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SU chaos  
over Maryam  
Namazie ban

“No  
excuses”

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# Thrifty cook book free for freshers

Alex Ball

Warwick has released a cookery book, bringing together recipes from academics and students working alongside the vice-chancellor's wife, Lynda Thrift.

The book will be launched with a live cooking demonstration at the 'Festival of Imagination'.

*Simple Scoff: The Anniversary Edition* is aimed primarily at students, and offers cheap, simple recipes and cooking tips from around the university.

The book, published as part of the University's 50th anniversary celebrations, will be handed out to freshers for free upon their arrival this term as part of their welcome packs.

It will also go on sale at the university book shop, with proceeds going to the Warwick in Africa and Warwick in India projects.

Put together by Rebecca Earle of the University's History department, the book is an update of *Simple Scoff*, which was first published in 1972 by the University of Warwick Student Union and Lady Doris Butterworth, the wife of the University's first vice-chancellor.

The book will be launched with a live cooking demonstration at the 'Festival of Imagination' on 17 October 2015 at 18:45 in the Studio of Warwick Arts Centre.

It is intended that the book will aid students in eating healthily.

It is intended that the book will aid students in eating healthily.

The illustrations and poems that also feature in the book were contributed by former students and staff such as BBC media correspondent Torin Douglas.

In being published almost fifty years of the original, *Simple Scoff: The Anniversary Edition* reflects changes in culinary tastes. For example, over half of the new recipes are vegetarian or vegan.

» Photo: *planningqueen / Flickr*

## Nigel 'does a mean chilli con carne' - Mrs Thrift

The Boar spoke to Lynda Thrift, wife of Warwick's vice-chancellor Professor Sir Nigel Thrift, about her involvement in the project and Nigel's domestic skills:

*Why did you decide to get involved with Simple Scoff?*

I got involved for many reasons. The first was that it provided a means for people across all the walks of Warwick life to come together with a common interest. That it was in our 50th year makes it all the more special.

Secondly, having read through the original tome from the 1970s, I could see that it was going to be fascinating to see how we have changed regarding our food tastes and techniques in the kitchen.

Thirdly, I thought it was a simply brilliant plan to give a copy of

the published book to every fresher as they arrive. Hopefully it will help them to settle in more quickly.

Finally, as there are going to be additional copies available, the project gives us a chance to sell them to raise money for our two outreach projects, Warwick in India and Warwick in Africa.

*What's your favourite recipe in the book and why?*

The book feels to be like a (very) large family - it's impossible to have a favourite!

*Does Nigel cook much at home?*

Nigel cooks when he can.

*If so, what's his speciality dish?*

He does a mean chilli con carne.

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## News in Brief

Joe Lester



» Paxman: University Challenge score was 'terrific'  
photo: H&F Council / Flickr

Warwick's University Challenge team beat Clare College Cambridge by a formidable 95 points on last week's Episode of University challenge.

Team members Hugh Osborn, Emily Stevenson, Ashley Page, and James Leahy won the University a place in the second round of the competition with a score of 195, which host Jeremy Paxman described as 'terrific'.

Second-year management student Rob Hurley said: 'I'm very proud of the team – this should help boost Warwick's status and has even made me consider applying next year!'

Warwick Economics Society hosted their third 'Student's Question Time' on the 5th October 2015, with this year's panel featuring UKIP's only MP Douglas Carswell, Labour politician Hazel Blears and economist Vicky Pryce, as well as Warwick's Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Nigel Thrift and head of the Department of Economics Professor Abhinay Muthoo.

Second-year politics student Khadar Jama praised the diversity of opinion on this year's panel, adding that 'it presented us with some genuinely interesting debates'.

Following their victory in campaigning for BP on campus to stop investing in coal, oil and gas companies three months ago, Fossil Free Warwick have announced a new campaign targeted at the company.

The campaigners want the company to remove the BP archive from Warwick library. They have issued a letter with an ultimatum to Warwick's management and revealed banners and speeches during Warwick's university-wide open day.

Tributes have poured in for James Murphy, the Warwick student who died while kayaking in New Zealand. The 20 year old philosophy student, who had been studying at Monash University in Australia on a year out, died after falling into Lake Tekapo. James' facebook wall was filled with messages of grievance from friends since the accident.

# 'No excuses': SU chaos over Maryam Namazie

Connor O'Shea

**Last week, Warwick Students' Union (SU) overturned a decision to ban ex-Muslim activist Maryam Namazie from speaking at Warwick.**

Ms Namazie, the Council of Ex-Muslims leader and prominent critic of certain forms of Islam, was invited to speak to the Warwick Atheists, Secularists and Humanists society (WASH). However, when the society requested permission to host the speaker, this request was initially denied by the SU.

This situation had led to an uproar in the national press, including tweets from high profile individuals such as Richard Dawkins and Brian Cox. Dr Cox even threatened to boycott Warwick.

It has since come to light that a staff member at Warwick SU who was not authorised to make a final decision issued the ban against Namazie.

SU President Isaac Leigh was unaware of the situation until receiving "hateful messages" on social media after the information was released publicly on Friday 25 September.

The SU currently has a two-part process for approving external speakers. First, a member of SU staff will research the speaker and, if the research provides some

cause for concern, the application is handed to the chief executive or director of membership services to review the speaker.

However, in this case, the first member of staff carried out both parts of this process and did not pass the application on to a senior member of staff.

The SU would not provide the name of this staff member, citing the student-staff protocol, which prevents this type of data from be-

**High profile figures such as Richard Dawkins and Brian Cox... threatened to boycott Warwick"**

ing released.

Isaac reassured students last week: "We are investigating what happened and will be dealing with it internally."

However, following the initial "error", WASH appealed the Union's decision to ban Namazie in early September. After over two weeks, the SU had not responded

**"These things do happen."**

Isaac Leigh, SU President

to the society.

Societies Officer George Creasy had allegedly missed the email with



» Namazie is now allowed to speak pic: Anders Henrikson / Flickr

the appeal because of "holiday and a very high volume of emails".

Isaac added: "These things do

He told the *Boar* it wasn't until that point that the people who should have known about the situation actually became aware of what was going on.

Isaac stated: "We quickly and unequivocally decided the event should go ahead."

The SU has since overturned the ban, admitted there were "no excuses and apologised for their "significant error" and issued an "unequivocal apology to Namazie."



## 'Boris Bikes' on Campus

Lily Pickard

**The University of Warwick has introduced a new UniCycle scheme.**

A new cycle scheme has been introduced at the University of Warwick campus, offering bikes to hire for all students and staff.

Reminiscent of the Boris Bikes in London, students and staff can rent a bike for either a quick ten-minute journey, or a whole day.

There are 50 bikes available at 9 UniCycle stations including on central campus, Gibbet Hill and Westwood, up for hire 24 hours a day.

You can hire bikes pay-as-you-go, or register for an annual subscription with reduced hire charges, if you're a regular user.

Students and staff have to register on the Warwick website beforehand, with the option to then use an online booking system, a smart phone app, or make a phone call to unlock a bike.

Warwick Business School students, Stan Jallot and Gal Israeli, collaborated with the University to create the scheme.

Pay-as-you go prices are £1 for 30 minutes of use, and cheaper for longer hire. Cheaper options are also available with a subscription.

Alex Buxton, communications manager for the University, commented: "It is hoped that the UniCycle scheme will help to create an even greener, more accessible campus at the University of Warwick."

» pic: BackBoris2012 / Flickr





## SU bar sales rocket during freshers

Rachael Davies

7300 Jungbombs were bought during the first week of last year's Freshers', making it the most popular shot of choice. The second-most popular drink, with 4000 shots of vodka and 1000 tequila shots, and 500 shots of gin for the slightly more sophisticated fresh.

Circlers and sports clubs flocking early to SU events bought 2700 pints of purple, fuelling the messy nights enjoyed at POP!, Crash and Skool Days. This culminated in over 15,000 drinks bought during Week One.

### Declining bar sales

Despite what would appear as staggering drinks sales, over the last few years Warwick SU bar sales have steadily declined and taken a backseat to the food sales.

The Bread Oven alone sells over 6000 baguettes a week, not accounting for campus food outlets Xananas, the Dirty Duck or Le Gusta.

Warwick SU's commercial ser-

**"We want everything we offer to be as inclusive as possible"**

Isaac Leigh

vices director Steve Russell told the Boar: "To give you some context we sell 3000 baguettes in the Bread Oven that week.

"Our commercial business is weighted more towards food sales & for a number of years food sales have increased whilst bar sales have declined."

Second-year Maths student Sid Lynn said: "pre-drinking is better than the event itself sometimes."

SU President Isaac Leigh offers advice to the incoming freshers and returning students: "We hope everyone has an amazing time during freshers, but of course make sure you drink responsibly, and only if you want to - the SU offers far more than just alcohol"

## Freshers spend four times as much on alcohol as food

Laura Cunliffe-Hall

**First-year students spend up to four times as much on alcohol as food, according to a study by licensed UK lottery website Lottoland.**

# Alcohol is a fresher's best friend

## DURING FRESHERS FORTNIGHT 2014 ALONE...

500 SHOTS OF GIN

1000 TEQUILA SHOTS

2700 PINTS OF PURPLE

4000 VODKA SHOTS

7300 JUNGBOMBS

(AND 3000 BAGUETTES)

...WERE CONSUMED AT WARWICK SU



» pic: kbatx / pixabay

Students in their first year of university allegedly spent £60 a week on alcohol and nights out, compared to £15 on food and groceries.

Over 2000 students responded to the survey, which targeted undergraduates who had lived in either first-year halls or rented student houses in the last two years.

Furthermore, almost three-quarters of respondents claimed to have bought the cheapest food possible to account for multiple nights out, with the majority admitting to going out at least three times a week throughout their first year of uni-

versity.

The survey also drew attention to how students finance themselves through university. The respondents stated that loan payments from the government would only last for six weeks of term.

73 per cent of students told the research team that they had to work part-time alongside their studies, while a third of respondents were forced to rely on bank account overdrafts to pay their way through their first year of student life.

The study revealed a change in the attitudes of second and third-year students. Of those questioned,

62 per cent believed that they had become more money conscious and likely to budget than in their first year.

Dan Hawkins, a spokesperson for Lottoland, welcomed the shift in student spending: "It is positive that so many of the older students revealed that their spending becomes a little more sensible during their later university years.

Hawkins also expressed the opinion that the survey unearthed "concerning" statistics about the amounts of student loan spent on alcohol.

Some students at Warwick disa-

greed with Hawkins' verdict. Ryan Weissler, a final-year Engineering student, rejected the notion that first year students should cut down on their spending.

He commented: "Ultimately, you pay for the life experience of university as much as the education.

"You will never get back the time you have in first year to go out with and get to know such a diverse range of people.

"If you have a job that helps you pay for it and your first year doesn't count towards your degree, who is it hurting?"



# Student stories from around the globe

Arthi Nachiappan reflects on some of the news that is affecting students around the world

## Egypt: "Cut off students' heads"

Students returned to Cairo University after summer to threats that taking part in unauthorised protests would put their lives in danger.

Jaber Nussar, president of Cairo University, was reported in the Middle East Eye as having said to CBC: "We will cut off the heads of anyone who leaves his work or organises protests without permission from the university."

Regional discrimination was introduced into the university application process this year to exclude applicants from Egypt's southern

provinces, as they are allegedly associated with Islamist movements.

Ministers allegedly announced over summer that the children of army generals and judges would be exempt from these rules.

Protest group Students Against the Coup have called for protests over the coming year, according to the Middle East Eye.

Security has been put in place on campuses around the country to tackling the rising tide of protest.

» photo: Mohamed Adel / Flickr

## Mexico: Missing students remembered

**On the night of 26 September last year, 43 students were taken alive and have not been found since.**

Their disappearance has been linked with criminal gangs and police corruption, according to a *Guardian* report.

At the end of September, more than 15,000 people marched through the country's capital, Mexico City, in an intended act of solidarity with the families of the students.

The placards of many protestors suggested they held accountable

the government of President Enrique Peña Nieto.

**"They were taken, alive. We want them back, alive."**

The number of Mexico's missing people currently stands at around 23,000 according to estimates reported in the BBC. The country took third place for its rate of fatalities from armed conflict, suggest statistics from the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

» photo: Christian Frausto Bernal/

## Japan: Students protest military laws

**After decades of apparent silence in political discourse, it took Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's, proposals to expand the country's military role beyond self-defense, to stir Japan's students to protest.**

Months of protests, some of which extended to tens of thousands of protestors, have accused the PM's legislation as a violation of Japan's pacifist constitution, according to *Wall Street Journal* reports.

At the forefront of protests was the Students Emergency

Action for Liberal Democracy.

Prime Minister Abe stated the the laws would ensure Japan's security amid threats from the growth of the Chinese military and concerns surrounding North Korea.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said that the widely attended August 30 protest was fuelled by a misunderstanding of the legislation proposed, due to unfair representations of the policies in the news and from critics.

» photo: futureatlas.com / Flickr

## How well do you Warwick?

**Arrivals weekend happened, and Warwick is now bustling with new Freshers ready to take on Warwick.**

However, whilst all you new Freshers might be clued up when it comes to your academics, the Boar wanted to see how well you knew a few key Warwick traditions. Do you know about Circling, purple and the Koan? These Freshers (and some of their parents) didn't!

### Circling

We spoke to Ms Irvine, the Mother of a Welsh Fresher, she suggested that Circling could be "gathering people up, like herding sheep."

One guy, Adam from Malaysia said: "Circling??? Circling! Maybe Freshers go around in circles with each other." Adam wasn't far off, but everyone gets involved. People sit in a circle and play drinking games.

### Purple

We spoke to three French freshers: Yaan, Adrien and Philippe. When we mentioned purple they

guessed it could be "Cough syrup that gets you high."

Adam thought people had purple themed parties with "purple shit."

Meanwhile, Lesly-Ann, a law Fresher knew her stuff and told us that purple was something to do with drinking.

### 'The Koan'

Lesly-Ann suggested "maybe you pour a drink into the Koan"

The three Freshers from France also thought it might be the "shape of a cup you drink from."

Ms Irvine innocently suggested that the Koan could be a meeting place.

Then we found new PhD student, John, who correctly told us the Koan was the big white Koan shaped thing outside his office in Senate house.

We're sorry John you have to look out at that all day :'(

Best of luck for the year from Boar News, if you didn't know what all of these things were, it's time to up your Warwick game, get involved and have fun. Oh, and write for Boar News.



» The Irvines from South Wales, Mrs Irvine gave our quiz a go



» Adam thought 'purple' meant to have a party with 'purple shit'



» Three French freshers Philippe, Adrien and Yaan spoke to us



# ‘I ♥ Consent’ workshops to run throughout Warwick



Ellie Campbell and Molly Russell

**Warwick SU has joined forces with NUS as ‘I Heart Consent’ workshops come to Freshers’ Fortnight.**

The workshops are being brought in to try and encourage and promote the importance of a positive culture of all parties involved in a sexual encounter having agreed to it.

Attendance at the ‘I Heart Consent’ workshops will be mandatory for at least two members of each

society and sport exec committee.

The sessions will reportedly include a discussion of what constitutes sexual consent, how to respect others’ sexuality, and a discussion of rape myths and the effects.

The campaign has been introduced in universities across the UK such as Sussex and Reading as part of a national campaign to attempt to tackle ‘lad culture’ which, in part, can encourage misogynistic behaviour which is said to lead to incorrect understandings of sexual consent and sexual harassment.

Sexual consent is not current-

ly a core aspect of mainstream sex and relationship education. The ‘I Heart Consent’ workshops will enable inclusive and educational discussions on consent to take place.

The aim of the ‘I Heart Consent’ workshops is therefore to facilitate positive, informed and inclusive conversations and campaigns about sexual consent across the country. With the emphasis upon the importance of consent, this goes in conjunction to previous ‘Zero Tolerance to Sexual Harassment’ training given to Warwick SU staff.

Warwick’s Welfare Officer, Luke

Pilot, said that it was already too late to be learning about consent and lad culture for the first time at university:

“Education on this topic is something we should have from a far younger age, so bringing these issues to Freshers is part of the attempt to get this info out to students as early as possible, at the start of their time here so they can progress through University and be active in the construction of a culture of consent from day 1.”

He also added: “the cooperative nature of the learning, from peer to

peer, provides a better environment for learning and a great opportunity for students to discuss these issues in a more honest manner.”

The sessions will be piloted in Westwood accommodation with the hope that, in the future, they can be extended to all student accommodation on campus. There will also be workshops taking place in SUHQ for current undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as freshers and society execs.

» Photo: William Holman-Hunt / Wiki Commons

## Time to be ‘more open’ about mental health

Lily Pickard talks to Isaac Leigh and Luke Pilot about mental health

**Warwick Student’s Union (SU) have declared that they plan to make mental health issues a priority for this coming academic year.**

According to a 2013 poll of 1200 participants by the National Union of Students (NUS), 20% of university students consider themselves to have a mental health problem – with 13% admitting to having suicidal thoughts.

Yet, of this number, The Guardian about-mental-health-problems) claims only 10% use

the counselling services provided by their university, and 26% will not receive any treatment at all.

Warwickshire itself as a county has one of the lowest suicide rates in the country: from 2007-2009 there were 5.76 suicides per 100,000 people.

But this does not necessarily mean the University of Warwick is providing the right level of support for the 1 in 4 people that suffer from mental illness in their lifetime.

Two Warwick sabbatical of-

ficers – president Isaac Leigh and welfare officer Luke Pilot – are behind the initiative to mental health.

They stated: “We are incredibly concerned about the rise in issues relating to students’ mental health. It is really important to us that we are there for students who are going through these experiences.”

The pair intend to instigate early intervention for students suffering from mental health issues, providing practical tips for those worried about their

friends and making the systems already in place stronger.

They also hope to push for peer support groups to run on campus.

Isaac further commented: “Warwick can be more open about mental health, and the role of academics and the duty of care to their students needs to be clearer, with tutors being more proactive and conscious of their students’ wellbeing.”

“We need to be comfortable

» Photo: John Spooner / Flickr



# Only 28% of Warwick academics are female

Lily Pickard

Warwick is below all national averages on the diversity of academic staff, according to the results of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests made by the *Boar* to the Students' Union and the University.

Around 28% of academic staff are female, compared to the national average of 44%, the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA).

This equates to just 281 female academics working at the University.

There are more female staff at employed at Warwick overall, with 51.5% of staff at the University being female.

This is just marginally lower than the national average of 53.8% of University staff being female.

Only 12% of the University's academic staff are of black or other minority ethnic (BME) backgrounds, even lower than the na-

27% of SU staff identify as non-white British: this includes 18% of permanent staff and 28% of student staff

tional average of just 13.4%.

The Student's Union (SU) BME staff averages, though still low, are above the benchmark of the rest of the West Midlands, as well as the general University statistics.

SU President Isaac Leigh commented: "We benchmark against the West Midlands region – the 2011 census shows the white population to be 82.7% – so 17.3% are non-white British.

"We are pleased to be above average in this respect but of course there is much more to do.

The women's officer for the SU, Josie Throup, felt far less positively: "Warwick massively lags behind the national average here, which is

"Quotas are demeaning, and in some cases patronising"

Khada Jama

really disappointing.

"There is a rock hard glass ceiling for women and, especially, BME staff, with only 17 black female professors in the UK.

"While we may have decent diversity in terms of SU students and staff, these students occupy unpaid part-time positions. If you look at the full-time paid sabbatical officers, they're all white men."

