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# inquire

Edition 2.7  
February 2008

Features 10  
Religious  
questioning



## £5 million 'gateway' revamp

### New drama complex to dominate campus entrance



An artists rendition of the new project to be built where the Marlowe car park currently stands

The zinc cladding, however, has caused some contention with those who are against the scheme, leading to the proposal initially being rejected planning permission, on the basis that it will not suit the character and appearance of the area.

However, Planning Inspector Hilda Higganbottam stated that "zinc has been used as a roof material on the original Master's House, other original campus buildings, and more recently, the Venue and the Virginia Wolf building. Zinc is therefore not an alien material on campus."

Fully backing the proposal, Higganbottam goes on to express how the building would fully "strengthen the sense of place in this gateway location with a high-quality contemporary architectural design and layout, which would bring cohesiveness to this part of campus."

Achike Ofodile, Kent Union President commented, "Kent Union believes this project has a lot of merit and will be very beneficial, not just to drama students, but to the whole campus. Opening up such a congested area will create a nice outdoor social space for staff and students to relax, have a coffee or read a book." The department is scheduled to move into the building in Summer 2009.

Kajal Mistry

The University of Kent has been given the go ahead for the construction of a brand new three storey building for the School of Drama, Film and Visual Arts.

The proposal aims to bring the department together under one roof, consolidating the schools' teaching and rehearsal spaces into one dedicated facility.

Currently, the department lies scattered across campus between ten different locations, and as it rapidly grows, this present format is not appropriate for the function. The majority of staff are situated in offices that were once student residential accommodation which will revert back to their original state once the building has been completed.

Ideally, the intention of the building is to provide accommodation for all three sections of the school (Drama, Film and Visual Art), but at the same time, it will be employed to open up the availability of student housing on campus to both prospective and current students.

The plans state that the building will be located where the cur-

rent Marlowe car park stands, part of the so-called 'gateway' to campus.

Hawkins\Brown, who are the official architects for the building, have created a stunning and highly contemporary design. Complete with glass walls and edgy zinc exteriors framing the modernist design, the new building radiates a fresh, vibrant, and fashionable ambiance.



Events 19

The mysteries of  
sexual selection  
revealed

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Controversial  
ID cards



## UoK awarded top prize

The University of Kent has been awarded the prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education.

The ceremony, which took place at Buckingham Palace on 14th February, awarded the University of Kent for the work undertaken by Kent Law Clinic for "enriching the academic study of law through a casework service to the community."

Professor Goodfellow, Vice Chancellor, said "we are extremely delighted to receive this prestigious award. It is a great recognition of the hard work and dedication of all those involved with the Clinic, of their academic merit and of the exceptional service they provide to the community."

## Universities call to facebook generation

Universities are being urged to be more open in the way in which they advertise themselves to prospective students.

David Willetts, Shadow Secretary for Universities, believes students should be able to find out how crowded seminars are likely to be, how much access time they would receive from lecturers and what form this access would take.

"Universities are going to have to become more proficient at answering these kinds of questions, even if it is something that many are uncomfortable with," he said.

## Love, actually

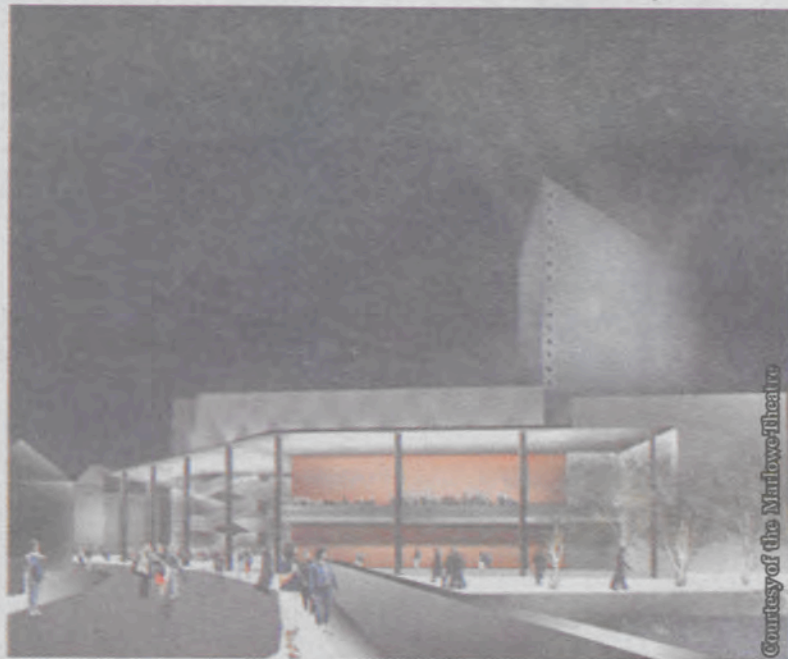
A recent study conducted by Bristol University unearthed some welcome findings for all those who have found love at university.

In surveying over 94,000 Bristol alumni, the researchers found that out of that number, 6,466 had married, or were still with a partner whom they had met whilst at university.

This equates to around 7% of alumni staying together, despite the struggles of jobs, distance, and time.

The researches found that the glue binding these couples together was the common cultural and social experiences shared by the alumnus, with particular regard to their academic histories.

# Marlowe Theatre renovation



An artistic interpretation of the new design for the Marlowe Theatre

Sam Wylie

24 years since its last revamp, Canterbury's Marlowe Theatre is to be transformed for the 21st century.

Holding over 400 performances in 2007, the Marlowe Theatre may be best known to some students for its somewhat unconventional exterior, but that could all be about to change. Plans for

a brand new £25.5 million, 1200 seat complex, were approved unanimously by councillors and planning permission has since been granted for the theatre's extensive recast.

The new theatre would include three tiers of seating for the main stage and would be complemented by a smaller space to be used by groups for performances. The plans for the Marlowe include a café, two bars and a riverside walk. The new theatre will remain on its current site in 'The Friars', adjoining the main shopping street in Canterbury.

The process has been a long one, with the Keith Williams Architects firm being chosen for the project in March last year. The firm holds the title of Public Building Architect of the Year, and has designed buildings around the country and in Europe. Canterbury Council's decision to move on to the next stage of the planning means a contrac-

tor can now be sought along with a more detailed design. Pictures of the architect's drawings were shown to the public in 2007, and a model has been made to show what the new showpiece will look like. The bold design shows a light, modern looking building with a roof that points, or "tips its hat" to the Cathedral, according to the design.

The project is expected to cost £25.5 million and the funds are to be raised from a number of sources. Canterbury City Council is to provide between £13.5m and £16m towards the project, while a private fundraising campaign is hoping to raise the rest.

The campaign, which plans to raise £6m, has already attracted the attention of Canterbury-born Orlando Bloom and TV and theatre star Joanna Lumley. The current time frame for the building involves the Marlowe closing in early 2009 and reopening in the autumn of 2010.

## NUS race row

George Berry

On 17th November 2007, the NUS held a 'Black Student's' conference within the Institute of Education in London. At this event, Mike Beddoes, the white Student Union President of the University of Lincoln, was barred from entry, because of his race.

Beddoes claimed "When we applied, NUS at no point flagged up to say there was a problem." However, when Beddoes submitted his application, he was alerted by the NUS Black Students Office, Ruqayyah Collector, that he would not be allowed to attend, because of the fact that he was white.

Collector stated in his defence that "it's really an issue of autonomy. Over the summer we have events that Mike can visit. It's about having the right to self-organise." Collector has not responded to any other questions since this statement.

Beddoes has agreed that minority students should have the ability to speak to their peers in confidence, but believes that the main conference should not be subject to racial discrimination.

Andrew Phillips, of The National Student, claims "this policy promotes an 'us and them' at-

titude, and dangerously detracts from the undeniable fact that tackling racism is the concern of everyone."

Although it is understandable that minority students would like to discuss issues related to them with a feeling of security, barring someone from participating in a conference based solely on their race can be construed as racist in itself, ultimately instigating an action which ironically the conference was trying to fight.

Fortunately, Beddoes had "some very enthusiastic members of societies" to stand in for him. However, as Student Union President representing his students, he feels that "as the person who's supposed to put the logistics in place for ethnic minorities in Lincoln, it's hindering liberation in Lincoln."



Mike Beddoes

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# ID cards forced on students

## Students first to bear brunt of Government's ID card scheme



Government ID card proposals create controversy

Max Newnham

The Conservative Party has acquired leaked information from the Home Office in recent weeks stating that students in 2010 will have to own ID cards in order to obtain a student loan.

The Government is hoping to make it compulsory for anyone

as young as 16 to own the cards, which will cost around £100 and will be required when opening bank accounts or applying for student loans.

This will mean that by 2010, the two million students entering higher education will need to have their fingerprints, eye, and facial scans added to a National

Identity Register, which will be accessible to the police, governmental departments, the Inland Revenue, and the immigration intelligence services.

In light of this, the Shadow Minister for immigration, Damian Green, commented that these plans were "straightforward blackmail," and deemed it totally unfair to force students to support an extremely unpopular Labour policy just so they can receive more education funding.

NUS Welfare Vice President Ama Uzowuru also disagrees with the proposals, and expressed her disappointment with the Government for manipulating students in this way. She believes the plan to be "completely impractical" and highlighted the fact that "the student loan system is complicated enough as it is, without introducing another layer of bureaucracy to the process."

Furthermore, she also voiced her concerns about the problems of students' ever changing personal information if they were forced to enter the ID card system. "Many students change address at least once a year during their studies and would be

obliged to report such changes in their personal circumstance or face a £1000 fine."

The Government's reasoning for the ID cards is principally to enhance national security, tackle identity fraud, prevent illegal working and improve border controls.

However, the Liberal Demo-

crats and the Conservatives are totally against the scheme, and say they would scrap it if they got into power, believing ID cards to be an infringement of civil liberties and a complete waste of taxpayers' money. However, as it stands, ownership of ID cards will be law by 2010 and students will be forced to accept this.

### ID card figures

- 76% - Percentage of people who think the introduction of identification cards will have no effect on security.
- 15- Number of minutes it will take to acquire the biometric data needed for the ID cards.
- £100 - Amount it will cost to attain the compulsory card.
- 10,000 - Number of volunteers the Government requires to trial the ID card system this year.
- £2bn - Estimated cost of the ID card scheme.

# Student dropout rates flatline

Emma Prince

A recent report from the Commons Public Accounts Committee (PAC) revealed that more than a fifth of students drop out of university before graduating. This rate has not changed in five years, with 22 per cent of full-time students abandoning their degrees before progressing more than two years into their course.

This comes despite the Government spending £800m to try to reduce the number of university dropouts. The chairman of the committee, Edward Leigh MP said "five years on from our last report on student retention the percentage of students dropping out from their original universities has not budged from 22%."

New figures illustrate that more than 100,000 people each year

quit within a year, with 28,000 of them being full-timers. Mature students are more vulnerable to dropping out, with 14 per cent leaving in comparison to 6.8 per cent of young entrants. The courses with the highest dropout rates include science, engineering and maths, with the worst performing universities including Bedfordshire and Anglia Ruskin University, based in Cambridge.

One Westminster source commented, "it is depressing. This shows universities are simply flatlining. Too many students are not getting the higher education they were promised."

The report explains that personal difficulties, dissatisfaction with courses and financial pressure are some of the reasons why students drop out.

The PAC report also blamed

### Student dropout figures

- £800 million - Government spending to curb student dropout rates
- 22% - Percentage of full time students abandoning their studies
- £213 million - Figure given to universities in 2004/2005 alone to curb dropout rates
- 28,000 - Number of full time students who dropped out in 2004/2005
- 25% - Overall increase in student numbers in the UK between 1999 and 2004

the drive to widen participation in higher education for the drop out rate. Leigh commented that "more students are being recruited from backgrounds and

schools where university was not previously thought to be an option. But these are the very students who are more likely to leave early." Leigh said that uni-

versities need to get better at providing the teaching and support services students from under-represented groups need.

However, despite the concern about the lack of improvement of dropout rates, Bill Rammell, the Minister for Higher Education, said "student retention rates in England compare very well internationally." Nevertheless, he accepts there is more to do. The education authorities are now looking at how to improve the dropout rates. Professor David Eastwood, chief executive of the Higher Education Funding Council for England said, "we will be holding a number of workshops with the National Audit Office and higher education representatives in March and April on how we can improve performance and retention."



## Student jailed for bomb fraud

A student at Liverpool's John Moore University was sentenced last month after pleading guilty to making false bomb claims whilst under the influence of alcohol.

Aneesh Mahimkar, a 22 year old JMU student, is reported to have called the attention of police officers and told them, "please take me seriously. There will be a bomb at Canary Wharf at 10.58am". He then claimed he was with the FBI and the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Agency, and asked the officers to contact the American Consulate.

He said he had been watching the film 'Déjà Vu' previous to the incident which apparently carries a similar plot line.

Mahimkar was sentenced to a suspended twelve month imprisonment, as well as 150 hours of community service.

## Student drinks self to death

A 22 year old graduate student from Manchester University has died after drinking himself to death in a drinking game inspired by US teen comedy 'American Pie: The Naked Mile'.

