

Peter Doherty

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The musician 'no longer famous for his music' appeared at Folkestone's Leas Cliff Hall on Friday 20th March with a new name and a recently released solo album - *Grace/Wastelands* - to promote. inQUIRE went to Folkestone to review Doherty and see what all the fuss was about.



Kent Union says 'I Wood'

Helen Wood wins Presidential race

Sam Wylie and
Tinashe Mushakavanhu

Helen Wood has been elected Kent Union President in the university's highest election turnout to date - 4277 students voted online in five days.

Six candidates contested to lead the Student Union, the race was tightest between Helen Wood and Tom Page on the night. Finally after six rounds, with 94 votes separating first from second, Wood secured victory.

The current Eliot President, and now Union President-elect, said she was "shocked" and "gobsmacked". Speaking to inQUIRE after the result had been announced on large screens, outgoing Union President, Tom Christian, congratulated his successor on her election and said that "she's worked hard this week and is going to be fantastic."

Wood - who seemed overwhelmed at first - quickly gained composure to explain what she wanted to do as Union President. She said she would make "small changes", and that things needed to be "tweaked, and would then be perfect". Asked why she won, she told inQUIRE she wasn't sure but had "targeted everyday students who weren't really interested in the union and felt left out." Wearing a black dress with gold trim, Wood exclaimed: "is this real?"

The Venue rocked to the sound of the crowd chanting their fa-

avourite candidates and to the persistent boos connected to the 'No Suitable Candidate' vote. With entry free on the night, some students came for the party, but most were present to witness election history being made.

Full time positions were won by Ben Alonso (Activities), James Budge (Sport), Dan Curran (Education) and Samantha Kennedy (Welfare). Each Vice President vote went to more than one round, with Kennedy winning the highest number of votes of all the full time candidates with 1636.

On a nervous night for all candidates, the Presidential race was especially tight. Katie Marsden, who came 5th, said it was a very "intense" evening and unlike the others she had seen in her four years at UoK.

Controversy surrounded the election for Parkwood president with Mary Nakpodia shown as winner on the Venue screen, despite more votes going to her opponent Georgina Walker. However, the result was quickly overturned with Walker awarded the victory.

Helen Wood - who ran under the campaign title "Would you? I Wood" - said in her manifesto she will "look into having water coolers placed in all study areas" and "support the fight to keep the cap on the £3000 top up fees".

Candidates who were unsuccessful in their bid to win spoke



Helen Wood celebrates after beating Tom Page (right) by 94 votes

to inQUIRE about the process of the election. Zain Sardar, who was running for Education VP, said the third placed position of Luke Walter in the Presidential election showed candidates can do

well on an issue based campaign. Jean Carlos Lopez, Activities candidate, said he had learned lessons from the elections, but Katie Marsden criticised the eight-day period of campaigning.

New evidence in German school shooting

Vanessa J Richards

The shooting spree by 17 year old Tim Kretschmer in Winnenden, Germany has caused a flood of coverage, yet in the haste to produce answers for the bereaved families and traumatised nation, officials and journalists have circulated an abundance of incorrect information.

Specifics of the sequence of events leading to the deaths of sixteen people are gradually being revised, backed by the official release of scientific findings. The shootings, which happened in the morning of Wednesday, 11th March 2009, concluded with Kretschmer's suicide, although initial reports said he had been shot dead by police.

The gunman's family have broken their silence with the publication of an open letter of condolence and compassion to their son's victims.

Furthermore they have denied any knowledge of the teenager receiving psychological therapy which contradicts the statement of Stuttgart's Interior Minister Heribert Rech. He had said Kretschmer indicated on his physical examination for the military in 2008, that he suffered from depression and had been treated at a psychiatric ward near Weinsberg.

Tim Kretschmer's supposed internet message announcing his killing spree has also been denounced as a fake, generated by "some maniac", according to Mr Rech in the German daily news-

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A week of election colour on campus



Question time

Full time officers: what do they do?

Sam Wylie

President:

Tom Christian says in his time as president he's done a lot of basic administration, "dealing with emails, replying to letters", but there is a "great deal of variance - A lot of my time is spent being the face of the student body" and he said he also goes to meeting with local residents and the council. The President must also lead the Union from a strategic angle.

Activities:

This Vice President is in charge of societies across campus as well as CSR (Canterbury Student Radio), in-Quire and RAG. Caz Brooker, current VP, also organises the Activities Awards night, and KSCV awards. Her role as student activities VP includes chairing the Societies Federation and Societies Federation Committee.

Sport:

Cai Robbins, as Vice President for sport, is responsible for the support and organisation of sport on campus. She works with clubs to keep them up to date with Union events, and organises Varsity and the Colours Ball. The relationship between the Sports Centre, University and all clubs is also under the remit of the Vice President for Sport.

Welfare:

Vice President for Welfare in 2008/9 is Tom Page. He is responsible for the well being of students. This issue covers a wide area, including TV licences, counselling, and running personal health campaigns. Dealing with college masters is also a part of the job to help students solve common problems. Page also sits on boards of the Access to Learning Panel and Parking Permit Panel.



Education:

Helen Palmer, secured the position of Education Vice President in 2008, and her work fundamentally involves representing the academic requirements of students. This includes working with course reps and dealing with a number of committees, including Education Committee, Education Forum and Postgraduate Forum. The position is also the driving force behind campaigns such as "mark my work, not my name".

Election results

Full Time Positions

- Helen Wood - President
- Dan Curran- VP Education
- Samantha Kennedy- VP Welfare
- James Budge- VP Sport
- Ben Alonso- VP Student Activities

Part Time Positions

- MARSHA TODD- Students with Disabilities Officer
- AARON KIELY- Ethics and Education Officer
- NATHAN HOLLOW and RIASHAD AZIM- Senate Rep
- KIM PERRY- Part Time Officer
- NEIL COX- Union Council Rep
- ALAN DOLPHIN- Mature Student Officer
- KIMBERLEY PETERSON- International Officer
- ROB DERRY- Men's Officer
- LAUREN CROWLEY- Keynes Student President (re-elected)

- CRAIG DOVE- Rutherford Student President
- GEORGINA WALKER- Parkwood Student President
- LORA WILSON- RaG President
- TOM RITCHIE- Eliot Student President
- LAURA KING- Women's Officer
- HINAL PATEL- Ethnic Minorities Officer
- COLUM MCGUIRE- LGBT Officer
- SABINA PASOKHY- Darwin Student President
- ISSY LLOYD AND JONNY BRADSHAW- Student Trustees

Record breaking turnout

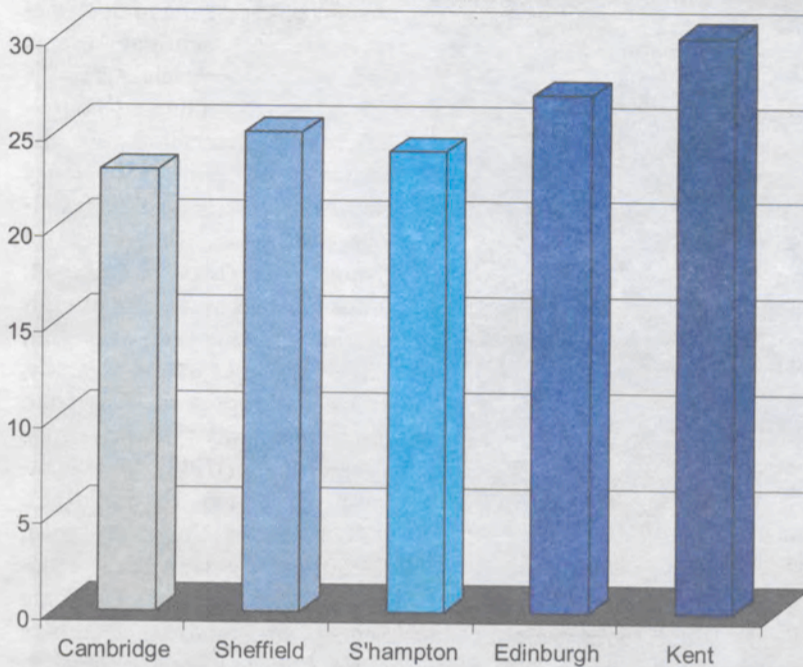
Online ballots and competitive races see over 4000 vote

Charlie Baylis and Abigail El-Bekai

The 2009 Kent Union elections saw an unprecedented turnout of 4277 voters, easily surpassing last year's record breaking figure of 3600.

Kent Union's election turnout figures rank as one of the highest rates of engagement in the UK, and reflect a growth in student participation which has occurred following the introduction of email ballots in the 2008 Union elections.

The reason for the increase in voters could also be explained by the competitiveness of this year's elections, with six candidates for Union President, six candidates for Activities V.P. and five candidates for



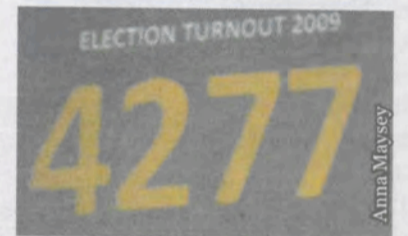
Turnout in Student Union elections across the country (%)

Sport V.P. In 2008 only three candidates ran for President.

30.3% of the 14,111 students who were emailed ballots voted. The figure represents an increase of 677 voters, an 18.8% rise in turnout compared with 2008.

The results night on the 20th of March got off to a slow start as technical problems caused a delay of forty five minutes meaning the first results were not announced until 10.15. However this issue could not dampen the electric atmosphere in the Venue and once proceedings began almost everything ran smoothly. Candidates, who for the whole week looked confident suddenly seemed pensive and an air of tense anticipation hung amidst the Venue's flashing lights.

Speaking to inQUIRE on the night of the elections, the outgoing Kent Union President Tom Christian predicted a record turnout, saying he thought this year's figures would "smash" the previous record set in his triumphant 2008 election. Christian was duly proved correct; following his comment, a presentation revealed the landmark total of 4277 voters on a giant screen, prompting an eruption of joyous cheers around the packed Venue.



Anna Maysey

The record number of votes

So, did you vote?

Students tell us what they think of the elections

Sam Wylie



Sam Wylie

"I think that the elections are really good, I think more people should be involved... people are too cynical about the whole process. I do think the way that the ballots were being cast this year wasn't good at all. For example...someone actually voted using my ballot. I feel a bit cheated by democracy."

Joanna Gara



Sam Wylie

"I think it's a great idea but people need to know what it's about. A lot of people don't understand what these people are going for...they don't realise it's a full time job for next year. People need to be educated, because a lot of people I've asked don't understand."

Christian De Silva



Sam Wylie

"The problems [have been] sorted out. It's nice to see loads of people on campus campaigning. [Elections are important], so we get proper student representation and we know who is going to be leading the Student Union and so we can have our say on things going on around campus."

Laura Budd

"I think they're fantastic. If you don't vote you can't complain. If you had the opportunity to have a say in how it's [the Union] run and then its run how you don't want, you don't have any right to say 'you shouldn't do that'."

Danielle Rundle



Sam Wylie

"I think the student population as a whole is under informed as to what the elections are actually about. I don't know what difference my vote would make. I think that people vote for their friends and not for issues."

Jamie Franklin



Sam Wylie

News in Brief

Romana Roske

VC's want our uni fees to rise

The controversy over tuition fees has been re-ignited after more than half of university Vice Chancellors said, in a BBC survey, that they want their students to pay a fee between £4000 and £20,000 a year.

Wes Streeting, President of the NUS, argued "in the context of the current recession, it is extremely arrogant for university Vice Chancellors to be fantasising about charging their students even higher fees and plunging them into over £32,000 of debt."

The NUS believes that higher education should be free for all students at the point of use and that graduates would make a contribution to universities once they are working.

The amount paid by graduates would depend on how much they are benefiting financially from their own use of the higher education system.

Kent man short-listed for 'best job in the world'

Former Whitstable schoolboy Sam Miyano Pitt, 30, has been short-listed for what is advertised as the "best job in the world".

He is one of only 50 finalists from almost 35,000 applicants representing 22 countries. The winner gets \$150,000 for a six-month contract working on Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

Pitt first fell in love with the sea and water sports in Whitstable. He said he first started windsurfing on the beaches by the Old Neptune pub at the age of 13.

Drugs shut club

Club Compass in Ramsgate has been closed after traces of cocaine and other drugs were found in the toilets.

Thanet council was asked by the Police to review the licence after the drug offences and complaints from the public. A file with 500 pages of evidence was shown to the licence committee.

Student pens new college logo
Guests of honour open post-grad building



Nancy Gaffield, Master of Woolf College with Hamza Al-Akesh, designer

Tinashe Mushakavanhu

Virginia Woolf College on the Canterbury campus has been officially opened by Allan Willett CMG, Lord Lieutenant of Kent.

