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Editors' Picks

Apologies and Corrections For Volume 38 Issue 3

I will be the first to admit that we don't always get things right. Whilst we try our best to put out a perfect paper every fortnight, inevitably it never passes through mistake free. In this case, **I would like to humbly apologise to Selina-Jane Spencer, Armani Syed, Daljinder Johal, Elizabeth Puglsey, Ali Jones, Jonny Hall, Shingi Mararike, Oscar Mayhew and the entire Women's Lacrosse team** for the errors made in the last version of this paper. And if you are reading this, **Mr Bojangles**, we apologise to you too for an ill judged letter. If you find any mistakes, please don't hesitate to contact me on the information below.

Hiran Adhia

Vegan Season Approaching Lifestyle (p.23)

You might have sat next to one in a lecture. You have probably passed one on campus. You might have even spoken to one in your time at university. Dotted among the student community lurk mythical creatures known as vegans. This issue, Boar Lifestyle talk to a few herbivores about how they manage to survive without protein (note: this is a myth, and if you use this against a vegetarian/vegan then you need to read a book). A few writers talk about the pros and cons of their lifestyle, and you're given a lovely looking vegan soup recipe to try at home.

Bethan McGrath

Career Gamer Games (p. 41)

We hear a lot about Warwick students that go on to great success in their post-campus careers, but rarely do those who have achieved a lot in the gaming world get a mention. Since not everyone's thing is finance or marketing, it's always a relief to learn that Warwick grads do go on to pursue less conventional ventures after university. Even if it's never been your life goal to design computer games for a living, the collaboratively-written feature you'll find in Games this week - which reviews the accomplishments of a few Warwick alumni who have done just that - makes for a creative and enlightening read.

Jacob Mier

The more things change... 50th Anniversary (p. 18/9)

As someone who feels like the university experience hasn't much changed over the couple of years I've been here, it was enlightening to read the 50th Anniversary feature and find out change has been pretty minimal over the past fifty as well. Late buses, protesting against rising fees, apathy towards SU politics: other than the introduction of Powerpoint and Yik Yak, going to Warwick in 2015 doesn't seem all that different to how it was in 1965 either.

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Smack owner's Leam monopoly

Rio's NIGHTCLUB

Male students kissing in Neon kicked out

Natalya Smith

Two male students were recently thrown out of a Leamington nightclub by security for kissing, it has been alleged.

Reportedly, the students were sharing an intimate moment in Neon, when they were filmed, mocked and forcibly removed from the club by its members of security.

The full details of the incident are not yet clear, however the allegations that nightclub bouncers were homophobic towards two members of the same sex has concerned some Warwick students.

A second-year student, who wished to remain anonymous, argued that heterosexual couples are seen kissing every night at Neon and are left alone by the bouncers, and that an attempt to throw out a same-sex couple for acting in the same way is nothing but an act of homophobia.

A second-year English Literature student, who also wished to remain anonymous, hoped that the students affected are getting support from those around them.

"I also hope this will be thoroughly investigated and that the staff responsible will be held to account," the student added.

"Everyone should be able to enjoy their night out without fear of bigotry."

The *Boar* has contacted Neon about the incident but has yet to receive a response.

Lily Pickard

The owner of Smack and Neon is soon to own the only other club in Leamington Spa, Rio's.

Rio's owner, Chris Donnachie, is retiring after 32 years of running the club, telling the *Leamington Observer*: "It's been an incredible ride."

This has led to Steve Smith taking control as of November 14, giving him ownership of all three clubs in Leamington Spa – as well as bars Moo and Duke.

This means Smith will have dominance over the club scene in Leamington Spa, alongside owning two of the most popular bars for students and locals alike.

Warwick students have given mixed reaction to the news.

Chris Poon, a second-year English Literature student, expressed concern: "A monopoly could lead to a drop in competition, and with that, standard of service – you don't have to try hard to provide a good service if the only other competition is yourself."

"Another clone"

Second-year English Literature student, Charlotte Newbury commented: "Unless Rio's is going to be a variation from Smack and Neon, I don't really see the point."

"Neither are good and another clone of them will just be annoying and limit the already minimal

amount of places to go out."

Jack Prevezer, a self-confessed Smack addict, reacted more positively to the news: "Smack is the best place on the planet!"

"You don't have to provide good service if the only competition is yourself"

Chris Poon, second-year student

"If Rio's is going to be like Smack now, I will be there every night getting my groove on."

The clubs in question did not respond immediately to the *Boar*'s request for comment.

Images: Connor O'Shea / The Boar

Night bus fever: Stagecoach will take you home

Lily Pickard

Following a meeting with the Students' Union (SU), the bus company Stagecoach has agreed to provide buses to and from campus for nights out.

Stagecoach has agreed that if a club or society is hosting an event in Leamington Spa with more than 40 people, they will be able to arrange for an extra bus to be put on. There will be no extra cost for this service.

Regional director for Stagecoach, Steve Burd, also promised

earlier this week that there would be extra buses – in the morning, evening and at peak times – to tackle the issue of students missing lectures and paid work.

Luke Pilot, Welfare & Campaigns Officer at the SU, said: "The lack of buses at peak times is an ongoing issue, but this 'new agreement' should go some way to mitigating issues with overcrowded platforms and should alleviate some pressures while a new plan is formed."

He added: "In terms of plans moving forward, we are still collecting complaints about late buses

via our bus complaints form on the SU website, which can be used to report issues with any bus company or service that our students use to travel".

The SU plans to meet with Chris White MP later this month where buses will be highlighted as a key agenda item.

If any society execs are interested in taking up this offer, they should contact Richard Hands (Richard.Hands@stagecoachbus.com) at least a week in advance and let them know how many people to expect and at what time they will need the service.



Is Warwick overcrowded?

Arthi Nachiappan

Following complaints from students about the capacity of Warwick library in term one alone, the *Boar* investigated whether the University is using its facilities to best accommodate its excess of 23,000 thousand students.

Almost 70% full

In terms one and two, the library is between 30 and 70% full on the typical weekday, but this rises to between 70% and just under 100% in term 3, according to comments made by Warwick's Communications Manager, Alex Buxton, in an interview with the *Boar*.

Lectures for a number of modules are scheduled in rooms that are too small to accommodate all of the students enrolled on them, includ-

"It's my department, my degree and I can't even get a seat in my own lecture."

John Butler, second-year student

ing core Economics modules *Econometrics* and *Mathematics B*.

Information for many other departments was not available online, however, students have commented that in lectures for other subjects students have had to sit on the stairs of crowded lecture theatres.

Lecture "overflow"

Second-year Physics student John Butler told the *Boar*: "If you don't arrive five minutes early, you'll be sat on the steps for certain Physics core modules like *Classical Mechanics* and *Special Relativity* in first year. They are taken by students

from other subjects as well.

"It's my department, my degree and I can't even get a seat in my own lecture."

When asked how many modules are timetabled into rooms with a smaller capacity than the number of people taking the module, with reference to Classics and Ancient History module, *Roman Economy*, Mr Buxton commented that due to "last minute increased popularity" the room initially booked for the module was "insufficient". Following the *Boar*'s enquiry, lectures for this module were changed to a larger room.

Mr Buxton continued: "Rooms are always allocated according to the number

of students registered on that module and availability."

However, core modules *Econometrics* and *Mathematics B* are timetabled into rooms that are between 40-68 spaces too small for the number of students enrolled, and tend to livestream lectures in overflow rooms.

Feedback "important"

Mr Buxton continued: "Departments are always happy to discuss any issue with students who can raise them through their SSLCs, heads and deputy heads of department, personal or module tutors."

"Feedback from students is important to ensure that everyone receives the best possible educational experience this includes room capacity."

More information to follow on the *Boar*'s investigation into overcrowding at Warwick.

Image: Selina Jane Spencer / The Boar

Student stories from around the globe

Ana Clara Paniago reports on news affecting students and young people across the world

USA Racial tensions escalate at Yale

Students at Yale University protested this week against racial discrimination they face from the institution and administration.

All students received an email from the Intercultural Affairs Committee just before Halloween. The email emphasised how some costumes should not be worn due to cultural appropriation.

They wanted the students to avoid: "feathered headdresses, turbans, wearing 'war paint' or modifying skin tone or wearing blackface or redface."

However, a lecturer, Erika Christakis responded to this email outlining why the University should not be concerned with

what students do. She instead encouraged everyone to dress up as they want as this is free speech, even if it may offend someone else.

In response to this, an open letter was created to inform the rest of the student body how Yale treats students of colour. Ryan Wilson, responsible for the letter, wrote: "This is us asking for basic respect of our cultures and our livelihoods."

Yale has had its share of racial tensions in past months. On Halloween night, a girl claims to have been turned away from a party as it was said to be "white girls only".

This all boiled down to a March of Resilience on November 9.

Myanmar Student protests all over

The country held its first free elections for more than 50 years this week. In 2011, the country ended military rule and has since tried to establish a democracy.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi won her seat with her party, National League of Democracy, taking 90%. A president will be chosen next year.

However, a few days before the voting, a student leader was arrested for his protest back in March.

On March 10 Lin Htet Naing had marched the streets of Yangon and called for education reforms.

The police issued a warrant against him

that day; he can now face up to six years and six months of imprisonment. His wife was also arrested for helping over 300 students take part in the protest.

There have been protests against the government's treatment of political prisoners, with a hunger strike organised by students.

Many of them had to be admitted to a nearby hospital after more than a week of fasting - force feeding with enforced.

These were the same students that were detained in March for a peaceful demonstration against education reforms. Their next hearing in court is scheduled for 17 November.



'Bye-bye accountability'

The Government has released a 'green paper' proposing serious reforms to Higher Education

» Jo Johnson, who announced the proposal to increase fees. Image: Henrimatisse / Wikimedia Commons

Alex Ball
Joe Lester

The Government has released a consultation document on the future of higher education in the UK.

The document, named the 'Higher Education Green Paper', suggests a variety of significant changes, including, noticeably, the possibility of removing universities from the Freedom of Information Act 2000 introduced by the Labour government under Tony Blair.

line with inflation, if they can prove that they provide a high quality standard of teaching, universities minister Jo Johnson has proposed.

The plans were originally announced in July in chancellor George Osborne's budget speech, and were announced in by Johnson in the same week students protested against tuition fees in London.

The proposals, made by mayor of London Boris Johnson's brother, also suggest a new Office for Students to guarantee value for money for students.

Further proposals include easi-

universities as second class, and damage the life chances of students who go to them."

National Union of Students (NUS) president Megan Dunn said it was "reassuring to see the government putting access to education at the heart of their proposals", according to the BBC.

But she also added the SU was "adamant that the Teaching Excellence Framework should not be linked to an increase in fees".

Second-year German and Business student Owain Mier said: "It's horrific! [The] insistence on commodifying education undermines everyone's basic human rights!"

"It only serves to benefit the rich and further perpetuate class separation and the status quo. Education is a right, not a privilege."

Ciara Lawrence, a second-year German and History student, added: "I think that if they keep raising tuition fees in the UK they're going to lose out on students in the long run because people will just go to the countries in Europe where uni is free, like Germany."

Johnson has been contacted for comment and the *Boar* is awaiting a reply.

'Rise in fees'

The paper included a range of other propositions:

The Higher Education Funding Council for England (Hefce) and the Office for Fair Access (Offa)

would merge to become the Office for Students (OfS).

Rises in fees could be imposed by the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills without the vote in parliament and secondary legislation that are currently required.

Mr Hindhaugh said: "The universities minister [...] has refused to rule out raising the cap above inflation. The Government wants to make it easier to raise fees, and take away any scrutiny in doing so. So much for "accountability!"

"This is an ideological attack on SUs as a force for positive change."

Charlie Hindhaugh

Institutions will also be able to apply for higher awards that will create the possibility of variable fees. Second-year Politics student Khadar Jama said: "One good thing to come from this is that it will create increased competition."

According to *Times Higher Education*: "success at higher levels of the TEF would also be linked to meeting targets on helping students from disadvantaged backgrounds." Mr Hindhaugh criticised this move in a blog on the Warwick SU website, saying "teaching 'excellence' will now be defined by what

businesses and the market wants - not by what is beneficial for students or academics. Our professors and seminar tutors will be forced to focus on an increasingly narrow range of performance indicators, rather than spending time creating an environment that challenges us and expands our minds."

The paper commits to the continuation of distribution funding on the basis of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) - in other words, on the basis of the quality of the University's research - as well as changing the metrics of the REF itself.

It proposes that it should be easier to set up universities, with new providers being given "quicker access to student funding" and "no cap on student numbers".

They also want to scrap the requirement for higher education providers to have a certain number of students in order to become a university, and to make it easier for institutions to obtain the power to award degrees.

The paper suggests methods for dealing with 'student protection' in the event of a university failing. Mr Hindhaugh said: "The paper includes provisions for institutions to 'leave' the market... [and] creating a framework where the Government is expecting to allow universities to fail, to the detriment of the students and the staff that work there. So much for education being a 'public good'."

"It undermines everyone's basic human rights! It only serves to benefit the rich."

Owain Mier, second-year student

This suggestion is intended to put universities on par with private providers.

However, education officer at Warwick Students' Union (SU) Charlie Hindhaugh wrote in a blog on the issue: "No longer will we be able to find out where our money is going or hold universities to account on these decisions... bye-bye accountability!"

Universities in England will also be able to increase tuition fees in

er-to-open new universities, targets to recruit more disadvantaged and ethnic minority students and degrees with point scores as well as grades.

Johnson's plans have come under attack from Labour's shadow universities minister Gordon Marsden, who said the proposals were a "Trojan Horse for raising fees".

Mr Marsden also expressed concern that this would create a "two-tier system, that could brand some

the n-word too many times to count."

Students have retaliated against a lack of action by the university on Monday the 9th of November. They have also called for a change in curriculum.

The protesters have named themselves "Concerned Student 1950" as that was the year the university first admitted black students.

The players for the university's American Football team refused to practice or take part in a game until the president had resigned, and others

President Wolfe has now resigned. Yik Yak have also spoken out against the inappropriate use of their app.

USA Yik Yak death threats

Yik Yak is a social media app that allows students at any university to post their thoughts anonymously. At the University of Missouri, this has become a platform for hatred.

One of the posts said: "I'm going to stand my ground tomorrow and shoot every black person I see." A 19-year-old has since been arrested for making threats on the social media app.

This came after a number of other incidents at Missouri. For instance, a swastika was drawn with human faeces in a resident hall.

A professor at the Missouri School of Journalism has said: "I have been called

Brazil School reforms in São Paulo

At least three state schools have taken part in a protest this week following the government's new plan to reorganise the state system. This was released last month by the Secretary of State for Education.

The new proposed plan will close down 94 schools in the state to give way to kindergarten and technical colleges for adults, while 754 of them will become either primary or secondary schools - not both.

Because of this, more than 310 million students will have to move, as well as almost 75 million teachers.

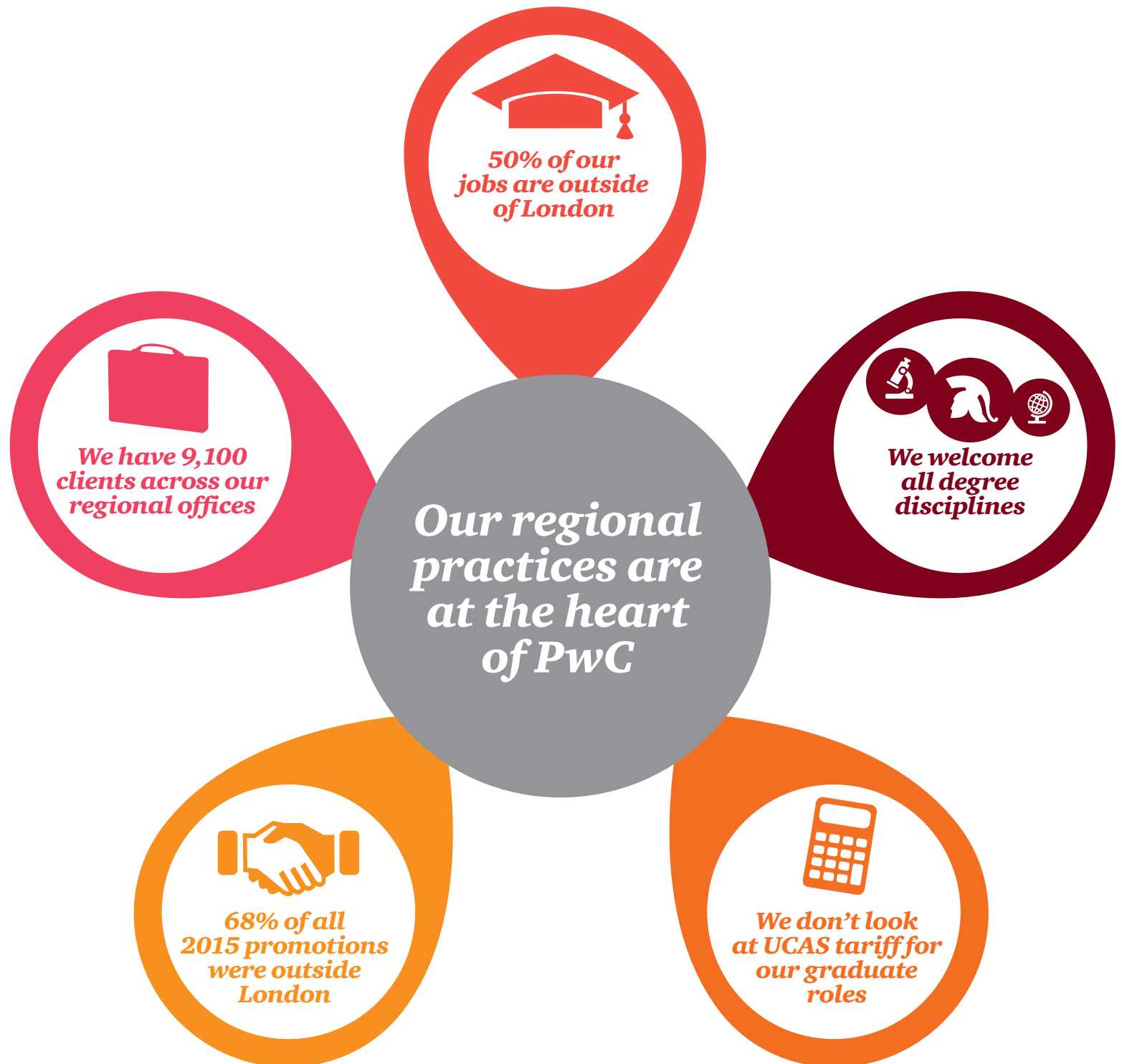
The students who took part in the

protest are between the ages of 12 and 16. Most of them slept overnight and would only leave after the bill was cancelled.

This protest has been backed up by many prominent individuals, such as the municipal secretary of human rights, Eduardo Suplicy, who was seen giving out bottles to the students.

Teachers at Escola Estadual Fernão Dias Leme even decided to give their lessons through a megaphone so the activists could hear.

Although it was meant to be a peaceful protest, a girl had to be taken to the hospital after inhaling pepper spray from a police officer.



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Warwick stands in solidarity with Paris

Chris Tobin
Connor O'Shea

Warwick students currently on a year abroad in Paris are all thought to be safe following last Friday's attacks on the French capital.

128 people have been killed in a string of attacks perpetrated by ISIS in the French capital on Friday 13 November.

The attacks were deadliest attack on France since WW2 and on Europe since the 2004 Madrid bombings, ISIS have claimed responsibility and have justified the attacks upon French intervention in Syria.

Currently, many Warwick students are studying in Paris on a year-abroad.

April Roach and Rosie Hurley, both third year English students currently studying in Paris, said they were shaken after the attacks.

Professor Seán Hand, Head of the School of Modern Languages and Cultures, released a statement

on Saturday to Warwick students in Paris. He affirmed that student safety was a top priority.

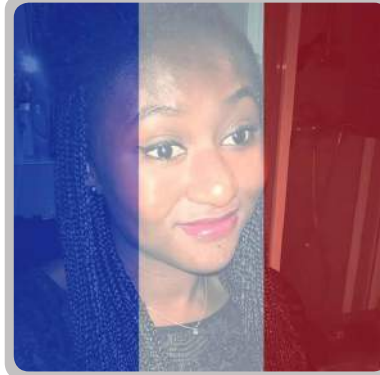
Peter Dunn, director of press and policy at the University told the *Boar*: "The University has contacted over a hundred students who were potentially affected. The School of Modern Languages and Cultures has independently emailed all their students asking them to confirm their safety."

He added that the University has been "reassured and relieved by replies indicating both that the students were safe and were often in direct touch with one another."

Warwick French Speaking Society has since responded to the attacks by holding a minute silence on the piazza at 11am on Monday.

Hundreds of students turned out to show their respects for all those who had been affected.

The gathered students stood in silence whilst members of the French speaking society lit candles and raised the French flag.



"I was babysitting for a French family just outside of Paris when I heard the news... Thankfully I was able to get home safe. All of the Warwick students are safe that I know."

April Roach



"We've heard that the country's gone into 3 days of national mourning, so I'd imagine things aren't going to be going back to normal anytime soon. It's hard to imagine how it can ever really go back to how it was before."

"I'm grateful for the network we have here of other Warwick students, everyone's been supporting each other."

Rosie Hurley

The future for women in politics?

Chiara Castrovillari

Deputy chair of UKIP Suzanne Evans and Chair of the Green Party Women's committee Sarah Cope debated the future of women in politics at a Warwick Politics Society event on Tuesday 10 November.

The debate began with a brief introduction by each party-member about their journey into politics.

The conversation then moved onto the importance of female representation in the field and how we can increase and encourage women's participation in the political arena.

The debaters disagreed on the proposal of having quotas or all-female-shortlists to ensure fair

representation in politics: Sarah Cope being for, and Suzanne Evans against.

Evans noted that these measures would take away from the guarantee of the best person being chosen for the job, and would instead force people into jobs to fill requirements.

Sarah Cope expressed her hope for the Green Party to have an equal number of women as men by 2050 from the current 36% of party members being females.

Whilst Evans retained the "playing field is levelled" regarding gender equality in UK politics, Cope made an example of the demeaning outlook towards women by mentioning David Cameron's controversial comment "Calm down dear", directed at Chief Secretary to

the Treasury, Angela Eagle, during a Commons exchange.

More specific issues such as the tampon tax and the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) were also discussed.

The consensus from both was that the classification of tampons as luxuries and their taxation must be revisited, however that action must be taken by the EU parliament.

Suzanne Evans was the first to bring FGM to the attention of UKIP, which is now the first party with a policy regarding it.

Sarah Cope instead expressed her concern about whether criminalising the practice was fair when the women undergoing it as well as the general public are not always sufficiently educated about it yet.

The chair allowed members

of the audience to ask questions throughout the debate as well as dedicating the last half hour of the event to this purpose, which Sarah Groarke, one of the moderators, said "made it so much more interesting and provoked insightful discussion."

Sarah and Suzanne proceeded to give advice to young women.

Suzanne suggested to get involved, but not from within the party at first, and to instead build a career and some valuable life experience before stepping into politics.

Sarah Cope urged young women to get involved through any basic political activity they can carry out for their party.

"It was a privilege that they took the time to take part in this debate," commented Sarah Groarke.



News Nuggets

Ana Clara Paniago

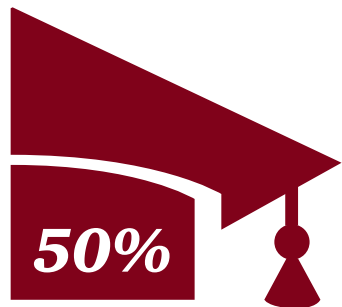
Warwick Devils, the University's cheerleaders, held a 24-hour 'stunt-a-thon' on Wednesday 11 November in the SU Atrium. More than 30 cheerleaders spent 12 hours doing continuous stunts in order to raise money for their uniforms, equipment and socials. After a whole day of stunts, they managed to raise more than £550 with 43 donors.

The University Challenge Team appeared on national television on 9 November as they battled it out for a place in the national quarter finals. The team consisted of Hugh Osborn, Emily Stevenson, Ashley Page and James Leahy. However, they lost the round against Nuffield College, Oxford, and did not make it through. The last time Warwick did this well was in 2012.

Warwick Jailbreak took place between 7 and 8 November this year. This year, more than 110 students took part, and the winners made it to Rome, Italy. Warwick Jailbreak has raised more than £10,000 in participation fees alone. They are doing this to support Worldwide Cancer Research.

Iraq War veteran wins Warwick Prize for Writing for his novel "Redeployment". This year's theme was "Instinct" and the prize was awarded to Phil Klay, a 32-year-old ex-military man. He has also won the National Book Award and was placed in the New York Times' list of Ten Best Books of 2014. The award is given out every two years and is accompanied by £25,000 and a chance to take up a placement here at Warwick.

Warwick For Free Education joined the picket line at Warwickshire College to fight for fair pay in the region. The college, in Royal Leamington Spa, was facing threats of having their budget cut along with other institutes of Further Education in the UK. This strike was hosted by the National Campaign against Fees and Cuts along with the University College Union here at Warwick. Warwick students attended the protest to show their solidarity with the cause.



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‘Tory Cu*ts’ Warwick SU march in protest with political banners



Arthi Nachiappan

Warwick Students' Union's elected sabbatical officers joined a delegation of Warwick students to join the national demonstration for free education, held in London on November 4.

In advance of the demonstration, the Student's Union (SU) subsidised materials used to prepare placards and banners for the protest.

Slogans displayed on Warwick's

placards included "Tory Cu*ts", "Eton Mess" and "Scrap trident, not grants".

As a charity, the SU is permitted to engage in political activity that supports its purpose as a charity, according to Charity Law.

Warwick SU lists in its policies that it stands for free education, which includes no tuition fees for any students, and living grants for all, paid by taxation based on income.

However, sabbatical officers, employed by the SU, must ensure that

any involvement they have with political parties in their capacity as SU officers is impartial if it does not relate directly to the SU's purpose and listed goals. The officers are not legally allowed to give support or to oppose any politician or party when acting in their capacity as Warwick SU representatives.

SU education officer Charlie Hindhaugh told the *Boar*: "Transport and demo materials were partly subsidised by the SU - how individual members chose to use these materials was entirely a matter of

choice as free participants.

"The funds came from the pre-existing Sabbatical Officers' Campaigns budget, which is allocated for key events such as this."

He added: "The students who attended the demonstration were from a wide variety of political views, representing many different political parties and persuasions."

When asked whether the sabbatical officers were paid for the day they attended the free education demonstration, Mr Hindhaugh suggested that they were:

"Sabbatical officers attended the National Demo as part of their regular duties as elected representatives from the SU, and because the measures being protested are of clear concern to our members."

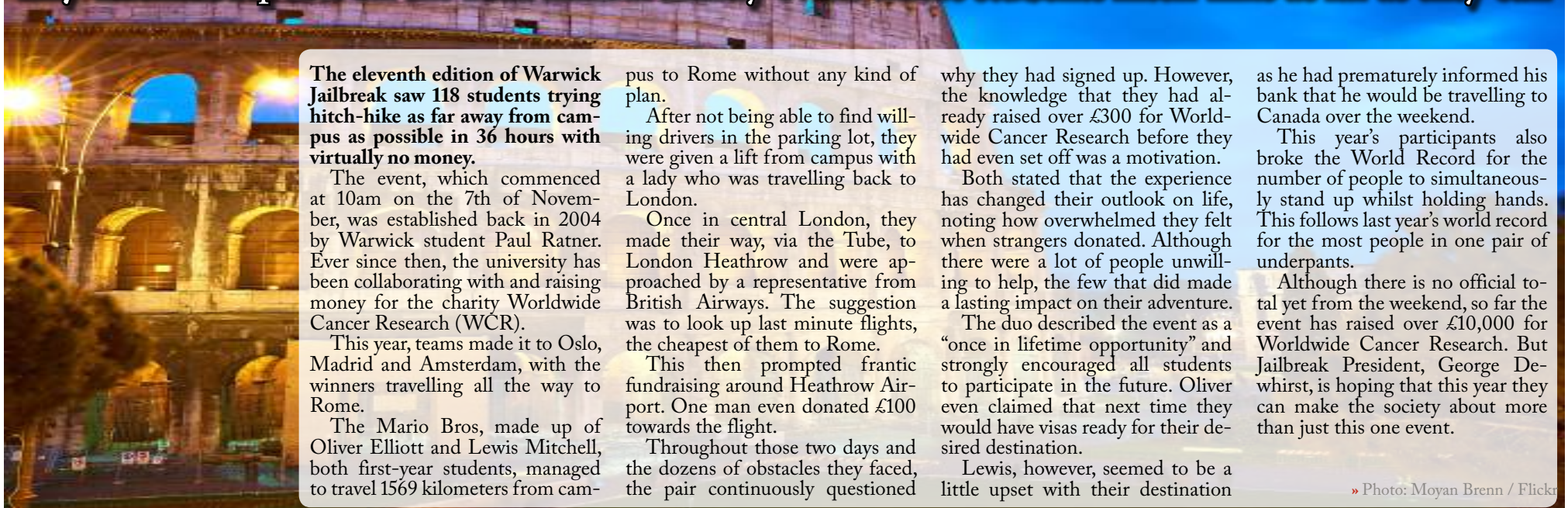
"Supporting campaigns against tuition fees were also pledges in several of the officers' manifestos."