However, Khadar Jama, a second-year Politics student, believes the quotas aren't the answer. He said: "The selection of talent should always be based solely on talent

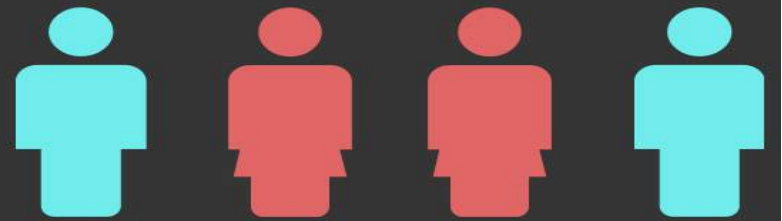
"There is always a chance that a more qualified, non-targeted candidate may lose out to a less qualified candidate in order to meet those requirements."

## HOW DIVERSE IS WARWICK UNIVERSITY?



Just over 1 in 4 members of academic staff at Warwick are female (27.8%)

Yet the national average is just under 1 in 2 (44%)



Just 12% of Warwick staff are of a BME background...



...while the national average is 13.4%

## Warwick says no to Azeem

Ellie Campbell

Previously, a Facebook event for Azeem Ward's Senior Flute Recital attracted over 50,000 RSVPs, the majority of which were seemingly British students.

The event became so popular

Azeem will still be touring around Britain, just not at Warwick

influences...".

This announcement received much enthusiasm from Warwick students.

However, Azeem himself announced earlier in September that he, sadly, would not be performing at Warwick, he said: "Well it is what it is, it's sad that I won't be able to come to Warwick."

According to Azeem, Warwick SU did not respond to contacts, subsequently leading to the news that dates could not be agreed.

Azeem's UK Tour with DJ Underbelly, funded by Kickstarter, includes performances at universities around the country including Durham and Kings College London.

Dani Sharp, an English Literature finalist was disappointed that Azeem would not be coming to Warwick

Politics student Alex Shaw was also disappointed, he said: "We want Azeem. We want the flute"

Another student questioned why Warwick didn't change its schedule for Azeem.

He said: "The whole world would change their schedule for Azeem, why can't Warwick?"

"If we can't have Azeem, we want Ahmed the clock guy."



» Azeem Ward photo: 'Azeem Ward' Facebook page





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# Comment

Editor: Nour Rose Chehab

## Survey: What do Warwick Students think of Jeremy Corbyn?

Alistair Drennan

Since Jeremy Corbyn's recent election as Labour leader, the media's response (both in favour of, though most notably against him) has reached unprecedented heights.

I admit I can't remember much of Ed Miliband's election in 2010 other than the infamous Ed vs. David controversy, in which the tabloids created a ridiculous Cain and Abel soap opera.

But without question this time there's something... different, and we can't put our finger on it.

Are we to be hopeful or worried? And with the next General Election in 2020, is it worth having an opinion yet at all?

I recently conducted a survey amongst Warwick students to gauge their initial reactions to the new leader.

With news stories pouring in each day about Trident, the National Anthem and the Shadow Cabinet, opinion polls become outdated right as they're published.

**"[this is] a very political generation that were turned off by the way in which politics was being conducted [...] [Labour] must change that."**

Jeremy Corbyn

But it's important nonetheless to understand what students believe in these early stages, especially since Corbyn specifically wishes to reach out to us, saying we are "a very political generation that were turned off by the way in which politics was being conducted [...] [Labour] must change that."

Some of the results weren't all too surprising.

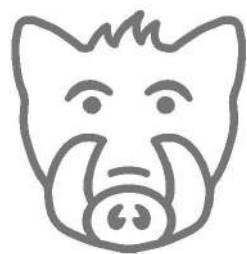
Of the students who had attended private and grammar schools, the vast majority voted Conservative in the 2015 election, and disapprove of most – if not all – of Corbyn's political positions and statements.

Likewise, state school students typically voted Labour and feel positive about the party.

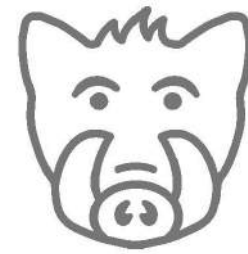
Nothing out of the ordinary, with opinions diverting at the expected junctures.

However, some opinions were shared across all voting and non-voting participants; namely a certain ambiguity about Labour's future prospects.

Looking across the data there is an overwhelming feeling of positivity about the new leadership.



## Editor's Letters



### "New year, new me"

Jack Prevezer  
Travel Editor

I had a disturbing dream last night. Hearing two knocks at my door I sat up and observed a hooded figure, stretching out a skeletal hand and holding two bony fingers up. It let out a horrifying wail which sounded oddly like "Down it fresher!" but grew steadily quieter.

Around it, society membership stickers scattered across the floor dissolved into dust and were blown away.

Upon waking up, I realised that this was no ordinary nightmare, but a ghost of university-future. Second-year was approaching.

Well, at least that's the common perception. I've begun to realise that my vision was merely an amalgamation of overhearing older students' jaded grunts in the library, and approval-seeking fresher insults on yik-yak.

Second year is supposedly where fun goes to suffer a painful death as your work actually affects your degree and it's no longer acceptable to wear the purple-soaked mankini from last night's POP into a lecture.

You no longer have time to participate in as many societies as possible but are instead expected to become a nocturnal creature, who prowls around the library suffering from caffeine-induced fits like an extra from the Exorcist. However, there is no reason why any of this should come to fruition.

In fact, second-year could be your best year at university. Yes, you have to work harder than you may have previously but this isn't the end of days, but rather a new beginning.

But today's optimism does not preclude tomorrow's scepticism.

In fact, though many Labour supporters agree with a number of Corbyn's principles, a surprising number believe he won the election not because he was a strong candidate, but that his fellow runners were so poor by comparison.

It means that you inevitably apply greater intensity to everything you do; not just to cracking a chemical formula or to rinsing an obscure poem of meaning, but also to your social and extra-curricular life.

Your time is even more valuable but this doesn't mean you limit it strictly to your work. Instead, the dawning realisation that you're halfway through what is universally termed as the 'best years of your life' fills you with an unquenchable thirst to accomplish as much as possible.

You could still find yourself wielding a lacrosse stick for the first time or thrusting your pelvis at a lecturer in Shades-esque fashion during RAG week.

First year is undeniably filled with fun memories, but the unique freedoms one has during this year is usually dedicated to bacchanalian drinking sessions and the type of debauchery usually found on the deepest recesses of MTV.

You may join some societies but there is the constant, lingering thought that you have an entire year to start something new. Second-year doesn't have the same luxury so throw yourself into Warwick's countless opportunities.

This could be the best year of your life. The sprightly, carefree first year that you once were, who was liberal in what constitutes a toilet and formed a sweaty cocoon in the Copper Rooms, has perhaps disappeared, but this is no bad thing.

In its place is a second-year ready to seize university by storm.

### "No matter a student's demographics, [...] what is clear is that politics is going to change"

In response to the question, 'Do you think Labour now has a stronger or weaker chance of winning the



### "The truth about unpaid internships"

Sophie Dudhill  
Arts Editor

Second year summer seems to be the time that everyone frantically begins scrambling for various internships and work experience placements in the hope that it will land them that sacred graduate job.

Unfortunately for me, as someone who wants to pursue a career in the creative sector, many of these opportunities are unpaid.

As a widely discussed topic I was told by my friends and relatives not to undertake the two unpaid placements I had secured, as they felt I was being exploited by the companies involved as free labour.

I can't express how wrong this was in both cases.

The sad truth is that unpaid internships are something that, in my opinion, will always exist. What are your legal rights?

Do they even matter at this point and are you actually going to walk up to the individual your trying to get a job out of and start reciting their legal requirements.

I didn't have the guts to. I did what most interns do, worked hard and tried to impress.

There is the option, of course, to say to them you are legally obliged to pay, or form some sort of formality around the term 'intern'.

However as soon as you start to pipe up there's a likely hood that there are 200+ other applicants waiting in line for your job who won't ask questions and will hop happily straight into your shoes as the hard working willing intern.

Someone might argue this is

exploitation, I disagree. This is exploitation perhaps if you're on your fourth internship and have graduated from a respectable university with a decent result. Although if you're on your 4th internship – why are you still applying for these roles?

It's important to be confident enough to make the decision that, yes, now am I am employable in my field and at that point you should expect to be paid, but not before.

The experience an internship gives you holds monetary value beyond £6.50 an hour – it holds the key to a much higher wage for your future self.

One thing I would say you should always make sure is covered is travel expenses as this is something you can't be expected to pay.

You are gaining valuable experience and skills from them but you also are not earning and many people don't have the funds stacked away to spend on expensive train fares into central London.

You should also consider the amount of time you are interning. Personally I would not exceed 3 months, some people might be happy to do 6 but I think a year, unpaid, is excessive.

As I said before, it is important to notice when you are skilled enough to be paid.

The decision is ultimately yours and each person varies, but anyone telling you to avoid unpaid internships, especially in a lot of creative industries, is in a dream world.

2020 General Election?' the results across the board are mixed, with little correlation to participants' previous answers.

There was a similar ambiguity regarding whether the radical left-winger is likely to be a better leader than his predecessor, the already left-branded 'Red Ed'.

No matter a student's demo-

graphics, or how concrete or vague their political alliances, what's clear is that politics is going to change.

But with so much media content about the election in such a concentrated period of time, it's hard enough keeping up with the present, never mind predicting what the political landscape may look like in the future.





# Cartoon Corner



Nour Rose Chehab

## Syrian refugees: Where do they go now?

**F**aces and stories of the nearly 5 million Syrian refugees have been a constant presence in the media for the past few months. UN figures show that Syria's population has shrunk from 22m to 16.6m. The large majority of these people have fled to neighbouring countries such as Lebanon, Turkey and Jordan.

However, since the beginning of this year, it is estimated that nearly 500,000 people have crossed the Mediterranean trying to reach safety in Europe. Around 3,000 have drowned.

These people are leaving everything behind and risking their lives in order to save their lives. The irony. They pile up into small plastic boats and sail towards the unknown just for a chance to a better future. They walk thousands of miles with no food or shelter to reach a country that will welcome them.

According to a Swedish study, more than 40% of these refugees belonged to the middle-class back in Syria: they had jobs and flats, many had completed higher education. They are now left with nothing, treated like less than humans, dying at the doors of Europe.

It seems like everywhere they go, it's only a world of suffering, and humiliation that awaits them. In Lebanon - a country of 4m people - they are more than 1.6m and they are lacking basic needs. They live in poor humanitarian and sanitary condition and many of their children have been out of school since the beginning of the war.

Ironically enough, it is the countries with the less resources that bear the brunt of the Syrian refugee crisis with not enough help from the international community. Meanwhile, the rich countries of the Gulf haven't taken a single one of them in.

The only solution left for them is to try and get to Europe, no matter the risk. With the increasing flow of people arriving at its borders, the EU was forced to react. It has recently approved a scheme to distribute 120,000 additional asylum seekers among member states, on top of 32,000 already agreed to in July.

This agreement will be binding to the countries that voted against it. Earlier in the summer, Hungary even built a 4 meters tall fence on its border with Serbia in order to stop refugees from passing through the country.

Many of the East European countries share the idea that they can't host these refugees for cultural reasons and that western Europe is more able to adjust to multiculturalism.

Overall, this is undeniably one of the biggest humanitarian crisis of our time. And, as the conflict doesn't seem to be resolving any time soon, it is imperative that we find permanent solutions and placements for Syria's exiled children.



» "Gun laws in the US" Cartoon by Dominic Kojo

## Warwick Black History month: Everything you need to know

Amber Lascelles introduces the events that are taking place during the month of October

**H**istorically, Black History Month is a chance to celebrate the achievements of well-known black men and women. Warwick takes this tradition a step beyond by dedicating the whole month of October to exploring Black History from past to present.

Run by Warwick Anti-Racism society, the month of October will see an array of exciting, engaging and inspiring events as part of Black History Month taking place across the UK.

Panel discussions involving exciting guest speakers will explore the intersectional themes of race, politics, social injustice, inequality and feminism.

The events involve collaborations with Warwick Anti-Sexism Society, Warwick Afro-Caribbean Society, the Black Women's Project, NUS, the University of Birmingham ACS.

In Week 2 on Wednesday 7th, the unmissable opening night 'Melanated Minds: The Power of Prose' will highlight the achievements of key figures within black history.

We also will be joined by Akala, who is an English rapper, poet and journalist. Although most widely recognised for his 3 albums, 4 mix-tapes, 14 singles and Acoustic EP, he also founded a music theatre production company dedicated to exploring the link between hip-hop

and Shakespeare, providing a platform for young people to showcase their creative ideas.

Akala will be joining us for one of his engaging talks on African history and the importance of Black History Month.

The Lil Sis Social on 9th October encourages new students to meet and mingle on campus, providing a support network for fresh faces and the opportunity for students to get involved with the Black Women's Projects' meetings throughout the year.

The first panel discussion in Week 3, Monday 12th entitled 'Post Black: is racism dead?', will explore the suggestion that some believe we live in a post racial society, and how disruptive it can be that artists such as Kanye, Pharrell and Common are implying that racism is dead.

The following discussion on Tuesday 13th will tackle the issue of police corruption, and on Thursday 15th the fetishization of the black body will be brought to

the forefront; how are racialised bodies portrayed in the media and beyond? How damaging can these representations be?

On Friday 16th a panel will explore 'islamophobia', and Saturday

17th will discuss intersectional feminism, a term coined by scholar Kimberlé Crenshaw which links between gender, race and class. Does feminism need to be intersectional in order to be inclusive?

Week 4 kicks off with 'Muhammad to Malcolm X- what did they teach?' on Monday 19th, offering a fresh perspective on the significance of these influential figures.

On Thursday 22nd, 'Melanin and masculinity' will explore representations of black masculinity and whether they can be harmful. The panel will explore the compelling question 'Why is my curriculum white?' on Friday 23rd, aiming to dissect the issues regarding race within our education system.

The university has been the pri-



mary motor in reproducing this ideology and stereotypes regarding race, and this event seeks to challenge it in order to build genuinely inclusive and progressive places of learning.

There will be guest speakers from Oxford University, Warwick University's own Dr Christabelle Peters, and Cecil Wright, a black professor at the University of Nottingham.

The final panel 'Media and Blackness' on Thursday 29th will discuss the impact of the Internet and the changing global political landscape which has made media platforms more politicised than ever. Examining how these institutions have had a vast influence on the perception of blackness will reveal how these biases have impacted the black experience across the globe.

Week 4 also includes an exhibition on mixed heritages in the library on Tuesday 27th, and a trip to the International Slavery Museum on Wednesday 28th. The finale club night at the Copper Rooms on Thursday 29th October will make sure the month ends with a bang.

Warwick Black History month is more than just a month- it's a chance for students from all disciplines to engage in relevant debates about social issues, gaining the knowledge to expand their minds.

» Photo: [facebook.com/warwickbhm](https://facebook.com/warwickbhm)



Mike Wrench  
**“People are such Pigs”**

**P**ig gate. It's probably the weirdest political scandal of the last decade. The story is, of course, that in his unofficial biography of David Cameron, Lord Ashcroft claims that he knows somebody who knew Dave at a posh club at Oxford.

And in this posh club at Oxford, the person that Ashcroft knows reckons he saw Dave put his bits in a pig's mouth. Which is rather sordid.

Of course, Ashcroft's source is now claiming that it might not even have been Cameron.

And Ashcroft's partner in crime/biography, Isabel Oakeshott, says that they only put it in as 'one little anecdote'. With only one source, this is the sort of stellar political journalism you'd expect from someone who started the Huhne vs Pryce story.

The story blew up for all of a week, and the weirdest thing is, nobody actually seemed to care. It's clear that people were interested; I mean, someone claimed that David Cameron banged a dead pig's head.

But I think that the fact is that half of the people didn't care, and everyone else knew that Ashcroft and Oakeshott were probably telling porkies.

But the pig story covered up one or two even more sordid claims, mainly on Ashcroft's tax status. Ashcroft claims, controversially, that Dave knew about his non-dom status all along.

This is the news, potentially, that could have threatened to blow up even more than pig-gate.

The Tories have a reputation for being the party of the super-rich and the posh, and if it were true that Dave had covered up for someone who avoided tax, he would have been for the chop(s).

The people would go mad. How could Dave dare protect his friend's tax status? That would definitely prove that the Tories are not the 'party of the working people'.

But then, that's the ironic thing; the pig claim showed the two sides of the coin for the 'upper' classes. On the one side, Dave could get away with pig coitus, because 'that's what the rich do'.

But on the other, the claim in the autobiography probably came about because it would be easy to manipulate people into believing it, just because Dave is from the upper class (what even is the 'upper class'?).

It highlights how petty, how vindictive the claim is; probably because it came from a petty, vindictive man.

The long and the short of it is that Ashcroft was snubbed by Dave; he wanted a position in power because he was a big Tory donor. And Dave offered him a particularly minor one. Ashcroft got cross.

He claimed that Dave screwed a pig head. End of story. A weird, and jealous story, all because one man, a lord, a 'respectable' peer of the realm was angry that he couldn't

# Do you vote based on gender?

Alexei Warshawski

**G**ender is an ever-present topic in politics, but this summer seemed to show that the media deems a woman's sex enough to warrant both a vote for or against her.

To vote, or not vote, for a candidate based on their sex totally cheapens them as a politician, as it detracts from their campaign, their policies, but most importantly their standing as a politician.

In the Labour leadership election this summer, there were two male and two female candidates running; this in itself was not made much of by the media.

However, the Telegraph reported in August that "Helen Goodman, an MP supporting Mrs Cooper, who is married to the ex-MP Ed Balls and has three children, said her candidate would make a better leader because she is a mother."

In this case, the media was not

only telling people to vote for someone based on their sex, but telling people what type of woman would make the best leader!

It would be illogical for a socialist member of the Labour party to have voted for Liz Kendall, the Blairite candidate, as their vote would be based on Kendall's sex, not her policies.

This kind of vote is tokenising, and seems to be a step backwards for gender equality in politics.

The campaign of Hillary Clinton in America for the Democrat's presidential nomination seems to have been plagued in a similar way, using sex as both a reason for and against voting for her.

Clinton was interviewed over the summer by Ellen DeGeneres, who suggested that it was time for America to have a female President, implying that this should be the reason to vote for her. Another

argument used by some media outlets is that having a female President would be a step forward for equality.

While this is true in some respects, surely it would be a stronger move for equality to have a President who has always supported equal rights acts such as the legalisation of gay marriage, like Bernie Sanders?

Again, to use Clinton's sex as a reason to vote for her detracts from serious issues which would be more important during a presidency than the President's sex.

In an interview quoted in the Washington Post, Ana Cox asked Bernie Sanders whether he thought it was fair that Clinton's hair received more scrutiny in the

media than his. He replied, "When the media worries about what Hillary's hair looks like or what my hair looks like, that's a real problem."

We have millions of people who are struggling to keep their heads above water, who want to know what candidates can do to improve their lives, and the media will very often spend more time worrying about hair than the fact that we're the only major country on earth that doesn't guarantee health care to all people.

Sanders hits the nail on the head here. No matter who wins the Democratic nomination, I hope it is on the strength of their policies and their ideologies, not because they had good hair.



## 'I Heart Consent': Why training is important

Lily Pickard and Tessa Schiller talk about the campaign and it's relevance on campus

**C**onsent: it's a word that is thrown around a lot nowadays, but one that few genuinely understand. That's why the NUS set up the 'I Heart Consent' campaign last year, to educate students at university as to how important this term 'consent' truly is; past the concept of 'no means no'.

The campaign runs inclusive and positive discussions about sex and sexual relations, led by fellow students: something most of us have lacked so far in our sexual education.

This year at Warwick, these consent training sessions are being run during Fresher's Fortnight for the very first time, taking inspiration from the hugely successful Oxbridge workshops and using the NUS model.

Most people rule out such consent training almost immediately. 'I already know how it works', or the more crude 'I've never heard any complaints', are some of the most common excuses bandied about to

say that consent training isn't applicable to you yourself.

