennium.

My brother Mark has been a massive fan of Turin Brakes since his time spent on the beaches of Thailand during the summer of 2001. His mate Jay who he met in a strip club in Bangkok gave him their album, and these 74 minutes of musical magic became worn out after nine months of playing in hostels across the world. After seeing them performing at V2002 and supporting David Gray on his sell out arena tour, Mark began inflicting their

Kent coast, the night kicked off with a set from support act I Am Kloot. The band did a wicked job, however, it was Turin Brakes that people had paid to see and they arrived on stage to a massive response. By this time the venue was getting hot and sweaty which proved to be an ideal setting for this type of band.

The backdrop was made up of a huge plasma screen which showed calming images throughout the set which matched the band's music with precision and style. I had joked in the past that Turin Brakes records were similar

sounds on my ears, and I managed to blag us a couple of tickets to see them on their first major tour this year.

On arriving at Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall, I knew we were in for a treat. With a sell out audience of up-for-it Brakes fans crammed into an intimate venue on the

to those of Travis and early Coldplay – music to slit your wrists to! I therefore worried that these songs would be better suited to the stereo in your room rather than to an audience of over a thousand people, I needn't have worried! "Little Brother" was an absolute cracker, and everyone sang along quite joyously to the final, and my favourite number, "Underdog". This sell out tour and excellent new album just confirms that the Brakes are accelerating into the fast lane.

Turin Brakes' new single "Average Man" is released on 26th May and is sure to be a huge hit.

Andy Varley





## Dirty birds with filthy faces!

**B**y the late 90's a formula had been established for a sassy, glossy, seductive girl band. The music, choreography and the look were shaped by set laws. Then along came a band who blew the formula apart and proved that a fresh attitude, a passion for music and an instinctive grasp of UK street reality could run rings round market researched midriff appeal. They were the Sugababes. They still are the Sugababes. But this time round the sugar's fermented.

The girls recently embarked on a massive UK tour and I was invited along to the final night at Shepherds Bush Empire in London to sample the sounds and sex appeal of this sexy pop outfit. I can honestly say that before this gig, I wasn't too keen on the band. Although I had a lot of respect for their vocal ability, they came across in the early days as being a typical manufactured pop act, with faces like slapped arses! After booting one of the original three members, founders Keisha Buchanan and Mutya Buena set out on

finding a replacement. This came in the form of sexy liverpudlian Heidi Range who replaced Siobhan in 2001.

Shepherds Bush Empire was completely sold out for this final night and with a queue which seemed to be as long as the M25 I walked to the front and blagged my way to the best "press" seats in the house. The venue soon filled up with a huge range of people, from teenybopping prepubescent fans who were there to see their idols, to grown men chaperoning their kids (and more interested in checking out Heidi)! Urban act 3rd Edge had scored their first major support slot on the UK tour and set the stage alight. The mix of drum 'n' bass, UK garage, pop and rock was excellent and sounded better live than it has done on their singles in the past. I tip these guys to be huge this year, with this tour giving them the credibility they deserve.

The Sugababes arrived on stage to a mass of cheers and screams, however,

band member Mutya soon through a spanner in the works walking off after just two tracks with a sore throat. Co-stars Keisha and Heidi carried on, performing the full set to the amazement of the audience. Both artists performed self penned solo tracks displaying skill and versatility. It was this ability to carry on under difficult circumstances which has led to me giving them the respect they deserve. The audience felt very privileged to be able to experience this unique Sugababes 'duo sound', and at not one moment did they feel hard done by. The set ended with a medley of their best tracks including "Round, Round", "Freak Like Me" and "Run For Cover". But with their last single "Shape" entering into the UK charts at a disappointing 11th position, was I right to be sceptical?

Andy Varley

The album "Angels With Dirty Faces" is out now.