Mr Hindhaugh did not respond when asked how many hours of the officers' paid time was used to prepare for the demonstration.

» Image: Charlie Hindhaugh / Twitter

Jailbreak 2015: all roads lead to Rome

Lily Thomas reports on the 11th annual charity event where students hitch-hike as far as they can



The eleventh edition of Warwick Jailbreak saw 118 students trying hitch-hike as far away from campus as possible in 36 hours with virtually no money.

The event, which commenced at 10am on the 7th of November, was established back in 2004 by Warwick student Paul Ratner. Ever since then, the university has been collaborating with and raising money for the charity Worldwide Cancer Research (WCR).

This year, teams made it to Oslo, Madrid and Amsterdam, with the winners travelling all the way to Rome.

The Mario Bros, made up of Oliver Elliott and Lewis Mitchell, both first-year students, managed to travel 1569 kilometers from cam-

pus to Rome without any kind of plan.

After not being able to find willing drivers in the parking lot, they were given a lift from campus with a lady who was travelling back to London.

Once in central London, they made their way, via the Tube, to London Heathrow and were approached by a representative from British Airways. The suggestion was to look up last minute flights, the cheapest of them to Rome.

This then prompted frantic fundraising around Heathrow Airport. One man even donated £100 towards the flight.

Throughout those two days and the dozens of obstacles they faced, the pair continuously questioned

why they had signed up. However, the knowledge that they had already raised over £300 for Worldwide Cancer Research before they had even set off was a motivation.

Both stated that the experience has changed their outlook on life, noting how overwhelmed they felt when strangers donated. Although there were a lot of people unwilling to help, the few that did made a lasting impact on their adventure.

The duo described the event as a "once in lifetime opportunity" and strongly encouraged all students to participate in the future. Oliver even claimed that next time they would have visas ready for their desired destination.

Lewis, however, seemed to be a little upset with their destination

as he had prematurely informed his bank that he would be travelling to Canada over the weekend.

This year's participants also broke the World Record for the number of people to simultaneously stand up whilst holding hands. This follows last year's world record for the most people in one pair of underpants.

Although there is no official total yet from the weekend, so far the event has raised over £10,000 for Worldwide Cancer Research. But Jailbreak President, George Dewhirst, is hoping that this year they can make the society about more than just this one event.

» Photo: Moyan Brenn / Flickr



Editors' Letters

"With us, you are never alone"



Jacob Mier
Deputy Editor-in-Chief

If you circle a lot and get q-jumps days in advance every week with everyone else in your lively flat, you're probably having a pretty good time at Warwick. You can probably surround yourself with people who tolerate and understand you 24 hours a day if you want to.

This means you can get over disappointment assignment marks with Nando's trips and movie nights, and risk offending most people you don't know, thanks to the safety net of external validation your group of friends provides you with. You're in a lucky position.

But if you never really enjoyed the vibe at circling, felt intimidated to talk openly with people you don't have much in common with, and - for whatever reason - failed to find your feet as a fresher, the likelihood is that your bad marks will piss you off significantly more. Having no-one to go on comforting Nando's trips with leaves you exposed to the risks and dangers of reclusion and desperate action.

For some it's Netflix, for others its drugs, but everyone in this position has their own mechanism for coping and escaping, the abuse of which can plunge them at any time into a vicious cycle of destructive behaviour.

It's not something that Warwick boasts about in its prospectus, but - in light of a recent *VICE* article of student suicide rates which singled out Warwick's worrying statistics - I think it's worth highlighting how difficult the campus mentality can make it

at times to feel normal about being yourself.

I have made profound connections with people here and had some of the best times of my life, but there was a long time when it felt like that scenario would never be my reality. I have a number of friends who have, at some point in their time here, endured a similar period of disaffection. And I know that there are hundreds of people here - people that queue behind me in Costcutter, sell me my ticket at the student cinema, sit opposite me in the library - that, visible but anonymous to others, are suffering in silence.

We anxious depressives may not announce our presence on campus as loudly as the sports teams, or make big news with our fundraising endeavours, but we are here, and we're just as much a part of Warwick's student culture as anyone else studying here is. During my time on this exec, I hope *The Boar* can - beyond its functions as a source of news and views - continue to provide students with a judgment-free space for expression.

It's the articles which detail personal experience that I gain the most from reading; when you feel like an outsider, there is nothing better than learning you're not alone. With so many forces at work telling us what to do and how to be, we need to take every opportunity we can to have our own voice. So I'm taking this as an opportunity to remind you: someone understands you, and you are never alone.

"Charity should be personal"



Alistair Jones
Games Editor

Last Wednesday, like last year and the year before, I was stood on the piazza with a poppy attached to my lapel. A handful of people were there, both staff and students, representing only a tiny fraction of the university's population. And that's fine.

Armistice Day is something I choose to observe. Partly, if I'm honest, that's probably because of where I went to school; my middle-of-the-road public school, like many others, makes a point of commemorating those that perished in the first and second world wars. Mostly, however, it's something I observe because I want to, and because I think it's important.

But despite that, my beliefs shouldn't apply to anyone else. Like any show of support for any charity, my support for The Poppy Appeal is personal. In the same way, my mum likes cats, so she gives to Cats Protection from time to time.

In the past, my friends have been involved with Movember and Live Below the Line, so I've given to those campaigns because of my own personal desire to do so. The Poppy Appeal is something I want to show some support for, so once a year I hand over some loose change in return for a symbol of that support.

However, that doesn't give me, or anyone else who wears a poppy, the right to lambast those who choose not to. The Poppy Appeal has become a weird phenomenon that some people seem to think everyone should be involved in, when in

reality, there are more 'important', more inclusive causes out there; UNICEF, Save the Children, or WaterAid, to name a few.

Every year, a handful of public figures choose not to wear a poppy in the run up to 11th November, and every year this makes headlines, closely followed by torrents of abuse directed at those people. There are various reasons for their decisions, from solidarity with the victims of overseas conflicts, to not wanting to prioritise any one charity over another.

Whatever the case, there's no reason why an individual's decision not to show support for a particular charity should be seen as actively disrespectful towards those who that charity represents, nor should it open them up to a torrent of abuse from those who do.

I don't wear a Macmillian Daffodil or a Help for Heroes wristband, but that doesn't mean I hate cancer sufferers or wounded soldiers.

As long as you've done your research, and you have some idea of where your money's going, giving to any charity is an inherently good thing. But getting bogged down in who supports what, and how they choose to do that, undermines the positive message of giving in the first place.



Do you think that people should wear poppies?
Comment online:
theboar.org/comment

Reader's response: To Beccy Willmet's "Oh, so you are going into teaching?"

Here at Warwick, the Careers service is often hated by Humanities students for only seeming to serve those interested in certain industries. However, I don't believe that's the case - I've always had a great experience when working with them.

I'm the first to admit that the Autumn Careers Fair may have focused on industries that don't exactly mesh with Humanities degrees. But it's important to remember that these are the companies that recruit early and en masse. This model is rarely found outside of the business world, so it makes sense that companies who operate in this style would be found at the earlier fairs.

In fact, a brief perusal of the Warwick Careers site reveals that multiple fairs are held throughout the year, as well as a multitude of smaller events that cater to specific industry.

So it begs the question - why go to an event if you know that it won't have anything that you're interested in pursuing? It makes sense that a student interested in journalism would wait until the relevant event.

Even though students could argue that the Fair didn't help them start thinking about their future careers, I would argue that it did. After all, everyone who left unsatisfied now knows they have no interest in the careers featured at the Autumn Fair.

It's important not to discount and refuse all help in the future because of this, as it will likely



lead to an unfulfilling and menial job in the future.

But Careers aren't entirely free of blame - to find out who was attending, I had to specifically find the company list, which many freshers won't do. They're much more likely to simply click attending in the hope of moving away from the nebulous and vague ideas

toward a concrete career choice. To avoid disappointment and make sure the spaces being booked in were only for those who had a genuine interest.

But all this is a drop in the ocean - the truth is, Humanities students do have it hard. Many of the industries that we traditionally move into are dying or shrinking, and they

simply don't have the resources to advertise themselves in the same way. And while they shrink, the growing number of graduates doesn't help. Added to this is the financial aspect - you'll never earn astronomical amounts, while banking and business can rake in piles of cash.

The gist of all this seems to be that to have a successful career in the current economic climate, you need to be searching every day until you find something that fits. And the Careers service can help - the advisers work with you personally to help you find interviews in industries that genuinely interest you. The big fairs might be filled with big corporations, but what were you expecting? This is Warwick, and they're never going to change that much.

Nick Buxey



Cartoon Corner



» “Road safety on campus” Cartoon by Reem Elwali

Free education: Coaching the SU on bias

Danielle Taylor questions whether Warwick's SU is really as neutral as they profess to be

On Wednesday 4 November, coaches stormed onto campus, picking up students to take them to an anti-education cuts protest in London organised by Warwick for Free Education.

This event was effectively organised by Warwick's Students Union, and this meant that the event was made widely available to all students at the University thanks to the cheap and affordable transport offered, as well as the fact that it was advertised on the SU's own website.

It may not surprise you that when I heard this, the first question that came into my head was “Why the hell was this political movement given priority over others on campus? It has undemocratic written all over it: why aren't Warwick Labour and Warwick Conservatives also given this treatment and publicity?”

Effectively, Warwick for Free Education was given good quality and free help by the supposedly democratic SU.

I know what some readers will be thinking that all students support free education, but surprisingly, many do not – this is merely a general assumption from a stereotype. If that was the case, then why

wasn't the entire student body of Warwick University at the London demonstration?

Many students would rather prioritise the National Health Service, compulsory education and

Moreover, I find it incredibly ironic that the SU has decided to side on a political issue, considering the controversy over

Maryam Namazie



» Image: Warwick for Free Education

public services over free education at university. In an ideal world, tuition fees would not exist, but unfortunately with the current economic climate, cuts have to be made to reduce the deficit.

voice her anti-Muslim stance at the University as the SU feared it may upset Muslim students.

I assume this denial was the SU's attempt to remain neutral on the issue. However, this decision was made without any democratic initiatives taking place, and again, was based on assumptions.

The main problem is that, while banning Maryam Namazie was an attempt to remain neutral, the SU have effectively contradicted themselves as they have sided on this issue, when they should have remained neutral – what about those more conservative students that do not agree with Warwick for Free Education? I find this decision incredibly ignorant and based wholly on assumptions.

Although Nigel Thrift's last interview revealed that he thought that students are ‘massively represented’, I seriously do not believe that this is the case.

More democracy is needed on campus, especially over controversial issues – perhaps the way forward is to introduce referendums and polls. Only then can the SU be certain that their decisions are what all of the students of Warwick want.



Do you agree with Danielle?

Tweet: @BoarComment

SU Democracy: Death by giant orange hamster?

I've been at this University for four years, and in that time I've found that only three things are ever guaranteed; Humanities students will always be looked down upon, the food is always overpriced, and the SU is always incompetent.

It's a continuity that almost makes me happy. In this ever changing, almost nebulous world, the SU will always be completely inept. It's a fact that's dogged me from my first year, and one that I'll probably think about on my death bed.

I'll lay there, coughing and wheezing. I'll beckon to my children, bring them close. And I'll whisper: “why would they think that a giant orange hamster and a stupid inflatable ballot box will increase voting in an election no-one knows all the details about?”

It honestly astounds me. Apathy at Warwick is endemic, and it has been for the past few years; often, we're lucky if we meet quorum in elections. Yet this election must be an all new low for voting.

The final figure for overall voters was 2416, which is the absolute bare minimum; indeed, for one position it wasn't even that, and it remained inquorate. The reality is that these numbers, even with Wapathy (my new term for Warwick apathy), are shamefully low.

The overall number of students at Warwick is 23750. That means that just over 10% of all students were interested in these last elections. Even if we assume that some demographics of students would have been less interested in the elections (such as those who live off campus) this would still make these numbers shockingly low.

As Warwick Accommodation states, there are over 6400 rooms on campus. Surely it would have been easy to encourage those who actually live here to vote?

I live in Redfern; I barely heard anything about these elections. What do they mean? What will it change?

The sad truth is that it will just make democracy even more inaccessible for those at Warwick. Before the ‘exec’ positions were created, it was an informality that a certain group of activist students dominated the Warwick political scene, boycotting products left, right and centre. Now it's part of the SU's policies to allow those student's opinions to hold sway over everyone else's.

Warwick SU have really fucked up on this one. They've put their democracy behind yet another layer of bureaucratic process, making it less accessible, less easy to follow.

Who knew that a giant, idiotic, and slightly terrifying orange hamster would spell the end (well more so than usual) of fairness at Warwick?

Mike Wrench

May-be she'll be the next leader?

Robert Blagov tells you why Theresa May is the dark horse

Recently in the *Spectator*, James Forsyth argued that Theresa May has become “the most interesting” Tory of the day. Her hardening rhetoric on immigration sets her apart from the rest of her party, making her the one to watch in the coming referendum and the Tory Party’s consequential leadership contest.

I concur. May has long been considered a possible successor to Cameron. Although currently lagging behind Boris Johnson and George Osborne in the polls, she has both the standing and the experience required to lead her party in 2020.

The daughter of a clergyman who attended a grammar school, Theresa May is hardly a paragon of privilege, in the way that both Johnson and Osborne could be perceived as being. She has completely avoided the party-of-the-elite critique, turning down a Carlton Club membership while others muddled through Plebgate.

This makes her especially apt to succeed Cameron in the project of modernising the now firmly one-nation, compassionate Tory

Party to become truly on the side of workers.

In terms of cabinet experience, May is not lacking any. In 2002, she became the first woman chair of the Conservative Party.

She has a strong record as Home Secretary – notably her challenge to the Police Federation, and the launch of the Westminster child abuse inquiry – and is now the longest-serving person in the role for fifty years.

May is also a deft strategist and her contentious comments at this year’s conference are a testament to her political ability. By making immigration the centrepiece of her speech, she signalled that she has an alternative to offer the right.

She undoubtedly knows that 64% of people are uneasy with the current pace of immigration, and nearly half believe it is “destroying

our culture and way of life.” When she claimed that immigrants make it “impossible to build a cohesive society”, she



she would be heard all over the

political spectrum. May’s insipid populism will be swiftly recognised as a vote-winner by pragmatic conservatives.

And what of her opponents in the leadership contest? Indeed Osborne has a famously dedicated following in the Commons.

Unless he finds the long-anticipated bout of financial crisis – when it does take place – particularly difficult to spin in his favour, he will be virtually guaranteed to make it through the MPs’ selection and on to the ballot for Tory members.

But I doubt Johnson will find it as easy. Currently dubbed the most popular prospective Conservative leader in national polls, within the party, it is my impression that members see Johnson’s buffoonery increasingly as a once-endearing quality that could swiftly turn into an electoral liability.

He has nothing like May’s administrative experience. Most im-

portantly, Johnson will have little to offer frustrated Eurosceptic Tories – of whom there’ll be many after 2017 – and they will be much more likely to favour May’s hard line on immigration.

Presently, Theresa May’s chances to succeed Cameron appear slim. But, if she took the lead in the Leave campaign, she would easily secure the backing needed among MPs to make the ballot. And let’s not forget: Corbyn was no parliamentary sweetheart before his own selection.

With the rise of UKIP and a budding anti-EU sentiment among the public, Theresa May would be the Tories’ chance to let voters disillusioned with the moderate right vent their concerns.

There’s no reason to assume the Conservatives will give up their commitment to ruthless pragmatism any time soon.

But, with Theresa May in charge, it may well take on an element of conviction. Those of us in opposition should relish the change.

» Image: ukhomeoffice / Flickr



Natural disasters: Stop neglecting the communities at risk

It’s a sad fact that it doesn’t take a lot for a natural disaster to wreak havoc. We have seen this with the latest earthquake in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Already, over the course of two days, an estimate puts the death toll at around 400. Fortunately, the deep nature of the earthquake meant that tremors reached fewer people than it could have. But it’s still more than we should have lost.

Pakistan has been hit with a series of earthquakes over the last decade. Of them, the most severe was the first in 2005, claiming the lives of tens of thousands, and displacing countless more. The response was rapid. Almost six billion dollars’ worth of aid poured in, and all kinds of support was rushed to Pakistan. Many, such as UNICEF, heralded it as one of the most successful relief operations ever.

The event also brought a burst of attention on future protection from disasters. Institutional bodies were created (Earthquake Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Authority, for example) to focus on rebuilding destroyed communities with resistant infrastructure. So, has it worked?

Well, sort of. The regions that

suffered in 2005 have thankfully not been struck again, and should be ready if it does. But, because Pakistan is extraordinarily prone to earthquakes, other areas have been affected. Around 120,000 were made homeless in Quetta in 2008, and two successive earthquakes in Baluchistan in 2013 claimed over a thousand lives. Japan experienced similar disasters yet have kept deaths in the single digits. Why is Pakistan still losing so many people?

In asking this, I realised that there is a peculiar trade-off between the short and long term, making me consider something controversial: the victims of the tragedy have absorbed our attention, as they should do. But in doing so, it appears we are neglecting other communities at risk.

This is made evident through how prevention ventures revolve almost exclusively around reconstructing destroyed areas. Barely any of the earthquake projects featured efforts to educate and prepare people throughout Pakistan, and time has only made this worse.

Studies in Japan have highlighted the effectiveness of education

on creating efficient community practises during disasters. Had this been carried out throughout Pakistan, we could have, for example, saved the lives of the school-children who rushed aimlessly amid a stampede in the recent earthquake.

But, as the memories of the disaster fade, so will the emphasis on future prevention. Although uproar is once again challenging the corruption and complacency that has left so many exposed, it will fizzle in time, and communities that are yet to be affected will remain susceptible.

As such, tackling this problem may need questionable actions, such as saving some aid money for future projects, putting conditions on aid, or actively publicising personal tales of heartbreak. It is a frustratingly grim challenge to confront, but I feel it should be resolved; we keep forgetting, after so many reminders, that anyone, at any moment, can be a casualty.

Ali Jasem

» Image: Hilmi Hacaloğlu / Amerikan In Sesi



Universities must encourage free speech, not silence

It is cruelly ironic that Maryam Namazie’s talk about the restriction of free expression in Muslim countries was framed within the context of her own censorship in this country; in particular, our own university. It is no surprise, then, that she began her talk by stating: “The days when unconditional free expression were championed by universities as a cornerstone of all rights is long gone.”

Such a statement in a vacuum might be deemed hyperbolic, had it not been expressed only days after a petition was created to ban writer Germaine Greer from speaking at Cardiff University due to her ‘trans-exclusionary’ views. As in the case of Namazie’s initial ban due to her supposedly ‘inflammatory’ and ‘hate-inciting’ opinions about Islamism, the question of the limitations of free speech has become, in itself, an inflammatory issue.

The underlying narrative is one of – as Namazie called it – the “culture of offense”, whereby censorship and silence in the name of protecting the offended has now become the moral maxim for what counts as ‘good’ and ‘progressive’. While she went on to discuss this in relation to blasphemy and Islamophobia, it nonetheless registers as an equally poignant note regarding freedom of expression on campus.

Universities are historical-

ly known to be bastions of free speech, and shared spaces for exchanging different ideals. But what little remains has been sequestered under a regime of cultural hypersensitivity. Damning ‘inflammatory’ speech in case it offends any particular race, gender, sexuality or religion is an appropriation of what liberal thought actually is. In fact, the more such an expression is curtailed under the banner of “you must be nice, please!” the more we end up with completely anti-liberal Orwellian ‘doublethink’ culture.

“I personally believe we should allow anyone to speak, [even one] who is even inciting hatred,” Namazie stated. She then made the vital distinction missed by those who denounce the likes of herself and Greer, saying that a person should be barred not from inciting hatred, but inciting violence.

“If someone denies the Holocaust, then let them,” Namazie rightfully asserted. Rather than accept the code of censorship, she argued all a person or group needs to do is simply challenge and address the issue with a “better” or more factually-corroborated opinion. In order to reclaim their mantle as hosts of dynamic exchanges of free thought, universities must encourage speech, not silence, as the mode of liberal progression.

Alistair Drennan

Cultural appropriation; share or care?

Hiran Adhia and Matt Monk discuss culture, individuality and responsibility

The narrative behind cultural appropriation is often too aggressive.

I can understand why some people ignore the conversation because it affects their freedom of choice. However, that does not excuse you if you knowingly choose to wear or embrace something without the right understanding. That makes you an idiot.

Do you know what a bindi stands for? It is to remind women (and men!) that her intellect is her most beautiful feature and it resides just behind her bindi – in her mind. I think it is one of the most subtle and fundamentally empowering sentiments that Hindu culture provides. It is a mark of individuality, intelligence and understanding – not just a fashion statement.

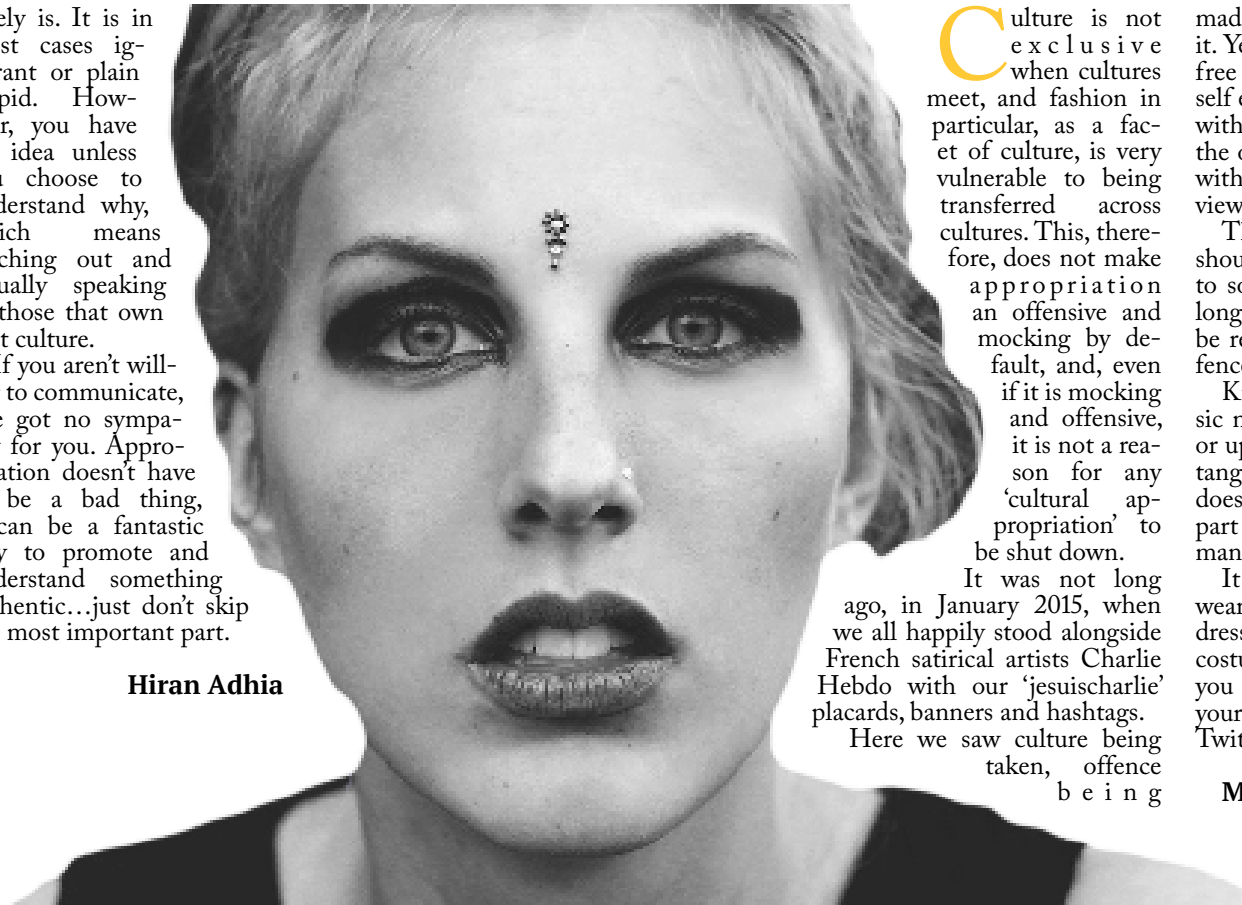
When I see people wearing bindis and other paraphernalia at festivals, I am not outraged that they are appropriating my culture. I actually feel sorry for them, because they choose to see it as a status symbol, than by understanding the meaning. If they chose to learn, then it might be different.

I am not going to claim that all appropriation is positive – it

rarely is. It is in most cases ignorant or plain stupid. However, you have no idea unless you choose to understand why, which means reaching out and actually speaking to those that own that culture.

If you aren't willing to communicate, I've got no sympathy for you. Appropriation doesn't have to be a bad thing, it can be a fantastic way to promote and understand something authentic...just don't skip the most important part.

Hiran Adhia



Culture is not exclusive when cultures meet, and fashion in particular, as a facet of culture, is very vulnerable to being transferred across cultures. This, therefore, does not make appropriation an offensive and mocking by default, and, even if it is mocking and offensive, it is not a reason for any 'cultural appropriation' to be shut down.

It was not long ago, in January 2015, when we all happily stood alongside French satirical artists Charlie Hebdo with our 'jesuischarlie' placards, banners and hashtags.

Here we saw culture being taken, offence being

made, and money being made from it. Yet, it was with rallying cries of free speech and for the freedom of self expression we stood. We stood with those making money from the offence of a culture, and stood with those who disregarded the views of some Islamic culture.

The use of aspects of culture should never be seen as exclusive to some group of people, nor belong to them. Culture should never be restricted, regardless of the offence caused.

Knowledge, religion, art or music never belongs to a skin colour or upbringing. Historical artefacts, tangible or intangible culture, doesn't belong to anyone, but are part of our collective history as humanity.

It is with that, I say, you should wear your Native American head-dress, your kilt or your befeater costume. It belongs to no one, and you should be free. I will stand by your decision to, if it's trending on Twitter or not.

Matt Monk

» Image: Tinpisa / Wikipedia Commons

Did ISIS bring down Metrojet Flight 9268?

The debate about the threat of the Islamic terrorism has been heated by the latest crash of the Russian airplane in Egypt. On 31 October an Airbus with 224 people on board, traveling from Sharm el-Sheikh International Airport to St. Petersburg, exploded above the Sinai Peninsula. The Russian Metrojet airline representatives quickly stated that the machine was in outstanding technical condition and considered the 'external factors' as the only possible cause of the catastrophe.

This is where the revelatory announcement of the Islamic state affiliates comes in. On the day of the crash, ISIS published two messages: one audio clip and one written text. Both claimed that the Islamic State organization was responsible for the plane crash. This disclosure was later supported by a video of Russian-speaking IS members,

who praised their 'Sinai brothers' for the attack.

The international community remains divided on the supposed ISIS terrorist strike. The news reports regarding the cause of the plane crash have not been consistent. On the one hand, the Egyptian investigation conducted in affiliation with the Russians, found no traces of explosive materials on victims' bodies. The doctors discovered that one fifth of the passengers were indeed badly burnt and, hence, concluded that the fire had to spark while the machine was still on track in the air. Still, they did not explain the reason for the sudden explosion.

On the other hand, American officials have announced that their satellite images showed a 'flash' appearing just before the airplane lost its track. Moreover, the US intelligence service managed to intercept

suspicious internal messages between ISIS members. Still, no one has identified the reason for the explosion yet. Consequently, the Egyptians and Russian authorities continue to doubt the terrorist attack. In contrast, David Cameron, informed mostly by the US intelligence services, has said that the machine 'may well have been brought down by an explosive device'.

It is important to realize that the final result of the investigation could have massive international consequences. Even though the terrorists affiliated with the Islamic State have already organized gun massacres, tortures or bomb attacks against foreign tourists and Western civilians, none of these actions could equal to the killing of 224 Russian citizens in the air.

The ISIS military movement has been already recognized as an international threat. Due to its in-

consistent and globalized nature, it is hard to estimate ISIS' manpower. We know, however, that their army is constantly growing. The numbers vary from 40,000 – 50,000 supporters in Iraq and Syria. Altogether, however, there could be even 200,000 ISIS supporters all around the world.

Undoubtedly, the Islamic State has a very rich terrorist network, which has managed to gain control over a vast Middle Eastern territory. Internationally, they have contributed to the spreading of the refugee crisis and, as Farah Pandith from the Harvard University noticed, they changed the "fabric of the globe, both in custom and in tradition".

Still, some critics claim that the threat might be in fact exaggerated. The Islamic state has a limited military capability and focuses on securing a caliphate. In contrast

to al-Queda, their claims are geographically specific.

The perspective would change, however, if it turned out that ISIS was indeed responsible for the plane crash. The tragedy from 31st October would be the deadliest terrorist attack against the international community since 9/11 and the Beslan school siege. If the plane crash was Islamic State's revenge for the Russian intervention in Syria, we would probably enter a new chapter of the war against terror in which al-Queda and America would no longer be the main actors.