It also shows how much people are missing the point and basing their knowledge on a 'no means no' definition. It is surprising how few people truly know what consent is.

According to a poll reported by the Guardian, only 77% of men agreed that continuing to sexually engage with a person who has explicitly said 'no' constitutes rape. That means 23% of those questioned for this poll would believe that saying 'no' to sex would still count as a strange form of consent in their eyes; that the other person involved would still want sex, or any other sexual act, really. This just fulfils many of the rape myths that people are secretly 'asking for it', even when they say 'no'.

The idea that even the most fundamental and basic definition of consent has yet to be accepted fully shows how much these workshops are needed.

Consent, to put it simply, is on a

strictly 'yes means yes' basis. Consent is a positive, mutually had discussion before anything sexual occurs between two or more people.

It's a way to ensure that everyone involved is happy and having fun; because, surely, that is why we have sex in the first place? To paraphrase our women's officer Josie Throup, if you're not willing to ask whether your partner is comfortable, happy and enjoying themselves then you may want to ask yourself why that is.

Rather than promoting 'no means no', we believe the focus should be one of positivity. This leaves no room for error when it comes to consensual sexual relationships.

You can not consent to sex without having to say 'no', especially as many victims of rape and sexual assault are perhaps not able to say 'no': they could be unconscious, or mentally unaware of what was happening to them.

So by highlighting the need for

a 'yes', you are leaving no stone unturned and no room for manoeuvre. Either the other person has consented, or they have not. There is no doubt then that all parties involved are consenting to what is happening; and this is the best, and only, way to enjoy a happy, healthy sexual life.

There is no question that rape and sexual assault are genuine issues both in university, and outside it.

But by educating yourself on the issues surrounding consent, you could help yourself and your friends realise how important this 'yes means yes' outlook is.

Consent workshops are not about restricting experiences, but instead improving everyone's relationship with sex. It is a positive outlook with positive outcomes and we hope you can join us for a session soon.

buy his way into the government.

I think that should be the real story, to be honest.

The real story should be Dave refused to allow an idiotic man buy to his way into a position wherein he could do real damage.

Pig-gate is pathetic; it'll be remembered as weird and funny, but also an example of failed political polemic. And Ashcroft will be remembered as the man behind it, the man, in the end, who was a complete pig.



>> Sign up for the "I Heart Consent" workshops on:  
[www.warwicksu.com](http://www.warwicksu.com)

>> Like on Facebook:  
 I Heart Consent Campaign  
 Warwick



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## Why *In Our Time* will save you in seminars

Bethan McGrath speaks exclusively Victoria Brignell, one of the producers of the popular BBC Radio 4 show



» Victoria Brignell in the studio / photo: John McCafferty

You might not have listened to it, but you certainly should – BBC Radio 4's show *In Our Time* has been likened to university seminars on more occasions than one. Listening to the show, the resemblance is obvious; a panel of experts are assembled for each episode, who, along with the host, Melvyn Bragg, discuss a topic in just 45 minutes.

The conversation is intense, and you really must pay attention to follow, but it's never so academic that you feel lost along the way (a feeling that we've had in one lecture too many). With topics ranging from the Industrial Revolution, to Frida Kahlo, to microbiology, and hundreds of podcasts to listen to on the *In Our Time* website ([bbc.co.uk/radio4/inourtime](http://bbc.co.uk/radio4/inourtime)), it's more than likely that you'll find a discussion by leading academics on a topic you're studying. You might also find that one of your lecturers pops up in an episode or two.

If you're looking for ways to procrastinate without the guilt, or listen to a stellar introduction to a topic you're going to be studying this year, have a browse of *In Our Time*'s podcasts, and expand your mind whilst doing the ironing or something equally mundane (lol jokes, students don't iron).

In this interview, I chat to Victoria Brignell, a producer of *In Our Time*, about what it's like to work

on a BBC Radio 4 show, and why the show holds such an appeal for students.

**Bethan:** *How has your career led you to produce a BBC Radio 4 show?*

**Victoria:** As a teenager, my plan was to become a newspaper reporter so, after studying Classics at the University of Cambridge, I then completed a postgraduate diploma in newspaper journalism at Cardiff University. However, having failed dismally to obtain a newspaper job (I still have the pile of rejection letters I received), I was delighted and surprised when I gained a place in January 1999 on a BBC production traineeship aimed at disabled people (I'm a tetraplegic wheelchair user). Over the last 16 years I've been lucky enough to work on various Radio 4 programmes including *Start the Week*, *Woman's Hour* and *You and Yours*, before arriving at *In Our Time*. In my opinion, being a producer on *In Our Time* is a

real privilege and I find it gratifying to think that my BBC career began just three months after *In Our Time* first hit the airwaves.

**B:** *In what ways is the programme suited to a student audience?*

**V:** *In Our Time* began on October 15th 1998. More than 680 editions have now been made and all of them are available to listen to or download via the *In Our Time* website. Each episode of *In Our Time* is like a university seminar and we tackle a huge range of subjects. To give you a taste of what we offer, this year we have examined Jane Eyre, dark matter, the California Gold Rush and Sappho, to name but a few. Our back catalogue even includes programmes on eunuchs and the Kama Sutra. Whatever subject a student is studying, there is likely to be an edition that is relevant.

**B:** *How do you gather information for each episode?*

**V:** People who listen to *In Our Time* often assume that there is a huge team of BBC staff behind the scenes. In fact, just three of us are involved – Simon, the senior producer; myself, the junior producer; and Ingrid, the production coordinator.

We have regular meetings with

Melvyn (about once every 6–8 weeks) in which we consider what topics will be covered in the next tranche of programmes. Many of the ideas come from academics and listeners as well as Melvyn and the production team. Once the list of subjects has been decided, we book the guests, usually several weeks in advance. Academics lead busy lives so it's important to approach them before their diaries become too full.

Whatever subject a student is studying, there is likely to be an edition that is relevant.

Simon and myself then carry out detailed, hour-long research calls on the phone with each guest. The information we gain from these conversations subsequently forms the basis of the briefing notes we write for Melvyn.

Don Pollacco, Professor of Astronomy at Warwick University, comments: "*In Our Time* is one of the most respected academic radio programmes available anywhere in the world. I thought it a real honour to be invited onto the show twice to talk about the subject I love. The show is put together in a most professional way. Preparations for the programme start months in advance of the live broadcast – and it shows. The production team al-

ways seem to find the most important points to focus on. Overall, it is definitely one of the highlights of my career."

**B:** *How do you source academics for the programme?*

**V:** Our guests are chosen because they are leading authorities in their field, engaging communicators and passionate about their knowledge. We only book people who hold positions at universities or leading museums because it is felt that this gives them extra authority and credibility.

As well as Don Pollacco, a number of other Warwick University academics have been guests on *In Our Time* including Ian Stewart, Professor of Mathematics and Tim Lockley, Reader in American Studies.

*In Our Time* is also known for giving a voice to women. In the last five years alone, we have had 14 all-female panels of guests who have discussed subjects like the number 'e', the An Lushan Rebellion and the Icelandic Sagas.

**B:** *Do you think the brevity of the episodes is limiting, or is their condensed form helpful to the flow of discussion?*

**V:** At the end of each programme there's often much material that the guests have not had a chance to discuss. This can be frustrating. However, what *In Our Time* aims to do is to provide listeners with a "taster" of each subject. It acts as a gateway to topics that listeners may not have encountered before. We always publish a list of books on our website to accompany each episode so that listeners can do more research for themselves, if their interest has been sparked. Frankly, I would rather leave listeners wanting more than overload them with more content than they can face at once! And if you download the podcast, you get some added extras in the form of the studio post-programme discussion amongst Melvyn and the guests.

**B:** *Do you think there is an inexhaustible supply of topics to discuss?*

**V:** We have more than 600 topics in our ideas list and the list is growing all the time, so we won't run out of subjects any time soon!

**On 3rd December we'll be broadcasting a topic chosen by a listener – so do please send in your ideas. The closing date is October 29th.**



Will you be listening to *In Our Time*?  
Comment online:  
[theboar.org/features](http://theboar.org/features)



## FNOC: Featured Names On Campus

*The names and stories that you need to know*

### I am a student and a refugee: Here is my perspective on the European Refugee 'Crisis'



» Not all responses to refugees are negative photo: Haeferl, via Wikimedia Commons

In September, the university formally announced their pledge to provide 20 scholarships to refugee students looking to start higher education within the United Kingdom. This announcement came after a heightened media focus on the movement of refugees into Europe this summer triggered by war and unrest in Syria and surrounding nations. Many European nations have committed to provide refuge to refugees and the university's announcement was one that reflects a positive response to the movement of refugees into the United Kingdom. This announcement has also resonated with students who are refugees, for example, Tamana Kuar Gulati, a second year student and Afghan refugee. Hoping to combat negative perceptions and response to refugees within Europe and bring an awareness to the existence of refugees within our student communities she shares her story with us.

I don't remember much about why we left or what it was like, but a memory I do have is the constant panic and fear on my parent's faces. There was always an atmosphere of weariness.

Upon being sent to Coventry after constantly being moved around, I was able to start reception. I arrived on the first day wearing a navy blue jumper, as it was the closest match to the school uniform and the best we could afford at the time. Despite our circumstances, I was always required by my parents to look presentable to set a good impression. The first interaction I had with a pupil was an uncomfortable one. They spoke to me in English and I tried talking in Farsi and Punjabi, inevitably feeling terrible when they didn't understand.

My mother always supported my brother and I throughout our education as much as she could. She

would try to learn English from cartoons and then practice with us at home. Every day she would take my little brother and I to the library and allow us to spend hours learning to read. Because of this I progressed quite quickly in terms of my reading ability and I remember being able to move up the bookshelf the fastest in my class. In year five I had the reading age of

...a memory I do have is the constant panic and fear on my parent's faces. There was always an atmosphere of weariness.

15 years old and my parents were so proud of me.

At one point during primary school a visitor called an 'Asylum Seeker' came in to speak to the students. He spoke to us about his life and asked the students if they knew what an Asylum Seeker or a Refugee was. I remember thinking that I knew the answer and that I was in fact was a Refugee. However, I didn't answer.

When our case was approved, my parents were so relieved. My mother always tells the story of the time the postman came to the door with a thick brown parcel; she almost gave him a hug because she had sensed what was in it. I remember them crying but I know that it was one of the happiest moments for my family. I told my friends at school but they didn't have a clue as to what I was talking about, as they were surprised at the fact that I wasn't born in Walsgrave Hospital like the rest of them.

When I asked my parents why we came to the UK, they replied, "We didn't really have a choice.

We knew we needed to get out and the UK had the possibility of a future for us, and a future for you and your brother".

I think that was the moment I started to embrace where I was from, where I am now and what I have accomplished along the way.

My name is Tamana Kaur Gulati, I was born in Afghanistan, I came to the U.K. when I was 4 years old and I was a refugee.

Looking at the life I live, I am amazed at how far we have come as a family. My parents, despite having received no education, have worked very hard to set up two small businesses and make a name for themselves. They have encouraged both my brother and I to work honestly and every day they continue to support me throughout my degree and my job.

So my view on the 'Refugee Crisis' is that when we stop thinking of refugees as a 'crisis' to deal with or as a 'swarm', that's when we can start helping them. We shouldn't need a picture of a dead child washed up on a shore to help us realise the fact that Refugees are humans. They are people that need our help to provide an opportunity for them. Refugees are people who will contribute to the economy when they can. Refugees will become the next lawyers and doctors and bankers if we allow them to be. Refugees aren't here because they want to claim benefits and take houses and cause problems. Refugees are here because they need to be. Not a single person wants to leave their home, their country, and risk their life unless they have no other choice.



What do you think about the refugee crisis?

Tweet: @BoarFeatures

## Why should we care about Corbyn?

In 1994, Tony Blair won the Labour leadership election by a landslide, a resounding 57 percent of eligible votes going his way. Over two decades later, Jeremy Corbyn's even more emphatic victory represents a similarly colossal shift in the discourse of the Labour Party, and indeed within the political arena as a whole. Seemingly, when the Labour Party recognises it needs fundamental change, it does so in overwhelming numbers.

While I did not vote for Jeremy Corbyn for Labour leader, I do believe that the Labour Party must do all we can to unite around him.

The election of Jeremy Corbyn represents a sense of dissatisfaction with the Left of the party with what they perceive to be lack of opposition to Tory government.

This lack of opposition is encapsulated by what many believe is the moment Corbyn won the campaign: the abstention of the other three candidates on the Welfare Bill, which cut an extra £12bn from the welfare budget, thus hitting low-income families the hardest. Along with the discontentment with Labour policy, the Left of the party have voted for a new type of politics, epitomised by Corbyn's remarkably clean campaign, a more democratic PMQs and the first female-majority Shadow Cabinet.

In the last five years, we have seen unprecedented attacks on students and young people with the tripling of student tuition fees, not to mention recent attacks including excluding under-21s from claiming housing benefit, excluding under-25s from the recent increase in the minimum wage, and abolishing university maintenance grants. The Leader of the Opposition...is the person best placed to reverse these targeted attacks...

I didn't vote for Corbyn because while I appreciate and often share this discontentment with the lack of opposition to Tory austerity and with the top-down politics of spin, soundbites and suits, I was sceptical of Corbyn's ability to win an election. Jeremy Corbyn has been a Member of Parliament for Islington North for over thirty years and has been a prominent figure on the Left of the Labour Party for just as long. In addition to promoting the economic agenda of Labour's hard left, he has been a strong supporter of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, the Stop the War coalition and the Palestinian Solidarity

Campaign. He has remarked that Britain should leave NATO, that Ireland should be united and believes that Britain should become a republic. While I do not believe he will lead the Labour Party in the broadly unpopular direction of nuclear disarmament, leaving NATO and abolishing the monarchy, the media have already begun their unrelenting attacks towards him on these issues.

However, while I did not vote for Jeremy Corbyn for Labour leader, I do believe that the Labour Party must do all we can to unite around him. While there are many in the Party who may disagree with some of his policies or are sceptical of his ability to win a general election, his victory was overwhelming and to attack and undermine him before he has a chance to prove his critics wrong would not just be disrespectful to his supporters, but also wholly undemocratic. Labour Party members who did not vote for Corbyn must respect his mandate. Just



Students were the driving force in Jeremy Corbyn's bid to become Labour leader

as importantly, those registered and affiliated supporters who did vote for him have a huge responsibility to follow through and become active members.

In the last five years, we have seen unprecedented attacks on students and young people with the tripling of student tuition fees, not to mention recent attacks including excluding under-21s from claiming housing benefit, excluding under-25s from the recent increase in the minimum wage, and abolishing university maintenance grants. The Leader of the Opposition, regardless of the outcome of the Labour leadership election, is the person best placed to reverse these targeted attacks on students and young people by winning the next general election. Students were the driving force in Jeremy Corbyn's bid to become Labour leader, and must become the driving force in Jeremy Corbyn's bid to become Prime Minister if he is to have a chance of doing so.

Matt Pierce

» Jeremy Corbyn photo: Garry Knight / Flickr



# 50th Anniversary



To celebrate Warwick University turning 50 this year, *The Boar* is running a series of interviews with notable alumni and prominent figures in the world of media. Everything we do here is intrinsically linked to both of these areas, so what better way to celebrate our university finally coming of age?



## In Memoriam: Jacquie Page

Midway through September, just as students from all across the world were readying themselves for another year at Warwick University (and a few thousand ready to start for the first time), we found ourselves hearing of the passing of Jacquie Page. As the Students' Union's Democratic Services Coordinator and part of the SU for over two decades, it's hard to understate the impact she has had on the life of every student at this university, no matter how small it may seem. Through overseeing the annual Sabbatical Officer elections, she allowed every student on campus to have a voice.

We've compiled some tributes here from various people who knew and worked with her on an almost daily basis:

**Cat Turhan**  
SU President 2014/5

"We are all here to love and support each other, because that's the kind of philosophy people like Jacquie engendered in us"

Every time I've tried to write this I've cried, but here goes:

Jacquie was truly special. Not just because she was absolutely hilarious (which she was). Not just because she was the only person I'll ever meet who had not only been a union

sabb, but also a Jockey and a pub owner in her time (which she was). Not just because she seemed to solve all my problems with a handful of peardrops, a laugh and a gin (which she did). She brought people out of themselves - transformed awkward and shy young adults into people who changed stuff, and people who led things. She listened to them, encouraged them, and made them feel at home in the SU.

It's times like these that remind me of the real strength of the Union. It's not just the people at SUHQ, it's anyone who has ever been a part of it. The amount of tributes I have seen from ex-sabbs and ex-students just goes to show how amazing she was, and how powerful the Union can be with special people in it. We are all here to love and support each other, because that's the kind of philosophy people like Jacquie engendered in us. I hope it stays like that.

Missing you everyday, Jacquie. I hope there's an endless supply of gin and fags up there.

**Rob Ankorn**  
Democracy and Development  
Officer 2014/15

"Jacquie was never too busy to talk to a student in need and... she'd act as a mother type figure for anyone that needed a supportive shoulder"

I suspect thousands of people out there had the same first experience of Warwick SU that I had: nervously climbing up the stairs of SUHQ brandishing a piece of paper nominating myself for Student Council, heading into the Democratic Services office to be greeted by a strong smell of coffee and one of the nicest, most thoughtful and most unforgettable people. Jacquie was never too busy to talk to a student in need and, though not in her job description, she'd act as a mother type figure for anyone that needed a supportive shoulder. Above all other amazing traits, her gallows sense of humour had me in stitches daily.

Every day as DDO before entering my office, I'd pop my head round the door to wish Jacquie good morning - more often than not she'd inform me of the daily crisis with a deadpan face before bursting into a fantastically wicked laugh.

Despite many of us knowing for some time how ill Jacquie was, you can't really prepare for how you'll feel when a good friend passes away. You don't choose the people you work with and so I'll count myself lucky that for the past year I worked next door a great friend: the institution that is Jacquie Page.

**Miguel Costa Matos**  
Social Sciences Faculty Rep

"It is impossible to measure in words the enormous help she was to anyone who met her"

Jacquie Page's death has broken my heart.

She was a lot more than an institution - not a pillar or a keystone but the whole house when it came to SU Democracy. It is impossible to measure in words the enormous help she was to anyone who met her on any problem they brought to her. She looked after us, often to the point of driving herself sick.