It is the latest college, and the only one named after a woman,

to be built on the University of Kent's Canterbury campus in forty years. In honour of Virginia Woolf, one of the major English novelists and intellectuals of the twentieth century, it provides a focal point for postgraduate study on campus, and offers ensuite accommodation for 544

graduate students, together with a state-of-the-art, 496-seat lecture theatre, seminar rooms and space for social activity.

Professor Julia Goodfellow, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kent, and Nancy Gaffield, Master of Woolf College, welcomed the guest of honour, the Lord Lieutenant.

The launch was also attended by Sir Robert Worcester, Chancellor of the University, as well as representatives from the University Partnerships Programme (UPP), the company which own the buildings.

Members of University staff, including Professor Diane Houston, Dean of the Graduate School, and student members of the College were also present.

After the launch, Vice-Chancellor Goodfellow presented a prize to Electronics student Hamza Al-Akesh, winner of the logo design competition for the new college.

Master of Woolf College, Nancy

Gaffield was upbeat that the new college will be a hub of postgraduate activities and foster a sense of community and purpose among the students. 'For the most part, the Student Committee of the college will be taking the lead in organising activities to encourage social interaction not only among students, but with members of staff as well,' she said.

Though it is Chaucer who famously immortalised Canterbury into the literary world, with the Canterbury Tales, Virginia Woolf's association with the city made deep impressions on her, when she glowingly wrote "that even compared with Florence and Venice there is no lovelier place in the world than Canterbury."

Virginia Woolf was a regular visitor to Kent, notably to Sissinghurst, the home of Vita Sackville-West. And she was also known to convalesce at Moat House in Blean, a village outside Canterbury.

Citizens hand in their guns
More details emerge after school shooting

from front page

Vanessa J Richards

paper Süddeutschen Zeitung.

Igor Wolf, the man who was held hostage by the teenager after the shooting, has also said more on the ordeal. He reveals in the current issue of the German "Stern" magazine how the young man jumped into the back of his VW and threatened him with a gun. When Wolf asked him why he was doing this, Kretschmer allegedly replied "For fun, because it is fun." After spotting a police car on the hard shoulder of the motorway, Wolf managed to escape his captor.

As the weapon belonged to Kretschmer's father, the Stuttgart's Public Attorney's Office has filed charges against him for involuntary manslaughter, as he had allegedly broken gun law regulations by leaving the 9 mm Beretta out in



Police provided refuge for Igor Wolf, who had been held by Kretschmer

the open, instead of restricting access by locking it in a safe.

Crime scene investigators reported that around 100 shots had been fired by Kret-

schmer, and about the same amount of rounds were found when police searched his body.

As a reaction to the killing spree, citizens of the Rems-

Murr region are handing in their arms to the police. At the time of writing, the District Office had already received over twenty guns and rifles, according to the District Administrator, Johannes Fuchs. Among the volunteers releasing their weapons is Kretschmer's father, who has also voluntarily turned in his license to carry firearms.

The Kretschmer family is said to have left their village community of Weiler am Stein and their current whereabouts is unknown, as is the question of the Kretschmer's return to their home residence, according to Mayor Jürgen Kiesel.

Kretschmer entered Albertville School in Winnenden at approximately 9:30 am, and immediately opened fire. He is said to have been a polite, quiet and unremarkable boy, but not reclusive. Despite more evidence coming to light, his motive remains unknown.

Education without character

Does the British university system fail to encourage creativity?

Jana Mills

Education has never been more widely available, universities are bursting at the seams and educational standards in the UK are internationally recognised. People from all over the world look to the British educational system as a standard bearer of excellence, and pay thousands of pounds to study in British universities.

“Education without character will only produce technocrats, foot soldiers and button pushers”

Yet in our haste to compete in a global market place, rushing to improve standards and ensure that the all powerful ‘market’ maintains a watchful eye on higher education, have we neglected the less measurable but still important values which are cultivated through education? Why are our students so apathetic, why is even NUS politics conservative (with a small c)?

In pursuit of equality through uniformity, procedural correctness and ‘research excellence’ we have neglected what is most im-



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portant for British education.

“Our failure to engage with the development of character has cheated an entire generation”

First schools, then universities, then even churches have thought such matters far too private, that such things should be confronted

by individuals in private.

Our failure to engage with the development of character has cheated an entire generation. Able to pass a test, able to jump through hoops and roll over on command, but without even the inclination to dream and create, without the courage of any convictions let alone our own, lack-

Are teaching methods failing to inspire?

ing the strength of character required to challenge authority. We are faced with problems that our parents and grandparents have been unable to settle: climate change, extreme poverty, inequality, war and all manner of human tragedy. But we have nothing but the same old responses, we are unwilling to

break out of the constraints of bureaucracy, we use globalisation as an excuse rather than an opportunity.

There is not a lack of skill or technical expertise; there has never been such an abundance of these. It is a deficiency of character which renders a generation inert. It's not possible to develop your character in isolation. The development of individual character depends on the commitment of a community. Education without character will only produce technocrats, foot soldiers and button pushers. What is required is deliberate engagement, passionate commitment and a youthful disregard for the status quo - the power of a truly liberal education. Whereas what we seem to be left with is something less compelling: a system which has taught a generation to read but never to understand, to summarise but never to create. Nelson Mandela is often quoted as claiming “education” “the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”. In our rush to improve standards, increase availability and accessibility, have we left the most powerful component behind?

Should Britain legalise euthanasia?

Vickie Campbell

At the end of February, Peter Duff, 80, and his wife Penelope, 70, became the first Britons to travel abroad and commit suicide, as a couple. Both husband and wife suffered with terminal cancers and so made the undoubtedly difficult decision to end their suffering once and for all.

This tragic case was bound to reignite the controversial debate surrounding assisted suicide and euthanasia. Who should decide when it is time to die? For many, it is too difficult to reconcile an immediate gut reaction to this debate with worries that such honest opinions may be received harshly in the public domain. For others, the answer to this lies in more black-and-white territory, with God. As an atheist, I find this proposal somewhat unconvincing.

Now, I would never be so ar-

rogant as to declare believers in this as ‘wrong’ but I do strongly uphold that since this is an issue about and concerning human life, the answers should be sought from a less supernatural source.

“If a person is suffering and their quality of life has diminished to the extent where they have almost no independence and little dignity, who are we to force them to continue with it?”

As it stands, suicide is not illegal in the UK but the 1961 Suicide Act states that: “a person who aids, abets, counsels or procures the suicide of another, or an attempt by another to commit suicide, shall be liable...to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 14 years.” Is this fair? The parents of rugby player Daniel James who travelled to the same Swiss clinic as the Duffs after an acci-

dent left him paralysed from the neck down, were charged with assisting their son to die under the terms of the Suicide Act. A judge later dropped these charges after ruling that prosecution was ‘not in the public interest’. Well, of course not. What would the imprisonment of two loving, dedicated and heartbroken parents ever achieve? Our prisons are bursting at the seams as it is. I agree whole-heartedly with the judge in question but I would go that little bit further: the death of an individual only directly affects the lives of those around them, it should therefore be their decision when it is time to die and theirs alone. If a person is suffering and their quality of life has diminished to the extent where they have almost no independence and little dignity, who are we to force them to continue with it? I would like to make a distinction between mental and



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Should terminally ill patients be given the right to end their lives?

physical suffering here. I propose only that assisted suicide and euthanasia are legalised in reference to terminally ill or severely disabled people of sound mind; the possession of rational faculties is essential.

“I do strongly uphold that since this is an issue about and concerning human life, the answers should be sought from a less supernatural source.”

Of course, the law is needed to monitor these cases but only as a means to safeguard vulnerable people from manipulation, not a force to judge and condemn. I do not claim to have the solution to this and I fully acknowledge that such delicate matters are never simple. All I know for sure is, if I was ever so unfortunate as to find myself contemplating a premature end to my life, I hope the law would be on my side and the side of those that helped me end it.

Nottingham: dispelling the myths

Charlie Baylis

Forget everything you've heard about Nottingham. Forget the myriad myths of shootings, violent crime and robbery, for there is more truth to the story of Robin Hood than there is to the negative, media purported hype surrounding my hometown.

Nottingham is in parts a startlingly beautiful place, examples include the Nottingham University campus, which has a glorious lake set amid sweeping green hills, and a magical library which unfathomably rises from a pond. Near to the Jubilee campus there is the 400 year old Wollaton Hall, a staggering illustration of spectacular Tudor period architecture. There are also many modern examples of Nottingham's pulchritude, including the Inland Revenue offices, curious circular green buildings that look a bit like Emerald City in the Wizard of Oz. The city centre is a hub of gothic revivalist architecture, with spires, domes and greening copper capping many of the older buildings

which compete for space with a multitude of newly erected city centre apartments, stores and offices, plus the two bustling shopping centres and plenty of green space, where one can get away from the stress of the metropolis.

Nottingham is, of course, renowned for its night life, a burgeoning throng of clubs and bars have sprouted up in the last fifteen years, accommodating drunken revellers who descend from all corners of the country on a Friday and Saturday night. Nottingham also has a great live music scene, with the (Ice) Arena hosting many big names, and Rock City, the Rescue Rooms and the Bodega Social hosting an eclectic range of smaller acts. With one of the UK's biggest student populations of around 50,000, it'd be erroneous for there not to be any night time fun, the drinks are cheap, all the clubs are located within walking distance of each other and in most places an alluring atmosphere of upbeat nonchalance can be found.

Certainly late at night, strolling through certain parts of Nottingham can be unsettling, but to



Dusk falls in Nottingham City Centre

portray the city as being exceptional or having higher levels of gun crime, murder or violence than every other comparable town or city in Britain is unfair, reckless and untrue. The overall rate of gun crime is only marginally above the national average - lower than no fewer than nine

other areas, including West Yorkshire, Cumbria and Humberside and just half the rate of Manchester and London. Furthermore over the past three years there has been a grand total of zero shootings. In truth Nottingham is as dangerous as every other big city in England, there are bad

areas, but if one behaves in a sensible manner, there is no risk of being shot, stabbed or beaten up.

To conclude, Nottingham is a cosmopolitan hub buzzing with excitement and opportunity, a great place to live, work, or study, I feel privileged to have been brought up there.

Have your say: Templeman Library

Abigail El-Bekai

As I look around manically for a computer on level two in order to write this article on how finding a computer in the library is at times frustrating, tedious and impossible, I chuckle a little to myself - only to be told to "ssh!" by a member of IT staff patrolling the room.

When I finally find a computer, I sit down ready to start my work but instead I find the usual distractions that prevent me from getting any work done. There are two girls sitting at one computer next to me, animatedly chatting:

"So Tim slept with Brittany and didn't call her back. So she got all pissed off, went over to Tim's to find him in bed with Brittany's ex-boyfriend who incidentally was cheating on Lucy..." (obviously I've changed the names around here) "OH MY GOD... REALLY?"

But they aren't even whispering. Oh no, it's like a ladies coffee morning up there, and be-

lieve me, the higher up you go, the louder the talk gets. And so I wait eagerly for the same person who told me to "ssh!" to tell them to "ssh" and when he finally arrives he says to them:

"Guys, there is a library cafe downstairs, I'm sure you can take your talk somewhere else, after all this is a quiet study area..."

One of them turns to him, her eyes wide with shock, and says "Yeah but we're nearly done alright?!"

So the IT staff member, embarrassed (wouldn't you be!?) walks away and I'm sat there, mouth wide open, horrified!

And it doesn't quite end there. The number of conversations I've overheard is remarkable.

"...the real issue lies in the noise in quiet spaces and the level of pandemonium that occurs in computer rooms".

I mean, we all do it don't we?



Is the Templeman Library failing to enforce silent study zones?

We get carried away, we see someone we know, we say "hi", chat a little, but this really is quite unfair of us isn't it? And the sheer arrogance of some people to think that those trying to get work done are interested in our trivial conversations. The real issue lies in the noise in quiet spaces

and the level of pandemonium that occurs in computer rooms. Kyrill Potapov, a third year UoK student said "one time I was in the quiet study area and two guys were getting very excited about their game of Battleships." It is evident that there is a concern over the misuse of comput-

ers within such space, and I must admit I can't think of anything more irritating than desperately trying to find a computer to print off some coursework to find almost every other computer is occupied by students wall writing, poking and commenting on newly uploaded photos on Facebook.