David Reid and a friend copied the 'Last Man Standing' game as depicted in the film, where participants drink until they are no longer able to stand.

Reid was taken to bed after he announced he could not drink anymore, and was found dead just hours later. His blood-alcohol content was found to be around six to seven times above the legal limit by coroners.

## Terror students pardoned

The Appeal Court has quashed the convictions of five Muslim students jailed over alleged extremist literature.

On freeing the accused, the Lord Chief Justice said that there was no proof whatsoever of terrorist intent. A lawyer for one of the defendants echoed the sentiments, saying that they'd been jailed for "thought crime".

In 2007 the men were convicted after a jury heard that the students, of Bradford University and Ilford, London, had become obsessed with jihadi websites and extremist literature.

# York in atomic faux pas

Lorion Germain

In an unsettling sequence of blunders documented by a secret report conducted by the University of York, a container holding highly radioactive radium 226 was taken apart on campus after a top biology professor made a horrendous error concerning the whereabouts of the volatile chemical inside its protective lead casing.

The mix-up led to the empty lead chamber being removed and placed into storage, with parts of the decommissioned 'RackBeta' machine and the steel rod containing the radium being transported to a scrap yard in York via tractor, before being sent to a recycling plant in Sheffield.

The mistake came to light when the lead container was checked and shown not to contain any radium at all. The university then launched a full investigation into the whereabouts of the missing radium, including sweeps of the department with contamination monitors. The steel container holding the substance was found four days later.

The report, which exposes the full details of the debacle and heavily condemns the way in which the situation was dealt



The University of York, where a top biology lecturer dabbled in some extra-curricular radioactive pursuits

with by the biology department's staff, was obtained by the University of York's student newspaper, 'York Vision', under the Freedom of Information Act.

The report states that the staff undertaking the decommissioning of the machine did not have sufficient competence for the task and that as no written risk as-

essment was carried out, "there was little or no attention paid to the health and safety of themselves and others." Furthermore, the university went as far as to blame Cambridge University for the error, citing that in acquiring the material from Cambridge, the containers had not even been labelled properly.

In light of the incident, the University have now introduced new procedures and regulations to ensure that nothing like this happens again. A spokesman from the university said that "likely public exposure was minimal," so there's no need to worry about radioactive superheroes being born in York just yet.

# Degrees to cost £20,000

Nick Gill

With the introduction of £3,000 annual tuition fees and the ever increasing cost of living in university accommodation, it is no wonder that new reports released from Staffordshire University, on behalf of the education charity the Sutton Trust found that students from poorer backgrounds were put off going to university for fear of getting in too much debt.

The NUS estimates that a three-year university degree – including fees, living costs and books – averages at a staggering £39,000. Without doubt this is indeed a daunting figure for anyone to have hanging over their head, especially for those who will not be able to receive financial support from parents. Yes, there are bursaries on offer for those from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, but, as the report rightly highlights, many

who would benefit from such bursaries are unaware of them, with less than a third of the students interviewed actively searching for information on financial support.

Even more shocking are the figures released by the Office of Fair Access to Higher Education, proposing that thousands of students were not claiming bursaries that they are entitled to. The message here is obvious, as the

Sutton Trust, an organisation to provide educational opportunities to young people from non-privileged backgrounds, chairman Sir Peter Lampl himself states: "the Government, schools, and colleges should take note."

Furthermore, over half of the students interviewed who want to go to university said they were planning to go to a local university, thus enabling them to live at home in an attempt to reduce

the amount of debt they will incur. Of course, other factors may affect their decision to study locally but debt avoidance is clearly becoming more and more of a priority, and figures in the report confirm this.

As students, we all expect to find ourselves in debt by the end of our degree, but it is the ever increasing amount that is the real worry. If the cost continues to rise, the voices of those who already question the value of a university degree will become louder and louder, resulting in an increasing number of potential applicants shunning further education for full-time work.

In response to the report, Higher Education Minister, Bill Rammell said that despite these worries; "we have introduced an improved package of financial support for students starting this year." He'll be hoping that this policy works in avoiding putting potential undergraduates off.

## Student debt figures

- £20,000 - The average cost of a degree
- 31% - Percentage living costs have risen by since 2002
- £33,000 - Estimated cost of a degree with student debt after top-up fees taken into consideration by 2010
- 90% - Percentage of students in debt. This was only 33% in 1992
- 40% - Percentage of students who work on average 13 hours per week to diminish personal debt
- £5 Billion - The amount student debt has spiralled to since the elimination of grants, a 544% increase



# Reforms to streamline NUS

Jonny Barty

The NUS is set to introduce sweeping and controversial reforms to dramatically restructure the way in which it functions.

The Extraordinary Conference, held at the end of last year in Leicester, welcomed in constitutional reforms aimed at streamlining the way in which the organisation runs and at remedying its current financial malaise.

Through reforms that have generally been supported, the NUS will fragment itself into 'zones', in which separate areas of policy will be tackled so as to work on several areas simultaneously in a more cohesive manner. Such zones will include higher education, further education, welfare, society and citizenship and union development. All five zones will have their own programme, committee and conference. Policy for these zones will be discussed in locally elected committees in which students and student union officials alike will play a prominent part.

Furthermore, the NUS Annual Conference, the keynote event in the NUS calendar, will be relaunched as a stripped down and

**"real change is often controversial"**

Tom Christian, Kent Union Education Sab.

less cumbersome 'Annual Congress', aimed at creating a more fluid infrastructure in which motions are debated and ultimately, policies are approved. The main purpose of the congress will be to debate the issues raised in the zonal conferences. A new governing body, the Senate, will be established so as to coordinate and instigate policy with greater efficiency. This body will put into action the policies debated at the Annual Congress

However, some critics deem the reforms to be undemocratic, and as going against the fundamental tenets of the NUS. Their main argument is that such centralising reforms alienate the common student from the NUS. They argue that by appointing non-elected officials to areas of prominence such as the Senate, the true needs and desires of students may be manipulated or ignored.

Moreover, other pockets of dissent arose as a result of the move from the traditional way in which policies are debated and raised. Currently, Student Unions propose motions at smaller levels, which then make their way through the system before potentially reaching the Annual Conference for debate and approval. The new reforms propose that such motions must first be scrutinised via a series of smaller conferences before reaching the Annual Congress. Protesting students fear that this may lead to



Dave Lewis, NUS National Treasurer speaking at the 2007 conference where the reforms were announced

the silencing of the student.

Other commentators have voiced concern about proposals which will see debate time and participation cut so as to make policy decisions more efficient. They believe that with debate dramatically condensed and with limited individual participation, key decisions will be left to an all-powerful Senate, with little regard for students' needs.

It's not just students who don't agree with the reforms however. Sophie Buckland, an executive member of the NUS, said "I opposed the review because it's

undemocratic, cutting out pretty much any opportunity for rank-and-file students to get involved in NUS." Despite the controversy, the NUS is in dire need of reform and has been fighting for it for the last twenty years. The way in which it has operated has been described as archaic, clumsy and cumbersome organisation; lacking focus and clarity.

These reforms finally appear to move what was an idealistic, radical left wing, whistle blowing, placard waving organisation into a powerful and unified political force to be reckoned

with. Finally it seems we have a body which can forcefully and effectively support the rights and needs of students. However, the reforms have not yet come into existence as they will need to be ratified at the Annual Conference which takes place between 1st and 3rd April.

Tom Christian, Kent Union Education Sabbatical said "real change is often controversial but I'm confident that these reforms are just what the national student movement needs to effect real change on behalf of students everywhere."

## Live-at-home graduates present problems

Francesca Di Moretti

According to recent research conducted by leading social charity Parentline Plus, a whole generation of graduates who move back in with their parents after graduation are putting immense strain on family relations.

'Boomerang Kids', so coined because of their return to home after moving out to go to university, are said to be suffering from 'failure to launch' syndrome; failing to see the problem with living at home with their parents and not establishing domesticity for themselves. This presents problems for graduates and their families alike as each tries to live

their own private lives within the same familial abode.

Problems occur not only at a financial level, but also at an ideological level, where students, used to the independent lifestyle of university, inflict on their parents behaviour with which they often disagree with. These range from disagreements on drug and alcohol use, sexual habits, and general differing attitudes towards life.

One worried mother told the charity's 24-hour helpline, "our home became a war ground of constant arguments about alcohol misuse, bad language and lack of respect for us and our home by our son."

The chief-executive of the charity, Dorit Braun believes that there are common misconceptions within society with regards to the way in which undergraduates mature and should behave after university. She points out that many believe that graduates simply evolve into professionals after finishing university, becoming independent and trouble free in an instant.

She said "living with young adults is as perplexing and concerning as any other stage in a parent's journey, yet parenting strategies seem to end with adulthood, as though once children become adults, parents are off the hook."

According to Government figures, the proportion of men in their 20s living in the parental home has grown from 59 to 80 per cent in the past fifteen years. Amongst women, the rise has

been from 41 to 50 per cent. In conjunction with this, over the same period the median age for first marriage has risen from 26 to 30 for men and from 24 to 28 for women.

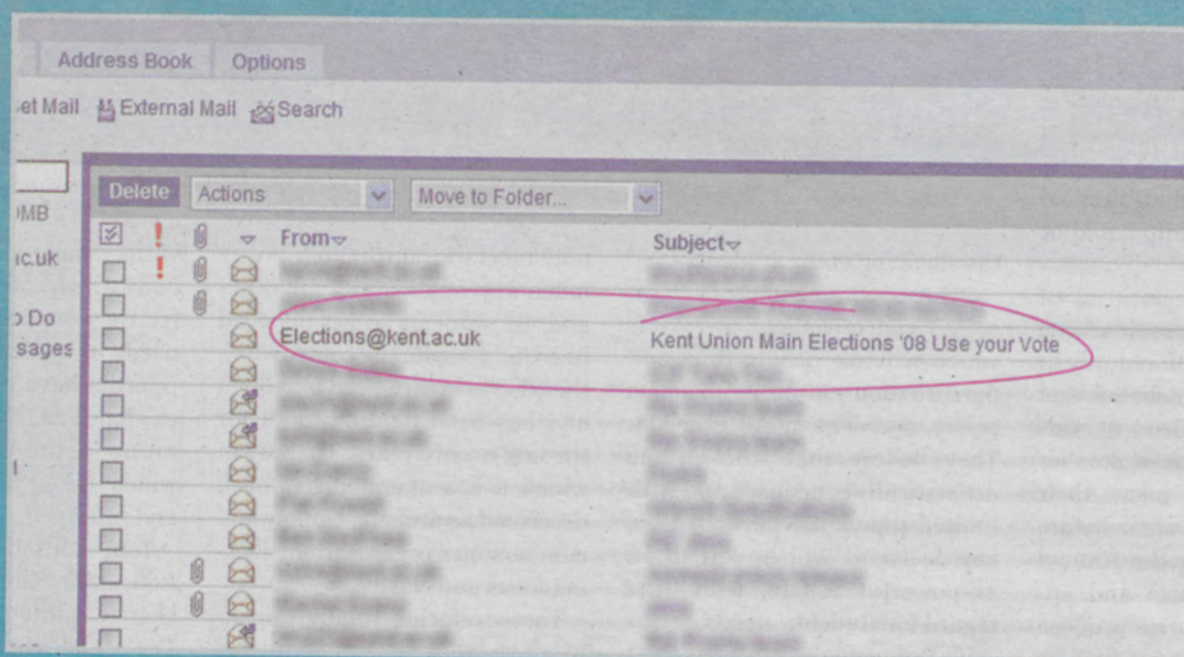
### 'Boomerang Kids'

80%- Percentage of men in their twenties who still live in the parental home  
50% - Percentage of women in their twenties who still live in the parental home



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# Big Brother sees all...