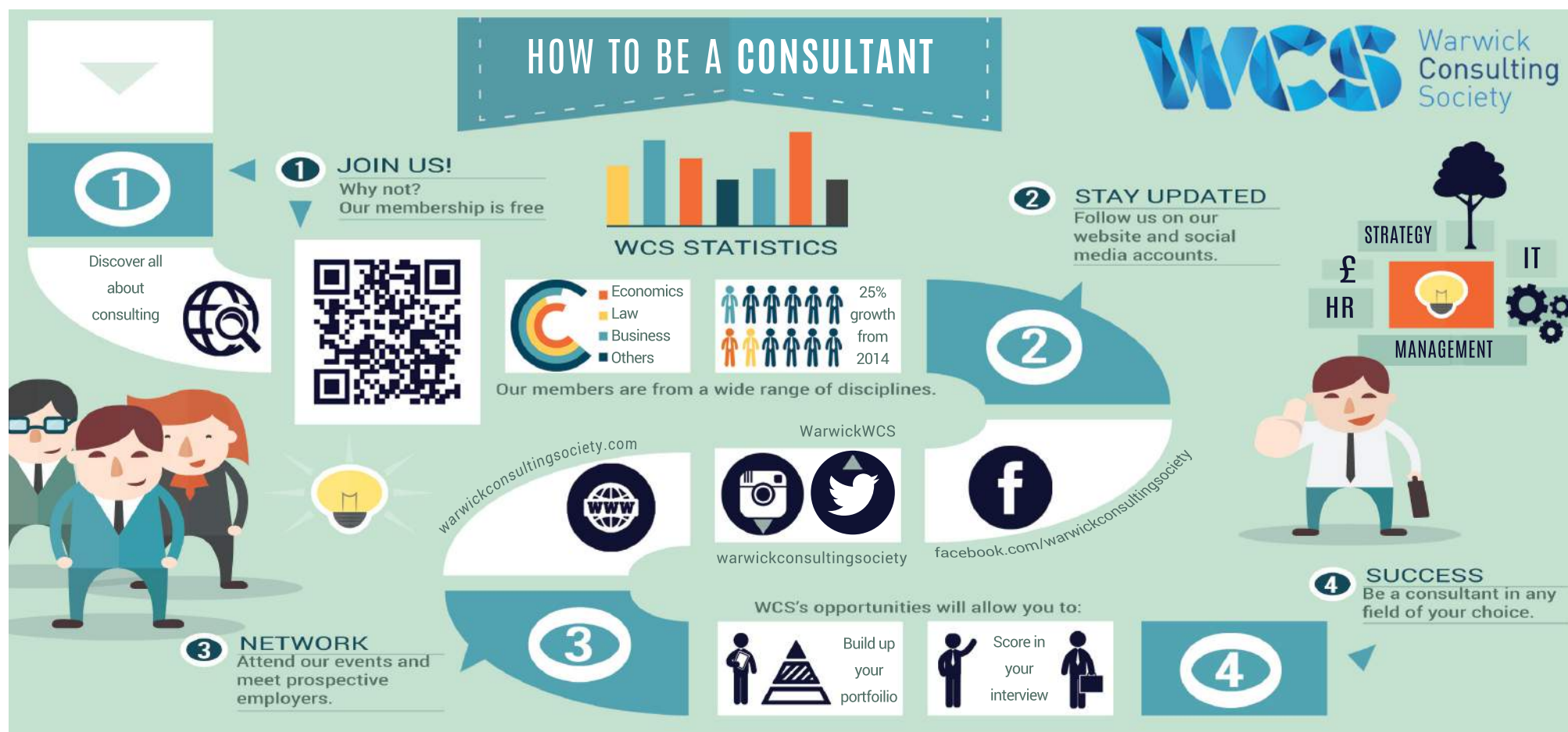
Jacquie Page died sad that so many had lost faith and passion for student politics. She wanted people to fall in love with having, discussing and implementing your ideas for the world. If you want to tribute my friend Jacquie Page, go out there and be a changemaker. She'll look out for you from above.

Jacquie's presence on this earth was very real and very important for so many of us. In my heart, though, she'll always have her own office, where she'll stay: my guardian angel.

Make a donation at:  
[gofundme.com/dh4ymm34](https://gofundme.com/dh4ymm34)







# 50th Anniversary speaker series

## Andy Conroy

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER  
BBC ONLINE & FUTURE MEDIA

Thursday 22nd October 2015







» McDonnell is considered on the far left of the political spectrum / photo: Wikipedia.Org



» photo: Jo@net / Flickr

## In The News

The United Kingdom's Current Account deficit has fallen to its lowest level in the second quarter of the year to 3.6% of GDP from 5.2% in the first quarter, signalling an improvement in the imports vs. exports rate of the United Kingdom.

A study has predicted the number of UK workers on the minimum wage is expected to double by 2020, reaching 10% of the workforce, reports The Guardian. The wage increase by George Osborne means more workers will have their wages set by the state.

The productivity of the United Kingdom lags behind, still, the rest of the G7, with it reaching its widest gap since 1991. The Office for National Statistics puts the UK 20% behind its counterpart's average in the G7. George Osborne has pledged to tackle this.

The interest rates in the United Kingdom may be cut soon according to the Bank of England chief economist Andy Haldane. Already at record lows, he reasoned that there may be fallout from emerging economies and that UK inflation may not pick up.

The IMF Chief has warned of a global economic slow down, with emerging economies being hit by weaker than expected commodity prices over an extended period, along with the Eurozone back into deflation thanks to cheaper oil prices reports The Guardian.

House price growth in the UK is up an average of 0.5% in September, with London, as expected, outpacing the rest of the United Kingdom. This now means that the average UK house price stands just shy of £200,000 at £195,585 according to Sky News.

Government borrowing has increased in August to £12.1bn, up £1.4bn from the same period last year. Pinned on a fall in tax receipts, particularly from corporations, a treasury spokesperson pointed out that borrowing remains lower than previous years.

Good news for the FTSE which seems to have braced the impending storms and the sluggish data released by China, with gains, even though Asia is reporting losses. It is reported that Smith's group in the FTSE are leading the way lately.

## The dawn of New-Old Labour?

Jennie Watkin

With the Labour leadership elections (finally) over, our news has now been flooded with the policies and ideals of our newly elected leader of Her Majesty's Opposition, but more interestingly, our newly appointed Shadow Chancellor. Kick-starting his tenure with some bold headlines and ideas, it seems that a potential Labour government has its eyes firmly set on reforming the Bank of England as well as giving the Department of Business more economic power and a greater role in stimulating growth, instead of the 'stuffy' treasury.

Chris Leslie, the previous Shadow Chancellor, urged McDonnell to 'tone down his negative rhetoric to business' and it seems the com-

petence and credibility of Labour's economic policy is still under serious question by vast swathes of the British public. In a recent survey conducted by ComRes

**McDonnell should "tone down his negative rhetoric to business"**

Chris Leslie

the public put the Conservatives up 12 points on Labour to 42 percent, whilst Mr Corbyn's Labour stands fairly firmly on 30 percent.

Whilst against the backdrop of the Conservative surge in the polls, McDonnell is facing pressure from the left, particularly from the trade union leaders, encouraging him to not 'undermine [Jeremy Corbyn's] democratic right to lead the Labour Party'. The pressure from both sides is surely to cause fur-

ther cracks to appear in the Corbyn administration, which has already seen U-turns or setbacks on NATO and the renewal of Trident.

In stark contrast to Corbyn, and the credibility of his mandate, McDonnell has commented that he understands the need to bring the deficit under control, with The Guardian reporting that 'he will vote for the new charter of budget responsibility as set out by George Osborne'. As for his views on broader institutions such as the bank of England, McDonnell has already commented that it must be reformed, instead focusing on broader economic growth as opposed to merely following its mandate to maintain a 2% inflation rate.

All that we have now is to see where the next few months will take us and any future surprises (or not) that Corbynomics has in store for us!

## Graduate shakeup at Deloitte with selection criteria

Aneesha Mahil examines the changes in their process



» photo: Deloitte / Wikipedia.Org

With many students now going into third year and looking to apply for graduate schemes at major firms and organisations throughout the country, this week we have received news of a shakeup with the way Deloitte, the largest professional services network in the world, accesses its applicants.

Anyone that has applied for jobs along with Summer Internships knows just how tedious it can be, filling out information with regards to your A-Level results along with your university information. Arguing that they are attempting to 'tap into a more diverse talent pool', a new algorithm is reported

to consider A-Level results based in context to the school's average. For example, if three Cs is better than the average at your school, this will be considered in context, not against other applicants.

As reported by the BBC, David Sproul, a senior partner and chief

**"improving social mobility is one of the UK's biggest challenges"**

David Sproul

executive of Deloitte UK comments that 'improving social mobility is one of the UK's biggest challenges'. This comes at a similar time when recruiters are now looking away from purely academic results, focusing more broadly on the backgrounds of applicants too and any mitigating circumstances that may have hindered results in comparison to other students. Whilst it may have good intentions, cynics have argued that it

might devalue the positions of universities and the point of League Tables. Connor O'Shea, a third year Ancient History and Classics student points out that 'many students have worked hard to achieve their grades and get into exceptional universities like Warwick or Oxbridge. It would be a shame if that hard work was ignored in the selection criteria and instead other areas were focused more heavily upon'.

Whilst the objectives to improve social mobility are certainly a top priority for a country, it is yet to be seen whether these new selection criteria will help improve the opportunities of all across the country of have different consequences that on face-value are difficult to anticipate. It will be interest to continue to monitor and see how it pans out over the next few years!



How do you think this will change the job landscape?

Tweet: @BoarFinance

**Deloitte hope to improve the social mobility across the UK and give more people from deprived backgrounds**



# KASBAH

## WARWICK UNIVERSITY FRESHERS WEEK 2015

**kinky**

J-bombs £1  
+ House spirits £1

Friday 9th October

**CHUCKLE BROTHERS**

Everyday I'm Chuckling! To me, To You, To Kasbah!!!



**TRICKY Disco**

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER  
**NOTHING BUT THIEVES**

SOULFUL ROCK WITH BIG GUITAR RIFFS LIVE IN THE LEFT WING  
Carlsberg £1.50, Buy one get one free on all Cocktails



**BUBBLE LUV**  
EVERY MONDAY

SELECTED DRINKS 80P  
J-BOMBS £1

MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER

**WILD WEST**

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE HUNGOVER!  
Round up your buddies and come try your luck on the Bucking Bull!  
Free cowboy hats for the first 100 people!!!



**kinky**

J-bombs £1  
+ House spirits £1



Friday 16th October

**The Mariachis**



The only thing more Mexican than Tequila is The Mariachis.  
Free Sombreros, Manly Moustaches and Nachos!



**TRICKY Disco**

SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER  
**MAN OVERBOARD**

USA PUNK AT ITS FINEST, SEE YOU IN THE MOST PIT  
Carlsberg £1.50, Buy one get one free on all Cocktails



**BUBBLE LUV**  
EVERY MONDAY

SELECTED DRINKS 80P  
J-BOMBS £1

MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER

**POPCORN PARTY**

POPCORN EVERYWHERE BLASTED OVER THE CROWD!  
Eat, throw it, take it home - Don't miss out on the biggest Popcorn Party!!!



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# It's that time of year again...Let's talk Robin Hood Tax

## Alexander Shaw examines the implications and why it isn't all it is claimed to be

So there we have it! A new Shadow Chancellor and the Robin Hood tax is now back on the table. Arguing in his speech that the tax would 'help pay for improvements to the NHS and other public services' Mr McDonnell believes that he could not only reign in the excesses of the City, but also that it is a reliable way to help pay for services. Whilst criticised by campaigners for the rights of the individuals, he denied that he was planning 'big' tax increases, instead commenting that 'his speech could be pretty boring'. But what is the Robin Hood Tax?

**"there is a strong risk that it will hurt the market"**

Mr Voigt

Calling for a tax of around 0.05% on all transactions, the Robin Hood tax taxes the trading and interactions of shares, bonds and currencies, which campaigners have argued will raise around £20bn per year for the UK treasury. However, Chancellor George Osborne has already resisted moves by the EU, which earlier in the previous parliament attempted to impose a Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) on the UK and the City, of which he argued infringed UK Sovereignty and disproportionately affected the UK, funding

shortfalls in the EU budget for policies such as the Common Agricultural Policy.

Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, explains that 'any Financial Tax threatens the City of London's pre-eminent position as a global financial centre' pointing out that 'John McDonnell...would put people's livelihoods here at risk'.

However it is not just Mr Johnson who has concerns over such a tax. Christian Voigt, a business solutions architect explains that 'based on what we know of the FTT so far, there is a strong risk that it will hurt the market'. Mr Voigt draw links between the situation that markets are currently in, with the tax 'impacting those who trade a lot. Market makers are needed to provide liquidity to the markets in times of stress – but the FTT will discourage them from doing so at the very moment when the market needs liquidity the most'.

Further to this, the Adam Smith Institute calculates the 20-year cost to the UK economy would be £25.58bn as a result of

**"John McDonnell would put people's livelihoods at risk"**

Mr Johnson

lost growth. Finally, Russ Mould, and investment director at AJ Bell cited the words of Sir Winston Churchill, who argued that 'for



» A recent protest outside Barclays HQ in London // photo: Robin Hood Tax / Flickr

a nation to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle'. Whilst on face value, any tax may seem like a good thing, transferring the power of money spending from our own hands into those of politicians, the

negative effects may be far deeper reaching than at first calculated, or anticipated.

I suppose, as with any tax, the question needs to be asked, who is better at spending our hard earned money?

# UK earnings grow at fastest rate since 2009

## Elena Prest looks at recent figures produced by the Office for National Statistics



» The City of London is the UK's Financial Hub / photo: wikipedia.org

New research conducted by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has shown that in the period of May through to July, average earnings, excluding bonuses, grew by 2.9% compared with the same period last year. The unemployment rate has remained at 5.5%, down from 6.2% in the same quarter last year.

Commenting on the statistics, Chris Wil-

**"the long-awaited upturn in pay...looks finally to be upon us"**

Mr Williamson

liamson, chief economist at Markit, praised the news, saying that 'the long-awaited upturn in pay...looks to finally be upon us, reviving a prospect of a rate hike by the end of the year. Further to this, he pointed out that if you strip away public sector pay increases,

**Owen Smith MP** Labour's shadow Work and pensions Secretary has welcomed the increase in pay



» The growth has been felt not just in the City of London too / photo: wikipedia.org

**73.5%**

The current UK employment rate is at its highest it has been

the private sector pay has risen by an annual rate of 3.4%, far beyond the rate of inflation. What this new data suggests is that families are seeing their incomes rise now, far faster than inflation, meaning that standards of living, as well as disposable income should be on the rise too.

Commenting on the data, Chancellor George Osborne praised the level of employment at 73.5%, taking the opportunity to tell the BBC that 'the employment rate is the highest it has been'. Also establishing that 'working people have received the fastest real-terms rise in over a decade'. The praise for the figures isn't just isolated to the Conservative benches, with Labour's shadow work and pensions secretary, Owen Smith, commenting that 'it's welcome news that workers' pay packets are increasing'.

It may now seem, after years of saying it, we truly are 'all in this together'.



# Europe is back on a Greece-y slope with recent strikes

As Great Britain hails economic success, not all is well on the continent as anti-austerity protests worsen in Greece



» photo: wikipedia.org

Aneesha Mahil

Whilst we have had our papers and media sources dominated by the recent Labour leadership elections, Greece has had an election, and the public have voted, once again for the left-wing Syriza Party and Alexis Tsipras. Earlier this year, we reported that Greece, in particular Syriza, is a threat to the monetary union and the stability of the Eurozone, worrying the markets and investors, what 8 months has shown us

though! Far from being a backlash, anti-euro, anti-austerity party, it seems now that there is no real reason for the markets to worry. When he was first elected, he delivered a set of promises; to stay in the Euro, to put Greece back on the road to recovery and finally to end austerity. We know now that he has only achieved one of those things.

29%  
the current extent to which the Greek economy has shrunk

With the economy having shrunk by 29% since 2009, and with no sign of the recession slowing, it seems that the politics of Syriza and ‘anti-austerity’ has only landed Greece in more debt, unable to end austerity, and with an economy that doesn’t seem to ever be able to grow successfully again. It appears that Greece has been fooled by the romanticised idea of Tsipras of an ‘end to austerity’, instead agreeing fully to all the terms of the Bailout package by the European Union (Germany). When examining the case, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reported that

Greece must significantly reduce its debt burden in order to make a full economic recovery. What’s more is that the IMF has

The International Monetary Fund has demanded that Greece significantly reduce its debt burden

ruled out contributing towards a support package unless Europe offers Athens more generous terms. If anything, it appears that the problem with Greece will rumble

on, hitting headlines for all the wrong reasons. The crisis has exposed one fatal flaw with the European Union; that whilst Tsipras may offer his voters and electorate one thing, it is the country that holds the purse strings that truly controls your politics. The anti-democratic European Union has, if anything, made anti-austerity parties and politics near enough impossible for home nations...oh the irony!



What do you think can improve the situation in Greece? Tell us on Facebook

The Warwick Economics Summit is the largest student run academic conference of its kind in Europe, welcoming prominent speakers from various industries, regions and backgrounds. It’s entirely run by Warwick students for fellow students from Warwick and other universities to enable interactive debates and sharing of ideas.



WARWICK  
Economics Summit

You can be part of organising the Warwick Economics Summit by applying for our Team Member roles.

To apply or to read more about team description and roles, visit our website [www.warwickeconomicssummit.com](http://www.warwickeconomicssummit.com), or find out more at one of the following events.

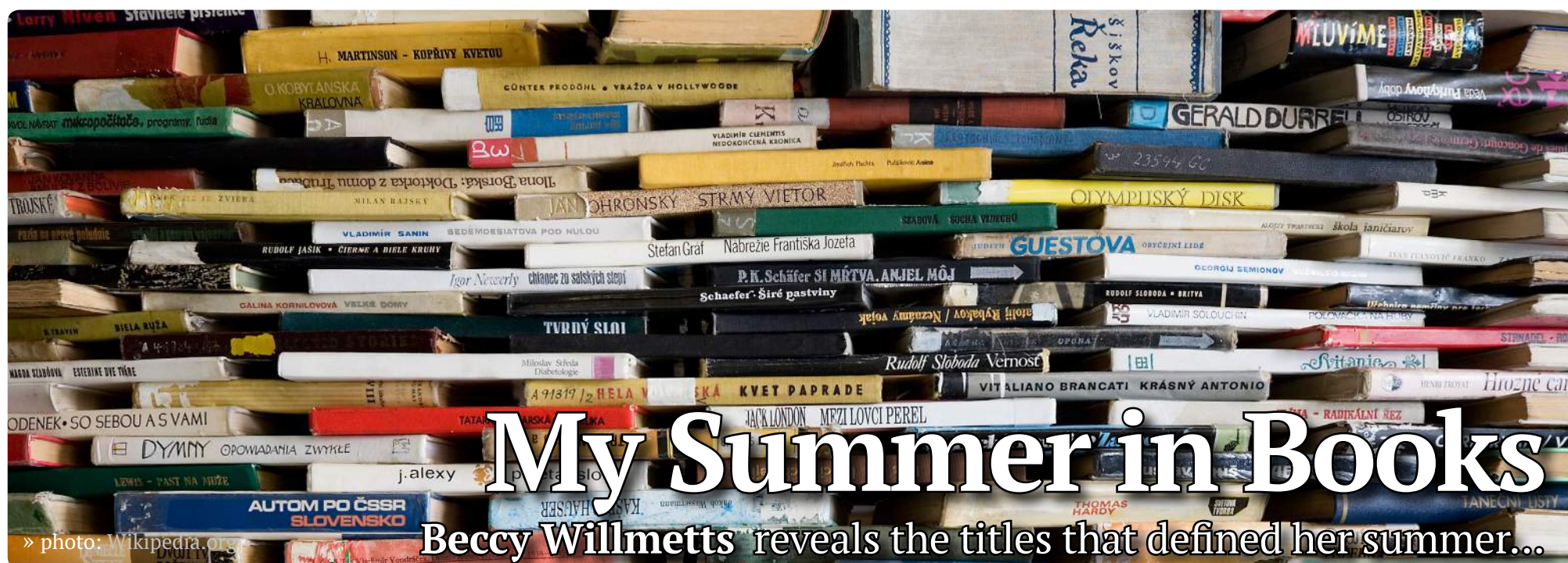
**Freshers Fair:**

Thursday 8th of October from 10am to 3pm in the Sports Hall

**Meet the Exec:**

Monday 12th October, 7:30-9:30pm in Terrace Bar





## The Unbearable Lightness of Being

Milan Kundera

This novel describes the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia through the experiences of four intellectuals: Tomas, skilled surgeon and relentless womaniser; his amateur photographer wife Tereza; his mistress Sabina; and Sabina's Austrian lover Franz. The novel is also interspersed with Kundera's philosophical musings. Whilst I enjoyed the writing style and found the time period covered interesting, I had issues with some of the characters themselves. I found that Tomas in particular became, at times, too unlikeable for me to get fully invested in the story.