Darwinism: a revision

A questioning of Darwin's model of evolution in modern science

Michael Trimmer

As has already been mentioned in this publication, Charles Darwin, author of 'On The Origin of The Species' and exponent of the Theory of Evolution celebrates his 200th birthday this year. At this time, the scientific community is once again hailing Darwin's theory as a revolution in scientific understanding. It changed biology from being a purely descriptive discipline to an analytical and predictive science. But what is often extremely underplayed in all of these narratives, is in fact just how small a contribution of what Darwin originally wrote still stands as evolutionary theory today, and why as a result, there is still a large amount of legitimate debate around it.

Although many detractors of Evolution will say "Evolution is only a theory", scientists will elaborate that the use of the word "theory" in science is rather different than in conventional conversation, hence why we also talk about the theory of gravity. Despite this confusion though, there is an important



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Is Darwin's tree of life model outdated?

point to be raised. Evolution, as we know it today, is not a proven idea in the same way gravity is. It is an amalgam of several ideas, of which Darwin contributed some of the central pillars.

In 'On The Origin of the Species' Darwin writes on how different species came into existence. He isn't talking about the origin of life itself, but variation within life, and within that he talks about the Galapagos turtles and other examples where species have varied and changed as a result of their environs, i.e. adaptation and specialisation (collec-

tively labelled 'natural selection').

No one would dispute the nature of natural selection happening, just as no one would dispute the existence of the other major pillar of evolution, which is mutation, the random changes in animals over time. These things can be directly observed before our very eyes. What can be disputed is the threading of these ideas together to form what we now call 'Evolution Theory'.

Evolution Theory is the idea that adaptation, specialisation and mutation worked together over time. The idea being that

we started with a single life form, which then 'evolved' into the many and varied life forms we see today. This is ultimately, an assumption, it is not a proven or observable fact in the way that the three pillars of evolution are. This is not to say it is without evidence, but it is not scientific evidence in the same way as there is scientific evidence for gravity. It is historical evidence, as we are studying the after affects, not the event itself.

Even the ideas of the current scientific orthodoxy are speculative or outdated in the current arena. The idea of life coming from non-organic matter still has no experimental proof. Many have claimed but few have demonstrated an ability to create life out of nothing (Abiogenesis). Since such proof would be necessary for Evolution to be anything other than a speculative amalgam of established ideas, its absence is still very important at this stage.

Up until recently however, the lack of an explanation for Abiogenesis was dismissed as unimportant because of the evidence of genetic ancestry. Proponents of Evolutionary Theory claimed

that because humans share such a significant portion of their DNA with so many disparate species (from Chimpanzees to fruit flies) then logically, we must all have descended from the same original organism. However, recently in 'New Scientist' an article was published explaining how in fact, DNA is not merely passed down vertically, from parent to offspring, but also horizontally, between species via hybridising and other methods. If that is the case, then while one legitimate interpretation can be seen as an original organism, it is not the only legitimate interpretation. With a 'Web' rather than a 'Tree' of Life, it means that there may not in fact be the kind of starting point that others have suggested in the past.

So much of what makes up what we now often, in such a blasé fashion, call 'Evolution' is in fact little more than speculation and interpretation. However, this is not to suggest that 'Evolution' is not backed up with evidence, or that it is somehow irrational and unreasonable, merely that it is not the only way of examining the evidence we have laid out before us.

Africa: Catholics and condoms

Tinashe Mushakavanhu

Every time I walk out of Essentials, one of the things that arrests my eye is the box of flavoured condoms placed at the end of the paying counters, near the entrance. On each occasion, I see that the stocks have depleted; for instance, at the moment, all strawberry flavoured ones are gone. I don't know if the flavouring makes the experience more enjoyable. I don't know either if the fluctuating condom stocks are an indicative barometer of sexual activity on campus. Perhaps, I will have to conduct a survey.

I am no moralist but for me sex before marriage is not very cool, no matter how many TV adverts say otherwise or how revealing the half naked advertising female posters try to show the sexy side of everything. I grew up in a society where sex is strictly regarded as a special treat for the special

someone we end up spending the rest of our life with. It is a view we are cultured in, at home, at school and at church. Most of my friends have disregarded this as moral nonsense. They have been tempted by the apple as Adam was in the lonely garden where fun must have been an issue. Some of them already have children outside marital unions. But they are still my friends. When to have sex and with whom is a personal choice, but for young people, it sometimes has detrimental consequences – venereal diseases, unwanted pregnancies – unnecessary but still avoidable consequences.

We all know what condoms are used for; they prevent pregnancy and the spreading of venereal diseases. Pope Benedict XVI walked into a condom storm in his most recent visit to Africa. He set off criticism in his week long trip when he said condoms are not the

answer to the AIDS epidemic in Africa when some 22 million people are currently living with HIV.

Despite the controversial remark the Pope was greeted by thousands of flag-waving faithful who stood shoulder-to-shoulder in red dirt fields jamming downtown streets for a glimpse of the pontiff's motorcade. In his four years as Pope, Benedict had never directly addressed condom use, although his position is not new. His predecessor, Pope John Paul II, often said that sexual abstinence – not condoms – was the best way to prevent the spread of the disease.

The Pope said a responsible and moral attitude toward sex would help fight the disease. The Catholic Church rejects the use of condoms as part of its overall teaching against artificial contraception. Senior Vatican officials have advocated fidelity in marriage and abstinence from



Pope Benedict XVI on a week long trip to Africa

premarital sex as key weapons in the fight against AIDS. Does the Pope's Catholic opposition to condoms convey that religious dogma is more important than human lives? The Pope was right that condoms are not the sole solution to Africa's AIDS epidemic, but they are one of the very few proven measures to help prevent HIV infection. Talking about the nonsense of

condoms is irresponsible. The glaring statistics of HIV related deaths and infections is staggering and demands a high measure of cautionary prevention. As long as people are sexually active, they need condoms to protect themselves to prevent unwanted pregnancies against diseases and AIDS or they should just wait. There's a time, a place and a partner waiting somewhere.

Nothing special about Canterbury



When my grandfather asked me about Canterbury, I could barely come up with an answer - for my initial reaction was one of guilt. I have lived here now for a year and a half and for me to say that I have truly discovered the place would be nothing but a lie. I know zilch about the history, I am almost clueless on direction, (apart from the train station, £23.50 to Charing Cross), and if you asked me for a recommendation on a good local restaurant, I would simply shrug. But my lack of knowl-

edge and interest is not down to boredom, nor does it stem from naivety; it is self inflicted.

I walk around the city with a taste of disgust on my palate. From Westgate, I will typically walk up the high street aisle and stare aimlessly into a shop window, before lumbering round to the self-service altar at Tesco, sacrificing my overdraft for a basket full of pasta and pesto, absorbing nothing but a chorus of 'two for two pound' and a sign that reads 'Sub of the day - Meatball Marinara £1.99!' It's nothing new and it's nothing special.

I find Canterbury stuck in the middle of the past and present, confused with its own identity and lost in its own self-worth. Staring down the main thoroughfare, it looks like just another high street; a horribly narrow secondary school corridor with people desperately shoving and colliding with one another just to get to the next big 70% sale - and I am one of them. We are constantly focused on carving out the next easy option, when the

essence of Canterbury lies above us. The delicate windows, the detailed patterning, all outlined with strong rustic timber frames. Yes it is beautiful, and sure it looks pretty on a postcard, but it just doesn't fit. It clashes violently with the downstairs sports shop and it looks ridiculous above the fast food outlet, it's no wonder that these preserved buildings get neglected or dare I say wasted. It's like the teddy bear you used to love that has now been completely forgotten, squished down the side of an old cardboard box upstairs in the loft. The locals don't care for the past, they are moving on.

When you come off the main strip and walk down one of the many side streets, you find yourself in a labyrinth full of Debenhams shop windows. An endless string of manikins wearing patronisingly distasteful wedding dresses and gold ruffled cravats. You feel trapped down these narrow streets, lost and made insecure by this cocoon of arrogant marketing with each new side road standing as a mir-

ror image to the one before.

And even when you've worked out roughly where you are, you here some dreary, soulless, drip drip busker howling out of tune to Oasis or 'The Boss', distracting you again from your bearings just so he can save enough for the 'Sub of the Day'. At least have the decency to save up for a single to Charing Cross, the Underground have such better renditions.

Canterbury is a pretender, an indecisive dreamer. What are you Canterbury, are you quaint? Are you unique? Or are you a cosmopolitan 21st century swinger? There is no clarity, there is no meaning, there are no answers and I feel used. My emotion is now very much a blend of confusion, nostalgia and anger, for I care not about the ducking chair. I am unconcerned with 'treasures' such as the city castle and I really am blasé towards the Cathedral: I shall see it on graduation day and that will be that.

Adam Silver

A load of rubbish



As I haul another bag of rubbish back into my house, for fear of Canterbury Council fining me the equivalent of five weeks food for it not being stored in a plastic container, I stand and contemplate. As another village idiot looks into my eyes during a Saturday foot-

ball fixture, telling me from the bottom of his stone cold heart that I am a tax dodging bit of scum whose father pays for my general upkeep (or more colloquial words to that effect), I stand and wonder. As recession tears through Britain like an angry bouncer in the Venue, being a student has never caused such pessimism - cracking weather for a bit of Frisbee in front of the library though eh?!

Indeed, graduate jobs are fewer by 3,392 places and you can only get one if you ate quail's egg using a rare ivory spoon with the chaps, tucked away in a stately school house. But although this is all set to get better in years to come, I can't help feeling hard done by. When a man came into my school

from some sort of education establishment, telling me that my spending twenty-odd thousand pounds and getting my head down would see me on my way to a job, I signed on the dotted line.

Now, as I stand on Whitstable road in Canterbury, warm 'bin-wind' caressing my face, warmer still 'bin-juice' cascading down my leg and onto my white plimsoll; I'm in debt, I can't get a job and I really start to worry about the future.

I'd like to think that some of the world's greatest thinking has been done while sorting out household waste, but I'm sure it hasn't. Stuffing another grad-scheme rejection letter in the drawer with the others, I begin to realise just how amazing university life has been,

yet also the importance of moving on and making the most of every opportunity. Is travelling the next step? Should I focus on getting that first pay-packet? Not uncommon questions during these times, but ones that nevertheless spark unique thoughts in us all.


Whether you choose to embrace the recession and see the world, or challenge it and apply for jobs, keep in mind a better time. A time when cider and beer was mixed together with blackcurrant, a time when 'leaving the plate to soak' was acceptable, a time when the brutality of modern recession seemed so far away.

Rory White

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UNIque
clothing

CULT LIFE

An exploration into the dangers of life in religious cults

Nicholas Shearan

When I first had to write this article I was knocked over by the ease with which I could complete it. Hell it might even be fun, to have a peek at the strange world of people who wear tin-foil hats and worship Alistair Crowley like some kind of Apocalyptic Demon-Priest. But a single incident seemed to really ring true with me that cult members are not all loonies who have an obsession with flying saucers and alien ghosts.

Before the planes struck the World Trade Centre towers on the 11th of September 2001, America's single largest loss of human life to a non-natural disaster was the Jonestown massacre. Nine hundred and eighteen people took their lives to mark the end of their dream, drinking a mixture of Flavour-aid, Valium, chloral hydrate, cyanide, and Phenergan which killed each person in about five minutes. The idea that all these people could give up their lives because they saw the end of the life they had subscribed to is certainly frightening. It hammers home the depth of the devotion invested in such things. I find it hard to commit to a breakfast cereal, so how can it be that people would be willing to give up their life rather than see their dreams die?

We have these ideas inbuilt into our heads about cults, about

brainwashing and strange activities on remote farms. Scientology, the modern cult favoured by a large variety of big names has cemented this illusion in our heads with their silent births, fear of psychiatry and placenta

sites for a cult, Alcoholics Anonymous is actually cult, obeying the twelve step programme is a form of psychological manipulation, and therefore a cult-like practise.

So, you really have to ask yourself what is a cult? Famous cults

that when the Halle-bop comet passed over head in 1997 that it was carrying a spaceship in its wake. They all committed suicide together believing that Earth was to be recycled and that the only way to escape the de-

ple Temple security force and a congressman investigating their farm for claims of abuse, Jones saw the end of his way of life, as the government would not tolerate them after such an incident. They drank the poison taking their lives out of fear that their commune would be taken apart and they would no longer be free.

Many are willing to die or, more worryingly, kill for their beliefs and always have been. Extremists blowing themselves up with suicide bomb vests is one thing, but many soldiers fight for their country daily. I'm not putting the two in the same pile; I'm just holding them up as examples of devotion to a cause.

The Passion for Christ movement (located at www.p4cm.com) is a group of older teenager Christians, who believe they should show the world how they have overcome their sins. They wear T-shirts marked with statements like "Ex-masturbater", "Ex-Diva" and "Ex-Homosexual". They wear what they think they've escaped from on their sleeves, or more literally on their chests. Members write blogs like "Overcoming Masturbation", which is a record of the authors "7 year battle with masturbation and God's power to deliver her from this sin".

