

VARSITY

Cambridge Power100

Jo Hartley and Daud Khan

Varsity can today unveil the most powerful people in Cambridge. The most talented, innovative and influential people attached to the University have been scouted out and are exposed in our exclusive four page supplement.

The internationally acclaimed Ross Anderson sits at the top of the list. He is renowned for his work in international security systems covering a vast range from banking and ATM security to patient confidentiality and involvement with nuclear weapons. The fact that Anderson is top reflects the importance

of computing and security in an increasingly insecure world.

From James Crawford, President of International Law Commission, to the 'almost famous' Sarah Solemani, a West End performer, the list comprises a cross section of fellows, academics and students, all of whose credentials had to undergo rigorous analysis in order to be kept on the list. The list includes Nobel Laureates and Fields Gold Medalists. Cambridge is stuffed with people whose positions are internationally recognised even if their faces and names aren't. Lord Wilson, who ranks fourth place in the list, is former head of the civil service and sits on the Board of BskyB.

The list was researched in a number of ways, both through an open appeal to candidates and through investigation into the brightest and brightest stars in our bubble. It was a project that began in summer 2003, and has been constantly in flux, with updates as to who was achieving what up to the moment we went to press. As compilers of the list, we were keen to include a wide cross section, but there was no criteria or statistics to fill other than needing to be powerful. This is a list that is subject to no quotas or external agendas. This resulted in women comprising just ten percent of the top 20 positions and 15 percent of the whole list. In terms of students, which comprise

47 percent of the total, women comprise 23.4 percent of those.

This list reinforces Cambridge's reputation as premier scientific institution, with 20% of the list made up of scientists, with seven of these Nobel Laureates.

Student-wise, we have Entrepreneurs such as Azim Mumtaz, who is hoping to secure easy to use solar energy systems for third world countries. These could potentially be used by any household to secure electricity and would alleviate the plight of millions of people.

With a host of talent such as this within City's boundaries, Cambridge cannot fail to continue to attract the finest minds of the future.

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Got a story?

Email news@varsity.co.uk or ring 01223 337575 if you have a story or meet us in The Bath House (Hogshead) in Bene't Street on Sunday at 7pm

Going over the top-up

Amol Rajan

Cambridge Vice-Chancellor: Clarke's proposals are not enough

Alison Richard has said that the government's proposed Higher Education Bill does not go far enough in addressing the funding crisis of Britain's Universities.

Writing in *The Guardian*, the University's Vice-Chancellor said that, "without a significant and rapid increase in our income, our position in the first rank of world universities will be in peril... teaching is underfunded by at least £24m per annum".

Her comments reflect personal opinion rather than the university's official policy. Officially, the university continues to believe that the introduction of top-up fees will deter students from poorer backgrounds.

Richard's article, published on Tuesday, comes in the wake of a frenzied national debate over top-up fees. In a bid to appease Labour rebels, Charles Clarke last week amended his initial proposals to offer students from poorer families up to £3,000 a year, to cover the cost of their higher education.

Students from homes earning under £15,000 a year will be given a £1,200 fees subsidy and a £1,500 means-tested grant from the government for each year of their higher education. They will also be eligible for annual £300 bursaries from their universities. Student loans will rise by £110. All outstanding debt shall be written off after 25 years.

The Education Secretary claims that with these amendments no poor student would be worse off as a result of the Bill's introduction.

Meanwhile, *Varsity* has learnt that

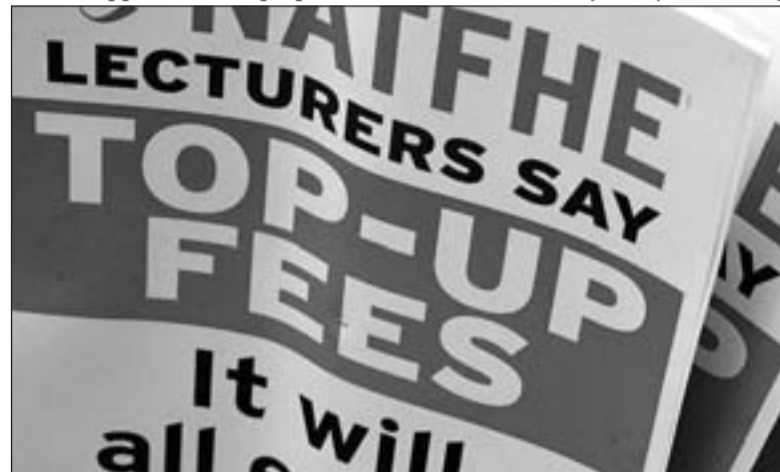
Cambridge's proposals to introduce bursaries of £4,000 for students from poorer families will be unaffected by Mr Clarke's changes. This could mean students have up to £7,000 a year whilst at Cambridge, and no fees to pay before graduation.

CUSU President Ben Brinded says that his opposition to top-up fees is

undiminished. He believes that Mr. Clarke's ultimatum to Labour MPs amounts to "emotional blackmail".

CUSU in conjunction with Cambridge MP and top-up rebel Anne Campbell have also launched an on-line survey to find out what students really think about fees.

See varsity.co.uk for the survey



Varsity Archive

Bursaries assume Uni remains elitist

Tim Moreton

A Varsity investigation has suggested that Cambridge University's scheme of maintenance bursaries, will rapidly become unaffordable if it actually succeeds in improving access.

The scheme, predicated on the university charging the full £3,000 fee, plans to provide annual grants of £4,000 to the poorest students, with support on a sliding scale for students with parental incomes less than £35,000. Cambridge estimates that the cost will be around £8m per year, paid for out of the £20m additional income it stands to receive from top-up fees.

However, the university's figures assume that the undergraduate body's make-up remains as it is at present, where only 10% of students' parents earn less than £15,000, the lowest proportion of any university in the country except London.

Cambridge's bursary scheme will provide assistance to students with parental incomes of up to £35,000 - a group who make up a third of Cambridge students but two-thirds of undergraduates nationally.

If Cambridge's intake became representative of the national student population, the bursaries would cost the university more than £17m per year - virtually all of

the extra funding that top-up fees were meant to provide.

Cambridge is unlikely to be able to sustain such a cost. Last year it made a loss of £4m and several of its colleges are running annual deficits of more than £1m.

Its other options would be to scale back the bursary scheme, or push the Government to increase tuition fees. Although Charles Clarke has ruled out any increase in this Parliament, fees of just over £4,000 would allow Cambridge to follow its original plan and receive around £12m additional income after the cost of the bursaries.

CUSU President Ben Brinded, who played a part in formulating

the bursaries scheme, was disappointed when *Varsity* approached him with its analysis, but emphasised the importance of maintenance bursaries for poor students. He said: "This issue highlights that if the university is going to meet the requirements of the Office for Fair Access, and charge higher fees, it needs to maintain its commitment to widen participation."

Charging the full £3,000 top-up fee will give the university a significant windfall for the first few years, but the bursaries' financial continuation depends, perversely, on Cambridge failing to reform its image as an elitist institution.

Downing deny bullying

Archie Bland

An Oxford University admissions tutor has claimed that her daughter was "bullied" and "intimidated" in a Downing College interview. But Downing is to hit back in a strongly worded letter to the Times Higher Education Supplement (THES) which has been shown to Varsity.

Dr Dawn Chatty directs a masters course in the science of forced migration. She told *Varsity* that her daughter had been left "distraught" by her interview, and added that neither Oxford nor Cambridge had gone far enough in interview training. She asserted that Cambridge's current half day programme was "not sufficient", and that the whole system needed to be "much more transparent".

It is the latest in a series of such complaints about Oxbridge admis-

sions, the best known of which came from Laura Spence.

Downing's robust response, signed by the master, the senior tutor, and the admissions tutor, called Dr Chatty's account of events "thoroughly distorted," "inexcusable," and "disturbing". They

accused her of "inflating her daughter's alleged experience into an attack on the whole Cambridge system of interviewing". In a break from normal practice, the letter discusses specific details of the interview. Dr Chatty alleged that her daughter had been cut off mid sen-

tence to be told she was wrong; Downing denies this. She also described her daughter watching while, in "a final humiliation", "one interviewer cut short the other mid-question to announce that he thought that was enough and the interview was over." Downing says "neither interviewer recalls doing so", but that if they did, it was to "avoid disadvantaging the following candidate through a shortened interview".

The authors also pointed out that both tutors present at the interview had undergone training in the past year. But Richard Wakeford, who devises and organises Cambridge's interview training scheme, said that the present training scheme is "quite modest... As providers of training we should try and learn from all incidents like this". There is not yet a central university policy on training for interviewers.



Downing College

Court challenge to monkey labs

Aisleigh Sawyer

Animal rights groups have launched a High Court challenge to the University's £32m primate research laboratory proposals, which will use tests on monkeys in research on Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other diseases.

Lawyers for Animal Aid and the National Anti-Vivisection Society have lodged an official appeal against John Prescott's approval of the project drawn up by the University. Norna Hughes of Nabarro Nathanson, solicitors for Animal Aid and the NAVS argued, "The intervention in this case by the prime minister and the DTI minister amounts to an abuse of the planning process" pointing out the proposals had previously been turned down by the local planning authority and a government inspector.

Government inspector, Stuart Nixon had ruled that the University had failed to show that there was a national need for the work due to be done in the labs. He was overruled by

John Prescott in a statement issued at the end of November. Andrew Tyler, director of Animal Aid, commented, "John Prescott has dismissed the well-founded case of his own inspector... so this challenge has a solid base in morality, science and the democratic process". The appeal describes the minister's action as "perverse and unreasonable" and based on minimal fact and flawed information.

The groups also accuse the prime minister and the science minister, Lord Sainsbury, of prejudicing the outcome of the inquiry by speaking publicly in favour of the labs while the question was under official review. The two groups believe that the decision to grant permission for the monkey lab was a forgone conclusion. They further claim that the denial of information to the objectors during the inquiry constitutes interference under the Human Rights Act.

South Cambridgeshire district council also continue to oppose the labs, as do Cambridge police. Chief Superintendent Rob Needle informed

MP Anne Campbell that the possibility of animal rights protests means that they "anticipate that crime, disorder and public safety issues will arise in relation to the Research Centre."

However, they also state that they will work to "ensure the right to peaceful protest is upheld", demonstrated last Saturday when protesters took to the streets of Cambridge once again. Organized by SPEAC (Stop Primate Experiments at Cambridge), the protest was the first since the laboratory was given the go-ahead on November 21. Robert Cogswell, a spokesman for the group, said that 2004 will be a "crucial year in the SPEAC campaign's battle to deliver a decisive blow [to]... plans to make Cambridge the primate vivisection capital of Europe".

He added: "Plans are already in place to implement measures that will significantly reduce the effective working of the university... should Cambridge University fail to heed the democratic process and scrap their plans for this primate centre".

Meanwhile, Cambridge police continue to "ask staff, students and residents to remain vigilant and report any suspicious incidents to the police".

- A bomb threat at the end of last

term caused widespread disruption before it was confirmed as a hoax. It came amid concerns that animal rights group may try to disrupt the university.



Protestors from SPEAC in Cambridge last Saturday

Rachel Mundy

£400k deal for first year novelist

Benjamin Bland

One of Cambridge's rising literary stars, Helen Oyeyemi, has signed a lucrative two-book deal worth almost £400,000.

Oyeyemi finished writing her first book *The Icarus Girl* between

her A level exams, and as soon as Bloomsbury, the publishers behind *Harry Potter*, read the manuscript they offered her the contract, which will put her among Britain's highest-paid novelists.

"But," she says "my parents didn't know I was writing the book

until the contract was signed and I don't think they knew that I basically put my homework on hold for 3 months. In fact, they only got to read the book this week".

The 18-year-old Nigerian-born author's inspiration for her first book came from a short story she wrote: "I read it back and thought 'yay! this is the best thing that I've ever written.'" Her book tells the story of a girl who visits Nigeria where she meets a friend that only she can see.

An agent rapidly snapped her up and she is now penning her second book, provisionally titled 'Peaces'.

A first-year SPS student at Corpus Christi, Oyeyemi has found herself swept up in a whirlwind of publicity, yet she has not let it go to her head: "In an ideal world, of course I'd love to be a full-time writer but it's difficult to make a living out of it. To do that you need to have the talents of J K Rowling and plenty of luck".

Oyeyemi, who already shares the same publisher and accountant as Rowling, says that she would be happy working as a literary agent or in publishing.

The *Times* newspaper reported that Oyeyemi had received an advance of £400,000 prior to completing the second book, but she tells *Varsity* that this was an exaggeration. "It wasn't quite £400,000 and although I can't really comment, I will say that I did receive a very generous advance fee."

While 'The Icarus Girl' will not be available in bookshops until early 2005, those who are keen to see Oyeyemi's work can see her debut play at the Corpus Playroom early next term. 'Juniper's Whitening' is a 3-person play dealing with claustrophobia, paranoia and anxiety – the perfect script for exam term.

Oyeyemi is shortly launching a literary journal, 'Inward I', along with two other undergraduates. They are on the lookout for essays and short stories for inclusion by week 3.

OBE (hons.) Cantab

Matthew Bennett and Abby O'Reilly

Amid cries of 'snobbery', this New Year's Honours list again rewarded many members of Britain's elite including many Cambridge dons.

The University, which does not openly nominate academics for honours, was "delighted" at the recognition of the dons rewarded in this year's honours list for their academic achievements and public service.

Professor Bob Hepple, QC, Emeritus Professor of Law and a former Master of Clare is to be knighted.

The Master of Sidney Sussex and Director of the Judge Institute, Professor Sandra Dawson was made a Dame.

Professor Margaret Stanley, a fellow at Christ's and head of the Stanley group which conducts research into cervical cancer, was appointed OBE.

Professor Alan Dashwood has been created CBE for his contribution to European Law and for his work on the European Union's Convention.

In recognition of over thirty years of work at Homerton, Emeritus Professor John Murrell, has been appointed MBE.

Professor David Farrington and Dr. Marjorie Chibnall have also been appointed the OBE.

Amidst the spate of awards and honours to Cambridge dons there was also the rumour that one of the dons who was offered an honour was a refusenik. The University was however, unable to comment.

FROM "THE ICARUS GIRL"

"When Jess came out of the basement, she didn't cry. She had no tear-marks on her face, and was completely dry-eyed. She was all right. When she looked up at Sarah, she felt slightly bemused, without knowing why. It was a feeling of using borrowed eyes that she would soon have to return – her mother looked prettier, and more distinct. There was beauty in the unravelling wool coming from the shoulder of her grey jumper. She tried to step back and look some more, but Sarah immediately caught her up in a hug. "Are you okay, Jess? Yeah? I'm sorry that I had to do that, okay?" Jess stood stiffly for a few moments in Sarah's embrace, then her arms timidly crept around her mother. She was looking at her father over Sarah's shoulder, and his encouraging smile in her direction was returned with a slightly solemn one."



Bloomsbury publishing

NEWS
IN BRIEF

Lecturers strike

Last Tuesday, the Association of University Teachers opened a month-long ballot among its members on whether to take strike action against proposed changes to pay structure. If the motion is passed, a number of lecturers and academic staff at Cambridge would be involved, and the move would cause widespread chaos. A result is expected in early February.

Seeing triple

A set of triplets have, for the first time, been offered places to study at Cambridge. Lil, Helen and Kate Armstrong, 18 from Truro, Cornwall received conditional offers from Selwyn, Corpus Christi and Trinity Hall. The sisters say it was a coincidence they all applied to Cambridge.

Chlamydia Test

After five years and £3m pounds of research, a team from Cambridge has created a cheap and efficient test for diagnosing Chlamydia. Research leader, Dr Helen Lee, says, "Chlamydia is a major problem in the west as well as the developing world" and hopes that the instant 50p test will mean that less women who contract the disease will become infertile.

Yorkshire bombed

Cambridge Students Against the War have voiced their criticism over an incident involving a US Air Force Fighter Jet accidentally dropping a bomb over Yorkshire. The plane, based at RAF Lakenheath, was on a training mission when the bombing occurred on January 8.

HIV Burglary

A drug addict who broke into Jesus College accommodation and threatened a student with what he claimed was an HIV infected needle last year has been sentenced to six years in jail. The burglary occurred in May 2003, when Matthew Scarisbrick, a Jesus student, was in his flat on Jesus Lane. At the hearing on 15th December the drug addict claimed he was sorry for his behaviour. **RM**

Gardies lease terminated

Bryan Coll

The moment that Vas Anastasiou and thousands of Cambridge students had been dreading has finally arrived. Just one week before Christmas, Gardies received a letter confirming the termination of its lease. This may well be the final chapter in the Gardies story - a saga that has captivated Cambridge students and had alumni from across the world up in arms.

The letter was a crushing blow to Mr Anastasiou who believes that its timing was malicious. He described the decision to deliver the letter a week before Christmas as a "heartless one". Caius and property agent Bidwells first informed The Gardenia of their intention to terminate the property's lease back in September. They claimed the late arrival of the letters was due

to a "legal technicality".

The letter was written in detailed legal language and was accompanied by a simple photocopy of the Landlord and Tenants Act. Mr Anastasiou now has a period of one month in which to challenge Caius in court. However, he insisted, "It is against my family values to go to court. All I want to do is to talk face to face with the bursar."

Mr Anastasiou claims that he has constantly been refused meetings by the Caius bursar Barry Hedley. However, Mr Hedley claimed to have had several meetings with Mr Anastasiou and to have considered his position at length.

One particularly thorny area is the matter of financial compensation. In statements released by the bursary and in conversation with *Varsity*, Mr Hedley stated that The Gardenia would receive "substantial" compen-

sation, roughly equivalent to one year's rent. The Gardenia, however, denies any knowledge of this.

The whole debacle has left Mr Anastasiou feeling frustrated and disillusioned. "I did not expect this kind of behaviour from such a prestigious

university", he said.

Although strongly supported by his loyal customers, both students and townspeople, Mr Anastasiou finds it difficult to work, knowing that the closure of this favourite Cambridge institution is looming overhead.



Gardies staff hard at work until the end

Victory declared by rent strikers

Nabila Saddiq

Students at King's College begin the term with more pennies in the piggy bank after the college agreed to revise its rent policy in line with student demands.

The King's rent strike which began on the 22nd October last year, with support from the King's College Student Union as well as CUSU, reached its conclusion on the 28th November. The College Council finally acceded to the student demands to temper rent increases which had been estimated at 27% since 1999. Undergraduate

representatives presented a paper prepared by the rent-strike co-ordinating committee, to the College Council, which accepted most of its recommendations.

KCSU co-coordinator Stacy Gregg stated that the "KCSU has succeeded in what it set out to do, and on the whole has behaved efficiently, democratically and with integrity". She confirmed that all of the 90 or so strikers had paid their bills and no one intended to continue striking.

One of the main objectives of direct action had been to oppose further rent increases which may deter able candidates from disadvantaged

backgrounds from applying to King's. As such, The KCSU had stated that national press coverage would be used responsibly. However, despite this the strike still generated coverage in the BBC and in national newspapers.

Senior Tutor Dr J A Laidlaw pointed out that King's students still paid less than students at other universities and proposed rent increase which would allow the college to increase its revenues 6.5% above inflation, every year until 2007/08.

Sarah Donachy, last terms KCSU co-ordinator remarked, "I am really proud of our achievements last term, and I know that we have a re-

ally good deal now."

Although the news has been welcomed by students, the final agreement seemed a far cry from the initial KCSU demands. These included abolishing KFC, a statement of the colleges' opposition to top up fees and inflation-only rent rises for 2004-05. Nevertheless, Donachy maintained that the college bill will lessen for current first years, by the time they are in their third year. She also commended the fellows of Kings College for having "taken a radical and appreciated step towards making Cambridge affordable for all who meritocratically deserve a place".