## The Secret History

Donna Tartt

Set at an elite college in New England, Tartt's novel charts the descent of student, Richard Pape, as he is drawn into helping commit a terrible crime. He attends exclusive Greek classes with a group of enigmatic

students and together they explore different ways of thinking and living. The structure was intriguing in that it started with the crime, and afterwards discussed the events leading up to it. I highly enjoyed this read, my only criticism being that finding out about the crime so early on causes the novel to lose some of its impetus towards the end.

## Half of a Yellow Sun

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

This fascinating read is set in 1960s Nigeria and documents the civil war through two households that are affected. One contains Odenigbo, a radical university professor, his lover Olanna who was brought up in a high-status family, and their serving boy Ugwu; the other is home to Olanna's sister Kainene and her English lover Richard. It covers a period of history and events I previously knew very little about in a way that felt intimate, human and compassionate. Beautifully written and characterised, I would defi-

nately recommend this novel to anyone.

## On Beauty

Zadie Smith

Smith's work follows the story of two middle-class families, the Belseys and the Kippes, and their friendships, feuds and affairs in the academic bubble of a university just outside of Boston. The entanglements of their two warring families and the believable characterisation is the driving force of this novel. It covers an episode of their lives rather than an obvious set of plot points, but the wit and descriptive power of the writing makes for compelling reading.

## The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared

Jonas Jonasson

I had heard a lot of hype about this book, which details the adventures of a hundred-

year-old man who goes missing, but sadly, I had a hard time getting into it. I found that, whilst it was entertaining, its plots seemed increasingly more far-fetched as the story went on, and a lot of its features appeared to be included out of convenience rather than adding anything to the story. Perhaps it just wasn't for me, as I do know a lot of people who loved it.

## The Outsider

Albert Camus

Meursault learns of his mother's death, travels to her funeral and expresses no grief. Later, when he is at the beach, he kills his friend's girlfriend's brother remorselessly and is arrested. He is later sentenced to death, and only finds happiness in his belief that life has no higher meaning. I did really enjoy this novel and found the philosophical ideas presented interesting, but the subject matter makes it something you probably wouldn't read beside the pool!

# Tête-à-tête: Should certain books be banned?

Books have been banned for hundreds of years in a wide variety of countries for many different reasons. An often-cited reason is obscenity, as with the famously-forbidden Lady Chatterley's Lover, because many governments object to books that go against a certain way of thinking. Writing that criticises politics and religion has often been banned, with Salman Rushdie's The Satanic Verses being made illegal in a lot of the Muslim world and a fatwa for his assassination being issued.

Many people think of book banning as a government-driven thing, but it can happen at any level. Schools prohibit books that they feel are inappropriate for a young audience, especially if a parent complains about it – this is clearly a sensible thing to do, as children shouldn't be reading explicitly adult material when they are too young to deal with it. A similar rule is applied at libraries, where adult books are fenced off (if not banned completely), with controversial books also generally being given the chop.

Even if you are completely for free speech, it is hard to argue some books are sensible (or even safe) to publish. Examples include the Australian-banned How to make disposable silencers and the French-banned Suicide mode d'emploi, instructional manuals respectively detailing the construction of weapons and methods for committing suicide. I doubt I need to explain the reasons for doing so, nor convince you it is the best course of action.

As a final point, rarely a day goes by when a video game or a TV show is criticised for gory content or excess sex, and yet books are completely glossed over. Game of Thrones on TV is slated for violence against women, but the books get off scot-free, which is hardly fair. I don't want a blanket ban on books, but clearly banning some is not a terrible thing.

Reece Goodall

“Free access to all books will give us the chance to decide what our own opinions are.”

The main point of banning books is to restrict certain ideas from reaching an audience. However, contradictory reactions to popular books prove that banning, or attempts at doing so, are disorganised. For instance, according to Banned Book Awareness, the Harry Potter series has been challenged in parts of the U.S, Canada, New Mexico and Australia for promoting witchcraft and violence. Yet it has also received over a hundred awards and remains well-loved amongst other readers.

Harry Potter is just one example of many: take a glance at your bookshelf and you might be surprised at the number of titles that have been banned or challenged, from John Green's Looking for Alaska to Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales. However, attitudes to books are not permanent. Although The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn was banned in the U.S. just a month after its

publication, it is now celebrated as a classic. Books considered controversial today may be viewed with more of an open mind in time. It is impossible to create content that everyone will interpret in the same way, but trying to stop people from accessing the content itself is not a feasible idea in a time when knowledge is easily accessible.

In any case, banning is not an effective solution to any problems. Once a reader gains access to a text, there is no control over the way they will read and relate to it. It doesn't matter what or when people read; reactions to texts depend on an individual's interpretation, which is created by influences that cannot necessarily be controlled. Banning books allows certain groups to impose possibly outdated ideas of right and wrong. Free access to all books will give us the chance to read about contemporary problems in their time, to identify issues that are still relevant today, and to decide what our own opinions are.

Sohini Kumar



## Andy Parsons: Live and unleashed, but naturally cautious

Emily Dunford reviews his new tour at the Spa Centre.

**M**ock the Week regular and contributor to puppet satire 'Spitting Image', Andy Parsons sold out his set at Warwick Arts Centre in February. On this occasion though, the comedian was less lucky with the smaller audience in the Royal Spa Centre for 'Live and Unleashed – but Naturally Cautious.'

Thankfully the initially frosty crowd was soon won over by Parsons' conversational style. Unafraid to take a pop at anything silly in the personal and the political, Parsons' informed satire has the audience thinking and laughing all evening.

Live and Unleashed is a show of two very different halves. Parsons begins by contemplating his hang ups about aging, masculinity and death. He's pretty terrible at being a man, he says. He's afraid of heights. All in all, he's a bit of a shambles. We don't mind,

because so are we.

We veer into the dark, into existential angst, by the interval. The veneer of the larger than life comedian bounding onto the stage with a scissor kick and a belly laugh is replaced by a man sat at the back of the stage considering the futility of being.

When Parsons returns post-interval, what follows is the cutting politics we recognise from Mock the Week. No politician or party is safe. Carefully blended into irreverent comments about BOGOF offers and british values, this is reasoned satire for the everyman.

The woman next to me "Mmmm"s at every new political statement, as Parsons reasons his views with us without aloofness. He knows how to engage his audience in

political debate, whilst reassuring us that he knows just as little as we do.

As the evening ends and we're asked to hold hands with our neighbours, the very british audience dissolves into an awkward mess. On the way out, there are snippets of political debate to be heard all around the auditorium. Nicely done, Parsons.

» **Andy Parsons as he embarks on his new tour. Photo: Royal Spa Centre**



## Inkluded Exhibition

Sophie Dudhill sees some of the finest tattooists in Leamington

'Inked Palette' is a tattoo artists' exhibition running in Leamington Spa until 20 October and the work on display is a testament to the pure talent these true artists hold. The concept of not only having to produce evocative work in various mediums but then having to transfer that work onto skin is what takes tattoo artists to the next level.

Mutual organisers Inkluded and Deasil Art stressed the importance of what the exhibition was attempting to achieve that previous tattoo exhibitions had not, 'Art should be free to access it should bring people together and should always remain fresh and inspiring.'

As someone not totally educated on tattoos I was amazed and surprised at the immense quality of the designs, making me question how so many people have such dubious designs plastered across themselves without a seconds thought for artistic expression,

which is what a tattoo completely symbolises, one's personal expression.

University is the perfect time to get a tattoo without the looming eye of parents, but just make sure you do your research and see the beauty of what's out there. There was a woman getting a tattoo live in front of me at the launch of the exhibition. It was her first tattoo and despite initial feelings being reminiscent to the chair being lowered at the dentist her reactions weren't as bad as I expected once the artist began.

From incredibly realistic inked faces, comic and cartoon to sculpture and tentative animal sketches there were a host of mediums and subject areas. My personal favourite were a selection of bank notes hosting as canvases to various scenes by Shaun von Sleaze which would set you back £315 each. Another that stood out was a gruesome and graphic heart with a dagger through its centre. This exhibition is not short of vibrancy, capturing

movement and life in the work displayed. The venue chosen, The Warehouse on Oxford Street, was a good, intimate space to display these works.

I spoke to participating tattoo artist David Brace who has been in the industry for over 9 years, about what makes tattoo artists work different. 'Everything I paint or draw now is tattooable it's natural to me. Everything I've done is with a tattoo technique whether it be etching or sculpture, everything is transferable.'

'Watercolour is harder to transfer into tattoo as colours will dim down, as if wearing a pair of sunglasses, and go a shade darker so it shows through the skin layer.'

The technicality of the art form amazed me as I found myself appreciating the true artistic talent in the room. David confirmed this feeling saying, 'we are artists before we are tattooists - it stems from creativity.'

We also discussed how the decline in the

## Arts Column

Some Citizen Kane in us all



**U**ndoubtedly one reason why Orson Wells' 1941 film 'Citizen Kane' is considered to be one of the best films of all time is due to the dramaturgy of Charles Foster Kane an American newspaper tycoon, portrayed by Wells, based on William Randolph Hearst.

The storyline invites the audience to look for clues as to what Kane's final words on his deathbed "Rosebud" mean, as a newsreel producer searches for answers by talking to people Kane had associated with in his life, only to discover the answer lies in the smallest of details; the word is inscribed on a sledge Kane is playing with in his final moments of childhood.

As this childhood ends the dying begins, perhaps knowingly to Kane who as the protagonist seeks throughout to fulfil his desire to love himself. Alone, but the opposite of desolated visually, also suggests the need Kane has to feel surrounded and protected by the objects as well as lack of freedom in being tied down to owning and carrying so many pieces.

This use of staging in what Kane has at the end of his life mirrors eerily with the opinion of Bradshaw who writes that with the film we are left with "a pointilliste constellation of gleaming moments from which we can never quite stand far enough back to see the bigger picture in its entirety." Kane has more things than moments to enjoy so at no point does he have a view of the bigger picture of his life. His possessions are burned, including the sledge from his childhood, suggesting that key childhood memories are held on to for all our lives until, like us, becoming smoke and ash.

Kane serves as a mentor in his own life because he numbs emotional responses to his first wife and son dying which in the film we see no reaction of. He is playing the part of his own guide by being impulsive and charismatic like a grown up child. These elements are performed in aspects of our own lives to varying degrees and is why this dramaturgy stands the test of time.

stigma around tattoos being seen as rough or untidy has allowed many more people to express themselves by putting ink to skin. Seeing the artwork caused any stigma at all to be wiped from my beliefs as David explained the freedom behind the work. 'It is the best form of expression as you can be as violent as you like, or as girly as you like if you're a man.'

The room was saturated with inspiring works for artists, tattoo enthusiasts and other creative minds. Whether you're thinking of getting a tattoo or not 'Inked Palette' is stimulating and quirky proving that a tattoo can be an art form at its most expressive. I have to say I am contemplating putting ink to skin having seen the art form in a new light.

*The exhibition will run with free entry at The Warehouse in Leamington Spa until 20 October. Visit the website for more details: [www.inkluded.co.uk/2015/07/16/inkludpalette/](http://www.inkluded.co.uk/2015/07/16/inkludpalette/)*



# Photography

Editor: Shruti Dayal

## This week: what represents your country?



Singapore in black and white Photo: Jimmy McIntyre/Flickr



Photo: Joyce Lau



Photo: BoarPhotography



Scott street - Glasgow, Scotland Photo: Giuseppe Milo/Flickr



Photo: BoarPhotography



Photo: BoarPhotography



Binary Life Photo: Stròlic Furlàn - Davide Gabino/Flickr



Photo: Joyce Lau





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# The Boar's Winter Preview

Our writers preview the winter's most exciting films

» Left: The Millennium Falcon returns. Right: DiCaprio wanders the American Wilderness / photos: Lucasfilm/Disney; 20th Century

## Star Wars: The Force Awakens

As most nerds and probably all of their friends and family already know, the *Star Wars* franchise is set to make a return to the silver screen in December under the direction of the *Star Trek* defector JJ Abrams.

Set 30 years after the events of Return of the Jedi, *The Force Awakens* boasts an outstanding cast with names both old and new, the entire core cast of the original trilogy (yes, even Harrison Ford) making a return along with the fresh faces of Daisy Ridley, John Boyega (*Attack The Block*), Adam Driver (*Girls*), Gwendolyn Christie (*Game of Thrones*), Oscar Isaac and Domhnall Gleeson (*Ex Machina*). In typical Abrams fashion, much of the plot details and the trailers have thankfully remained vague and/or mysterious aside from some information on the enemy: 'The First Order, formed from the remnants of the Empire from the original trilogy. If anything is certain and *Star Trek* was a glimpse of what to expect, this will truly bring balance to the force, and George Lucas' poorly executed prequels.

*Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens* opens worldwide 18 December.

Kambole Campbell

## Victor Frankenstein

Victor Frankenstein is a new take on Mary Shelley's classic novel, told from the perspective of Frankenstein's infamous assistant Igor.

Starring Daniel Radcliffe (*Horns*) as Igor and James McAvoy (*X-Men: Days of Future Past*) as Victor Frankenstein, the film charts their redemptive relationship and their deranged mission to create a sentient being.

Firstly, the cast of the film is incredibly strong, starring the likes of Charles Dance (*Game of Thrones*), Andrew Scott (*Sherlock*) and Jessica Brown Findlay (*Downton Abbey*) alongside Radcliffe and McAvoy. Additionally, Victor Frankenstein is directed by Paul McGuigan, who has helmed several episodes of the superb BBC series, *Sherlock*.

Whilst it probably won't be the faithful and nuanced adaptation that some are hoping for, Victor Frankenstein at the very least promises to turn a classic tale into an enjoyable action flick with a dynamic, odd-couple relationship as its core focus - much like Guy Ritchie's recent *Sherlock Holmes* reboot.

*Victor Frankenstein* is expected to release in cinemas 25 November.

Alexander Brock

## Spectre

Spectre, the 24th instalment in the James Bond film franchise will hit the big screen on October 26th. Following on from 2012's *Skyfall*, Bond receives a cryptic message from his past which leads him to the sinister organisation SPECTRE.

Spectre will be Daniel Craig's fourth (and potentially last) Bond movie, whilst Ralph Fiennes, Ben Whishaw and Naomi Harris will return as M, Q, and Money Penny respectively. New additions to the cast include Academy Award winning Christoph Waltz as the mysterious lead villain and WWE's Batista as his henchman. Joining them are Lea Seydoux and Monica Bellucci, who at 50 years old, becomes Bond's oldest love interest.

Spectre promises to include some of the classic ingredients that make a Bond film great, such as exotic locations (Mexico, Morocco, the Alps), fast cars (the brand new Aston Martin DB10), and a powerful ballad accompanying the opening title sequence by breakout British star Sam Smith. The film's grand action sequences should leave the audience shaken, not stirred.

*Spectre* opens in UK cinemas on the 26th of October.

Alp Katalan

## The Revenant

Only one year after winning the Academy Award for Best Director, Alejandro González Iñárritu is set to release his next directorial offering, *The Revenant*, on the 8th of January.

Without wanting to tempt Oscars fate too much, Leonardo DiCaprio plays the lead just ahead of the next awards season cycle, potentially making him a serious contender for Best Actor, not least for the disturbingly unmanageable beard that he has had to sport for several months - is the Best Actor award really worth that monstrosity?

Based on a true story, DiCaprio plays the fur trapper Hugh Glass. Having been mauled by a bear and robbed and deserted by his friends (Tom Hardy and Will Poulter), DiCaprio's character recovers and tracks down his betrayers, returning as if from the dead.

This is shaping up to be enigmatic and atmospheric, both of which can be signs of a 'try-hard' film - but I have a feeling this really could be something special.

*The Revenant* opens in cinemas on the 8th of January.

Jordan Hindson

# Film Review: Beasts Of No Nation

Sam Gray

*Beasts of No Nation* is one of those films that comes along and violently tries to shake us out of our mundane reality. Evoking everything from *The Thin Red Line* to *Blood Meridian*, but very much remaining its own beast, it reminds us that even now there are parts of the world that are hellish, violent and unliveable, be you old or young, man or woman, a member of an army or a member of a rebellion. Or, if you're a

**"...this is arguably his best film. It takes a clear social message and imbues it with astonishing cinematic ability."**

young boy like Agu (Abraham Attah), caught somewhere in between, with no place left to run but into the arms of the devil. The film takes place in an unnamed African country and centres on Agu and his family, who live in a village on the UN buffer zone by a neigh-

bouring state. He lives a happy, stable life with his family; his father provides land to the refugees from a nearby civil war, which has angered many members of his own community.

However, it's not long before the village hears reports that the war is moving closer. Agu's mother and sister get away but, after being captured by the army, Agu sees his father and brother brutally murdered, and he is left scared and alone in the vast African wilderness.

Enter Idris Elba's Commandant. He is swaggering, ruthless and, above all, charismatic, so much so that he has compelled a battalion of (very) young soldiers to fight for him. He finds Agu

in the jungle and sees potential in him, and decides to induct him into the tribe. Agu has to learn how to fire a gun, take a beating, and participate in an unforgiving initiation ceremony, where the price of failure is having your throat slit.

The Commandant's appeal is cultish - he has soldiers fire blanks at the boys to make them believe they invincible, and he even has them believe they are part of his "family". Of course, this results in an almost unwatchable sequence where Agu is told to kill a man with a machete. "These are the dogs that killed your father," he says, even as the man pleads he is only an engineer out to fix bridges. Inevitably, Agu and his friend Strika end up hacking the man to bits.

This is a very nasty and violent film: certainly not for the faint of heart. Yet I think it would be disingenuous to make it any other



» photo: British Film Institute

way. To truly understand a world where this can be allowed to happen, the film has to submerge the viewer in a world of blood, sweat, mud and more blood, and take the most sacred of cinematic icons - the innocent child - and crush it into dust, to devastating effect.

Cary Joji Fukunaga, the director, is a master of storytelling and atmosphere, as both *Sin Nombre* and *True Detective* proved. But this is arguably his best film. It takes a clear social message and imbues it with astonishing cinematic ability.

The performances are also superb. Elba is, as you'd expect, dominant as a villainous evil allowed to enact his savagery across the land; though there is the interesting dimension of him contending with distant government superiors, who are constantly yanking on his choke chain.

*Beasts of No Nation* marks the start of Oscar season in earnest. It is a tremendous success for Netflix - who, as expected, prove that it is



Any other films you're excited to see this autumn and winter?

Tweet: @BoarFilm



» photo: sheriffmitchell / Flickr

# Head to Head: Rom-Coms

Two Boar Film writers discuss the merit of the popular genre

**Alex Arsene**

It's easy to find fault with romantic comedies, but every once in a while a rom-com will inevitably bring some sort of joy to your life; how can you fault a genre of film which sparks such a warm and fuzzy feeling inside you? They don't necessarily have to be pieces of cinematic art and they aren't always likely to strike gold at award ceremonies, but many modern day cult classics are romantic comedies and they have undoubtedly infiltrated popular culture.

When Harry Met Sally (1989) mixed strong comedy with romance (who can forget the famous scene at Katz's Delicatessen? "I'll have what she's having!"); Pretty Woman (1990) reinvented the notion of what shopping on Rodeo Drive is meant to look like, leaving many women trying to copy Julia Roberts' style, whilst men aimed for Richard

Gere's brooding attitude; 500 Days of Summer (2009) was a mixture of joy, melancholia and great musical sequences; Clueless (1995) doesn't even need an introduction anymore, having served as the trigger to a global change in teenage fashion and relationships... and the list could go on.

All these movies have targeted the viewer's basic emotions, but have been more than effective in doing so. If you're heartbroken, you'll probably watch a rom-com to keep you company in your crying; if you're in love or simply just want to feel good, you'll again probably choose a classic rom-com to make you laugh, smile affectionately and be subsequently catapulted into a good mood. The fact of the matter is, a romantic comedy serves as a means for a director to stir something truthful and strike a chord in the heart of the audience.