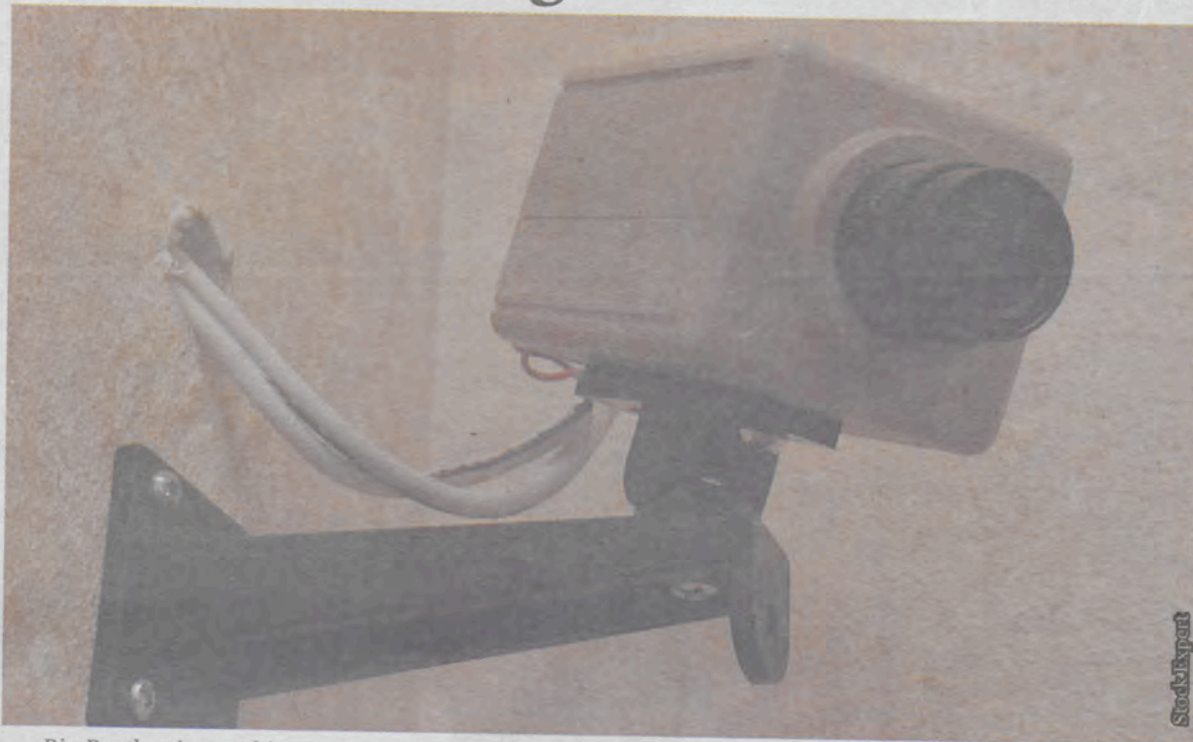
## Charlie Baylis and the vexing notion of ID cards

As outlined by Max Newnham, the Government is planning to blackmail students into carrying ID cards, so that in two years we won't be able to get funding without dishing out around £100 on a piece of abhorrent plastic.

There is already widespread concern about the UK becoming a police state. In terms of CCTV footage we are the most watched nation in the western world. We also suffer the world's largest road surveillance scheme; every journey made on a British road is monitored. You literally can't leave your home without being watched, monitored and checked upon.

The rise in state surveillance is considered by some to be a form of protection. The government is proposing to construct a gigantic database, known as The National Identity Register, to help monitor terrorist activity in the UK. This database will be controlled by the issuing of these ID cards. After all, global terrorism is on the rise. That is, apparently, why we're fighting a war in Iraq and by some bizarre, heteroclitic twist of logic, why our society needs ID cards.

However, public opinion in Britain is stacked against the emplacement of ID cards and has swung even further against, since our bureaucratically incompetent government managed to blunder its way to losing the



*Big Brother is watching you; are ID cards a security necessity or an Orwellian method of state dominance?*

addresses of 9.5 million parents and the names, dates of birth and National Insurance numbers of 15.5 million children in November. Can we really trust these error prone fools with our personal information? What happens if our data leaks into the wrong hands?

Moreover, the notion that the thick mist of Islamic fundamentalism represents a direct threat to our society is somewhat unrealistic. In my opinion this sensationalised threat is a simply a smoke screen, being manipulated by politicians.

Gordon Brown is playing at the politics of fear, he wants us to be scared, as fear makes people easier to control, and easier to govern.

The National Identity Register proposes to gather and monitor fifty pieces of your personal information. It won't be long until the government knows everything about you. But why should they know so much? Are the government really trying to protect society, or are they just trying to manipulate us?

I don't think it's the state's place to gather and control so much

personal data. The prevalent issue I fear, from the forcing of ID cards onto students, is of our ever decreasing civil rights and liberties, which have been consistently eroded since 9/11. Students should not be guinea pigs, especially not for such a foul and fascist proposal.

I consequently refuse to have an ID card. I am not a criminal, nor am I a threat to society, thus I refuse to be treated as such. And furthermore, I shall not be blackmailed into carrying around a hollow medallion of totalitarianism.

# Letters and Corrections

### Correction

In response to the article entitled 'Ethnically Biased Results' of Issue 2.6, in*QUIRE* would like to correct a statistic. Where it reads "...Chinese students are 49% more likely to receive a 2:2 or a 3rd class degree than a white student", it should say '28.9% of Chinese students are more likely to get a 2:2 or 3rd class degree than a white student'. in*QUIRE* apologises for this accidental error.

### Dear Editor,

I was visiting my sister recently in Sheffield, where she is a student, and their student paper is a completely different experience

to ours. For example, there is an abundance of well placed and articulate swearing, a much larger section of comment than ours, a very explicit sex stories and questions page, and there was even a photograph of a man sitting naked on the bog. I'm not saying that in*QUIRE* should be like that, but at the moment it is obscenely conservative. Unless things change, I will not write any more, despite having received over 40 emails from strangers applauding Cockburn's Comment since it started this year. 44 to be precise.

**Harry Cockburn**  
Student

### Dear Editor

With regards to the story entitled 'Architorture' of Issue 2.6:

All students on the programme support the academic approach and have commended it in their response to the Architects' Journal published 7th February 2008; reading these responses and the editorial leader in the same issue will inform enquiring minds.

At no time did any student lodge a complaint.

This project was first run three years ago, and its academic credibility has been established through blind-peer-review acceptance, presentation, and publication at international, national

and regional U.S. conferences in 2007.

The project was an introductory exercise in a term dedicated to designing a headquarters building for an international human rights organisation.

This project is from an internationally established pedagogical tradition in post-graduate architecture schools of provocative and intentionally morally ambiguous propositions; the resulting high quality design work is a testament to this approach.

**Michael Richards RIBA**  
Programme Director M  
Arch, Kent School of Architecture

## Editorial

In this issue of in*QUIRE*, the question of stay-at-home graduates has come to the fore. This grates at me somewhat. The independence that we have at university is something that I certainly never want to give up. However, today's society really doesn't make it easy to take that first step onto the property ladder and renting is simply money down the drain.

So give graduates a break I say, it's not easy to make your own way and I would be the first to say that a year living at home again after university is far from perfect, a true pain in the neck most of the time, but if it was that easy to move out then people wouldn't be living at home. Seriously, who really wants to spend the rest of their lives around their parents? I know I don't.

Emily Fox, Newspaper Editor

### Right to reply

Do you have something to say? Send us your opinions and thoughts to Phil Crook at [pc79@kent.ac.uk](mailto:pc79@kent.ac.uk) or [inquire@kent.ac.uk](mailto:inquire@kent.ac.uk). You could also hear our wonderful voices by calling 01227 824257.

This page is used to express student opinions and not the views of the newspaper. We welcome comments from students and staff and encourage the right to reply.

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# THE BIG DEBATE

## Have the Kent Union S up to their man Phil Crook i

## President - Achike Ofodile

Achike Ofodile swept to power promising to communicate the wide range of representation and services available to students. With this in mind, he points to the fact that the agendas and minutes of Union Council meetings are put online as a success.

However, whilst e-minutes are useful and a sign of openness, only 181 people turned up to the AGM, thus demonstrating that in fact the communication of representation issues leaves a lot to be desired.

Achike has lived up to his pledge to review and improve Kent Union's democratic structures by making the debating rules for Union Council and the AGM more flexible, thereby allowing greater freedom of speech. He also adds that there was a 300% increase in turnout at the November by-elections. This increase was, however, largely due to the introduction of the new online voting system rather than any changes in debating rules or democratic structures.

Achike promised last March to support part-time officers more by providing them with appropriate training, and this has been achieved as the NUS sent a trainer down at the end of the 2007 summer term. Achike suggested that the individual needs of the diverse groups at Kent have been met, but could only provide evidence of the first gay night at the Venue, an AGM motion that supported international students in their fight for fairer fees, and the South East Weighting campaign.



Kent Union's five Sabbatical C  
a mandate to achieve their ma  
Politicians in the wider world  
of 'saying without doing', and  
whether the finger can be po  
or if they have lived up to the

## Education - Tom Christian

Tom Christian has been extremely successful in his year as Education Sabbatical Officer. He has been successful in all of his manifesto aims.

He pledged to fight for 'fairer marking schemes with greater feedback on coursework and exams' and has achieved this through gaining guarantees from the senior management of the University that feedback should be "clearer" and that all coursework should be returned within three weeks of submission.

The Education Assembly has been altered in order for improved communication between Course Reps, to ensure better representation for students. The Assembly meets every three weeks, now has enough attendees to hit quorum, and works "as a think-tank, generating policy quickly and effectively." The Education Forum meets once a month to discuss issues such as the library, and it is from this Forum that a radical review of the library's space and services will be undertaken. Plans may even include the complete replacement of the library.

His work with the library cannot be overstated, although he appreciates "it is a long way from perfect." He is trying to ensure that book budgets are spent on time and on essential reading materials. He has also "insisted that tutors make clear in their reading lists which books should be purchased and which students can expect the library to provide, and that those books are provided in bulk."

The South East Weighting campaign has been "hugely effective," according to Tom, and he has doubled the political support amongst MPs, as well as getting the support of the Universities of Reading, Christ Church, Surrey and Sussex. The campaign has even been covered by the BBC.



## Activities - Jan

Bullie has been particularly successful with the restructur year, as the committee and he have reorganised the fun ensure that the banking and sending off of monies is m more reliable. Bullie is currently in discussions with c across the country, in an attempt to "look at the best prac new RAG constitution.

Whilst Bullie has made himself available to assist CSR v is required, he admitted that "a hands on approach is no me to do." Putting the growth of CSR in his manifesto w as it is something that is partly out of his hands as Chris University, as well as Kent Union and University, run the

As for societies, Bullie has achieved success in his propo growth of societies continues. He was quick to point out, ho of this is down to the hard work of the Societies Federation the societies themselves, rather than being wholly due to h

Bullie openly admitted to having failed thus far in attemp the mentoring of smaller societies by the bigger societies. the amount of time focusing on society sign-ups on the web has been an area of high contention where Bullie has f Whilst it was not a manifesto pledge, the management of up has largely been haphazard, and one of the average st gripes with the Union.

## Kent Union 11th, 12th,



# Sabbatical Officers lived up to manifesto promises? Investigates...

Officers were elected with manifesto targets and aims. They are accused frequently of not living up to their promises. Inquire wants to know what happened at the Sabbaticals, and how well they lived up to their promises.

## Welfare - Pete Mackintosh



Pete Mackintosh, has largely failed to live up to his manifesto commitments. Reinstating sexual health testing on campus has so far been unsuccessful. Pete explained that it's out of his hands, as the Primary Care Trust is more responsible for this than he is.

The Welfare Sabbatical has also failed to establish a working group to work for a greener university, as he "didn't want to step over other peoples' jobs." Groups have been set up to discuss individual issues such as Conscious Consumers and Amnesty International.

Recycling has been introduced in Parkwood, but whether this has accomplished the target of a 'greener university' is questionable.

Furthermore, Pete has ineffectively "assisted international students' integration into the University of Kent," although this aim was perhaps over-ambitious. The Union does, however, offer several services to international students such as processing VISAs.

Despite not fulfilling many of the major aspects of his manifesto, the Welfare Sabbatical, did have some success at the AGM, pushing through a motion to secure the stabilisation of accommodation costs on campus.

## James Bull

Chairman of RAG this year. He is a fundraising body to make RAG more efficient and to merge with other RAGs from other universities. He is criticised for writing a manifesto that was not realistic.

Whenever his help is needed, he is the best thing for the University. He is perhaps foolish, but he has helped the Church Union and the radio station.

His proposal to ensure the University is more efficient, however, that much of the manifesto, and the Committee, and himself.

Attempting to introduce a new website. This was "due to the fact that the website failed to deliver. The website sign-up is the student's strongest



## Sport - Tom Marsh

Tom Marsh wanted to see all of the sports clubs at the University of Kent become more united and this was aided by the Presidents' Day in September, where "bridges were built between all the clubs and presidents," says Tom. Moreover, he suggested that the popularity of the Varsity t-shirts and indeed the event itself shows how united the sports federation is at Kent.

As for his manifesto's proposal to lobby the University for swimming facilities on campus, this has been aided by the granting of £10million from last year's Vice-Chancellor, Sir David Melville. Tom is now waiting on Sport England, Canterbury City Council and Kent County Council for more funding. Whilst there is no tangible success in this area of Tom's work, it appears that the facilities are in the pipeline.

Whilst arguably less headline-grabbing than the previous two of Tom's manifesto aims, the success of the 'Free Wednesdays' scheme is testifiable to the fact that he has had minimal instances of students having lectures or seminars on Wednesdays after 1pm, with the exception of labs. Also, the Sports Nights on Wednesdays in Woody's and the Venue have struck Tom at the "sheer volume of sportsmen and women in both bars."

With regard to increasing participation in the Sports Federation, the Kent Union website shows that last month Kent overtook the record number of students it has signed up to sports in the University's history. Four new sports have also been introduced to the Sports Federation: table tennis, lacrosse, cycling and swimming.



General elections:  
13th March





**io**

*The look of love?*





# Pious politics

## Archbishop's antics

Daide Pastorello

Two weeks ago the Archbishop of Canterbury delivered a lecture titled *Civil and Religious Law in England*. The media reported strong criticism from the political world against the Archbishop's highlighting of the inevitability of the growth of Sharia law in the UK.