Prof argues 'Trust in lust'

Jonathan Wood

Picking up in Cindy's or getting your end away in freshers' week needn't be something to feel guilty about for much longer if a Cambridge academic has his wicked way.

Lust it seems really is a good thing according to a professor's new appraisal of the deadly sin. Sexual desire is, apparently, a life-affirming virtue and should no longer be thought of as a vice.

Professor Simon Blackburn, a fellow at Trinity College and author of the popular philosophy best seller *Think*, is attempting to "rescue" lust, arguing that it has been wrongly condemned for centuries. Sex is fun, he argues, and needs to be "reclaimed for humanity". He is writing as part of an Oxford University Press, OUP, publishing project to determine the

relevance of the seven deadly sins to the twenty-first century.

Professor Blackburn spent three months thinking about lust before deciding to back its rehabilitation and carefully defining it as "the enthusiastic desire for sexual activity and its pleasures for its own sake". If reciprocated, he argues, then lust leads to pleasure and "best flourish-

es when unencumbered by bad philosophy and ideology... which prevent its freedom of flow".

Pope Gregory the Great drew up the original list of seven deadly sins in the sixth century, identifying lust, anger, pride, envy, sloth, gluttony and greed as the list of those sins that were fatal to spiritual progress.

For Blackburn it is the "old men

of the deserts", Christian thinkers such as St. Augustine, St. Jerome, and St. Thomas Aquinas, who are to be blame for the creation of a moral atmosphere in which people automatically feel guilty for wanting sex.

Edwina Currie, the former Conservative minister who enjoyed an affair with John Major, the former prime minister, was quoted in the Sunday Times as welcoming Professor Blackburn's views, "Oh yes, I'm all in favour of lust. I'm not sure it's a vice - it's a natural part of healthy human life," she said.

OUP has commissioned seven writers to analyse each of the deadly sins. Francine Prose, a scholar who has written on gluttony, believes we should be more relaxed about what we eat. The American playwright, Wendy Wasserstein, believes sloth should be encouraged on account of our increasingly busy lives.



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A big push to stop pulling, please

Ben Hadley asks for a return to the days of true romance

Friday night is drawing nigh. All across Britain eager youths shiver with anticipation at the thought of finding a member of the opposite sex intoxicated enough to willingly exchange saliva with them.

The girls (it is difficult to call them 'women') don their shortest skirt and highest heels and plaster several inches of makeup to their faces. The boys (it is even more difficult to call them 'men'), worried that a collapse of the deodorant industry might lead, in a butterfly-effect-like fashion, to global economic recession, spray themselves till they are dripping with virility.

Without further ado, all spread their wings and take off in the direction of the nearest club, hopeful that they might later take off their clothes and be spreading their thighs in the direction of whoever it is they might have enticed / drugged / dragged home (delete as appropriate). For what could be more pleasant to the senses and stimulating to the mind than an evening of tonguey delights? It seems to be the general consensus that there is little that could rival such a prospect, yet it is

difficult to put one's finger on what exactly is so attractive about the institution of 'pulling'.

The act itself cannot be said to be particularly pleasant. Don't get me wrong, I'm all for a passionate embrace, but some random person slobbering all over my face isn't exactly my idea of a good time. Maybe I'm doing something wrong, but walking into a club and having some trollish troglodyte come up to me to try to stick her tongue down my throat is more frightening than anything else. If pulling were a necessary evil that you had to go through in the process of getting someone to sleep with you, the whole thing might be understandable, but this simply isn't the case.

People go out to pull without any intention of sleeping with the "pullee", but see pulling as something exciting in itself. This is what is most puzzling. What do they find attractive about pulling itself? Surely it can't be the prospect of finding digested and regurgitated morsels lurking in the dark recesses of the pullee's mouth.

Nor can it be the (very real) possibility of getting sprayed with vom-



Paula Kopecna

it during the pull that turns them on. In fact, I cannot see why anyone would want to be groped and rubbed against by dribbling, sweaty stranger who, in any normal state of soberness, they wouldn't go near.

The sad truth is that the only real pleasure in pulling is being able to say to oneself "Yeah baby! Yeah! You're so groovy, you sexy beast,

you! You managed to pull!", or something to that effect. What we get out of pulling is the psychological comfort of knowing that we are not poor sad bastards who aren't even able to pull. I see no other explanation. We should be holding in greater contempt the "pullers" than those whom everybody finds too repulsive to pull. Where is the ro-

mance in pulling? Lust and passion seem to have been thrown aside to make space for dribbling and alcohol-induced impotence.

I therefore call for a casting away of these barbaric pulling ways and a return to the ardour and intensity that we all deserve.

Signed, a poor frustrated sod who can't find anyone to pull.

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 **JPMorgan**



Simon Maybin

SPEAC protesters can't see the wood for the trees

As a leftwing student at King's, I know what it's like to be pigeon-holed, and I've learned to take care in the way I present my arguments; I know too many people who are ignored not because they aren't making persuasive and well-founded points, but because of the way they choose to make them. This is an understanding the people at 'Stop Primate Experiments At Cambridge' (SPEAC) have patently failed to develop.

Last Saturday afternoon I was in King's when a SPEAC delegation strode purposefully through the bar and headed for the student rooms above. A friend and I approached them and were passed flyers.

"Can I ask where you're going?" I said to one, perfectly politely. He ignored me. When I repeated my question his friend replied on his behalf: "He can do whatever he wants." The group proceeded to trespass in private halls of residence and to flyer the whole building, activating the fire alarm as they left.

To be honest, my initial response to seeing protesters in King's is to think, "Hey, wait a minute! We're lefties too. You've got the wrong people!" And this is part of the problem for SPEAC. What could be a well-directed campaign aimed at those who are really responsible for primate experiments in Cambridge is instead turned into a generalised anti-establishment

protest, as so many 'liberal' causes sadly often are.

When I was handed a flyer, one of the protesters said to me aggressively, "Read it – you might learn something," the implication being that the kind of monkey-killing propaganda I am no doubt being fed on my law course isn't worth the tuition fee.

Even when SPEAC try to be a bit more focused in their protests, shouting abuse at academics, they seem to get it embarrassingly wrong. One lecturer who was on the receiving end of a volley of abuse last term is in fact involved in primate conservation, but then they wouldn't want to let a small matter like that get in the way of their aims. The fact is that

adopting such an aggressive approach wins you no friends.

Their flyers are little better. Covering one side of a leaflet in highly emotive photographs of babyish monkeys being strangled or with metal clamps on their heads might grab your attention, but there's no accompanying text to suggest that this is what may or will be happening in Cambridge.

On the other side, you're given a hint of what may be some quite compelling arguments, but boasting that 'even the police' have opposed the new research centre (surely nothing but their own doing) doesn't do them any favours, and a later mention of breaches of Home Office regulations describing Marmosets left overnight with

'part of their brains sucked out' seems to be a curious argument – it's clear that no-one would support such unnecessary behaviour, whether or not they were in favour of primate research.

Personally I'm undecided on the substantive issues at stake here, but sadly that hasn't stopped me feeling opposition to the campaigners. But by SPEAC's own admission, it is the government who will be making the ultimate decision as to whether the centre goes ahead, so shouldn't they be the focus of SPEAC's attentions, rather than lefty students? And if they speak up and make their arguments heard in a reasonable way, they might find a lot of members of this university working with them, not against them.

The oral inspection wasn't just an epoch defining image, says Amol Rajan: it was quite funny, too

Almost immediately after September 11th 2001 George W. Bush decided he had no choice but to invade Iraq. To convince the international community of the necessity of this was to be the great challenge of his first term in office. Bush comprehensively failed in this task. As Robin Cook said in his resignation speech, "History will be astonished at the diplomatic miscalculations that led so quickly to the disintegration of a powerful [post 9/11] coalition".

The task of sustaining that coalition would have been much simpler had Bush known, back then, that the invasion would have a very funny ending. He could not have known the comedy value that a dictator's capture could provide. In retrospect, he ought to have promised his fellow statesmen what, back then, he did not know he would deliver: History's Greatest Puppet Show, starring Saddam Hussein.

There are three aspects of the capture and subsequent treatment of Saddam that are particularly hilarious. Firstly, the ignominy of his final abode, compared to the presidential palaces he always lived in. A hole with little natural light or fresh air – underground, squalid, claustrophobic, and crucially, inside Iraq. That final point indicates his fear of attempting to breach American border security forces. He was too scared to move.

Secondly, the dental inspection.

The 'oral hygienist', as he has come to be known, simultaneously checking for gum infections, functioning incisors, and taking a DNA sample, will resurface regularly in the annals of history. His inspection implied humanity: 'we've fought a war to find you, but we need to check your teeth. Colgate please, Colonel.' All the while the tyrant's upturned face resembled a toddler on his first trip to the dentist. No scriptwriter could have conjured an image as succinct or as skilful in capturing the humanity of a beast or the reduction to subservience of a despot. The glory of the footage was this: when the

dentist is at us, all humanity, including Saddam, has now to do but look skyward and await the verdict. The great oppressor looked like a silenced lamb.

If Bush had listened to protesters... Saddam would still be running Iraq

Thirdly, most subtle, and least discussed, the disappeared beard. As we were getting used to the images that Paul Bremer displayed at his

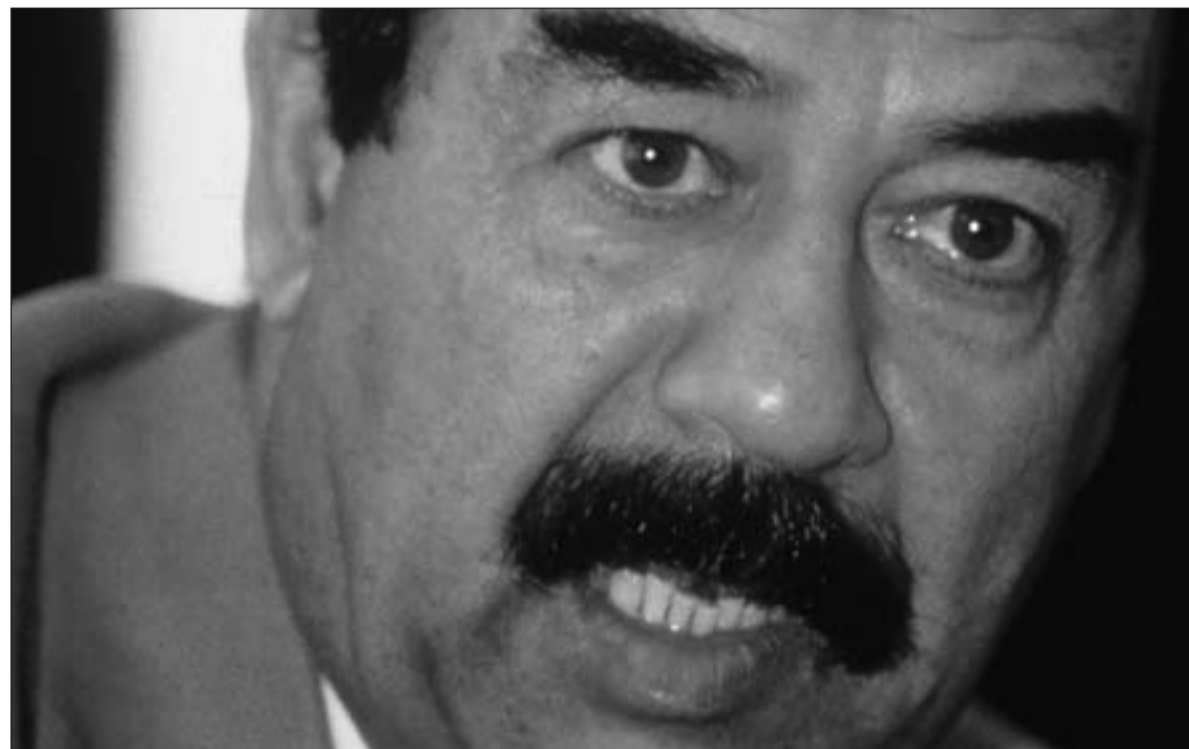
news conference, and the sight of a bearded Santaddam (ho ho ho), suddenly there was an abrupt change, and the next image showed he'd been given a shave. Not so much bizarre as, well, hilarious. The American's wage a full-scale invasion of a country to oust a dictator, spend months on his trail, invest billions of dollars and political capital in his pursuit and then, when he's finally found in a hobbit-hole, decide he looks a bit rough. So they give him a spot of dental floss and a Mach-3. Though principally a means of confirming his identity, the US policy of shave first, interrogate second,

hinted at a genuine desire for the man to look presentable. He was going out all over the US, after all.

The consequences of Saddam's capture will be felt most strongly in the US. Bush is all but guaranteed re-election this year against a divided Democrat party. The measure of his first term is this: his critics have stopped labelling him dumb, and are now labelling him dangerous. Like Clinton and Reagan before him, Bush will become more hardline in his second term, knowing it's his last. Opposition to his policies will therefore increase, and in 2008 the 50-50 nation may finally decide it's had enough. Al Gore and Hilary Clinton will re-emerge only then.

All those who opposed the war are now faced with a difficult and valid proposition: If Blair and Bush had listened to the anti-war protesters, and adopted a policy of non-intervention, Saddam would still be running Iraq. The case against war was strong, but the international Left have been hushed by Saddam's capture. Now, facing 5 more years of Bush, they need to re-assert themselves. Failure to do so would suggest capitulation.

With Saddam's capture America's leaders and people have become convinced that their global project is succeeding. Well might it be, and, in the short-term, American unilateralism will continue. America's greatest culpability is her ignorance; her greatest strength lies in not knowing it.



imgagenet.co.uk

The Ordinary

ISSUE TEN: See you next week, Ed? No? You f***ing what?

BYE!

You loved it.

IF YOU DON'T KNOW US BY NOW, YOU WILL NEVER EVER KNOW US

New list: who win?

Ordinary editors take top honour in 'Poo 100'

Pooper Scooper
Harold Roasting

Martin and Will the "Are they? Aren't they?" editors of the *Varsity* 'satire' page *The Ordinary* have been voted joint number one in the latest arbitrary and pointless poll aimed at showing who's the best at something.

The Poo 100, which was set up by someone, has been described as the "probably definitive" list of the 100 people in Cambridge most likely to do naff all with their lives.

A highly democratic system of self-promotion and Pokémon card exchange and was used to identify the victors.

The chair of the judges (who can't be identified because he doesn't have a name) praised Will and Martin for their "complete lack of anything going for them," their "disadvantaging physical appearance" and their "complete failure at everything they

do despite them trying so hard that they nearly popped a bollock."

Martin and Will were said to be "somewhere near the moon" on hearing the news, which is more than we can say for that Jeremy Beadle 2 thing. And, look, here they come now: "Yes, we're always happy to win things," said Martin and Will at exactly the same time in a spooky stereo sound effect. "Obviously it's not something that we're very used to because we're quite shit at almost everything."

Runners-up include the lead goblin in CITV's classic series *Nightmare* (Caius), one postgraduate Chuckle brother and Willy Wonka. Competition was so fierce and Martin and Will can be considered very lucky to top a list that won't have any consequence anywhere.

Martin was born Martin to parents in a hospital in a Home County in the 1980s. Little is known about 'Will', with some even speculating that he may be some kind of fungus or the Ghost of



Remember, kicking worms is against much of RSPCA policy. Gramps'll tell you

Easter Past.

Will and Martin are due to be married in the spring.

THAT LIST IN FULL

1. Martin and Will – so poo it hurts
2. Stuart Jefford – that guy from your staircase with the growth
3. Rt. Hon. Prof. J. K. Figg-roll – your new book is baaad
4. Ronojoy Dam – look at him, just look at him

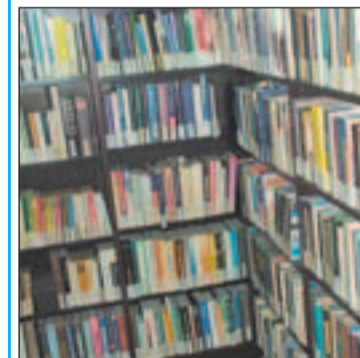
5. Ronojoy Dam – so cool, so poo
6. Colonel Mustard – he did it! He must have done it! Damn.
7. Ronojoy Dam – love you man
8. The Inventors of the Power 100 – where were we?
9. Ellen E. Jones – this deputy editor claims shes "proper fit," but look at her doggyface. [Piss off Martin, we've all seen your filthy rash - Ellen]
10. Oh who cares...

COLLEGE SHORTS

PEEPING DAVE

From the Dean: The College magazine, *Banter*, has been shut down after the pornography page received complaints. I for one certainly don't remember being able to reach that window of the girls changing rooms with my camera. Dismissed.

SWINDLE



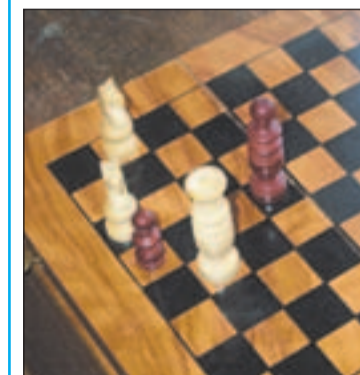
Erotic novels and hardcore

From the librarian: The library has gone missing again. If you're going to borrow it make sure you scan it out with your card. I'm at my chuff's end with you lot.

LAPTOP THIEF

From the Head Porter: Ladies and gentleman: We got 'im!

?
A puzzle for you: My first is in 'crotch' but not in your 'pants', my second is in 'retardant' but not in 'Northants'! And my third is in 'virgin' cos thats what you should be. But what am I? That's right! The Rev. Please come to Chapel. Thanks, Roy xx.



That move hasn't been used for time

CHESS CLUB

Someone wants to start a chess club. Boring.

TAKE HIM TO THE BRINK

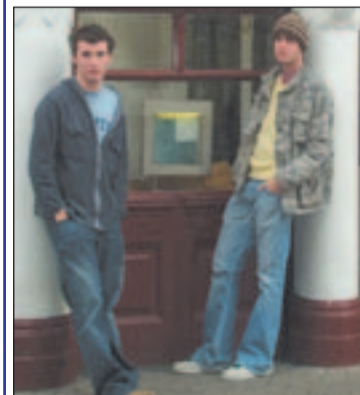
Pipes and wands for sale. Contact Keith.

THEN PULL HIM BACK

College burnt down last weekend which is mildly irritating.

Win fun!

Yes, it's competition time with the ever-generous *Ordinary*



Crunch! Come and touch these men

MEET WILL AND MARTIN...

...and get a free signature!

Yes, it's like Christmas come a month late. Martin and Will, your favourite *Ord* editors, will be drinking and smiling in The Cow from 8pm next Thursday (22nd Jan). For every drink you buy them Martin and Will will sign anything you want with any message (max 7 words) and may even talk to you. Don't miss out on this rare opportunity to meet two men at the peak of their physical shape and popularity. It could be the last chance you get. The referee has to stop play if there's a head injury.

COMMENT

Pies, chicken nuggets, Werther's Originals. They're all legal in sport. Drugs aren't

Man With Views
Stu The Fox

If Danny really was Champion of the World do you think he took nandrolone? That was the question on everybody's dirty lips as it was revealed last week that another top sportsman in the UK has been putting more than a straw into his Robinson's squash.

These days I daren't even watch the darts in case one of them is under the influence. Next they'll be telling me Atlas was on performance enhancing drugs...after all, the sky ain't light fella.