Julia Jasińska

What do you think happened to Metrojet Flight 9268?
Comment online:
theboar.org/comment

» Image: Sergey Korovkin 84 / Wikipedia Commons

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A career in front of the camera

Krishnan Guru-Murthy on becoming one of the UK's most notable broadcasters

Cedric Conboy

Krishnan's path into presenting was, in his view, fairly lucky. It started in sixth form when he was involved in debating. After that, he entered a competition for the *Observer*, and then presented *Open to Question* for the BBC. From there he went on to do more media work before presenting *Newsround* for four years. He started working for *Channel 4* in 1998 and is the second longest serving broadcaster after Jon Snow.

"A good reporter [must have] an enquiring mind as well as a desire to make trouble and be mischievous."

One interesting question was raised by a member of the audience about whether he found it difficult to enter the industry as a newsreader of colour. Krishnan said that, at the beginning of his career, diversity was desired by media producers so it was much easier for him to be successful. He added that his

middle-class background, including going to a good school and speaking without a foreign accent, made him "palatable" for audiences and producers were excited that "he could speak, walk, talk and he's brown!"

He also acknowledged that there are still pervading issues with diversity in terms of sexuality, gender and disability in the industry and while producers feel they have achieved diversity – the reality is that this only exists within the lower levels of the business. Aside from those actually doing the presenting, behind the camera the media industry is controlled by a very narrow spectrum of people.

He went on to speak about important lessons that he had learned during his career. Krishnan considers the necessities of a good reporter to be an enquiring mind as well as a desire to make trouble and be mischievous. You also need to be fuelled by a need to tell the world things it wants to find out and it helps to wake up each morning with something to be angry about!

Another topic discussed was the evolution of the news industry over the past few years and all of the differences between now and when since he started his career.

Broadcasting has progressed to the point that you can film almost anywhere without the need for large crews and vast swathes of equipment. Now, he says, all you need is a phone and good 4G signal.

Social media has also transformed the news with Twitter and Facebook acting as fantastic resource for breaking news and sharing trending global topics. *Channel 4* puts all news on Twitter first so you need to have a good awareness and presence on social media to be effective in the news industry. However, social media has negatives too. Being in direct contact with the general public means they can also correspond with you freely which, sometimes, can become a problem, especially when he's expressed controversial views.

"Knocking the interviewee around a bit to get more interesting content is almost a necessity."

When he discussed his interview style, Krishnan admitted it is controversial, but explained that tough

questions are called for in order to break new ground during interviews. Knocking the interviewee around a bit to get more interesting content is almost a necessity.

A question was also asked about whether the media was used as a tool for political agendas. He explained that some stakeholders will ring up beforehand and ask for the stories to be reported from their side. Other times, people high up in politics will write to the editor of the programmes and try and influence content. But the way to be a good newsreader is to try to retain fairness, truth and integrity. The aim is to present a balanced overview and not be swayed otherwise. The news is an art, not a science.

The recent boom of "sausage factory" journalism has meant that often the quality of news reporting has declined. However, there are still many opportunities for young journalists to involve themselves in the business. Krishnan said there is a huge value in student journalism as a means of accessing the industry, especially with a newspaper as well connected as the *Boar*. Crucially, we need not consider ourselves as mere student journalists. We are journalists.



» Image: Shruti Dayal / The Boar

How to be a student and a CEO

Jesse Samasuwo speaks to Timothy Armoo: entrepreneur, CEO of Fanbytes and a true inspiration

"Bullshit." Second-year Timothy Armoo's words when I asked if successful entrepreneurs are just 'born with it'. He would know. At just twenty-one, Timothy has set-up set up two successful businesses which have generated hundreds of thousands in investment and revenue – enough to give his dad an early retirement.

"As CEO, his job is to be optimistic when others aren't"

"Everything can be learned" was a point he was keen to stress. But I've always thought there is a certain alchemy to setting up a business – no two success stories are ever the same; there's no application form or rulebook. The essential question of *how* bothers most into never trying. For Timothy, the answer is pretty straightforward: "Determination and focus." His answer is as simple as it is surprisingly convincing. "Determination and focus. Determination means you just keep going until we get this right." And focus, I asked,

how's that any different? "Focus is concentrating on the one thing we're going to do incredibly well."

Timothy's current venture is Fanbytes, a technology platform that connects marketers with influential online content creators. Say L'Oréal wanted to advertise a new make-up line using YouTube beauty bloggers, Fanbytes would be their go-between. Business is good. Revenue is up in the six-figures, they've got an impressive client list and have gained plenty of important media attention. But it didn't start like that. Timothy and his co-founder were pumping in thousands (of their own money) when potential clients weren't answering their calls. He recalls a dark night of the soul when he was ready to pack it all in. "One more

day. Ambrose, my business partner, said let's just give it one more day." They received just five interested responses the next day – out of *five hundred* emails. But it was enough of a whiff for them to follow the scent. They honed in on working with fashion brands and were able to expand from there.

The experience was a turning point. At the time it was just Timothy and Ambrose. Now they have employees (five) and public displays of self-doubt are no longer an option. As CEO, his job is to be optimistic when others aren't and level-headed when the hype gets a little too intoxicating. "I can't have a breaking point."

Of course, it's easier not to fall over when you have someone to lean on. 'We' is the entrepreneur's

pronoun – in most cases it's the royal we, a ploy to give off the impression of size and momentum. In Timothy's case, however, it's clearly a genuine expression of how important he and Ambrose are to each other and the business. Learning to work with others, "to get the best out of people", was a steep and

"Determination and focus. Determination means you just keep going until we get this right."

important curve.

The burden of leadership can distort relationships. For Timothy, it's important to be "unassuming" – which he is – dressed normally, happy not to talk about himself and not pretentiously bashful. "I've found that being a [successful] entrepreneur is quite humbling. It all feels surreal. Ambrose and I are two black boys from south London – we're not supposed to have all this."

His unassuming demeanour and humility are essential to maintaining his most important assets: people. "Your network is invaluable." One relationship that proved

particularly valuable was with his mentor Toby Austin. Timothy begged for a job with Toby's company during a gap year; they said no. So he just asked to keep in touch and they did. Toby offered support and advice for a few years until he eventually invested tens of thousands into Fanbytes and got a few others to do the same. Potential entrepreneurs are always interested to know where and how they can get funding. Apparently saving numbers, keeping in touch and being a nice guy go a long way.

As we are talking the hour hand creaks up to three and the minute hand falls past five, then ten until, at twenty past, I'm worried he has basically missed his lecture. "Oh I'm not going," he says. "Have you heard of the 80:20 principle?" (Vaguely.) "I focus my time and energy on the things that have the most impact. Some lectures are more worthwhile than others. I try to work smarter not harder."

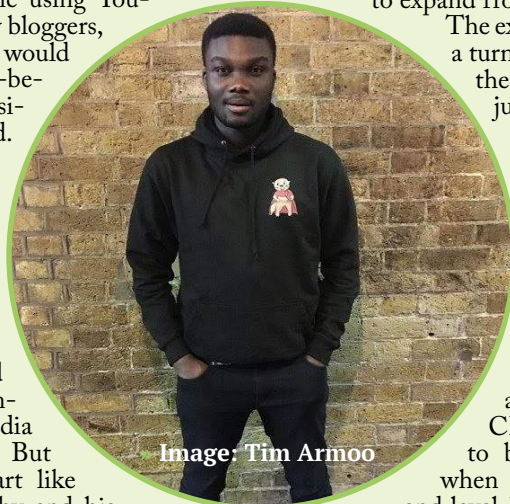


Image: Tim Armoo



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Social work: your new perfect career?

As 6% of care givers go to uni compared to 38% of all young people, **Fi Smart** asks what social work can do

Social work has been getting bad press for years. What started as a prestigious career in the early 70s, gradually received less funding, less interest, and the exhausted service lost much of its prior reputation. I saw this when talking to students at Warwick - a surprising number didn't even know what social work actually meant.

Social work is beginning to be presented as a viable and exciting career option

Put simply, social work is about working with vulnerable individuals to improve their life standards and outcomes. Yet the social work field is under huge pressure due to its high vacancy rates. Until recently, there simply has not been enough experienced, well-qualified, and suitably-skilled social workers for employers to recruit.

There's no student here who hasn't been talked at and financially enticed by E-on, Deloitte, or PwC. Even our bikes are being used to try and recruit us.

Now, social work is starting to be presented as a viable and exciting career option with graduate scheme, 'Frontline', which is recruiting our top graduates to become social workers.

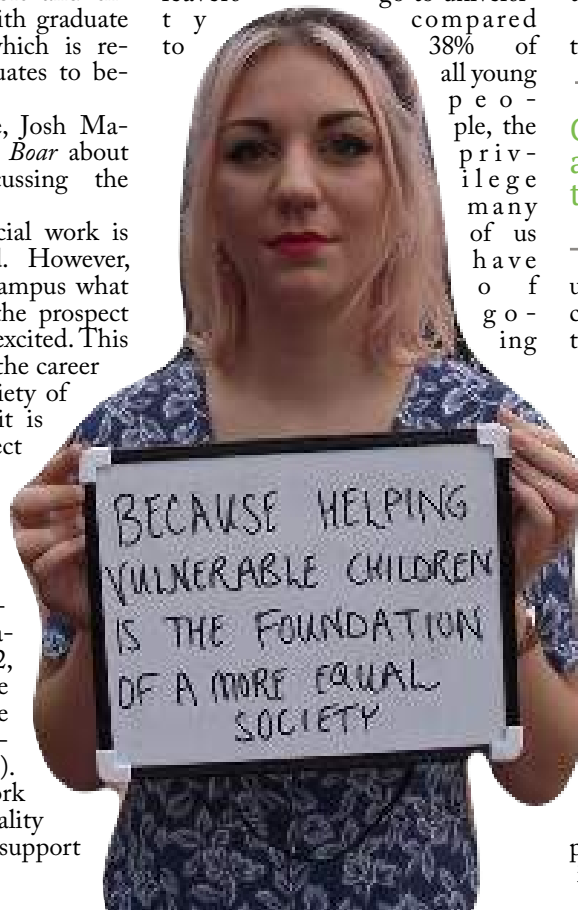
The chief executive, Josh MacAlister, talked to the *Boar* about his experiences discussing the scheme on campus:

"In careers advice, social work is not often considered. However, when we explain on campus what social work involves, the prospect of the job gets people excited. This is particularly because the career offers such a wide variety of active tasks. Overall, it is truly an exciting prospect with social purpose."

A few years ago, it was reported that children in care were twice as likely to get drawn into the criminal justice system (Nacro 2011) and, in 2012, 1,900 children in care were identified to have a substance abuse problem (UK Gov 2012).

One aim of social work now is to provide quality counselling and legal support to these children.

As mentioned, where 6% of care leavers go to university compared to 38% of all young people, the privilege many of us have of going



to University is in stark contrast to those who have been in care.

For Early Childhood Education third-year Emma Taylor, these fig-

Children in care [are] twice as likely to get drawn into the criminal justice system

ures simply aren't fair. She said: "If a child ends up in difficult and unfortunate circumstances, it's incredibly important to have social workers provide the inspiration, guidance and life-changing support they so sorely need."

For two years running, Frontline has not only entered the *Times* Top 100 Graduate Employers, but has risen 33 places in the last year to number 40. It is leading the way to make social work a viable, respectable, and valuable career choice once again.

The graduate scheme is a paid two-year course, where students earn a postgraduate in their first year and a masters in their second. It's advertised as preparing students for both a career in social work, and a career outside

of social work if they choose. A newly qualified social worker can start their career with a £27,000 salary in some areas.

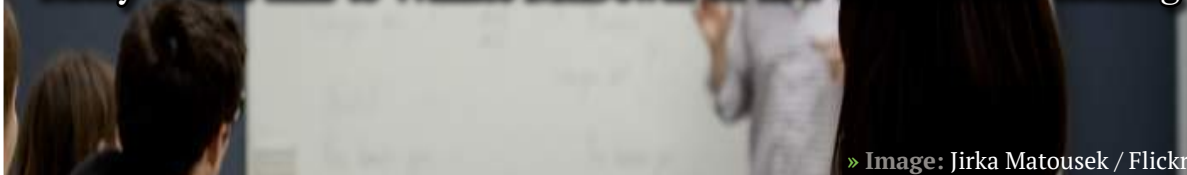
Careers also look promising if choosing to move from Frontline to fields outside of social work. Those who have been on the scheme in the past have been headhunted, or given special consideration, by the Civil Service, therapist training schemes, the NHS, and charities like NSPCC. Even big companies like Deloitte are making use of students who show courage, intelligence, and ethics in their graduate scheme choice.

Now in its third year, Frontline is pioneering social work's ambitious, but essential renovation, by recruiting Warwick students.

Want to find out more about Frontline?
Check them out here:
thefrontline.org.uk

Step inside the classroom

Molly Willis talks to Wallace McDowell on how to break into teaching



» Image: Jirka Matousek / Flickr



Senior Teaching Fellow in the Theatre and Performance Studies Department here at Warwick, Wallace McDowell's progression from an arts professional to an academic and professor of his own design has been anything but conventional.

Before doing a part-time MA at DeMontfort University, he spent twenty years as a production manager and lighting designer with some of the most ground-breaking theatre companies working at the height of Thatcherism. A

highlight of his career, he said, was travelling to the 1984 Miner's Strike as an arts professional where his company at the time performed and provided food and support.

It wasn't until he was in his 40s that his path began to change. Having followed his wife, who progressed from being an actress to an academic, he described his frus-

"The 'tramline' of doing a Bachelors' Degree, a Masters and a PhD in quick succession can limit your ability to draw on experience of the outside world"

tration at the suppression of local and home-grown talent within the theatres he worked at as well as feeling "intellectually bored". After completing his MA, he pursued a PhD at Warwick. Despite never planning on becoming a profes-

sor in any context, he was immediately presented with opportunities to teach.

Wallace has since assumed a key role in the integration of first-year students into the Theatre and Performance Studies department and has been published and quoted in many books and journals on the subject of Irish Theatre despite coming into academia at a relatively late stage.

His advice to those looking to academia as a route? Step outside the classroom. The 'tramline' of doing a Bachelors' Degree, a Masters and a PhD in quick succession can limit your ability to draw on experience of the outside world, relate to your material and become a better creative thinker. He says that his work draws more on real-life experience than anything else. It is perhaps this that sets him apart within the University and the wider study of Irish Theatre as an individual.

» Image: Wallace McDowell / University of Warwick

Break into law



» Image: Michael D Beckwith / Flickr

'Break into Law' is a programme run by the international law firm for children from underprivileged backgrounds. That is to say those who are the first in their families to go to university, among other criteria.

I spent a week with 15 people, in the very glamorous Princes Exchange, in the centre of Leeds. The top floor of these offices overlooked the entire city.

Each day's activities were differ-

"[Activities] were all aimed at widening our knowledge of the law in practice"

ent and were all aimed at increasing our knowledge of the law in practice as well as developing our own skills as potential lawyers. We were led by a wonderful woman called Kate Bowers. I remember her to this day and can only hope that I had as much of an effect on her as she had on me.

We had a tour of the offices early on in the week. My particular favourite was the intellectual property gadget room: a room full of gadgets which are waiting to be patented.

We also shadowed trainee solic-

"This week certainly changed my outlook"

itors and had mock interviews. We were given speeches from trainees and had to do an egg-drop challenge! It was a fulfilling week, completely worth giving up my February half term. It gave me an insight into the workings of large law firms and gave me a taste for going into a law career.

This week certainly changed my outlook. I would recommend it for anyone considering doing law. Or if not this one, any other way you can to get experience in the fields of your choosing. It is really worth it.

Cedric Conboy

50th Anniversary



In this edition we're showcasing a range of past *Boar* articles to celebrate 50 years of the paper being uploaded into the Warwick Digital Collections. Originally called *Giblet*, and then *Campus*, the University of Warwick students' paper has evolved throughout the years, although the content has often remained strangely similar... have a flick through a small collection of old articles we've collated here!

The Miss University of Warwick contest held at the Christmas dance on Wednesday, December 9 saw an amazing last minute entry victory.

Before the dance contestants and judges sat for an informal supper buffet. The judges were Mike Kostersaw, the university's randiest undergrad, John Birwistle, Professor Hale, Professor Zeeman, Mr. Butterworth and Mr. Kerr-Nair.

An appeal for last minute entries saw Susan Barrowelough dragged on to the floor. Biggest reaction to the contestants was to our beautiful correspondent SANDRA - who's fair looks and golden locks shocked the judges. Members of the SANDRA appreciation society could be heard from the balcony cheering for their favourite, especially Bob Otley a rabid SANDRA enthusiast.

After the contestants had been seen the judges made their decisions. Third place and the prize of 1 guinea was awarded to Sandra Heldenstein - a history undergrad. Second place and the prize of 2 guineas went to Carol Spackman - a maths undergrad. The first prize of six free driving lessons and the title of Miss University of Warwick went to Susan Barrowelough - another history undergrad. The Fantastic beauty of SANDRA, however, gained the most votes but the judges decided that she should not have the first prize for undisclosed reasons (we have some funny ideas though).

Susan Barrowelough is a 19 year old history undergrad. She comes from Shepherd's Bush, London, and went to Hammersmith County Comprehensive.

QUOTA: From the Vice-Chancellor at the buffet proceeding the dance, "Good evening, where's the drink?"

Why did Susan Barrowelough enter? "I was pushed."

» A rundown of the now sadly defunct Miss University of Warwick Contest image: Giblet, Issue 6

**OCCUPATION
U.G.M.**

WED. 4th MAY 1 p.m. AIRPORT
DISINVESTMENT:

IF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR WON'T COME
AND EXPLAIN THE UNIVERSITY'S POSITION TO
US, WE MUST TAKE THE STUDENTS' VIEWS
TO HIM IN SENATE HOUSE!

» A rundown of the now sadly defunct Miss University of Warwick Contest image: The Boar, No. 77

Dear Editor,

As a member of the Humphrey Bogart Appreciation Society I feel it is my duty to register the keen displeasure experienced by all loyal followers of this master of the screen on reading last week's Film Previews.

I can only surmise that the previews were pieced together (one can hardly describe them as written) by a collection of morons more intent on attempting to be witty than in seriously portraying the films.

BUSES

In the past two weeks of University life, a major portion of the conversation has centred round the bus services to the University in the morning.

On the Midland Red route from Coventry, students, particularly those getting on at intermediate points, such as Earlsdon, have found great difficulty in getting here, due to the buses being full. Morning lectures start at 9 a.m. yet students leaving Earlsdon at 8.30 a.m. have complained that that have not been getting to the University until 10 a.m. on some mornings.

A spokesman for Midland Red said that there are ten runs to the University between the hours of 8 and 9 a.m. An idea was placed before the traffic manager at Coventry that these buses should be more evenly spaced in the hour. Students were urged to use all the buses going past Gibbet Hill, not only the 51/etc. but also the 538 & 591 which turn down Stoneleigh Rd. at Gibbet Hill.

Students living in Cubbington and Lillington have a far worse problem. There is no adequate bus service in and out of Leamington, and there are no well timed connections with buses leaving for Gibbet Hill. However, the authorities of the University are believed to be trying to get a special bus put on.

» The more things change... image: Giblet, Issue 1

AT LAST!

It is rumoured that the bar will be open on 29th. November.

----ooo000ooo----

» (Above) Thank god for that image: Giblet, Issue 1

» (Left) Back when he was a household name image: The Boar, No. 71

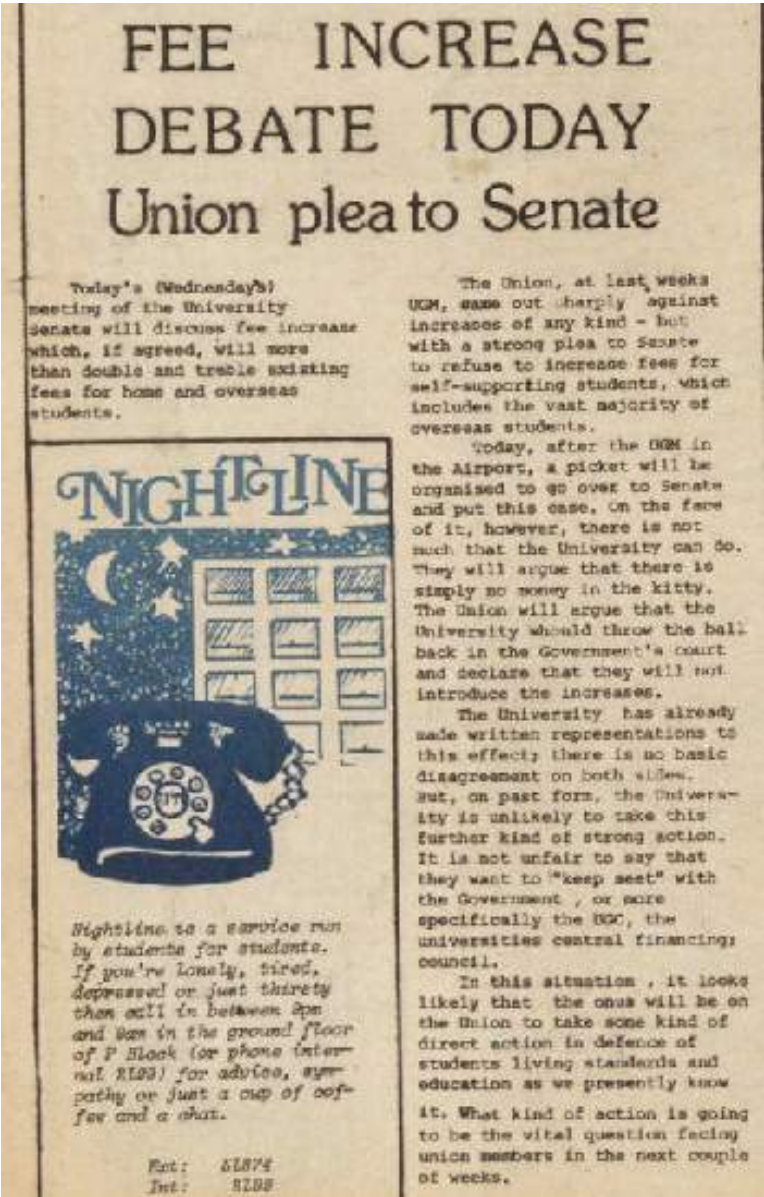


» Warwick for free education? image: Campus, No. 17



» (Above) Turns out Cryfield has always been a little bit crap image: Campus, No. 17

» (Right) No orange fluffy hamsters back in the day image: Campus, No. 3



» They just keep going up! image: The Warwick Boar, No. 70





To intervene or not to intervene

Jerzy Gut discusses what is next for the global economy



Image: Wikimedia Commons

The economy is currently slowing down, and this is a fact. UK economic growth slowed to 0.5 per cent in the third quarter. Premier Li Keqiang has set a growth target of about seven per cent for 2015, which would be the slowest annual expansion of China since 1990. Japan is officially back in mild deflation for the first time since 2013. The IMF expects Brazil to shrink by three per cent this year, and one per cent next, which means suffering two straight years of contraction since 1930-31.

Accordingly, the question is: “who exactly should tackle the issue of such worldwide importance and therefore, what sort of economic approach should be implemented?” The supporters of J. M. Keynes would probably say that government intervention in the shape of

action taken by fiscal policy and central bank is needed. In general, this means that the programme of austerity should be implemented.

But can people be certain that the idea of automatic stabilisers will really improve the economic situation? According to the article written by Buttonwood for *The Economist*, before making a statement in this case, we should answer such fundamental questions as: “Whether the recovery of the British economy in 2013 and 2014 showed that its policies worked?” “Whether the government changed course in 2012, and whether it was only this change of course that led to the recovery?”

In fact, central banks set very short-term rates in 2015 and have tried to influence long-term rates via Quantitative Easing (QE)

but the Fed and Bank of England stopped buying bonds a while ago, with no apparent impact on yields.

Also, as surprisingly Paul Krugman explains in *The New York Times*: “the ideology of austerity, which has led to unprecedented weakness in government spending, has added to the problem” of the global saving glut which, I personally believe, may be the reason for the current slowdown in the economy.

Accordingly, on the other side of the idea how to recover from the economic recession is the Hayekian belief that “markets are highly organic and any interference with the spontaneous order of free market would distort their efficient operation”.

However, “stagflation of the sort Brazil is experiencing presents cen-

tral bankers with a dilemma between raising interest rates to quell inflation might push the economy deeper into recession and lowering them to foster growth might send inflation spiralling out of control”, as one of the writers of *The Economist* states. Still, some countries are not afraid to give private institutions more freedom in order to overcome the current slowdown.

Probably the best current example of such an approach is China which exerts a huge influence not only upon the economy of Japan, but also the world. Accordingly, the country has been slowly liberalising rates for well over a decade. Trying to fight with economic recession, “it allowed banks to set lending rates above its benchmark and it eliminated the floor on lending rates

too. In recent years, it even started raising the ceiling on deposit rates.” Nevertheless, such liberal actions did not prevent the country from its economic slowdown.

Hence, as one may conclude, the real life examples do not provide a simple question whether more or less governmental interference is needed in order to stabilise economy and therefore, recover from the economic slowdown. “To interfere or not to interfere: that is the economic question” which is still a valid question that many will ask.



Do you think QE has been successful?
Tweet: @BoarFinance

Regaining a majority in Turkey: the AK

Only five months after the last election, and with polls predicting a repeat of last June’s hung parliament, Recep Tayyip Erdogan achieved the impossible: his party, the ruling Islamic Conservative Justice and Development (AK), regained its outright majority in Turkey’s latest legislative election.

Elected as president in 2014, Mr. Erdogan was seemingly not satisfied with last June’s outcome; it was the first time since 2002 that his party lost the absolute majority and was forced to enter coalition, a prospect the president was not willing to accept, subsequently calling for a new election with the stated aim of modifying the Constitution. However, obtaining 49% of the total casted votes and 320 of the 550 seats in the Turkish Parliament, Erdogan will not be entitled to hold a referendum on constitutional change aimed at granting him an executive presidency, and thus renouncing to the current par-

liamentary system. Falling short of the 400 necessary seats to do so, the opposition, fiercely opposed to such a radical change, will indeed be delighted.

What’s more, with the Kurds and Turks becoming evermore divided since Erdogan’s decision to bomb both the Islamic State and radical Kurdish militants in its fierce campaign on terror, tensions have been particularly high between both groups.

M. Erdogan’s significant personal victory also will have important consequences. Resolving the Kurdish question will be far from easy, especially with the ongoing fighting going on in the South-East. As Erdogan is committed to fighting the Kurdish rebels, both in Turkey and Iraq, negotiations are highly unlikely to resume with the PKK, the left-leaning Kurdish nationalist organisation. Additionally, the prospects of the Kurdish conflict are gloomy, as their rebel forces will become more likely to priori-

tise armed conflict above peaceful political outcomes. Likewise, Erdogan will struggle to appease the conflicting relationship he has developed with Western leaders since bombing rebel Kurdish forces. Indeed, the Kurds are the American-led coalition’s principle ally on the ground, but this alliance is disturbing the Turkish foreign policy strategists, whose main fear is the creation of an autonomous Kurdish region, which is otherwise known as Kurdistan.

What’s more, the election result will have heavy consequences upon the development of the Syrian crisis, with Turkey increasingly becoming a key player as a result of the large flows of refugees. Indeed, Turkey, a member of NATO, will now find itself in a commanding position when negotiating with European partners upon the issue, and will strengthen its influence with regards to potential adhesion to the European Union.

Louis Maret



Image: Stemoc / Wikimedia Commons

Gaming and the economy

Boar Finance explores the extent of gaming's effect on the economy

Let's not beat around the bush, gaming is massive, not just with regards to the sheer volume of avid gamers out there, but also its contribution to the United Kingdom's economy.

Last year, a detailed report was conducted by the British Film Industry (BFI) which examined the extent of all 'screen sectors' (Film, TV and Games) on the economy. It concluded that £1.43 billion was contributed extra to the economy, thanks in part to retail aspects and merchandising (£61.5 million) but mainly Development and Multiplier effects, with net contributions of just over £1.2 billion.

With just over 12,000 direct employees in the industry, it contributes massively to direct employment, with skills ranging from

marketers, to developers and programmers. What's more is that the business is massively lucrative, with the average GVA per employee in the industry at around £68,000.

Dr Jo Twist, CEO of UKIE (UK Interactive Entertainment) commented: "The games sector clearly makes a significant cultural and economic contribution to the UK". According to the report conducted by UKIE, 33% (greater than £800 million) of consumer spending on video games is attributed to digital and online games with a further 18% (greater than £400 million) spent on mobile phones on apps.

It is hard to analyse the multiplier and spill over effects in great depth due to the sheer volume of gaming merchandise, associated films and music. However, with estimates of

just over £600 million, it is expected to be quite considerable to UK employment ratings and GDP.

UKIE has examined the games industry globally, concluding that in 2018, it is expected to be worth just over \$113 billion, with compound growth rates of 8%.

At Warwick, we are gifted to have so many societies that are dedicated to gaming and the spill over from gaming. From **Warwick Game Design**, to **Science Fiction, Fantasy, Games and Role Playing**, there is surely a society for everyone who is interested in gaming.