## All white on the night!



While I wait for my interviewee, Alex White from The Electric Soft Parade to arrive I can't help but wonder what sort of a character he really is. I hope that fame and success have not made him as irritating and arrogant as the Gallagher brothers, or insane and unpredictable like The Vines lead singer, Craig Nicholls. He walks in with his hoody and jeans on, seems like an average sort of guy and to my relief he is! Despite my initial impression, I ask him if fame has changed him. He laughs and says that he and his brother don't really feel that famous. Even in the possible event that their next album might rocket their popularity, he still thinks they will be the same casual, down-to-earth Brighton guys. They probably will remain unaffected by their fame, especially as Alex admires Ian Brown for being untouched by his status and for treating his crew as his mates and equals.

Finding out that he is a fan of Ian Brown, I decided to ask who his favourite bands are. Alex mainly likes the music of his own band's genre, like The Strokes and The White Stripes. He admires them for producing music that is true to their tastes and image and not succumbing to media demands. He especially loves The White

Stripes; he calls their new album 'Elephant' "awesome!". When I asked him who the band's biggest influences are, I was expecting him to say The Doors, as their band name is very similar to their song, 'The Soft Parade'. However, I am surprised to learn that they aren't big Doors fans; they just chose that name because they thought it sounded good. Well, it is certainly a better name than the one their record label suggested, White Mountain. Anyway, Alex finds it hard to pinpoint bands he feels influenced by. Finally, he says The Beatles, which isn't a surprise as this band has been the inspiration behind almost every band going. He also names early Boo Radleys songs and Teenage Fanclub, and you can see the influence in the harmony of the band's songs. As he names alternative bands as his favourites and inspiration, I expect that his favourite song will be an indie one. Yet, he surprises me again by saying he loves 'Can't take my eyes off of you' by Andy Williams. On that note, I think I can sum Alex up as a big softie at heart and a very genuine and honest guy, reassuring me that some famous people are human after all!

Frances Cherry

# The Wonderful Thing About Twigger

Mike Shaw speaks to award-winning author Robert Twigger

**“I never feel I’m being reckless, as long as I’m focused and in the right frame of mind, there’s nothing to worry about.”** Nonetheless, there are elements of author Robert Twigger’s life that could be seen as verging on the dangerous, or indeed, insane. An Oxford graduate, Twigger’s first four

books have seen him, amongst other things, hunting the jungles of Borneo for the world’s longest snake and pushing himself through an intensive, year-long aikido course used to train the Japanese Riot Police. His next piece, *Voyageur*: Across the

that made Twigger’s name, and even brought his story to the attention of Miramax. “The screenplay is still going on – and it’s taking forever. It’s going to be great once the movie finally gets made.” So who would he like to see playing him? “Maybe Ewan McGregor, I know he’s inter-

same background as us, so how can they claim to help people when they don’t even know what’s going on? It’s the practice anti-communication. Politics is dead.”

So what was The Extinction Club’s manifesto? “I only said one thing – ‘Everyone should start their own party.’ But in the end I had to stop, the Green

Party were getting angry because we were taking votes from them. I wasn’t committed enough to want to damage the chances of seriously political people. Besides, they frighten me.”

As well as irritating political parties, Twigger also managed to annoy rabid feminist Germaine Greer with his book *Being A Man in the Lousy Modern World*. Her judgment of the novel was, “I’d wish he’d died rather than write that bloody book.” What did he think of her assessment? “I just don’t think she got it.” The novel looks at the place of men in the 21st Century and their inherent need to exhibit “masculine” behaviour, even though that behaviour is often very silly, and results in embarrassment or injury. “I’m not all

that sure that she read it to be honest,” Twigger says. “I suppose if I was a feminist the title would put me off too, but most of the book is in line with feminist ideas about men, and their ridiculous need to prove themselves.”

What about future plans? The idea of staying at home and doing nothing for a little while must be attractive. “Not at all,” he says. “Next, I’m going to tackle some fiction, I think. I’m going to write about traders who used to sell copra in the south seas. I’ll have to do some research first though – try it out for myself.”