This truly is devotion to religion, scarily so, as members make their wardrobes out of these T-shirts and listen to sermons via podcast that encourage them to lay down their lives for Christ. They have given up their lives for Christ, for what they believe in. Is this a cult, or simply pure dedication to Christianity?

It's impossible to say if cult activity will always be associated with death, or if it's always unhealthy or wrong. The Hare Krishnas started as a cult, a break-away part of Hindu Philosophy, but has reached a respected seat amongst other religions.

Belief systems are different from culture to culture, from person to person, and that's all a cult is: a series of ideals held by a group of people. People often forced to the edge of society, susceptible to manipulation, lost lonely and ready to be delivered.

We always need to remember, that these are peoples' lives that are being dealt with.



consumption. In actuality, the concept of a cult is far less fanciful. The Oxford dictionary defines it as "A system or community of religious worship and ritual." Following the prerequi-

include the Peoples Temple, the Order of the Solar Temple, Heaven's Gate and the Unification Church: a list dappled with tragedies of various proportions. Heaven's Gate followers believed

struction was to leave the planet immediately via this spaceship. Odd beliefs are typical within these cults, either avoiding death and destruction or the idea of rebirth and renewal.

The Order of The Solar temple committed several mass murders, including the brutal slaying of a three month old child said to be the Anti-Christ. These cults go to huge lengths to deliver salvation. Not all incidents are to save themselves from such otherworldly threats though.

The Peoples Temple, led by their leader Jim Jones, a religious obsessive, set up places for left wing thinkers and communists to exist and practise Christianity within America. Places were set up like the Peoples Temple Agricultural project, nicknamed Jonestown, as an area within America where its followers could feel safe, free and no longer be persecuted for their political and religious views. After a shooting at a nearby airstrip involving a the Peo-



The Fauna of Campus

George Swan takes us through the wide variety of wildlife present right on our door step

George Swan

With spring beginning to take hold I have decided to write this article in an attempt to draw student attention to the natural world around us here at university.

As a county, Kent has one of the highest levels of biodiversity in Britain and therefore as the largest campus of the University in Kent we stand (in theory) to have England's most biodiverse campus- Exciting stuff!

Let's start with the basics, i.e. rabbits, squirrels and foxes- these are the three species that are hard to miss around campus. Rabbits are the most commonly seen mammal in Britain - expect to see babies (also known as kittens) from the beginning of March. Grey squirrels are also all over campus look out for their nests (or dreys) which are the balls of sticks and leaves in the tops of trees. Foxes are a fair bit harder to spot although there are pairs resident in the trees behind Woody's, behind Hales Place and at the end of University Road (to name a few). If anyone heard high pitched barks and screams in the middle of the night in the last couple of months it was, hopefully, the females (vixens) of these pairs calling for a mate. During spring, fox families will be at their most active and visible and the cubs

will start to venture out of their holes (earths) at the end of April.

Birds! Over March and April there is an abundance of activity from Kent's resident birds as they build nests and hatch chicks. Species such as blackbirds, woodpigeons (the fat grey birds that waddle around), magpies and starlings are common across campus. If you're lucky you may also catch sight of some of the more interesting bird species. There are plenty of Great Tits on campus but my favourite is the Long Tailed Tit. This tiny bird can be identified by its long tail and pale pink chest feathers. You will still be able to see flocks of these birds flying from bush to bush, although with the onset of spring they will begin to pair up and are a little bit harder to spot. If you see one of these check that it has the pink plumage and tiny beak or you might be confusing it for a Pied Wagtail which look very similar but aren't half as pretty.

Looking now at the larger bird species, there are always gulls around campus attracted by the landfill site behind Hales Place. There are two species worth mentioning: the Herring gulls are the noisy ones that sit on top of the sports hall whenever there are exams on and Black Headed Gulls are the ones that sit in groups on Rutherford field

after heavy rain. Kent also has its share of predatory birds and if you hear an owl on campus it's probably going to be a Tawny Owl which is recognisable by its characteristic 'twit-twoo!' call.

Two of the most beautiful bird species around are, in my view, the Green and Greater Spotted Woodpeckers. The Green Woodpecker sports vibrant red crest and green body feathers while the Greater Spotted has black and white feathers with bright red patches on the back of its head and rump. Try and look out for these two, either flying between trees or hopping around the grass picking up worms.

Although along the paved footpaths many species can be seen, if you really want to submerge yourself in British wildlife take advantage of one of the many woods. One opportunity to do this is by following the footpath down through the wood behind the Venue (this path emerges within meters of the bottom of Elliot footpath and so would only be a minor detour when walking between campus and town).

On an average day you will see pretty much every bird species synonymous with a healthy oak woodland in this narrow strip of trees and, by mid April, the wood will be covered in a blanket of bluebells. At bottom of this wood



you will also find a pond that has a nationally recognised population of Great Crested Newts, this is a species that is deemed to be so important that a licence is required simply to pick one up, step on one and you're looking at 7 years minimum! If you wait for a few minutes next to the pond you might be able to spot these amphibians, Britain's largest newt

species, rising to gulp down air.

Although I've only touched the surface, I guess my point is it's all too easy to walk between lectures and never actually notice the fantastic selection of British wildlife that our campus has to offer.

Try and look further to appreciate the complex ecosystem that surrounds us on campus, you are sure to be amazed.



Campus

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IQ REVIEW

Chris Cornell - *Scream*

Timbaland-produced album disappoints

Harry Truman

Last Sunday, the words "I told you so" resounded through the country, when Chris Cornell's latest album "Scream" proved

to be as strained, uninspiring, and characterless as it was unanimously expected to be.

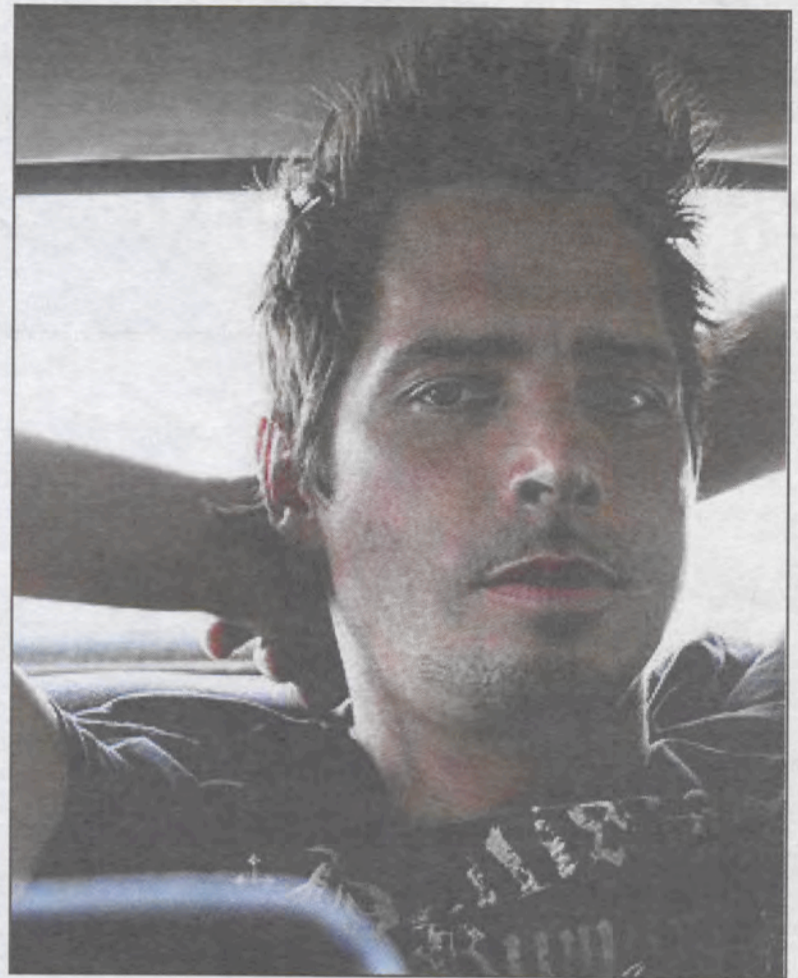
To say the album is a disappointment implies that it was anticipated with high hopes, but quite frankly, not a lot was

expected from the ex-Audioslave/Soundgarden frontman. Cornell's last solo album "Carry On" was received with equal disdain, and even the miracles performed by acclaimed producer Timbaland have not been enough to

hold this new record even remotely in our attention.

The first track frustrates from the off, with beats pulled straight from Tetris, and riffs reminiscent of "The Bill" theme music, it doesn't bode well for the rest of the album. Each song flakes into the next; vacuous lyrics litter the tracks, and conflicting genres jarr in bored ears. It is a mesh of sounds that simply don't work. Timbaland has a fantastic creative mind, and Chris Cornell is, or at least was, a hugely talented musician. However, they just don't mix.

The awesome voice of Chris Cornell sounds out of place alongside the innovative and experimental beats and riffs that have made Timbaland's prodigies so successful. The lyrics, manufactured in some boardroom of formulaic music, reduce this album to no more than a last ditch attempt for Cornell to salvage what's left of a career.



The album has as much passion and inspiration as a celibate titmouse. It is intended as mellow beats, but comes across as an hour and a half drone punctuated by the brief intermissions between tracks, which come as welcome relief. It's truly a mystery how this album will be received by Chris Cornell fans, as I am yet to find one. It is pos-

sible that they will love it, welcome Timbaland's input, and bring Cornell back to his iconic status that he has since lost.

But when you think that Chris Cornell's music was loved for its rock riffs, guitar solos, passionate lyrics and hard hitting sounds, this album will perhaps leave his fans wondering what on earth he was thinking.

Underexposed... Sally Shapiro

An examination of the enigmatic Swedish songstress

Charlie Baylis

A couple of weeks ago, late in the morning, I arose from my slumbers and stumbled downstairs to get some breakfast. In the kitchen I heard some beautiful sounds emanating from my housemates room, namely: perfectly pitched chords, complementing sweet Scandinavian vocals over a glistening electro beat. However I didn't want to expose my ignorance by asking who said housemate was playing, I just did my best to sing along, adding a few gentle hip thrusts and, quite possibly, hand claps to the synth-pop magic. 'There's nothing like a bit of Sally Shapiro in the morning' exclaimed my housemate. Aha - problem solved.

A few days passed before I acted on my newfound knowledge. I entered the name into Google, intrigued as to what I would find. The truth was revelatory, Sally Shapiro is not a real person,

some have even doubted that she exists. The woman behind her is a highly reclusive Swedish enigma, whose real name is a closely guarded secret, she rarely does interviews, seldom performs live and refuses to record her vocals with any other living creature listening. The mystery blonde created 'Sally' as an extension of herself who "dances all night long in small disco clubs and walks in the moonshine thinking about my (or even her) love affairs". The music is produced and written by Johan Agebjörn who conveniently works in the same office as the painfully shy 'Sally'. The songs are all flawlessly formed with a strong 80s vibe, 'Sally' has a sweet melancholic voice which fits perfectly with the music. Sally Shapiro came to fruition as a result of Johan's infatuation with Italo-disco, however sung by 'Sally' the most accurate way to describe the sound would be like French electro



wizard Sebastian Tellier but with a very bashfully lady singing.

I've now downloaded a great deal of Sally Shapiro's music, and would recommend you do the same, in particular the album 'Disco Romance' and the song 'Jackie Jackie' which is perfect

pop that will melt any heart that beats. Sally Shapiro has also released two remix albums, so if your newfound infatuation embeds itself as deep as mine, I'd advise you to purchase them. Fortunately there will be a new Sally Shapiro album this year, which

is great news, because there are times when you just can't live without shimmery synths, plastic drums and simple melodies that cuddle up to your ear and refuse to let go. Sally Shapiro is an underexposed Swedish pop princess, just waiting to be discovered.

Film Review

The Young Victoria

Amelia Cox

Directed by Jean Marc Vallée and produced by Sarah Ferguson, whose daughter Princess Beatrice has a brief non-speaking role; the movie 'The Young Victoria' depicts the early life of the longest reigning British monarch.

It focuses on a four year period of Victoria's life, beginning in 1836 -one year before she inherits the throne of England- and finishing in 1840. The film shows Victoria (Emily Blunt) in the early years of her life as a prisoner of her mother, the Duchess of Kent (Miranda Richardson) and her advisor Conroy (Mark Strong). The two hope that when Victoria becomes Queen, they will be able to control her powers and make all the decisions. Luckily for Victoria however, she turns eighteen before inheriting the throne and is able to make her mark as a

monarch without their influence.