**Joanna Jakubowska**

Romantic comedies can be a touchy topic. Some love them without reservations, others will give anything not to watch them. Happily or not, I have been the member of the second group since my teenage years.

Most movies of the genre follow a tired mass of stereotypes that I, as a film viewer, thoroughly loathe. From the premises that only people with significant others are happy, women's goal in life is family, and 'we are going on a date to the cinema and need a light movie!' to many, many others. They center on the idea that being alone is the cruellest fate. Well... I don't think so!

To me, cinema is meant to provoke, try to portray reality in ways we ourselves cannot picture and ask questions we are afraid to state. Romantic comedies are light-hearted

and meant to cash in as much as possible, there is no finesse in making them. And don't ask me about the humour in desperately clutching at someone, unable to let go of them no matter what, because they are the mythical One and you don't want to end up a spinster with a hundred cats.

On the other hand, because such a genre already exists, it opens an unending stream of inspiration for satire. Without titles such as Notting Hill, You've Got Mail, The Wedding Planner, we probably wouldn't have such masterpieces like 500 Days of Summer, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind or Young Adult. Using old tropes and testing the audiences' patience and imagination, the latter films subvert the genre showing that sometimes, neither can you get everything you set your mind on, nor is love the ultimate answer.

## Id-ris what we want?

Ann Amarawansa shares her thoughts on the Bond debate

"The name's Bond. James Bond". Such is the iconic catch phrase of the British phenomenon. With his trademark tuxedo, lethal skill set and devious charm, Ian Fleming had written quite the compelling character.

Throughout the years audiences have seen various portrayals of Agent 007. A collection of talented British actors have each delivered their own take on the character and where some have been a miss, others have gone on to become unforgettable. Sean Connery became the archetypal Bond. He perfectly embodied the agent's refined nature and promiscuity. Recently however, audiences were captured by a grittier yet more realistic version of the character. Daniel Craig was definitely a contrast from Connery's classic Bond, as he brought more emotion and depth to the character. Undeniably his raw performance depicted one of the most complex Bonds that we have seen so far.

The immortality of this franchise always leaves us anticipating the next instalment, although it's guessing who will play James Bond next that primarily fuels our excitement for the newest film. Speculations of who will replace Craig have been circulating, yet no actor has sparked as much controversy as Idris Elba. The Black British actor recently became a topical issue amongst Bond fans, whilst many have embraced the idea of a black Bond, others have voiced feelings of concern.

Author of the continuation Bond novels, Anthony Horowitz expressed his own opinions on the matter in a recent interview and claimed that the actor was "too street" for the role. The interview initiated an explosive response and numerous netizens came to Elba's defence, as well as raising questions as to what classifies as "street"? Horowitz insisted that it isn't about colour, rather he was referring to Elba's gritty portrayal of DCI John Luther. By this definition, wouldn't Craig's Bond be considered "street" too? The opening sequence in the 2006 reboot Casino Royale, established a rougher tone to Bond. The

vicious nature of the scene strikes as somewhat thuggish, which strays from Fleming's vision of Bond's slick and suave character. Prior to this, Bond was merely a means to his adventurous lifestyle and lacked actual substance. It wasn't until Craig assumed the role that audiences got to see the many layers to the 007 agent unravel, giving the character a new found sense of depth.

Others argued that casting Elba would break the continuity of the franchise. American right-wing radio host Rush Limbaugh stated "He was white and Scottish. Period." However discontinuity didn't serve as a problem in earlier instances. M, the Head of MI6, was written as a man and consecutively played by male actors until Golden Eye (1995) when Judi Dench took on the role. It was empowering to cast a woman into such a prominent position during the 90s. Though it might have seemed provocative at the time, we can all agree that Dench made a phenomenal M. She brought a subtle maternal aspect to the character that was most apparent with Craig's Bond. Giving Dench the role proved to be a success, despite deviating from the written character's gender.

My personal stance however, resides on the direction in which producers intend to take this Bond. Assuming directors want to breakaway from Craig's Bond and instead return to the classic 60s Bond, then perhaps casting a Black actor would appear unrealistic. Especially since people of colour were given limited opportunities within that era and therefore the likelihood of a Black man assuming a key position in MI6 would be pretty slim. However, if directors decided to keep Bond within the modern world, I find no reason to object to a black Bond. After all if male characters can become female and two dimensional personalities given a new lease of life, why can't Bond become Black? We should question why our collective imagination still cannot see past colour.

Ann Amarawansa

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# Recap: The Emmy Awards 2015

Ellie Campbell takes us through the highlights of this year's ceremony

This year, the Emmys made history. Normally, such awards shows are slammed for being formulaic and ignoring the minority. But this year saw the most diverse pool of nominees ever.

Unlike some awards shows, which end in controversy over the deserved winner, the 67th Emmys seemed to focus upon recognition and praise.

This year's host, Andy Samberg, joked that "Racism is over – don't fact check that" as he congratulated Hollywood for diversity being "the big story this year". This time around, the Emmys opened the vote to a wider selection of Academies, in hope that they might better reflect the programmes and actors that deserved to be honoured.

**A wider selection of Academies were considered to better reflect the programmes and actors that deserved to be nominated**

Viola Davis (*How to Get Away with Murder*) become the first black woman ever to win Outstanding Lead Actress in a Drama. In her speech she praised the show's writers and critiqued Hollywood, stating "You cannot win an Emmy for roles that are simply

not there".

Showrunner of *How to Get Away with Murder*, Shonda Rhimes, strives for ethnic and sexual diversity in each of her shows.

Another big story of the night was the winner of Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama. After a whopping eight nominations in this category, and sixteen throughout his career, *Mad Men*'s Jon Hamm finally won. It was seen by many as deserved recognition for his work in the AMC show for the past eight years.

Regarded as the favourite to win after *Mad Men*'s series finale aired in May, Hamm beat the likes of Kevin Spacey (*House of Cards*) and Liev Schreiber (*Ray Donovan*). Humorously climbing onto the stage instead of taking the stairs, Hamm joked that it was "impossible" that he'd finally won.

This year's Emmys also saw new records be made as *Game of Thrones* stole *The West Wing*'s record of most awards won in a night, totalling twelve. Amongst the accolades that the show won were Outstanding

Drama and Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama, which went to fan-favourite Peter Dinklage (Tyrion Lannister).

*Orange is the New Black*'s Uzo Aduba subsequently won Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama for her role as Suzanne Warren, making the Aduba the first actor to win two awards for the same role – last year she won Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy.

An honourable mention of the night must go to *Transparent*, Amazon's comedy drama about a family who discover their father is transgender. Jeffrey Tambor (Maura Pfefferman) picked up the award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy. Director Jill Soloway thanked her transgender mother when picking up the award for Outstanding Directing in a Comedy, whilst encouraging the audience to vote for a trans equality bill.

It's very clear that new Emmy ground was broken that night.



» Viola Davis in her role as Annalise Keating from *How to Get Away with Murder* photo: Flickr / Disney | ABC Television Group

## The Boar TV Guide

**Boar TV brings you the top five TV shows to be watching this fortnight:**

**Unforgotten Premiere**  
8 Oct / ITV1

ITV's latest crime drama will see detectives investigating a cold murder case 39 years on.

**Disappearing Britain Premiere**  
10 Oct / More4

In the first episode of a series exploring Britain's heritage, Larry Lamb and Benedict Cumberbatch will be discussing Soho.

**Homeland Season 5 Premiere**  
11 Oct / Channel 4

The UK premiere of hit US political thriller *Homeland* looks to be a fascinating watch.

**Educating Cardiff Finale**  
13 Oct / Channel 4

Catch the final episode of this documentary series to see how far Cardiff's schools have come.

**American Horror Story: Hotel Premiere**  
20 Oct / Fox UK

Yet another spooky season of *American Horror Story* is back on our screens to get us in that Halloween mood early.

» Photo: US CPSC / Flickr



## Thumbs-down for Downton

» The iconic architecture of Downton Abbey photo: Flickr / Gary Bembridge

We've had characters in prison and people dying of Spanish influenza; Christmas day deaths and a corpse being sneaked down a corridor at night; not to mention Sybil's unforeseeable death in season three.

With all this drama behind it, I've been awaiting *Downton Abbey*'s return for months.

The series so far, however, has been disappointing. At the time of writing, I've only seen the first two episodes, so maybe I'm jumping the gun a bit here, but I can't help but feel that the show is starting to get boring.

The promo trailers have made everything seem far more desperate and dramatic than it actually is. Accompanied by a sad song about saying goodbye and the purposeful closing of doors, the adverts suggest that the demise of Downton Abbey is imminent and unstoppable. In reality, none of the characters seem all that bothered! Wedding plans and hospital administration seem more important than the looming end of life as everyone knows it.

It's not just boring, though: it's also repetitive. Surely it can't have taken this many series for Daisy (Sophie McShera) to pass her

exams? And I've really seen enough variations of the 'country fair/cricket match/garden party where something goes dramatically wrong' theme.

Perhaps the problem is that this series isn't set around a particular historical event. In season two, we saw how WWI affected the whole community, with men from upstairs and downstairs being sent off to fight, and the abbey itself becoming a hospital for wounded soldiers. The historical context really united the series. In 1925, however, we just seem to be revisiting the same themes and events.

Or maybe it's the fact that actors keep leaving which is the problem. Tom (Allen Leech) and Rose's (Lily James) departure for America at the end of the last series cut two of the best storylines, leaving us to focus on the plight of Lady Mary (Michelle Dockery) – surely the most unlikeable character.

Sadly, I can see *Downton Abbey* turning into one of those shows which people say should've ended sooner. Unless there's a dramatic turnaround, I might be bowing out before Downton does.

Nicola Paling

# Say 'goodbye' to CSI

Some TV shows are so good, or run for so long, that they become a cultural phenomenon. *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* has done both, and, now the cast have hung up their lab coats for the last time, what better occasion to reflect on it?

A procedural drama dealing with criminals using physical evidence to solve crimes – it was never imagined to be the hit that it became when it aired back in 2000, drawing in 27 million US viewers at its peak, as well as succeeding worldwide.

The final episode, 'Immortality,' sees D.B. Russell (Ted Danson) and his team of CSIs investigate a bombing at the Eclipse casino, owned by former team member Catherine Willows (Marg Helgenberger).

Their inquiries lead them to Lady Heather Kessler (Melinda Clarke), a dominatrix and therapist who has cropped up in a number of cases before.

In an effort to better understand her, the team bring back former leader Gil Grissom (William Petersen), who must delve into his past and repair his relationship with ex-wife Sara Sidle (Jorja Fox) to help solve the case and find the bomber.

This episode showcases everything that is good about the show. As well as the case, and the experiments that go with it, we get to see the characters that we have grown to love back together (there is also a return from Paul Guilfoyle as Jim Brass) in one last hurrah.

Everyone is given closure, but also the promise that life will go on – Russell leaves the lab (and will turn up in *CSI: Cyber* as a series regular); Catherine returns to take over; and Sara and Grissom quite literally ride off

into the sunset together.

In talking about the show, it is impossible to ignore the effect that it has had in the real world.

**CSI has increased the demand for forensic evidence in police investigations and has seen a boom in forensic science degrees**

The 'CSI effect,' as it is dubbed, has affected the public perception of forensic evidence – jurors are often inclined to demand more, which has effectively raised the standard of proof for prosecutors.

There are more factors to this – public awareness has increased the demand for forensic evidence in police investigations, and has seen a boom in forensic science courses at universities worldwide. Few TV shows have the power to impact the world as *CSI* has done.

*CSI* has suffered with falling ratings, which claimed its two original spin-offs (*CSI: Miami* in 2012 and *CSI: New York* a year later), but its standard never fell.

No matter what episode you tuned into, you would be guaranteed a piece of quality crime television: not bad when you think that the three shows had around 700 episodes between them.

Now, it's left to cybercrimes investigator *CSI: Cyber* to carry the baton, but nothing will ever compare to the original team catching killers in Las Vegas' bright lights.

Reece Goodall



Think about how many times you **missed** the bus this week.

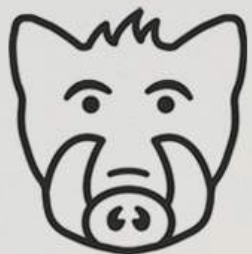
Think about the sleep you **missed** because of that last drink in Smack.

Think about those lectures you **missed** hoping to catch up on the recordings.  
(Yeah, because that will happen)

Think about the friends you are **missing** from home. Or the ones that  
are lucky enough to be swanning off abroad.

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# Wolf Alice: “Get naked, I love you!”

## Backstage in Glasgow with London’s wildest wolfpack

» Engrossing instrumentation / photo: Flickr / Paul Hudson

Jess Mason

It’s the Friday of Glastonbury and there’s a storm thrashing around in the Park. Wolf Alice have taken advantage of the downpour and thundered through their set, culminating (for me, at least) in singer Ellie Rowsell racing down, standing atop the barrier to immerse herself in the crowd, and in turn holding my hand and telling me she loves me. Three months later, we’re (my co-editor Stephen, the band, and myself) sitting backstage in the band’s dressing room at the O2 ABC in Glasgow, and Ellie confirms, “I wasn’t lying!” Who says you shouldn’t meet your idols?

Wolf Alice have been on the tip of everyone’s tongue for a good few years now, but they never expected to achieve a number two album with *My Love Is Cool* – let alone in the same week as a pair of spectacular Glastonbury sets. “At one point we didn’t think we’d have an album at all,” Theo Ellis, their excitable bleach-blond bassist, tells us. “This tour is our first chance to play the album out in full,” he says, because they’ve had the busiest festival schedule this summer – so busy, in fact, that their downtime between festivals has merely been spent travelling to the next. And yet, it seems as though that doesn’t faze the band; you can see in the energy of their performances that they love the different personality each festival has, and, when asked what their favourite show as Wolf Alice has been so far, guitarist Joff Oddie reels off a whole list of festivals. There’s something in the spirit of this band that makes it so clear they’re just itching to be onstage.

**Joff recalls** their stand-out worst gig was at Coventry’s infamous Kasbah

However, it’s bad news for us when it comes to whether Wolf Alice will be close to Warwick anytime soon. Joff recalls that their stand-out worst gig was at Coventry’s infamous Kasbah, where they played to the support, production, and a one-man crowd – despite being double booked with another

band at the same time. They had a few gigs like that at the start, though: “You kind of have to – every band is shit when they’ve just started out.”

Luckily, they’ve had some form of mentoring through supporting the likes of Manic Street Preachers and The 1975: Joel Amey, the band’s drummer, tells us, “It definitely helps to have friends in other bands – all bands learn from more experienced ones.” And (despite Theo’s most famous friend being “my mate Bobby from Camden!”), learn they have; Wolf Alice changed dramatically from that shy band on the prestigious John Peel stage in 2014 to a wild riot in the Park one year on. “It’s just confidence from playing there more than once,” explains Theo. “It’s always scary playing somewhere for the first time.”

**“Arcade Fire would make a great backing band”**

This isn’t their first time in Glasgow though, and Wolf Alice have started to recognise their most dedicated fans. “I know some of them by name now,” says Theo. “They all met on Twitter and come to the gigs together.” I saw this for myself at their gig that evening (which the die-hards had been queueing for since the early afternoon), when people started shouting each other’s Twitter handles in greeting, and someone asked me if he recognised me from Instagram (definitely not). A bit surreal, but perhaps that’s where fanbases are headed while social media takes over the world.

Ahead of that evening’s gig, knowing that all four band members are avid crowdsurfers, we probe their onstage plans, noting that Florence Welch recently told her own Glasgow crowd to get naked – something they most certainly did. “Just imagine if a guy said that!” Theo exclaims, before Joff butts in: “Get yer willies out!” It was at this point that I mentioned my previous encounter with Wolf Alice, with Ellie stating, “Well, one of those phrases leads to the other...”, and sparking a debate with Theo as to whether “Get naked, I love you!” or “I love you, get naked!” was more complimentary. It’s not a conversation we thought we’d ever be having

in Wolf Alice’s dressing room.

Conversation quickly turned towards more musical affairs, discussing collaborations the band would love to experience, with Joff pondering that “Arcade Fire would make a great backing band,” and Ellie confirming “they’d take that as a massive compliment.” Theo, however, had other ideas, stating “I’m obsessed with Miley Cyrus right now.” It’s not a surprise that Wolf Alice’s members have such divergent tastes – *My Love Is Cool* is unpredictable and full of wildly varying influences, from Willy Mason to Outkast. Ellie’s vocals alone sound like they could be different people on each track, going from sweet harmonies to screaming, and a blood-curdling cackle. It’s this that makes them so interesting to listen to.

Despite their differences (they’re also completely divided over Kanye West’s Glastonbury performance, with Joff finding it entirely boring whilst Theo thought the crane was particularly genius), they’re still just four best friends having the time of their lives. “We don’t really have any rituals,” Theo says. “But we do always have a hug before going onstage.” It’s the love between them that you can feel in their presence, and that’s what makes Wolf Alice so much fun. “I feel like we’re best friends now, I’m gonna get you each a beer,” Theo declares, before bounding to the fridge and handing us each a Grolsch to send us on our way.

**My Love Is Cool is unpredictable and full of wildly varying influences, from Willy Mason to Outkast**

Wolf Alice open their gig that night with a somewhat brave choice in their album’s namesake: the gentle, hidden track ‘My Love Is Cool’. It’s a chance to bond with their fans over an intimate demo, before stepping their dancing up a gear during ‘Your Loves Whore’ and ‘Freaky’.

The crowd explodes into a cloud of glitter during ‘Bros’ that’s so thick you can’t breathe for the sparkling air, and everyone in the room becomes best friends. The twinkling lights, airy synths and floaty vocals of ‘Soapy Water’ do nothing to wash the glitter away,

but act as the calm before ‘Lisbon’s chaotic storm. ‘Silk’ and ‘The Wonderwhy’ follow, swirling around the room, and cleansing the crowd before the madness of ‘Storms’: a full-on riot of headbanging punctured by verses of sweet singing between the cries of “who are your friends?!”

The cries of “Here we, here we, here we fucking go!” that follow every song (it was Glasgow, after all) are suddenly interrupted by darkness, and a spotlight trickles down to illuminate Joel and his drum kit. It’s almost as though he’s the only other person in the room, singing ‘Swallowtail’ alone with just Ellie’s delicate strumming behind his soft voice – the crowd even quietsens in what seems like a sign of respect, and it’s the most peaceful moment all night.

Oldie ‘Fluffy’ brings the dancing back up to speed, while crowd-favourite ‘Moaning Lisa Smile’ encourages all the headbanging you could wish for, and Theo finds his first perfect crowdsurfing moment of the night. Wolf Alice leave the stage following Ellie’s cackle that concludes their most recent single: the frantic ‘You’re A Germ’.

They creep back out to an atmospheric encore with ‘Turn To Dust’ hypnotising everyone in the room, before the whole crowd tries (and unsurprisingly fails) to hit the high notes of 2013’s ‘Blush’. Theo and Ellie have a dance themselves during ‘Giant Peach’, closing the set the way they know best: jumping around the stage while the crowd headbangs, and Theo surfs above them.

It’s a rollercoaster of a gig, full of wild peaks and peaceful troughs contrasting the happiest and saddest moments of the band’s debut album. Alas, no crane to please Theo, but, as he optimistically put, “we have lights!”

On behalf of all the fanboys and fangirls congregated on the perimeter of the barrier, we were left starry-eyed regardless.



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## Warwick students visit MIT for biology competition

Matthew Chester gives us the low-down on Warwick's biological brainboxes

Undergraduate and newly graduated students from Warwick University will be travelling to MIT, Boston, this September 24-28 to compete in a global synthetic biology competition.