So with ideas of journeying once again in mind, maybe this time he’ll take more care. Has his recent fatherhood mellowed him at all? “Not really, I’m just more careful with my time.” Robert Twigger – gentleman adventurer for the 21st century.



Across the Rocky Mountains in a Birchbark Canoe, involves just that – tracing the first crossing of North America using traditional means, and living

only on desiccated cranberries and buffalo stew. Not reckless at all then. However, his tales aren’t solely focused on dangerous exploits – in each, there are theoretical and historical studies of his subjects. His first book, *Angry White Pyjamas*, whilst paying particular attention to the life of an Englishman in Japan and the injuries sustained during aikido training, is also heavily imbued with Japanese culture, nods to Confucius, Sun Tzu, and ancient samurai texts. It was this book

**‘Politicians aren’t from the same background as us, so how can they help? It’s anti-communication. Politics is dead.’**

ested. But I think my wife would probably say Danny DeVito is more suitable.” The success of *Angry White Pyjamas* gave him the ability to spend more time writing, as well as the power to take advantage of his new found position. Following his third

book *The Extinction Club* (where he searches China for the world’s most rare breed of deer) he set up a political party of the same name.

Part publicity stunt, part genuine disillusionment with British Politics, Twigger found himself becoming more involved in the world of politics than he had initially planned.

“I’ve always been quite apolitical, but I just got fed up with the lying. It starts from the word go. Most politicians aren’t from the

# Summer Lovin'

Summer's on its way, exams are nearly over so what will you be reading this year...?



**T**here's nothing better than laying back on the beach with a cocktail reading a trashy summer novel.

But what exactly is trash and what's not? Jane Austen's books are today's serious romantic novels, but why? Why don't we think of 'Always the Bridesmaid' by Sarah Webb (see review) or Bridget Jones' Diary as serious? Let's look at the similarities; both have been made into a film and, I hasten to add, both star the dashing Colin Firth (always a plus!). So if both are worthy of being featured on the big screen,

what makes Bridget Jones trashy and Jane Austen classy? Perhaps it's the wonderful (but so impractical) dress sense the characters in Jane Austen have, compared to running around in knickers and bunny suits. Surely it has to be more than that! Could it be the storyline? Both have a simple story line full of conflict, scandal and fate leading to a fairy tale ending.

'Pride and Prejudice' is one of Jane Austen's greatest works as it tells the tale of one woman and one man and the trivial route they take before admitting their passions to one another. Although rather heavy to read, the story is engaging and the enthralling irony and wit helps to enliven the plot, but I wouldn't recommend it for the plane or beach! It's not a light read and whilst being enjoyable you do have to concentrate on staying awake, er... I mean on the story. Great if you want a guaranteed happy ending, and it may even bring a pleasant tear to your eye – either because you're glad you've finally finished wading through, or you actually did enjoy the final marriage scene.

'Always the Bridesmaid' is a very sweet but tedious tale of love and hate where the bridesmaid ends up as the bride. Through the usual chaos of tragic misunderstandings the events turn around for the better. This is a powerful story of true friendship, love and marriage and the importance of having those close to you. This is a classic

chic flick book and I would totally agree with Ireland on Sunday when they say it's "perfect to take on holiday". 'Always the Bridesmaid' emphasises the trials and tribulations of one woman's life. We cry and laugh with her (including a very amusing chapter regarding shrimps!) as well as occasionally just wanting to shut her up and tell her to get on with her life. The pages seem to keep on turning making it addictive right until the very end, where you just find yourself smiling with her. Ultimately though, all romantic books are made with the same formula, and we can prove it! How many romance books have you read that don't have a guy and a girl who meet, fall in love, have a major bust up through annoying misunderstandings, make up and then live happily ever after (oh, bless!). All romance novels are the same, but there are too many poncy book reviewers who see some books as more worthy than others. Why I hear you ask? Because they just don't appreciate the true value of trashy novels being read on the beach.