Sport in the UK has gone downhill since the halcyon days of Jeremy Goss

and Nigel Short. In the past everybody used to cheat with a smile on their face, now it's all serious – as if winning really is that important. Which of course it is. I had a £300 bet on Liverpool beating Yeovil 2-0, so imagine my delight when Kewell took that tumble. The distraught faces of the Yeovil team as they knew that they'd now go home penniless, with houses repossessed and wives leaving them were just an unexpected bonus. Hopefully their new ground will soon burn down.

So, in a bid to clean up the image of British sport, I entered myself for Sports Personality of the Year. Under a strict diet and drugs regime I turned up at BBC Television Centre mashed out of my tree

in a bid to raise the profile of my preferred sport – granny bashing. Unfortunately the granny I'd brought along with me stopped breathing on the train down so I had to give my spare ticket to Jonny Wilkinson who was hanging around outside. I didn't win – I didn't expect to – but it made them think.

Sports great though isn't it? Seriously, isn't it? Quick injection in the toilets with the lads then all that running, all that banter, sometimes you get the ball, sometimes you don't, someone gets seriously injured, getting naked afterwards, drink! drink! drink! Take squash for example – find yourself a mate, a racquet, a ball and a court and you've got a game on your hands. Match point! Deep heat! Deep heat! Classic times. In no other country is that possible, except maybe Wales.

Sport was primarily invented by the Americans, that's why they're so good at it, but us Brits are slowly catching up. And with some more carefully-placed cheating, we'll soon get there. Anyone for tennis?



Are those really your vitamin pills, buster? Unlikely, you low-life drugs cheat

Young? Join our natty new grooming service. Email: theordinary@varsity.co.uk



Get the Lowdown on the Law

Are you interested in a legal career? How about working for one of the biggest, most innovative firms in the world?

How about a drink?

Eversheds is holding an informal reception for students of all disciplines who are considering law as a career. It's your opportunity to meet Eversheds lawyers and trainees who will give you an insight into an exciting and challenging profession. The evening will be a relaxed affair that will hopefully help you make your mind up about your future.

Book your place now to avoid disappointment

Monday 19 January
From 6.30pm The River Bar and Kitchen
Contact Mandy Fish
mandyfish@eversheds.com

VARSITY

The Cambridge Power 100

Everyone will know someone who they think should have been in the Cambridge Power 100 that resides in the centre of your *Varsity* this week. Some people will certainly say that this Nobel prize winner should be higher, as should that Fields medallist, and what's that student doing in there when my mate, who did his gap year as President of Mongolia and is presently restructuring the debt of three African nations as well as doing second year physics, isn't.

To an extent that is the point. We aim to get people talking, looking at the people around them, looking at the potential they have and the diversity we can all see in this exceptional town. There is no way we could find every brilliant person who is member of this university and that, perhaps, is the most amazing thing.

The Cambridge Power 100 is *Varsity's* attempt to shed some light on the movers and shakers within Cambridge, those who are immensely influential in the outside world and those who look like they might be going somewhere in the future. There is no way we can produce a definitive list, we've undoubtedly missed some potential stars of the future but hopefully not too many that shine brightly right now. But with the hours of research that have gone into this, with Jo Hartley and Daud Khan working hard to make sure the list is as accurate as possible, you can rest assured this is one of the most comprehensive surveys of the stars and future stars of Cambridge ever compiled.

If you do have a stint as President of Mongolia on your CV we apologise for overlooking you and hope that, as compensation, you get that strategy consulting job you're after. If you don't, please look though, debate where you think we've gone wrong and celebrate the amazing range of talent and diversity we have around us. This is a certainly a university that should be treasured by Britain, by the world and by all of us.

Interview training is key

Another year, another failed interview candidate kicking up a fuss. But this year's contender has rather more credibility for the complainant, speaking on behalf of her daughter, is an admissions tutor at Oxford, and rather better informed about what is and isn't appropriate than the average applicant's mother.

The details of what happened in the interview are impossible for anyone who was not present to hold an opinion on, and it has become a matter of her word against theirs, which is of little wider significance. But some important questions arise from this case. Is Cambridge's interviewer training scheme sufficient? How can serious complaints like this be reasonably arbitrated when no-one of a neutral standpoint is present?

We must beware, as Downing's letter to the Times Higher Education Supplement points out, of extrapolating from one case to judge the whole admissions philosophy. But it is telling that Downing defend their interviewers by pointing out they had both been trained in the previous year. When the very man responsible for the university's training says it is insufficient, one wonders if, rather than a defence of the interviewers, this is an indictment of an undernourished system.

Too many interviewers are untrained. To attend a single morning's seminar – which is absurdly limited anyway – does not mean selling your soul, and the university ought have no truck with dons who behave as if this is the case. Whilst college autonomy is in most matters a real strength of the Cambridge system, in this case there is too much at stake to let the churlish whims of an individual academic devalue a useful tool. The best and the brightest must not slip through the net because they are bullied.

CUSU top-up consultation

This week Anne Campbell MP, in conjunction with CUSU, will be launching a consultation exercise aiming to find out what the real views of students are on the Government's Higher Education bill. This is a valuable exercise in participative democracy, and we encourage all Cambridge students to take part, but be wary.

Our MP is feeling the pressure. The Education Secretary and Prime Minister are bullying the 'rebel' MPs – Campbell among them – into choosing between what stands and what the government have proposed. They say the package must be taken as a whole. But the issue is whether it is better than the alternatives, and that is the question that has been continually avoided by Blair. Yet his headstrong executive are still trying to push it through, calling the Labour party's bluff by threatening their re-election. But Anne can vote "no" without endangering the party or universities. Think carefully about the alternatives.

The week
in words

"If we had to pay £3,000 fees for all three of them, it would crucify us. We just couldn't do it."

Tim Armstrong, father of the triplets offered places at Cambridge

"I am clear that without a significant and rapid increase in our income, our position in the first rank of world universities will be in peril. I didn't return to Cambridge to witness its decline and we will not allow it to happen."

Alison Richard hopes top-up fees will top up her income

"Other Simon Blackburns are either elsewhere in cyberspace, or nowhere in cyberspace, although presumably somewhere in ordinary space."

The Professor of Lust gets deeply philosophical

"I was lucky, very lucky indeed, to have the opportunity to go from my Welsh grammar school to Cambridge University. I was the first in my family to go to university."

Michael Howard once again uses his 'humble' roots to score political points

"We've met Paul Lewis. Three times."

The Ordinary's reason for thinking they should feature in the Power 100. And how right they were.

"Peasants were cartwheeling dead out of the sky."

The Chancellor, Prince Philip, goes out to hunt again

"A strike at Gardies is a strike at the heart."

One inconsolable student laments the possible loss of Cambridge's finest eating establishment

"I think one editorship is enough"

Tom Ebbutt signs off on his last issue

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Tom Lane The true meaning of Christmassacre

The big hoo-ha this winterval (other than the Americans catching Father Christmas down a spider-hole) was over Tessa Jowell's culturally sensitive Christmas cards, which featured no discernable religious imagery whatsoever. Similarly, Daily Mail readers across the country went ballistic when they read that Oxfam had banned cards with Christian symbols. 'Christmas', mumbled the hit film Love Actually as it searched for a redemptive yet inoffensive message, 'is a time when you can tell the truth'.

Allow me to state the obvious: no one knows what Christmas is about anymore. My response? Good!

The great thing about Christmas is its utter divorcement from any religious credo. If anything, it's the ultimate humanist holiday, encouraging

peace on earth and goodwill to *all* men. If the religious element is included at all, it's either tucked away around midnight when everyone's too pissed to watch, or is raised up only to be bashed down, as in the BBC's 2002 documentary on how Jesus was really a Roman soldier's bastard.

The reaction was deafening in its silence. I didn't hear of one recorded complaint. This is the extent to which the modern era has defused Christianity: you can have a nationwide show attacking the main tenet of the faith broadcast in the midst of its key festival, and no one bats an eyelid.

Things begin to become more frightening when you consider the unfortunate mirror image of this situation: Islam. Somehow the minority of fundamentalist crazies have been able to hijack this religion's public face like an internal American air-flight, and

producers steer clear of the idea of a similar documentary based on, say, the life of Mohammed, not just out of political correctness, but from the fear that somewhere out there the learned Ayatollah Jihad Al Fatwa would be passing out death sentences with a gusto that makes George Bush's Texas look like Shangri-la.

It is Muslim moderates more than anybody who find this pussy-footing offensive and even harmful to Islam's world image. Their retaliation against the Al Qaidiot's takes place throughout society – right into these very pages. The Muslim students who write in the Cambridge papers have always impressed me with their dignity, tenderness and level-heads. An article last term on the true, pacific meaning of 'jihad' was a startling and very necessary revelation. Though the moderates' rebuttals lack the spectac-

ular pyrotechnics of bin Laden's PR efforts, they will eventually triumph.

In fact, they may already be winning. September 11th can quite easily be seen, as Milton might say, as 'argument of human weakness rather than of strength'. Threatened by the inevitable success of Western secularism, the tremulous fundamentalists can only react with a show of force – destructive certainly, but insufficient to stem the tides that flow against them. They cannot move the battle to the cultural sphere, so they try to repress all 'modern' culture, only to be overthrown in a splurge of electronic goods, and un-Talebanc razor blades.

This is where Christmas comes in: what it now stands for is - almost cringe-worthily - a festival of universal tolerance. The spirit of Christmas attests to the absolute inclusiveness of commercialism. You don't have to

be a Marxist to see that the vacuity of spiritualism is caused by capitalism, in one of its unappreciated glories, as it seeks to expand the numbers involved in orgiastic spending by reducing the reasons for not celebrating the occasion.

Christmas is the western Jihad. While more progressive types, like the Lib Dem Shadow Defence Secretary, quite correctly call for hostile, deprived areas to be 'bombed with food and aid', I'd add to that arsenal MTV, *Cosmopolitan*, Sex & the City, contraceptives, and a festival devoid of religious meaning. In the so-called 'clash of civilisations' these are our Daisy Cutters, our MOABs, our Big Ones. It will take many years, but this gradual cultural transformation is irresistible. In the long term, there is no need to fear the bearded bogeymen: they'll get Christmassacred.

Letters

Letters should be submitted no later than midnight on Wednesday, and be as concise as possible. The editors reserve the right to edit all copy. letters@varsity.co.uk

Thinking of Caius: an analogy springs to mind

Dear Editor,
I was reading "Varsity" when Jeremy Paxman was the editor and I have been a Cambridge socialite and personality for over 35 years - so I am not the sort who is easily shocked!!

But I AM shocked by the disgusting behaviour of Gonville and Caius College in sending the closure notice to the Gardenia just before Christmas-when they knew you were all away!!

The analogy which springs to mind is with that dread-

ful woman civil servant who, on 11th September 2001, sent a letter to her boss saying "isn't this a good day to bury bad news?"

At any rate, it has given you all a sharp, brutal lesson about the truth of the 21st Century world-simply that big organisations and governments behave with zero conscience and kindness. If they think they can do something horrible to little people and get away with it-they will.

A Happy New Year-and term-to you all,
William Hutton

Gardies still remembered Mine's a bacon burger

Dear Varsity,

I have just become aware of the terribly sad decision to force Gardenias to shut and to end a great Cambridge tradition. If it is really too late to save it, it is a great pity. Last summer a friend and I returned there after an absence of 10 years, and the guys still remembered us! This may partly reflect too many late nights at the college bar, but I think it says more about the wonderful service and atmosphere of Gardenias. Shame on Caius.

Best regards
Gareth Williams
Pembroke, 1990
European Strategist
Lehman Brothers

Dear Sir,

I was shocked to hear of Caius' plans to close down Gardies - it is nothing short of an outrage. Have the college authorities no respect for tradition let alone their students' welfare? Without Lardies, Tabs will be faced with the unpalatable choice between the vans of Life and Death.

Good Luck Varsity in your campaign

Mine's a Bacon Burger!

Frank Churchill

Pete Waterman is talking complete shit

Dear Editor,
Pete Waterman talks a load of shit. Your writer, Magnus Gittins (in Varsity, 28th November), describes him as being 'honest', in ignorance of the fact that Mr Waterman has always inflated his (recording) success.

As a child, I used to write down the weekly singles chart (nerdy, I know) and I can't ever recall there being more than four or five Waterman productions in the top ten at any one point; rather at odds with his claim of having 'numbers one to nine in the pop charts'. The total UK sales of all of the 'artists' that he produced would not amount to Madonna's. Moreover, internationally, he has been far less commercially

successful, particularly in the US (ironically, the home of production-line 'pop', admittedly produced with a far greater array of talent than Waterman could ever hope to assemble). Yet his bullying personality means that his wild claims are reported as fact, when quite plainly they are not.

His comments about Bob Dylan's concern for financial reward are risible. Though Dylan expected to be paid for booked concerts, Dylan has given freely of his time - for benefits and protests - across four decades. Endeavour that Waterman no doubt views with contempt, and can never understand.

Yours, Anonymous

Clever people are crap in bed



Ellen E Jones

A recent study of males aged 18-35 carried out by the California State Institute of Technology has proved conclusively that the average length of words used in general conversation is inversely proportionate to the length of penis.

This is obviously very bad news for the undergraduate population of Cambridge, but not entirely unexpected. Just as we all hope that fantastically good-looking people will turn out to be very, very dull, it's only right that clever people ought to be crap in bed. Sex is physical, instinctive, primitive and the over-evolved cerebrums of people who think too much just aren't designed for the task.

It's a cliché, of course, founded on Woody Allen films and those episodes of Friends where dumb Joey shags more girls than smart-arse Chandler, but that doesn't really matter. It offends our natural sense of justice if any individual excels in more than one of the three key fields of human endeavour (being fit, being good in bed and pub quizzes). Fairness dictates that the more A-levels you have, the quicker your comebacks, the more likely you are to be frantically insecure about your sexual performance. We get the better jobs, they get bondage and so the thickos have the last laugh in the end.

Many mistakenly hoped that Cambridge would provide some sort of sanctuary for us cerebral types, a

place where finally, without shame, we could stay home of a Friday night, kissing books and masturbating over lecture notes.

But there is a reason why we must soldier on in steering all conversations down a sexual path when others would rather keep at weather level - and it's of greater significance than just for the sheer enjoyment. Questioning sexual performance is the last refuge of a losing argument, that intermediate stage between polite contempt for the point of view of another and bashing them round head with a lager bottle. Crude and adolescent it may be, but it always works. Moreover, it's in all our interests if sex (after death) remains the great equalizer of men, because we all have our weak moments.

When you can't quite recall that Wittgenstein quote to back up your devastating argument, when you can't for the life of you deduce the existential implications of Boeck's theory of micro-biology, or when you're simply far too pissed to be coherent. In short, when all else fails, there's an indispensable, all-purpose argument to fall back on - "You, Sir, with your fancy talk, clearly don't have sex very often and if you do it is probably crap sex" It's unanswerable. The day the Union proposes a motion entitled "My penis is bigger than yours" is the day we'll see some really passionate debating.

Resigned to ethics

Paul Lewis meets Robin Cook - and finds him ethical

In a few days time a report will be published that has the potential to destroy the Prime Minister's political career.

When the Hutton Report is released one of the key protagonists calling for the Prime Minister to reform – or perhaps even resign – will be a man who was once one of his closest political allies.

It was the fact that he had personal conversations with Tony Blair that made Robin Cook's diary revelations – that the Prime Minister deliberately and knowingly exaggerated Saddam's weapons capabilities – so credible.

"He shouldn't be more than five minutes," his secretary said, as she left to make me a cup of tea next door.

I sat in the corner of Robin Cook's smallish office, thinking I was alone. It was a mess. Books, awards, pictures and important scraps of paper were scattered around in unorganised piles. Of course, I realised, he's only recently moved in.

Then I saw it. Right in the centre of his unsettled desk, emerging from a habitat of ruffled papers, stood a stuffed ginger ferret. At first I thought it might be alive. It was smiling at me.

Robin Cook has been likened to furry animals on several occasions. And this particular furry animal did bare a striking resemblance to its owner.

He's got a sense of humour, I thought. Robin Cook, often caricatured as a pompous rodent look-a-like, actually has the ability to laugh at himself.

How refreshing. I mean I doubt if Tony Blair has a stuffed poodle on his mantelpiece.

This wouldn't be the first time I felt I was speaking to, perhaps surprisingly given Cook's reputation, a rare breed of politician.

Cook (the man) scurried into his office and hopped onto his swivelling chair. He is a small and unimposing man who doesn't carry the awe you'd expect of a one-time Secretary of State. But like many successful politicians, he has a warm affableness about him that makes him instantly likeable.

He was smiling too.

And he deserves to smile. Robin Cook has made resignation seem like promotion. From the relative political obscurity for someone of his stature of Leader of the House, Cook became the symbolic leader of the anti-war movement almost overnight. His recently published diaries, *Point of Departure*, are selling well, and he's fast becoming one of the few popular politicians left in the Labour Party.

The transition was made all the more glorious with one of the most memorable resignation speeches of all time.

He opened that speech with a confession: he had forgotten how much better the view looked from the backbenches.

"I suppose I'm recapturing my youth as it were," he told me, "it's a terrific relief and liberation to be able to talk more frankly."

And from that landmark speech onwards, Robin Cook has made a career out of talking frankly, especially when it comes to Iraq.

"With every passing week we can see that those of us who were deeply concerned about the decision to go to war were right to be concerned. Saddam was not a threat.

There were no weapons of mass destruction. And Washington had not a clue of what we were going to do next after we'd knocked Saddam out of the way."

Cook is not just critical of the war. He is deeply critical of the one man outside of the US administration he thinks could have stopped it.

"Perhaps most fascinating of all," he says, building up to a crescendo, "is if Britain had said no, and if Blair had refused to take

The problem with the September dossier was that it was written as a propaganda document.

any part in it, it is not immediately clear if Bush could have carried his own public opinion with him."

"Tony understood and grasped the sea change in American public opinion about military intervention.

"But he became convinced that the Bush administration were going to do it anyway, and persuaded himself – and this is where he and I parted company – that if America was going to do it, it would be better for Britain to be part of it than not to be part of it."

On the issue of the allegations that the Prime Minister deliberately deceived the country and Parliament, Cook is unflinching.

Not only was Blair aware, two whole weeks before the war started, that Saddam did not have weapons of mass destruction usable against distant civilian targets within 45 minutes, but he repeatedly tried to link Al Qaeda with Saddam Hussein in the public's mind.

"In his last broadcast before the war, he put both Al Qaeda and Saddam Hussein in the final sentence," he points out.

Lowering the tone of his voice, so it came out in his hallmark



husky yet high-pitch grunt, he added, "But there was not a shred of evidence to stand it up.

"Saddam Hussein had nothing to do with September 11th and nothing to do with Al Qaeda. Saddam was an evil psychopath. He was a brutal tyrant. But his ideology was secular, he was not a fundamentalist, and he knew perfectly well that Al Qaeda was just as likely to assassinate him as any Western leader."

Robin Cook, of course, knows what he's talking about. During his time as Foreign Secretary he would have received countless and constant briefings on Iraq from the secret services. Which is the main reason why he will be such a pivotal figure when Hutton finally reports.

"I used to see a lot of intelligence assessments as Foreign Secretary and universally they would be very even handed. They would give you the intelligence that pointed in both directions of the question," he explained.

"Frankly, what was wrong with the September dossier was that it was written as a propaganda document."

During his reign as Foreign Secretary Robin Cook attempted to introduce 'ethics' into foreign policy, a move that his cynical

critics thought was laughable. It is fair to say he did struggle here and there to implement the ethical ideal – what with selling arms to nasty regimes and all that.