The competition, International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM), involves designing useful genetic features and incorporating these into living micro-organisms in order to create solutions for real world issues. The University of Warwick team will construct a bioengineering tool that can enable the construction of organised structures using living cells as the construction material. Team member Matthew Chester explains;

"The tool will be an engineered cell that is designed to display proteins called zinc fingers on the surface of the cell – usually these proteins remain within the cell. These proteins – which bind to double stranded DNA – allow cells to self-assemble on tracks of DNA that we have designed."

The University of Warwick team plan to trial the tool's use by making a 2D image from the assembled cells in a pattern. If successful they will be the first team in the world to produce a coloured picture using cells.

The team is interdisciplinary, with students from distinct academic fields bringing different skills and expertise to the table. These departments involve Maths, Physics, Engineering and Life Sciences, with Biomedical, Biochemical and Biological Sciences represented. The breadth of disciplines involved assists the team to share skills from their areas of speciality to create the project, then work in the lab, and use mathematical models and predictions to predict and investigate the findings.



tigate the findings.

This team's work has the potential to be applied to medicine; in creating a procedure to assemble different cells types for tissue bioengineering or constructing artificial organs. Another application is using cell assembly to execute a biological 3d printer, that could assemble cells into complex structures.

They will also be conducting outreach programs in the local area, for instance doing presentations and lessons in secondary schools in Coventry, discussing the synthetic biology project as well as the role of young women and men in the scientific community.

The team is beginning lab work with guidance and training from the researchers at Warwick Integrative Synthetic Biology

Centre, who will introduce new techniques to the GEM team, some of whom are new to being in a lab. A member of Warwick's 2015 iGEM team, Ben Hayward – third year mathematician – said:

"The fact that the competition takes place in Boston at MIT is a bonus to an already great experience. MIT is one of the most inspiring scientific institutions in the world and their work, both in and out of synthetic biology, has been really exciting to hear about over the years. This visit will allow us to engage with other researchers, from many different countries, in one of the most cutting-edge universities."

This year's project co-ordinator for the Warwick iGEM team, Aneesa Sheikh, – first

really happy with the team we have so far, everyone is putting effort in and we've been working well as a group. I'm looking forward to getting into the lab next week to conduct the first wave of experiments for our project."

To keep up date on the Warwick iGEM team's progress visit the team's wiki or follow them on twitter over the upcoming weeks and months.

"This team's work has the potential to be applied to medicine... they will also be conducting outreach programs in the local area"

The team will be supported with advice from academic and research staff, including Prof Alfonso Jaramillo and Prof John McCarthy at the School of Life Sciences. They will also receive training and advice from the Warwick Integrative Synthetic Biology Centre and Imperial College London. The team will be travelling in September to present their work to the panel of judges at MIT.

If you would like to support their cause by donating money or materials for their research, contact them at [iGEM@Warwick.ac.uk](mailto:iGEM@Warwick.ac.uk).

» The assembled brainboxes from iGEM 2010 photo: [igemhq /Flickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/igemhq/)



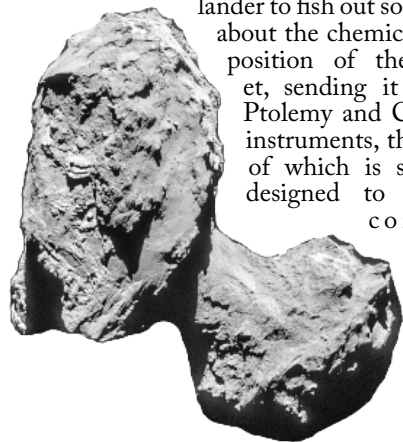
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## OMG Philae finds life (well, not quite...)

Kaja Milczewska talks us through the European Space Agency's latest cosmic discovery

Somewhere at an imprecise location on a distant comet sits a humble spacecraft. After a bouncy landing at the 'Agilkia' site of the 67P/Churyumov – Gerasimenko comet, little Philae withstood a fair few bumps before grinding to a halt at what scientists now call 'Abydos'. The new, dark location ensured that Philae's solar battery reserves only lasted for some sixty hours before it went into hibernation.

But three days was enough for the lander to fish out some data about the chemical composition of the comet, sending it to the Ptolemy and COSAC instruments, the latter of which is specially designed to analyse complex organic molecules via mass spectrometry.



ecules via mass spectrometry.

By "organic", we mean molecules containing carbon: one of the major elements that make up not only our bodies, but also life around us. The fact that four unprecedented organic compounds (for the chemists amongst you: methyl isocyanate, acetone, propionaldehyde and acetamide) have been detected amongst the total sixteen compounds found has caused quite a stir in the public eye, following a successful peer-review and the subsequent release of these data on the 30th July in the academic journal 'Science'.

Be wary of dramatic headlines such as "OMG Philae Finds Life!" floating around the Internet; allow your scepticism to creep in upon hearing such claims. Philae has no physical way of directly testing for life, the idea having been scrapped by its planning committee 15 years ago.

What you should allow yourself to get super excited about is the fact that the various ice structures enveloping 67P's variable surface may imply that there are "micro-organisms being involved in the formation of the icy structures, the preponderance of aromatic hydrocarbons, and the very dark surface",

claims Prof. Chandra Wickramasinghe, member of Philae's planning party.

The organisms are believed to become active at temperatures above -40°C, well above the range of -143°C to -183°C as the comet was measured to be in November 2014. However, as the comet's trajectory leads it towards perihelion, surface temperatures will rise. Scientists live in the hope that Philae eats enough sunlight to be able to receive communications from its recently somewhat estranged mother Rosetta, in order to study the ways the comet changes as it approaches the point of its orbit closest to the Sun.

Another optimistic claim about the aforementioned organisms comes from the principal COSAC investigator, Fred Goesmann: "If such cometary material falls onto a planet in the right environment, emerging life could make use of it". These findings may strengthen the belief that the origins of life on Earth may be deeply rooted in events of comet collisions with our home planet. Because a comet is like "a time capsule of knowledge" according to Goesmann, learning more about the surprisingly porous structure of C-G may help scientists understand cometary evolution, as well as shed light on the history of

our Solar System.

Photographs taken during initial descent show physical signs of erosion on the comet, likened to those sighted on Mars. Presently, analysis has shown that whereas the initial landing site, Agilkia, consists of soft, granular dust, Abydos has a contrastingly harder surface, as determined by the failure to dig Philae's drill into it. This therefore means that current instruments onboard are insufficient to dig out a rock sample to analyse those organic microbes; thus, we must rely on the powers of mass spectroscopy to determine chemical composition.

There is huge potential for future sampling and data analysis if Philae awakens from its current state of hibernation, following a brief period of awakened activity in June 2015. This second round of data gathering will result in more excitement about both the physical structure and chemical composition of the comet. With sufficient results, we will be able to further understand cometary evolution and come closer to determining whether or not life on Earth emerged from a cometary neighbour.

Pictures: ESA, Coyau/Flickr



## Easy as ABC: Google as you've never seen it before

On 10th August, the world's largest search engine became a subsidiary.

Google has a new parent company called Alphabet Inc. All existing shareholder structure will transfer over to this new company. Furthermore, each arm of the business will also have its own dedicated CEO. Strange name notwithstanding, this is a bold move. Yet one that is necessary. The markets seem to agree as shares rose by 6%.

So why go to all that trouble of corporate hierarchy? There is precedent. YouTube under Google has operated with its own CEO. The logical step would be to implement this strategy cross company as Google is no longer just a search company. It has a diverse portfolio that includes YouTube and Android. Both of these brands, however, will still remain under the ownership of Google.

Google in recent history has struggled to show itself as a growing business. Many have argued that Google is falling into the Microsoft trap. Trying to do too much without focusing properly at all. In the process losing its core competencies. Its social network and Google Glass projects can both be considered failures. Neither have taken off, and have caused embarrassment to the Google name.



This fundamentally allows Google to separate the accounts of risky, loss-inducing businesses elsewhere. Google Labs, life sciences and drone delivery departments will separate into Alphabet. It can differentiate the earners from the losers without the Google brand taking a hit on its books. This does mean that in the foreseeable future, revenues at the Google arm will be down, but profit will crucially be up.

Larry Page, now CEO of Alphabet, has said that it isn't supposed to be a brand in its own right – rather a platform to create new brands. There seems to be an element of truth in that. The trademark for Alphabet and alphabet.com are owned by BMW. Even the Twitter handle belongs to an unaffiliated party.

So, what's next? The new CEO of Google will be Sundar Pichai. Most people have never heard of him. In October 2014 he became responsible for the product and engineering sides of the internet businesses. It is considered that after Larry Page, Sundar has the greatest level of influence to any Google Product. Like Jonathan Ive to Steve Jobs. It will be interesting to see how he shapes the company to his liking.

This is a bold move by a bold company but, no one got anywhere by standing still.

Hamza Oza

Image: Robert Scoble/Flickr

## Water on Mars – but don't get your hopes up

Aaron Maroke explains why we should be excited about NASA's latest findings (or not)

First New Horizons and the Pluto fly-by, and now this – 2015 has been a big year for astronomy. In late September, NASA confirmed that they had found unambiguous evidence for the presence of liquid water on the red planet, albeit in small amounts. This does, however, add credence to the old theory that Mars was once covered in oceans, and could quite possibly point to life being found on what was formerly thought of as a dry and dead planet.

Water on Mars is not a new concept. For hundreds of years, scientists have pointed to the icy caps on Mars as evidence of water's presence, later learning that the caps were in fact CO<sub>2</sub> ice (although newer studies have shown that water ice exists under such caps). In 1965, Mariner 4 provided evidence of extremely low surface pressure on Mars, which would cause any water on the surface of the planet to simply freeze or boil away. This led scientists to believe that Mars was actually always dead, until later visits to the red planet in the 1970s indicated long dried up river beds – present evidence even suggests that much of Mars was once covered by a large ocean.

For a while now, NASA has gone one step beyond and has been pointing at the possibility of actual liquid water on the red planet, a large part of the fundamental clues that could allude to the existence of Martian life. Pictures from both the Mars Global Surveyor and the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) reveal recurring dark streaks on

walls on the Martian surface, suggesting water flow. These streaks have been named 'recurring slope lineae' (RSL) by mission scientists, and appear to grow in size during the warmer months, consequently shrinking during the colder ones.

Recently, the RSL were examined using a spectrometer – a device that essentially measures the qualities of a specific light – that was present on board the MRO. Infrared light reflected off the dark streaks across the planet in different states of appearance revealed light signatures given off by hydrated salts (more precisely chlorates and perchlorates for any chemistry buffs out there). More importantly, the hydrated salts contained molecular water in liquid form, which actually flows when the surface of Mars is above

-23°C as the salts lower the freezing point of water to below 0°C.

Scientists are now currently trying to deduce where the water in these flows comes from. A possibility is that the salts present in the water 'pull' water from the atmosphere, where it exists in small amounts as vapour. Another is that frozen water exists just below the surface of Mars, turning to liquid when in contact with the salts. The last possibility considered is that subsurface aquifers (essentially water-bearing gritty rocks) cause the water flows – but this would not explain every example of water flow present.

Of course, the presence of water would lead to the obvious suggestion of life on Mars, but for all of you hoping to see some little green men in future, you'll be sorely disappointed. Any life present on Mars is likely to be a simple, tiny microorganism, which would be notoriously difficult to find. Unfortunately, we'll have to wait a few more years for NASA's Mars 202 rover or the ESA's ExoMars mission to be in with any chance of finding those microorganisms, as the Curiosity rover is covered in resilient Earth microbes that could possibly contaminate any samples taken, or even Mars itself – which would indeed make for a strange discovery in years to come!



Image: Jcpag2012/Wikimedia Commons



What do you think about water on Mars?

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#wateronmars

## The Pentaquark: Fact or Fluctuation?

And the award for the least talked-about discovery of the summer goes to...

For many of us it's been a long summer, and yet in the blink of an eye it's almost over! But while we've been off laying on beaches, building schools in Uganda, visiting long distance friends, catching up with home friends or maybe just trying to earn enough money to make it through the year (or just freshers week), the boys and girls at CERN have been busy publishing their newest findings. The elusive and mysterious pentaquark has landed, and it looks like it's here to stay.

To understand what the pentaquark is, we need to think first about what quarks are, and how they come together to make the particles that we all remember from our GCSE physics lessons. Quarks are what we believe to be one of the most fundamental particles in the universe. That is, it doesn't get smaller than quarks. Everything you see around you is made of quarks and other fundamental particles known as leptons. There are six different types of quarks – up, down, charm, strange, top and bottom – all with different defining properties and corresponding anti-particles. When quarks come together, they form particles like protons and neutrons, but there are rules about how this is allowed to happen. To make things 'simple' particle physicists say that each quark in a particle has a colour or anti-colour: red, green, blue, anti-red, anti-green or anti-blue. Only combinations that have an overall colour of white are allowed, e.g. red+green+blue or red+an-

ti-red, blue+anti-blue etc. They don't actually have colours, but this allows us to know which quark combinations could or couldn't happen. The simplest groupings are the ones described, with three quarks making a baryon (protons and neutrons), or a quark and an anti-quark making a meson. This rule doesn't forbid the existence of more tropical particles containing four or even five quarks, and although they had not previously been confirmed, the existence of tetraquarks (four) and pentaquarks (five) have long been theorised.

In the past two decades, various teams of scientists have attempted to find evidence of these more complex particles. In every attempt (until recently), all data that seemed to suggest success would be rendered unreliable shortly afterwards, and proven to be the result of misleading data or a lack of calibration. This is a reality frequently faced by scientists, especially with data that requires insanely high levels of precision. Protons have a diameter of about  $0.8 \times 10^{-15}$  metres. That's  $1 \times 10^{12}$  (a million million) times smaller than a grain of sand, so as you can imagine we're talking about pretty finely tuned stuff. In order for data to be considered reliable, it has to stand up to rigorous scientific investigation, and the whole process of how the data was collected has to be checked and rechecked over and over again. So the big question is this: fact or fluctuation? The teams involved are confident that their data is correct. As it

is, the data was in fact collected 3 years ago and thus far has not yet been disproven. So the answer appears to be (at least for the time being): fact!

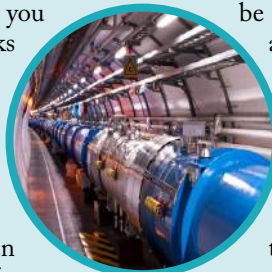
So what does this actually mean? Well, as for any other physics breakthrough, we now have one more answer in a sea of questions. This particular answer may help astrophysicists understand what happens inside certain types of stars, and it could help particle physicists develop a better understanding of how quarks come together to form particles at all.

The search is by no means over. What the pentaquark we've found actually is remains something we're not even entirely clear on. It could be a collection of 4 quarks and one anti-quark all bound into one particle, or it could be 3 quarks (a baryon) and a quark anti-quark pair (a meson) joined to one another by the same fundamental weak force that keeps electrons in atoms. Whatever it is, the theory doesn't lie, and from what we already know about quarks and how they interact together, the rest of the more complex combinations of quark should certainly exist too, which means there's still plenty more exploring to be done.

Particle physics is still a field shrouded in mystery, and with every breakthrough comes more questions. Following the CERN reboot in June, it's possible a couple more answers could be coming our way in the next few years. All we can do until then is keep calm and carry on theorising.

Alice Stamp

Image: Maximilien Brice/Flickr







## EGX: Queuing Simulator 2015

Ali Jones checks out this year's upcoming games at Birmingham's EuroGamer Expo

Just Cause 3 was one of the biggest games on offer at this year's EGX photo: Flickr / PlayStation Europe

Turning up to the National Exhibition Centre at 9.30 on the first day of EGX, the UK's biggest gaming exhibition, I thought it would only be the hardcore fans and some particularly zealous press that would be arriving before me. Unfortunately, I was wrong, and by the time I arrived, there was only just enough time to take my place right at the back of a sea of enthusiastic gamers.

**"Even right at the beginning of the 4-day event, EGX was pretty overwhelming"**

This was my first time at any kind of gaming exhibition, and even at the beginning of the 4-day event, it was pretty overwhelming. After stumbling around in awe of the scale of everything, I started my EGX experience properly with *Assassin's Creed Syndicate*, the upcoming instalment set in Victorian London. The segment that we got to play involved a short mission in which you took Evie, one of two brother/sister protagonists, into the Tower of London to take out a Templar. *Syndicate* has a few new features, namely the arrival of a grappling hook/zip-wire combo, and a slightly more *Hitman*-style way of slowly developing an approach to your target, but at its heart, it's still just another *Assassin's Creed* game.

Deciding to avoid games that had already been released to try to avoid queuing for something I already knew I liked, I had to force myself to bypass *Mad Max* and *Metal Gear Solid V*. Even though it wasn't even 11am by the time I left *Assassin's Creed*, the queue for the upcoming *Star Wars Battlefront* was already reported to be three hours long, so I steered clear. Bypassing some of the bigger games proved to be a pretty good idea though, as it brought me to the end of the hall devoted to indie games.

The three indie sections actually ended up being my favourite places to be; minimal queues, more choice of games, and the chance to actually engage with developers. While you might be waiting 40 minutes or more to play a popular new release elsewhere in the exhibition, here you could play through three or four demos in the same amount of time. Popular multiplayer games like *SpeedRunners* and *Gang Beasts* proved popular, but there was a lot more on offer. My first port of call was *Enter the Gungeon*, a top-down rogue-like dungeon-crawler, where you face off against murderous anthropomorphic bullets. It's brilliantly animated, and even though the demo didn't let me get very far, gameplay was wonderfully challenging.

Other indie hits included *Poncho*, an 8-bit style platformer in which you guide an adorable poncho-wearing robot through a variety of beautifully-drawn levels, by switching between different levels with the 2D environment; *Eugenics*, an early build of an eventual-

ly much larger game in which you build your ideal society through manipulating the genes of your citizens; *Induction*, a time-travel based puzzle game; and *Party Hard*, a pseudo-stealth game in which you have to pick off all the guests at a late-night party. The reduced scale of the indie areas meant that I wasn't getting the simulated, crowd-pleasing spiel that the Nintendo, Sony or Microsoft stands were pumping out, and I could actually get a lot more out of the games.

**"The three indie sections ended up being my favourite places to be"**

My personal highlight of the indie booths was *Creative Rift*, which offered me my first chance to try out virtual reality. This was the longest I had to wait to play any of the indie games, but it was definitely worth it. From watching other people play while I was queuing, *Creative Rift* didn't seem particularly impressive – it looks like a classic late nineties dungeon crawler, with pre-determined pathing and monsters who can only attack or move in straight lines. As soon as you put the headset on, however, all that goes out the window, and it's amazing to see the impact that a technology still basically in its infancy can have. It takes a while to get used to – I was more than a little unsteady on my feet,

but the freedom VR offers even a game as simple as *Creative Rift* is truly astounding.

Moving away from the Indie games, there was one game in particular I felt I had to check out, so I headed down to the other end of the hall towards *Just Cause 3*. I opted for the more chaotic 'Destruction Frenzy', rather than Free Roam, which didn't show off as much of the game as I might have liked, but still gave an idea of the size and freedom that *JC3* has to offer, and at this point it definitely feels like a good improvement on its predecessor.

By this point, I'd been on the go for about nine hours, so I decided to call it a day. While I'd gone expecting it to be busy, standing in queues by yourself gets dull quickly, and with so many companies trying so hard to shove their presence down your throats (looking at you, Nintendo), it can be hard to maintain the wide-eyed enthusiasm you walk in with. And if you're not prepared to stand in queues for hours, there's not actually all that much to do – a lot of floor space was taken up by big company's stages, and while there are obviously games to play, and it's cool to get a first look, there's not really enough to comfortably fill two days, let alone four.