In his speech the most senior figure in the Church of England argued that it is unavoidable that some elements of the Islamic law would be adopted in British law. Indeed, he suggested that the introduction would avoid Muslims being "systematically faced with the stark alternatives of cultural loyalty,

or state loyalty" all to the betterment of a truly pluralist society.

Now, however substantiated by relevant considerations of practical and theoretical applicability, the Archbishop's proposal appears to me as based on the unawareness of a



very ideas of religion and law, among other elements of society, are conceived. Anthropology has documented the variety of customs, behaviours and beliefs within humankind, and it is this diversity that Britain's pursuit of multiculturalism, no matter how successful, seems to recognise.

Nonetheless, a point is still missed in many approaches to questions of cultural encounters. It is that different cultures not only believe and do different things, but they categorise and conceive what they do and believe in different ways.

As a consequence, a common mistake when looking at other cultures is that of interpreting them through one's own cultural categories, as

opposed to understanding them on their own terms. This fallacy can easily lead to project one's own parameters on other cultures and to overlook on differences in basic conceptualisations.

Now, the idea of incorporating certain rules of Islamic law in Britain, though possible and arguably advantageous, is one that overlooks differences in the categorisation and separation of social spheres.

It rests on the Western conceptual distinction between secular and spiritual which in recent centuries lead to the invention of the nation-state, that can be seen as the institution devoted to the political, economic and legal organisation of people.

Certainly such a peculiar distinction

of the political from the religious has not always existed, and even now is not present everywhere today. I suggest that Islam, even in all its variations and developments, never really subscribed to the distinction of the political from the religious. That is to say, what we define as Islamic religion is really a whole cultural system within which spiritual, political and legal matters, among many others, are dealt with.

If one considers Christianity, which developed in contiguity with the nation-state, it can be observed that it has abandoned many of its "secular" prerogatives in favour of the state institutions (though some might argue that it actually has many of its principles incorporated in the law of the state).

But with Islam, where the very separation of secular and spiritual matters is not an issue, this delegation of authority has never explicitly occurred. That is what puts Muslims in the uncertain position described by the Archbishop.

This makes the idea of the incorporation of Sharia into British law at best inappropriate and at worst useless.

For the extrapolation of single principles and rules from a comprehensive system and to mix them in a new compartmented system only contributes to that cultural hybrid that multiculturalism sometimes seems to create.

## Voodoo views

Nicole Graham

The influence of religion is one which should not be dismissed. Yet it is often believed that it is only the major religions, such as Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism, that have influenced beliefs within society.

Whilst the major religions have made undeniable impressions upon our society, the influence of more passive and alternative religions should not go unnoticed. Due to the nature of these religions, misinterpretation and misunderstanding is frequent, and their true nature often remains hidden.

One of the most commonly mis-

understood beliefs is that of Voodoo.

The stereotypical image of pins, a doll and the aim of revenge, appears instantly in many peoples' minds. However, Voodoo is much more than this. Originating in Africa and incorpo-

rating elements of Christianity to survive persecution, the common and misunderstood image of the Voodoo doll stems from believers who call on good and bad spirits for aid. It is in fact British interference which has created such a negative idea. Rather than a negative religion, Voodoo instead

consists of many positive elements; promoting the belief that every action affects



another's and that of showing respect to the natural world. The aforementioned ideas are frequently agreed by the British public, yet very few would be aware of the roots of these moral ideals.

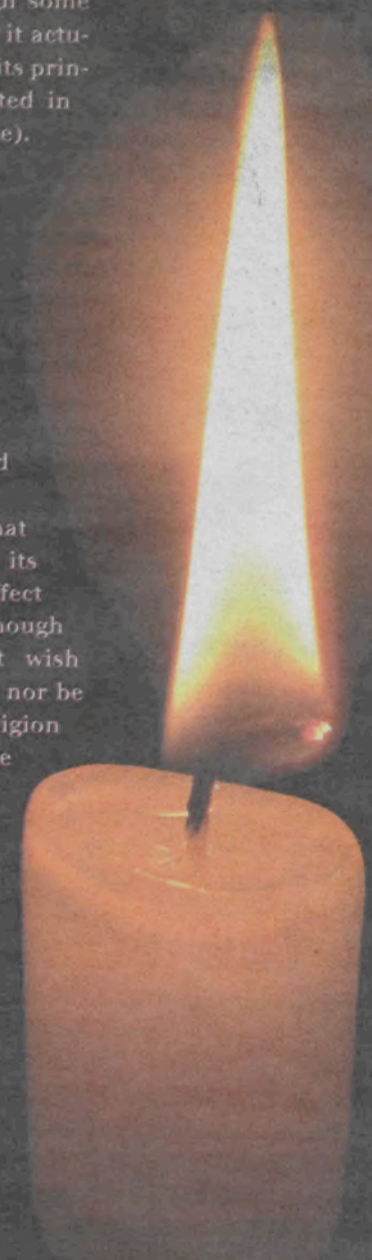
It is not just ancient beliefs which remain misconstrued but also new religions, for example Scientology, which only emerged during the last century. The religion promoted by celebrities such as Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes, sparked a media frenzy with rumours of the need of silent births. The religion itself is not one of self promotion

and does not intend to begin a revolution, but instead evolves human ideas. Translated to mean the 'study of truth', man is perceived to be immortal and nothing is seen as impossible. The aim of this religion is that of survival, to free man and to end war. These beliefs are held by

many today and although they may be deemed far fetched, isn't the basis of religion hope and faith?

It is clear that religion in its various forms affect society. Although society may not wish for this influence nor be aware of it, religion has an undeniable impact upon our moral values, laws and beliefs.

Religion is unavoidable and although the roots of ideas may be rejected by many, the belief itself is often accepted unknowingly by society.





# Islam

Abigail El-Bekai

Islam began in Arabia in the early 7th century AD, revealed to humanity by Prophet Muhammad, who is regarded as the last messenger of God or 'Allah'. The Arabic word Islam translates as 'resignation or surrendering', namely to God. It is a monotheistic religion with five main pillars: the belief in Allah, prayer, charity, pilgrimage and fasting.

There are two types of Muslims: Sunni and Shia, bearing theological and practical differences. A Muslim's life is determined by Sharia Law, a type of law that has been causing much controversy in recent years. It is unfortunate that many people, including Muslims themselves, do not fully understand what the law entails, as it has been heavily associated with inhumane punishment practices such as death

by stoning, lashing, and the unequal treatment of women.

The reality of Sharia law is a combination of sources based on the Qur'an (the holy book of Islam), the Hadith (sayings and maxims by the Prophet Muhammad) and Fatwas (the rulings of Islamic scholars). Sharia is considered by Muslims as a divinely inspired law, which is not set in stone per se, but a civilising influence on its followers based on mercy, justice and the welfare of the public.

There are 1.6 million Muslims in the UK today, making up 2.6% of the population. Muslims are often ostracised due to preconceived ideals surrounding terrorism. Yet people fail to understand that Islam has been shaping Britain since the 11th century.

It is unfortunate that in the last century, there have been many western misunderstandings about this religion, re-



sulting in people developing a phobia of Islam.

Through ignorance, the religion has often been wrongly associated with terrorism, violence, fanatic and draconian behaviour. It is a shame that non-Muslims make false assumptions about

Islam, impressions often shaped by the media.

It is also unfortunate that some Muslims take a controversial interpretation of the religion, radicalising the Qur'an, a main cause for the extreme and fundamentalist actions

that have been occurring in the 21st century.

In 1994, Islam Awareness Week was set up by the Commission of British Muslims in the hope to improve the perceptions of British people, to improve relations and develop a

sense of harmony, respect and tolerance. Bringing both Muslims and non-Muslims together in order to stop the widening divide and alienation that is occurring in our society and the modern world.



# Humanism

Kyrill Potapov

Blanche DuBois tells us in 'A Streetcar Named Desire' that she has always depended on the kindness of strangers. The phrase sounds almost unnerving in the context of modern society where our relationship with the clergy is more distant than ever.

So where do we look for our comfort now?

Humanists would argue that we are overshooting the issue. Humanism is a world view that is parallel to religion. It offers answers

to questions like the meaning of life and the origin of morality.

Essentially though, Humanism denies the importance of religious and superstitious beliefs in everyday life.

Although many Humanists appreciate a spectrum of experiences which they may call 'spiritual', they do not monopolise these experi-

ences with reference to a deity or divine scripture. Humanists believe that there is

nothing in the universe "above" the human in value and that the human, as a product of unguided evolutionary processes, is the measure of all values.

Humanists believe in a universal morality formed on the application of needs and biological adaptation. They believe that human beings are naturally a social animal and find meanings for life in relation to experiences; love, envy, competition.

They believe that life itself is the meaning of life and the purposes we create for ourselves within our society are sufficient for life to be fulfilling. Humanism

is a theory of reason, compassion and responsibility.

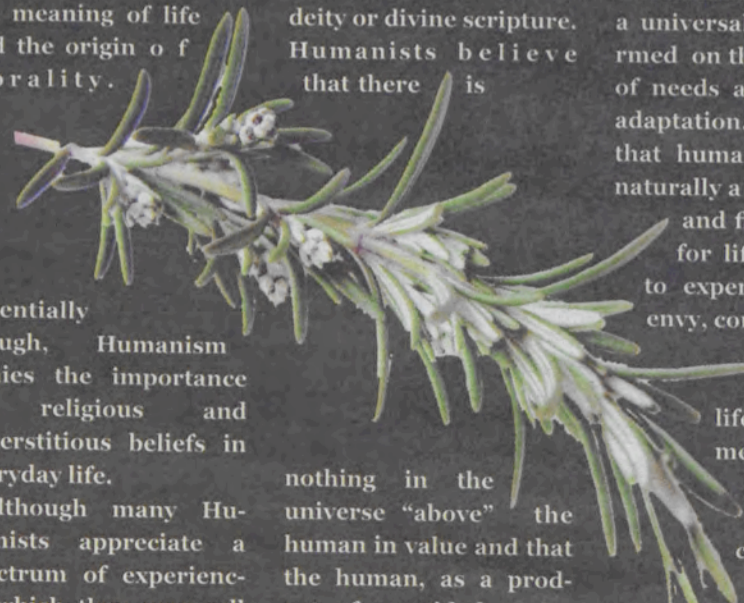
A humanist funeral and wedding recalls the history of the individual and the force had on society. Speakers at the event are encouraged to adopt a humorous and optimistic tone. Hymns and prayers are felt not to represent the actuality of the situation or the individual; and rosemary is left as a symbol of remembrance.

These are just some basic common interests. Richard Dawkins described defining humanists as "herding cats".

There is no sacred truth shared by all Humanists. This is perhaps one of the reasons why the existence of Humanism is largely ignored and not really appreciated to its full extent.

Although the British Humanist Association claim that as many as 36% of us share Humanist values, only 4% of the population are active Humanists.

As soon as people realise that Humanism isn't about smiling at people on the street, this "comfort" will be achieved.





## Funny face

Nina Attridge

A quick glance at the personal ads is all it takes to see how important humour is in relationships. Experiments repeatedly find that men and women value a good sense of humour (or 'GSOH') in a partner, but it has recently emerged that the sexes differ on what they think a 'GSOH' constitutes. While women want a man who can make them laugh so much it hurts, men don't care how funny a girlfriend is as long as she laughs at his jokes. This difference suggests that humour may have evolved through sexual selection, where males produce humour to compete with each other and women signal their interest by laughing.

There is considerable evidence for this possibility. Firstly, experiments show that women consistently find funny men more attractive than non-funny men, and men find women who laugh at their jokes more attractive than women who don't, while their attraction to a woman is not affected at all by how funny she is. Secondly, men produce more humour in mixed-sex interactions than in all-male interactions, supporting the idea that they use it as a way to compete for women.

There is also evidence that women laugh more in mixed-sex interactions than in all-female ones, which in turn supports the claim that it is used as a signal of

their sexual interest in men. Researchers have also found that when a man and woman are coupled together in an experiment, the amount that the woman laughs is predictive of how much they will both want to see each other again for a date.

This could be because the more the woman laughs, the funnier (and therefore more attractive) she finds the man, and the more the man gets the signal that she likes his jokes and that he has a chance with her. All of the findings that show humour as attractive beg the question 'why?', and this is something that is still open to debate. One theory is that humour signals good genes, because the cognitive skills needed to produce humour require having few genetic mutations.

It could also be the case that as humans evolved and became more intelligent, we became easily bored, so people who were funny would have been preferred as relationship partners to keep us entertained. Another possibility is that humour signals intelligence and creativity. If this is the case, a humorous person might be expected to be successful in acquiring resources, and this could make them attractive candidates for raising offspring. Even if these theories fail, it is possible that humour could have evolved without signalling anything about the person at all.

Traits can evolve through sexual selection purely because they are attractive, even if they don't relate to any other traits. All it takes is for humour producing men and humour appreciating women to choose each other, produce offspring who also produce and appreciate humour, and the pattern will continue and spread the traits in the population.