In Leamington Spa, the 'Silicon Spa' group boasts over 35 game developing companies that contribute greatly to the local economy and the national economy. For example, games such as *Fluid Football* - developed by Fluid Games - has claimed over six million downloads.

Next year, as well as the end of this year, is set to be even more promising than the last year for gaming, especially the wealth it will bring to the UK economy - as well as global economies.

This year saw the release of many highly anticipated titles, from *Fallout 4* (only last week) to *Star Wars Battlefront Two*. But next year is set to push the bar even higher and break gaming records globally.

With *Assassin's Creed* (AC) already knocking off key players such as *Call of Duty* in 2009, *AC: Syndicate* is set to break even

more records. Already confirmed that sales of *AC: Black Flag*, another game in the franchise, has sold over 10 million copies, amounting to well over £400 million for Ubisoft, the highly anticipated *Syndicate* is sure to break many records.

What's more is that 2016 will be the year of *No Man's Sky*. A massive open-world sandbox game that allows you to explore (stick with me here), 18 quintillion planets! If this game is anything similar to *Minecraft*, Hello Games can expect sales of just over 14 million copies for PC alone, with over 100 million users.

Finally, and one of my personal favourites, is the next in the series of *Dishonored* games. Set in an incredible steampunk-esque world, *Dishonored* is certainly one of my favourite games of all time. Next year, we see the second instalment of *Dishonored*, the imaginatively named *Dishonored 2*. Doing what they do best and sticking to what gamers love, they will be expanding the already vast game with interesting new abilities and weapons, this time with a twist. But back to the finance! *Dishonored* sold around four million copies, a greater-than-expected quantity for Bethesda studios, making it the best-selling original game in 2012. Its sequel is certainly one to watch for sales next year.

The best selling video game of all time is Tetris, with over 135 million copies sold and downloaded worldwide. In recent times, GTA V is the highest grossing game, selling over 50 million copies and, within its first 24 hours of release to the general market, had sales of over \$800 million.



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**Come and meet our Masters Team on Wednesday
25 November from 2–4pm at WBS, as part of the Warwick Postgraduate Open Day.**





Editor: Elizabeth Pugsley
lifestyle@theboar.org

How to herbivore: the vegan special

An accidental vegan, a foodie, and “a bloke” weigh up their options

Best thing? The food. The answer is obvious. When you wean all animal products out of your diet, you are forced to eat foods you’ve never tried before and to be a bit creative with your cooking, which is ultimately the most rewarding thing (when it works, that is). You find yourself throwing together the most random combination of ingredients, putting your trust in the hands of some amateur food blogger, and, after it all, you wind up feeling like a goddamn genius.

You also become so aware of your food’s nutritional content that your overall health skyrockets – if you’re organised and resourceful enough, that is. This becomes very satisfying when some idiot tries to scaremonger you about your iron/protein/vitamin levels and you shut them down with the exact nutritional content of your last meal...and of theirs. Smug and unashamed.

Worst? The options. The SU cafés are an unfortunate example of this. Late last year they stocked a surprising amount of vegan lunches – an astonishing three sandwiches, but these have all mysteriously disappeared into thin air, so grabbing lunch at the library in between seminars isn’t the most convenient option. Moreover, eating anywhere other than at home is generally quite a taxing experience, as only specialist restaurants/café’s tend to offer vegan options.

Molly Willis

» Images:
Heidi Selwood,
Alice Henneman / Flickr

You could say that my transition into veganism wasn’t exactly deliberate. Frustrated by the escalating milk thefts in my first-year Rootes kitchen, I resolved to buy milk that no dairy-fiend would think to steal: almond milk. As expected, my reserves remained intact, and non-dairy milk became a standard purchase.

Fast-forward a couple of years, and my dietary approach has evolved somewhat. After cutting out cow’s milk I began to read more widely about the benefits of a ‘plant-based, wholefoods diet’.

‘Experimentation, not restriction’ has been my approach to veganism...

‘Experimentation, not restriction’ has been my philosophy in my approach to veganism, and I’ve certainly discovered a plethora of foods, recipes and information that I just wouldn’t have encountered had I not embarked on this lifestyle.

The costs and time-pressure of vegan-cooking is often a point raised in conversation with my omnivorous friends, but my weekly food shop is rarely more than £20, and a few pulse-based batch-cooks like veggie chilli, daal and chick-pea stew on a weekend afternoon have me set up for the week. Whole grains, pulses, legumes and tinned tomatoes are my staple purchases, and not only are they cheap and delicious but they are nutritional powerhouses too.

For me, my foray into veganism has been exciting, varied and expansive: anything but limiting.

Olivia Hayes

Growing up as a vegetarian has revealed much about the general public’s perception of herbivores. I have never understood why my dietary requirement causes such a stir amongst people. Throughout school, I was the butt of a constant stream of jokes – largely jabs about a lack of testosterone and an apparent weakness.

“How do you get sufficient protein?!” yells a friend, clutching his concoction of a protein shake. “Meat is good for you!” yells another.

Of course, I gather that vegetarianism is not compatible with lad culture, and as a bloke I will always be fighting that. For whatever reason, that sub-culture perpetuates the myth that all vegetarians are either ‘recovering bacon addicts’, foaming at the mouth for their next fix from the supermarket butcher, or obnoxious food snobs who attack those who have a bit of pork in their weekly shop.

Contrary to popular belief, I do not devote my life to converting people or preaching the perks of vegetarianism. Naturally, I would love more people to embrace an ethical stance on their diet, but I’ve always maintained a live-and-let-live view. I have no problem with what others eat, provided they have no problem with what I eat either. Yet, in practice, it is always the defensive omnivore causing conflict – disturbing my hummus and scrutinising my decisions.

We need to drop the hostility towards vegetarians and the notion of an ethical diet. It’s not about moral superiority or elitism; it’s about compassion, and it’s a truly depressing state of affairs if our natural response to empathy is to attack it.

Ollie Ship

Ready, steady... soup

Delicious, vegan, and perfect to warm you up this winter – it’s Heidi Selwood’s latest recipe

It’s beginning to get dark early, and the cold weather is creeping in – but don’t let this be an excuse to resort to convenient fast food! Having a proper meal made with wholesome ingredients is essential to keeping you in tip-top condition and keeping illnesses at bay.

This recipe is your answer: the perfect heart-warming, healthy comfort food – and it’s cheap! If you aren’t a vegan, don’t fret; just swap the vegetable stock for chicken stock and add 2 sliced chicken breasts when cooking!

Serves 4

Ingredients:

- 400g sweet potato, peeled and cubed
- 200g mushrooms, chopped
- 3 red onions, sliced
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 300ml vegetable stock
- 500ml mushroom stock (if you can’t find this then use 30g dried mushrooms, and soak in 500ml hot water for 30 minutes before adding to stew.)
- 150g green or brown lentils, rinsed

- 100g spinach
- 100g peas, frozen
- 2 tsp dried parsley
- 1 tsp chilli powder
- Salt and pepper
- A glug of oil
- Rice, to serve

Optional:

- 2 chicken breasts, sliced
- Pumpkin seeds to sprinkle on top.

Method:

1. In a large saucepan, heat the oil.
2. Add the onions, garlic and chilli powder and fry for 5 minutes until the onions are soft (if using chicken – add it at this stage!)
3. Add the mushroom stock, vegetable stock, parsley, peas, sweet potatoes, mushrooms and lentils and bring the stew to boil.
4. Once it has boiled, reduce the heat to a gentle simmer for 45 minutes.
5. Add the spinach and stir until wilted.
6. Season with salt and pepper.
7. Serve with rice.
8. Take a picture and send it over to the **Lifestyle Instagram** – you might even be re-posted!

Conscientious cosmetics: how to go cruelty-free on a budget

I’m not a vegan – I’m not even a vegetarian! I simply don’t believe that animals should be subject to painful and cruel experiments for cosmetic purposes.

If going cruelty-free appeals to you, you don’t have to replace your whole toiletry collection immediately – that’s really not feasible for student budgets. Since we can’t all afford to buy everything from Lush either, here are a few student-budget friendly brand ideas!

Superdrug own brand shampoo and conditioner

I find that the tea-tree and apple set works really well for my slightly

oily hair. A brilliant thing to know is that all of Superdrug’s own brand cosmetics are certified cruelty free! This is definitely a good back up plan if you find yourself stuck for brand ideas.

Soap and Glory ‘The Daily Smooth’ moisturiser

I am in love with Soap and Glory! It’s cruelty-free, smells great, has bad puns, and cute packaging. What’s not to like? Though, the moisturiser is probably my biggest expense, with a 500ml pump costing £10, the quality is so good and a bottle lasts for months and months. For guys, Bulldog is a great cruel-

ty-free moisturising and shaving cream option!

Colab Dry Shampoo

This is available from Superdrug, at around £3.50 a can, and has been very well reviewed. It has different sub-brands depending on your hair type, and I’m planning on buying one as soon as my current can of Batiste runs out!

Barry M everything

Barry M is pretty well known for its nail varnish, but I’ve been using its liquid eyeliner, mascara, eye crayon, concealer and eyebrow pencil for the past 6 months and I love them. An added bonus: Barry M

is cheaper than almost every other high street brand, with most individual products costing under £5.

Mitchum 48-hour antiperspirant

This is a tricky one. It’s fairly difficult to find antiperspirants that are definitely cruelty-free, but Mitchum seems to be the best of the mainstream brands. Mitchum itself doesn’t test on animals. However, its parent company receives ingredients from suppliers who might.

Lush ‘Jackie Oates’ foundation

We had to have one Lush product in here! The biggest cruelty-free campaigners in the commercial

world, Lush specialises in natural, vegetarian/vegan and cruelty free cosmetics that are largely made by hand. Again, Lush tends to be on the slightly pricier side, but if there’s something worth investing in make-up-wise, it’s foundation!

Bear in mind that even if a company claims to not test on animals, their parent company, subsidiaries or suppliers might do. The only way to be sure that you’re buying cruelty free is to buy a ‘leaping bunny’ certified brand. Happy shopping!

Emily Davis



Uganda Gorilla Trek

Meet the last remaining silverback gorillas and build an awesome playground in Uganda.

This summer - join the adventure!

Find out more at our info meeting in S0.20 at 6pm, Thurs Week 9

Visit www.eastafricanplaygrounds.org/ugt or email gorilla@eastafricanplaygrounds.org

IN AID OF



Join Warwick RAG in raising awareness for mental health in aid of our chosen charity of the week, Mind. Get involved in daily night events, society workshops, charity circles, disco soup, mental health panels, and of course - deliveries, songs and a mass gnoming!



Registered Charity number 1132203

Amazon Adventure

Warwick RAG Exclusive

25th July 2016



For more details contact rag@warwicksu.com

Winter is coming, and it's time to begin searching for a house, panicking as you wonder who you're going to end up with and where you'll wind up: Leamington, Coventry or – God forbid – Kenilworth. But for me, it was a different story entirely; I always knew that I was going home.

Warwick is my local university – I come from Nuneaton, a town above Coventry that is about as far from the city as Leamington. It takes about half an hour to drive in, and just shy of two hours on the bus. My house is, rather conveniently, next to both the bus and the train station, so transport-wise, I'm fairly set.

I did briefly consider finding a house, but I just couldn't justify it. What would be the point of moving into a new house, having to pay rent, buy food and have my life dictated by the ever-temperamental buses when I could remain at home, my sole expenditure being the running of my car? Having repeated my first year, I was well aware what the bus situation in Leamington was like, and I was not eager to join it.

There are disadvantages, of course. Not being with people does get a bit lonely, and I do feel cut off from others at home – you hear people living together have some great experiences. Driving to campus is also a bit of pain (to put it mildly) and, as campus parking is



Reece Goodall tells us what it's really like to live at home through uni

minimal, I have to come in really early to ensure that I can get a space. Sure, it's done wonders for

my work ethic, but during some really long days, I have to question whether or not it is worth it.

The thing is, in my heart of hearts, I know that if I had to live with other people I would go mad.

I found being with others on-campus to be a struggle, and I couldn't think of anyone I wouldn't have an unpleasant time with in a house – at least with my family, I've carved a niche. I also get to spend time with my family at home; I've seen my granddad more this term than I did on-campus the whole of last year. Being at home also means I can carry on working, seeing my friends, going to the casino and so on – and I don't have to suffer a new place to do so.

This is, of course, an option available to few people, and I'm lucky to have such a prestigious university on my doorstep. I have certainly been glad to avoid the hassle of finding a house (and, I'm told, the accompanying dodgy landlord), and the money I've saved has been considerable. Add to that the feeling of sleeping in my own bed at the end of the day and – no matter the disadvantages – I'm happy to be living at home.

» Image: Matthias Ripp / Flickr

Tell us what you think - **tweet us @BoarLifestyle** to join the debate!



New column

The Boar needs you...
(...and we think you need us)

Welcome to the brand new agony aunt section in The Boar!

I'm Olivia and I'm currently a second-year student of Psychology here at Warwick. Initially, I really struggled being a fresher; I was homesick and having difficulty with the independence university had thrown at me.

Now, a year on, I want to try and answer some students' questions who are struggling with uni life like I did.

I've already begun pestering my flatmates for questions – to which I received useful things such as "Liv, what do I do when I want to live a fulfilling life but also have a very comfy bed?"

So, readers, please help me out and send your questions to o.j.gillard@warwick.ac.uk (it goes without saying any questions sent in will, of course, be anonymous), so I can leave my poor flatmates alone and hopefully begin to do what I started this for – helping you!

Livx

The problem with “how are you?”

International student? You might find **Julia Jasińska's** dilemma relatable

Getting used to living in a foreign country was relatively easy. Only one month after moving from Poland to England, I was no longer surprised to see my British flatmates eating baked beans for breakfast. In fact, I now keep my own can in the cupboard. Sure, I still find it surprising how often the British say “sorry”, and am constantly amazed at the positive attitude of Tesco's customer service – who would have thought that cashiers may actually be willing to engage in a nice chit-chat, instead of just mumbling a grumpy “£5.70”? All in all, English people are very friendly and it is easy for a European to fuse into the environment. Or, it would be, if it wasn't for that confusing “how are you?” greeting which gives me a mini cultural heart attack every time I hear it.

Greeting phrases are probably the first thing you get to know in a foreign language. I learned “hello”, “hi” and “how are you today?” during one of my introductory English lessons, and surprisingly enough, this is what reminds me most that I am living in a foreign country. In Polish there is no equivalent phrase to the British “how are you?” when I see an acquaintance on a street, I greet them with “good morning” or “hi”, depending on how casual our relationship is. If I add “what's up?” or “how is it going?” the dialogue gets a sudden twist

and becomes an actual conversation. The thing is, in Poland when you ask someone “how are you?” you are genuinely interested in how they are doing, and anticipate a conversation. Poles are usually pretty straightforward. They don't bother to pretend they care about your day if they don't (trust me).

Now I think you know where I'm going with this. Every time someone in England asks me how I am, I am ready to sincerely tell them about my day, because they asked about it. Don't expect any short or purely positive answers – because I won't give them!

I will tell you in detail that my bus was late, that my lecture sucked, and that I am a bit tired, but, no worries, be-

cause fortunately I'm going to see my friends in the evening. Only after this ramble will I realise, embarrassingly, that this was not what I was asked for.

I was afraid that maybe I'm the only one who's culturally impaired when it comes to the British greetings. However, upon talking to my Polish friends I realised that it is a more widely-acknowledged phenomenon. My friends studying in London are also confused by the “hey, how are you?” shouted at them from the other side of the crowded street. They question the nature of the quick “you fine?”

mumbled by their hall friend passing by the kitchen.

On the one hand, it makes sense to create a pleasurable environment by not rambling too much about your daily ups and downs. On the other, the foreigner inside me screams: why bother asking about my day, if you don't want to hear the real story? Maybe my “how are you?” dilemma will fade after another month and I won't always have to remind myself about the “great/good/fine” answer. But, for now, my overly detailed reply will just have to do.

» Image: Kristi / Flickr



RAG Week



It's nearly Week 8... and you know what that means



The Warwick Raising and Giving Society (RAG) will be taking over campus all of next week to raise money for this year's chosen cause, the mental health charity, Mind

Lip Sync

Monday - 7pm - Dirty Duck

Lip Sync kicks off our week of nightly entertainment.

You've seen it on TV, you've seen it online, you've see it everywhere.

Join us on Monday as societies face off in head to head battles against one another to win the one-and-only Lip Sync Battle champion's belt.

Compete, watch, and don't forget to donate.

Stars In Their Eyes

Thursday - 7pm - SU Atrium

For one night only, contestants can be whoever they want to be.

Whether you are from a society, group, or an individual; a band or an amateur performer, take part in a night of wonderful tributes to our favourite acts. Contestants will not only be marked on accuracy and musical ability but also money raised so look out for their exciting fundraising tactics.

Socials

Charity Circles - Look out and see if your society is doing a charity circle during RAG Week, with a record number taking part this year OR join RAG's legendary circle. It promises to be a good one.



Bar Crawl - To celebrate a week of hard fundraising we'd love you to join us on a bar crawl through Leamington. Have a drink with new friends and old ones, and take some time off with us.

What's on sale?

This is a feel good week and so we want to have as many lovely things on offer for collections to brighten up your week:

- Customised cakes from the brilliant Cathy Wong (instagram: cathwongx)
- Roses
- Hugs
- Hot drinks
- Care packages
- Raffle tickets
- Mind and RAG Week stash

Come and see us at one of our stalls across campus (tbc. where these are) including at our base in the SU Atrium. Look out for Mind representatives on Thursday to talk to them more about the amazing work the charity does.

Strictly

Tuesday - 7pm - Copper Rooms 2

Watch as members of sports club execs compete to win the Strictly Cup with the help of their professional partners from Latin and Ballroom society and it's up to you to decide their fate!

This event promises a night of suspense, drama, daring routines, hilarious presenters, copious amounts of hair gel and, of course, lots and lots of sparkle!

"Anything goes" poetry slam

Saturday - 7pm - Robbin's Well

End a week of fun and excitement with our "Anything Goes" Slam in association with Poetry Slam and Writing Society.

On the theme of mental health, this promises to be a relaxed evening of readings from some of the best writers on campus.



Mass Gnoming

For those of you wondering where a certain something has gone... Gnoming is still here! On Friday afternoon, in celebration of an entire week of feel-good activities and great events, join us out on the piazza for a massive gnoming session. All are welcome to get involved by nominating yourself to take part in our attempt to set a GNOMING WORLD RECORD. Or, if you're adverse to getting a little messy for charity then support your friends by donating and watching. Who knows, you might even get to help gnome them...



RAG Week

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
09:00					It's Okay (IKEA Space)	
10:00		Pole Session (IKEA Space)			It's Okay (IKEA Space)	
11:00	It's Okay (IKEA Space)	Yoga Session			It's Okay (IKEA Space)	
12:00	It's Okay (IKEA Space)	CMD Session (Activity Room)	Disco Soup (Piazza)	Tap Session	Mass Gnoming (Piazza)	
13:00	It's Okay (IKEA Space)			Bollywood Session		
14:00	It's Okay (IKEA Space)			EQHO Session		
15:00	It's Okay (IKEA Space)					
16:00						
17:00		Sports Doc Screening (R0.14)		Mental Health Panel (SU Atrium)		
18:00						
19:00	Lip Sync (Dirty Duck)	Strictly Come Warwick (CR 2)	Charity Circles	Stars In Their Eyes (SU Atrium)	Bar Crawl (Leamington)	Poetry Slam (Robbin's Well)



Why did we pick Mind?

Tessa: For me, the charity is an incredibly personal one. I run a mental health blog and have been a sufferer of depression for many years. Invisible illnesses often receive very little in the way of fundraising and support because they aren't seen as such an immediate problem. Given that the biggest killer of young men is suicide, we clearly need to reassess our priorities. RAG week is an incredible platform to raise awareness and we wanted to capitalise on that in a big way. Breaking down stigmas around mental health is all about increasing discussions, so by creating a platform whereby people feel comfortable to voice their experiences, concerns and difficulties we're doing so much more than just raising money.

Shay: I feel that mental health is such a prevalent issue for students, and standing on the outside as a non-sufferer, I often wonder why is it that I know so little about mental illnesses and why is it that till now in a society where we share opinions on practically every issue, mental illness still seems like such a complex and stigmatised subject to openly talk about. I believe that RAG Week isn't and should never be simply about fundraising targets. There is so much more we'd like to do as a society not just for charities but for you as well. We would like to dedicate a week to raise awareness and give support for all those who are suffering, and we hope you would join us to support this cause too.

Awareness Events

“It’s Okay” chillout spaces

In association with the SU and It's Okay scheme on the mornings of Monday and Friday the IKEA Space in the SU will be transformed into a private relaxed venue where you can take some time out away from the hustle and bustle of life. Grab a coffee, take a book, or even just have a quick nap. We all need some time out and this week is all about facilitating that.

Panorama documentary

On Tuesday at 5pm, join us for a showing of the panorama documentary on suicide in sport. In association with Warwick sports clubs football, cricket, rugby union and rowing, we'll be showing this short but brilliant piece in order to raise awareness and start a discussion. Many suffer in silence when they are expected to be 'manly men' and this is an insight into the problems with this.

Panel Discussion

On Thursday at 5pm, Mind and RAG will be joined by a host of individuals from cross-liberation societies as well as Mind Aware President, Laura Schmidt, and Welfare Sabb, Luke Pilot to discuss how different people are impacted by mental illness in incredibly diverse ways. With a Q&A at the end, come along to learn more or to have your say in a safe environment.





Breaking into creative writing

What if you want to pursue a career in creative writing? Reece Goodall tells you how...

Being a writer is something that has always appealed to me, but up until now I have lacked the willpower to sit down and actually write something. I recently decided that this has to change, and I must finally finish a book. I'm getting there, albeit slowly and begrudgingly.

To begin with, you need an idea. I personally lean towards crime or horror, but anything has the potential to make a good story. The key is how you bring it to life and how you get your reader hooked.

It's best to write something that you like. Sure, you can go to classes, or read countless on-line articles about how and what to write, but I wouldn't recommend it. Trust your gut, follow your heart, and write something that you would enjoy reading. Do a similar thing when trying to find your writing voice. There's no sense in imitating Dickens' style if

you find it cumbersome and dull.

If you want to write, you're often told to expect reams of rejection letters. If, like me, you're a touch more impatient, it is worth looking into self-publishing (either in print or as an e-book). There are so many options available, and although it requires you to put in more work than just sending a manuscript off, the rewards are more immediate. This shouldn't persuade you from the old-fashioned method if that's what you prefer though. Either way is a path to writing success!

I suppose the key to writing is knuckling down and doing it. There's an old adage that says the feeling of having written is a lot better than the feeling of writing, and I believe there's a lot of truth in that. If you're serious about it, though, you must be prepared to put the work in.

November: Novel Writing Month

When essay season comes about, thousands of students all over the world spend whole days and nights frantically typing and cramming their thoughts into a Word document. At least after that dreadful all-nighter, it's done.

But what if it wasn't? What if you voluntarily tried to do this over a whole month, writing nearly 2,000 words a night for fun?

I have two words for you: November 2015. From the 1st to the 30th of November, thousands of aspiring novelists will take to their laptops in a race against time. Their only goal is to finish the month with more than 50,000 words, despite the blood, sweat and tears this may cause.

NaNoWriMo, as it is conveniently abbreviated, is exactly what many writers need to consolidate their dream. It pushes them to forget about man-made obstacles, and only think about the sole goal of writing.

Needless to say, not all of those who completed the task have become famous overnight, but there are a few of superstar fame: Erin Morgenstern's *The Night Circus*, Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants*, and even Rainbow Rowell's *Fangirl*.

The site has had its fair share of criticism, with scholars urging people to not participate. Even editors groan when November comes around: they think their December will be filled with horrible manuscripts!

But NaNoWriMo isn't meant to lead to *New York Times* Bestseller novels; in fact, it's not meant to lead anywhere. It's a fun exercise that is meant to challenge you. It messes with your head, your deadlines and maybe even your social life. You're supposed to think about quitting – more than half of participants do.

But if you stick with it, let me tell you, it means you're a true writer.

Ana Clara Paniago

» Image: francois schnell / Flickr

The intern's struggle; should we work for free?

Is it right that we should have to work for free to improve our CV? Katie Greenbank weighs it up

When applying for a career in literary-based industries, such as publishing or journalism, work experience is crucial. Increasing competition for jobs in these sectors has led to employers searching for graduates who possess not only good academic qualifications, but also some form of work experience.

For students studying academic subjects, internships are an opportunity to show fu-

The competition for careers in publishing and journalism is fierce, so any kind of work experience is going to be extremely valuable.

ture employers that they have practical skills as well, which they could bring to the work place.

However, if you were hoping to earn some much-needed cash during your internship,

think again. A paid work experience placement in journalism or publishing is like gold dust. Since the economic crash, many companies have been forced to cut down on extra expenses, including any paid internships. Obviously, this can cause problems for students who need the experience, but lack the financial means. Some companies will help by paying travel expenses, but this is not always guaranteed and consequently, students often find themselves spending vast amounts on transport in order to commute to their placements.

As well as the financial burden, interns have no legal protection when

they accept an unpaid placement. On some occasions, this has led to companies abusing the free labour offered by work experience candidates.

In recent years, there have been stories in the news about students who have undertaken internships for several months without receiving any pay or credit for their contributions.

Although this sounds rather ominous, it is also important to consider the benefits of work experience, even if it is unpaid. The competition for careers in publishing and journalism is fierce, so any kind of work experience is going to be extremely

valuable for future job applications.

Not only does it offer an insight into the industry itself, but it also gives you the opportunity to experience everyday working life, and to learn about other professionals' experiences within the industry.

As well as the financial burden, interns have no legal protection when they accept an unpaid placement.

In the end, it's simply a question of balance. Work experience is a brilliant way to boost your CV, but the skills and insights that you can gain from the placement must be balanced with its duration and financial cost.

» Image: The Italian Voice / Flickr

Fighting your way into freelancing

Rachel Drinkwater shares some tips on how to get into freelance writing

I've always loved writing, but never really considered it as a viable career until I started writing academically at University and for *The Boar*. Seeing my work in print and getting positive feedback gave me confidence in my ability. Since getting inspiration and courage from lecturers, guest speakers and peers on my course, I've started making a dedicated effort towards building a portfolio and exploring careers in writing.

My first step was to understand the types of writing careers available and to look at job advertisements. This gave me an understanding of what employers or clients are looking for and highlighted gaps in my skills and experience. I have also tailored my CV and LinkedIn profile to highlight the relevant skills I already have.

On the advice of some freelance writers as well as the very helpful Student Careers and Skills service, I also started researching publications in the areas that I have expertise in, with the intention of speculatively sending them examples of my work.

Before I could send my work out, I needed an accessible portfolio. I selected articles that

I have written for *The Boar* and examples of my writing from my jobs and volunteer work, and created a Wordpress site to display them. I try to add one article per week to my portfolio, be it a response to a prompt from *The Boar* or a blog post.

Over the summer I also enrolled on an online course, 'An Introduction to Journalism', offered by Strathclyde University. Whilst it's not a recognised journalistic qualification, I've learned a lot of terminology and theory which has enabled me to use the right language on my CV and in pitches to potential clients, and it will stand me in good stead for

Every day I do something. It may be big...or it might be something tiny.

interviews.

Now I've got my online profile and portfolio set up, I'm ready to start promoting myself to magazines, newspapers and business clients, offering feature writing, theatre and literature reviews, marketing and promotion-

al materials and business content writing. I plan to attend networking events, armed with business cards linking to my Wordpress site and to continue building my portfolio.

I'm also planning to offer to blog for the theatre school I work with on a volunteer basis, to generate regular, publicly-available material. And, of course, I will continue to be involved with *The Boar*, both writing and gaining some experience of publishing and editing processes.

An established writer recently blogged, "do one thing every day to progress your writing career", so I try to adhere to this. Every day I do something. It may be big, like applying for a writing contract or sending my portfolio to a publication or it might be something tiny, like adding a new link to my blog or sharing a link to my portfolio on a new social platform. I'm realistic that it might take a while to start getting paid writing work, and certainly before it can be a financially viable career, but I'm optimistic that by continuing to work towards it, one day, I will be a writer.

» Images: Cody Geary, Ginny /

Pint of purple



Deputy Books Editor **Karishma Jobanputra** reveals her reading and drinking habits.

What book are you reading at the moment?

I've just started *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara, which is a serious doorstopper of a novel at over 700 pages! It was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize this year, and follows four friends in New York and the struggles of one of them in particular, Jude.

Who is your favourite literary character?

This is a hard one - Hermione Granger immediately springs to mind because I could so relate to her nerdiness and love her for books, as well as her bushy hair! I love what she stands for and the fact that she never compromised who she was. I also have a real soft spot for Minny in *The Help*, she's headstrong, brave and sassy despite her very difficult circumstances - I really admire her.

What is the first book you remember reading?

I remember being obsessed with the *Kitty* books by Bel Mooney and Roald Dahl (unsurprisingly I loved *Matilda*, and also *The Witches*). There was also a book my Dad bought me that has really stuck in my mind called *City of Stars* by Mary Hoffman, and of course anything by Jacqueline Wilson. Before those though, I remember reading the *Mr Men* collection.