Stephanie Davies and Stephanie Hopkins



# Sex In The City Fish Bar

The Marlowe Theatre turns up the heat with *The Vagina Monologues*. But are men being left behind?

**E**xam panic is subsiding, the streets are filled with flying insects and dropped ice lollies – it can only mean one thing; summer is just around the corner. In July, the Marlowe Theatre gets hot and bothered by 'The Vagina Monologues'. The taboo-breaking and critically valued 'celebration' of the female reproductive organ made its British debut at the 2001 Edinburgh Festival, and has bragged cast alumni Kate Winslet and scary wannabe Mel B.

"I decided to talk to women about their vaginas," says writer Eve Ensler. "I talked with over two hundred women...vagina interviews became vagina monologues." But the chauvinist in me cannot help but get a bit rattled by all this. Haven't issues of gender inequality been a bit exhausted recently? Well, while Scary Spice was demonstrating different climactic moans, much to the amusement of the 95% female festival audience, stimulation was also occurring elsewhere. Richard Herring (of 'Fist of Fun' fame) began devising a male retort to this celebration of womanhood. 'Talking Cock' was born, a one-man show designed to flatten the

misconception that all men are sex-obsessed and selfish in the bedroom (how ridiculous...) Until then, who did the vagina-less half of humanity have to 'show for itself' as Ensler's male counterpart? Two Australians folding their genitalia into the Seven Wonders of the World, that's who. Despite

haps the 21st century guy simply doesn't require a ball-breaking wake-up call of sexual freedom. After all, it is women who have undergone centuries of sexual

repression, of which the arts have been rebelling against since the days of Ibsen's 'A Doll's House'. And 'The Vagina Monologues' doesn't combat its sceptics with stiletto spikes. The comedy-pathos equation is carefully balanced, performances are tender and raw, and Ensler is more than deserving of the recognition she has received. Hmm, as it turns out, maybe I'm a bit of a closet feminist. Maybe lots of men are, and 'The Vagina Monologues' is preaching to the already converted. See what you think; it certainly presents



something for both sexes to, err...chew on.

Stuart Martin

the success of 'Talking Cock' (at venues such as our Gulbenkian earlier this year), Herring's success hardly rivals the institution Ensler has created. Is this because 'The Vagina Monologues' is more shocking? Herring says no, and if anything, there's a greater taboo surrounding a MAN'S relationship with his little (or not) guy: "34% of men say they've faked an orgasm, when I've had lots of women say to me 'men can't fake orgasms.'" So maybe it's about time that men borrowed the spotlight for a bit, and broke a few taboos of their own. But it seems hard to imagine the British public supporting a TV series based on the sexual conquests of four MALE city-dwellers, in the manner of Sarah Jessica Horseface and co. Indeed they didn't. The BBC's 'Manchild' has been axed. So per-