Notably one of her first decisions as Queen includes banishing both her mother and Conroy to remote chambers of Buckingham Palace. The film from then on in focuses on her courtship with her cousin in Germany, Prince Albert (Rupert Friend) and her heavily criticised relationship with the Prime Minister, Viscount Melbourne (Paul Bettany).

The most significant points of the film include the riots and disfavour Victoria receives for her favouritism towards Melbourne and then her eventual climb back to popularity after her marriage to Prince Albert. The film is careful to show, however, that there are still dilemmas to overcome once her early problems begin to fade away.

Towards the end of the film we see evidence of a power struggle in Victoria and Albert's marriage

and the first attempt on Victoria's life, by a member of the crowd as she drives by in her carriage. There is a particularly climatic scene where Prince Albert takes the bullet on behalf of Victoria and is rushed back to the palace covered in blood.

Although this film was definitely better than I had expected, I would not disagree with critics in their comments that this drama is often "luke-warm" in places, many of the dramatic points of the film are heavily overlooked, and it is hard to ig-




nore how little investigative work has been done in the scenes.

On top of this the film lacks any real plot and unlike the 2008 summer movie 'The Duchess' misses a real storyline of any revealing nature and seems to be more a strung together series of events.

Having said this I was interested throughout the movie

and many of the scenes between Victoria and Albert were especially touching.

Although I couldn't argue I came away with a great sense of enlightenment about Victoria's early life, the film was still enjoyable and would appeal to anyone who likes a factual history with a love story to go with it.



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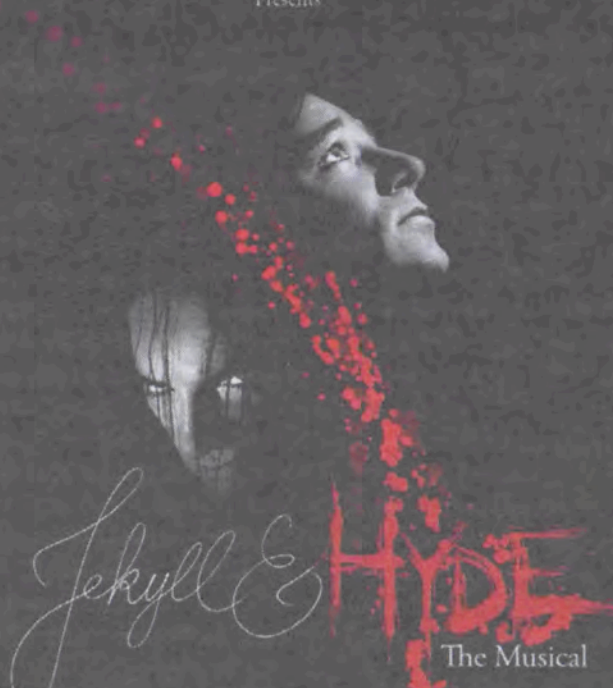
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IQART

AME72: 'Mancunian' in Tel Aviv

Demian Smith

Raised up north, AME has a tinge of Mancunian swagger about his presence, but meeting him on the beachfront of Tel Aviv is not just a dodgy experience for me. AME is a full time guerrilla artist, making his living from doing street art and selling work to buyers around the world.

He has to be careful meeting strangers in his line of work, but we soon click and I end up back at his house being cooked dinner by his lovely wife, and business partner.

He was raised in England, spending some years in Manchester (hence la swagger and his astute business acumen).

However, had it not been for his wife he wouldn't have travelled to Israel, but he likes it a lot and couldn't imagine living in England again full time, he says, "the weather's too crap!". A short stroll in central Tel Aviv and you will see some of AME's work, but AME's most recent outdoor art project was done in the Israeli towns of Ashkelon and Ashdod, on the border of Gaza, just days after the recent conflict ended. The towns, situated in the Negev desert, have been entertaining rocket fire from Hamas for the last seven years, a reaction to Israel's stance against the Palestinian people.

AME's stencils, similar to those done by artist Banksy,

humorous one-liners, make a mockery of the 'lose-lose' situation of the conflict. AME says of the works: "they are a peace message more than anything... it felt like my duty as a guerrilla artist."

We have got the tools to send out a positive message of peace and it needs doing - it's a necessity!" He sees his work as being just what you see: "the message is there and that is what it is."

For example, the piece entitled Noughts and Crosses is an allegory for the war, showing a Lego character with a pencil in front of a game of noughts and crosses and there is no winner. Ame says "Whatever happens there's always going to be pain and hurt there...I try to make stuff that makes people smile"



Zero Cents: postmodern graffiti thug

Demian Smith

My initial impression of Zero Cents was "get me away from him!" I am glad to say though, after he had finished his joint, relaxed a little and I had stopped staring at him like I wanted out, things warmed up. Forget Banksy, Zero Cents is the street art phenomenon of the future!

Zero Cents: street artist, stereotypical ego-driven graffiti punk, and the group member who gets naked in any situation involving vodka.

He was born and raised in New Jersey, USA but has lived in Israel

for three and a half years now. Somewhere along the line this guy decided he liked to include sex in his art and makes no excuses - not that he should. Collages of sexual organs; a headless female form with seven breasts done on the street; and penises, lots of penises - in mouths, in vaginas, in vain (maybe?); an impromptu ejaculation, or the Star of David atop a four breasted female form; take your fancy?

Zero Cents' uninhibited style is anathema to your average Israeli, however, Zero Cents lives in the 'bubble' - Tel Aviv - which is far, far... far more tolerant than other parts of the country, but

people are still generally morally conservative, influenced by an awesome religious discourse fed to them from all angles.

Zero Cents, in my opinion is at the forefront of the Israeli avant-garde; a street artist, an ego-driven graffiti thug who knows how to do graff, real graff, the kind most people deplore, but that I love. Filthy, drippy, messy, disgusting tags embedded in the sweet stench of urban decay. Odd to some, perhaps.

An all rounder - post modern artist. I digress, Zero Cents sees himself as a good citizen who "tries his best" to contribute to society.



Please send in your letters, whether they be criticism, praise or observation to:

newspaper.editor@inquiremedia.co.uk

Only edited for clarity or length.

inQuire held back

Dear inQuire,

Let me begin by saying I applaud the work done by the students who write for the paper. Occasionally, some truly brilliant stories are published. However, it is with regret that I must complain about the overall editing of the newspaper. Grammar, spelling and sentence structure are very often of a poor standard. It is unbelievable that a newspaper would allow this to continue. The issue dated 11th March for

instance, has a terrible error on the front page, making it sound like Miss Plewa was the ONLY Forensic Science student at the University. Even worse, on page 18, one of the headlines contains a spelling mistake. The word 'taTToo' is spelt like that, not 'taToo'. It would appear that even spell-check does nothing. My house mate is supposedly a proof reader for inQuire. However, she has never received a single article to review. Why is this? I realise that this email is hardly likely to

be published, nor will I receive a response, but this really is a serious issue. I do sincerely apologise for the ferocity of this email, but I feel that inQuire will never be respected as much as it could be if such simple issues as spelling and grammar are not rectified.

Sincerely,

Alex Hancock, 1st Year History student

Writer's response

Dear Inquire,

I would like to respond to the criticism to my piece on 'The facade of multiculturalism in Britain'. While I acknowledge the difference of opinion, and the fact that racism is a delicate subject, I strongly disagree with the glossing of my observations by Lumiere Chieh and Ulyssa Ashley Gordon. Should one's racial experiences be glossed over as mere 'generalisations and exaggerations'? I find their form of censorship worrying because the implication is that I wasn't sup-

posed to say them as if they didn't happen or didn't matter. Blocking uncomfortable racial opinions provides a shelter for laziness, lack of accountability, arrogance in inter-relationships within any society. We should not inhibit an honest discussion on race, racism and racial fears when it arises. This is a discussion that must take place with the language and practice of respect for the dignity of every person. Tragically, some good people among us assist this by advocating silence, legitimizing skewed racial encounters as normal. Historically racism is a

legacy of humiliation and disrespect for human dignity – one's own and that of other people. Lumiere Chieh concludes, 'is he [Tinashe Mushakavanhu] confusing racism with nationalism?' I don't think so, but only if the two words mean the same thing in Britain. Racism is a football pitch, how you see it depends on what side you are and for what reasons. After all has been said, no matter what colour I am, we are all human beings and breathe the same air. Viva diversity!

Tinashe Mushakavanhu

Racial union wanted Letter of the issue

Dear inquire,

I am writing to you in response to Ulyessa Ashley Gordon's letter about the racism in the United Kingdom. I like to think of myself as an open minded human being, growing up as a Jew in a working class area in Yorkshire, one of the first to get swallowed up into the great grey cancer of the city of Leeds, I have to say that I have experienced the full brutal force of the racism of this great nation.

And great nation this is, simply put if it wasn't an open welcoming political system then I wouldn't be here, my family escaping the polish pogroms would have been turned away without a care to get mutilated and destroyed at the hands of our oppressors. Instead we were welcomed and allowed to stay. Gathered the family became as stereotypical as they could and became accountants, but no accusation is without truth. No smoke without fire.

Essentially I'm saying that Ulyessa is wrong, to a degree. This is a multicultural society, because we are a collection of mixed race peoples united in one homeland. Saxon-picts, French-Anglo-roman-Irish and more recent and influx of Jewish, Palestinian, Chinese, Iranian, Iraqi, Indians coming into the country legally to be accepted by the government. This may not sound like a perfect argument to disagree, but the fact is the political system is not on trail here. What's really to blame is the people.

Fundamentally, we don't like the new additions to our country, because they frighten us. They disrupt the modernity of our base society. They make us question our life and that's a bad thing.

Red top papers like the Daily Star and the Sun have built a multimedia empire on top of the discrimination and hatred of other cultures. If polish builders aren't stealing our jobs and melting our economy with giant blowtorches of political influence while pouring sugar into our petrol tanks, then every Islamic is set to explode because Allah told them to hate the non-believers. The ignorant and ill-informed are flooded with none sense by what is regarded as the truthful source. Up until Kennedy, America never had a Catholic president because they thought they were all sleeper agents for the pope, haven't we grown up as a world beyond these childish and absurd accusations?

I accept and want new cultures to join with us, I am a supporter of the join with the European Union and acceptance of the euro as our currency, but unfortunately a lot of jingoistic people exist within our culture that stop acceptance. Not because they're bad or wrong, but because they are uninformed and taught selfish self-preservative rulings by the older generation. We can change them and the idea that ignoring the problem will make it go away will only let it gain new power. If this is a land based on love, freedom, equality and the reduction of fossil fuel based power why did the British National Party gain an electoral seat in Seven Oaks recently? Obviously because the hippy ideology of the Woodstock nation has crumbled under its own weight and left us dazed and confused.

Hoping for a brighter solution,

Solitaire Cohen.

Further discontent shown as a result of race article

Dear inQuire,

I am writing in response to Tinashe Mushakavanhu's article in the 25/2/09 issue, 'The Facade of Multiculturalism'. In his article, Tinashe talks about the racist experiences he had when he was a student in Wales, and concludes (with unnecessary insult) that the entire United Kingdom is a racist society. I'm afraid that the ending sentiment that race

is still an issue is the only thing I can agree with in his article.

This is clearly an unjust backlash against a nation, after some students in one college discriminated against the author. Racism is alive, yes, but there is no need to respond with equal racism. I do not understand how Tinashe can justify calling the entire country a 'facade', 'drab', and a place where skin colour still matters, as if we are the

only country that contains some bigoted individuals. I also doubt heavily that all of the white people Tinashe have ever met pity him or do not care about him.

Tinashe was part of a minority, and I feel that I can say with some confidence, as a homosexual white male, who was used to being one of maybe three or four white people in his class in London, that I understand that position. However, some people do

not equate to all people, and presuming such is just as racist as the people that poked fun at him.

However, the main point in my response, is that I am amazed this article was published at all! I cannot help but wonder what would have happened if I had written an article about my time in London and commented that I was in 'Daniel's lion den' surrounded by black people, or if I had said I couldn't help but feel I

would be jumped and attacked by 'gangstas' simply because I was a minority. And, InQuire, would you have published an article where I said every black person, for example, could be divided up into two wholly discriminative categories? I can't help but think that answer would be NO.