What is your all-time favourite book?

This is like *Sophie's Choice* (which I haven't read, but I imagine having read it would only make this question even harder). I've whittled it down to: *The Help*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *Harry Potter*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Bell Jar* and *The Catcher in the Rye*.

I'll go with *The Picture of Dorian Gray* because I only read it earlier this year for the first time and it's so imprinted on my mind. It's beautifully written and layered, and I'm fascinated by the character of Dorian.

If you wrote an autobiography, what would be the title?

Title: [Imagine something witty and original here, please.]
Subtitle: 'Your' and 'you're' are not the same. (That just really bugs me).

Kindle vs. Book?

Books! I get that Kindles are more practical but I just don't care. Nothing beats the moment when you step back to survey your perfectly alphabetised bookshelf (#shelfie) or the smell of a bookshop.

How much is a pint of purple?

I think it's £1.50 or £1.60? I can't remember...I was always more of an Eliminator girl!

Looking for books-related work experience?

Two writers discuss their recent work placements at publishing houses

Penguin Random House

I found out about work experience at Random House through Facebook. On the imaginatively titled 'Random House Work Experience', they put up positions every few weeks. It took several applications (and anxious CV adjustments) before I was offered a fortnight's placement.

I was working in the publicity department, and this mainly involved organising mentions of Random House's authors in the press, making promotional material for signings and releases, mailing new releases to reviewers, and pre-reading letters to authors before mailing them onto their intended receivers. What you do get, is a real insight into how modern publishing works in what's easily (since the Penguin merger) the biggest and most important publisher in the world. It's a foot into a fantastic line of work. Unexpected bonuses involved taking home a bunch of free books (some of which hadn't even been released at the time) and temporarily working as an aid for Irvine Welsh and Karl Ove Knausgaard (who I think I may have embarrassingly fanboyed over - but I think I'm justified here; read the guy, he's incredible).

I'm lucky enough to live in London, so it was just a matter of getting the tube each day, and enduring the inevitable strain of a full-blown rush hour commute. If you don't, try to find a friend or family member you can stay round at for the fortnight: it's worth it! I learned a lot about how publishing and the book industry in general works, it looks good on my CV, and it's helped me solidify my idea of what I want to do with my life. Basically, work in books.

Rory McCarthy

Biteback Publishing House

Every student knows that work experience is the best way to land a job, but that can be easier said than done in the closed world of book publishing. Like any dream industry, trade and consumer publishing is a highly-competitive place to find work. It can feel inaccessible at the best of times when the vast majority of publishing houses are owned by a select few giants based in London. However, you may be surprised by how much is on offer if you take the time to research independent companies offering internships.

I was lucky enough to spend July with the marketing and publicity department of Biteback Publishing, an independent publishing house specialising in political and non-fiction titles. You may not have heard of them, but they are about to publish the most hotly anticipated political book of the year, *Call Me Dave*, David Cameron's unauthorised biography.

Biteback are a small but very busy office where about five books a month are publicised and sold. My main roles included sending out review copies to literary editors at the most influential newspapers and magazines in the country, writing press releases, updating the website and planning social media content. I was never short of work and I learned so much about book publicity and, most importantly, the value of gaining contacts in such a small industry.

The main role of any book publicity department is to get the most influential figures in the press to take an interest in their pub-

lications and Biteback regularly gains coverage in top newspapers, radio and TV shows. However, it takes a lot of work to get a book review featured in *The Times* or a segment on *Daily Politics* so organisation, dedication and building good relationships with the press is absolutely vital.

While Biteback isn't necessarily a house-

Biteback offer two editorial internships and one internship in with the marketing and publicity department every month.



hold name, I learned so much about book publicity at the highest level and had a really lovely month with people who are as passionate about books as I am. So, next time you're searching for an internship, look beyond the media giants and you might find a far more rewarding experience waiting for you.

Biteback offer two editorial internships and one internship in with the marketing and publicity department every month. Both roles offer an exceptional insight into the industry and an in-depth look at the everyday roles in publishing. To apply, you just need to send an e-mail with your CV, cover letter and times of availability.

Demelza Griffiths



Bill Bailey's musically comedic, surrealist *Limboland*

★★★★★ Alexei Warshawski awards 5 stars to this sell-out show

» Image: Warwick Arts Centre

Introducing himself as “that bloke from never-mind-the-black-books-have-I-got-QI-news-for-Buzzcocks”, Bill Bailey appears spinning on a pedestal to be greeted by the audience, as if a mannequin. From here on in, we know that we are about to be treated to a musically comedic show which will border on surrealism, pleasing us to no end.

In his opening, Bailey comments that if Jeremy Corbyn had done to a falafel what David Cameron allegedly did to a dead pig, we'd never hear the end of it. Already he is as daring and cheeky as one might expect, yet he makes sure never to show a bias. He pokes fun at politicians no matter their party allegiance, being sure not to alienate the audience.

Having said this, he's not afraid to use comedy to voice his opinions. The best example of this was a guitar he used, which he'd fashioned by attaching a neck and strings to a copy of the Bible. Bailey's brand of comedy isn't for the easily offended.

After cracking a few run-of-the-mill jokes, we move into the kind of allegorical and musical storytelling with which fans of surrealists like Noel Fielding will be familiar. A highlight of this was a never-ending list of

sounds Bailey prefers to One Direction, from most other musicians, to the rustle of autumn leaves and the sound of jean buttons clanking in a washing machine.

It is here that the audience begin to interact with Bailey. Fortunately, there's only one heckler who demanded Bill “got on with it”,

Bailey's a musical maestro, and he's not going to let you forget it

resulting in him hilariously delaying the joke he's telling by an hour.

We are asked to suggest musicians whose music is pleasurable to walk to; when someone suggests Nicki Minaj, Bailey asks her to leave Butterworth Hall.

After ramblings involving the near death of in-laws, we come to the musical climax. A microphone is held into the audience, we are told to sing, and seconds later our voices can be heard as a setting on Bailey's keyboard! After some embarrassment, Bailey fashions a Massive-Attack-style song out of a sampled drumbeat and the voices of everyone in

Butterworth Hall. Genius. Bailey's a musical maestro, and he's not going to let you forget it.

All in all, Bailey's a comic well worth seeing live if you sometimes tire of bog standard comedians who rely on controversy to get laughs (I'm looking at you, Jimmy Carr).

A sublime blend of music and comedy which can perhaps only be matched by Tim Minchin, *Limboland* is a treat for anyone who fancies a laugh from something a bit different.



» Image: Wikimedia Commons

Almost impossible to remain unmoved

★★★★★ Catherine Lyon awards 5 stars to this Tennessee Williams classic

In a revival which exposes the translucency of Williams' play as much as it exhibits the painful vivacity of its characters, Headlong offers a typically stylistic interpretation of this endlessly modern play, *The Glass Menagerie*.

Stripped of its original context down to the bare bones of Fly Davis' set, the Wingfield family become periodically exposed to the dangerous outside world, while remaining desperately trapped within the three-walled black box that they occupy throughout.

Tom Mothersdale's wet footed narrator is as haunted, effeminate and whimsical as one could ask for

Within the 'dimly-lit' space of Davis' design, the complexities of Tom, Amanda and Laura stand opaque in contrast to the water that (literally and figuratively) surrounds, suffocates and finally drowns them.

Tom Mothersdale's wet-footed narrator is as haunted, effeminate and whimsical as one

could ask for, while the distraught figure of Greta Scacchi's Amanda becomes the play's most dominant shadow and Erin Doherty offers a truly painful and heart-wrenching performance as Laura.

It is almost impossible to remain unmoved by the fragility of the piece

A sodden tableau to Eric Kofi Abrefa's restless and sure-footed Jim, the company provides a disturbing picture of broken dreams and fading memories - made all the more distraught by the lighting and sound choices which have become the signature of one of Headlong's most talented directors, Ellen McDougall.

As the final frame fades, the water rises and the curtain falls, it is almost impossible to remain unmoved by the fragility of the piece which at times seems to be as breakable as the eponymous glass menagerie, but which surely leaves a marked imprint on your mind.



» Image: Warwick Arts Centre

Arts Column

Colouring as therapy



In a space of amplified social and professional pressures, it is not surprising that the popularity of stress-relieving activities has increased; almost 10% of the nation are on prescription antidepressants or anti-anxiety medication (as of July 2015).

However, it seems that there is a new fad this year to compete with your weekly yoga class: colouring books.

Some of you may roll your eyes and wave away the plausibility of 'colouring-in' as a legitimate practice of stress relief, but it seems to have good results.

Art therapy has been in practice for decades, but recent research in neuroscience has strengthened the belief that expressive creativity does have positive effects on mental health.

“Neuroscience has strengthened the belief that expressive creativity does have positive effects on mental health”

Mindful meditation works by focusing the mind on one simple repetitive action. Usually one is introduced to the practice by concentrating on chanting a mantra or simply breathing; the calm and slow inhale and exhale motion becomes the mind's primary focus, allowing any stressful thoughts or concerns to dissipate and the body to enter a state of relaxation.

It seems that the act of colouring works in much the same way, and without the risk of inadvertently falling asleep.

Focusing the mind on patterns and colour variations through the recurring act of brushing a pen or pencil across paper creates a hypnotic sense of calm, much like that induced by meditation.

The conscious mind is focused, any existing anxieties seem less pervasive and the subconscious is released and free to wander. I have been given several of these books, and as someone who has tried various forms of meditation, this is by far the most efficient relaxation method for me.

I've come up with many an essay plan while shading in a petal or leaf, so I would definitely encourage you to brush any cynicism aside and give colouring therapy a go.

Eloise Vest



Got an opinion on the arts? Get in touch with us on Facebook.
[Facebook.com/BoarArts](https://www.facebook.com/BoarArts)

Sam Pacelli's insight into the Noise Next Door's new tour, laughter and improvisation

Comedy group Noise Next Door come to Warwick Arts Centre on Saturday 21 November on their countrywide tour 'News in the Hood'.

The five members of the group, Charlie, Tom, Matt, Sam and Tom, create improvised shows based on audience input, producing exclusive performances every time. Since the group's formation they have appeared on The One Show, Britain's Got More Talent and The Edinburgh Comedy Gala.

Prior to their performance, I spoke to Sam Pacelli on their unique style of comedy, the history of the group, career advice and the plans for the group after their new tour.

Charley Adams: What began your interest in comedy?

Sam Pacelli: Well it's just fun, isn't it really? I know that's quite a basic answer but the interesting thing about comedy is that above any other kind of performance it's one with a response from the audience. So you're always looking to make somebody laugh and, from a theoretical point of view, that's just really interesting. Even as a kid, I was relatively obsessed with trying to make people laugh and I'm lucky enough to be able to carry that over into a job which not many people get to do.

CA: Where did your group get together?

SP: We all met at university, most of us studying drama or theatre studies. A few of

us were in the drama society and someone approached us saying "can you just do something as we have this space at a festival and we need you to do anything you can." What was beautiful about it was that we didn't have time to worry about being good at it we just threw ourselves at it. It was pretty successful so we started doing it on campus every week in two or three different bars, then in the town, and then around the county. That was about eight years ago.

CA: What advice would you give to students wanting to pursue a career in comedy?

SP: The best advice I could give is to just go and do it! There's no better advice really than to just gain experience. If you want to do stand up, write a five minute set and just go and perform it at an open mic gig. Even if you're only playing to 20 people, it's better than playing to no one. The way you get better is to be in front of audiences as much as possible, so then you understand and learn what makes people tick and what makes them laugh essentially. So it's about having that

courage to have your first gig and get it out of the way.

CA: Would you say that when you started out it was different performing to fellow students compared to the audiences you perform to now?

SP: Yeah it's so different, you have to be malleable for different types of audiences. Actually the first thing that made us think we could do this as a job was when we had a run of gigs; one day we had a kids gig, the next day was our typical student night and after that we actually played to raise money to get a bus for an old people's home. So three very different sets of people, but we still managed to make them all laugh. Because it's entirely improvised, we have the ability to really change our act for any different type of demographic and audience.



» Images: Impressive PR

Arts careers: does Warwick deliver?

Lucy White, SSC rep for the arts, tells us what Warwick offers to humanities and arts students

Currently studying for my BA in English Literature, hardly a day goes by where I don't hear someone say that an arts degree is unemployable. This is a myth engrained into the culture of our departments, and it's absolute rubbish.

Last year I became student representative for Careers and Skills in the English department. Since then, I have realised that we have two major problems: deciding what we want to do when we leave university, and working out how we're going to do it. Students tell me all the time that this university doesn't give us enough opportunities as arts students. Whilst these opportunities aren't always as

– I was so surprised when I found out! How on earth can one go from analyzing Freud to working for a football team? Well, I checked on MyAdvantage, a university service which allows students to see job vacancies, careers fairs and careers-based talks, and I went along to a talk called "The Business of Sport"; it was genuinely eye-opening. The sports industry, like every industry, has to put itself into the public space and be communicative. That means they need advertising copywriters, editors, PR liaison people, HR people, Marketing Executives, Records Managers – people with BAs, basically. You can always find places to apply your skills, they can just be a bit challenging to find.

That isn't to say we at Student Careers & Skills don't do anything specifically for

arts students. One thing I'm really looking forward to is the event 'Discovering Careers in the Creative Industries', which is on Thursday 19 November, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Zeeman Building. This will give you ideas about career paths and introduce you to people who can really help give your career direction; the University doesn't want to just push you down the corporate route if that's not where you want to be. Skills and Careers can also help you get into more 'pure arts' careers, teaching, graduate schemes in the sector or further academia, and so on.

There are so many people who want to help you get ahead, and progress as a humanities graduate/undergraduate. Utilise their skills and time. Make an appointment with your departmental advisor, and they will make you

a battle plan. They can enable you to write a killer CV and help you find contacts to go where you want to go. But you have to

Make an appointment with your departmental advisor, and they will make you a battle plan.

communicate with us.

Going into the arts is so diverse and yet the individual has to be so focused, that coming to see us or emailing the Facebook page is the best way for you to move forward. Whatever you want to do, whether it's teaching or performance poetry, we will do our best to get you there. You just have to talk to us!



How hard is it for you to choose a career path at university?
Tweet: @BoarArts

» Image: Lucy White

There are so many people who want to help you get ahead, and progress as a humanities graduate/undergraduate. Utilise their skills and time.

spoon-fed as they are for other departments, they are nonetheless there.

One of the biggest fields we go into is sport

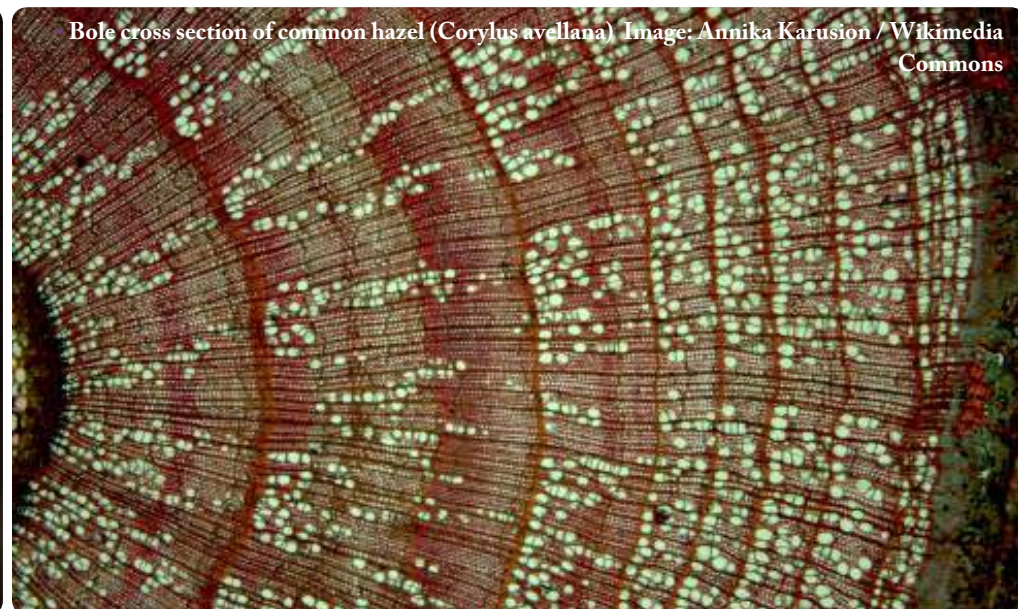


Science and Photography

» Artist's impression of Estonian nanosatellite ESTCube-1 on ORBIT Image: Utwikipedist / Wikimedia Commons



Bole cross section of common hazel (Corylus avellana) Image: Annika Karusien / Wikimedia Commons



With the growing importance of science and scientific discoveries, the role of photography in visual documentation has become necessary. Photography utilises the principles of physics and chemistry in all of its aspects; knowledge of exposure, focus and aperture are all necessary during the process of photography, as well as during the development of lenses and camera bodies. Further developments and advancements in technology have enabled better equipment to be developed, thereby leading to photographic equipment which can capture the finer details. Photography is not only used for documenting different fields of science, but also for research and diagnostic purposes. Competitions like the European Science Photo Competition 2015 are platforms which encourage the use of photography in science.

Shruti Dayal

» Expedition 33 Soyuz Launch Image: Samantha Cristoforetti / Flickr



» Igniting a balloon filled with methane at AHHA science theater (2012) Image: Juss Saska / Wikimedia Commons



European Science Photo Competition 2015

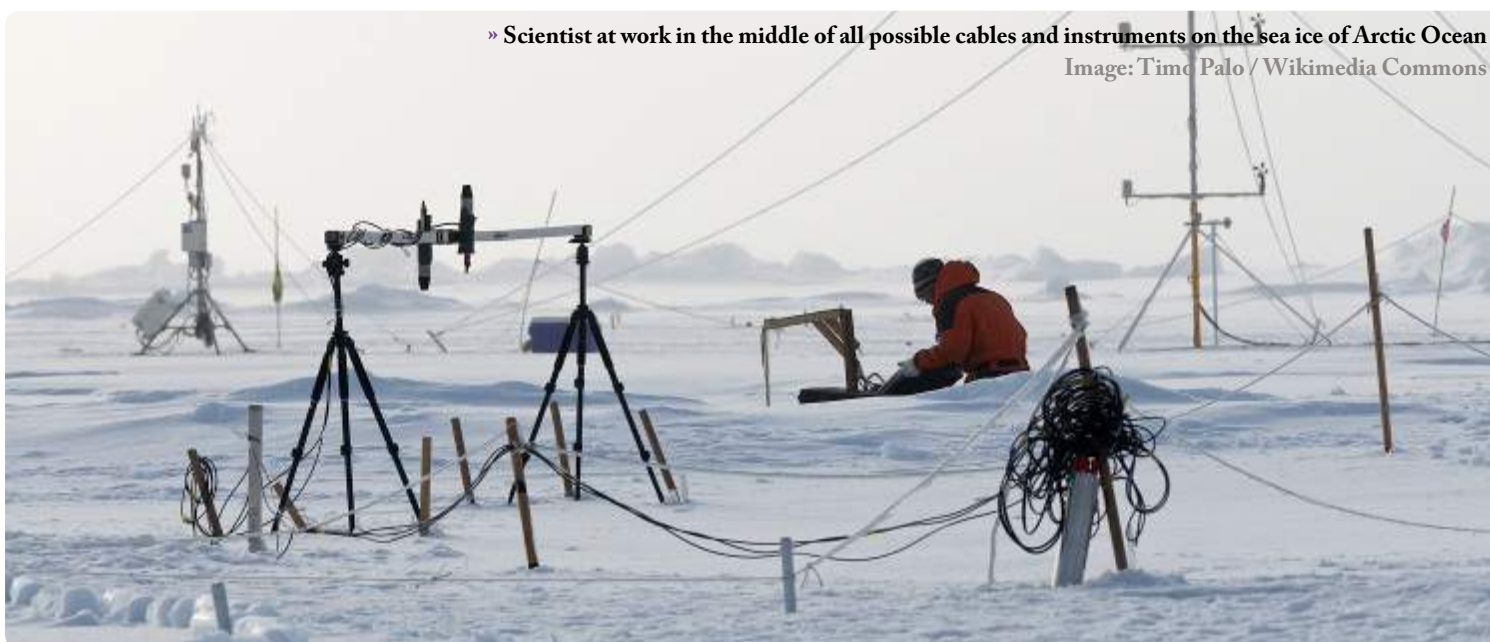
This year's European Science Photo Competition is open to anyone with a camera or a computer. The aim of the competition is to improve the bank of public science images and to reward excellence in the field of science photography. This is a great opportunity for students and academics from Warwick to get their science photography recognised.

There are five categories in the competition: people in science; microscopy images; non-photographic media; image sets and a general category for everything from zoology to volcanology.

Rules

- Only images uploaded in November will be entered.
- For the photo to be considered scientific, it needs to have a good concrete description. Every photo must have a description in English.
- The number of images per participant is not limited.
- You can only participate with your own images, or with images of which you are one of the authors.
- Images have to be published under free use license.
- Images should be uploaded via Wikimedia

» Scientist at work in the middle of all possible cables and instruments on the sea ice of Arctic Ocean Image: Timo Palo / Wikimedia Commons



Interested in photography?
Join our team! With us,
you can explore different
types of photography, cover
events and improve your skills!
Join our Facebook group:

The Boar Photographers 2015/16

Science & Tech



Editor: Selina-Jane Spencer
science@theboar.org

Experiments in Singapore

Why a term working in Singapore was the best of my degree

The most amazing opportunity arose in the third year of my chemistry degree, enabling me to fly out to Singapore for a 14 week placement at Nanyang Technological University. I had the privilege of working in the Chemical and Biological Chemistry department where I had the responsibility of managing my own project within a specific research group. The first few weeks were, of course, challenging, and I had to adjust to the differences in culture and the new research laboratory environment.

However, I soon began learning new skills and before I knew it, I was completely independent in the lab.

My project was focused on the synthesis of various air-sensitive compounds for catalysis applications. Working in research labs gave me access to many important instruments and I was able to obtain valuable advice from my highly skilled peers.

Employers really appreciate a well-cultured, pro-active and adaptable student

Undergraduate labs at Warwick are very good for beginning in the lab and allowing students to become familiar with some techniques, however they are very controlled, and students are given

experiments which are known to work.

In contrast, research laboratories are very much trial and error. They're much more flexible and allow you to be very creative; if your idea doesn't work, you just try something else! My research group were really encouraging and it was inspiring to see their motivation.

During the early stages of my degree in chemistry, I knew that I wanted to broaden my experiences in my field, and so, as soon as I became aware of this opportunity, my heart was set upon it. I worked extra hard in second year and was absolutely thrilled when my department gave me a place on the course.

Throughout my placement I was able to make lots of new friends of various nationalities, most of which I have kept in contact with. In the evenings and weekends I had time to explore Singapore and neighbouring countries (such as Malaysia), which was incredibly exciting and my friends and I had so much fun! We especially loved Marina Bay Sands which was beautiful in the day and at night!

Although it was a challenge managing foreign currency and tackling language barriers; I learnt to embrace the differences and really enjoyed the experience of living in a foreign country. This placement has allowed me to broaden my perspective, improve my communication skills and given me the opportunity to mature both academically and personally.

To any students considering a placement abroad, I would definitely say go for it! There will be times when you get home sick and work gets on top of you, but that's all part of learning to be independent and equips you for challenges that may occur later in life. This experience is a fantastic way to find out who you truly are, have incredibly exciting stories to tell, and to excel in the applied field of your science.

A placement abroad is a great achievement to have and employers really appreciate a well-cultured, pro-active and adaptable student.

You may even have the opportunity to travel afterwards like I did, which is also absolutely fascinating in itself!

Mechelle Bennett



» Image: Mechelle Bennett

"A new puzzle every day"

As a Careers Issue special, Science and Technology interviewed aspiring scientist Edoardo Barp about his own aspirations and how Warwick works to support them (or fails to!)

Selina-Jane: Introduce yourself.

Edoardo: I'm a second year student of Maths & Physics, I come from Italy and I want to be a scientist.

S-J: What kind of scientist do you want to be?

E: I'd like to do research, I'm not sure in what field yet or what kind of research (something more mathematical though, either theoretical physics or something to do with artificial intelligences) but I love the idea of how their job looks, basically if you're good enough you travel to conferences and just work on your theories and others' theories.

S-J: Do you know what you need to do to enter the career?

E: I just know I need to go toward an academic life so masters, then PhD (or more masters) and so on and then basically hope to be recruited by someone either in the

private or public sector

S-J: Do you feel the university had offered you support pursuing this career?

E: To be completely honest I see a lot of careers events and stuff and a lot of advertising but I feel like since I'm not going for a "proper job" straight after my masters I don't need it properly yet, and even if I was I feel like I don't need it in second year and I'll start in third.

S-J: Does your department provide specific careers events and have you been to any?

E: Yes they do fairly often do careers events but I hear they aren't great.

S-J: Finally, what inspires you about the idea of being a research scientist?

E: I really like the idea of doing research and basically not doing a boring job that repeats itself everyday but doing something that is basically each day a new puzzle kind of thing. So that's my reason for going into research.

Selina-Jane Spencer

» Image: NASA / Wikimedia Commons

Upcoming Science careers events

What: Mathematics and Statistics careers fair

Where: Zeeman building

When: Friday 20 Nov 2015, 13:00-15:00

What: PhD in Science information talk

Where: B2.04/05 Science Concourse

When: Tuesday 24 Nov 2015, 13:00-14:00

Orange is the new diet

Fruit juice has effectively been discounted as a health food by now – the high sugar content offsets any health benefits. But the Sicilian blood orange, particularly the Moro and Tarocco varieties (the latter of which has the highest vitamin C concentration in the world), is unique in that the juice actually helps prevent obesity and fatty liver.

This is thanks to the high concentration of a chemical called anthocyanins which is usually found in superfoods such as blueberries, acting as an antioxidant.

But it doesn't work with just any blood orange. The unique microclimate of the area around Catania, Sicily, means that anthocyanin

levels are much higher in oranges grown here. In fact, they've been regarded as a valuable health food in Italy for decades now, and Italian scientists are investigating whether the benefits extend to cancer prevention.

But Sicily's monopoly could soon be ending, as the same scientists have teamed up with researchers in the UK to engineer the Ruby gene into blond oranges, which means that all citrus could soon have the same effect as the vermilion spheres found in Sicily.

Nicholas Buxey

» Image: First Light / Wikimedia Commons

Will robots take our jobs?

Hamza Oza reports on the automation of graduate jobs vs low-skill jobs

When the first self-service checkouts arrived on the high streets of London, there was uproar about whether it would replace low skilled jobs in this country. Surveys were conducted about how shoppers would prefer a human experience as opposed to being yelled at by a machine telling you "there's an unexpected item in the checking area."

Despite these criticisms, the number of these machines rose from 92,600 in 2008 to 430,000 by 2014 worldwide.

A recent report published by Oxford University has suggested that up to 35% of existing UK jobs are at risk of automation in the next 20 years. Production lines are now being replaced by manufacturing robots as they can guarantee the same movement repetition every single time.

It has long been assumed that graduate jobs would be safe from automation since they are perceived as being more difficult. However, jobs in data and business management are actually easier for com-

puters to do than jobs which require manual labour. This is known as the Moravec paradox.

In the early 1980s, Hans Moravec and others suggested that high-level reasoning requires very little computation, but low-level skills require enormous computational resources. In essence: complex mathematical calculations are cheap and easy for a computer to process, but to be able to perform physical movements requires far greater resources.

There are many examples of skilled human workers being replaced by machines. Finance companies use computers to make detailed predictions and decisions on the stock market in nanoseconds – faster than it could ever have been done by rooms full of statisticians. Complex engineering calculations calculating the flow of air and other fluids around an aeroplane can now be done in a day. With Moore's law saying that computational performance will increase every 18 months, robots' abilities will only develop faster and faster.

Performing repetitive tasks is trivial for computers. The challenge is where some intuition is required. When we pick up an object, we instinctively know how much force we need to put on it so that we can lift it, but not damage it. Our spatial recognition is another key factor in this too. If you've been following autonomous cars recently, you'll know that one of the major obstacles is being able to detect potential collisions and hazards that may appear on the road.

So it's not low skilled jobs that are under threat from robots. It's the high skilled workers, who once needed specialist knowledge for a particular set of "complex" tasks – tasks that can easily be transferred into an algorithm.

The Boar's advice: learn to code so you have the upper hand whatever happens.



Should we let robots do our work for us?
Comment online:
theboar.org/science-tech



Editor: Kambole Campbell
film@theboar.org

Harry Potter and the Inevitable Prequel

Eloise Millard reflects on the future of the *Harry Potter* franchise

When I was six years old, people at school took the mickey out of me for my *Harry Potter* lunchbox. I spent hours playing the *Harry Potter* games on Gamecube through the seemingly endless summer holidays. When I was ten years old, I queued up at ASDA at midnight, itching to get my hands on a copy of *The Half Blood Prince*. When I was sixteen years old, I sobbed in the cinema watching *Deathly Hallows Part II*, because it was all over. "All was well" is the last line of *The Deathly Hallows* and also summarises how I feel about the *Harry Potter* franchise: leave it alone, it's done.