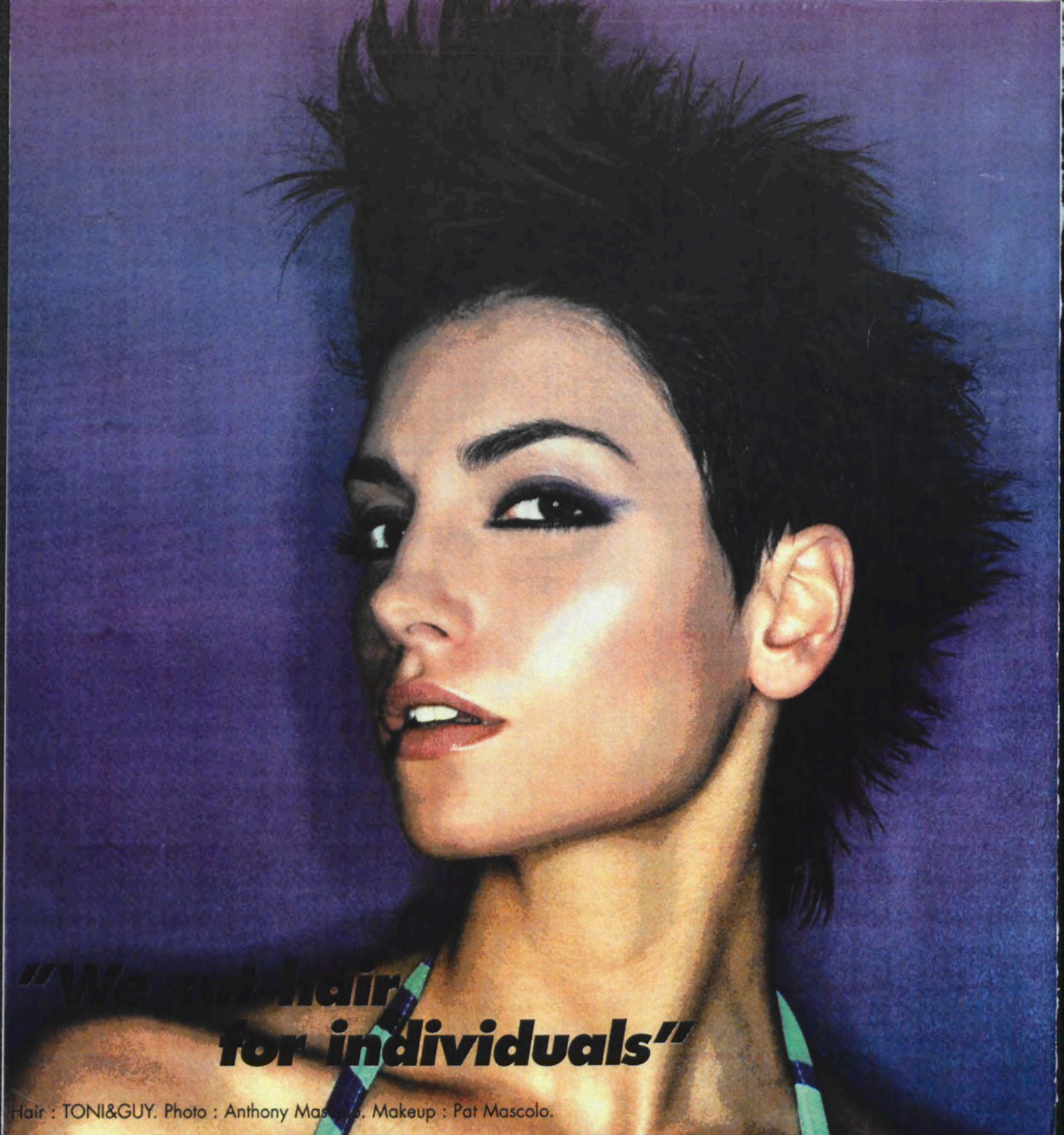
The Vagina Monologues is showing at the Marlowe Theatre, 30th June – 5th July. For ticket information call the Box Office 01227 787787

Sarah Jessica Parker, yesterday



Richard Herring, one man and his cock





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Sorry that this issue is a day late, but we felt a need to reply to the editorial.

The editorial raises a number of issues that require addressing. In regard to the comments that Kent Union is a plc and that we place 'career' over 'care', it must be stressed that without commercial or "career" services, that generate revenue, we would be unable to provide "care" services for you the students, such as KRED, societies, sports, advice centre and Job Shop. Small example, the union spends £12,000 producing KRED each year.

The editorial is also saying that KRED has become a propaganda tool via the use of censorship. This is an opinion but one that we would disagree with. The only censorship to speak of is the removal of swearing in articles as requested by Union Council, a body of students elected by you, to represent you.

There have been a number of articles about the Union, throughout the year, that have been factually incorrect. With any publication there obviously has to be a degree of censorship, this is done by both the Comms Sabb and the KRED editor, to ensure that the finished product is factually correct, fair and acceptable to Kent students.

By no means is Kent Union perfect, but we believe that steps in the right direction have been taken and that the opinions of students are heard, listened to and acted upon whenever possible.

The Sabbs