It was in resigning that Cook most successfully expressed the point that ethics matters in politics. It is almost a political fairy tale that the man once mocked for failing to combine ethics with foreign policy finally managed to do so with his last, resigning gasps of breath.

And in a few days time, when the Hutton Report is published,

At first I thought it might be alive. It was smiling to me.

and the media look for the most authoritative and high-profile Blair-critic they can find, Cook will resume the noble position of national spokesperson for ethical foreign policy. Or is this just all too good to be true?

Robin Cook recently declared a £50,000-a-year consultancy with Middle East oil construction company Consolidated Contractors International – who specialise in building oil plants and pipelines around the Middle East and former Soviet Republics.

Not only is the company building the highly controversial and environmentally hazardous Baku-Ceyhan oil pipeline, it will now be involved in the reconstruction of Iraq. It is a company that aims to make money out of the occupation Cook opposes so vociferously.

It was a consultancy Cook eventually dropped after criticism in the press, but clearly it was a possibility he had contemplated to the extent of officially declaring it to the House of Commons as forthcoming income.

So what did Cook have to say about the ethical nature of selling this oil company his expert foreign policy? Not much.

"The first thing is: I have no consultancy. So we can put all that to one side."

I pressed a little harder on his position on a company that, let's face it, intends to extract profits from war-torn Iraq.

"They approached me and we had a discussion, but I've made no financial benefit out of them, I have no continuing consultancy with them, I have no financial interest in it. So all that can be put to one side."

I was getting the impression that this was something, unlike America's profiteering out of Iraq, that Cook thought ought to be 'put to one side'.

But hold on a minute. 'No continuing contract' – does that not imply he had a contract at some stage in the first place? Surely his involvement was more than 'a discussion' if he felt it necessary to declare the £50,000 sum as earnings?

"As I say there was a discussion between us and at that stage, perfectly properly, I registered. But we decided not to proceed with it. So there is no consultancy."

So what was the reason for not proceeding with the consultancy?

"I would say that it became plain to me that any association with me was only going to bring additional publicity to the company in ways that would not be of interest or of value to the company, or to me."

But on a personal level, is it something that he would refuse to do on ethical grounds?

"Well I'm not doing it. I really don't see why I should have to explain why I would or wouldn't do it. I'm not doing it. End of story."

End of story.

Perhaps Cook's previous assertion, that it's a 'terrific relief and liberation to be able to talk more frankly' on the backbenches, was a little premature.

After all, backbencher politicians are still politicians.

But he is nevertheless right. He didn't do it. Or at least he backtracked. Robin Cook had a reverse gear. Perhaps that exemplifies the difference between Cook and our own MP, Anne Campbell, from other Labour MPs who supported the war.

As both his resignation and his decision not to pursue the Iraqi oil consultancy reveal, Robin Cook is principled enough – unlike our Prime Minister – to reverse when he realises he is going in the wrong direction.

CambridgePower100

1 Ross Anderson Computing genius, security expert



Computing genius, and one of the world's leading security experts.

Described as looking like a Viking, Dr Anderson comes from the world of banking having worked for Standard Chartered and Barclays. He now heads the University Computer Laboratory's Security Group, infamous for its

work in uncovering a major flaw in a national encryption system which provides the security for most of the country's ATM machines. He has made profound waves in local, national and international policy in and around his area of expertise - security engineering.

He championed the Campaign

for Cambridge Freedoms, a body attempting to stop the University automatically owning all the intellectual property generated by its faculty members. He is also responsible for establishing The Foundation for Information Policy Research (FIPR) Britain's leading IT think-tank which has recently

lobbied against the high profile EU Draft IRP Enforcement directive.

An academic of considerable prowess with a wealth of real world knowledge from ATM machines, phone systems and smart cards to trusted computing, government intelligence systems, medical information confidentiality and

nuclear weapons control. He is also one of the most prominent and vocal members of Cambridge's University Council.

The breadth of Dr Anderson's influence and power in an increasingly wired world is truly outstanding. There was only ever one name to top this list.





Welcome to the Cambridge Power100

As we all know, Cambridge University is a place of unmatched achievement and is brimming with clever, interesting people. Many, in fact probably most, choose not to enter into the game of climbing the University's social, intellectual and hierarchical ladders that would result in reaching the pages of this supplement.

In order to begin compiling this list we first had to determine what our definition of power was going to be. Power is influence, whether that is in Cambridge or internationally. Power is being in a position of responsibility that gets things done or changed. Power is knowledge and fame for what one either owns or controls.

It was important for us when compiling this list not to confuse power with success. Everyone at this University has achieved success; from those who worked in a factory all summer to save for college to those who were interns at Goldman Sachs. Less so with power. What determined our criteria for those who are the most powerful from those that aren't was only partly success, as one might hold a lot of potential or real power without necessarily using that power to success. Others could be successful in the field they have chosen without wielding any power at all.

Cambridge is unique amongst British universities in the links it has sought to create with national and international industries. The Judge Institute prides itself in being able to attract the biggest names and these are reflected in this list – whether that be Sandra Dawson or Lord Wilson, former head of the Civil Service.

We hope to have included a diverse range of people: from Alison Richard, the new Vice-Chancellor, to the Anti Capitalist Action group, and only claim to be crediting them with one quality: power. One of our priorities in determining the ranking was to acknowledge the relative power an individual may have over a small group in contrast to the diffused power another individual may have over a greater quantity of people.

Although we could not include every person of power, we have included justification of our choices, and some, although obvious choices, had to go in to avoid risking peculiarity. Whether it is because they hold remarkable power in the area that they claim to be powerful in or because they are unexpectedly powerful in a way they did not intend, everyone who made it inside these pages has 'made it' in many senses.

Congratulations to you all.

Daud Khan and Jo Hartley

Cambridge**Power100**

The Top Ten

2 Professor Alison Richard

The new University Vice-Chancellor and as such its Chief Executive running the University



on both the academic and administrative front. Bringing with her a remarkable reputation from her time in the United States as Provost of Yale University, Professor Richard will hope to work the same wonders on increasing minority admissions and tackling the university's financial issues as she did across the Atlantic. She was famous for left wing activities in her youth having on one occasion leaped on Prime Minister Harold Wilson's car. Her acceptance of top-up fees would suggest that she has cast aside her left wing affiliations but is keen to further bursaries to avoid any detrimental effect upon admissions. An anthropologist by profession, the new VC hopes to tackle head-on the present brain drain from Cambridge. Is she the saviour the university has been waiting for?

5 Lord Mustill

Retired Law Lord. The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mustill, QC, MA, LLD, and a founding member of Essex Court chambers is the Arthur Goodhart Visiting Professor in Legal Science at Cambridge University. He is also the honorary president of the Cambridge University Law Society.



6 Sandra Dawson

Director of the Judge Institute of Management. KPMG Professor of Management Studies Master of Sidney Sussex College. Non-Executive Director of: Barclays plc (from 2003); Cambridge Econometrics (from 1996); JPMorgan Fleming Claverhouse Investment Trust. Has been headed numerous public policy research groups and been intimately involved with work in the upper echelons of government.



7 Professor Stephen Hawking

Lucasian Professor of Mathematics. Stephen Hawking has worked on the basic laws which govern the universe. His early work showed that it was necessary to unify General Relativity with Quantum Theory. Famous for popularising physics with his international best-seller *A Brief History of Time*. Professor Hawking is one of the most recognisable physicists in the world and is the recipient of a plethora of awards, medals and prizes and is a Fellow of The Royal Society and a Member of the US Academy of Sciences. Despite his



disability he continues to combine family life and his research into theoretical physics together with an extensive programme of travel and public lectures.

3 Professor James Crawford

President of International Law Commission, Chairman of Law Faculty, leading public international lawyer. Most influential in establishing Cambridge's international law reputation, Professor Crawford is perhaps the biggest name in international law at present. His opinion is regularly sought by international tribunals and he regularly appears before the International Court of Justice.

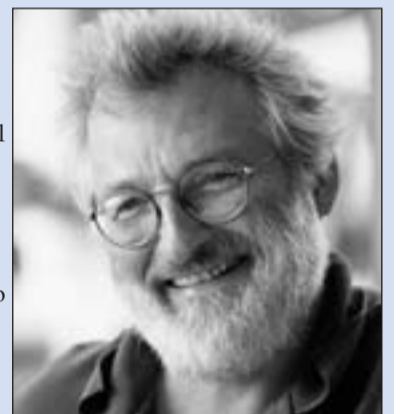


4 Lord Wilson of Dinton

Master of Emmanuel College, former Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Home Civil Service Lord Wilson retired from the civil service in August 2002. Lord Wilson held the post for 4 years prior to which he was Permanent Under-Secretary at the Home Office from 1994-98. Sits on the board of BSkyB.

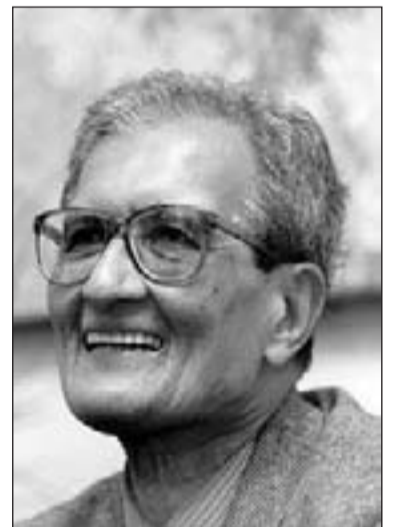
8 Sir John Sulston

Director Sanger Project. Made a Nobel Laureate of Medicine 2002. Sir John is of one of the university's most acclaimed scientists. Famous for his work with nematode worms for which he won his Nobel Prize but also hugely acclaimed for his groundbreaking work with the human genome project.



9 Professor A.K. Sen

Outgoing Master of Trinity and Winner of the Nobel Prize for Economics in 1998 for his work on human rights, poverty, and famine. Professor Sen's work on the causes of famine have shown that disastrous famines are not simply the consequence of nature, but are also avoidable economic and political catastrophes. One of the world's most recognisable economists, Professor Sen is most famous for the very human element he has brought to his area of expertise, having received awards in the early 1990's for his work on understanding and preventing World hunger. Worryingly for the university, Professor Sen is



the most significant brain to be leaving Cambridge for a more lucrative seat in the United States at Harvard University.

10 Tim Mead

Registrary, Number one administrative officer of the University. If the university administrative staff is made up of a plethora of cogs, Mr Mead is its largest and most influential.



/16/01/04/LISTINGS/

Welcome to *Varsity's* Listings pull-out. With our expert's top recommendations below, Listings is your essential weekly guide to what's on in Cambridge over the next seven days.

F I L M L I T M U S I C T H E A T R E V. A R T S



One of the year's most talked about recent US indies presents Maggie Gyllenhaal and James Spader in an unorthodox view of office romance and a stylized hyper reality. Late shows on at the Arts Picture House on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th at 11pm.



Jacqueline Wilson, children's author with more books in the BBC's Big Read than any other author. See her talk in the Ramsden Room, Catz, Thursday 22nd January. Talk starts at 7.30pm and there's free wine so erm, get there pronto.



Synths, Casio bleeps and some good ol' fun rockin' minus any Electroclash poncing around. New kids on the block, Bristol band Chikinki bring their messed-up Beta Band and Beck-inspired sonic sounds to the Boat Race on Tuesday 20th January. £6/£5 in advance.



The ADC lateshow next week (Wed-Sat, 11pm) features two of Chekhov's one-act vaudevilles, *The Proposal* and *The Bear*. The latter will be in English, but the former will be performed in Russian with English captions: nice.



Immaterial - Brancusi, Gabo, Moholy-Nagy on at Kettle's Yard until 14th March. An exhibition of three European sculptors' various aspirations to transcend the solid materials of sculpture making light, space, time and movement their media.

SWIPE FILMS

London-Based Movie Production Company Has Work Placements Available

Have you a passion for film and a go-getting personality with a "nothing is impossible" attitude?
If so, Swipe Films has work for you.

Swipe is the producer of Johnny Knoxville's new movie, *Grand Theft Parsons*, and was behind the forthcoming Golden Globe nominated film, *Osama*.

You will learn all aspects of script development, film production and distribution.

You must be prepared to work hard, learn fast and be entrepreneurial.

To apply for a work experience placement, send a one page CV, list 3 of the most recent films you went to see at the cinema and one paragraph explaining why you feel you have what it takes to work in the film business and setting out your film tastes.

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Asahi

Varsity is looking for new sub-editors, photographers and columnists. Email editor@varsity.co.uk for details

FILM

Sunday
Christ's Films:
City of God (Cidade de Deus).
Christs College, New Court Theatre. 7:30pm, 10:30pm. £2.

St John's Films:
Pirates of the Carribean - with Orlando Bloom & Johnny Depp.
St. John's College, Fisher Building.
7pm, 10pm. £2.

Tuesday
Central European Film Club:
The Eel (1997) by Shohei Imamura. Japanese with English subtitles.
Caius College, Bateman Auditorium. 8pm.

Thursday
Christ's Films:
Stand By Me.
Christs College, New Court Theatre. 10pm. £2.

St John's Films:
Confidence - D.Hoffman as crime-boss entangled in cons and counter-cons. St. John's College, Fisher Building.
9pm. £2.

MISC

Monday
Buddhist Meditation:
Samatha Trust,
Thai breath meditation.
rmh1001@cam.ac.uk.
www.samatha.org
Pembroke College, Seminar Room, N 7. 7:30pm.

Friday
Clare Hall:
Art Exhibition by Douglas Jeal.
All welcome.
Clare Hall.

Culanu:
Jewish Cambridge's unmissable weekly social...eat, drink and be merry!
The Culanu Centre, 33a Bridge St, between Oxfam and The Galleria. 10pm.

Saturday
Clare Hall:
Art Exhibition by Douglas Jeal.
All welcome. Clare Hall.

Sunday
CASI (Cambridge Solidarity with Iraq):
Letter-writing, asking for cancellation of Iraqi debt.
Queens' College, Armitage Room. 1pm.

Clare Hall:
Art Exhibition by Douglas Jeal.
All welcome.
Clare Hall.

The Pembroke College
Winnie-the-Pooh Society:
Where minutes are taken and hours are lost.
Jesus College, Room 2,
Staircase 2, Chapel Court. 4pm.

Tuesday
Clare Hall:
Art Exhibition by Douglas Jeal.
All welcome.
Clare Hall.

C.U. Tai Chi Chuan Society:
Tai Chi Chuan: Hand Form; Self-defence; Pushing-hands; Weapons; Nei Kung .
Clare College, Bythe Room. 7pm. £2/3.

C.U. Tai Chi Chuan Society:
Chi Kung: Breathing exercises for relaxation, health and fitness. New Hall, Long Room. 2pm. £2/3.

Kick Bo:
Non-contact aerobics using the dynamic kicking and punching moves of Martial-Arts. New Hall, Long Room. 5:30pm. £2.

Wednesday
Clare Hall:
Art Exhibition by Douglas Jeal.
All welcome.
Clare Hall.

Thursday
Clare Hall:
Art Exhibition by Douglas Jeal.
All welcome.
Clare Hall.

CU Ballet Club:
Beginners ballet, all welcome! (1hr). Queens' College, Bowett Room. 6pm. £1.

C.U. Tai Chi Chuan Society:
Tai Chi Chuan: Hand-form; Self-defence; Pushing-hands; Weapons; Nei Kung.
Fitzwilliam College, Reddaway Room. 7pm. £2/3.

Kick Bo:
Non-contact aerobics using the dynamic kicking and punching moves of Martial-Arts.
Christs College, New Court Theatre. 6pm. £2.

MUSIC

Friday
Boogie Wonderland:
80?s, 90?s & Naughties Disco Extravaganza. The Junction. 10pm. £4.50/£6.50.

Clare Ents:
Commix (Good Looking Records) jazzy dnb, support: Pi & Alien. Clare College, Cellars. 9pm. £4.

Kettle's Yard:
Lunch time concert, lasting approx 40 mins. Kettle's Yard. 1:10pm.

Queens' Ents:
CHRONIC! A night of blazing hip hop!. Queens' College, Fitzpatrick Hall. 9pm. £4.

Saturday
GCMS:
Jo Richardson (viola), Ben Plowman (piano): J.S. Bach, Hindemith, Telemann.
Caius College, Bateman auditorium. 1:10pm.

Good Times:
House music. With resident DJs James Barrie, Patrick Cavaliere .
The Junction. 10pm. £6/£8.

**Preview Party at La Raza
from eight on Monday the 19th**

Mays 12 invite submissions for poetry, prose, and documentary photos.
Copies sent to most agents and publishers across the country.
Deadline 23rd January. Max. 5000 words.
E-mail to mays@varsity.co.uk

decisions, decisions.

i want to help people, i want to help myself.
i want to help people, i want to help myself.
i want to help people, i want to help myself.
i want to help people, i want to help myself.

this week get both sides of the picture, find out the truth about the **civil service** and **investment banking**.

Monday 19th Jan
the story. the options - **Civil Service**
For-More-Than-Profit Stream
The Civil Service talk about their opportunities and a career in their field. In particular they'll highlight their internships on Ethnic Minority Summer Development Programme and Disability Summer Placement Scheme. Open to all students

Thursday 22nd Jan
getting in - applications.
- **Deutsche Bank**
Banking & Finance Stream
Trying to get a job at the moment or want to know more about investment banking? This interactive event is about how to do well in job applications, and talks about what a career in banking entails.

All events are free to members, start at 6.30pm at Sidney Sussex, and include wine and dinner.
Book your place online www.cambridgefutures.com

Membership is **free** in lent until the end of second week. Sign up online.

www.cambridgefutures.com

THEATRE

Friday
ETG:
MUCH ADO ABOUT
NOTHING - Shakepearean
comedy, fresh from a
European tour.
ADC Theatre. 7:45pm. £5 -
£7.50.

Gomito Productions:
THE LIFE OF DEATH - the
Horsemen of the Apocalypse
meet This is you Life.
ADC Theatre. 11pm. £4.

Saturday
ETG:
MUCH ADO ABOUT
NOTHING - Shakepearean
comedy, fresh from a
European tour.
ADC Theatre. 2:30pm,
7:45pm. £5 - £7.50.

Prometheus Unbound in
association with the ADC:
Bloody Poetry by Howard
Brenton. ADC Theatre, .
10:30pm. £4.

Tuesday
CU Contemporary Dance
Workshop:
OVER THE EDGE - cutting
edge contemporary dance.
ADC Theatre. 7:45pm. £5 -
£7.50.

CU Contemporary Dance
Workshop:
OVER THE EDGE - scintil-
lating new contemporary
dance.
ADC Theatre. 7:45pm.
£5/£6.50/£7.50.

CUJO:
LATE NIGHT JAZZ - CUJO
for one night only.
ADC Theatre. 11pm. £3.

LEBENStraum Theatre
Company:
THE CHILD-KILLER:
Terrifying true story fresh
from the Fringe. The
Playroom. 7pm. £5.50 (£4).

Wednesday
CU Contemporary Dance
Workshop:
OVER THE EDGE - cutting
edge contemporary dance.
ADC Theatre. 7:45pm. £5 -
£7.50.

CU Slavonic Society:
THE BEAR / THE PROPOS-
AL - double bill of Chekhov
farces.
ADC Theatre. 11pm. £3 - £4.

LEBENStraum Theatre
Company:
THE CHILD-KILLER:
Terrifying true story fresh
from the Fringe. The
Playroom. 7pm. £5.50 (£4).