Image: Warner Brothers Pictures

I'm now almost twenty-one and I love *Harry Potter* just as much as I've ever done. The films, and the books especially, were such an incomprehensibly huge part of my formative years. When it was all over, there were no unanswered questions. When Harry put his son on the train at the end of *Deathly Hallows*, it was the end of Harry's journey and the beginning of another that was entirely left up to the reader's imagination. Creatures such as Blast-Ended Skrewts and Mandrakes were so creative, but such a small part of the enchanting universe. Do I really need a film all about the guy who wrote the book on them? It feels like a bit of stretch to me. To be fair, the cast is amazing and the setting of 1920s America sounds pretty cool. Cinematically, I'm sure it will be sound, but all the kids who grew up with *Harry Potter* now have careers, relationships and other miscellaneous adult stuff to think about; I can't really generate any enthusiasm for it.

On the other hand, I'm grateful that it's only an extension of what already existed in the *Harry Potter* universe, meaning that the original story won't be tainted. Not to go off on a tangent (seeing as this is the *Film* section) but what irritates me more is the stage play, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*. On top of the fact that I believe the series ended perfectly with Harry shipping Albus jr. off to Hogwarts, J.K. Rowling said that, before her rise to fame she was "as poor as it's possible to be" and claimed she sometimes went hungry in order to feel her children.

The Cursed Child is exclusive to the West End. Putting a play on in London excludes

all those fans who don't have the financial or geographical means to see the show. You'd think that someone who lived in such extreme poverty would have more consideration for those who don't live somewhere along a tube line or have the disposable income for theatre tickets.

The *Harry Potter* franchise has really reached its limits in my eyes. You can go on a tour of the Warner Brother's studios and see the film sets up close. You can wander round Hogsmeade at the Wizarding World in Florida... but once again, these are experiences that require more than just a bit of pocket money. J.K. Rowling has sold out. But she's definitely not alone, so can I really blame her?

You'd think that someone who lived in such extreme poverty would have more consideration for those who don't live somewhere along a tube line or have the disposable income for theatre tickets.

There is talk that Lionsgate are exploring ways to extend the *Hunger Games* universe via spin-off films. In 2017, we will see the launch of the third new *Spider-Man* universe in the last fifteen years. It seems like the current trend is to stretch a universe to the point that everyone's sick of seeing it (note: *Fantastic Four*) and stops doling out cash.



Image: Adg's Screen Caps / Flickr

Tête-à-tête: Do films need to have meaning to be 'good films'?

Laura Hall says yes

Films are created to tell stories and help us make sense of the world we live in. To do this even vaguely successfully, they have to have some kind of meaning: a meaning that changes your outlook on life or makes you consider an issue that had previously never concerned you.

These complex responses indicate that, for once, our tiny human brains have been challenged by something. Films with meaning do not necessarily have to be hard-hitting or poignant, yet films as diverse as *The Wizard of Oz* or *Fight Club* interlink because they capture the imagination of their audiences. These films instigate an emotional response that causes viewers to engage in discussions that analyse and critique what they have just seen.

there is a distinction between pleasantly half-watching, half-napping through a mediocre film on a Sunday afternoon and being genuinely gripped by a nuanced plot

Writing as someone who has sat through the entirety of *Spiceworld: The Movie*, I am not going to be so heavy-handed as to say that films with no meaning cannot be enjoyable. But there is a distinction between pleasantly half-watching, half-napping through a mediocre film on a Sunday afternoon and being genuinely gripped by a nuanced plot. A meaningless film cannot be 'good' if any thought of it immediately drops out of your brain as soon as the credits start rolling.

The difference between a film with meaning and one without is like the difference between sixty years of marriage and eyeballing someone vaguely attractive in the lift in the Humanities Building. Ultimately, I believe that a good film should make you feel something more than the sensation of time passing pleasantly. Life's too short for mediocrity.

Nicholas Buxey says no

Why are people so obsessed with finding meaning these days? It doesn't matter what it is, we're expected to find deeper significance everywhere. And when it comes to films, this determination to find meaning is even more insidious.

The surest way to guarantee any film is Oscar bait is to stuff it full of meaning. Sure, these films can be good. But what happened to watching something to escape? Why do films always force us to think? Can't we just sit back, relax, and enjoy the film?

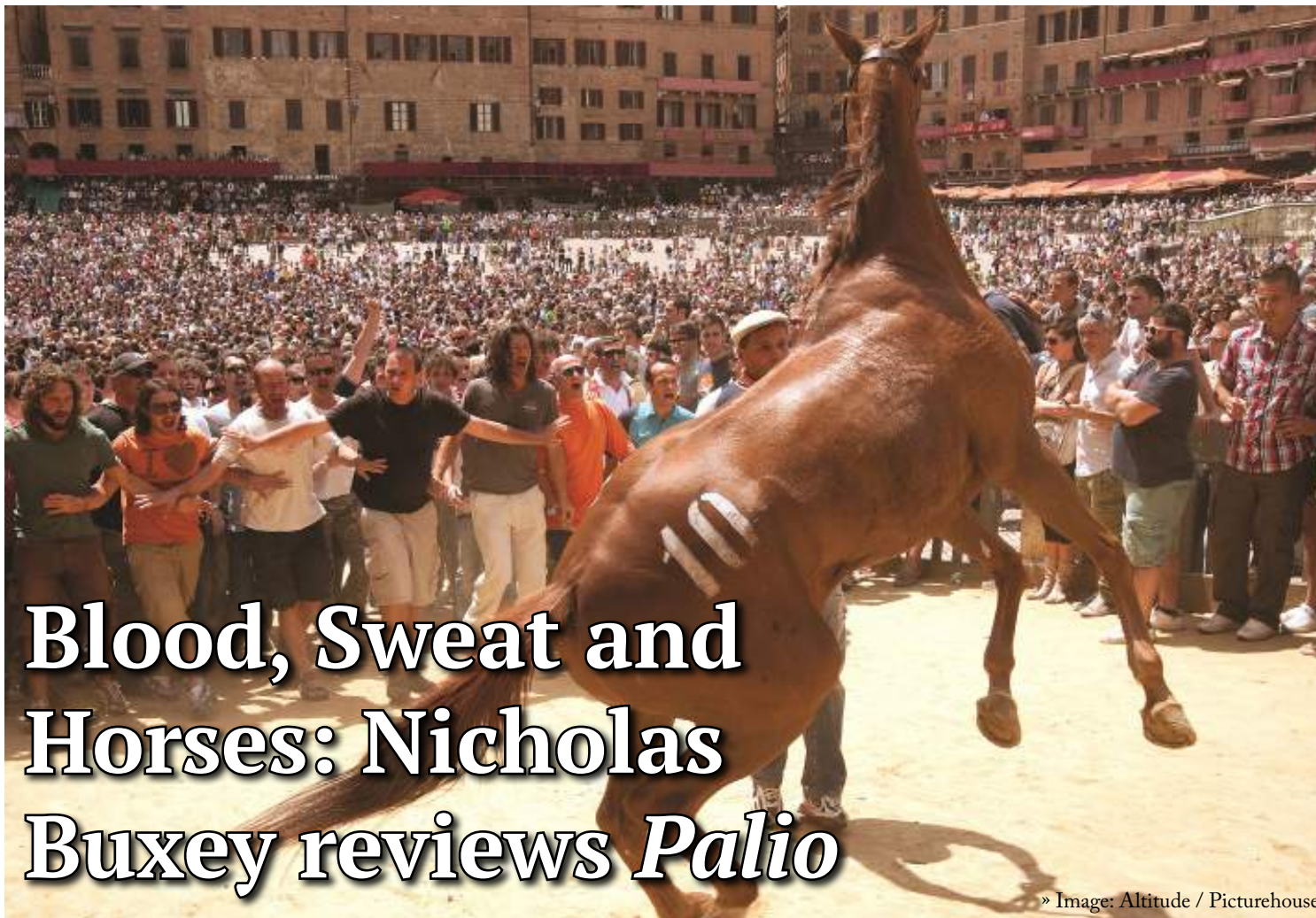
It's high time that we all accepted that life is too short not to enjoy cheesy films

In my opinion, some of the best films I've seen didn't have a meaning – when you're not searching for one, you can actually start to have a lot more fun. – take the musicals of the 40s and the 50s.

You might not have left with a changed view of the world, but at least you would have enjoyed actually watching it. A movie that you enjoyed even though it had no meaning is infinitely more rewatchable than a movie that was full of meaning but hard to enjoy. It might be a block of cheese in film form, but is that really a bad thing?

Take *She's The Man*. On the face of it, this Shakespearean 'adaptation' should be pregnant with hidden meanings. But it isn't. Instead, we're treated to Amanda Bynes, Channing Tatum and a magnificently cast ensemble stumbling through a film that exists just to make us laugh.

I'm the first to admit that this wasn't the critical success it should have been. But that doesn't matter – people love it. It's high time that we all accepted that life is too short not to enjoy cheesy films, and that they are just as worthy of our admiration as "serious" films are. After all, what's not to like?



Blood, Sweat and Horses: Nicholas Buxey reviews *Palio*

» Image: Altitude / Picturehouse

In the first ten minutes of *Palio*, directed by Cosima Spender, we are made aware of all the curiosities that make Siena one of the most unique cities in Italy, and the titular horse race that dominates life in the seventeen contrade (districts) for the entire year. But this isn't a dry tour through history; Spender infuses the entire runtime with the passion, anger and thrill that have turned the Palio into the legendary institution it is today. Before watching this, it's best you understand that Italians are a little bit insane. The sheer intensity and diversity within the culture of the country has created a world in which each city is a microcosm of a country, fiercely resisting any attempt and regulation. Therefore, to watch the Palio is to watch Siena, and this is something that Spender focuses on throughout the film, choosing to interview people speaking the inimitable Tuscan dialect (all helpfully subtitled), rather than those who prefer standardised Italian. Spender's masterstroke is to focus in on the rivalries between two pairs of jockeys – one nascent, and one defunct. By comparing and contrasting them, she manages to build a picture of the corruption that has come

to infect the most dangerous horse race in Europe while drawing us into the stories of these men. In fact, it's easy to forget that this is primarily a documentary, as Spender draws us into the typically Italian drama that is being wrought between the "King of the Square" and his challenger and heir. The music and camerawork only serve to further suffuse the film with a sense of spectacle. With a heady blend of POV, slow-motion and sweeping shots, you can see why the race evokes the intense reactions from the spectators afterwards. The music only adds to this, evoking the feel of Ennio Morricone's famous score for *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*. By the end of the film, it's hard not to be swept up in the inevitable victory that brings about a happy conclusion, and the stunning combination of the score and camerawork has you on the edge of your seat for the mere ninety seconds that the race actually lasts for. A word of warning – this film is not for the faint-hearted. For all the pageantry and pomp that surrounds the 800-year old race, the enmity between the various contrade is all too current. After the race, the horses are shown with bloodied hindquarters and vicious cuts all over their bodies, as

a result of the nerbo, a sienese whip used to beat both rival horses and jockeys with in the hopes of winning. In addition, while the winning jockey is akin to a god, the losing jockey is considered traitorous and often subjected to verbal and physical abuse. Ultimately, this is a very Italian exercise in film-making. Everyone in the film admits that the race is more about the money than the horses, and yet no one will admit to culpability. While a protagonist emerges in the second half of the film, no antagonist exists. By allowing us to glimpse the brutal and frenetic underworld that exists alongside the processions and celebration, *Palio* has fashioned a movie full of the imagination, ecstasy and fury that has always seemed an essential part of the Italian world.



Want to write for us? Watched a particularly good/bad film recently? Tell us on Facebook

In other news...

Last week, **Shia LaBeouf** live-streamed himself watching a 3 day movie marathon of his own films, as part of an art project. Riveting.



» Image: Lucasfilm

Rai-ders of the Lost Ark

We get down to the important questions with Boar writer **Rai Brooks**

Boar Film: What films have you enjoyed this year at the cinema?

Rai: I loved *Spectre*, which I saw at The Electric in Birmingham. I really enjoy Bond films – the Daniel Craig ones have always been darker and grittier, but I felt that *Quantum of Solace* really lacked any of the sparkle, humour and yes, slight cheesiness that are synonymous with the Bond franchise. *Spectre* feels more like the old classic Bond, with the grittiness one expects from Craig's Bond and firmly planted in the 21st century. *The Martian* was a great watch too. Despite the sense of peril, it was a real feel-good film and a decent space adventure movie. I'm not normally a big fan of space films, but it felt like more of a celebration of human achievement and the strength of human character and spirit than anything else.

BF: What's your 'comfort film'?

R: My comfort films are the *Harry Potter* series, which I always reach for when I'm feeling unwell, tired, hungover or otherwise in need of a cuddle in the format of a film. Alternatively I'd watch *Stardust* or *Casino Royale*. At the moment I'm working my way through the Bond back-catalogue and with another 28 films to go, I think that's my Sunday night viewing taken care of for a while!

BF: Do you think streaming services like Netflix/Amazon present a serious alternative to the cinema experience?

R: I don't think Netflix or Amazon Prime pose any more threat to the cinema than broadcast television did when TV ownership became commonplace, or satellite TV when that was introduced or the introduction of VHS and later DVDs. Television did impact on the film industry of course, but I don't think that impact has increased with Netflix and Amazon. It's hard to reproduce the experience of the cinema, which will always be a unique selling point for the cinema over home viewing – it could be argued that the home viewer and cinema-goer are almost two separate markets.

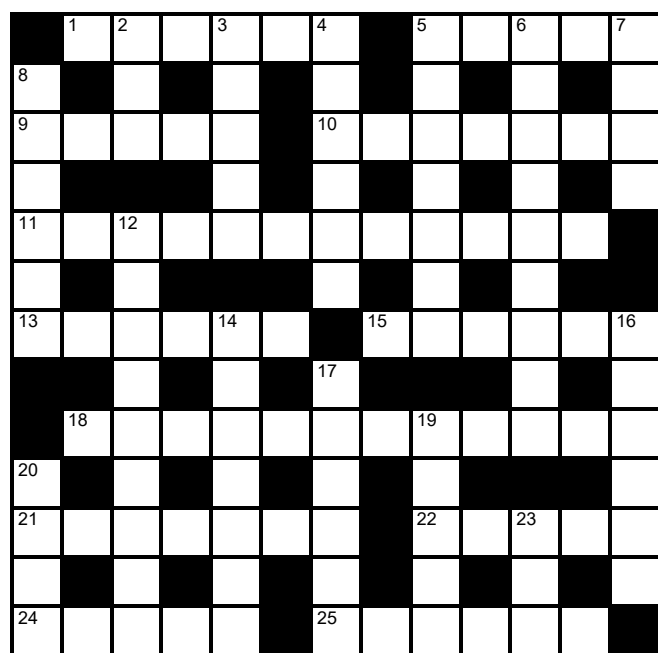
BF: Favourite/worst film you've watched?

R: My favourite film is *Stardust*, which is based on Neil Gaiman's book of the same title and is an excellent adaptation of the book. The worst film I've watched, certainly this year, is *Friday the Thirteenth Part 8* or maybe *Sharknado 2*, which I had the misfortune of watching on the same night.



What do you think of Rai's answers? **Tweet us: @BoarFilm**

How about a study break?

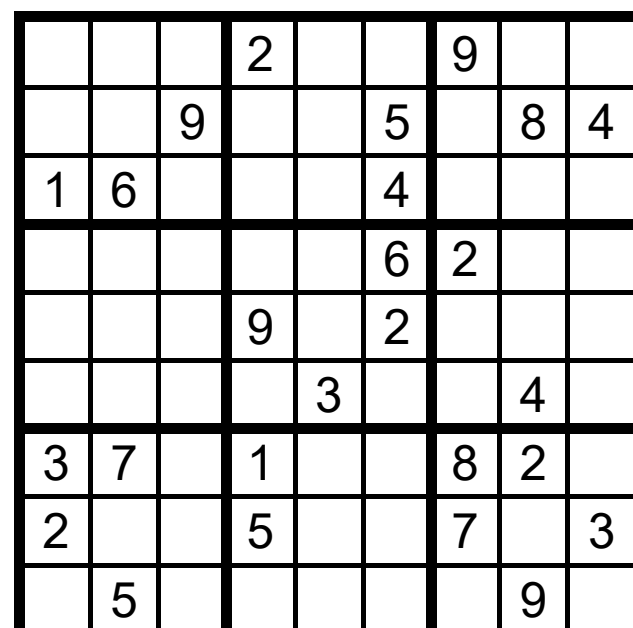


Across

- 1 Friendly event (6)
5 Cut into cubes (5)
9 House - pad (5)
10 Approach - acquaintance (7)
11 Connection (12)
13 Abundant (6)
15 Countless - DIY arm (anagram) (6)
18 Precise on men (anagram) - ubiquity (12)
21 Impassioned (7)

- 22 Faithful (5)
24 Volatile anaesthetic (5)
25 Elegant (6)
Down
2 Eggs (3)
3 Awkward (5)
4 University lecturer - or Celt (anagram) (6)
5 Series of rulers from the same family (7)
6 Union (9)
7 Go out with a partner (4)
8 Coil - helix (6)
12 Affectionate marriage? (4,5)
14 Thread maker - inn's rep (anagram) (7)

- 16 From the bottom of your heart (6)
17 Intimate - companion (6)
19 Work out (5)
20 Find attractive (4)
23 Positive proposal answer? (3)



What's on?

Autumn Term 2015- Friday Week 7

at

Warwick Student Cinema

The AllNighter

minions ted2

HITMAN

AGENT 47

AMERICAN ULTRA

THE ROCK

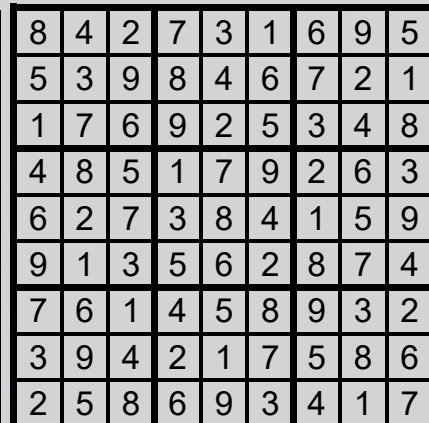
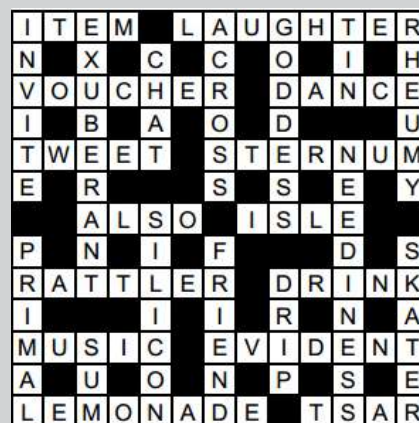
Warwick Filmsoc (Warwick Student Cinema) presents one of the biggest events of the year, the AllNighter! And with a diverse range of films, including Minions and Ted 2, there is something for everyone!

Can you go AllNight?

For tickets, go to...

<https://warwick.film/AN15>

Last Week's Answers



LSE 120th
ANNIVERSARY

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There's no business like show business

Esther Davies shares her experience with leading Welsh broadcasting studio

When I heard I'd be going to a television studio for summer work experience, it's safe to say that I was pretty excited.

I've always been fascinated by the television industry and its significance in today's world.

I had done work experience at a television production company before, but this was going to be different: this time I would be working on a studio floor and witnessing first-hand the fast-paced world that is live television.

The Tinopolis Group is an international media producer and distributor, and my work experience was based in the *Tinopolis Wales* studios, which is conveniently located in my hometown of Llanelli. *Tinopolis Wales* is the largest producer of Welsh language programming, which includes live shows, sport, and award-winning documentaries.

It was very rewarding to get an in-depth insight into the television industry, which is not as glamorous as one might think!

However, I have never wanted a nine-to-five job where I would do the same thing every day, and this certainly couldn't be further from that.

Things can get fairly stressful in the live

television industry, but there's no thrill greater than knowing that what you're doing will reach so many people.

Things can get fairly stressful in the live television industry, but there's no thrill greater than knowing that what you're doing will reach so many people.

As for the work experience itself: every day I sat in for the run-through of their 2pm live show, *Heno*, so I was able to witness the entire creation process of a television programme; from initial idea stages, all the way to when it finally makes it to air. My main role was to help the floor manager during the live show.

What struck me most were the little touches that go unnoticed when you're at home watching a television show. Even the smallest things such as moving props between shots have to be considered, and it's these little things that make a difference to the end product.

I was also fortunate enough to go into the Gallery with the director and the producer to

see how things are run from there.

The energy and dynamism required of anyone who works in that room were plain to see. I was also able to meet some editors who showed me how to edit segments using Final Cut.

This was extremely useful, as it highlighted to me how many different skills are needed when it comes to the television industry, and how many different aspects there are to get involved in.

My second day was without a doubt my favourite, as I was able to go to Cardiff to film on location.

The Welsh First Minister, Carwyn Jones, was going to be unveiling the new St. David's Awards in the Royal Welsh

College of Music and Drama, and I was helping to interview him.

This confirmed one of my favourite aspects of the work experience: that no two days are the same when you're working in television.

The cameraman taught me about the crucial nuances of filming, all the way down to lighting, and the presenter described the process of scripting the interview questions and different interview techniques.

The entire experience was extremely engaging, and I was particularly impressed by how valued I was made to feel, and how much responsibility they gave to me. What's more, I can

count myself very lucky that I just happen to have a television studio that produces international content in my own backyard.

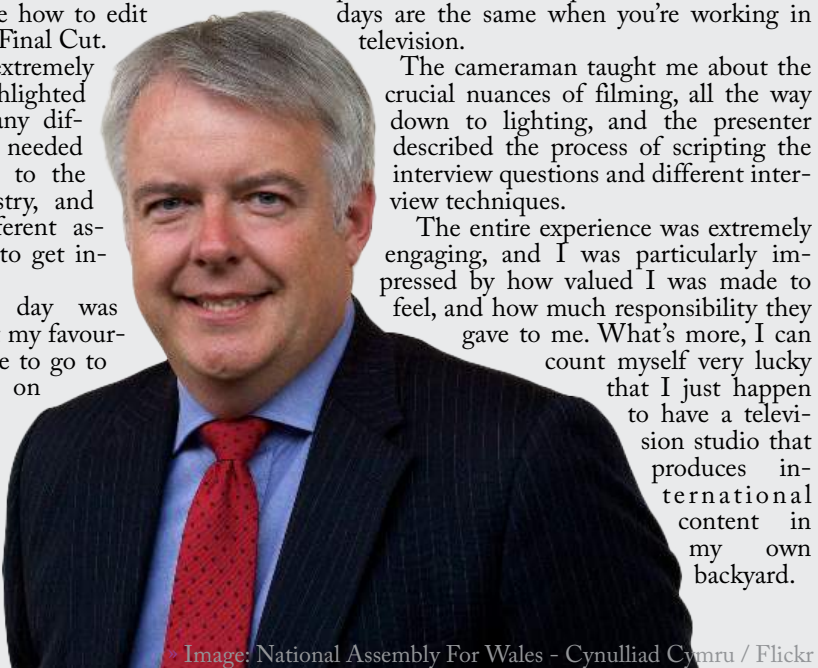


Image: National Assembly For Wales - Cynulliad Cymru / Flickr

Gil-more Girls gets reboot

Why Patrick Sambiasi is excited at the prospect of the show's Netflix revival

Grab your coffees and throw those backwards baseball caps in the air; this is no hoax: the *Gilmore girls* are coming back for a revival season on Netflix.

At first, Lauren Graham (Lorelai Gilmore) tweeted on 19 October saying that she knew something, but could not confirm anything.

Finally, Milo Ventimiglia (Jess Mariano) confirmed through his Facebook account on 30 October: "I'm always vocal about Amy Sherman-Palladino and Dan Palladino (the show's creators): They're two of my favourite people, two of my favourite writers ever, of all time. Just to be able to speak their words again, of course I would do it. So I told them, yeah, of course I'll do it."

Let me try to explain to you how huge this is. *Gilmore Girls* was one of the best family comedy-dramas of all time. It was incredibly witty, with fast-paced dialogues, tears, laughs, and that Gilmore-y warm feeling of belonging to a family and witnessing the growth of a unique mother-daughter relationship.

I have been watching *Gilmore Girls* since it first aired in 2000. In 2007, after the series finale, I was heartbroken. Surely this wasn't the end of everything? No

more coffee runs at Luke's (Scott Patterson) diner, no more spicy quarrels at Emily's (Kelly Bishop) table, no more of those wacky Stars Hollow people, no more Lorelai, no more Rory (Alexis Bledel)... it was the end.

I decided on that day that I would re-watch the whole series at least once a year, and from that day I have kept my promise. I've since made an incredible discovery that I am about to share with you: *Gilmore Girls* is the best show to grow up with.

If you have some time, and want to take a look at the show's Wikipedia page, you will notice that the creators wrote most of the episodes. This is something fairly unusual even today.

The creators' hearts and souls are in every single episode, but they were not allowed to fulfill their own ending because of a contract dispute with the WB back in 2006.

Because of this, Amy Sherman-Palladino and Dan Palladino were thus not involved in the creation of the last season, and were not able to write their own ending. Instead of the four magical words that Amy Sherman-Palladino had prepared for us, we got a very all-over-the-place seventh season, which

tried to give us some sense of closure but still failed at the end.

***Gilmore Girls* was one of the best family comedy-dramas of all time: incredibly witty, with fast-paced dialogues, tears, laughs, and that Gilmore-y warm feeling of belonging to a family.**

The stakes now are high: what we know is that the revival will take place at least eight or nine years after the series ended; it will be composed of four 90-minute episodes, taking place in each season of the year; and the filming is likely to happen in 2016.

According to *TV Line*, Lauren Graham, Kelly Bishop, and Scott Patterson are already in talks to sign contracts. The presence of Jared Padalecki (Dean Forester) and Melissa McCarthy (Sookie St. James) has not been confirmed yet because of their filming schedules. We also know Edward Herrman will not be rejoining the Gilmore family, since he tragically passed away on 31 December 2014. He used to play the authoritative but heartwarming patriarch, Richard Gilmore. I have the feeling that the creators will be able to do something truly incredible in his memory.

The first seven seasons are now available on American Netflix, but not yet on the UK one. And if you have never heard of *Gilmore Girls* before, now is the time to start binge-watching; you will not regret it. Once a Gilmore, always a Gilmore.

Image: Michelle Van Gerven / Flickr

The Boar TV Guide

Boar TV brings you the top five TV shows to watch, as voted by section contributors:

1. **Marvel's Jessica Jones:**
20 Nov / Netflix
Yet another strong effort from Marvel, giving us more great female-led programming to fill the void left by *Agent Carter*.
2. **Doctor Who - 'Face the Raven':**
21 Nov / BBC1
Maisie Williams returns for her third episode of the season. Moffat promises us someone will die.
3. **Adele at the BBC:**
20 Nov / BBC1
Adele says 'Hello' to the BBC in this special, hosted by Graham Norton. She will be premiering some tracks from '25'.
4. **Capital S1 Premiere:**
24 Nov / BBC1
A new "sharp and vivid drama about a London street" wracked by jealousy and greed, from the BBC.
5. **The Man in the High Castle:**
20 Nov / Amazon
What if Germany won WWII? This Philip K. Dick adaptation imagines what the world might look like.

Image: US CPSC / Flickr



States of Delirium: Oh My Goulding!

Jay Chauhan fanboys hard. Real hard.



» Image: Side Stage Collective / Flickr

“I got big dreams baby,” multi-platinum singer-songwriter Ellie Goulding proclaims on ‘Don’t Panic’. And it’s easy to see why. The arrival of her third album, *Delirium*, marks a creative shift into big-pop territory following international smash ‘Love Me Like You Do’.

Back in September, I thought I’d never meet my idol. Then, after endless tweeting, I was invited to a secret *Delirium* listening session with Ellie; in less than 24 hours I was among the first 15 UK fans to hear these tracks. Highlights included the fantastically catchy ‘On My Mind’, with M.I.A.-like electronic claps marking a new direction; it dazzles with a newfound confidence, and embraces her pop sensibilities.

Smooth 90s-esque euro-pop banger ‘Don’t Need Nobody’ showcases Goulding’s experiment with club ready beats. 80s-style gem ‘Something In The Way You Move’ was previewed too.

Numerous bangers later, I finally had my moment. Goulding insisted we asked any desired questions; after discussing *Delirium*’s influences, my fansite Oh My Goulding, and more, we all stood for photos and signings. I surprised Goulding by pulling out a 7” vinyl copy of her debut single; sign-posting both the beginning of my love for Goulding, and for electronic music.

Delirium, along with my forever-associated memories, means Ellie Goulding has not only made the record of the year, but has also made my “big dreams” come true.

In conversation with Jamie Lawson

Beth Hurst speaks with the first signing to Ed Sheeran’s label

Jamie Lawson’s Instagram is filled with ‘video selfies’. His invitation, “say hello, Newcastle!” is heard over thousands of screaming fans, holding lights aloft. As he pans the crowd, Jamie seems to smile – perhaps taking a moment to digest the situation.