Yours sincerely,

Anon

Schizophrenic sing-along

Vanessa J Richards

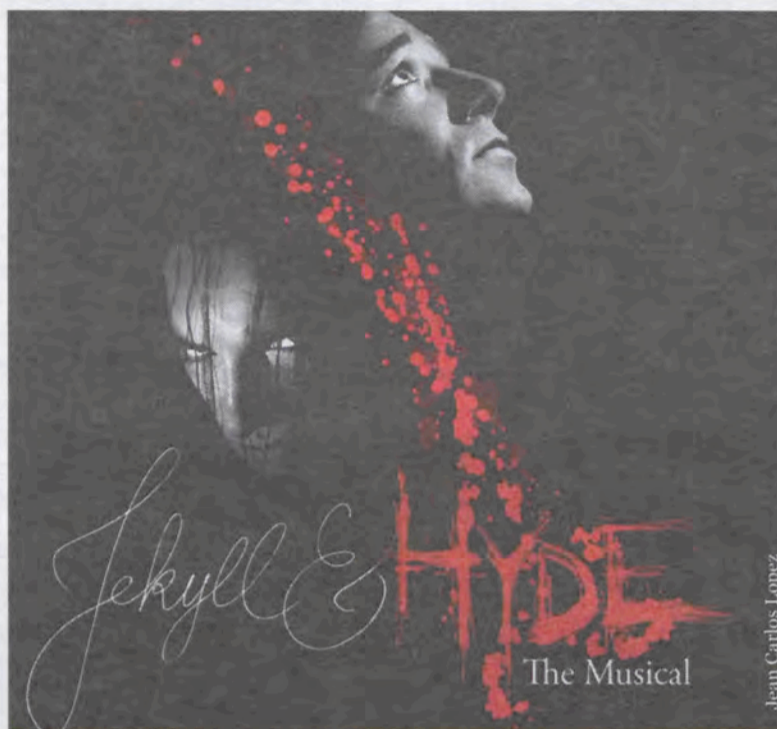
The spring term is coming to an end and deadlines for coursework are crashing around our student ears everywhere we turn. However, once essays are printed off and the caffeine induced tremors have subsided, we are able to play in the sun again and frolic in nightly entertainment. A most excellent alternative to the standard drink-athon is to visit one of the five performances of 'Jekyll and Hyde: The Musical' presented by The Musical Theatre Troop in Eliot Hall.

Celebrating great success on Broadway, "Jekyll and Hyde" is based of course on the famous novella by Robert Louis Stevenson "The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde".

"In each of us there are two natures. If this primitive dual-

27th-29th March

ity of man: good and evil, could be housed in separate identities, life would be relieved of all that is unbearable. It is the curse of mankind that these polar twins should be constantly struggling." With these chilling words the first of two acts opens to reveal a fascinating plot. Dr Jekyll is a brilliant doctor who unfortunately begins to dabble in experiments with human personality. Convinced the cure for his father's mental illness lies in the separation of Man's two natures - evil and good - Dr Jekyll unwittingly unleashes his own dark side, the maniacal Edward Hyde. Hyde roams 19th-century London wreaking havoc and entangling his 'other half' in his villainous game. As the complexity



of the story unfolds, Jekyll's fiancée Emma and a burlesque dancer Lucy fall victims of his change, before it all ends in a tragic finale. Jean Carlos Lopez, the Director of the musical, commented

that "Jekyll and Hyde has been one of my favourite musicals since I heard about it in 2000, and it has been one of my greatest challenges as a director.

"Everyone involved is fantastic, and my three leads are the perfect people to lead this show. Most of all I would like to thank Elizabeth McIver, as without her musical direction this show would not have been possible."

It is guaranteed to be a magnificent production so why not take a break from the mind-grinding work and view the psychological spoils of another poor soul? Tickets are on sale now and for £5 it's a much better steal than London.

'Jekyll and Hyde: The Musical' will first be shown in Eliot Hall on Friday 27th March at 7:30pm, followed by two performances on Saturday 28th March at 2:30pm and 7:30pm, and at the same times on Sunday 29th March.

Spring Theatre Festival fun

Billy Bambrough

Once again that time of year is upon us when UoK's very own undergraduates culminate their four year Masters programme in Drama and Theatre Studies by producing the three-week Spring Theatre Festival.

The itinerary for this year includes 15 different plays as well as street theatre, productions for children and stand-up comedy, all directed and produced by the final years on the course, and as all the shows throughout the festival count towards their degree

16th March - 9th April

this really adds to the dynamic of each performance. The stars of the shows are mainly drama students in earlier years or students at Kent who are part of the drama society, so it provides a unique opportunity to see the University's acting potential.

Theatre Rheo, a fledgling theatre company founded by fourth year drama students, are putting on a performance of the classic Greek tragedy 'Electra' which is showing at the East Bridge Hos-



'Electra', one of many shows offered

pital in the centre of Canterbury on Thursday 26th March. Like many of the productions on offer, the theatre company hope to take their production to the famed Edinburgh Festival this summer. The Director of 'Electra', Mimi Findlay, was optimistic about the event: "It's shaping up to be one of the best festivals we've had, it's going to be a great few weeks."

Holly Parker, a dramaturg (research and development of productions), working for the company said that "Theatre Rheo are a great group, we work well together and want to make this a really brilliant fes-

tival for everyone involved."

With over 20 performances taking place throughout Kent - including Canterbury, Margate and Medway - from Monday 16th March until Thursday 9th April, there really is no excuse not to sample some of the productions our own students have to offer.

A detailed programme of the events of the festival is available at the Gulbenkian Theatre, where six of the performances will be shown. As well as the Gulbenkian, there are also numerous other showings around campus so watching local theatre at student-friendly prices couldn't be easier.

Top events of the month... for more check out: www.inquirelive.co.uk

Fri 27th Mar

Live music at The Penny Theatre

Join France's Christophe Godin and Kent's Dudley Ross for an "evening of guitar heroism".

Starts at 8:30pm, £5 entry.

30th - 4th Apr

'Talk of the City' at Herne Bay Little Theatre

Acclaimed British playwright Stephen Poliakoff's work is brought to life in this performance.

The play begins at 7:30pm, with tickets priced at £7.

Tue 31st Mar

Writer Marina Warner at Darwin Lecture Theatre 1

As part of the creative writing reading series, Marina Warner visits the UoK to showcase her work.

The evening starts at 6pm and entry is only £2.

Thu 2nd Apr

'The Modern Threefold Human Being' at KLT5

Terry Boardman discusses why the 21st century is 'the most critical time in humanity's biography in the last 2000 years'.

6:15pm start, and free entry.

Sat 4th Apr

Abba Gold at The Kings Hall Theatre

After the success of Mama Mia, why not relive the golden age of music & see a show that sold out last time?

Tickets are £10. Start time TBC.

The Review: Peter Doherty

Nick Gill

'Peter' Doherty finds himself in a rare position: a musician that is no longer predominantly known for his music. This might explain the murmurs of uncertainty that I was greeted with when entering Folkestone's Leas Cliff Hall as punters wondered whether the elusive Doherty was even going to show up to his own gig. What followed was a constant barrage of beer and plastic cups launched at the singer, presumably to convince said throwers that Doherty was here, live, on a Friday night in Kent, and not just their drunken apparition.

The crowd needn't have wasted their beer as Doherty's stage presence could not be doubted, his guitar slung haphazardly over a denim jacket and a string of necklaces bouncing off his chest as he swaggered left then right, or leaned into the mic-stand in the centre ala Liam Gallagher.

With no band to accompany him, the spotlight remained on Doherty alone for much of the performance (bar brief appearances from Babyshambles guitarist Mick Whitnall and Maidstone's Peter 'Wolfman' Wolfe) and he seemed to thrive under the audience's watchful eye. His voice was consist-



Jamie Stephens

Doherty made a rare forage into Kent territory on Friday 20th March

ently strong throughout the two hour set and his natural and almost lackadaisical approach to guitar playing proved Doherty has substance as well as hype.

The former Libertines frontman was also quick to acknowledge that it is from this musical background that he is most renowned and a string of Libertines classics reverberated around the arena, namely 'What A Waster', 'Death On The Stairs and Don't Look Back Into the Sun'. Inevitably,

each track was greeted by cheers, screams and more beverage bombardment. At one point a cup full of beer hit Doherty square in the face making it virtually impossible for the singer to continue. The response? A wry smile and "good shot" bellowed into the mic, before proceeding to spray coke over the crammed front rows for a spot of revenge. There was no Winehouse-style fan punching and Doherty was just sober enough to keep the Mor-

Fri 20th March

gan's Spiced bottle to himself, although he did chuck a few cans for outstretched arms to battle over.

In short, the Leas Cliff audience were thoroughly entertained as one song rolled into the next, inevitably leading to more crowd-surfing attempts. The night culminated (or so we thought) with the legendary 'Can't Stand Me Now' but the usual cry of "we want more" initially fell on deaf ears as the lights went up and music from the Hall's sound system began to play, people dispersing with a few mumbles of discontent. Yet in true Doherty style, he reappeared munching on a piece of French bread to inform the organisers that he wanted to do more song. Chaos ensued as everyone rushed back to the front to catch one final glimpse of a man that appears in our newspapers on a daily basis.

For all that is said about Pete Doherty in the press, last Friday Folkestone witnessed a man empathetic with his audience, a guy who hugged a fan who managed to escape the grasp of the bouncers and onto the stage, and a musician who wanted to entertain: let's just hope that this is what 'Peter' will be known for from now on.

For more comment, photos and video of Peter Doherty's performance see www.inquirelive.co.uk

Lea DeLaria: international jazz singer

Sally Gower

For those of you with an ear for the musical industry of jazz, Kent has a treat in store. Coming up on Saturday 28th March, international jazz star Lea DeLaria graces Maidstone's Pizza Express with a delicious taste of her current marvel, The Smoke Tour. With an impressive career that has taken her as from New York and Broadway to the big screens of Hollywood, she promises to entertain and delight her audience, whether it be through her stand up comedy, various short acting roles, or her sensational jazz singing voice.

DeLaria describes herself as a "chick singer with balls", and has an accomplished a style referred to as "vibrant", capturing

Sat 28th March



Zachary Downing

The very talented Lea DeLaria

a compelling approach to the jazz music business that is aided by an impeccably talented band in tow. She says of her most recent recording, The Live Smoke Sessions, that she endeavours to take her listeners "back to 1948", through the "old school live" style

recordings. DeLaria definitely succeeds, as there is a certifiable hint of a Some Like It Hot rehearsal. Whether you're a fan of jazz or not, it's likely you'll agree that she brings a certain heat to her performances. It is then no surprise that Q Magazine has dubbed Lea as "blessed with one of the most beautiful voices around."

DeLaria's highly unpredictable and varied repertoire of performances feature the most prestigious jazz festivals in the world (which include appearances in London, New York City and Montreux), while her tour dates for the UK consist of several sold-out venues, such as 'Komedia' in Brighton, and London's 'Pizza in the Park', again emphasising how popular this jazz phenomena really is, both in the US and the UK. DeLaria has

also attracted attention in the recording studio too with The Times labelling her debut album as "the Best Jazz Album of 2001".

Classic numbers likely to be incorporated into her performances during the tour are almost guaranteed to be those popular renditions from the Great American Songbook, sampling favourites such as "All That Jazz" and "It Don't Mean A Thing". Influences include Ella Fitzgerald and David Bowie, as well as others such as Judy Garland and Sammy Davis Jr., so there is bound to be aspects of DeLaria that we may recognise. That said, she is vehemently and undeniably, her own person, whose stage presence sees her stomping around, "gleefully" and somewhat "in your face". A shame to miss, Lea DeLaria is one defiant and enjoyable entertainer.

London's Calling

Exhibition

Dr Gunther von Hagens of Channel 4 controversy presents his latest blend of gruesome anatomy lesson and theatrical showcase in the exhibition "Body Works and The Mirror of Time". Running until the summer at the O2 Arena, tickets are from £9.

Art

Catch a diverse exhibition of painting, cinema and theatre poster designs, as well as books, costumes and sculpture in "Rodchenko and Popova: Defining Constructivism" at the Tate Modern. Tickets for the exhibition cost from £7.80

Theatre

Berkoff's bold, physical theatre adaptation of the Oscar winning film "On the Waterfront", a story of the Mob in 1950s New York, is playing at the Haymarket Theatre Royal in central London. Tickets are priced from £17.50.

Music

Tongue-in-cheek popstar Lily Allen headlines what could be a very exciting London show after stripping at London club GAY last month. She plays Shepherds Bush Empire from Thursday 26th - Saturday 28th March. Tickets are around £20.

Exhibition

A celebration of Darwin's life and work in commemoration of his bicentenary is being held at the Natural History Museum. The exhibition promises to be "incredible and rare" and runs until mid-April. Tickets start from just £6.