# Pick a

## The science of





# partner sexual selection

## Facial attraction

Laura Tite

*Attractiveness:* "Why did you agree to go on a date with him, he's boring." "Yes, but he is quite attractive." Why do we tend to go for people that are of a similar level of attractiveness to ourselves? What is it about Orlando Bloom or Johnny Depp, just by looking at them makes us go weak at the knees? And what is it about a woman's body shape and the fact she is a model, appeal more attractive. One of the main body parts that we look for attractiveness is in the face, as it is what we see the first time we meet someone, is it love at first sight?

We tend to judge the opposite sex on, age, physical attractiveness, commitment to a relationship and social skills. Women tend to pay more attention to commitment. Whilst men, and there is no surprise here, are more focused on physical attractiveness.

We react to faces in a variety of ways. Just from looking at someone's face we can make the following assumptions, how trustworthy they are, apprehension, rebelliousness, and the most obvious to us all, sexual attraction. It makes us ask a question, what features make an attractive face? And why should a certain feature be more attractive? The answer to the first question is, according to many behavioural and biological scientists. Infants as young as 2-3 months



show a preference for the same faces that adults rate as more attractive, suggesting that it is innate in our genes. For example features such as the colour of eyes we like and the kind of hair we go for. Two scientists went further to suggest it is to do with the relationship between the female and male hormones. They measured the testosterone levels of their male subjects, and the oestrogen levels of their female subjects. The results demonstrated that the degree of female preference for the faces of men with higher actual testosterone levels is positively correlated with actual female oestrogen levels, tracking those levels across the menstrual cycle. Beneath face-to-face attraction they discovered, to say it bluntly, gonad-to-gonad resonance. As the natural intentions of humans is pro-creation, maybe that is all we are really looking for, someone who corresponds and matches us biologically. Science may not have all the answers but definitely provides a good guiding model.

As well as the face, body shape is also seen as a big part in deciding attractiveness. But what is especially appealing to us? At a glance the slimmer person is paraded by the media in celebrities and fashion.



As this seems to be the norm, many of us are more attracted to those with that label. Science says that we are more attracted to one body shape than another due to WHR (waist to hip ratio) and BMI (body mass index). Women with relatively lower WHR and BMI more strongly prefer resources in a potential long-term partner than those with higher WHR and BMI.

But since the size zero debate have peoples' attitudes and appeal to body shape changed? I find it a bit puzzling as to why only women are at a dangerous size zero while nothing that severe is expected for male models. Maybe it's more about tradition than anything else. Males are considered to be the strong types, knights in shining armour - heroes; While I can see that women were fragile, petite and in need of being rescued. And while we may share many of these characteristics there is only so far you can push yourself to make yourself appeal to the opposite sex before you make a mistake and go too far.

So it is in conclusion that although science may explain a lot due to our biological needs, it is the way we are projected through society that makes us think it is the norm that in the past people like 'us' have married or are in relationships with people like 'them'.





DVD

## Furnace

Lisa Gallo

This film, directed by William Butler, on paper sounds like it has all the ingredients to make a satisfying horror, if a little predictable. The opening sequence depicting a prison guard's suicide is designed to arouse a morbid curiosity and this blatant checking of boxes becomes more apparent throughout the film.

Set in a prison, the film follows a detective investigating a suicide preceding the deaths of several inmates. The rather gruesome deaths begin after the reopening of the bricked up wing of the prison where fifty years ago there had been murders and a devastating fire. As the plot progresses the detective uncovers the practically mandatory 'little girl ghost and the film climaxes in a fit of screams, flames and underground drama.

The haunting music played is reminiscent of the spine chilling theme to 'John Carpenter's Halloween', but this is not continued throughout the film. This is not the only part of the

film that echoes other more successful horrors; the dead girl had a look not dissimilar from the girl in 'The Ring'.

The general cast was fairly uninspired, however there were occasional flashes of brilliance from long standing horror actors Danny Trejo (From Dusk til Dawn, The Devil's Rejects) and Tom Sizemore (Natural-born Killers) with Ja Rule quite nicely placed to attract a slightly more mainstream audience. Though I feel that an opportunity was wasted to make this film more than it was if only better use had been made of this solid cast instead of focusing on the predictable main character.

At times this film was comical in the style of 'Evil Dead', with unattached body parts moving with a life of their own. Overall, although not original or challenging 'Furnace' is a reasonable horror film with special effects that will not disappoint. This would be very suited to lazy nights in when you really don't want to be following a complex storyline and merely want to be entertained.

★★★★☆



ALBUM

## Underdog Victory - Your parents' new favourite band

Out now

Rachel Sheridan

If you like your music a little rough and ready, but full of fun then Underdog Victory might just be the band for you.

Listening to them is like a shot of adrenaline straight to the heart and will have you instantly dancing like a lunatic. So not the kind of music that

should accompany a mass study session in the library. Last Tries and Long Goodbyes is a modern ska classic, with exciting rhythms and an awesome brass section. The brass adds something extra, something that is missing in many mainstream bands. It shows a creativity distinctly lacking from the pop charts.

This creativity and flair extends to their cover of I

Want You Back, originally by the Jackson 5. Moving away from the high-pitched singing of the original version to a more rugged, guitar-led song, they manage to retain the pop sensibilities of the song that we all know and love.

The band has a full sound, possibly because of the size of the band, but also because each instrument is made

effective use of. There are impressive rhythms, good lyrics, and the musical talent to back all of that up.

While they could be more polished, Underdog Victory could easily become your accompaniment to those hot, sunny summer days that we're all looking forward to.

★★★★☆



ALBUM

## Morrissey - Greatest hits

Out now

Abigail El-Bekai

Following the tragic demise of The Smiths, Morrissey began his solo career in 1987. Many fans were not sure what to expect. Yet his first solo album was a huge success. Celibate, influential, vegetarian, morose Morrissey has been doing just fine on his own.

His recently released compilation album is everything a fan would expect: an assortment of some of his best works, as well as two brand new songs "That's How People Grow Up" and "All You Need Is

Me". Yet for die hard fans, the lack in variation will be a major disappointment, for it only includes a majority of samples from his recently released album and his 2004 album.

Where are the classic gems from his earlier career, such as Your Arsenal and Bona Drag? It is rather surprising that his new material should be considered part of his greatest hits, when he has more classic songs in his back catalogue. But if what you are looking for is simply a medley of his most recent works, this album is for you.

★★★★☆



ALBUM

## Laura Marling - Alas I cannot swim

Out now

Abigail El-Bekai

Laura Marling, described as the 'princess of alternative folk', might just be 18 years old, but you won't believe this once you've heard her stark lyrics, tinged with a melancholy content.

Despite her knack for sameyness, it is the poignancy of the lyrics that should move you. Her recent album, 'Alas I Cannot Swim', released in February 2008 has been a pleasing surprise for most critics and fans. It is folkie, delicate and pretty poetry on strings, accompanied by a contagious voice and catchy

lyrics that will leave you singing along.

Some exceptional pieces are 'Ghosts' and 'The Captain and the Hourglass', along with other beautiful hymns about the growing pains of adolescence, unrequited love and the futility of religion. She is known to be influenced by artists such as Will Oldham and Joni Mitchell, and is often compared to Kathryn Williams. Her music is reminiscent of Ingrid Michaelson and Azure Ray, so if you are a fan, the harmonies of Laura Marling are for you.

★★★★☆







DVD

# Lagerfeld confidential

Nina Attridge

The first thing to say about Lagerfeld Confidential is that it is all in French, so don't watch it if you're not French and hate reading subtitles.

This film is actually a documentary about fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld, who revived Chanel in the early 80's, and has also designed clothes for Fendi, Chloé, and his own labels.

The film follows him around the globe as he designs clothes, puts on fashion shows, photographs models, chills out with friends, and chats in interviews.

When I first started watching it, I was rather put-off by the documentary approach, the subtitles, and my own cluelessness about the fashion industry. Once I got into it though, I was pleasantly surprised. It reveals aspects of Lagerfeld's controversial views on sexual assault, paedophilia, prostitution and pornography, and includes very personal comments on his sexuality, a childhood sexual assault, his family life, and his views on relationships.

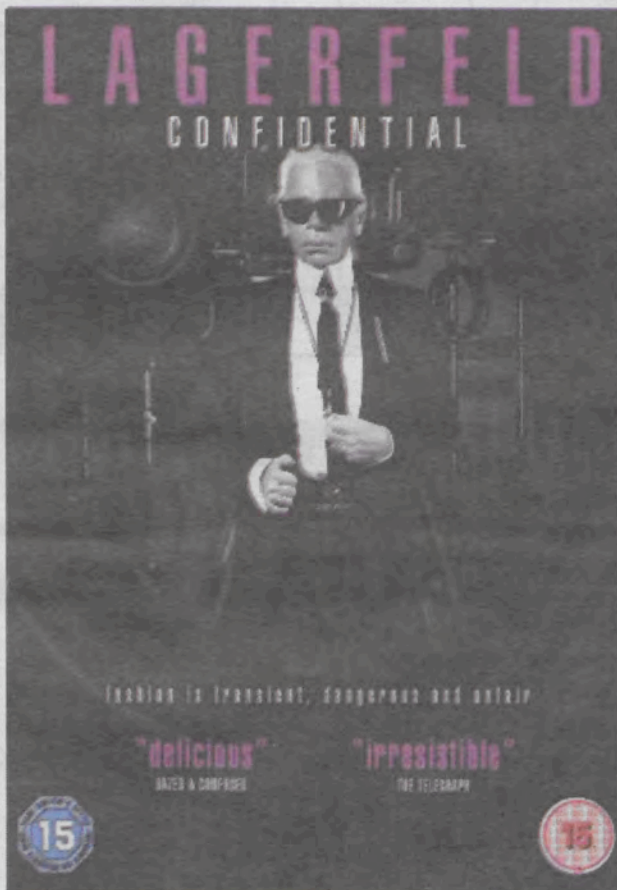
That said, the interviewer/director, Rodolphe Marconi,

does not delve any deeper than Lagerfeld is willing to go off his own back, and several opportunities to find out more about Lagerfeld's personal life are missed. Some notable points to the film include a huge collection of silver rings, an appearance by Nicole Kidman, and beautiful views from different places around

the world, including views from several plane journeys.

Although this film was more entertaining than I first judged it to be, it is definitely not a crowd-drawer, and probably best suited to anyone who loves the fashion industry, Lagerfeld himself, or just gawping at beautiful models.

★★★★☆



FILM

# Reviews

# National Treasure: Book of secrets

Emma Foale

For anyone who isn't sure, National Treasure: Book of Secrets is a mix of Mission: Impossible, Indiana Jones, and Da Vinci Code. You do not have to have seen the first National Treasure to understand the storyline and it would not disrupt your enjoyment, but I think this sequel does not live up to the first film. It loses

sight of plot and characters in its efforts to impress with attempts to kidnap the President and breaking into Buckingham Palace. Overall, it was not my cup of tea as the plot was predictable and at times slow going. Riley, an author of a newly-printed book about the history of the treasure, brings a slight glimpse of light humour to the film but nothing special. In an interview in the Odeon

magazine, Cage claims that he hopes for the film's success so they can proceed with a third film to complete the trilogy: 'I'd like to see the movie go wider still - to Africa, Egypt, Asia and beyond.' So for those who enjoy this film there sounds like there is hope that there could possibly be a third film to complete the National Treasure Trilogy.

★★☆☆☆



FILM

# Jumper

Mike Burbidge

In his third action film since moving away from his indie roots, director Doug Liman delivers his most proficient piece to date in one of 2008's first big action adventures.

The plot revolves around David Rice (Hayden Christensen), a twenty something with abandonment issues who discovers that he can teleport, or jump, himself anywhere on the planet. This gift he uses with glee, robbing banks and gallivanting around the world for his own gains.

Unfortunately, David's actions end up attracting the attention of a group of reli-

gious fanatics led by Samuel L. Jackson as well as Griffin (Jamie Bell), another jumper who informs him about the war he has entered.

The Jumping effects of the movie are, in a word, astonishing - an implosion of matter capable of scattering objects left in its wake and taking anything that the jumper is touching, such as water or even fire. But the film is at its peak when both jumpers are on screen, one brilliant sequence seeing David and Griffin ducking it out for possession of a detonator from the vistas of Egypt to war torn Chechnya.

Yet, what the film gains through excellent visuals, it



For another take on this movie check out reviews at: [www.inquirelive.co.uk](http://www.inquirelive.co.uk)

loses when it comes to storytelling. The plot never develops beyond a simple good versus bad war whilst the characters are generally one dimensional and poorly acted, the exceptions being Rachel Bilson as love interest Millie, and Bell who manages to inject some much needed humour into an otherwise glum affair.

With Jumper, Liman has created a unique action experience detracted by a group of largely unsympathetic characters, and in a year with a larger array of superhero films than ever before, Jumper may find that it has been left behind.

★★★★☆



# Ask us...?

## Uncle Sam answers your questions...



For all of you wondering how you can get through life without an agony uncle at hand, fear not! Help has arrived. This column is your opportunity to get 'specialist' advice from Kent Union's Men's Officer. If you feel you have a question about why your girlfriend doesn't want to watch you play football, or perhaps have a serious issue about work, health or relationships then get in touch at [unionmen@kent.ac.uk](mailto:unionmen@kent.ac.uk), and if your question is suitable for the column it will be included. If not then you will still get advice in email form. So without further ado, let's go to this issue's questions...