**Want to write for Boar Games? Email us at [games@the-boar.org](mailto:games@the-boar.org)**

## Until Next Time...

8-11 October and 15-18 October - **League of Legends World Championships** Groups and Quarter Finals

The League of Legends World Championships are taking place throughout October, with the final taking place on the 31st. The group stages are probably the best chance to see the largest variety of teams, with international wild cards from Brazil and Thailand taking their place amongst the competitors from the European, North American, Chinese and Korean servers. Look out for more coverage as the Final approaches...

16<sup>th</sup> October - **Back to the Future: The Game**

Telltale Games, the team behind games attached to the Walking Dead, Game of Thrones and Borderlands universes, are back with their foray into the world of Marty McFly and Doc Brown. Taking place after the events of the third film, this five-part episodic adventure travels into Doc Brown's past and visits an alternate 1986, and is available on all major platforms.



## Warwickshire's hidden gems

Think you're in the middle of nowhere? Nicola Paling begs to differ

### St Mary's Guildhall

Although Coventry is famous for its Cathedral and its history, hidden just behind the old Cathedral is a much smaller, but equally interesting building.

Whilst the original Cathedral was destroyed in the blitz, despite its close location, St Mary's Guildhall is completely intact.

Built in 1342 it provides a fascinating



### Kenilworth Greenway Walk

For anyone who wants to leave the bubble of Warwick campus and escape for a while, a walk from campus to Kenilworth is ideal.

As campus is practically in the middle of the countryside it is easy to feel as though you are in the middle of nowhere within minutes!

The route follows a path that begins just near the Bluebell car park and passes the

glimpse into medieval life. It was originally a meeting place for merchants where ceremonies and banquets were held and now hosts weddings and other events as well as being a tourist attraction.

Coventry's Guildhall has a unique history of its own, as Mary Queen of Scots was once held prisoner there and it is thought to be the setting of one of local author George Eliot's novels.

It also houses the Coventry tapestry, one of the most impressive tapestries left in the country, and with these connections, the Guildhall holds an important place in Coventry's history.

This atmospheric medieval building is worlds away from Coventry's high street and really allows you to take a step into the past

A visit to this lesser known tourist attraction should definitely be made by anyone who wants to explore the history of Coventry. This atmospheric medieval building is worlds away from Coventry's high street and really allows you to take a step into the past.



sport fields. The walk takes about an hour one way and passes through beautiful wooded areas and fields.

The track is a bridleway which follows a former railway. The railway was opened in 1884 and was vital in the transport of munitions during the war, when the tracks were removed though the railway was left to itself and overtime the track has become a haven for local wildlife, providing everyone with the chance to experience the surrounding area.

The Greenway is a brilliant location in itself and would be great for a picnic on a sunny day. Otherwise you can walk through the Greenway in order to get to Kenilworth itself, and perhaps visit the famous Kenilworth castle.

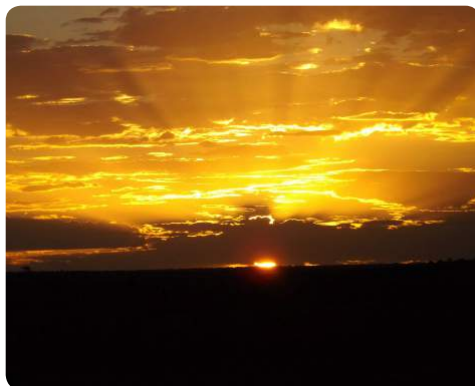
Although there are some lovely walks on and around campus, the walk to Kenilworth Greenway feels like stepping out into the real world after spending a long time on campus, and it's a brilliant place for a nice, peaceful walk.

» Kenilworth Greenway walk and St Mary's Guildhall photo: [geograph.org.uk](http://geograph.org.uk) and [wikimedia.commons](http://wikimedia.commons)

## An Australian Adventure

Claire Fuller provides a feast for the eyes with photos from her gap year in the land of Oz

Words cannot describe the excitement I felt when I stepped off the plane as my Australian adventure began. I spent five weeks travelling around Australia during my gap year, and it was the best thing I have ever done. The thing about Oz is that one moment you're in the hustle and bustle of Sydney, and the next you're quad biking through the outback. By far, the highlight of the trip was snorkelling in the Great Barrier Reef; it was beautiful. I'd be jetting off back to Oz tomorrow, if I could!



» Sunset at Alice Springs



» Scuba diving in the Great Barrier



» Uluru, otherwise known as Ayers



» Exploring the Australian outback



» One of Australia's azure beaches

## Culture Shocks:

### Hitchhiking in the Philippines

Scarlett Mansfield

Though the busy nature of South-East Asian cities usually attracts me, Manila, capital of the Philippines, was a step too far in the wrong direction.

It is not a city that is accustomed to tourists. For this reason, after 2 nights I needed to escape. I ventured to the bus station and asked where the next bus went – Donsol, 10 hours down South. "Sure, I'll go there I guess" I responded and hopped on board solo, unaware of what would lie ahead.

It turns out Donsol was dead that time of year as the busy throngs of tourists have ventured away as the whale sharks migrate. I arrived at a boat port to hop to the next island, only to find no females. A group of men stood in a circle, watched me and follow when I move. Of course, petrified by this and a language barrier existing, I begin to panic.

Much to my amazement, one comes over and begins talking broken English. He explains how I will get to the next island and offers me a place at his house. I politely decline and he sits next to me on the boat for support. He proceeds to show me photos of his family and tells me about his life – he is a 50 year old local who owns a few petrol stations on the deserted island.

Eventually we arrive at Masbate City – again, my lack of preparation has left me baffled and with nowhere to stay, so I take up the offer of his house. Climbing into a car with 3 large men, I pass a sign that cautions 'beware of human trafficking'! Immediately I regret my decision and suppress fears that I was going to star unintentionally in 'Taken 4'... 'I will find you, and I will kill you' – my ex-met police dad hunting down the enemy.

However, I can safely say – it turns into the best adventure I have ever had. He ended up being such a pleasant man with the most welcoming family. His little children made me bracelets all evening and the following day he drove me 3 hours across the island to my next stop.

We made a pit-stop at his father's house where I rode a very old and tame bull and had practise attempting to lasso cows. Since the boats weren't running the other end, he bought me a mattress and allowed me to stay in the room above his petrol station (kicking the employees to the other crowded room!), and ordered a boy to take me in the morning to the port once again – equipped with freshly baked bread and to the amazement of locals I whizzed past.

Sometimes, the unplanned things end up being the most memorable... And boy I won't forget that any time soon.



Photo: [common.wikimedia.org](http://common.wikimedia.org)



Absolute *Boarginners*: Extreme Edition

## Mountains Moved: Conquering Kilimanjaro

Let me make one thing clear from the very beginning; I am not built to climb mountains. As a chubby, city-born Indian, on a scale of one to Bear Grylls, I fall somewhere between a failed Boy Scout and Kim Kardashian when it comes to coping with the outdoors. In every sense of the word, I am a Boarginner.

However, I took on the challenge of climbing the world's tallest free standing mountain early in my first year, with the intention of raising a boatload of money for charity and pushing myself to the limit. Fortunately, I managed to do both.

Taking an extra year to do the fundraising, I spent a lot of time thinking of innovative ways to get students to part with their hard earned overdraft capital. The highlight of which was a Facebook event entitled, "Trek, Fat Boy, Trek" parodying the famous Simon Pegg film, swapping the marathon trainers for walking boots. It managed to raise over £600 on its own and took me over my £3,000 target. It just goes to show you that if you can make people laugh, then they are much more likely to make a much needed donation.

The trek itself required a lot of preparation, both kit wise and physically. Whilst fully on top of the things I needed to bring, I was a bit lax on the exercise. I managed to walk in my boots, but my passion for burgers did not cease during the weeks leading up to the trek. Whilst delicious, it didn't help carrying the extra weight up the mountain.

The first thing to say about Tanzania is that whilst a relatively poor country, it is a wonderfully friendly place with a lot of livelihoods dependent on Kili. From travel to water companies, it is a huge employer

in the region. And the porters and staff are stunning. Providing any equipment, all meals, tents, medications and carrying baggage, they catered for everyone.

The trek itself was six days long with each day consisting of between 8-10 hours of walking uphill with the summit day consisting of 19 hours in total. No, seriously. I might have underestimated it a little bit.

Nevertheless, it wasn't the burgers, but altitude sickness that got me and quite early on. On the first day, I could feel the tightness in my chest and the shooting pains of a thumping headache. Most trekkers suffer from some form of altitude sickness when climbing but I was

**Kilimanjaro Fact File:**  
Elevation: 5,895 m  
(19,341 ft)  
World's 4th Highest Peak  
Location: Tanzania

unfortunate to have a more severe version. As if climbing a mountain wasn't tough enough! Luckily, soups and smelling salts were enough to keep it at bay.

Moreover, there were a few bits of kit that saved me. Walking poles which I got for less than a tenner in Sports Direct took serious pressure off my knees and were an absolute God-send. A seriously warm 4 season sleeping bag made sure that I got a decent enough night's sleep and was able to walk the next morning. And finally, having a GoPro Hero 4 camera kept me occupied and was really easy to use. These were three things that I would recommend for any long

distance and high stamina trek to keep you going and make sure you are motivated.

Having said that though, I would be lying if I said that I enjoyed every second of it, because it really pushed me mentally. Of course, I was suffering physically, but the challenge was keeping my head straight even when I had severe fatigue to make sure that the peak was only a footstep or two away.

The closer we got, the more difficult it became. Colder conditions, more treacherous paths and the constant niggle of altitude sickness made some points unbearable. However, the closeness of the team made me determined to get to the top and get that famous picture.

I had already planned well in advance to wear the suit - the outcome of a £100 donation/bet that I am waiting to cash in on. Yet, when I got to the tent at Base Camp waiting to climb to the summit, it was more a question of warmth than style.

The last day was gruelling. After walking for 10 hours on the penultimate day, we had 3 hours to rest before midnight struck and we started our ascent in the pitch dark. It started at -5 degrees and didn't warm up much until sunrise...7 hours later. It nearly broke me as we climbed having absolutely no idea where we were or how close it was to being over.

But we made it. After nearly collapsing with fatigue, being severely dehydrated and wildly devoid of oxygen, at approximately 9:40 in the morning, I was the last person to reach the Uhuru Peak at 5,959m above sea-level, completing a 100% success rate for our group. I unashamedly wept as I touched the planks of the peak which told me that it was done. Six days of bat-



ling everything (including myself) had culminated in a photo that could almost rival a Swatch advert in GQ magazine. I just wish I had taken the time to do my top button up.

Overall, Kilimanjaro was an experience. Not always a pleasant one, but I am bloody glad I did it! Having been the last one to be picked in football at school, and

then systematically put in goal, I feel like climbing a mountain has made me feel more confident with endurance challenges. By the time you have read this, I will have completed another trek in the Himalayas and so with two mountains under my belt in a month, I feel like this might be the Boar-ginning of something beautiful.

## The fastest revision break of all time

When asked by the Boar if I fancied heading down to Warwick Motorsport's Driver Development Programme to test karts that reached up to 70mph, I remember the assault I subjected my laptop keyboard to repeatedly typing the word 'YES'. It turned out to be one of the most incredible experiences of my life, but was I in any way ready for it? Probably not.

The day started like any other for me, rolling out of bed at 5:30am (honest) having a shower and wearily sighing at the increasingly non-existent prospect of revision. I could barely hide my excitement at the idea of a day spent bombing round the Whilton Mill circuit in Northamptonshire. Warwick Motorsport's Driver Development Officer Callum Brewell would drive me all the way to the track. Callum's job is basically to make sure everyone involved enjoys karting as much as possible at the expense of his own time on track. Despite

being an accomplished driver with GT Academy he sacrifices his own enjoyment to prioritise others. Basically, I would say he is the equivalent of Jesus if Jesus was a white van man.

As the day's racing commenced the first thing I noticed was the noise; it immerses you in that grand prix atmosphere, feeding your Button/Hamilton delusions. Two karts were on show, the 'less' powerful TKM which had around 15 BHP and the other Rotax at 32 BHP. When you factor in these karts weigh as much as helium balloons, they effectively feel like rockets.

As my turn arrived, my lack of experience beyond Xbox started to creep into the back of my mind. At least I was earning the 'Absolute Boarginner' tag and there was no backing out now. Tentatively I stepped on the throttle. The first couple of corners I intently focused on keeping concentration and getting the car round, but then coming up to a clean straight, I floored it.

Adrenaline. Pure, insane unadulterated adrenaline. I had never felt anything like it in my life and started whooping like an excited child. I was Ayrton Senna, flying round the bends of Monaco, Silverstone and Spa setting lap record after lap record... Then a seven-year-old overtook me. To clarify, this seven-year-old and others like him are known as 'cadets', they join racing teams at a very young age and seem to have a suspiciously high number of days off school. Maybe I was overtaken by a future F1 champion, I was overtaken by a lot of people that day, maybe I was just a bit rubbish.

At this point, I momentarily lapsed in concentration and spun. Frustrated I looked to the heavens for answers. Nothing doing. Sighing sluggishly, I got out of the car to see Callum running towards me shouting. In karting, the protocol for spinning off is to let any nearby traffic pass, then once the track is clear, get the car as far off

the racing line as possible. One of the race stewards beckoned me over. "Listen son" he said, "I've been doing this for nearly 50 years, and I've seen people killed doing what you just did there." After that I lost the psychological battle. I wanted to drive faster but it was like there was a mental block stopping me: that moment of hesitation those seven-year-old future champions never develop. If I raced more I'm sure I could overcome it, as many of Warwick Motorsport have. Andrew Tyrell, a long-term member was telling me how it took him two years to have the steel to drive flat-out. I should say once again all the team were absolutely brilliant and a far cry from 'boring engineer' stereotypes. Callum was telling me how he found the car I drove "actually quite slow" and another member Kyle Roberts tasked himself with going out in the pouring rain on slicks for the sole purpose of drifting. It was a sight to behold, especially when he momentarily lost the

rear of the car on the corner closest to the pit lane. Without wanting to sound like an Oscar-winning actor thanking all of his backroom staff from personal stylist to coffee-fetcher, the point of this all is I



had an amazing day and I sincerely hope I can do something like it again.

Tim Arstall





photo:WWarwick Sport

## Men's Football

In keeping with tradition, UWMFC's pre-season kicked off with the dreaded bleep test early Tuesday morning. Regardless of the miserable weather conditions, the boys more than impressed and set a high precedent for the coming two weeks. Over the next couple of days, the club embarked

on an extensive programme which incorporated high-intensive fitness drills with technical gameplay and match-based exercises. From standard sprint sessions to challenging Dutch squares, the squad were put through their paces in a bid to prepare every player for the coming BUCS season.

As the week came to an end the boys were rewarded for their

hard work with a series of futsal games and the much-loved shooting-and-elimination game. Despite the numerous tired legs and fatigue beginning to kick in, the squad continued to give it their all as best seen in Saturday's punishing spin class.

Week Two will aim to build upon the foundations set in the first week as the club looks forward

to two important friendlies against Racing Warwick FC and Coventry University.

The boys will be eager to implement the progress that has been made so far and get the season off to a great start.

**Sam Brook (Team Captain)**



photo: UWMFC

## Squash

In the wake of a strong performance in BUCS last season, Warwick Squash have engaged in a rigorous and detailed pre-season programme this past week. Returning members of all three competing teams have already used the benefits of the club's focus team status in an effort to add diversi-

ty and intensity to their training, honing in particular their ability to perform under pressure and to improve their fitness. The men's first team's unfortunate playoff defeat to Manchester in their bid to reach BUCS Premier League status last year brought to an end an extremely fruitful campaign.

However, an analysis of this performance highlighted the need

for improvement in such clutch scenarios, during which an additional burst of energy and mental toughness could help turn a match. Pre-season action has therefore included the implementation of conditioned games in order to accurately reflect crucial match scenarios. Throwing all players into situations where they must fight back from a pre-established defi-

cit should pay dividends as the impact of avoidable mistakes becomes more prominent. Partnered with daily interval training sessions on court to prolong physical competitiveness in matches, these pre-season efforts will help shape a fiercely competitive outfit for the 2015/16 season.

**Rob Clayden (Men's 1st Team)**



photo: Warwick Squash

## Men's Hockey

After a summer of internships, soul searching, and a European tour more extensive than that of an aging rock band with serious debt problems, the UWMHC returned to Leamington Spa to begin the new season. After a gruelling first day, a makeshift side featuring three

freshers was thrown into a game against local rivals Berkswell. The game was played at a high tempo, and despite tired legs we ran out 4-3 winners, securing bragging rights for the season.

The following few days followed a similar pattern of fitness, small sided games and recovery work in the pool, before a second fixture against a talented Stourport side.

This time tired legs took their toll, and despite only trailing 2-1 at half time the game got away from us in the second half and we lost 5-2.

There was plenty to be encouraged about though, Chris Barnett scored an absolute worldie - you can see just how well the UWLHC did filming it on our Instagram page... In the second week Warwick Sport's new strength and

conditioning team put us through our paces testing stamina and sprint endurance as part of the new performance sport program. Then it was off to Bristol for pre-season tour. It has been a fantastic 12 days, with the club looking in great shape to start the season strongly.

**Rob McGeachie (Men's First Team)**



photo: UWMHC

## A letter to my first year sporting self

Okay Ralph, enjoy your first term, don't drink too much! SLAM! The rickety door on my military barrack style room in Rootes H-block swung shut on moving-in day at Warwick Freshers' Week 2013.

The first few days are always the most difficult for anyone. You get thrown into a flat with 15 other people whom you've never met. You're praying they share your interests, humour, and above all your respect for the 'don't leave skidmarks in the toilet' rule you religiously adhere to.

I survived my early days as a but I knew I was never going to confine myself to my halls. I've always been a sporty bloke, I'd played hockey to a decent level at school and wanted to carry it on at uni. Luckily, sport is such a big part of life at Warwick

that it's impossible not to get involved. The first Tuesday of term was the Sports Fair, I was ushered into a bustling Sports Centre, surrounded by more sports than I knew existed.

After making a beeline for the

**The first few days are always the most difficult for anyone.**

Men's Hockey stand I got chatting to a few current club members, gave them my details, and went to the trial session the following day. After a relaxed run around, I got talking to other freshers and was relieved to meet more people in the same boat as me, some of who are

now my closest friends.

Somewhere through the grapevine we heard that Wednesday night was a must for a fresher looking for a good laugh. I grabbed a spare ticket to what's called 'circle', the biggest night of the week taking place in the SU. Safe to say, after an enjoyable night of tipsy indiscretion (understatement of the year) with Men's Hockey. I haven't looked back since. 60 competitive fixtures, 70 socials, 4 domestic and international tours and 2 years later, I've loved every minute of it.

That's the story of how I joined one of Warwick's major sports clubs. Inevitably, not all of you are the same. But the good thing about Warwick is there are so many clubs on offer, that one is bound to suit you. It's always a bit nerve wreck-

ing trying out a new club when you don't know anyone in it!

But fear not, every club puts on socials throughout the year (mostly Wednesday nights at the SU), so there are many opportunities to get involved.

If you're interested in a club, just

**Sport is such a big part of life at Warwick that it's impossible not to get involved.**

drop the Social Sec an email or Facebook message (details can be found on club websites) and they'll tell you more about the socials their club offer. If you fancy it, give it a go and see if it's right for you, if not then no harm done! You can even

take a mate if you're worried about flying solo

As a fresher I'd have massively regretted not joining a club, they're a fantastic way to keep fit, meet new friends, and to get that bit extra out of your time at Warwick. Let's face it, if you're doing humanities, what else are you going to be doing with all that free time?!

**Ralph Haville  
Men's Hockey**



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