Kent Pole show their fitness

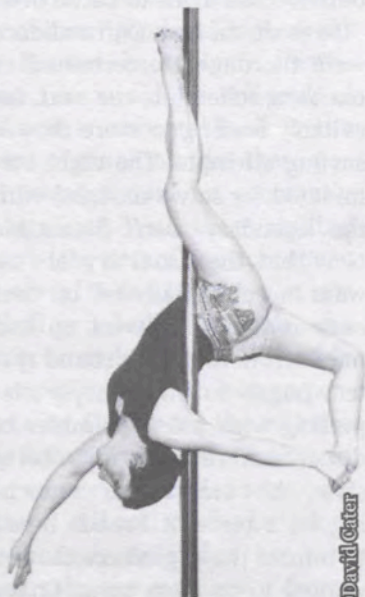
Miranda Athanasiou

It's official: sport has gone vertical, and to prove it on Thursday 26th March Kent Pole Fitness will be putting on their biggest performance to date. Pole Fitness is a relatively new sport which has been taking campus by storm since 2006, each year acquiring a mass of students eager to climb the pole with equal grace to that of its already experienced members.

The society will be showcasing its talents at the Gulbenkian Theatre and proving that Kent Pole is an innocent blend of fitness and fun; yet do not be fooled into believing that this is solely a frivolous means of entertainment as much skill is required to perform the routines.

With their combination of strength building moves and aerobics, these ladies no longer require assistance in opening their jam jars! But gentlemen do not be disheartened, for this society has something for you also: (and I am not just referring to the opportunity

Thu 26th March



to marvel at gorgeous women wrapping themselves around a pole, of course) I'm talking about taking part. This sport isn't limited to women, so if you feel up for the challenge, perhaps you should put on a pair of shorts, leave football behind and try your hand at something

a little more challenging.

A number of performances have been collaborated for your entertainment, varying from solo acts to group performances; some acts in defiance of gravity and others light hearted dances, all choreographed by members of the society and well rehearsed in preparation for Thursday.

Lindsey Rigg, treasurer and instructor of the Pole Fitness society, is looking forward to the opportunity for this unique society to show just how talented its members are.

"There will be a wide range of dance styles and it will be a chance for us to show everyone what we can do, and hopefully get rid of any preconceptions people have of us! "There will also be performances put on by other societies including Salsa, Ballroom and Latin dance. It's going to be a diverse evening and everyone should come along and witness the fitness!"

Tickets are £7.50 (£6 concessions) so snap one up and wait with baited breath for a performance that is bound to entertain.

For more information, full listings or booking please call 01227 769075 or visit www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian.



Highlights

Mar 27th: 'The Pickwick Papers': "a highly physical and inventive piece of entertainment", 7.45pm, £13.70.

Apr 2nd: 'Home of the Wiggler': "A lo-fi sci-fi docu-drama in which all the power required to run the show is generated by its four performers", 7.45pm, £13 (12+ years).

Apr 3rd: 'Can Any Mother Help Me?': "A poignant production, featuring live music, which proves that there is no such thing as an ordinary life", 7.45pm, £13.70 (13+ years).

For more information, full listings or booking please call 01227 769075 or visit www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian.



Highlights

27th Mar - 2nd Apr: 'Revolutionary Road' (15) "The award-winning production design perfectly captures pristine 1950s American suburbia".

29th - 30th Mar: 'Franklyn' (15) "Refreshingly ambitious for a debut British feature" - London Film Festival.

3rd - 6th Apr: 'Che: Part Two - The Guerilla' (15) "Diving into the movie's riches is an experience you won't forget or regret" - Rolling Stone.

Interview: Didz Hammond on DJing, bands and turtle's blood

Lisa Marie Ford

Fri 27th March

Didz Hammond of the infamous Dirty Pretty Things and The Cooper Temple Clause is headlining FACE at The Venue this Friday 27th March with a DJ Set. inQUIRE caught up with him to find out what you can expect from the night, and how life post-Dirty Pretty Things is treating him.

Hey, Didz. You're here on Friday playing a DJ set at The Venue, what do you like best about DJing?

The fact that you have total choice of music for the whole night! And the nice touch of free drinks!

What can we expect from your set?

Largely at the moment I have been drawn to playing and listening to a lot of Hip Hop and Old-

school Electro along with a good amount of Indie, as I am an Indie boy at heart! There will be a few class old nuggets in there as well!

You've been in your share of successful bands. What is your favourite thing about playing a live show?

Just getting on with it and being on stage really. Live music is more of a communal thing where as albums and CDs are personal. Live it's just for everyone in the room, not just you in your room!

What tips would you give any budding musicians at the University of Kent?

Play live and get a local following, its the only way to get noticed.

Who's your favourite band at the moment, and who do



English bassist Didz Hammond looking particularly rock 'n' roll

you tip to be big this year?

Well as for new music, I'm looking forward to the Official Secrets Acts release, Ladyhawke, that whole girl band vibe? I have been listening to a lot of The Delgados, a bit of Ghost-

face Killah and a load of old bits!

Have you got anything in the pipeline? Any exclusives for inQUIRE?

As much DJing as possible, and a few club nights which

I'm looking to put on. I am working on a few tracks but who knows what's in store?

What are your three proudest moments in music?

Number one, the second time I played Reading with The Cooper Temple Clause! Number two, the 'Kick out the Fire' Album with The Cooper Temple Clause again, and number three, playing Death Disco TV with The Chavs (Carl Barat of The Libertines, Tim Burgess of The Charlatans, Jamie Reynolds of The Klaxons).

Tell us three things you'll never do again:

Play in a band, drink a whole glass of turtle's blood, or DJ in Ibiza!

And who is the coolest rock star in the world?

Paul Simonon from The Clash or Steve Marriott from Small Faces!

General Sports News

International

Swimming

Rebecca Adlington blitzed home in eight minutes 18.86 seconds to take gold in the 800m at the British Swimming Championships in Sheffield.

Sat 21st - February

County

Cricket

The Kent cricket team have signed Australian seam bowler Stuart Clarke for the beginning of the 2009 season ahead of the Ashes in July.

Wed 18th - February

continued from back page

the semi-finals of the December English University Championships. Hulston had won easily and it had been his easiest fight, so Hulston knew just what to expect. As anticipated, the final was an absolute breeze. Evident from the 7-0 score, the competitor just could not touch Hulston. With the first round ending in a score of 3-0, the opponent resorted to trying to dominate the bout. He eagerly came forward throwing flurries in an attempt to pressure and confuse Hulston.

At the end of the second round the score was 5-0 and the opponent knew it was unlikely he could earn seven points in one final round, so he came in strong and fast to try to knock Hulston out. The ever-confident Birmingham-born boxer remained unfazed, easily dodging his competitor and scoring more points by throwing powerful and sharp clean jabs to knock him back. After three one-



Aaron Hulston expresses delight at the referee's decision

sided rounds where Hulston had fought his fight all along, it was no surprise when the referee raised the right hand of the Kent man.

Surrounded by cheers from the fellow University of Kent students who had travelled up to support him, Hulston proudly accepted the gold medal on behalf of our university. He

is now the British University Welterweight Champion 2009.

Commenting on his performance in Sheffield, Hulston expressed considerable gratitude towards his Coach Phillips for helping him achieve such a momentous achievement: "I am really pleased with what we achieved, we went there to

win and we did. Coach Phillips made it clear that we didn't go all that way to be a runner-up. I felt we walked through the competition, and I know that was all down to his coaching.

I would like to say a massive thank you to him, I have never had a coach so good."

This is not the only recent success of the University of Kent A.B.C. Fellow boxer Alex Cooper also represented the University last week in his first A.B.A fight. He did extremely well as he dominated the fight by switching from body shots to head shots, persuading the referee to bring proceedings to a halt after just 60 seconds. This means that between both Hulston and Cooper there have been six representations of the University of Kent in boxing, with five of these having been wins. This is a first for UoK and the boxing club hope that such a high standard of boxing will continue in the future.

Early momentum proves decisive

Netball

James Linacre

Kent cruised to a comfortable victory over Chichester, crushing their opponents early on to take the sting out of a late comeback. The girls from south coast crushed Kent last term, but the UoK ladies had the last laugh as a solid defence, slick passing and clinical finishing set up a dominant 31-21 win in a match which the home side never once looked like losing.

The first quarter saw Kent assert their authority early on, opening the scoring and racing into an early lead. Play switched from the left flank to the right and back again effortlessly, as an attacking master class established an early lead of 5-2. With Wing Defender Emily Soulsby cutting everything out with timely interceptions, a lot of pressure on Kent's net was relieved, allowing the team to build several assaults on the visitors.

Such pressure told by the end of the first period, when the scoreboard read Kent 7-4 Chichester.

Whichever team could come out strongest in the second quarter looked likely to build enough momentum to see them through to a half time lead, and it was the UoK who had the first attack

Kent 2nds 31

Chichester 3rds 21

Goal Shooter Kelly Lehmann began the quarter with a good shot which ran all the way around the rim of the net before bouncing away to safety. The Chichester players breathed a collective sigh of relief, but while Kent could be forgiven for looking crestfallen they instead redoubled their efforts, and by the end of the period their lead had tripled.

More interceptions, particularly from Kirsteena Page playing as Goal Attack, helped kept Kent heap pressure on the Chichester defence, allowing them to attack

at will, the home side rushed to a 10-6 lead. When the Centre, Chantelle Withey, was obstructed, Kent were awarded a free pass, and from that attack Lehmann found the net once more. She and Page were forming a lethal partnership, and whenever one missed the other would be at the other side of the net to collect the rebound and score. Impressive teamwork between the front two, mirroring the tight defensive play of the rest of the team, saw the pair rack up five more points in the time that their opposite numbers managed only one. When the claxon sounded for half time Kent left the court with a 9-point lead, at 16-7.

The teams returned to play the

third quarter and Page had been replaced in Goal Attack by Becca Hudson. The third period of the match was the one in which Chichester scored least points, and Hudson was clearly a factor in this as she lead the defence from the front. She also attacked well, scoring points for her team, and when she completed her shift the scores stood at 23-10.

The final quarter of the match saw Kirsteena Page return in the place of Hudson, and she linked up well with Jeanette Hi on the wing, scoring and assisting points as she rekindled her partnership with Lehmann. The front two were in fine fettle, finding the net 8 times in the final stretch of the match. The score moved slowly from 28-13 to 30-15, before the visitors launched one final assault upon the Kentish goal. Chichester scored six times in the time Kent scored once to narrow the lead, but it was all too little too late.

Although the visitors managed to narrow the deficit to only ten points by the end of the contest, they left Canterbury knowing that they had been thoroughly outplayed throughout the hour long match, receiving a drubbing at the hands of a team who had barely had to break a sweat.



Kent launch another attack to condemn opponents Chichester

continued from back page

under Jose Mourinho, but since his departure they have never again carried such threat. Arsenal scraped beyond Roma on penalties last time, and their reward is a clash against Villarreal. Barcelona have been fantastic all season, and many are tipping them for Champions League glory this year. They face Bayern Munich, who recorded that phenomenal 12-1 aggregate victory over Portuguese side Sporting in the last round.

Man Utd and Arsenal will meet in the semi finals if they both win their matches, and the winner of Liverpool vs Chelsea will face the winner of Barcelona vs Bayern.

UEFA Cup

After almost throwing it away against minnows Aalborg (City only got by on penalties after winning the first match 2-0), the only British side still in the competition face Hamburg. Former Spurs manager Martin Jol has turned Hamburg into a very impressive outfit, and the two teams are both thought to be good enough to win the competition.

The other quarter final ties see French side Paris Saint Germain face Dynamo Kiev, Shakhtar Donetsk face Marseille, and Werder Bremen face Udinese. All ties will be played on the 9th and 16th of April.

Health
and fitness

I started training in the gym in June 2008, as soon as I finished another year at UoK. My reasons for this were mainly due to the fear of a long empty summer filled with nothing to do but shop and sunbathe; that's all you can do where I live. Though this might seem like the perfect summer for some, I prefer being active, so I started going to the gym. At first, I'll admit, it was hell. Hours of machine hopping from treadmill to the cross trainer to the bike; it was all too monotonous. So I decided to start working out with a personal trainer. She gave me great routines to work with which were always challenging. I was spending six days a week at the gym; three of those days were focused on cardio and three days alternating between upper body, lower body and full body workout sessions using free weights. My personal trainer ensured I felt every muscle in my body. To keep it interesting, I didn't limit my training to the indoors, I went swimming and cycling whenever I could.

The best part I have to admit is the pain afterwards when you discover you had muscles in places you didn't even know existed! That was my routine until I suffered a minor knee injury, triggered by swimming the breast-stroke, known as 'patella maltracking' which interrupted my routine altogether. I can no longer swim and I have to avoid any machines in the gym that aggravate my knee.

As every health-conscious person will tell you, it isn't all about exercise. Tosca Reno author of the Eat Clean diet series suggests that in terms of fitness and health and how that affects our body, 80% is affected by nutrition, 10% is our genes and only 10% is affected by exercise. So eating well definitely plays a big part. I stick to 'Clean' foods (whole grains, vegetables, fruits and lean protein sources such as chicken and turkey) and try to avoid foods high in sugar or fat. I eat only what my body needs and try to avoid what my mind wants... chocolate.