Slavonic Society:
'The Proposal' and 'The Bear'
by Anton Chekhov.
ADC Theatre, .
11pm. £3/4.
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ADC Theatre. 7:45pm. £5 -
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CU Slavonic Society:
THE BEAR / THE PROPOSAL
- double bill of Chekhov farces.
ADC Theatre. 11pm. £3 - £4.

GODS and Madhouse:
Oscar Wilde's 'Lady
Windermere's Fan'.
Churchill College, Wolfson
Hall. 8pm. £3/4.

LEBENStraum Theatre
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THE CHILD-KILLER:
Terrifying true story fresh
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7pm. £5.50 (£4).

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by Anton Chekhov.
ADC Theatre, .
11pm. £3/4.



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Confidence,15

Thursday 22nd January- 9pm

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TALK

Monday
ANIMALS, PEOPLE AND
THE ENVIRONMENT:
THE HUMAN COST OF ANI-
MAL EXPERIMENTS.
Speaker: KATHY
ARCHIBALD.
The Bath House, Gwydir
Street, Cambridge, All
Welcome. For more info phone
Joan 01223 311828.
8pm. £ 2.

Tuesday
Churchill College:
Mr. Watanabe, Chairman of
JETRO, will talk about
Japanese economy.
Moller Centre Lecture Theatre,
Churchill College site, Storeys
Way, Cambridge.
5pm.

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Looking for a self-disciplined and motivated individual with good local knowledge to finish setting up and to administer a new Cambridge web forum.

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This job is perfect for a student or anyone with a bit of free time. Payment will be based on a share of the site's advertising income.

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MUSIC

Newnham Ents:
MYSTERY JETS + support. Great
London-based bands. FREE
ENTRY. Newnham College, Bar.
8:30pm.

Queens' Ents:
GOLD! Return to the 80s!.
Queens' College, Fitzpatrick Hall.
9pm. £4.

Sunday
GCMS:
Kevin Weaver: exciting violin
music. Caius College, Bateman
auditorium. 8:30pm.

Selwyn College Orchestra and
Chapel Choir. Selwyn College,
The Hall. 8:30pm. £8 full/£6
Friends of the UL/£4
SCMS/£2.50 (students/SCMS).

Wednesday
Bad Timing:
Ergo Phizmiz. Surreal samples,
wrong Aphex covers, mangled
folk,etc. +UM+Man From
Uranus. www.bad-timing.co.uk.
Portland Arms, Mitcham's
Corner. 8:30pm. £3.00.

Trinity College Music Society:
Oliver Lallemand and Thomas
Hewitt-Jones improvise Jazz
Piano. Trinity College, The Frazer
Room. 8pm. £4, £2 concessions, £1
TCMS members.

Thursday
Delirious?:
A pile-up of fat rock beats, caustic
guitars and 100 ft high choruses.
The Junction. 7pm. £11/£10.

REDSHIFT:
Feat: DJ FORMAT, DONOVAN
'BAD BOY' SMITH and more -
MASSIVE!. Fitzwilliam College,
CUSU ID Required. 9pm. £7/9.

Retro Electro:
classica and contemporary elec-
tronica, sixties, new wave and
synthpop. Kambar, Wheeler
Street. 9:25pm. £3.

Friday
Boogie Wonderland:
80?s, 90?s & Naughties Disco
Extravaganza.
The Junction. 10pm. £4.50/£6.50.

Britten Sinfonia:
Carole Cerasi (harpsichord) and
Kate Hill (flute) - Telemann, JS
and CPE Bach. West Road
Concert Hall. 8pm. £10 - 23. £3
student standbys.

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SMORGASBORD

Auditions
Mon 19th January
Room I4 Corpus 4 - 9pm

Applications
for
Directors
(one of 6, of a 20 min play)
Technical Director
Lighting Director
Sound Director

enquiries to ks370 or amg52

HUIS CLOS,
By Jean-Paul Sartre
"Hell is... other people"
Lady Margaret Players: Late
Show Corpus Playroom, Week 6
AUDITIONS for TWO MALE and
TWO FEMALE parts
Saturday, 17th January, 2-6pm,
Sunday, 18th January, 2-6pm
St. John's College, School of
Pythagoras
Info: Sebastian (gsr22)

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For more information or to arrange an
audition



Pembroke Players Announce Auditions For:

Mystery Plays
Week 3, Pembroke Wren Chapel,
Mainshow
Email sjmt2 to arrange audition
time

Here Kitty (male roles only)
Week 5, ADC Theatre Lateshow
6-8pm, Fri 16th Pembroke N7
2-4pm, Sat 17th, Pembroke
Supervision Room 0
Email Tom (tip30)

The Real Thing
Week 7, New Cellers Mainshow
2-4pm, Sat 16th Pembroke, Room
S15
2-4pm, Sun 17th Pembroke, Room S15

Contact Cat (cum21)
Producer also required



BATS Announce Ausitions For;

Week 5 Mainshow
Kenneth Lonergan's 'This is our youth'
Sat 17th 2-6, Erasmus Room, Queens'
Sun 18th, 2-6, Fitzpatrick Stage, Queens'
For details contact jfab3, 07979442279
To be performed in American accents

Week 5 Lateshow
Conan Doyle's 'Sherlock Holmes and the
speckled band'
Sat 17th, 2-5 Fitzpatrick Stage, Queens'
Sun 18th, 2-5, Old Kitchens, Queens'
For details contact jps50

Week 7 Mainshow
Shakespeare's 'Henry V'
Sat 17th, Erasmus Room, Queens', 10-2
Sun 18th, Erasmus Room, Queens, 12-4
For details contact sre25

Week 7 Lateshow
Nietzsche Inspired New Writing,
'How to philosophize with a hammer'
Sat 17th & Sun 18th, 12-4, Angevin Room,
Queens'
For details contact sj247

Bright Faces Stage Compnay
Vancouver Tour, September 2004
Lady Windermere's Fan
by Oscar Wilde
Is opening Applications for
Tour Manager
Producer/ Publicist
Sound/ Music Director/ SX
LD/ LX
(to go on tour)
Costume Designer
Set Designer
(to be based in Cambridge)
Contact ja301

Bright Faces Stage Compnay
Vancouver Tour, September 2004
Announces Auditions For:
Lady Windermere's Fan
by Oscar Wilde
Friday 16th January, 10-5pm
Saturday 17th January, 10-5pm
Sunday 18th January, 10-5pm

New Court Gallery,
Christ's College
Contact ja301 for more info

THE FLETCHER PLAYERS

announce auditions for

A MAP OF THE WORLD
by DAVID HARE

A week 5 mainshow at the Corpus Christi
College Playroom (17th-21st January)

Set against the exotic decaying grandeur of
India, a naive American film
actress unwittingly becomes the center of
an international incident as a
vast array of multi-national diplomats,
journalists, and writers swirl
around the delegates to a UNESCO confer-
ence on world poverty. A Map of the
World is a scintillating comedy about the
West and its problematic
relationship to the Third World. There are
four parts still available.

We specifically require one male to play an
INDIAN character and one male
to play an AFRICAN character

Auditions will be held on
Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th
from 4-7pm in Room
I4, Corpus Christi College



**Downing
Dramatic Society**
is pleased to
announce audi-
tions for an week 8
production of

THE BALCONY

By Jean Genet

to be staged at the Corpus
Playroom.

Auditions will be held in the
Music Room at Downing
College on Saturday 17th
January, from 3-6pm and on
Sunday 18th January from 2-6pm

For further information please
contact Ross (rem45@cam.ac.uk)

Do you fancy a road trip
round the States?



announces auditions for the
September 2004 tour of 'As You
Like It'.

Saturday 17th, 10-1,
Chetwynd Room, KINGS
Sunday 18th, 10-1,
Munby Room, KINGS

CAST also invites applications for
the following posts: deadline 23rd
January.
STAGE MANAGER
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
LIGHTING DIRECTOR
SOUND DESIGNER

For more info contact the Tour
Manager, Christina on cje35



Invites applications for
Assistant Director

Company Manager / Publicist
Designer / Technical Director

for their National Tour.
For further information, ot to apply,
please contact Martin (mib22)



CADS announces
Auditions for WEEK 6 Production
of Shakespeare's
Julius Caesar

Saturday 17th January 11.30 - 3.30pm
Room 4/48, Christ's
Sunday 18th January 12 - 6pm
Room 4/48, Christ's
email Ali Nunn - adn25 for details



CADS announces
Radio Play Auditions
Including:
Kyd's THE SPANISH TRAGEDY
& Shakespeare's THE TEMPEST
Sat 17th Jan 3.30pm - 6pm
Room 4/48, Christ's
Sat 18th Jan 7 - 10pm
New Court Gallery, Christ's
Mon 19th Jan 7-10pm
New Court Gallery, Christ's
Contact Ali (adn25) for details

The Marlowe Society

THE GOLDEN ASS: or, The Curious Man
by Peter Oswald
The May Week Production in Sidney
Sussex Gardens

AUDITIONS
Sat 17th 2-5pm Chetwynd room, Kings
Sun 18th 2-5pm Munby room, Kings
Please contact Amir ab490 for more infor-
mation

Twelfth Night
Cambridge Arts Theatre, 2nd - 6th March
2004

AUDITIONS for the parts of Fabian and
Valentine by appointment
Contact Rachel Briscoe rgb30 to arrange a
time

APPLICATIONS for the posts of
Musical director
Assistant lighting designer
LX
Assistant stage manager
Costume assistant
Written applications should be placed in
the Marlowe pigeon hole in the ADC
or emailed to Katherine Dorrell kfd21 by
6pm on Wednesday 21st Jan

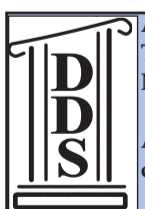


**Downing Dramtic
Society Presents**
Auditions For

**The Silence of The
Rams**
(A week 4 Comedy)

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th, 2-6pm
The Nursery, Queens'

Contact eaw28 or leb30
For more information



AUDITIONS FOR
THE The Brothers
Menachmus

A fun, innovative
comedy!

Room X16, Queens, Sat 17th
11am to 5pm
All welcome - inc. male, female,
black parts.
Contact Rahul, rs411, or Erica,
emj30, for details/questions

The Marlowe Society Announces
Auditions
For the May Week Dramatic
Spectacular
The Golden Ass By Peter Oswald
Saturday 17th Jan 2-5 King's
Chetwynd Room
Sunday 18th Jan 2-5, King's,
Munby Room

For details please contact
ab490@cam.ac.uk

Auditions announced for
CORPUS PLAYROOM
MAINSHOW

Week 2 Easter Term and subse-
quent London Run

The Country
by Martin Crimp

Female Actors Only
Pembroke N7
Sat 17th and Sun 18th
12pm-4:30pm

The virgin show for *Rocking
House Productions* from the team
that produced *Anna Weiss* n 2003.
Please contact:
Suresh Patel - spp31@cam.ac.uk
Dan Sheer -
das4949@yahoo.co.uk

Auditions announced for
THE TWO GENTLEMAN OF VERONA
opening: 29th June

The Arts Theatre
a city and university production

Actors should prepare a speech from any Shakespeare play (max. 1
minute) and if possible book an audition time - phone 355853 - or arrive
unannounced

Auditions (10.00-6.00) at The Arts Theatre Friday, 23rd January

To view more listings visit www.varsity.co.uk



11) Ben Brinded

CUSU President and former legendary Caus JCR President. The face of the University's student body for the outside world.

12) Professor King

Government's chief scientific advisor. Former Master of Downing College and is presently an honorary fellow of the college. He is the Chief Scientific Advisor to the Government and reports directly to the Secretary of State and the Prime Minister.

13) Richard Evans

Chairman of History Faculty Board, Nazi specialist.

14) Professor Lord Eatwell

Set up the Institute for Public Policy Research, which has now established itself as one of Britain's leading think-tanks. Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Director of Cambridge Endowment for Research in Finance. Professor of Financial Policy.



11 Ben Brinded

President of Queens' College. 1985-1992 served as economic adviser to Neil Kinnock, the leader of the British Labour Party. 1992-entered the House of Lords, and from 1993 to 1997 was Principal Opposition Spokesman on Treasury and Economic Affairs. 1988- set up the Institute for Public Policy Research. Chairman of the Board of Trustees. 1997-joined the Board of Securities and Futures Authority. Britain's securities markets regulator. member of the Board of Directors of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, with particular responsibility for the Royal Ballet. He is also chairman of the Commercial Radio Companies Association and the British Library. Taught economics at Cambridge since 1970, and became President of Queens' College, Cambridge in 1997. 1980-1999 Professor in the Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research, New York. Visiting Professor at Columbia University, New York, the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and the University of Amsterdam.

15) Tim Gowers

Fields Medalist (maths prize

awarded every 5 years). Tipped as next Master of Trinity.

16) Jack Beatson

Chairman of Law Faculty, High Court Judge. The Rausball Professor in the Law Faculty. The top Professor in the Faculty.



15 Tim Gowers

17) Dr Forsyth

Chairman of Board of Scrutiny ensures accountability of University Council to Regent House.

18) Kevin Roberts

CEO Saatchi & Saatchi Worldwide, as our current CEO in Residence at the Judge Institute of Management.

19) John Daugman

Developer of Iris recognition software for security in banks and on ID cards. Johann Bernoulli Professor of maths.

20) Quentin Skinner

World expert in political thought. Taught President of Italy about Machiavelli.

21) Simon Blackburn

Populariser of philosophy. Wrote the book *Think*.

22) Professor Dashwood

University Lecturer, Renowned Expert on EU and EU Constitution.



21 Simon Blackburn

23) Chris Bayly

Most influential historian of British Empire.

24) Professor Brading

Greatest historian of Latin America, awarded the Aztec eagle

- highest award granted to a foreign citizen by Mexican government.

25) Paul Lewis

Won a landslide victory in the Students' Union presidential elections in summer 2002. Prior to that, he shot to political power at King's, becoming King's JCR president by the end of his first term. Ex-interviews editor for *Varsity*. Brought about Thursday's at Coco and Diablo nightclub ents. Got the university governing council to change their policy and express concern for top-up fees in 2002.

26) Professor Josephson

Nobel prize for Physics in 1973.

27) Professor Lauterpacht

Emeritus Director of the Lauterpacht Research Centre for International Law and Honorary Professor of International Law.

28) Dame Judith Mayhew

Provost of Kings.



25 Paul Lewis

29) Professor Baker

Fields Medalist.

30) Professor Thompson

Fields Medalist.

31) Lord Sainsbury

Architect of the Monkey Labs and the man behind Alec Broers. Will he retain the same influence?

32) Christopher Andrew

Reportedly found the '5th man.' M15 spying links.

33) Oly Duff

Ex *Varsity* editor and ex *TCS* editor.

34) Will Gallagher

Michaelmas 2003 Union President, ex CUCA President. Involved with C-Change' conservative think tank. Ex president Union Society. He is a youth executive of 'Policy Exchange,' a think tank. He is notoriously fickle about his degree though; in three years he has moved from studying law to SPS to management.

35) Martin Rees

Professor of Astronomy and Cosmology and, from 2004, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Astronomer Royal. Has been awarded the following: Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society, the Balzan International Prize, the Bruce Medal of the



28 Dame Judith Mayhew

Astronomical Society of the Pacific, the Heineman Prize for Astrophysics (AAS/AIP), the Bower Award for Science of the Franklin Institute, the Cosmology Prize of the Peter Gruber Foundation and the Einstein Award of the World Cultural Council. Author/co-author of nearly 500 research papers, mainly on astrophysics and cosmology, as well as seven books (five for general readership).

36) Tom Ebbutt

Current *Varsity* Editor. The man behind the campaign to save Gardies.

37) Sam Gallagher

Varsity Business Manager. Former President of the Asparagus club.

38) Dave Maher

CUSU business manager.

39) Timothy Winter

Sheikh Zayed Lecturer in Islamic Studies. The Faculty's first ever lecturer in Islam, also the Deputy Muslim Chaplain to the University,



36 Tom Ebbutt

recently won the Pilkington Teaching Prize. Has pioneered the teaching of Islam within the University and regularly appears on radio and television to explain the real teachings of Islam against the current background of hostile ignorance of it in the world.

40) Sir James Mirrlees

Emeritus Professor. Nobel Laureate.

41) Tim Hunt

Nobel Prize for Medicine 2001.

42) Professor Hopper

Head of laboratory for Communications Engineering

43) Keith Collantine

CUSU services officer.

44) Dr Zimmer

Director, Public Health Genetics Unit.

45) Professor Welland

Head of Institutte of Nano-Tech, Head of IRC.

46) David Livesey

Head of MIT Institute.

47) Geoffrey Skelsy

Assistant to Vice Chancellor.



43 Keith Collantine

48) Dr Franklin

Chairman of *Varsity* Board.

49) Suzi Baker

Head of University Press Office.

50) Stephen Cleobury

Organist and Director of Music at King's college, conductor of orchestra at Cambridge University Musical Society (CUMS), Chief conductor of BBC singers.

51) Aaron Klug

Won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1982.

52) Asim Mumtaz

Cambridge Entrpreneur of the year 2003. Asim won first prize in the University Entrepreneurs competition with an award of £50,000 which he will use to set up Cambridge Solar Electronics. This applies the latest technologies to solar energy applications to produce cost effective and reliable solar products for developing countries.

53) Tim Moreton

Varsity Online Editor. Joint editorial responsibility.

54) Professor Hewish

Nobel Prize for physics 1974.

55) Professor Amaratunga

Leads the Cambridge Solar Electronics Team.

56) Edward Craig

Knightbridge Professor of Philosophy. Fellow of the British Academy. General Editor of the 10-volume Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy, now the leading encyclopedia of philosophy in English.

57) Jeremiah Ostriker

AstroPhysicist, Awarded the National Medal of Science by Bill Clinton in 2000

58) Professor Newland

Former Head of Engineering Department

59) Brian Little

Tipped to be a future Fleet Street editor.

60) Katy Long

Former editor of *Varsity*, KCSU Governing Body Representative.



64 Laura-Jane Foley

61) Reggie Vettasseri

Next co-editor of *Varsity*. Presently *Varsity* Chief News Editor. Senior Officer at Union – smoked spliff with Howard Marks in Union Chamber, Director of Schools Debating Competition.

62) Edward Cumming

Ex-chairman of CUCA (Cambridge University Conservative Association). Ex-ents officer at the Union and ex-Union president. Student representative for VOTE 2004, a lobby group pushing for a referendum on the European Constitution.

63) James Osborne

Organised first ever Cambridge University Ball with Frank Walding. Arranger of the Fashion Show in Lent 2003, James has appeared in *The Guardian* as a Bright Young Thing. He arranges charity events and is rumoured to be a self-made millionaire through the sale of freezer meals.

64) Laura-Jane Foley

Next co- editor of *Varsity*. Former Union under secretary. Captained ‘University Challenge’ team.

Cambridge**Power100**
55-100

Former news and visual arts editor at *Varsity*. To be featured on ‘Faking It’, being turned from chorister to rock chick.

65) Jessica Childs

Academic Affairs Officer CUSU. Women’s Officer on KCSU. Raised



65 Jessica Childs

considerable funds for Camfed (charity furthering girls’ education in Africa).

66) Wes Streeting

CUSU Higher Education Officer, tipped to be next CUSU President.

67) Suzie Butler

Access Officer.

68) Jo Read

CUSU Women’s Officer.

69) Luke Layfield

Former editor of both *Varsity* and *TCS*, Luke and co-editor Oly Duff were the first in history to edit both Cambridge papers successively. During his time as editor of *Varsity* Luke interviewed Ariel Sharon. Resigned from *TCS* to spend more time with his girlfriend.