**Hey Uncle Sam. Recently I've been having trouble getting dates with girls. I keep trying to get them when I'm drunk but girls just don't seem to take me seriously. What should I do? Is there a way to get girls to go on dates with me?**

**Dateless, Parkwood**

Reader, as we all know women are complicated creatures, however I don't think that your approach of

trying to get girls to date you when you're drunk is working in your favour. In a social atmosphere where people are drinking, it is harder for people to take you seriously. There are a few things you can try though. First off, spend a night out not getting too drunk, and see if the extra control you have helps - it could be that you're slurring your words and girls can't understand you. If this doesn't work, try asking a girl on a date in a different situation, like a girl from your course. Hope this helps.

**Uncle Sam, I've recently been hearing a lot about Kent Union...especially the elections. What's going on? Are we going to be harassed for two weeks again?**

**Slightly concerned, Hales Place**

Well reader, where to start? If you are interested in Kent Union as a whole then the best place to start would be to go to the Student Activities Centre in the Virginia Woolf building (upstairs from Essentials). In regards to the elections, yes they are coming and yes you will probably be harassed. But it's good to be informed, as the Union matters. If you don't want to be harassed, the best

way is to vote early and get a sticker showing you've voted - that way the campaigners will leave you alone.

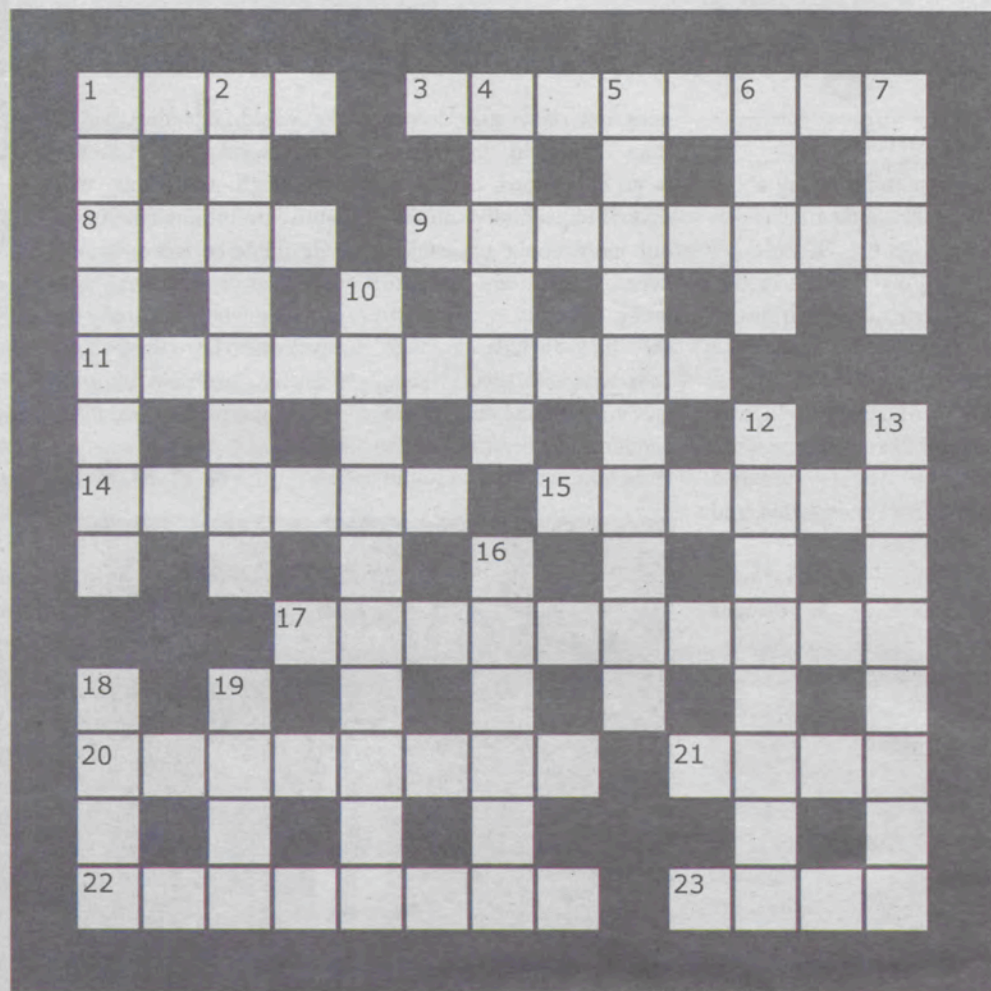
**Dear Uncle Sam, I've recently been having trouble trying to get my male housemate to do the washing up. How can I convince him to do it, without resorting to methods that could hurt our friendship?**

**Girl with no plates, London Road**

Reader, that is a good question, and one that I might not be in the best position to answer, being a messy boy myself. Depending on how underhanded you want to be, one method would be to guilt trip him into washing up. If you're not that way inclined then try incentives for him to wash up, or punishments for not washing up. For example, hide the TV remote; make his room smell like a girl's; or other suitable punishments. If worst comes to the worst, you could always lock him out the house until he promises to wash up. Good luck!

If you have any problems that need solving, or just need advice then email [unionmen@kent.ac.uk](mailto:unionmen@kent.ac.uk).

# Crossword



- Down**
- 1 Dangerous \_\_\_, saw Glen Close nominated (8)
  - 2 John Huston's 1948 film, The \_\_\_ of the Sierra Madre (8)
  - 4 Penn nominated for this film is 2002 (1, 2, 3)
  - 5 High noon actor 1953(4, 6)
  - 6 Dublin set musical nominated for an Oscar in 2008 (4)
  - 7 \_\_\_ Hackman (4)
  - 10 Disloyal
  - 12 Sophia Loren 1965 film \_\_\_ Italian style (8)
  - 13 Neil Jordon film starring Bob Hoskins (4,4)
  - 16 Ron Howard' stellar film (6)
  - 18 Alison and Clive both nominees (4)
  - 19 Naps (anag) (4)
- Across**
- 1 Like Cary Grant, no longer with us (4)
  - 3 Oscar nominated monster film (4,4)
  - 8 \_\_\_ Guinness (4)
  - 9 \_\_\_ Beauty, best picture 2000 (8)
  - 11 Hepburn's character in Bringing up baby (5,5)
  - 14 Proprietor of Bates' motel
  - 15 Grace Kelly's wedding venue (6)
  - 17 Nominated for best actor for The Crying Game (7,3)
  - 20 Unexpected income (8)
  - 21 Vehicle driven by De Niro in his 70s chiller (4)
  - 22 Nominated Disney film \_\_\_ and Samantha (8)
  - 23 Imelda Staunton was in the running playing her (4)

ANSWERS Crossword: Down 1 Late 3 King Kong 8 Alec 9 American 11 Susan Vance 14 Norridge 13 Monalisa 16 Apollo 18 Owen 19 Snap Across 1 Late 3 King Kong 8 Alec 9 American 11 Susan Vance 14 Norridge 13 Monalisa 16 Apollo 18 Owen 19 Snap

# Sudoku

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

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

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



# Kent Fashion Show

Kate Douglas

On 15th March the second annual University of Kent's Fashion show will be taking place in Eliot dining hall. The event has been organised by the Photography and Modelling society committee and it will be the first year that they will be taking on such a gargantuan task.

David Cater, the President of the photography half of the society, says "to take over the reigns from last year's show certainly has been a challenge, but a worthy process which hopefully means this will be a regular event for the University."

This is only the second year that the event has taken place, as last year was such a huge success then it is not surprising that

the Photography and Modelling society, established this year, has taken control and are trying their best to make the show an annual event. "The society needs something big to show it can be successful for years to come."

As the event is being organised solely by students, the committee feels it's very important to express the openness of the show. Cater goes on to say, "it gives anyone on campus a chance to have a feel for the catwalk, no discrimination to height, size or weight. This is for students, by students." Joshua Dibble, president of the Modelling half of the society adds, "We had over eighty applicants for modelling this year and were thoroughly overwhelmed and pleased with the response. We chose models based on their ability to walk, capability to deal

with and grow from criticism, and interest in our project. We also had many people come forward asking to help behind the scenes so we're confident the night will run smoothly."

This event brings something different to the University's social calendar, allowing anyone who has an interest in fashion, photography and other creative outlets such as hair styling, make-up and dressing to get involved or witness the show in process on the night. The advertising for the night, as well as a trailer, are to be released and tickets will be on sale soon.

The catwalk show is in the process of being carefully choreographed and is going great so far. Cater says, "I've liked how everyone has been a team from both halves of the society to give this show the attention it needs. Everyone's pitching in and we're getting great results from the combination of efforts. My biggest thanks go to the whole committee, the models, Kent techni-

cal team, Lee Francis, who has done a brilliant trailer yet again and Kent Union for making this event possible." The show will be followed by an after party, at which all guests and models are allowed to attend; with the drinks and good spirits flowing, the night will no doubt go off with a bang.



Giles Glod

## Regular Selection

### Monday:

On: 'Fall in Love with Monday Nights', The Venue, £4.  
Off: 'Pop Ya Cherry', The Works, 9pm-2am, £5.

### Tuesday:

On: 'Ruby Tuesdays', Origins, 9pm-2am, Free.  
Off: Quiz Night, Seven Stars 9pm onwards, Free.

### Wednesday:

On: 'Bring it on!', The Venue, 9pm-2am, £4.  
Off: 'Naughty n Nice', Chicagos, 9pm - 2am, £3-£5.

### Thursday:

On: 'FACE', The Venue, 9pm-1am £4.  
Off: Quiz Night, The Cricketers, 9pm onwards, Free.

### Friday:

On: 'Magic@Mungo's', Mungo's, 9pm-1am, Free.  
Off: 'Time Tunnel', Studio 41, 10pm-3am, £6 after 11pm.

### Saturday:

On: 'Flirt!' Returning this year, The Venue, 8-2am, £4.  
Off: 'Girls and Boys', Studio 41, 9pm-2am, £5-£8

### Sunday:

On: 'Sunday Roast Pub Quiz', Origins, 8pm, Free  
Off: 'Sunday Roast Club', Wetherspoons, noon-9pm, £4.20

## Top 5 fashion trends

By Emma Hinds

- 1) **Tight tops:** belted tops and coats to enhance the bust and create a shapely figure.
- 2) **Sequins:** to add sparkle to any garment or accessory. Accentuate your shine with big accessories.
- 3) **Grab green:** as the increasingly popular colour is a must to add to your collection.
- 4) **Metallic magic:** a glam fabric present in many highstreet stores.
- 5) **Shorter trousers:** below-the-knee-length trousers are coming back into fashion. While we lose length in the trouser, we gain it in the skirt, so prepare to say goodbye to the well-loved mini skirt.

## Top events of the month...

for more check out: [www.inquirelive.co.uk](http://www.inquirelive.co.uk)

### Thu 28th Feb

'Luke Smith is back for Cocktails and Cabaret'.

Luke Smith serves up anxious anthems of small-town splendour & sadness, playing regularly with his band 'The Feelings'.

Starts at 8pm, £6, (£4 concs).

### Tue 4th Mar

'Tokyo Jo', 'Battlestar Galactica', 'Kingskin'.

Playing 'Local Heroes' night at Bar 1-2-1 (behind the Odeon Cinema).

Entry is £5 and selected drinks are £1.50.

### Wed 5th Mar

"The Race to the Top: How can we compete in the new global economy".

Lord Sainsbury of Turville.

KLT1 (Brabourne), 6pm, free and open to all.

### Fri 7th Mar

'Laurel and Hardy' at The Venue.

Tribute to legendary comedy duo Laurel and Hardy.

The performance will run on Fri 7th and Sat 8th and starts at 7:30pm. Tickets cost from £10.50.

### Thur 14th Mar

'Visual Offence', 'Bender Crack Corn', 'The Kick Kick Murder Squad' and 'Volunteers' play at the Beer Cart Arms.

A staple part of any punk rock lover's weekly diet. Entry is £5 (£4 with flyer) and music kicks off at 8pm.



## Latin American festival

Augustine Lofts

The University of Kent is hosting a fabulous festival in celebration of Latin American culture. The Festival Latino Americano kicks off on 28th Feb and lasts for over a month, featuring a stellar smattering of music, film and cultural events.

The festival includes informative on-campus talks and free film screenings. There will be a question and answer session with the Argentinian documentary filmmaker Favio Fisher, plus a performance by a nationally renowned salsa band, Bacalao, and a season of seven Latin American films aired at everyone's favourite indie cinema,

the Gulbenkian.

'Los mejores cinemáticas' include a rare screening of a documentary about the Argentinian revolutionary, freedom fighter and cultural icon Che Guevara. There will also be a special screening of Argentina's soul Oscar nomination, 'XXY', and another chance to see the acclaimed Brazilian drama, 'City of Men'.