“It’s been pretty crazy!” he says, reflecting on his recent support slot for One Direction. “It’s really interesting as a solo act, just up there with a guitar, singing songs in front of One Direction fans. I’m probably not the obvious fit, but they’ve been really supportive and the fans have been fantastic. I was a little apprehensive at first, but I’m really glad I did it.”

“I wanted to make a really warm and open record that was very organic sounding, yet still able to get played on the radio.”

Of course, supporting One Direction is only a warm up for his own headline UK and European tour, “so it’s straight into it” starting in November. “I’m kind of nervous. It’ll be such a different set up and environment: obviously smaller venues, and people there just to see me.”

Jamie is the first artist to be signed to Ed Sheeran’s record label – Gingerbread Man Records. We talk about Ed’s involvement, mainly in helping to choose songs for the (self-titled, UK chart-topping) record while Jamie was on tour with him in Australia, and setting up a meeting with Will Hicks – a producer who’d worked with Ed previously.

“I wanted to make a really warm and open record that was very organic sounding, yet still able to get played on the radio. Ed just left me to it, which is brilliant. It meant I got to make the record I really wanted to make and he just supported it.”

“A few people have asked ‘did you ever think about doing something else?’”

You get a sense talking to Jamie that he was always determined to stay true to the music he wanted to make. We discuss how the thought of giving up never really entered his head: “A few people have asked ‘did you ever think about doing something else?’ I couldn’t really do anything else, and I was probably too lazy to learn! When people heard my songs, they reacted to them, so it was just a case of getting it to enough people. Ed thought similarly, especially that the song ‘Wasn’t Expecting That’ should be heard – and that he could facilitate it. That’s exactly what he’s done.”

I ask about his influences, and what he listens to when he’s not working on

his own music – apart from One Direction, obviously. He lists off Elbow, Irish singer songwriter Gavin James, The Jackson 5 and R.E.M. That is, if he has time to listen to music.

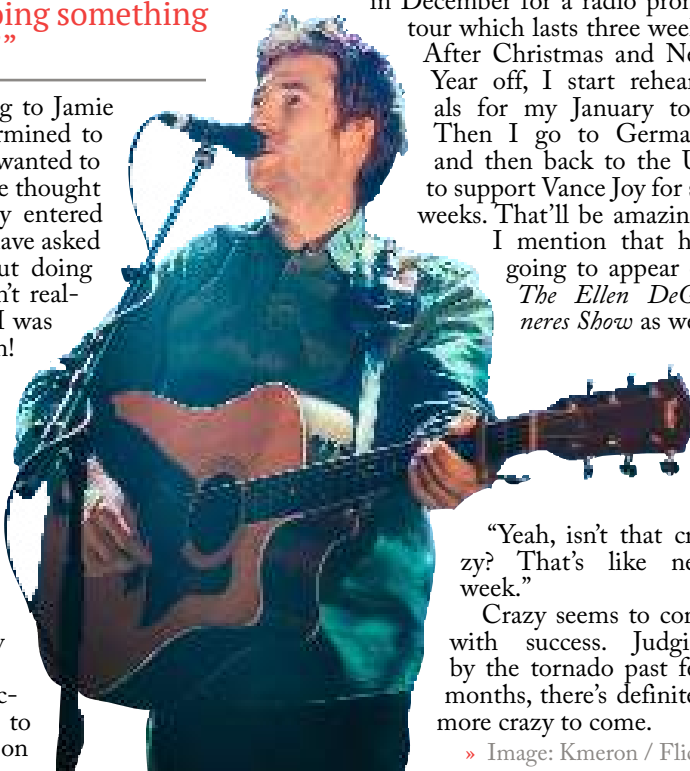
Jamie’s next few months are chock full of gigs, interviews, and tours: “We do Europe throughout November, and I go to the US in December for a radio promo tour which lasts three weeks. After Christmas and New Year off, I start rehearsals for my January tour. Then I go to Germany and then back to the US to support Vance Joy for six weeks. That’ll be amazing.”

I mention that he’s going to appear on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* as well.

“Yeah, isn’t that crazy? That’s like next week.”

Crazy seems to come with success. Judging by the tornado past few months, there’s definitely more crazy to come.

» Image: Kmeron / Flickr



Live Reviews

U2

29 October; O2 Arena, London

With tracks from *Songs of Innocence* alongside old classics — backdropped by footage of war and destruction — U2’s *Innocence + Experience Tour* was nothing short of spectacular. The visuals and sound complimented the show and made the already astonishing musical performance a delight to all of your senses. Equally, Bono’s speeches were powerful; the messages and images provided an inspiring experience for everyone in the audience. The band certainly didn’t disappoint — whether that be living up to their sonic or humanitarian reputation.

Nour Chehab

Randy Newman

30 October; Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow

To spend time with Newman and his piano is a treat; an evening as rewarding for your ears as it is your brain. With fifty years behind him, and such a back catalogue to choose from, it is little surprise that every song played was a classic. A brilliant pianist and a natural showman, Newman commanded the stage with witty remarks and incredible music. Newman may joke about his lack of success, but his live shows tell a different story entirely.

Reece Goodall

Twenty One Pilots

9 November; O2 Institute, Birmingham

As a two-piece, Twenty One Pilots are conscious of making up for the free space on stage. With backflips and crowdsurfing their energy was electrifying from start to finish, so much so that the intimate venue could barely contain it. Accompanied by a dazzling display of multicoloured lights and CO₂ cannons, the crowd aptly responded to the performance on stage; swaying, bouncing, singing back every word and even attempting to keep up with Tyler’s rapping. I still have goose-bumps.

Elena Prest



» Image: Anirud Koul / Flickr

Saint Raymond: in interview

Callum Burrows spoke to Boar Music about albums, awards, tours and collaborations

Nottingham-born Callum Burrows, known better as Saint Raymond, has had one of his most exciting years yet. After releasing a string of EPs, Burrows finally released his debut album *Young Blood* in July, following an array of festival appearances over the summer. Before heading out on what is to be his biggest solo tour yet, Boar Music caught up with him.

Boar Music: Starting with beginnings, originally Saint Raymond was made up of two members – what made you decide to pursue a solo career?

Callum Burrows: I really just wanted to have a go of it. The other guy, Elliot, is still my best mate to this day, but he had a few other things going on and I just left school so wanted to actively pursue this.

BM: Who inspired you to get into music in the first place, and does this inspiration have a lot of influence of your own music?

CB: I had a lot of music around me when I was young, growing up in a house with older siblings, who got me in to stuff like Oasis when I was very young. I even went to see them when I was about seven/eight, which is a pretty cool thing to say. From then, I started to fall in love with artists and bands myself and it went from there really.

BM: This year you appeared on our 'Top 5 Acts for 2015' list, do you think these lists, especially bigger ones like the 'BBC Sound of Poll' and MTV's 'Brand New', are a good way for new artists to be discovered and get the attention they deserve?

CB: I think so, especially as there are so many good artists and bands out there that you can get a little bit lost, so all these things, no matter how small, help to get your name out there really.

BM: In 2013 you released your first EP, *Es-*

capade, under Gabrielle Aplin's label *Never Fade*; how did that signing come about?

CB: I got to know Gabby a little bit on social media and through some mutual friends; she heard my stuff through a songwriter we both still to this day work with. She really liked it and asked if I fancied releasing my EP through *Never Fade*, which I immediately said yes to!

BM: From that point your career rocketed hugely, and you continued releasing EPs, at this time was a debut album always in the pipeline and did you have a clear vision of how you wanted it to sound and who you wanted to produce it?

CB: It was strange because even though I always knew exactly what I wanted to sound like, the album process spanned over a long period of time; I was always having new ideas and thoughts. Because of that, the decision of which producer to work with came quite later on, but it worked well!

BM: *Young Blood* includes some new versions of previously released songs ('Fall At Your Feet', 'Letting Go'); what made you want to re-record them?

CB: I think because when I recorded them, I was only 16, so for one thing my voice had changed. But I also wanted to bring new life to them. There's always going to be people who prefer the originals because that's how it works and I'm the same with artists that I'm a fan of, but I wanted to re-do everything fresh for the album and just make everything a bit bigger.



Enjoyed these? Want to read them in full? Find them online: theboar.org/music

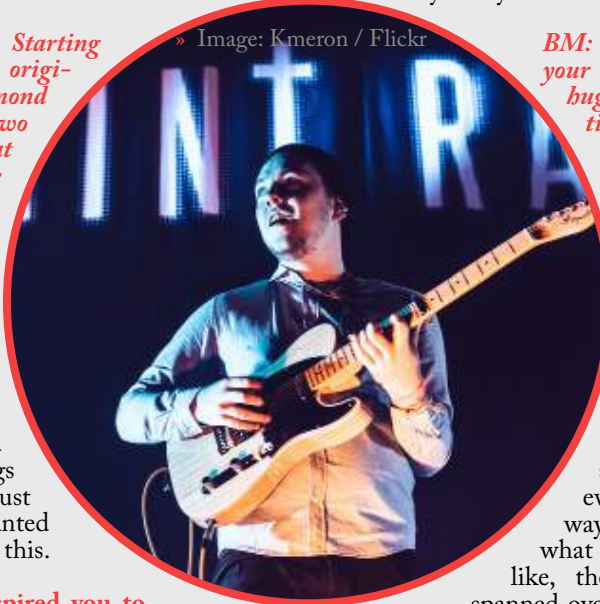


Image: Kmeron / Flickr



Image: Immergut Festival / Flickr

Ghostpoet: "I wouldn't want to make a record with singles in mind"

The Mercury Prize nominee talks writing, radio, and more

Obaro Ejimiwe, aka Ghostpoet, is an artist who, across an EP and three albums, has created a distinct sound whilst exploring a vast array of genres; from experimental trip hop to alternative rock. He's a man unafraid to push himself into uncharted territory, exuding a clear passion for what he does. Boar Music was fortunate enough to catch up with him and explore what this multi-faceted artist is really about.

Boar Music: First of all, congratulations on your Mercury Prize nomination. How does it feel to be nominated for a second time?

Obaro Ejimiwe: It's nice to be acknowledged by something like the Mercury Prize, which I'm a big fan of. I'm quite pleased because it was a record that I really wanted to make. It's nice to be recognised for doing stuff that you want to do, you know?

BM: What has changed in how you approach making music since your first EP, *The Sound of Strangers*?

OE: I have access to musicians I guess. Playing live for a good four years, I've been able to meet new people and meet a band. I felt like I wanted to make a guitar record this time, just to see what I could do with that, and I just happened to know quite a few guitarists.

BM: What sort of place were you in when you came to write *Shedding Skin*?

OE: I was in London [laughs]. Mentally I guess I was in a happier place. I was gathering ideas whilst touring the last record and it was an accumulation of those ideas; fresh thoughts, current affairs, life experiences along the way. Those are the things that make up the record.

BM: You mentioned that you've been able to get more collaborators as you've gone on. What

draws you to collaborate, and what do you feel it adds to your music?

OE: It's more a vocal thing really. I like contrast and I wrote songs with particular voices in mind because I wouldn't call myself the best singer in the world. I wanted to have people involved in the choruses, so I went out of my way to make songs with particular voices in mind.

BM: You said in a 2013 interview that you don't like singles because they tear an album apart. Obviously the music industry is very driven by singles; what do you think the impact of this is?

OE: Well, it's a business model. In terms of myself, I don't really think about that. I'm in the discussion in terms of what song should be a single but I'm never in the making process thinking that I need to make a single that will work for radio. It would stifle my creativity to be making music for a particular person or radio station. It's tricky because it's a business model and I can see the point of it because it helps put a campaign together. I hope that it'll change in the future.

BM: And I guess you could say that at the end of the day it allows a casual music listener to latch onto a band or artist, and then develop their interest from there.

OE: That is very true, it can definitely be a gateway for people. This is the single, and then you see a video performance of the single. All it takes is for someone to hear it and realise that's something they'd be interested in. I just feel from a creative point of view that I wouldn't want to make a record with singles in mind you know? I'd rather make a piece of work and then have discussions with the label.

Matthew Kent

Albums

THE HELL
Brutopia

★★★



The Watford-based, satirical metal outfit has significantly widened their scope by incorporating elements of 80s hair metal on album three. Ambition doesn't always equate to quality though: take 'Shite Club', a rather uninspired attack on club culture. And five skits (although individually hilarious) on a 13 track album is too many, spoiling the album overall. There are several outstanding moments, however, particularly initial singles 'Sick' and 'I've Got Loads of Money', which respectively feature possibly the only good hair metal screams ever recorded, and the line "I'm on that Waitrose shit".

Will Copping

Bill Ryder-Jones
West Kirby County Primary

★★★★



From co-founding the Coral in 1996 to composing *If...* (an imaginary film score for an Italo Calvino novel) Bill Ryder-Jones commands a comprehensive musical base. *West Kirby County Primary* improves on its predecessor, complimenting Mersey-beat melodies with heavier, more distorted bursts to amplify the most strained peaks. Ryder-Jones' ear for a catchy guitar riff makes 'Catharine and Huskisson' a standout track, and Radiohead-esque 'You Can't Hide A Light With the Dark' underlines the guitarist's versatility. Contemplative end, 'Seabirds', rewards the listener with a glimmer of hope.

James Haworth

EL VY
Return to the Moon

★★★



Matt Berninger, of indie darlings The National, and multi-instrumentalist Brent Knopf, of Ramona Falls, offer up their debut: a flawed but ultimately enjoyable collection of indie rock eccentricities. This isn't just a limp retread of either artist's previous work: Knopf's quirky, eclectic music with Berninger's distinctive baritone form something entirely new. Highlights include 'Paul is Alive' and 'Need a Friend'. The former, a dreamy track driven by minimal synths, has a palpable air of nostalgia. Front loading and wasted potential, however, spoil an otherwise excellent album.

Jack Short

Kurt Vile
b'lieve i'm goin down

★★★★★



True, his lackadaisical voice and hippy-ish long hair may make him appear horizontally chilled out, but to label KV a "long-hair cosmic Philly pop stoner-songwriter", as Mojo did, is just lazy stereotyping. On this, his sixth studio album, a more intimate, stripped down, acoustic direction is achieved. It's despairingly melancholic: banjo and piano combine on occasion to create simple, wistful melodies. Elements of the stoner mythos make for only yet even more melancholy and something uncannily resembling a break up album. King Kurt seems sadder these days, but still reigns supreme.

Christopher Sanders



Editor: Ali Jones
games@theboar.org

Interview: Mental Block Gaming

Nida Ahmad speaks to an ex-Warwick student turned Indie developer

» Image: Mental Block Gaming

In this issue, *Boar Games* spoke to Daniel Carter, who graduated from Warwick this year. He co-founded Mental Block gaming, who create three-player Minecraft maps. They've been highly successful, with over 170,000 downloads between their four maps and even getting the infamous Yogscast jumping on the bandwagon. Dan is the creative lead, brainstorming the ideas that bring a game to life.

Boar Games (Nida Ahmed): What is Mental Block Gaming and what made you start it up?

Daniel Carter: MBG is made up of three of us: myself, our coder James, and Jamie, who's in charge of marketing. We specialise in making 3 player puzzle maps within *Minecraft* and began during the exam period of June 2013 when we were procrastinating with our revision. We played around with *Minecraft* because it was an easy and accessible 'engine' to start in and it had a great community, so we came up with our first game *There is no Learning Curve*. It was cool to put a range of ideas into an actual game. We put it online to see what would happen and low and behold we got some downloads and that was the beginning of it.

BG: What's a 'day in the life' at MBG like as a designer?

DC: It's really varied and there's lots to do. It depends on what you want to work on that day, there are lots of tasks to work on at the beginning of a project such as figuring out structure or working on sound effects or script writing. You can always swap to another task which is great. Today, I watched a few playthroughs of *Prismatic* and *Learning Curve 2* and finished some translations for the latter, as well as contributing to some forum posts on the *Minecraft* forums. So even though I do design, I do other things too. Designing depends on where you are in a project. I go through the design draft first, thinking of what game to come up with. You can get inspiration from anywhere. There are lots of things to consider, like the genre and, especially if you're thinking about marketing,

how long it'll take to make a game. One of our maps took six months longer than expected to make which isn't uncommon in the industry, so you have to be careful with stating a release date publicly.

I then form designs into prototypes to see if they work; I work with James and ask if it's possible. As a designer you have to think of the technical limitations. You don't need to know the answers but you need to think of the right questions. Then you do the development which is the tweaks and the numbers, making sure everything works properly, this takes up the most of your time, making sure you're keeping to your core theme. After, you're into the polish stage where you look at places that could be neater.

BG: What learning experiences have you had?

DC: You live and learn. You make something, you see others play it and see what was good and bad about it. There's this big thing that once a game is released people think the designer didn't spot things that were wrong, but you're well aware of your flaws, it's just that no clean solutions were found or able to be implemented in time. Online games that rely on patching like *League of Legends* get to continually improve, but most often you are time bound by game releases dates. You learn from your previous games when you design your next game so you know it will be fun.

BG: What do you love about making games? What don't you like as much?

DC: My favourite thing about it is watching playthroughs. Seeing stuff work out is awesome, every person has a different experience even if they're playing the same game. When it all falls into place and everything goes to plan it feels great. I enjoy the design work, script writing and voice acting as well as recruiting others to do voice acting too, but I have a drama background so that's where it comes from.

I dislike the repetitive tasks. You have to repeat steps when coding. Also sometimes there are disagreements within the team on what will be on the game. I think the biggest

thing is compromise and trying to find the exact reasoning and the root of the issue.

BG: User experience is huge right now. How do you apply your ideas to not only make sure that your maps work, but are also fun for the player?

DC: We don't just use in-house testing. We use people that haven't been involved in the development of the game with a range of interests and competences. There are many conventions in gaming, but while it may seem obvious to you, it's not always clear for everyone.

You need to empower the player, make them feel smart and making challenges rewarding. It's a difficult balance, because you have to make it challenging but not impossible.

BG: The sector is incredibly fast paced and changing all the time, how have you been able to deal with these demands?

DC: We haven't been in the industry long but our biggest challenge is keeping up to date with *Minecraft* updates. For example, the Unity 5 update allowed better user interface implementation; for us, *Minecraft* updates have given us better creative freedom through improved command blocks. We work around the technology and trends, learning how things work but also keeping an eye on the competition and adapting our game to build upon new ideas.

BG: Having taken the non-traditional route of studying French and German, how do you think that's influenced making your way into the sector?

DC: Use your skill set to maximise your potential. There was little overlap between my course and game design, so I did a lot in my spare time. It's an advantage when you come to interviews as it shows you have a passion because you created this work of your own accord. The downside is that it was a lot more work, especially in my final year, balancing my coursework while building my portfolio. That said, it won't seem like work to you if you enjoy it. We've had French,

German, Spanish, Dutch and Finnish translations of our games. It gives us a bigger pool of play-testers. Any course you do, there are benefits to it; it comes down to how you apply what you've learnt.

BG: The industry is notorious for being incredibly competitive and hard to break into. What other things have you done to ensure you stand out?

DC: You speak to people. You network and go to gaming events like Gamecity and EGX. There's lots of groups out there, like 'Midlands Indies', making sure you're getting involved with others. It's nice to have a core group to test your stuff who will give good feedback. I went to Warwick Game Design society on campus - it was perfect. My weakness is coding so it was nice to be around programmers to learn how things work. I started teaching myself how to use Gamemaker and have started to learn using C++. I took part in the competitions and won a few. I made a few games before I joined WGD, I watched a lot on YouTube, read a lot and played a lot. I was more astute when playing and tried to understand how mechanics work.

BG: Any tips for students looking to get into the gaming industry?

DC: Start now. The important part is finishing a game, but make it simple and evolve as you go along based on what you've learnt. It's better to work on short projects, then as your confidence increases you can go big. As a member of the community, be constructive with your criticism, be positive; word spreads and it's important to be responsible for your actions. Make something that you'd want to play rather than making something you feel you have to. Maybe look into niche markets. Be approachable and have a great demeanour, your personality goes into your games. It's great to make a tech demo, but if you have something that can be downloaded from a store, it looks amazing and employers love it.

Until Next Time...

November 13

Football Manager 2016

Do you love *FIFA* but are plagued by tragically weak thumbs? Love football but have two left feet? Think you could do a better job than [insert currently popular/failing Premier League manager here]? Then look no further than the newest instalment of the *Football Manager* franchise. Boasting such game-changing mechanics as expanded press interaction, more realistic injuries, and 'Create-A-Club', 2016's version, available only on PC and Mac, looks to be the best way to not play football yet.

Ali Jones



» Image: Bago Games / Flickr

November 20

Star Wars Battlefront

After ten years and two failed attempts, the long awaited sequel/reboot to the *Battlefront* series arrives in the form of *Star Wars Battlefront*. With *Battlefield* developers DICE at the helm, the game promises to offer a more refined and focused experience than its more arcade-y predecessors. The game has also benefitted from access to Lucasarts' sound and design department, helping to create a game that feels true to the *Star Wars* universe. *Star Wars Battlefront* releases on November 20th for Playstation 4, Xbox One and PC.

Cameron Clark

Keeping it in the Family

Boar Games Writers review PC games recently published by Warwick alumni

Induction - Bryan Gale

I'm a big fan of puzzle games. Where AAA titles receive huge public support, puzzle gaming is something often kept to oneself; not because it's antisocial, but it just isn't exciting in the same way as FPS and MOBA games. Franchises such as *League of Legends* and *Fallout* may be making headlines but, behind the scenes, puzzle games prove a huge creative outlet for upcoming designers.

One such game is *Induction*, made with the Unity game engine (so you could probably run it on a pocket calculator). You take control of a surprisingly athletic cube in a surprisingly isometric world and – get this – you have to get to the end of each level. Not exactly groundbreaking stuff so far. You roll up and down small ledges; you push cylinders onto checkpoints; oh, and you rewind time to clone yourself.

It's a simple concept, and not one that will revolutionise gaming, but *Induction* makes excellent use of this basic mechanic to intro-

duce endless complexity. Upon rewinding, a clone of you appears at the start and repeats your earlier path before disappearing. This necessitates well-choreographed and often deviously simple solutions to problems that can look impossible.

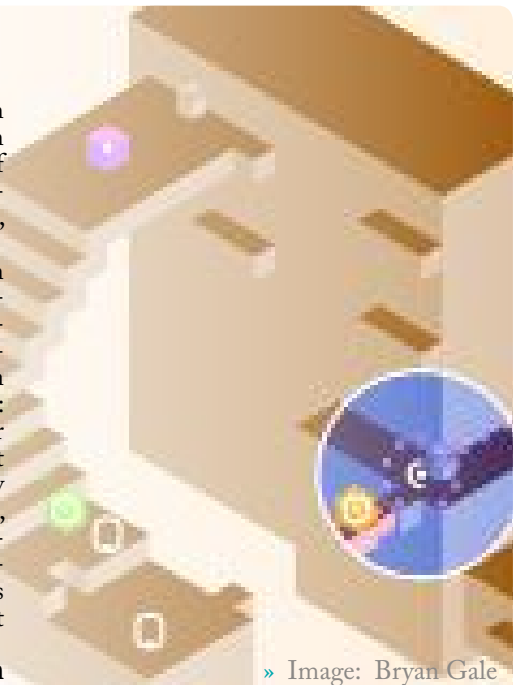
It's a simple concept, but *Induction* makes excellent use of this basic mechanic

Induction is graphically simple; pastel colours and an isometric viewpoint are open and unimposing, leaving little to distract you from your task. The controls are simple – four directional movement, a rewind, and a reset (for the awful moment when you push mission critical cylinders into a bottomless pastel abyss). The level selector has a really nice touch: you can scroll through all the puzzles

you have completed, and hover over to watch replays of your solutions. It doesn't add much to your playing experience, but gives a bit of polish to the product. The soundtrack provides a suitable atmosphere – not distracting, but still dynamic and engaging.

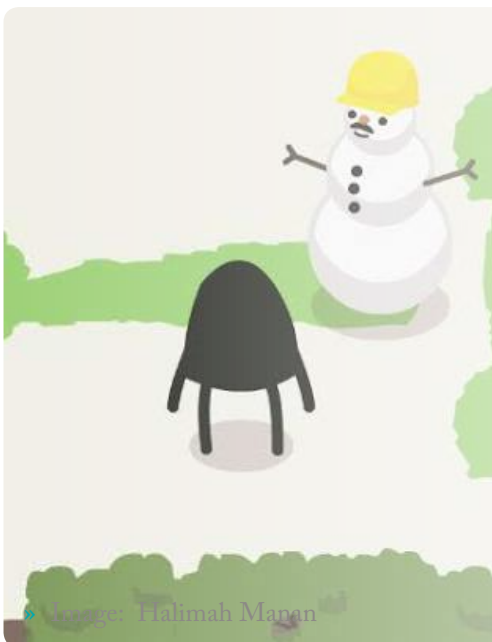
The key advantage of puzzle games (with a few exceptions) is that puzzles drive progress: the satisfaction of solving a conundrum you've been staring at for several minutes is often more fulfilling than story driven sequences. But a fine balance must be struck: too easy, and most players will move on for greater challenges; too hard, and most won't get far past the tutorial. I'm pleased to say that *Induction* finds this equilibrium well, subtly tutoring new mechanics before throwing a googly to see if you've really paid attention. Due for release in Q1 2016, *Induction* is a well assembled and rewarding puzzler that can leave anyone scratching their head.

Matthew Hoskin



» Image: Bryan Gale

A Good Snowman is Hard to Build - Alan Hazelden



Released in February, *A Good Snowman Is Hard To Build* is a top-down puzzle game. Set in a garden full of hedges, benches, trees, and snow, you take control of a creature whose mission is to build (and name) various snowmen from the snowballs lying around. Despite its simple premise, the result is both adorable and challenging.

Although *Snowman* has similar mechanics to the classic *Sokoban*, it is not your average 2D puzzle game. Despite its minimalism, the world of the garden comes to life as you interact with it; from the hedges surrounding each section to the potted plants and bird-baths, not to mention my absolute favourite: you can hug the snowmen you build! Along with the crunch of snow as you move around, the game's design makes it pleasant to play, despite the somewhat difficult puzzles.

In order to progress through *Snowman*, you must solve each puzzle by stacking snowballs (in decreasing size) and building snowmen. Although it might sound easy, there's

an art to choosing where to roll the balls to ensure you don't gather too much snow, as one false step could force you to start over. With a few delayed responses to keypresses, it's quite easy to overstep and end up trapping the snowball, but, with an undo and reset button at the ready, mistakes are easily remedied.

Although it might sound easy, there's an art to choosing where to roll the snowballs.

While you might expect the game to progress in terms of difficulty, slowly forcing you to confront harder puzzles across the garden, you'll find the opposite. Because it's non-linear, once you've solved one puzzle, often a few new puzzles are unlocked. And, as you move closer and closer to the end of the real world section of the game, puzzle difficulty greatly varies. One of the last puzzles I com-

pleted proved to be quite simple, though the very last was certainly quite difficult. This, of course, helps when you're stuck on a puzzle as it means you don't have to stop playing completely until you're ready to face it again.

However, the non-linear nature of the game can be quite confusing as, contrary to my initial hopes, you're not supposed to move between sections to solve puzzles at first. Though you'll eventually understand why there are sections at all (unless, like many other reviewers, you missed a crucial part of the game) this is somewhat a symptom of an overarching lack of clarity about certain features.

Regardless of the few drawbacks, and despite appearing quite straight-forward, the team behind *Snowman* have developed a clever and exceedingly adorable game. When you need a break from the dreary November weather, or the numerous essays you're supposed to be writing, this is the game to play.

Halimah Manan

Sokobond - Alan Hazelden

Puzzle games are fun. Even the most confusing and complicated issues become easier when important information is pushed at you in a non-threatening way. Learning facts is easy when you are given gratification in some form. Combining these little facts, you get a winning recipe for bringing in audiences. *Sokobond* is a title which proves this known rule and makes learning chemistry much more enjoyable than just classic textbook reading.

The idea behind it is simple. Your task is to make molecules by moving around an atom and binding it with others set on the stage. At later levels you are able to sever already made bonds, bond complex atoms such as carbon and move whole molecules around, all while learning interesting little everyday facts about the compounds you make. There are more than 30 levels of varying difficulty and, after playing three and a half hours, I am nowhere near done with it. Each stage is shaped

according to its name and like in every puzzle game, you learn to overcome the obstacles of each of level by playing and trying every possible route till you succeed.