70) Stephen Parkinson

President of the Union.

71)Eve Williams

Former *TCS* editor. Director of *TCS*.

72) Fergus Gladstone



73 Michael Nabarro

Ents Guru. Co promoter of ‘Rum Boogie’ and ‘Sundaynight Life’.

73)Michael Nabarro

ADC Business Manager. Ex ADC President.

74) Nayemul Chowdhury

Double first in economics for both part I & part IIA. Goldman Sachs Global Leader, attended their exclusive programme in New York. Signed to Goldman Sachs, Investment Banking division.

75)Alan Mendoza

Arranged for Ted Heath, the French Ambassador, and Henry Kissenger to attend Disraelian Society of which he is President. This is a privately organised clique who run right-wing dinner parties. Ex-chairman of CUCA.

76) Fiona Brenner

Overtured King’s Colleges’ decision to expel the ‘Anti Capitalist Action Four’ and halted their rustication.

77) Caleb Ward

World Debating Champion. Director of Debating. Achieved starred first in Geography tripos.

78) Frank Walding

Promoter of ‘Fresh as Snow’ and ‘Funky Monkey’. Looks set take



74 Nayemul Chowdhury

over in Cambridge ents when Fergus Gladstone leaves next year. Former Andersen scholar, in the year of their monumental collapse.

79) Wu-Meng Tan

Winner of World Debating Championships. Ranked best Speaker in the World. Ex Union President.

80) Sarah Solemani

Lead roles in two West End productions. Played the young Mrs Robinson in *The Graduate* and the lead in *Mrs Brown*. Writes the *Spring Review*. Role as ‘Ayesha’ in Royal National Theatre production of ‘Sanctuary.’ On TV was guest lead as ‘Gillian Jennings’ in BBC’s *Red Cap*.

81) Pete Morle-Fletcher

Pitt Club President.

82) Kate Merriam

ADC President, involved with over 25 ADC performances.

83) Ashley Grote

Organ scholar at King’s college. Heavily involved with Cambridge University Musical Society.

84) Rowland Moseley

Academic scholar at King’s College. Received a starred first. Awarded the Donald Wort Prize from Music



75 Alan Mendoza

Faculty for greatest proficiency in IA Music. Principal Composer of National Youth Orchestra. His Orchestral work premiered in Paris in 2002 and his chamber work premiered at the Royal Institution in July 2002. Was broadcast on BBC Radio 3 later in the same year.

85) Russ Abel

Hawks president. Co-promoter of ‘Rumboogie’.

86) Tom Stammers

Co- editor of *TCS*.

87) Tim Stanley

Cambridge University Labour Association President.

88) Tom James

Rowed for University boat team aged 18 in first year. Presently taking a year out in order to row in the Athens Olympics.

89) Ben Ramm

Leader of Cambridge Liberal Democrat Student Party.

90) Helen Oyeyemi



76 Fiona Brenner

Cambridge’s latest literary wunderkid. Has been given a £400,000 advance by Bloomsbury for her first novel.

91) Dan Mayer

Member of SWSS (socialist worker student society) and Cambridge’s most prominenet protest organiser. Involved with CamSaw, organised

an occupation of Senate House and the Le-pen and Nick-Griffin protests at the Union.

92) Anti Capitalist Action 4;

Craig McDowell, Matt MacDonald, Morwenna Mckecknee, Ricardo Vetalez.

Famously made King’s look illiberal last Michaelmas term when the group were rusticated by the college over a squat they had allegedly trashed. They successfully overturned Kings’ decision to send the students down and caused an about turn in the upper echelons of the college.

93) Tom Tilley

Footlights Review Writer Writer of the *Spring Review* and Christmas pantomime at Footlights, Performed at the comedy store gong show several times, Appeared on ITV’s take the mic stand up show. Going to MIT, Princeton, Cornell next year as part of an American college comedy tour organised by a U.S comedy troupe. Fined £150 in his first May week for streaking Trinity



93 Tom Tilley

great court.

94)Edward Riches

Footlights President

95) Simon Radford

Former President of Lib Dems. , Union Hack, An Old Etonian.

96) Ronojoy Dam

Socialite, A-lister of the future, former *Varsity Arts* editor and next *Varsity Fashion* Editor.

97) Jamie Parker

Double blue and son of former England Cricket international. Described as one of the University’s most naturally talented sportsmen.

98) James Livingston

Rowed against his twin brother in last years boat race.

99) Martin Hemming and Will Mott

Editors of the *Ordinary*. Have met Paul Lewis. Three times.

100) Kirsten Barker

Ospreys President

When the money dries up... hit Mill Rd!

So you have worn a hole in your pocket?
But that's never stopped us shopping!
Head to Mill Road for some Post -Xmas bargains!



Here are some of the best in
Cambridge...

Oxfam
28, Sidney St

Cancer Research UK
42, Regent St

Oxfam
34-35, Bridge St

Sue Ryder
14a, Mill Rd

RSPCA
188, Mill Rd

Salvation Army
44a, Mill Rd

Cats Protection
172, Mill Rd

British Red Cross
26, Burleigh St

The Hospice Shop
30, Regent St

British Red Cross
101, Glisson Rd

Save The Children
21, Magdalene St

British Heart Foundation
10, Burleigh St

East Anglia's Children's Hospices
174, Mill Rd



Our final page is dedicated to the one
we love...Tom Walters. You are our
one and only and no one can take you
away from us! Mwah!

Q&A

Style talks to Simon
Fujiwara, student at
Magdelene and
Design Producer for
The Magic Flute at
the ADC



How did you get involved in this project?

It began in June when I was asked by the director Max to be involved. I met the rest of the team and saw that this was going to be something special, everyone was very engaged and full of energy. It's not everyday a student body takes on *The Magic Flute*! I have also been keen to design for opera for a long time.

How has being an architecture student affected the design process?

Some of the questions I have asked myself have been very architectural and others not. Architecture needs to answer more questions about the way we live. Opera design is very sensual it grows out of music, there is an immediacy to designing music as a space or colour that is less of an intellectual game.

What has been the most interesting part of designing?

Getting the materials. It is often very laborious and time consuming, but the range of characters you meet! Can you imagine what being a dealer in chinese horse hair all your life must do to you?

What inspires you?

Matthew Barney, Wagner, Peter Doig, John Galliano, Bill Viola, the sausage maker at Pinner Farm, McQueen, various skips, Amanda my costumes saviour, Jean Cocteau and taxidermy (all varieties).

Is this what we can expect, then!??

Yes and no. designing this has been an ongoing dialogue between Max, George (Musical director) and I, things change constantly, but you can be sure of one thing: an evening of spectacle and beautiful, beautiful music!

The Magic Flute is on at the ADC from the 27th to the 31st of January.
Box office: 01223 503333



Want to escape? Go here

Varsity's guide to places that other newspapers don't know exist

1. Pelee Island, Canada



With a knowledge of lakes limited to piddly duck ponds and filled-in gravel pits, any lake which you can't see the other side of appears as some kind of strange landlocked sea.

The Great Lakes truly are great - no shopping trolleys or mangy ducks here.

Pelee island is in Lake Erie. Erie's more manageable size means that it reaches a good temperature in the summer for swimming, whilst in winter it can freeze over. A village store, winery, bar - every need is catered for. Buy fresh worms for fishing, rent out tandems for hilarious cycling fun, or enjoy one of the beaches.

It's sandy, it's serene, take your bucket and spade and you can pretend you're at the sea side.

James Pallister

2. Cozumel, Mexico

If you're looking for a whirlwind city break with plenty of shopping, sophisticated culture and luxurious hotels, Cozumel is not the place to go. It's a relaxed little island off the coast of Mexico near to Playa del Carmen, and at around 20 miles long it is the largest off-shore Mexican land mass, yet maintains a definite Caribbean island feeling.

There's something unmistakable

about that scorching sun, those azure blue skies stretching out above you, the hot white sands and the smell of sea salt that clings to the skin. Cozumel has become famous for its amazing coral reef formations and is a favourite with divers, but it also offers the most beautiful beaches I have ever seen, with miles of uninterrupted white powder sand, palm trees and perfectly clear turquoise waters.

Thankfully the island will never

become an enormous tourist hub due to its lack of potable water and efforts to preserve its delicate ecosystem, but for those lucky enough to spend some time there, there is plenty to discover beyond the façade offered to tourists. From the magic of the Mayan ruins scattered in the tropical forests, to the incredible marine life in those deep blue waters, Cozumel has something for nearly everyone.

Danae Hadrill-Baratt

3. Kongjian, Laos/Thailand



Asia is a vast and heterogeneous continent; if you visit the packed metropolises of Bangkok or Tokyo, you won't experience the westernless village life, if you spend a week by the beach, you won't be able to sample the mountain air.

There's no way to escape the traveller's curiosity without putting some real effort in, but there are ways of gaining an inner Asian perspective, and that's through comparing life along the border lines, and why not in a hidden sparkle on a gem of civilised-yet-untrodden nature in the Kongjian provide of Thailand?

The green Moon river flows into the yellow Makong, and outdoor four-poster beds of a luxurious but laughably cheap hotel resort provide a view over the rivers and onto the Laos border mountains. These mountains completely obliterate the man-made villages which lie amongst the trees with no electricity, but plenty of Laos whiskey, moulting chickens and smells of fried, salty river fish.

You can enjoy Thai massage, Laos soup, hotel luxury, village poverty, river kayaking, golf, steamboats, rowing, dirt-road and mountain biking, all on a small bit of land and water, dividing the opulent Thailand and primitive Laos, in comparison.

6. Arisaig, Scotland



Arisaig is an ideal base for hill walking, or cruising expeditions to explore the nearby islands. There are numerous tracks and paths for walkers of all abilities throughout the surrounding countryside and seashores.

The remains of a vitrified fort can be found nearby. Red deer, golden eagles or seals can sometimes be seen along the rugged coastline.

There are daily sailings to the small isles of Eigg and Muck from Arisaig, with frequent sightings of whales, porpoises, and dolphins.

For golf enthusiasts, arguably the most scenic nine hole course in Britain is to be found at Traigh.

Alasdair Ross

4. Tendaba Camp, The Gambia



The jetty looks set to fall apart with your first step onto it and the resident crocodile can come as a surprise as you look into its pen on your way back to your room at night. The concept of health and safety may never have reached The Tendaba Camp, but that's not surprising.

With every kilometre the bus travels the potholes seem to grow bigger until the bus is driving on the dirt to avoid the road, and then it takes a further 5km walk from the bus stop at Kwinella to your journey's end. But this bungalow-village needs such a journey in order to achieve the feeling of isolation it provides.

An evening watching the sun sink into the River Gambia, surrounded by little else but the pelicans fishing beneath the baobab tree as you dangle your legs over the edge of the jetty and sip Jul brew (Gambia's answer to own brand lager) is what escapism is all about; far away from the bustle of the capital and about as near to complete calm as you are ever likely to be.

Jenny Shaw

5. Ohrid, Macedonia

Head through the Vardar Valley from Skopje, and the beautiful green mountains are studded with man-made blemishes. Gostivar, Tetovo; litter-strewn concrete abominations, hideous car-buncles on a lovely new-found friend and an aspect on Macedonia's impoverished Albanian community.

South, though, lies Ohrid; its Unesco-listed old town tumbling down a steep hillside to meet a lake of the same name - a perfect marriage of man and nature. While popular with former Yugoslavs and

Macedonian-Australians, the rest of the world appears to have passed by historic Ohrid. Macedonia was barely affected by the post-Yugoslav conflict, yet its location at the heart of the turbulent Balkans fools many a tourist into steering clear. All the better for the rest of us.

The Cyrillic alphabet was devised here by the eponymous saint, and the town has been part of the Greek, Bulgarian, Ottoman and Serbian empires at various times, leading to eclectic culture and cuisine.

Strolling the winding lanes from church to church, swimming in the

wonderfully warm lake as the bells of Sveti Pantelejmon provide a resonant bassline to the muezzin's howling, gazing across to the blue mountains of Albania - such are the delights of Ohrid. In the evening, take the evening *korzo* (promenade), enjoyed by young and old alike, stopping for an amino-acid injection at the open air grills (mind the chillies - I nearly passed out) and party the night away with the effervescent and polyglot Macedonians. Don't miss this, the jewel of a much-maligned Balkan crown.

Andy MacDowall



Andy MacDowall

VARSlTY ARTS

Land of Nope and Glory

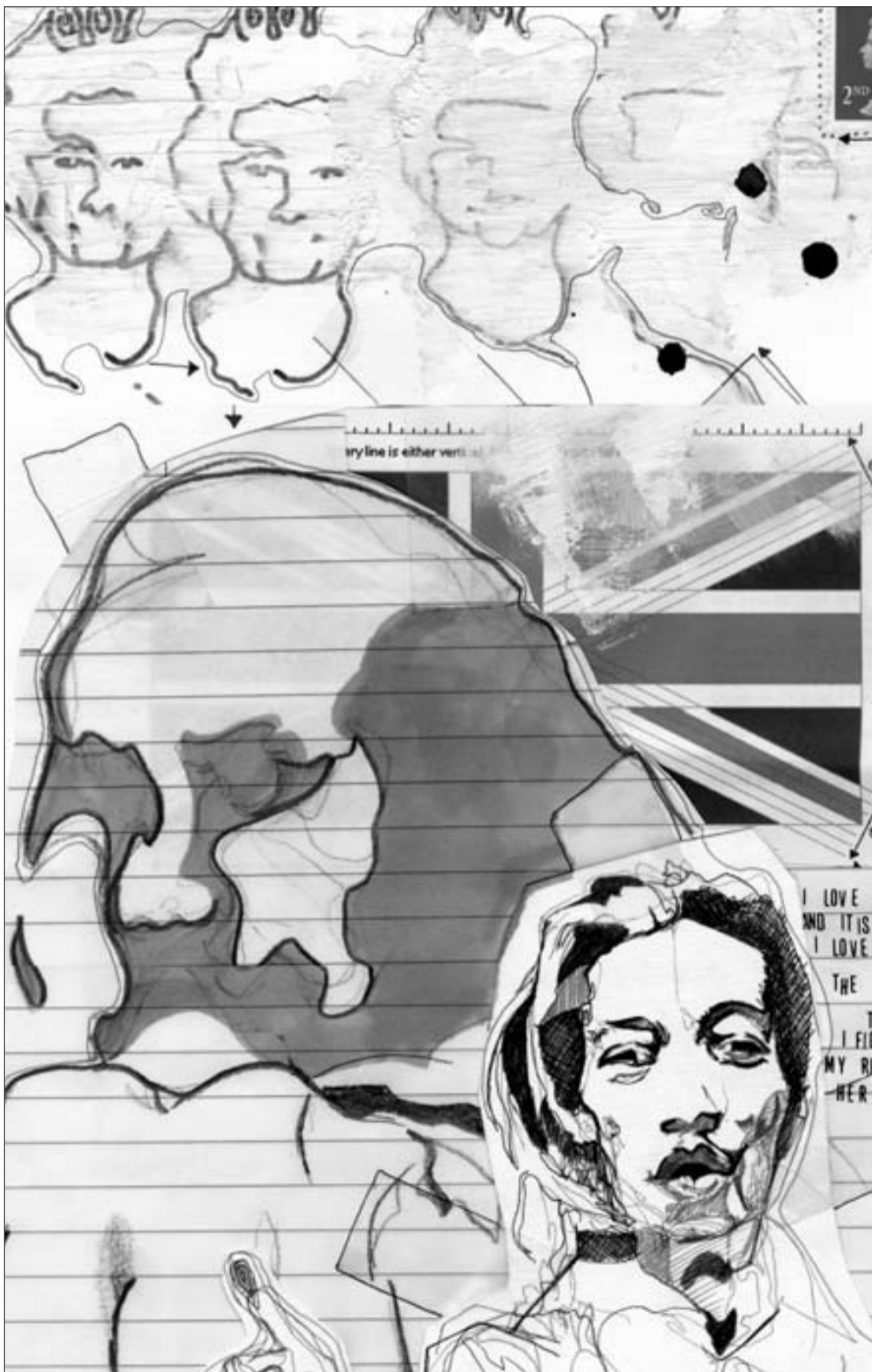
Ronojoy Dam and Andreas Wiseman look into the forward thinking of non-acceptance

*'And we give these awards meaning.
But we end up with no voice.'*

Thus spake Benjamin Zephaniah in his poem *Bought and Sold*, exposing what he sees as the compromise of artistic integrity and political autonomy in the acceptance of accolades awarded by the Establishment's annual awards system.

Last month's Whitehall leak of more than 300 names who have refused various Royal honours is particularly striking considering how many of those are fundamental figures in this country's artistic make-up over the last century. These names include British cultural icons such as David Bowie, Graham Greene, David Hockney and Francis Bacon. The large number of high profile artists refusing awards is testament to the gulf between the Establishment and these luminaries, which the government has previously refrained from publicizing.

Benjamin Zephaniah, in his own words, is 'an angry, uneducated, ex-hustler, rebellious Rastafarian' and one of the country's leading poets. The maverick Zephaniah, who has spent time in jail as well as being nominated for Cambridge and Oxford Fellowships, has always viewed himself as a spokesperson for the common man and his struggle against government injustice. Zephaniah's poetry has been consistently eager to represent the "wanderers and workers - the heroes of the street" and modern urban life. His shun of an OBE last November has been another shot in the arm for the Labour Government's Cool Britannia project, which he and others have distanced themselves from as a forced charade superficially giving the impression of being inclusive. Zephaniah's actions echo those of others in the past who have seen the acceptance of such honours as compromising themselves as artists. "The truth is I think OBEs compromise writers and poets, and laureates suddenly go soft," Zephaniah says, "I want to reach as many people as possible without compromising the content of my work... I do not write poems to win awards or to get



Lydia Wilson

Zephaniah views the Queen's birthday honours as emblematic of a history of slavery ultimately sanctioned by the monarchy however much has changed since then. Zephaniah's rebuttal, rather than solely harking on the negative legacy of the former British Empire, is that of a progressive and more concerned with the need for change. "I am not one of those who are obsessed with their roots," he asserts, "And I'm certainly not suffering from a crisis of identity; my obsession is about the future and the political rights of all people". As well as being engaged in a number of local community projects and a tireless campaigner for the rights of those wrongfully jailed, Zephaniah does much work for the state-run British Council, representing the Britain he cherishes: "It is about what happens in the streets of our country and not in the Palace or at Number Ten." Some however are prepared to undermine what they have previously stood firm against in their creative output.

The Rolling Stones are a case in point. The Stones were once counter-culture heroes for a generation, epitomizing youthful anti-establishment rebellion. In the song *Street Fighting Man*, Jagger sang with intent, "Think the time is right for a Palace Revolution". Think again. It seems the "game of Compromise Solution" got him in the end. Keith Richards, guitarist for the band, criticized Jagger's acceptance as a "sell out" entering into a world he railed against as a young man. There is something inherently farcical and ridiculous in the irony surrounding such artists being offered these honours and even more so in their acceptance.

Why has what seems like a roll call of British cultural figures chosen not to accept awards from Buckingham Palace? Does this 700-year old system still function as a credible way of recognizing artistic achievement and can it legitimately do so when that work is of a nature that is subversive and critical of the Government that offers it? As the bamboozled Zephaniah pointed out, "Me, OBE? Whoever is behind this offer can never have read any of my work."

OBEs or laureateships. I write for people. I write to connect with myself and to connect with people".