The festival Latino Americano is presented in partnership with the Hispanic Studies Department, Music for Change and the Gulbenkian and should be of great benefit to anyone doing Spanish, Portuguese or even if you've just got a slight Penelope Cruz fixation.

For the more details see; [www.kent.ac.uk/latinfest](http://www.kent.ac.uk/latinfest)

## Soulja Boy Crank that...

Kate Douglas

On Friday the 29th of February the Venue will be taken over by a new artist whose addictive sound and signature dance have already taken the world by storm and catapulted the seventeen year old to worldwide fame. Following the success of recent performers such as Sisqo, Kano and Tim Westwood, the Venue seems to be on form with an array of live performances this term, each getting bigger and better than before.

The rapper will be performing hits 'Yahhh!', 'Soulja Girl' and the global smash hit "Crank That (Soulja Boy)". The artist's quick rise to fame is partly due to the dance that got people hooked on watching his music video for "Crank That (Soulja Boy)". This has been imitated by many, even at the recent Man of Kent competition, some of the competitors took it upon themselves to showcase their talents by demonstrating it. The Face-

book event is calling for people to get practising, even adding a link to the instructional video. The evening will be one that is sure to live up to expectations, with over 500 people already confirmed as attending on the Facebook event. For those desperate to go but do not attend the University tickets will only be available on the door.

As well as Soulja Boy, one of Kents best resident DJs Paul Moon will be performing, which will add some variety to the night.

There will also be prizes given out, including champagne and CDs, this clearly sees a night not to be missed.



Courtesy of latinfest



## Strike it big with £10

Sam Wylie

Are you a budding Bill Gates or an aspiring Sir Alan Sugar? Well this is your chance to show the world, or at least Canterbury, your entrepreneurial skills! The first UoK £10 challenge is beginning in March and it will give students the chance to show off their business brains.

The challenge is run by the University's Student Enterprise Service and revolves around two weeks and £10 cash. The idea is that students try to increase that £10 by any means possible as long as it adheres to the three rules; it must be legal, ethical and funded only by £10. Any profit made can be kept, but the original £10 must be returned. The competition gives students a chance to come up with all sorts of money making schemes, wacky and wild.

Tracy Crowther, a student Enterprise Officer at the University, told inQuire, that the idea came from 'The Apprentice'. She said, a scheme similar to this was done in Glasgow University where a



student made £200 from buying and selling umbrellas on campus during a very rainy week!

The idea, according to Crowther, is to develop enterprise and innovation in business

and to see what can be done using only the little money provided at the beginning of the two weeks. The scheme is backed by the Kent Messenger Group who will loan £10 to each student taking part.

With the University's Business School and many business related courses, the scheme will obviously appeal to many of these students yet, the challenge is open to students of all courses. From Computer Science to English Language, any student can take part. The course, far from only testing business skills will require organisation, innovation and above all, persuasion to make customers part with hard earned cash.

The competition runs from 5th to 19th March and to apply, just email [t.s.crowther@kent.ac.uk](mailto:t.s.crowther@kent.ac.uk) and I'll see you in Rutherford bar on 19th, when the winner is announced!

For more information, full listings or booking please call 01227 769075 or visit [www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian](http://www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian).



### Highlights

29th-3rd Mar: 'Charlie Wilson's War' (15), "Three socialites join forces to lead the largest and most successful covert operation in history".

7th-10th Mar: 'I'm Not There' (15), "Todd Haynes takes us on an unconventional journey into the life of Bob Dylan".

15th-16th Mar: 'My Kid Could Paint That' (12A), "In 2004, four-year-old Marla Olmstead rocked the American art world".

For more information, full listings or booking please call 01227 769075 or visit [www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian](http://www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian).



### Highlights

28th Feb: 'I Hear Voices' by Contact Theatre, "A moving and humorous poetic enquiry", 7:45pm, £12 (£10 concs)

13th Mar: 'Henry V - The Lion of England' by Maverick Theatre, "Shakespeare's finest", 7:45pm £12 (£10 concs)

15th Mar: 'Shy Pigs With Wigs, Hidden In The Twigs', Jason Byrne, 7:45pm, £14 (£12 concs)



# Colours Ball

Daniel Bowers

It's that time of year again... Colours Ball! The event will be staged on Saturday 15th March at the Broome Park Golf Club in honour of the University of Kent's first and finest athletes.

It is the only University ball to have a sit down meal and there will also be an awards ceremony to look forward to for those lucky enough to be attending.

A coach service will be running from campus and returning students at the end of the night for those unable to make their own way to the ball.

The name of the event derives from the awards students are given. The colour green is to recognise students who have gone

beyond the call of duty for their club as a committee member for at least two years. Red recognises students who compete to a county standard or equivalent. And finally blue recognises students who compete to an international standard or play in the English Universities side. There are also four main awards to contend for and competition is set to be fierce with Sportsman and Sportswoman of the year up for grabs. Recognition for Outstanding Individual and Outstanding Administrator will also be given as this years Colours Ball looks set to be a highlight in the sporting calendar.

Good luck to all involved, have a great night and remember to pick up the next issue of inQUIRE to find out who won.



2007 Colours Ball award winners celebrate in style

# Join the T:24 Peepshow

Andrew Davison

Seven little lives in one big city. Get under the brick work of life in an urban tower block as two friends, four lovers and one loner expose glimpses of their urban lives to an audience of voyeurs. Can we trust what we see through the windows or what we hear through the walls? Do we really know what is going on behind closed doors? Peepshow combines physical theatre, a stunning soundtrack and harsh naturalism to create life... but not quite as we recognise it!

'Peepshow' is the latest ambitious project to be undertaken by the T:24 society. From Thursday 6th March until Sunday 8th March the show will be performed at the Gulbenkian Theatre.

The show, originally devised by theatre company Frantic Assembly, is being directed by UoK student Owen Evans.

Speaking to inQUIRE he talked about his motivation for putting on the show, "Peepshow has always been a show that has held a special place in my heart having first discovered the show in my final year of A-levels. I have always wanted the opportunity

to allow my vision for the show to come to life and T:24 has given me the chance to do so."

Frantic's original show premiered in 2002 at the Lyric Hammersmith, London. With Frantic Assembly teaming up with the atmospheric sounds of Lamb to provide the background for the world they created. Peepshow toured the UK in Autumn 2002 and was Frantic's first mid-scale tour. A 400 member audience saw the performance during a nine week tour.

The show starts at 7:45pm on all nights and tickets cost £8 (£5 concs). For booking contact [www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian](http://www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian) and for more information on the show contact [oe26@kent.ac.uk](mailto:oe26@kent.ac.uk).



## Print shop

Kent union reception offers the following services:

<b>Photocopying</b>		<b>Colour</b>	
Black and white		a4 single sided	25p
a4 single sided	5p	a4 double sided	40p
a4 double sided	6p	a3 single sided	40p
a3 single sided	10p	a3 double sided	60p
a3 double sided	12p		

<b>Photocopying on your own paper</b>		<b>Colour</b>	
Black and white		a4 single sided	10p
a4 single sided	3p	a4 double sided	15p
a4 double sided	5p	a3 single sided	20p
a3 single sided	8p	a3 double sided	25p
a3 double sided	11p		

<b>Laminates</b>		<b>transparent film</b>	
a4	30p	a4	15p
a3	60p		

<b>Fax</b>		<b>binding</b>	
to the UK	30p per minute	Comb Binding	80p
international	60p per minute	Steel Binding	£2.00



# Lyndsey's Rajasthan ride to save lives

Dan Hodkinson

Lyndsey-Lee McCann, a third year student studying History and Philosophy of Art has decided to embark on a 370km bike ride across India, just a few months after learning to ride a bike at the age of twenty.

Lyndsey-Lee felt that it was an opportunity to do a challenge she had never done before, she was originally asked a few months ago but declined due to the fact that she had never learned to ride a bike.

It is a 7 day, 370km challenge completely for charity and the four charities Lyndsey-Lee is raising for are: Cancerbackup, Children with Leukemia, Lymphoma



Lyndsey-Lee McCann: raising money for an incredibly good cause

Association and Ovarian Cancer Action. The challenge begins on 15th November 2008 in thirty degree heat, in the City of Agra and finishes in Jaipur.

Lyndsey-Lee, whose training is riding to Whitstable and back (around 14 miles), was diagnosed with Stage 3b Hodgkins Lymphoma in November 2006 and underwent six months of chemotherapy, before being given the all clear in June 2007.

It is quite remarkable that just two years after being diagnosed with cancer she is not only competing in this but also in a 10k run in London. If you would like to donate to Lyndsey-Lee then please join the facebook group and show your support.

# Kick start a better body

Linzi Algar

Kickboxing here at the University of Kent is a highly popular sport, attracting both male and female participants for the past ten years. It provides many benefits not only as an enjoyable sport but also as a way of maintaining the body and general health.

Due to the need to be quick on one's feet as well as bobbing and weaving, the training is a great overall cardiovascular workout, not to mention a full body work out.

Alongside this, when hitting the heavy bag, the power and strength in the arm muscles is increased through resistance training.

Whilst kickboxing can give you a hard physical test, it also enables the brain to heighten the hand speed and hand-eye co-ordination needed when punching the spotting mitts. It has also been found to be a great reliever of stress by getting the frustration out through punching and kicking.

It could be argued that all of this is also provided by boxing, however kickboxing allows the midsection to take blows, meaning the exercises toughen the abdominal muscles and help your body to get into shape and obtain a more defined, slender frame.

Being overly muscular is not always necessarily the desired outcome as this Thai martial art also provides a great way to increase flexibility, as it gives a head-to-toe cardiovascular workout due to the need to be quick on the feet as well as burning any additional calories. This makes the sport, great for both males and females looking to tone muscle or shed those excess pounds.

On Sunday 2nd March the Sport's Centre is hosting the annual National Kickboxing tournament; the largest in the United Kingdom, attracting crowds and national media. It provides an opportunity for Kent to compete nationwide, against other universities.

Kent Kickboxing Society will be looking to achieve the high standards they achieved last year as seven out of their eight competitors reached the finals.

# Golf team on par

Delilah Jones

As the weather gets brighter, there can be no better way to get out of the house than walking hole to hole across acres of green.

The University of Kent Golf Club is one of the many sports at the University competing this year. They are picking up their clubs in preparation for the summer season. They play at the Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club in Deal, which has held the Open Championship twice. The club boasts success in the BUSA South East League 1A having qualified to return next year and compete again.

Under the reign of Captain Ross Ford, two of the players, Gareth Halford and Alan Dainty,

have represented the University at the British University Open with Gareth obtaining a position in the top thirty-five nationwide.

For a relatively small club they play big in many ways, those who have made the team have a handicap (the lower the better) seven and with the training starting at around 6.30am they are most certainly a dedicated team.

Although golf is popular throughout the United Kingdom, the same cannot be said on campus as numbers who take up the sport dwindle, the summer however should change this. Golf can be seen as a great way to relax as well as keeping healthy with brisk walks, challenging those to reach par or better any rival universities across the nation.

# Cricketers crushed

Phil Crook

Kent's womens cricket team had it's dreams crushed on Saturday as they were defeated at Lord's in the finals of the BUSA National Indoor Championships.

Although it was widely expected that Kent would lose, the defeats were a devastating blow to the team, as they were drawn in a group with the three favourites to win the tournament, Loughborough, Cambridge and Exeter. The winners of this tough group would be expected to win the final.

Kent played Loughborough in the first match and it served as a baptism of fire for the underdogs. Loughborough amassed 119 in their twelve overs, and Kent

performed well to reach 68, having lost opener Jo Watts in the first over for a duck.

Against Cambridge, the story was much the same as Kent were outclassed, the final score being 121 this time. In reply, Kent faltered and never really mounted a challenge, and were bowled out for 83.

In the final match, with nothing to lose, Kent put in their best performance. They allowed Exeter to get 139, and replied with a strong 115. There were stages in the match where it looked as though a shock upset was on the cards but it didn't materialise.

Captain Alice Parker was saddened and admitted Kent were "unlucky to get drawn with other big teams, but we did well to get there nonetheless."

# Captain's Log - Kickboxing

**Name:** Liam Gooding  
**Nickname:** Northerner  
**Achievements:** Finalist in last years National Heavyweight kickboxing tournament.  
**Aim for the Year:** To help the club grow even bigger.  
**Life Ambition:** I'd like to coach class when I am older.  
**Why Kickboxing?** It's a total body workout, a sociable club and a great stress reliever and anger management.



**Name:** Lisa Li  
**Achievements:** I made it to the finals in the Kickboxing Tournament last year and I received my green belt in grading this year.  
**Aim for the year:** To win the tournament.  
**Life Ambition:** To enjoy it to the full.  
**Why Kickboxing?** It is a great way to stay active and have fun.





## Sport in brief

### It's a knockout

After the BUSA league has finished, Kent is proud to say that thirteen of its sports teams made it through to the final sixteen of the knockout stages.

The teams will now face universities from all over the United Kingdom such as Loughborough, Bath and Oxford in a battle to be champions.

### Varsity versus Medway

After the success of Varsity between Christ Church and Kent, it has now been arranged for Kent University to go head-to-head against the Medway campus in around six different sports.