I really enjoy this game as it made me review my high-school knowledge of chemis-

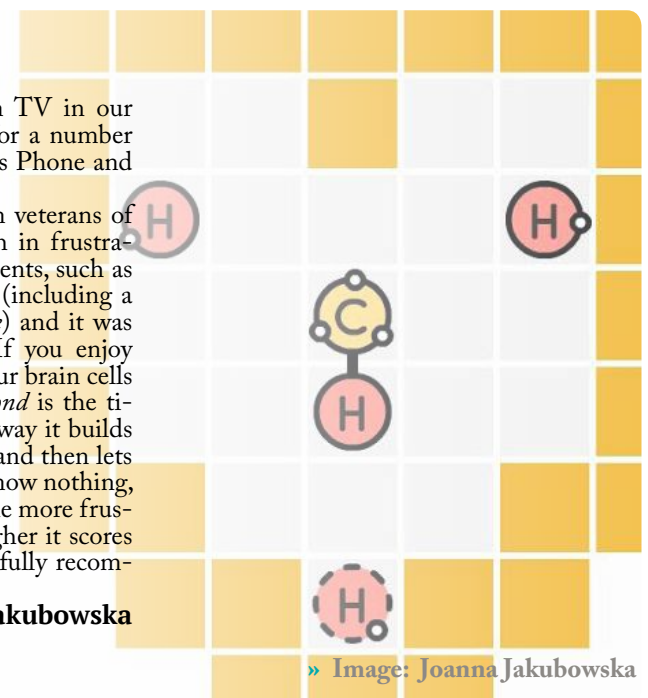
Sokobond is a title where even veterans of logic games will grit their teeth in frustration.

try and, at times, it actually cleared up a few issues I did not fully understand. It's also a good game all on its own, even if you know chemistry through and through. Its minimal design is one of its main strengths, with the gameplay set to a minimalist score which doesn't distract you as you figure out the proper way for the atom to move. It supports the use of a joypad, and not just mouse & keyboard, which I was more than happy to

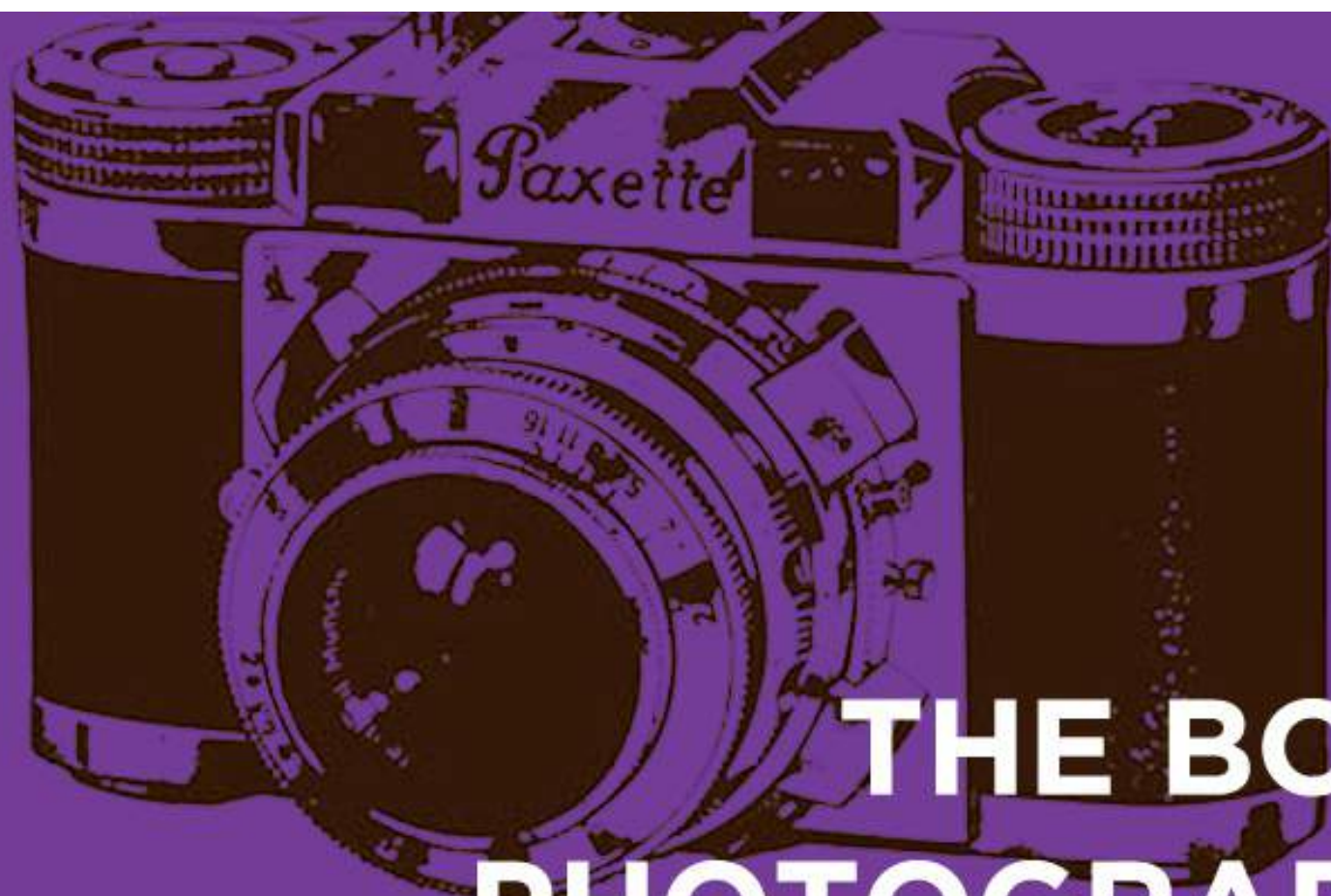
use when playing the game on TV in our living room. It's also available for a number of platforms, Android, Windows Phone and iOS among them.

Sokobond is a title where even veterans of logic games will grit their teeth in frustration. There are Easter Egg elements, such as shoutouts to other indie games (including a stage dedicated to *Papers, Please*) and it was really fun to uncover them. If you enjoy tricky puzzle games that give your brain cells a much needed workout, *Sokobond* is the title to go for. I actually love the way it builds the player's confidence at times and then lets you know all too well that you know nothing, even after hours of gameplay. The more frustrating a puzzle game is, the higher it scores on my personal list, and thus I fully recommend playing this one.

Joanna Jakubowska



» Image: Joanna Jakubowska



THE BOAR PHOTOGRAPHY MEET & GREET



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Editor: Jack Prevezer
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Should you travel or work after graduating?

» Image: Mav / Wikimedia Commons

Ana Clara Paniago says TRAVEL

Soon enough, some of you will be walking out of this university with a degree, but maybe not a career. And that's okay. The year after university is an excellent time to take a step back, relax, and of course, travel the world.

Think about it; the transition between the bubble that is Warwick University and the 'real world' is a larger gap than you have ever had to encounter before. It is only natural to feel scared and uncertain about the future – which is why taking a year out now would be the perfect opportunity.

The transition between the bubble that is Warwick University and the 'real world' is a larger gap than you have ever had to encounter before

This is essentially Gap Year 2.0, with an improved and more mature version of yourself. This time around, you can focus on what you can do to re-enter the job market in a year's time.

It's always possible to find relevant experiences to complement your degree. For example, budding journalists can write for local magazines, law graduates may be able to work with human rights and students from WBS can take internships abroad.

Even if you do not want to take a full year

out, travelling by yourself during the summer is a sure-fire way to improve your CV.

Of course, many students will be looking to work on their year out. It will definitely be easier for you to get a small job in a new country following university, than it ever was as an 18 year old fresh out of sixth form.

And if you can't work, volunteer! There are many programs that may be able to fund your year abroad, such as teaching English as a foreign language.

Many graduates opt for studying a TEFL course, a qualification that can be studied across the UK. It enables you to teach English as a foreign language across the world, demonstrating fantastic communication skills – a valuable asset to any CV.

Other options include becoming a free tour guide that operates only on tips; companies such as Sandeman's New Europe work in this fashion.

Most importantly, you get to see the world, so don't miss out on this amazing opportunity. After more than three years of hard work, you deserve it.

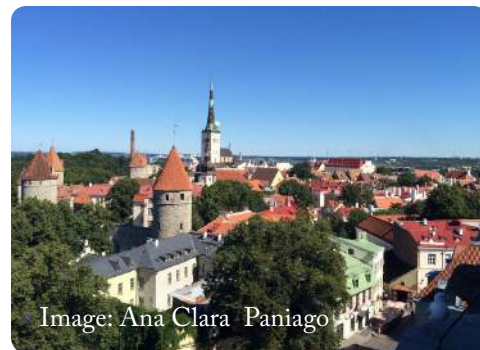


Image: Ana Clara Paniago

Nicola Paling says WORK

In an ideal world I would love to go travelling after uni. The idea of leaving the world of stress and exams, packing my bags and shirking all responsibility sounds great.

Unfortunately though, you have to be realistic about these things, and life just isn't that ideal.

Admittedly, going travelling after uni does seem like the perfect time to go. With few commitments and the possibility of a graduate job seeming ever further out of reach, you're pretty much free to do anything you want!

The only obstacle really is money, and unfortunately it is quite a big one. The better option seems to be to wait until you're a bit older, with (hopefully) a bit more money, and more life experience before you go travelling.

By this point you'll probably be bored of your job anyway, and be desperate to escape the real world and relive the glory days of your youth. By then, you'll be experienced enough to avoid the usual horror stories associated with student travel.

Everyone talks about going travelling and making the most of it 'while you're young' to such an extent that the pressure to do so can get a bit overwhelming.

I personally think that the stereotype that you somehow 'find yourself' when you go travelling is actually ridiculous, and simply a way of justifying hiding from reality.

Also, as fun as taking a post-uni gap

year sounds, it also feels like a way of delaying entering the real world for yet another year and I can't help thinking this will only make matters worse in the long run. None of us really want to enter the world of adult responsibility, but it can't be avoided forever!

Furthermore, if you're not managing to gain valuable work experience along the way, you're running the risk of having to explain

"You'll probably be bored of your job anyway and be desperate to escape the real world and relive the glorious days of your youth"

to an employer why you decided a gap year was a good idea.

I realise this is starting to sound rather cynical, but it's the unfortunate truth. Going travelling after uni may seem like a great idea, but the truth is that it's far from logical. It's far better to just face up to reality and the world of work now. I mean, how bad can it be?



Image: edar / Pixabay

The craziest jobs in the world

Lauren Hurrell explores some of the more unorthodox career opportunities available to those willing to travel

If post-university job fears have you tearing your hair out and a nine-to-five routine simply won't cut it, why not try becoming an ostrich babysitter in South Africa, or a professional apologist in Japan?

These weird and wonderful jobs from around the world show that people really will do anything for money.

While skydiving may be a popular sport, in countries such as the US, smokejumpers take this one step further by adding the extra danger of a raging wildfire.

These 'firefighters of the skies' parachute out of planes in order to reach wildfires in remote places, using little more than saws to stop fires from spreading.

If this still sounds tempting, bear in mind the landing simulator they use is nicknamed 'The Mutilator', which drops trainees at a

maximum speed of 10mph.

A somewhat less exciting role is that of the professional people-pushers who, quite literally, shove unfortunate Japanese passengers on to trains. Working during the morning rush hours, these conductors and train attendants make sure the trains are as full as possible by pushing commuters through the train doors until there is no space left.

While this certainly isn't a job for those wanting to make friends, for those who do, Japan has agency staff who will offer you the chance to hire friends for the day. And if you mess up? Just hire a professional apologist to say sorry for you.

If good personal hygiene is high on your must-have list, or at least in other people, professional earwax cleaning in India might sound like the right choice. It is a gener-

ations-old profession based in Mumbai which involves inserting a needle covered in cotton wool into a client's ear.

If getting too close to bodily fluids is not your thing, best to avoid both this and the common job of the lowest caste in India – 'manual scavenging' or picking up excrement with your bare hands.

...why not try becoming an ostrich babysitter in South Africa, or a professional apologist in Japan?

In comparison, the job of an ostrich babysitter is both clean and fluffy. In South

Africa, lucky jobseekers are hired to watch over young ostriches to separate any fights that break out, almost exactly like babysitting children.

Unlike children, however, these birds can grow up to 2.7m and their curious nature means that they are at risk of getting eaten by predators, making the job a lot less cutesy than it sounds.

Overall, it is probably safer to stick to the jobs offered at the careers fairs.



Got any unusual
career experiences?
Tweet us:
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The perks of working abroad

Nicholas Buxey explains why you should combine business with pleasure

The UK job market sucks. As the highest-paying industries are flooded with eager graduates, many people with a firm grasp of languages find themselves working menial and low-paying jobs.

But why are they staying here? In fact, why is anyone? After all, it's perfectly possible to move abroad with only the basics, thanks to the overwhelming use of English worldwide. In fact, this could even be a boon in the right industry.

The employment prospects aren't the only reason to decamp for different climes. Our nation is notoriously expensive, and many other countries have significantly lower living costs in multiple areas, making the prospect of a life abroad even more attractive. For example, in Italy, a bottle of decent wine will only set you back two euros, which is much less than you'd pay for a bottle of sewage here.

Although pursuing a career abroad can seem daunting, it's not that hard

Although pursuing a career abroad can seem daunting, it's not that hard. Careers sites exist there too, and word of mouth is regularly used to recruit. With translation apps that can turn a webpage into passable English at the click of a mouse, it's become laughably easy.

However, it goes without saying that de-

This isn't to say that getting a job will always be easy

pending on the size of the company, you might have to learn at least some of the language to secure a position. And the more you learn, the easier it'll be to actually live there.

This isn't to say that getting a job will always be easy. In some countries, forms of nepotism are rife, and you could struggle to penetrate the complex relationships that exist.

You'll also need to budget for a good couple of months before you're settled – think finding a place to live, setting up all the services you'll require for a working life. Depending on where you go, be prepared to navigate a labyrinth of bureaucracy just to do all this, hence the generous time you should allow.

Furthermore, should you decide to come back, it's easy to demonstrate your resourcefulness in single-handedly building a life for yourself. And it makes doing all the same in the UK seem like a breeze, as you'll have managed to handle it all in a country with different traditions.

Added to that, you'll be an asset for any international company thanks to the experience you've had dealing with people from all over the world. It really could be the best decision you've ever made.

» Image: rhythmuswege / Pixabaylines



Come fly with me: careers abroad

The coolest travelling careers, outlined by Katie Greenbank

Civil Servant in the Diplomatic Service

Focusing on international affairs, diplomats travel the world, protecting and promoting the interests of their country and its citizens as well as offering advice to government ministers at home to help them develop foreign policy.

International Aid Worker

A career as an international aid worker will allow you to make a difference to people's lives while you travel. An interest in social work and a background in education, healthcare or agriculture is key to this job, as you will be helping local people and communities recover from natural disasters or conflicts.

English Teacher

What better way to see the world than by teaching your own language in a foreign country? There are vast numbers of people across the globe who want to learn English and a relevant qualification can take as little as a month to acquire.

Flight Attendant

This is probably the most obvious job in the travel industry. Although it requires you to be very flexible with your working hours, it will allow you to glimpse hundreds of cities across the globe.

Interpreter

If you are confident and fluent in another language, then this is certainly a career to consider. As an interpreter, you would be mainly working at international conferences, lectures and meetings, providing quick and accurate translation of discussions.

Archaeologist

Archaeologists frequently travel to remote locations across the globe to find, recover and preserve artefacts from ancient civilisations and cultures.

Retail Buyer

This is the perfect career choice for any budding fashionista with a wanderlust. Retail buyers attend trade shows and meetings throughout the country and sometimes even across the world to identify consumer trends and make decisions about product purchases.

Athletic Recruiter

Becoming an athletic recruiter will allow you to combine travel with a love of sport. Scouts are employed by professional sports organisations or academies to travel the country and even the globe to seek out and recruit any gifted athletes.



» Image: Flickr / Austrian Airlines

Culture shocks: being a cowgirl in Australia

For most people, thinking of Australia instinctively leads to images of sandy beaches, kangaroos and the famous Sydney Opera House.

These were the exact images I had running through my head when I booked my trip to Australia. Never did I even remotely consider cowboys, goats and barn dancing!

Well, I definitely had a shock waiting for

me as my tour bus pulled up at Kroombit Cattle Station.

We were deep in the outback, with no signs of civilisation for miles around. Everyone wore cowboy hats and bandannas, and lived in wooden cabins.

The kitchen, if you can call it that, was an open fire with benches to prepare the food. Making toast consisted of placing home-

made bread on a rack over the fire and hoping for the best.

We were deep in the outback, with no signs of civilisation for miles around

Each night, we were dished up 'mystery meat' to enjoy. If you didn't fancy being that adventurous, you didn't eat. I was lucky enough to be presented with the goat, rather than the crocodile!

During the daytime, I was horse riding, rounding up the cattle, lassoing goats, and clay pigeon shooting.

The horse riding was nothing like the holiday activities you would do when camping in England, this was riding across the dry, deserted outback to check the cattle.

Lassoing goats was quite an experience, picking out a goat from the crowd and attempting to get a rope around it, whilst ant-

lers were heading towards you from all directions.

The evening activities were just as exciting as the daytime, consisting of whips and dancing. I had the chance to try out whipping, and it was painful. It's surprisingly difficult to make that impressive whipping sound, without causing a personal injury.

The barn dancing was literally like what you see in the movies, everyone was dressed up in cowboy clothes and danced in sync, which is impressive for me.

Three days I spent living the life of a cowgirl, and it's hard to say I have ever experienced something so bizarre. As naïve as I may seem, I didn't realise that people actually lived as cowboys in the Australian outback! From the words they spoke, to the food they ate, it was like living in a different world, far from Australia.

Claire Fuller

» Image: Boticario / Wikimedia Commons



THE BOAR SPORTS INTRODUCES...

POWER RANKINGS

THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES
TO BE THE BEST TEAM ON CAMPUS?
LET THE SCORES DECIDE.

Student Careers & Skills: your future, your way

Did you know that employers including creative industries, sport, HR, marketing, PR and public sector really want to meet Warwick students and we organise lots of events on campus to make this happen. It's not all about jobs in finance!

Your degree doesn't need to decide your career path for you. Lots of employers take applications from students from any subject and Warwick graduates are employed in a wide range of job sectors. What's important is making the most of your skills and experiences and working out how to talk to employers about them.

We can help you find the job that's right for you. If you've got some ideas, have a plan in mind or don't know where to start - don't worry! Visit our website at warwick.ac.uk/careersandskills, talk to our help desk advisers in University House or email careers@warwick.ac.uk.

We offer online resources including tips on applications and interviews, a job vacancy search, one-to-one advice and a huge range of events and workshops. Nearly 300 employers of all sizes, from a broad range of sectors, come on to campus every year and only a quarter are from finance and insurance.

Our big employer fairs took place earlier this term, as well as events for not-so-obvious sectors we know students are interested in. Next term we are planning events on International Development, Charities and the Voluntary sector, Radio, Film and TV, and Health and Social Care. You can also get experience in other ways, like volunteering in local schools through Warwick Volunteers, or working in one of hundreds of roles on campus including at the Arts Centre or with the International office.

Keep an eye on our events programme and other opportunities on our website.

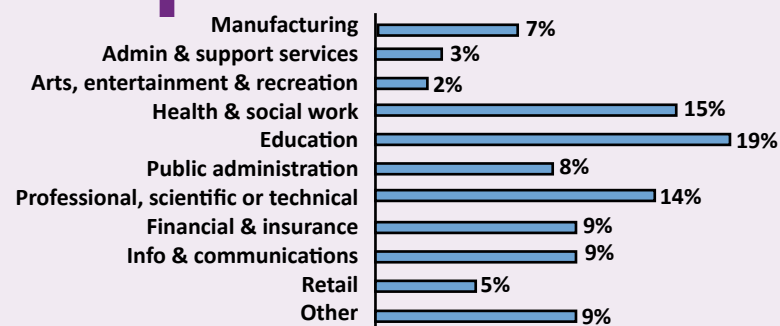
Did you know...

75%

of employers recruit students from any degree discipline**



Where do Warwick grads work?*



J.P.Morgan

A man and a woman are walking outdoors, engaged in conversation. The man is on the left, wearing a light-colored blazer over a white shirt. The woman is on the right, wearing a striped blazer and a black skirt. They are both looking towards each other. The background is a blurred city street with buildings and trees.

Go beyond your potential.

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New Column: Ask El Capitán

Men's Football
Captain, Sam Brook,
answers seven quick
questions

» Image: Warwick Sport

Boar Sport: Who is your all time sporting idol?

Sam Brook: When I was younger it was Alan Smith, but then he joined Man U so that threw a spanner in the works. After that, probably Fabien Delph, may not seem like an idol to many but if you saw him in the 2008/09 season you'd see where I'm coming from. That said, now he's sitting on the bench at Man City there's not much to idolise.

BS: Which sports team do you follow with the most enthusiasm?

SB: Leeds United

BS: Describe your favourite sporting memory?

SB: Leeds haven't provided much by way of great sporting memories over the past 20 years. I'd probably say being at Elland Road when a ten-man Leeds side came from behind to beat Bristol Rovers 2-1 in the last game of the 2009/10 season.

BS: Are you a fan of pies in sporting arenas? If so, where was the best one served?

SB: Chicken Balti. Notts County, all day.

BS: Have you ever done something silly whilst circling and lost some of your authority?

SB: Never done anything that outrageous, that's not really me. Always gets a bit hostile, if you get a game slightly wrong when running circle though.

BS: How do you and your team get extra fired up for Varsity matches?

SB: Nothing like a good inspirational movie quotes video on YouTube...

BS: Where is the best place you've been on a club tour?

SB: Close one as we only ever go to Tenerife or Gran Canaria. Probably Tenerife for me.



» Image: Warwick Sport

Comment Corner: Careers Special

From the big screen to Beijing: breaking into the world of sports TV production

» Image: Su Collins

From the day I saw *Jurassic Park* at the tender age of six, I have wanted to pursue a career in the film industry. At a similar age, my love for sport also blossomed. Whilst one felt more legitimate as a career path, the other became simply a hobby. People (myself included) often limit the thought of a career in Sport, especially in relation to television and journalism.

I am a Film student, I love my course and I had never considered the prospect of a career away from the film. I fancied myself as more of a Quentin Tarantino than a Gabby Logan. However, this all changed when I stumbled across a life changing opportunity over the summer of 2015. I was lucky enough to be offered a one-month internship at a Beijing TV sport channel. It was a once in a lifetime

opportunity and I was more than happy to be working at a TV chan-

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nel that specialised in sport.

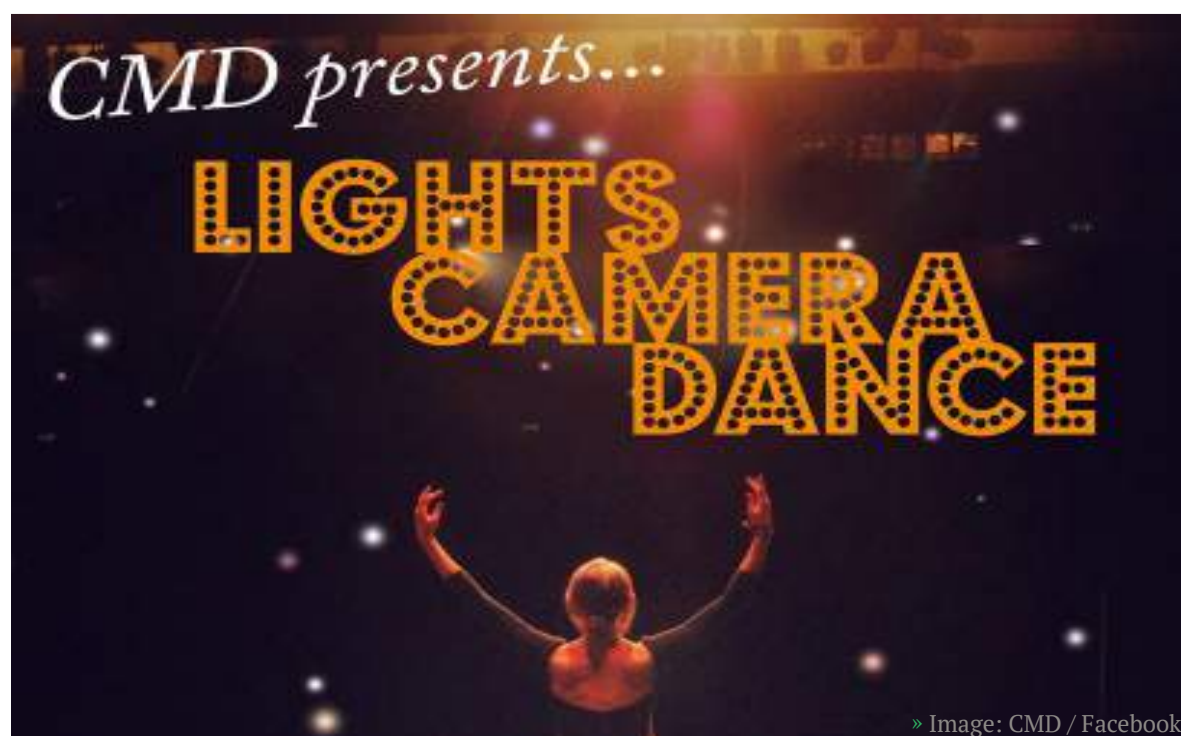
Growing up, I was a huge rugby fan. I'm also an avid follower of F1, athletics, golf, tennis and, more recently, football (Crystal Palace is my team just in case any Eagles fans are reading). The internship was a complete eye opener. I shadowed both live TV programs as

well as the editorial team behind the scenes. Sport production provides an enormously diverse number of roles; cameramen to sound operators, producers to on and off field directors, all of these people had a shared interest in sport. Unsurprisingly, by far the most significant lesson I came away with was the importance of passion and interest.

I always thought I'd pursue a career in film but my summer in Beijing gave me an insight into what it was like to combine your hobby with your day job.



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» Image: CMD / Facebook

CMD Danceathon: Two Stepping to Charity Success

Classical and Modern Dance held their annual five hour danceathon on Saturday 31 October in aid of a prominent local charity, Guy's Gift. They provide support for children coming to terms with bereavement within the Warwickshire area. A great cause for CMD to launch ourselves into a day of non-stop routines!

The day started off at noon with a speech from Stuart Potter, the Operations Manager from Guy's

Gift. He explained the money that the club raised would go towards facilitating the workshops that they run up and down the county. His passionate speech gave the attendees something to really power them through the day to come. Through all their tiredness, sweat and toil, they knew that all their efforts were going towards a great cause.

The packed day was filled with workshops delivered by different dance clubs. EQHO, Salsa and

Cheerleading each took turns to run sessions, before CMD took centre stage with their own workshop. Plenty of different flavours for attendees to sink their teeth into. The total amount raised was £260, an achievement which was only made possible through the great effort of both the participants and the various dance clubs involved.

Ailsa MacLachlan



Image: Tim Nunan

Up and Roaring

Ali Jones watched Women's Rugby Union beat Lincoln in season opener

The beginning of November might seem a little late to have your first BUCS game, but with several members of the team never having played a full competitive rugby match before, this contest proved to be not only a belated season opener but also a steep learning curve.

Thankfully, Warwick were able to overcome both early season rust and inexperience to get their Midlands 2B campaign off to the perfect start. Lack of match experience aside, Warwick started quickly. They raced into a 7-0 lead with Annabelle Watson scoring early on and Katie Thomas converting.

Repeated handling errors from Lincoln in the middle period of the first half allowed Warwick to apply further pressure, with the away side rarely making it out of their own half.

Warwick eventually built on their dominance, good play from

the backs led to a second try by Warwick's number 12 Maria Losada.

However, the first half wasn't all plain sailing. Warwick's lack of competitive match experience filtered through at times. They seemed wary of overcommitting to breakdowns while in possession, but solid defence meant they were never well and truly under threat.

The game headed into halftime with Warwick holding a deserved 12-0 advantage. The focus over the half-time was on speed and aggression; two traits Warwick definitely exhibited at the opening of the second period. They started strongly, keeping a Lincoln team that seemed to be panicking before the breakdown pinned back in their own half. Changes to Warwick's forwards did lead to some problems at the scrum, but good discipline meant that issues here were kept to a minimum. A few breaks from

Lincoln's centres put Warwick on the back foot, but they were helped out by some excellent rucking for much of the second half.

Eventually, the Warwick defence was finally unlocked by a 50-yard run by Lincoln's winger touching down for a try in the corner, taking the score to 12-5. In reply, Warwick made changes to their backline with immediate effect. Some great runs by Megan Richold and Aoife O'Byrne quickly put Lincoln on the back foot, but play was disrupted towards the end of the second half by a spate of injuries. The loss of captain Tiff Haggith, up until that point dangerous in both attack and defence, looked like it could have a particular impact, but Warwick responded well, with good attacking play across the width of the pitch leading to a try from Gaelle Rolland, whose excellent work in offence throughout the game finally paid off.

Going into the closing stages of the game, Warwick led 17-5, but Lincoln weren't prepared to lie down and accept defeat. Some aggressive and good ball movement led to an impressive break, but Warwick were able to win back the ball after a knock-on. Forced to play several phases in their own 22 for one of the first times in the game, Warwick did well to dig themselves out of trouble, with an excellent kick-chase gaining them possession further up the pitch in the dying moments. Some solid defence from Lincoln won them a penalty not far from Warwick's line, which they quickly ran in for their second try, bringing the final score to 17-10, and setting up a nervy finish. However, Warwick would not be denied, and they held out till the final whistle.

While not always the most fluid, attacking rugby, a good win against a decent Lincoln side is an excel-

lent start to the season, especially given the number of players in the squad new to the competitive side of the sport.

Star performer:

Gaelle Rolland (pictured)
– Some impressive pace got Warwick out of several tight spots, and her late try cemented their victory.

Location:

Cryfield Pitches



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