The non-acceptance of such

awards by the likes of J.G. Ballard and Ken Loach are a political statement in their own rights. "Thousands of medals are given

out in the name of a non-existent empire," said J.G. Ballard, who rejected a knighthood, "I can't take it seriously". Like Ballard,

This Is Not A Mingle

King's Mingle Thursday Dec 4th

Another term, and another King's mingle. THIS IS NOT A MINGLE claim the posters, but this one did exactly what the Mingle does best: combining cheap drinks with some great music.

There's always that weird school disco feel that seems to dog college ents (partitions apparently made of bed-sheets, drinking from plastic cups), but if you can handle that then the Mingle has the makings of a great night out. The music was typically diverse, with each of the four rooms playing different stuff. Kung Fu regular Mystro headlined the hip-hop Room while the bar line up included every thing from Funky house to funkier electro with a little bit of plain old funk thrown in for variety.

Personal favourites were the awesome drum 'n' bass room featuring 1Xtra's Bailey and Hektic

and Tappa, and the indie in the cellars run by CUR where they even got people to dance to At The Drive-in. The good thing about the Mingle is that it's small enough to always look crowded – this means a good atmosphere but it's also useful for hiding from people you don't want to talk to, or disguising your silly dancing in the Hip Hop room. The bar involved fighting your way past impossibly trendy types for a cheap vodka off the THIS IS NOT A PRICE LIST price list (it only fooled me once), and some electro courtesy of Get The Wow and Jollyboy Ram.

At £10 a ticket it isn't the cheapest night out, but if you've got the spare cash at the end of the term, then the Mingle is the place to spend it. This is one college ent that never fails to deliver.

Edwin Lane

Beth Stratford



REVIEWS

Gary Jules, Trading Snakeoil For Woltickets Jan 19th Adventure/Sanctuary
Michael Andrews, Donnie Darko Jan 19th Adventure/Sanctuary (Albums)

Two albums, one song. This week Gary 'Mad World' Jules tries to capitalise on his Donnie Darko-induced success by releasing his album *Trading Snakeoil For Woltickets*, which sounds like Simon & Garfunkel playing acoustic country music (and not in a good way), but with *Mad World* stuck on the end. This track is also the only recognisable song featured on the Donnie Darko 'music from the motion picture' CD, which has none of the classic 80s tracks (Joy Division, The Smiths) that made the film so cool, but has all the scary atmospheric background music instead. **Edwin Lane**

Kelis, Tasty Jan 19th Virgin (Album)

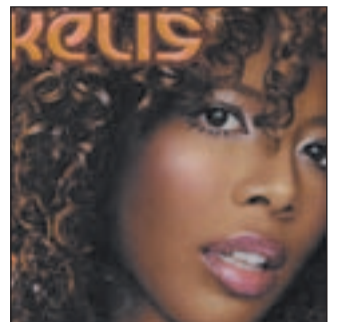
Mr and Mrs Nas would like us all to know they're having loads of bloody great sex. The vengeful screeches of *Caught Out There* have been replaced by the boob-shaking, lollipop-licking, orgasmic moaning of a newly sexualised Kelis. Clearly Nas ain't the jealous type because aside from his contribution to *In Public*, the album includes flirtations with Hip Hop's most eligible bachelors. The Neptunes get an unsurprising 5 production credits (none of which top the naughty-but-nice *Milkshake*) while on *Millionaire* Andre 'God' 3000 uses spiralling DnB beats to demonstrate the proper conjugation of hip-hop verbs ("I am rich, he is rich, she is rich, we is rich"). The closest anyone not in Outkast has come to making progressive RnB. Lately. **Ellen E. Jones**

Joss Stone, Fell In Love With A Boy 26th Jan Virgin (Single)

Covers aren't what they used to be. In the old days, whenever anyone gave favourable mention to, say, Soft Cell's *Tainted Love*, we'd all snigger for a while and then, with the kind of wisdom that only comes accompanied by a 6ft pile of NME back issues, we'd murmur "aah, but have you heard the original?" In these days of bootlegged, remixed, chuckle-brothered madness, five mintues after the release of the White Stripes original it's already deemed ripe for a soulful re-working in the remarkably youthful hands of Joss Stone. She's only about nine (alright, sixteen, whatever) and already so well-respected that her backing band includes Philedelphia's finest, Angie Stone and The Roots. Makes you feel old, doesn't it. **Ellen E. Jones**

Ryan Adams, So Alive Jan 19th Lost Highway Records (Single)

Most rock stars start off loud and angry and then mellow out in their old age. Ryan Adams seems to be doing the opposite. With this latest offering from his fourth solo album *Rock 'n' Roll*, he's dropped the quiet country approach and gone all electric. *So Alive* sounds like the kind of record an optimistic 19 year-old would make. It sounds a lot like The Smiths combined with JJ72, and not at all like Ryan Adams. Some people would find it hard to switch styles so suddenly and completely, Adams' secret is that he does it so very well. **Edwin Lane**



The Akira Guide To Student Bands

In the very first issue of this editorship, Varsity Music ran an article entitled 'Cambridge Music Scene? What Music Scene?' This final week, in a rather triumphant example of cause and (long overdue) effect, Varsity introduces an occassional series interviewing student and local bands. If the scene exists, we're damn sure gonna find it. This week Ellen E. Jones speaks to King's based post-rockers, Akira, and picks up some tips on how to rock out - undergrad style.

1) Practice Self Mythologising

Gbenga: It wasn't the first time I met Joel, but in my mental rewriting of history, the first time I met Joel he was walking around the bar asking people if they liked Godspeed You Black Emperor and I was the last person he was going to ask before he started just talking to himself.

Varsity: Would you like to explain the origin of the name Akira again, please?

[Gbenga starts to explain]

Joel: No, that's a boring story. Make up an interesting story.

Sarah: So, Joel was losing his virginity and he'd just seen Akira [influential Manga film] and he screamed out Akira!!

2) Keep Your Press Simple

Varsity: Can you describe the Akira sound in...er...eight words.

Sarah: Loud, loud, loud, loud, loud, loud, loud, feedback. Can we have nine?

Varsity: Yeah, go on then.

Sarah: Loud.

Gbenga: Basically we're of the opinion that when people hear about us and hear our music, they'll think we're good.

3) Be Your Own Publicity Machine

Varsity: Is your DIY approach to publicity part of the Akira ethos?

Sarah: It's just because we haven't been signed yet. As soon as someone gives us money, we'll get someone else to do it.

Joel: No, no, no! I'd like to keep a hand in.

4) Pick a Genre And Stick To It

Sarah: Well it started off as 'yeah maaan, we're post rock', but it turns out that we all secretly want to be pop stars.

Joel: We're actually getting more 'poppy' sounding.

Sarah: I think we're just getting better at writing structured songs. When we first started writing, our songs were just barren landscapes of post-rock with the odd twinkle here and there.

Gbenga: That's kind of a harsh assessment. We did have a lot of songs

where we were trying to marry punk and post rock.

Joel: It wasn't a marriage. It was more like sexual harassment.

Gbenga: We were trying to bullyram post-rock.

The Akira EP Selections in Modern Music is probably available from their very impressive website www.akira-band.com

You can see Akira for yourself at Clare Cellars 30th January, and the Portland Arms on the 16th Feb.



Stacey Gregg

MUSICAL RESOLUTIONS 2004

1) "Erm... I'm going to try and stop secretly listening to Heart FM" (Lily Scott, 2nd Year History)

2) "I should probably stop pretending I'm a DJ" (Gareth Hilton, 1st Year Natural Sciences)

3) "This year I'm giving up making mix tapes and burning CDs in order to impress people. They never appreciate it" (Gemma Corbett, 1st Year English)

4) "I've got a bad habit of judging people by their taste in music. But last year I met some quite nice Coldplay fans" (Julian Rittori, 1st Year French and German)

5) "I've got to stop writing song-lyrics on my folder and trainers" (Bhavin Upahdyay, 3rd Year Law)

6) "I'm going to memorise the lyrics to every single track on The Blueprint [seminal JayZ album]" (Joe Baker, 2nd Year Maths)

Go ahead, punk: Rate My Ring

So, cool or crap? Our men take a look at the biggest thing since *The Ord*.

Judging by the hyperbole, this film was set to be an era defining piece of art, the *Star Wars* of our generation: I am prone to react against this kind of ardent praise with cynical resistance and this was no exception.

Let us establish that, yes, the cinematography is awesome, the SFX and CGI groundbreaking and the battle sequences are excellently handled; this is beyond reasonable dispute: Jackson has rendered a seemingly intractable landscape and context into a living, breathing, beautiful film.

Fundamentally, though, the viewer needs more than simple eye-candy. The key problem is the adaptation of a prolix, detailed book into 3 hours of filming time, much of it comprising lengthy action sequences. Such a skeletal script naturally leaves character development at a premium and the viewer is left indifferent to the fate of these cardboard cut-outs.

This problem is then compounded by the often ineffectual acting: Elijah Wood's (Frodo) seemingly unchangeable look of mild constipation

does not quite represent the harrowing task from which he suffers, while Sean Astin (Sam) appears unable to exert any facial expression beyond a mild cringe. Moreover, structurally there is (without wishing to spoil the film in the unlikelihood that you haven't seen it) an unforgivably ham-fisted ending seeping with saccharine twaddle and dismantling any residual tension or emotional involvement.

Some critics have attempted to attach wider significance, suggesting for instance that it discourses well on friendship and Manichaeian society, yet really all we have is a celebration of war, nationalism and monarchy, with lashings of implicit racism (the elephant-mounted Arabs are equated with semi-human beasts in fighting along side them).

The Return of the King is a significant improvement on the first and second instalments of the trilogy and it does work as pure escapism; to suggest that it does anything more than this though, is surely misguided.

Oliver Tilley

The Darkness really should have been *Christmas Number One*. Musical arguments aside, the fact remains that they have mastered the central element of much of the great art of the last few centuries: a sense of controlled ambiguity. It is dangerous to dismiss them as novelty, as the possibility remains that they are pathologically sincere.

Their credibility lies between reali-

ty and fantasy, in a manner that allows fully grown men with more piercings than a blind knife-thrower's assistant to take off their shoe and play air guitar like the town drunk. Happily, *Lord of the Rings* also has this quality.

It is easy to pick holes: the dialogue is often facile ("I will not say: do not weep: for not all tears are an evil"), and there are enough pan-pipes to stock a decent-sized new age boutique. Yet Jackson has never quite

been straight up, and I suspect he still isn't.

The special effects may have improved since his early days, and the likes of *Braindead* (replete with rat-monkeys and zombie fornication), yet even the *The Return of the King* retains a whiff of the ridiculous (not least in the repeated failure to end the film, much to the horror of the primary school kids in the audience), and also a scent of the sublime.

Technically, Jackson et al must be admired for reducing 400-odd pages of periphrastic, pseudo-Biblical prose to a script that might stretch to 400 words, and furthermore for the camera work and impressively ponderous pauses that just about make it intelligible.

Unsurprisingly, battle scenes are wonderfully-executed, and New Zealand remains breath-takingly beautiful. Yet I suspect that, when it comes to the pompous, the heavily-stylised, and lots of latex, it all depends on whether you are willing to believe; whether it be in Father Christmas, Gandalf - or even in a thing called love.

A C Berwick



Confused? Be (a film) buff in 15 minutes with *Varsity*...



COMEDIES

This is *Spinal Tap* – 1984 – Rob Reiner.
 The definitive 'Rockumentary', imitated by *The Darkness* and the inspiration for such spoof documentaries as *The Office* and *I'm Alan Partridge*.

His *Girl Friday* – 1940 – Howard Hawkes.
 Fizzing, wise-cracking and impossibly fast comedy with Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell at their caustic best.

***Manhattan* – 1979 – Woody Allen.**
 Allen's elegy to New York, inimitable social observation with a sumptuous Gershwin score.

***Monty Python's Life of Brian* – 1979 – Terry Jones.**
 Hilarious and at times bizarre biblical pastiche from the Cambridge Footlights alumni.

***Some Like it Hot* - 1959 - Billy Wilder.**
 Achingly funny cross-dressing romp, with a show-stopping turn from Jack Lemmon.

OT



FOREIGN

***Battleship Potemkin* – 1925 – Sergei Eisenstein.**
 This influential classic popularised Eisenstein's revolutionary montage technique.

***8 and a Half* – 1963 – Federico Fellini.**
 Fellini's masterpiece, *8 and a Half* is a hallucinogenic exploration of the mind and the creative spirit.

***La Règle du Jeu* – 1939 – Jean Renoir.**
 An uproarious representation of aristocratic France before the onslaught of war, this is wonderfully chaotic from start to finish.

***Aguirre, Wrath of God* – 1972 – Werner Herzog.**
 Shot in the sweltering Peruvian jungle, this 16th Century drama of tyranny and power has Klaus Kinski at his hypnotic best.

***The Seven Samurai* – 1954 – Akira Kurosawa.**
 this is an epic of balanced filming, combining character pathos with battle scenes to which all subsequent war films are indebted.

OT



MUSICALS

***The Sound Of Music* - 1965 - Robert Wise.**
 This gave us so much, Julie Andrews, 'Do, Re, Mi' and the knowledge that curtains can make stylish clothes for all your family! A truly heart warming classic.

***West Side Story* - 1961 - Jerome Robbins and Robert Wise.**
 Inspired by *Romeo and Juliet*, this is as famous for its dancing as its singing through the tale of 'star crossed lovers' Maria and Tony.

***On The Town* - 1949 - Stanley Donen and Gene Kelly.**
 This is lesser known but nonetheless enchanting, funny and begs you to sing along; just the way a musical should be!

***Grease* - 1978 - Randal Kleiser.**
 This is a coming of age tale, popular since its release. Sandy and Danny lead the cast in this undeniably excellent classic.

***Chicago* - 2002 - Rob Marshall.**
 Catherine Zeta-Jones et alia lead the cast through this frothy, tap dancing, yet somehow gritty tale.

Clare Geraghty



TEEN

***Rebel Without A Cause* - 1955 - Nicholas Ray.**
 "You're tearing me apart." Single-handedly invented 'the teenager' and in Jimmy Dean provided a teen icon for all time.

***The Breakfast Club* - 1985 - John Hughes.**
 Teen film God John Hughes' definitive movie, marking out adolescence as a shared rather than divisive experience of insecurities and concerns.

***Kids* - 1995 - Larry Clark.**
 The film that made Chloe Sevigny an indie darling forever, *Kids* is grimy, disturbing and unapologetically real.

***Heathers* - 1989 - Michael Lehmann.**
 Winona Ryder and Christian Slater were the perfect partnership in this heuristic black comedy about hormonal alienation.

***Ferris Bueller's Day Off* - 1986 - John Hughes.**
 Bunking off school to cruise in a red Ferrari with a gorgeous girl... an inspirational hero of ingenuity and risk for kids everywhere.

Ronojoy Dam



HORROR

***Alien* – 1979 – Ridley Scott.**
 Classic: the chest-ripper qualifies as era-defining. Sigourney Weaver running about in a vest and shorts, however, does not.

***Evil Dead II* – 1987 – Sam Raimi.**
High Fidelity:
John Cusack: If I said: "I haven't seen *Evil Dead II* yet," what would you say?
Jack Black: I'd say you were a cinematic idiot and I feel sorry for you. 'nuff said.

***Cannibal Holocaust* – 1980 – Ruggero Deodato.**
 Among the highlights is a mother being stoned to death after her newborn baby is buried alive. Castration too. Tops.

***Braindead* – 1992 – Peter Jackson.**
 Rat-monkeys! Zombie fornication! Hurrah!

***Bad Taste* – 1987 – Peter Jackson.**
 An amusing movie centring around an *A-Team* like pursuit of a group of aliens that appear to live in the Little House on the Prairie, which also happens to be a spaceship.

Ross Thompson & ACB

Can't find something?

College films? Ask Varsity...

"Whasssup", went the catchphrase from the memorable Budweiser advert of yesteryear, and it is a sentiment that seems rather apt when faced with a rain-forest-incineratingly awesome pile of flyers advertising college films for this term. Happily, Varsity is here to help.

Probably the most impressively balanced termcard belongs to Christ's, who have some corkers. Therein I would include *Duck Soup* (5th Feb), *Stand by Me* (22nd Jan) and, in a canny move, *Casablanca* down for Valentine's day smooching (12th Feb). It is *Calendar Girls*, however, which appears to be all over St. Valentine like a nasty old lady rash, making appearances at Queens' and Caius on the 12th Feb, and John's on the 8th.

Another certainly brilliant film to assume ubiquity is last year's *City of God* which hits Christ's first (Jan 18th) and then Caius and Queens' on the same night (Feb 5th). However, it is John's that are investing most in foreign talent, with *Open your Eyes* (5th Feb) and *The Time of the Wolf* (4th March) both showing their faces.

Many of last year's hits – *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Finding Nemo*, *Kill Bill: Volume 1* – get an outing, although surprisingly the critically-acclaimed *Mystic River* only gets one shot (Christ's, Feb 29th), and the equally well-received *Adaptation* is similarly conspicuous by its absence, with its only appearance at (Robinson, February 12th) being the redeeming feature of a Robinson termcard that inexplicably includes both *American Wedding* (American Pie 3) and *Legally Blonde 2*. If you would like to see those, then look up the dates yourself.

So, Christ's and John's form a nice partnership – Sir Clive Woodward and Jonny Wilkinson, if you will – whilst Robinson bring up the rear like, well, Kilroy. However, it must be said that it would be nice if we didn't have quite so many clashes, and if one society could really stick its neck on the line; several cinematic landmarks – *Battleship Potemkin* and the French New-Wave, for instance – are elided completely, whilst we get *Grease* twice. New Year's Resolutions, anyone?

A C B



www.image.net

Dido he? Didon't he?

Student opera is a rare beast, but a splendid example was sighted at the exotic habitat of the ADC theatre at the end of last term.

Ideally suited to the late slot at the ADC, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* distils all the brimming, soap opera emotion of Book 4 of the *Aeneid* into a wonderful tear-jerking sixty minutes in which we follow the fate of our heroine from love and foreboding to abandonment and death.

Andrew Ormerod's deft production enraptured an audience who were perhaps, like me, a little jaded and week 8 blues-ish, and emerged all weepy and romantic into the night air.

The singing, I was assured by my chorister friend, was technically extremely impressive, especially given the youth of the performers. To me, although no chorister, the performances were breathtaking.

Clare Buckley as Belinda, Dido's confidante, with whom the heroine duets, made very complex passages sound natural and flowing, and Andrew Davies's representation of Purcell's strutting Aeneas was a joy. Amy Carson as Dido was a deep, honeysweet delight; her voice and performance evoked the dignity, fear and deep emotion of Dido sympathetically. There were some other fine performances as foils to this talented trio; the shrieking witches and the boozy sailors were respectively chilling and raucous, and both quite fun, really.

The set design was stylish and the music tremendous. It was a very accomplished production and hopefully it will encourage more students to take on the arduous but rewarding task of producing an opera in Cambridge.

Alice Fordham



Andrew Ormerod

Blood, sweat, poetry

Longer and stronger than your average ADC late show, *Bloody Poetry* is an age-old tale of sea-sides and suicides, wrapped around an even older boy-meets-girls motif.

Poet and asshole Lord Byron (Ollie Rickman) is a compelling figure, buoyed by brandy burps and bubbling with the yeasty energy of STDs. Percy Bysshe Shelley (Danny O'Conner) is Byron's reserved but revolutionary friend. Christine Twite and Laura Stewart have a potent rapport as Claire Clairmont and Mary Shelley (née Godwin), the women imposed upon to bear these men's poetry and their children, while Russell Bender and Jo Mortimer give capable performances in difficult smaller roles, Bender as a disgusting little man, and Mortimer as one of best Ophelias I've ever seen.