The event is to go ahead on March 5th.

### Sport Relief University mile

Come along to cheer fellow students on as this year's Sports Relief brings new excitement. Our own sports centre has been chosen as the starting point for this year's events

At 11am on 16th March joggers and sprinters, taking part as families or individuals whatever age or ability, will gather to run a choice between one, three and six miles in aid of charity.

The day looks as though it will be highly entertaining with live music, food and refreshments.

### Boccia brought to end

Although the sport Boccia has only been at Kent since the beginning of September, it has been found to be having the opposite effect than that which was intended. Instead of increasing the participation of disabled students in sport, it has in fact appealed to those non-disabled students, leading to a declining attendance among the disabled.

There will no longer be a set time frame for the sport, however the equipment will still be available from the Disability Support Unit for those wanting to play.

# Volleyball progress to semis

## One step closer to the BUSA trophy

**Final Score**  
Kent I 3-0 Loughborough I

Daniel Bowers

The start of the BUSA playoffs this month saw a possible classic between Kent and Loughborough at the Sports Centre. The away team, renowned for their sporting excellence, visited a Kent team brimming with confidence and ability.

The start of the match was dominated by Kent who had Teng Hin Sun to thank for giving them a 9-0 lead. His float serve was far too good as Loughborough struggled to cope. Eventually, after a spirited Loughborough comeback, the home side took the first set 25-11.

This was the story for much of the game and Kent's fantastic start was maintained throughout the second and third sets. A combination of tough serving and hard hitting overwhelmed Loughborough, putting their first pass under too much



Kent go to the semi-finals having beaten the much feared Loughborough side

pressure allowing Kent to easily dominate.

Home captain Richard Williams commented, "although it was a very comfortable game it was important we remained focused." And focused they remained as the second set followed the precedent of the first with Kent taking a 2-0 lead into the third set with a 25-14 score.

"We have dropped a few sets

in the League this season due to a loss of concentration," said Williams, but Kent had few problems defeating a disappointing Loughborough team 3-0, following a close final set score of 25-22.

With the BUSA final now within reaching distance, Kent can relax after a magnificent performance. They will however, be back in action against St. Mary's in the

semi-finals on 15th March.

Williams commented, "they have been our closest rivals in the league this year and each game with them has been a somewhat fiery encounter. This one probably won't be any different."

On a similar note, the University of Kent's Ladies Volleyball team also faced Loughborough in a close game, however unfortunately lost 3-1.

# Kent soar past the Swans

## First league win for The Cardinals

**Final Score**  
Kent I 7-2 Swansea I

Linzi Algar

With The Kent Cardinals being only one of two university teams in the British Inline Puck Hockey Association (South East Division), it was always going to be a heated match when the two went head-to-head.

The match was against the Swansea Dragons who were one place above the Cardinals in the league. The game gave them the opportunity to show their talent on the rink by winning their first league match at home.

Before the game began, tactics were discussed and a strategy was agreed. Goals flew in from Dan Fryer, Derry Brown, Tim McLelland, Adam Droy, Ben Courtin and two from David



The Cardinals begin to fire as the competition heats up in their 7-2 victory

Philbey.

Kent shut their opposition down and limited any available shots from the Dragons, having the majority of possession throughout. The goalkeeper guarded the iron net and the final score resulted in an impressive

7-2 thrashing of the Welsh visitors.

Overall, the Cardinals proved to be much the better team, and deservedly smashed Swansea. President Adam Droy commenting, "the scoreline doesn't really reflect how much

we dominated the Dragons."

For those who are not familiar with the game it is a fast, exciting and full contact sport which works along the same lines as ice hockey. The major difference being that inline hockey is played with a ball as opposed to a puck and obviously on roller blades and not ice skates. Each team is permitted to have five players on the pitch including the goal keeper.

Not only were the inline hockey team representing UoK nationally, but also on their tour of France and Belgium, ending the season with one loss and one victory. Following this success the University of Kent's inline hockey team are now looking forward to achieving the best that they can at the upcoming University Championships in April, giving them another chance to prove their skill against rival teams nationwide.



# Kent victorious at varsity

Final Score  
Kent I 32-0 C.C.C.U. I

Daniel Hodkinson

Kent Rugby firsts went into the delayed Varsity as huge favourites having already beaten Christ Church firsts twice in the regular season. The game started with the usual high intensity with a great break after just two minutes almost resulted in a try for David Laundry but was disallowed for a forward pass.

Varsity games always bring up a few nasty tackles and a high tackle on Chris Verdicchio resulted in a Kent scrum after five minutes. From the scrum Reza Amiri-Garrouse popped it out to Mike Whetstone who passed it on to Ben Thomas to sidestep his marker and run strongly to score the first try of the game to make it 5-0.

A few minutes later a charge down by Whetstone almost resulted in a second try of the game but Kent had to be thankful after 10 minutes when Christchurch



Rugby first XV celebrate their victory over Christ Church, their third of the season

had a try disallowed, again for a forward pass.

With 20 minutes on the clock a great take by Laundry, who passed it out to Thomas, who ran strongly before playing in Tommo Corbet to make it 12-0 with the conversion.

The rest of the half was mainly

played in the middle of the field, Kent always looking the more likely to score and when Christ Church knocked on in their own 22, Thomas took his tally of the half to 10 with a penalty which left it 15-0 to Kent at half time.

The second half started out much slower than the first, Tho-

mas slotted away another penalty before a great line break from Tom Corbet, to go over for his second try of the game to make it 25-0 with the conversion.

Substitutes were slowly introduced, Johnny Reid replacing the solid Amiri-Garrouse, Bruce Godolphin taking the

place of Pete Georgiou and Martin Frampton replacing the ever reliable Phil Horwood. With 25 minutes to go a calf injury to captain Whetstone meant he was to be replaced by Matt Noble.

The game had slowed down with Kent looking comfortable for victory. The backs of Laundry, Jamie Crone, Verdicchio and especially Ben Thomas had been solid all match with strong running and tackling, the forwards had given everything in every tackle and scrum. Kent had hardly put a foot wrong all night until with just under ten minutes to go Adam Ferris was given a yellow card for hands in the ruck.

There was just enough time for Matt Noble, whose season had been plagued by injury, to score a try for the second year running as he pounced on some woeful defending by the home team to score the fourth try of the game. The man of the match Thomas added the conversion to take his tally for the game to 17 points. The game finished at 32-0 to Kent and ensured that the team have not lost a Varsity match for four years.

## Turning the tables

Daniel Bowers

The University of Kent table tennis club recently attended the BUSA individual championships in Nottingham with fantastic results.

The tournament had representatives from every university in the country and is considered England's best and biggest competition at this level.

President and captain of the club, David Jablonka, led by example finishing 70th out of two hundred participants. Jablonka overcame Royal Holloway in his warm up match before coming through a tough second match against Reading, eventually triumphing 3-2. He then lost out to Warwick but was good enough to progress from his group and by a huge coincidence was drawn against Kent's Conrad Mo in the second round.

His opponent, Mo, also finished second in his group defeating the highly seeded UCL player. After beating Jablonka in the first knock-out round, he went on

to secure a top 60 finish, losing in the third round to Imperial College London.

The star of the tournament for Kent was undoubtedly Azim Griffith who qualified top of his group and battled to the fourth round, where he competed in a thrilling match against Team GB player Stephen Denny. Griffith stunned his more illustrious opponent by taking a 2-0 lead but unfortunately Denny battled back to win the tie 3-2.

It was nevertheless a fantastic performance against a player in the Great British squad and meant that Griffith finished in the top twenty-five in the country.

The eventual winner was a Chinese player representing the London Metropolitan University, but regardless of the result, captain Jablonka said, "It was a great atmosphere and all the players worked really hard. They should all be very proud of themselves, and I hope now the University really starts to consider us as a serious sports club, creating a real threat on the BUSA circuit."

## Kent swim to the fast lane

Linzi Algar

Last weekend was the second BUSA competition for the University of Kent's swimming team, and what a success it was for them.

The long course championships saw Kent's twelve swimmers racing alongside the best competitors that universities across the country had to offer in Sheffield's

impressive 50m pool.

Long course competitions are notoriously harder as the length of the pool is double the standard size, but Kent managed to put in a terrific performance with some great times achieved overall.

Adam Staincliffe, Ollie Houghton, Aleksei Lukashkin and Nick Gale competed in the men's relay medley and scored a highly competitive time of five minutes and six seconds.



Nick Gale prepares to show off his breaststroking talent

Needless to say the womens relay medley consisting of Fliss Hawkins, Sarra Gwillgn, Ellie Masson and Debbie Rugg was not far behind clocking up an impressive five minutes forty seconds.

As it came down to the individual races, congratulations were in order for Debbie who came third in both her 50m and 100m breaststroke races, alongside Sarra who came second in her 50m freestyle heat.

An outstanding performance from Fliss Hawkins saw her into the final of the 50m freestyle, racing amongst the top ten freestylers at British University level. She completed the race in 29.12 seconds, earning her ninth place.

Angela Cooke, a member of the team commented after the events, "the weekend was a great success and enjoyed by all, and we are looking forward to competing in this competition again next year."

Kent performed to a very high standard in Sheffield, and the future looks bright for the club.



# SPORT

BUSA finals  
draw near p.22



## Kent FC wash out Bath Triumph in the BUSA Cup knockout stage

### Netball victory

Final Score  
Kent I 45-42 Southampton I

Amy Hall

After a brilliant season and finishing second in the South Eastern Conference league, the University of Kent netball firsts were geared up and ready to take on Southampton in their first match of the BUSA trophy knockout stages.

Having reached the final sixteen the girls were cheered on by their home support crowd.

Kent took to the court in a confident manner, yet despite powerful shooting by the Goal Shooter and a determined attitude from the rest of the team they ended the first quarter down 13-12 after very even play from both sides.

Knowing that the match would be tight, Kent began the second quarter pumped up and full of adrenaline knowing that they needed to take their chances if they were going to send Southampton back on a loss.

After going 16-20 down, Kent began to close the scoreline with some excellent defending from the Goal Defence. They finished the quarter with a 25-23 advantage, reflecting their hard work and persistence. They had the lead for the first time in the match, and this is the way they wanted it to remain.

With strong defending and growing in confidence, Kent took their opportunities in the third quarter to take a 36-30 lead going into the fourth.

Further excellent shooting by the Goal Attack and Goal Shooter ensured Kent stayed in the lead despite some nerves beginning to show from both squads.

Kent wrapped up a 45-42 victory after a tight match. Kent will now progress to the next round of the BUSA competition to face Oxford at home who managed to beat Bath seconds in a close 45-35 match. If successful in the semi finals their opponents will be either Bristol or Exeter.



Kent FC showcase their ability on the ball on their way to a magnificent win

Final Score  
Kent I 3-1 Bath I

Adam Silver

Kent powered into the quarter-finals of the BUSA Shield with a commanding 3-1 win over Bath.

First half goals from Billy Lane, Andrew Walsh and on-form David Stubbs were enough to sink Bath's hopes of making the last eight of the knockout stages.

The opening ten minutes defined the meaning of a cup tie as both teams battled hard for every percent of possession, desperately forcing the other to buckle under the intense pressure.

This pressure became evident after fifteen minutes as the Bath backline was broken along with the goalkeeper's confidence when

Stubbs forced the handling howler that gifted Lane the opening score from six yards.

Sideline cheers became premature as Bath hit back from a hazardous whipped corner that saw the ball bundled home by the danger man upfront.

Having conceded the lead two minutes after Lane's predatory strike Kent needed a touch of inspiration from their influential forward Stubbs. An individual piece of brilliance saw an exquisitely executed piledriver of a shot rifle into the back of the net from twenty-five yards, relighting the team's spark and sending the Kent faithful into ecstasy.

With the lead gracefully restored Kent continued to stretch their opponents, as good interplay between the front-men Lane and Stubbs produced a fizzing shot that agonisingly nestled into the

outside netting.

As half-time came knocking so too was Walsh as he connected with Lane's delightful chip to the back post to volley home the all important two goal cushion.

The second period began in a cautious manner with few clear-cut chances for either side.

Yet after sixty-five minutes the Bath number one went about redemption as he denied the rampaging Stubbs a brace from point blank range.

Stubbs's constant goal-threatening presence gave Kent further drive and momentum towards the Bath goal as the men in black and white produced another glorious chance on the seventy fifth minute.

Chris Page stormed down the right flank to deliver a promising pull-back cross that Lane smashed high and wide from six yards.

But with minutes to spare the icing on the cake didn't materialise as Kent missed a glorious chance to go 4-1 up. Substitute Joe Cheeseman failed to convert his one-on-one chance, missing from three yards with the goal at his mercy.

Despite a goalless second half sidelined captain Ross Beard remained confident for the rest of the cup campaign stating: "We know the next match against Brighton is going to be tough but the lads are up for it and we have the confidence to go all the way to Sheffield for the final."

This victory has sent Kent FC into the final eight of the knockout stages. If they can defeat Brighton they will go on to face either Chichester or Cardiff in the final four line up. After topping the BUSA league with such talent the Shield remains a possibility.

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