Abigail El-Bekai

Top cueists pocket silver medals

Snooker

Ashley Edwards

The University Snooker club sent two teams to Leeds this past weekend to compete in the annual BUCS championships taking away silver medals in the process. This was only the second year the club has been in attendance and this year's performance bodes well for the future.

Both teams were entered at shield level along with similarly ranked universities. Unfortunately, despite a superb individual effort from 2nds captain Benny Hubbard, he was unable to carry a keen but inexperienced team through to the latter stages of the tournament.

By contrast, Kent 1sts breezed through both group stages with a string of impressive results and word quickly spread that they were the team to beat. Glas-

gow (9-6) and LSE (11-4) were the first to succumb to a team built on 'steely' experience with flashes of raw talent. The 2nd round was navigated in similarly convincing fashion with 8-2 wins over Nottingham and Bath.

The first team arrived at the

Northern Snooker centre on the Sunday morning full of confidence and quickly won through the semi-final against a much-improved LSE side by six frames to two. An epic final was then contested against the other strongly fancied squad, Manchester.

Kent started well when fresher Fred Lucas won his match to go one nil up; though Manchester were soon level on the adjacent table after a solid performance which left veteran Kent player Dan Brown scratching his head. The hammer blow came when arguably Kent's most gifted player Dave Miller came unstuck to hand the lead to the Lancashire team. Captain Ashley Edwards won a convincing match to leave him with a final frame record of 14/15 for the weekend and for Kent to draw level. The deciding match came down to club president Craig Ledger who battled valiantly to take an early lead against one of the tournament's stand out players. It was not to be however, as Kent returned home with silver medals feeling a twinge of disappointment in what was otherwise a fantastic weekend for the club.



Back L-R: Brown, Lucas, Hubbard, Edwards, Ledger, Miller.
Front L-R: Wright, Geaba, O'Neill, Guimaraes

Ladies stay in touch with Cup Final awaiting

Women's Football

Victoria Golding

A hat-trick by debutant Vicky Larkin finished off a weak Queen Maryside and put the University of Kent into prime position for their end of season push for promotion.

Initially, Kent struggled to find their passing form against disorganised opposition, but after settling into the match good link up play between central midfielder Paida Mtungi and clinical and on-form striker KT Savelli saw several early shots at goal. Queen Mary, creating very little attacking play themselves, seemed to be relying heavily on a high off-side line to contain Kent's advances. But with an abundance of pace from the Kent forwards this plan soon backfired, when a through ball from midfield put Larkin clear the clinical striker finished off her first of three goals. This was quickly followed by her second, a close range effort capitalising on confusion in the Queen Mary defence.

Several subsequent strikes came close to adding to this lead, most notably a volley from an out swinging corner by right back Zara Eustace.

Two goals up at the interval

Kent 1sts 4

Queen Mary 1sts 0

and the University of Kent felt comfortable enough to make two half-time substitutions. In keeping with the relaxed atmosphere brought on by the sunny day, Kent's solid and ever reliable defence were again rarely troubled in the second period; the visiting side managing only one shot throughout the entire match.

Of the many chances at the other end of the pitch, two were converted; another close range effort from on-song Larkin followed by a well-deserved Savelli goal, with the Queen Mary goalkeeper the only player stopping a more comprehensive rout.

The result pushes Kent into joint top of the South Eastern Conference table with only two matches to go. Six-pointers against fellow leaders Sussex and Brighton means that promotion is now very much in the team's own hands. This, combined with a BUCS Cup Final against Brighton later this month, leaves Kent supporters eagerly anticipating the exciting finish to a potentially very

successful season for the club.

Sports Sabbatical Cai Robbins commented on the girl's fantastic season-long drive for promotion and cup glory by stating:

"This year our football ladies have been a shining light on and off the pitch.

They have performed outstandingly! Having got to the final of the newly introduced BUCS

Cup, they also look set to be promoted in the BUCS league too.

Not only that but they were victorious against Canterbury Christ Church in this year's Varsity competition in one of the most contested matches of the tournament, showing grit and determination.

This is a team and squad that the University of Kent should be proud of. Well done girls!"



KT Savelli storms forward and grabs herself a goal on the break



Vanessa J Richards

Feisty battle ends in draw

Men's Football

Billy Bambrough

The feeling before this match was one of barely controlled aggression as Kent and their old rivals Christ Church came on to the pitch for what would prove to be a highly charged and fast paced game.

The first half began with both teams playing a stout defence and not allowing the opposition's attackers much more than a glimpse of their target goals. Kent managed to control most of the play but were unfortunate not to finish which lead to Christ Church turning a strong defence into a formidable counter attack, out-pacing the Kent midfielders and getting past the Kent defence more than once, only to be stopped at goal. With plenty of chances but no goals it was still any ones

Kent 3rds	1
CCCU 5ths	1

tioned into the six yard box and slotted home by David Stubbs.

This slender 1-0 lead was short lived though, as not two minutes later Christ Church managed to pull back with a short range shot which managed to find the top right corner of the goal.

With the scores equal at one a piece both teams stepped up their games and became desperate to pull ahead, with on pitch scuffles breaking out with increasing regularity it was clear how much both teams wanted to come away with the win.

With the home team becoming more and more frustrated with every intercepted pass and wide ball, and their inability to get that all important goal, Kent began to get sloppy but never lost their spirit and down to the last second were putting in their all.

In the end it was Kent's pride that was more damaged than their league position; as the final whistle blew and Christ Church left the pitch amid cheers, Kent clearly felt that a draw was as bad as a loss on this occasion.



Vanessa J Richards

The referee calms tempers again

game by the end of the first half.

All that changed though when the match resumed for the second half. An inspiring team talk from captain Jason Leonard, spurred Kent on to win a corner which was neatly posi-

8

Number of goals conceded this season. The side have the best defensive record in the league.

Second half romp kills off Kent

Hockey

Andrew Ritchie

Having ensured survival in the league this year by beating Imperial last week Kent went to East London with high hopes of maintaining this winning streak.

UoK began the game in confidence with good attacking play by Chris Bowman and Luke Morgan supported greatly by the wingers. In a couple of minutes this formula seemed to be working with the home side unfortunate not to take the lead, Ed Nash missing an open goal.

UEL however, were quick to show why they were the league leaders by picking up on a loose ball at the back and scoring comfortably. Slipping behind seemed to spur the UoK side on and through persistent wing play tactics the counter attacking goals shortly followed; James Pope and Russell Hoare etching their names on the scoreboard. UEL were clearly not expecting such fluent play down both flanks from their opponents and so with a reshuffle of defensive tactics the visitors deployed their attacking options upon the UoK back four. Chris Ellingham, Ben McElroy, Luke Knowles and Chris Wilson found themselves just about coping with important tackles

Kent 3rds	2
East London 1sts	7

and excellent blocks keeping the one goal advantage intact.

However, there was only so much pressure the defence could soak up with UEL constantly knocking on the door. The inevitable equaliser was sure in coming and with excessive pressure constantly being applied, the eventual breakthrough came via two short corners; both finding their way in low at the right post and high in the top right hand corner.

3-2 seemed a good outcome for the home side at the interval and the visitors seemed less impressed come their half-time team-talk, but whatever was being said was certainly being translated out on the pitch come the restart.

UEL went all out for a win, leaving only one defender behind in their half. Such tactics tempted the home side but the visitor's offence made sure that such temptation lay dormant for the remainder of the match. Within minutes the score read 4-2 and with momentum now on their side, the visitors began to benefit from some good fortune as a stray aerial shot landed at the

feet of a UEL forward whose shot went in off the UoK keeper's stick.

Two more soon followed to put the score at 7-2 and despite the inevitable defeat UoK fought doggedly to maintain the score with McElroy and Knowles combining well at the back to fight off further UEL attacks.

The final score highlights the difference between a side just about surviving the drop and a team pushing for promotion, but despite the loss, the UoK thirds can take away positives from the game, namely the strength of the defence who frequently held back a South African international and the resilience of the team in never giving up.

The thirds then took on King's Medical in their final game of the season on the 18th March and despite the lessons learnt from their defeat to East London, the Canterbury side fell to a disappointing 2-0 away defeat but still managed to achieve the season's objectives by finishing above bitter rivals CCCU.

-12

The third's goal difference at the end of the season.



Vanessa J Richards

University Results

Badminton

The woman's 1sts smashed the current league leaders Kingston 8-0 to extended their winning streak to 10 matches whilst keeping them in second on 24 points.

Basketball

A 50-44 away win over Kingston leaves the Kent men's 1sts sitting three points clear at the top of the table and with a great chance of gaining promotion.

Netball

Back-to-back wins over Buckinghamshire this season has helped the women's 2nds survive the drop with the latest fixture against the Bucks ending 40-27.

Rugby Union

The newly appointed title champions were pushed all the way against Imperial Medicals with the Canterbury side just about edging the encounter 34-30.

Tennis

The men's 1sts were completely embarrassed in their league fixture against Kings College with the 10-0 thrashing slipping them down into fourth with six points.

Hulston storms to Welterweight gold

Chloe Karamian

UoK boxer Aaron Hulston stormed to gold at the British University & College Sports Championships on the weekend of the 13th March. Hundreds of competitors came to Sheffield to represent their university and compete against fellow university students in 24 sports over 5 days with Hulston competing in the boxing Welterweight division.

In December 2008 Hulston trained intensely with Coach Norman Phillips for the English University Championships, hosted by Portsmouth University. He fought three challengers before coming away with the Silver medal. Continuing his training and knowing what to expect for the British Championships, Hulston was more prepared than ever both physically and mentally.

There were supposed to be 11 competitors in the Welterweight category, however only four turned up. This meant that all four competitors would qualify straight into the semi-finals. After being conscious of his weight and keeping a close eye on his training and eating, Hulston was on weight every morning. The Kent boxer's first opponent, a competitor from Kingston University weighed in over the limit yet was still allowed to fight. Regardless, Hulston still beat him to walk through to the finals the following day.

The Kingston opponent was more of a brawler who threw fast and reckless shots. This allowed Hulston to manoeuvre out of the opponent's way, picking him off and knocking him with speedy jabs. The more Hulston stuck to his relaxed style of fighting, the more frustrated



Hulston lands a superb lunge to knock his opponent off balance much to the liking of the judges

the opponent became, throwing erratic punches with little success. The cool and calm approach from Hulston proved decisive in causing the most damage as he soon dispatched some fine jabs to open up his opponent's nose with the fight suiting Aaron to a tee. He easily dodged the oncoming shots, causing the Kingston boxer to stumble and fall.

In the third round Aaron's opponent began to box with intel-

ligence and with quick hands repaid Hulston for the earlier blood-shot to the nose with an effective upper cut of his own.

Despite Hulston now carrying a blooded nose for the remainder of the round, he kept his opponent at bay and finishing the bout with a 6-2 win to set up a shot at gold.

Hulston commented on the technical and tactical side to his performance by stating: "In the first and second round I stuck

to the game plan, making him come to me and counter fighting him. In the third round I began to brawl with him a bit which I realised was not smart as he managed to open up my nose. So I went back on back foot and came away with a good victory."

Hulston's competitor in the final was a boxer from the University of Cheshire. Both had fought each other previously in

National Football Round-up

FA Cup

A late goal from Van Persie, followed by one from William Gal- las which had the distinct look of offside about it, was enough to see Arsenal past Hull last Tuesday. Hull took an early lead at the Emirates stadium through the evergreen Nicky Barmby, and the visitors held the lead for over an hour before Van Persie struck with only 15 minutes to go. The match's real talking point came even later though, after Cesc Fabregas allegedly spat at Hull's assistant manager. Though spitting at people is more common in the Mediterranean leagues, Cesc has been a Gunner for long enough to know that such behaviour is unacceptable here. An investigation into the incident has been launched. Arsenal will now face Chelsea in the semi final at Wembley, which will be played 18 April. The second fixture, one day later, is Manchester United vs Everton, which will take place on the same ground. The semis hold extra importance this year as fans wait to see whether Everton can win the cup; if they can't - and they've been widely written off already - then 7th place in the Premier League will be good enough for European qualification.

Champions League

The draw for the quarter finals of the Champions League took place on the 20th of March. For the fifth successive year Liverpool will be playing Chelsea, guaranteeing at least one English club will make it to the semi finals. Chelsea won last time around, going all the way to the final in Moscow where Manchester United beat them on penalties.

United have a good chance of progressing again, after they received arguably the easiest draw. No draw is easy at this stage though, and they still have to overcome Porto. The Portuguese side won the competition

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