Most prominently, there is sex; but there is also politics, poetry, philosophy and sailing. One high point is a spot of living room pot-holing incorporating Plato, shadow puppetry and all the disturbing methodical-but-maniac cruelty of a triage doctor scrawling willies on the foreheads of morphine-starved gut-shot marines.

Towards its end, the play fades a few hues into a familiar familial fable about boys and their toys (liquor, ladies, revolution and the occasional transcendental game of

I liked *Lost in Translation*. But that shouldn't surprise you. It's already been nominated for umpteen Golden Globes, and the *New York Times* couldn't think of a bad thing to say about it. I can, but back to that in a minute.

Lost in Translation is the story of Bob (Bill Murray), an aging movie star in Tokyo filming a whisky commercial, and Charlotte (Scarlett Johansson), an American whose photographer husband is in town on business. They meet in the dreary bar at their equally dreary hotel, and make an immediate connection. That's about it.

This is not to say that I object to movies where nothing happens. Quality entertainment doesn't require explosions, set changes or even much of a plot. But the fundamental rule for storytelling is that the main character has to change. It doesn't have to be a good change, it doesn't have to be a major change, but he/she cannot be the same person that he/she was at the beginning. And neither Bob nor Charlotte undergoes a transformation, has an epiphany, or even makes a decision. This is major flaw number one.

Major flaw number two is everyone else in the movie. No, not

movie: 'film'. *Lost in Translation* is definitely a film. And anything that takes itself that seriously should have more than two three-dimensional characters. But Charlotte's husband is a phony, Bob's wife a shrew. Anna Faris's ditzy starlet on the promotion circuit is very funny, but still a stereotype.

The film's portrayal of the Japanese is even worse: each and every one is played for laughs, whether they be zany talk show hosts or overly exuberant prostitutes. By the end I felt ashamed to be watching what was not, as Roger Ebert called it, a "comedy of manners", but rather something resembling Bernard Manning on speed.

I did like most of it. Bill Murray was as wonderful as always: understated and devastatingly endearing. I did not expect to be impressed by ingénue-of-the-month Johansson, but I was. She was only seventeen when she started filming this movie, but exudes maturity. I can certainly see why the critics loved it. They watch so much drivel that anything without a car chase must seem like the next *Casablanca*. But subtlety and restraint alone do not a great movie make.

Carrie English



ADC

"What do you think of my prosthetic hand, then?"

chicken with a tempest) and the women suffering back home, kicking up a fuss about piles of laundry, or a couple of dead children.

Previously, oft-times writhing ho' Mary Godwin has come across as the most powerful and sympathetic intellect on the stage, so it is slightly disappointing to see Mrs. Shelley become the pawn of a heavy-handed feminism. But the acting is still rich, and the new moral force interesting,

especially as groupies, paparazzi and the commodification of revolution begin to intensify the sporadically modern feel.

The staging was sparse but carefully handled, with a lot of atmosphere achieved by sound effects. Characters made plenty of mistakes, but the actors didn't make any; *Bloody Poetry* is polished, clever and sexy, and well worth seeing.

Jow Lindsay

Too hip to be square

'Dylan's Visions Of Sin' by Christopher Ricks

"If a great song of Bob Dylan's is not literature," Christopher Ricks once remarked, "that is only because its medium is not words alone." As a literary critic, albeit an ingenious one with a sensitive ear for the way Dylan sings his songs, Professor Ricks's medium is words alone, and in this book Dylan's songs are treated as literature, worthy of comparison with the King James Bible, and the poetry of Milton, Keats, Tennyson, and Eliot. The book will annoy (has annoyed) those who can't dissociate Dylan's words from his voice and music, and those who think he's too hip to be subjected to this kind of close scrutiny. But it will excite those who have longed for a pioneering book-length attempt to justify the claims that have been made for Dylan's lyrics, not to mention Ricks's own fans (yes, he has them too).

Ricks bases his chapters on the seven deadly sins, considering how Dylan's songs evoke them yet resist succumbing to them, and counters them with chapters on the four cardinal virtues and three heavenly graces. It's a clever structuring principle, and sin is undoubtedly central to Dylan's work, but it's also simply

'the right handle to take hold of the bundle', allowing Ricks to perform his magic on the lyrics. There are occasional cheap tricks. Listing words or sounds that appear both in a poem and a Dylan song, claiming that the poem is 'not a source, but an analogue', is limitedly useful. But many of the close readings he conjures up more than compensate. One of the best is his observation that when Hattie Carroll, whose name has a feminine ending, is 'slain by a cane' the cadence of the verses is broken: 'something - a life - is cut short... and this without the song's having to melodramatize it'. Ricks is also wonderfully attuned to Dylan's "perpetual slight alteration of language" (T. S. Eliot's phrase). And then there's the linguistic legerdemain. At the end of *Boots of Spanish Leather*, for example, the woman is 'asked to give [the man] the boots, having previously given him the boot.' Or, in the second line of *Gotta Serve Somebody*, we find "gamble" making 'its way smilingly across to "dance" on the arm of gambol'.

But not everyone is willing to gambol with Ricks, and asking them to do so is a gamble.

Sanctimonious reviewers have tut-tutted at his propensity for punning. Too intellectual for some, too frivolous for others - what a fix Ricks is in! This, a footnote to 'Come gather 'round people', shows him at his most dexterous-

ly playful: 'absolutely imperative (given the absence of a comma before "people"), the apostrophe in "'round". [Square people, stay right where you are].' It's outrageous, no question, especially stuck up in those square brackets. But it's

not gratuitous. The song does sound as a warning to square people who criticize what they can't understand and who can't accept the inevitability of change. If the pun doesn't quite work it's because it's the square people who really ought to gather round and listen to what Dylan has to say, rather than those who are already well rounded. But at least it reminds us that serious literary criticism can (even should) be fun.

One of the book's endearing, if uncritical, qualities is Ricks's self-consciousness about seeming square. In fact, we learn a great deal about him: he doesn't like people who sing along at concerts; he's an atheist; he tries to be magnanimous about others discovering allusions before him (but also tries to better them). Above all, he is generous towards his subject - perhaps, in this case, too generous. One could be forgiven for suspecting that he prefers Dylan to the unquestionably great poets he has previously written on, so little does he criticize him. In giving so much of his own personality, Ricks has written a book that might better be read as his own artistic response to Bob Dylan than as a work of criticism.



Write to be read James Purdon wants your attention



Zadie Smith is one you'll know. Jay Basu, Sophie Powell: those are names you might have heard, authors you might have read. All three have had critical and popular acclaim, widely published novels and literary success. We found them.

For the last twelve years, the editors of *The Mays* have been publishing the best new writing from Oxford and Cambridge. In the past, the anthology has included early, groundbreaking work by some of the country's most successful young writers, selected and edited by respected writers. The list of former guest editors reads like a literary hall of fame, with luminaries such as Seamus Heaney, Paul Muldoon, Sebastian Faulks and Ted Hughes having taken on the role in recent years.

This month sees the announcement of *Mays 12*, the current volume, to be published in the summer. Its simplified

look and feel will reflect the simplicity and clarity of its purpose: to accept and select the very best of prose fiction and poetry, written by students in Oxford and in Cambridge, and to publish it. With funding from major publishing houses and the support of a major respected London literary agency, *The Mays* has quickly established itself as an respected important and successful literary publication. Copies are routinely distributed to agents and publishers across the country, and sell in bookshops around Cambridge, Oxford and London.

The reputation for fresh, challenging writing which *The Mays* has established, along with its record of selecting promising authors, provides a real opportunity for quality student writing to reach a wide audience within and without University circles. Submissions of poetry and prose fiction, up to 5000 words, are encouraged, and should be sent in .doc or .txt format to mays@varsity.co.uk. Typescripts, should you prefer, can be left with James Purdon (poetry) or Mark Richards (prose) at Emmanuel College. Documentary photography is also invited.

Final date for submissions: 23rd January.

Try it - you might like it Catherine Murray-Browne is pleased by poetry

Unlike novels, poetry has got less and less important. Chaucer is pretty important, Shakespeare is very important, Milton, Keats and Coleridge are also important. Past Yeats and Eliot, we're struggling slightly. Plath and Hughes are better known for their Hollywood tragedy than what they wrote (as if being suicidal made your verse interesting). Hence *The Birthday Letters* was Hughes's best selling volume.

The problem self-perpetuates. Studying contemporary poetry in Cambridge is confined to the post-1979 paper - how would you know you wanted to take it if you hadn't studied any for the first two years of your degree? Poetry sections in bookshops are dwarfish and incomplete because so few people want to buy poetry - why would they if they've never noticed the poetry section?

I'm not going to say that Bob Dylan is better than Keats or that Paul Muldoon is better than Milton. Cross-chronological comparisons in terms of merit are essentially reductive. But you should be interested in, or at least aware, of what is being written today simply because it is being written for you. This is what makes contemporary poetry exciting in a way that

Shakespeare never can be - you're a little bit closer to understanding the culture in which the poetry is being written. Try to read Milton in the mindset of his contemporaries and you'll never quite make it. Read contemporary poetry and there's no leap of the imagination. You are the reader it's been written for.

The T. S. Eliot Prize for the best book of poetry published in 2003 is being awarded on 19th January. To try and sum up the ten shortlisted volumes in such little space is futile and all the works are unique. But they all include poetry of an exceptionally high standard and do what good contemporary poetry should: transform a world we recognise into something ethereal, whether it's Jean Sprackland's jellyfish lying "like saints/unharvested, luminous" or Jamie McKendrick's reflections in the Grand Canal, "fat oily squiggles straight from the tube." All are worth reading (though I can't resist making special recommendations of Don Paterson, Lavinia Greenlaw and Bernard O'Donoghue). Take this opportunity to open a previously closed book. And you might just like it.

The Shortlist



THE SHORTLIST

Billy Collins, *Nine Horses*
John F Deane, *Manhandling the Deity*
Ian Duhig, *The Lammas Hireling*
Lavinia Greenlaw, *Minsk*
Jamie McKendrick, *Inkstone*
Bernard O'Donoghue, *Outliving*
Don Paterson, *Landing Light*
Jacob Polley, *The Brink*
Christopher Reid, *For and After*
Jean Sprackland, *Hard Water*

Christ's put in 'Demon' display



Christ's celebrate their first Cuppers victory in three years after a thrilling penalty shoot-out

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Shanaz Musafer

Third division Christ's caused the first major upset of this year's Cuppers competition by beating Division One challengers Darwin in a nail biting penalty shoot-out.

In blustery conditions, three of the four goals came when the respective attacking side had the wind behind them. Christ's rightfully took the lead in the first half when Tim 'Demon' Muttukumaru broke free of the Darwin defence and shot low to beat the keeper. Indeed Muttukumaru's pace was something that Darwin failed to get to grips with throughout the match.

Darwin were lucky to go in at the break only one goal down, and were even more fortunate when they equalised in the second half. Christ's goalkeeper David Beacham's attempted clearance struck a defender and fell to the unmarked Jez Moloney, who produced a clinical finish to lob the

stranded keeper.

Both teams looked slightly jittery as the match entered extra time, with Christ's having to readjust following the departure of Falcons vice captain Jamie Brown in an ambulance to Addenbrooke's. However, Chris Turnbull continued to marshal the defence superbly, and with their full backs breaking forward at any given opportunity, Christ's looked far the more likely team to claim the win.

Hence it was no surprise when they went in front for the second time with a carbon copy of their first goal, once again scored by Muttukumaru.

Darwin refused to roll over, though, and nervous defending in the Christ's penalty area allowed Geoff Battye in to equalise. With neither team taking any undue risks in the second half, the game looked increasingly like it would be decided by penalties. However, with five minutes to go, Muttukumaru found himself clean through on goal for a third time but his chance of a hat-trick disappeared as the ball was parried away for a corner. So penalties it was.

The Christ's fans, who were out in force, watched with bated breath as Darwin's designated takers five times gained the advantage and Christ's five times drew level. Sudden death was upon us and it was hard to tell who was more tense, the players or the supporters. The pressure was to prove too much for Darwin though, as it was now up to the players who had not volunteered to take a penalty in the first place. The first man to step up for the grads could do nothing but stand and watch in horror as his kick ballooned Waddle-esque over the bar.

But there was still a job to be done for Christ's and first year substitute Simon Bulley made himself an instant hero by stroking the ball calmly into the net. Christ's now face local rivals Jesus in the last sixteen.

This year's first round of Cuppers was treated to not just one, but two penalty shoot-outs. Emma were pushed all the way by third division APU, the match finishing 2-2 after extra time. Second division Emma edged the shoot-out 8-7 and will play Sidney in the next round.

COLLEGE SPORT IN BRIEF

Women's Hockey Plate

The Jesus women's hockey second team pulled off one of the greatest cup upsets in recent years, when they ousted on penalties a Queens' first team which was expected to win the Plate competition. Queens', whose team included a number of university players, found themselves up against a Jesus side who could only muster ten players. Queens' came out strongly, but were frustrated by a combination of gutsy defending, dubious refereeing, and Jesus' grass playing surface. The pitch may have been a leveller, but definitely was not level.

Jesus grew in confidence, despite a large amount of abuse emanating from the touchline. Come half time, they had survived several close shaves, and keeper Lisa Grimes had provided a hint of what was to come with a number of important saves. While Queens' took on board their half time drinks, Jesus were on the phone desperately seeking an eleventh player. The second half proved even scrappier than the first, with chances proving difficult to come by. Captain Hannah Burns proved influential in Jesus' battling midfield, while Alex Mullen marshalled a defence which, despite a few scares, was able to deal with most of Queens' attacks. As the match meandered towards penalties, Queens' made a final push, but a huge goalmouth melee was as close as they came.

The tense penalty shootout included a number of imitations of David Beckham against Turkey. Eventually, deep into sudden death with the score at 2-2, Claire Singleton claimed the glory for Jesus, showing that only the English are traditionally lame at penalties. Playing hockey for the third time in her life, she clinically sent the ball into the net, and Jesus to a famous victory.

Men's Hockey

John's saw their title ambitions dented as they were held to a 4-4 draw by Cam City. They now slip behind Jesus and Caius in pursuit of Adam Brown's all-conquering Magdalene side. Christ's continue to dominate Division Two under the captaincy of Duncan Smith (not Iain, the failed Tory leader).

Men's Football Roundup

Men's football gets back underway this week. Davey Mills' Catz side has the only one hundred percent record in Division One, although they have yet to play John's, Girton and Jesus, who look best placed in pursuit. They did, however, achieve the near-impossible by playing a match against Long Road, which they won 2-1.

Churchill and Caius occupy the top spots in Division Two, but if Matt Sadler's Robinson find the form to emulate the quality of their stash then they should stand a strong chance. An honourable mention should go to Queens' who won their first point in a year and a half with a 2-2 draw against Robinson. In Division Three, Sidney, APU, Christ's and Hills Road are engaged in a fascinating struggle for the two promotion spots.

Special Cuppers Results and Fixtures Section

Men's Football	Women's Football	Men's Hockey	Women's Hockey	Second round draw
First round results	First round draw	Second round results	First round results	Jesus I v Caius Catz I v Homerton Churchill v APU John's v Robinson Girton/Jesus II v Tit Hall Magdalene v Fitz/Catz II Emma v Newnham Downing v Pembroke
APU 2 Emma 2 aet. <i>Emma win 8-7 on pens</i>	Darwin v Trinity	Downing 3 Christ's 4	Jesus I bye	
Sidney 1 CCCC 0	Peterhouse v Girton	Churchill 1 Sidney 3	Caius 5 New Hall 1	
Pembroke 0 Jesus 5	Robinson-Selwyn v Sidney I	Pembroke 3 Emma 0	Catz I 8 Queens' 0	
Darwin 2 Christ's 2 aet. <i>Christ's win 6-5 on pens</i>	Sidney II v Pembroke	John's 3 Catz 6	Homerton bye	
Downing 5 Homerton 1	Clare v Emma	Robinson 7 APU 2	Churchill 2 Corpus-	
Peterhouse 2 Long Road 7	Fitz I v Newnham	Caius 2 Trinity 0	Peterhouse 0	
Clare 1 Trinity 2	Homerton v Corpus	Magdalene 2 Clare 0	APU bye	
John's 5 Queens' 0	Christ's v St Edmunds	Jesus 4 Queens' 0	Selwyn 0 John's 2	Men's Football
CFTC 0 Girton 14	King's v John's		Robinson 6 Sidney 0	Second round draw
Robinson 5 CCSS 2	Downing v Catz II	Quarter final draw	Girton Jesus II	
King's 0 Hills Road 3	Caius v Jesus	Christ's v Sidney	Tit Hall 6 Clare 0	Emma v Sidney
Magdalene 0 Catz 4	Churchill v Queens' I	Pembroke v Catz	Magdalene bye	Jesus v Christ's
Churchill 2 Caius 1	Tit Hall I v Catz I	Robinson v Caius	Fitz Catz II	Downing v Long Road
Selwyn 0 Fitz 1	Queens' II v Magdalene	Magdalene v Jesus	Emma 6 Christ's 0	Trinity v John's
Hughes Hall bye	Fitz II v Tit Hall II		Newnham bye	Girton v Robinson
Tit Hall bt Corpus (w/o)	Games to be played as soon as possible after beginning of term	Quarter final matches to be played by January 25th	Downing 1 Trinity 0	Hills Road v Catz
			Pembroke bye	Churchill v Fitz
				Hughes Hall v Tit Hall

Varsity Ski Trip sees Cambridge lose

VARSETY SKIING

Elizabeth Blakeway and
Chris Aylard

Skiing....snowy mountains, blue skies, mulled wine, cold beer and hot chocolate, yeah? Well, for a somewhat mad bunch, substitute Welwyn dry ski slope, rain and wind, cheap plonk and frequent curries for the aforementioned.

CUSSC, the Cambridge Ski and Snowboard Club, train weekly throughout term, with the aim of beating Oxford (and everyone else) in the various University league races throughout the year. However, the main aim of all Oxbridge sport is its Varsity competition, which, for skiing, is held annually during the second week of the Varsity Trip.

Some background first: the Varsity Ski Races (the oldest team ski races in the world) comprise two disciplines; Slalom and Giant Slalom. Both Cambridge and Oxford aim to have Ladies' and Men's first and second teams, each consisting of six members. Every team member tackles each discipline twice and is expected to complete both runs to gain an aggregate time. By the end of the event each team must have at least four aggregate times for both Slalom and Giant Slalom. A final time for each University team based on its fastest four finishers is then calculated to decide the outcome of the Varsity Ski Races.

So to this year... In early December, upon arrival of the Varsity Trip Committee, the 'Ski Circus' fondly known as Saalbach-Hinterglemm was looking more like the Pennines than an Austrian winter ski resort! However, trippers were being bussed to the nearby Kaprun glacier, where, thankfully, there was plenty of that white stuff to be had! The majority of Oxbridge race training took place there under fortuitously blue skies.

However, this was not to be for long. One flügerl-filled night the heavens opened and before we knew it we were in for a 48-hour dump of snow. The Varsity races were now ironically postponed and out came the snowboards as the resort rapidly veered 'off piste'.

Finally, with the skies under control and pistes bashed, the Varsity Races commenced. Team trials took place on the crisp morning of Wednesday 17th December, with the respective captains looking for new talent. Oxford, having



Grace Ofori-Attah

The Blues skiers take time out from training in Saalbach-Hinterglemm, the venue of the 2003 Varsity Ski Trip

internationals in both Blues teams, left Cambridge's prospects of a win looking bleak.

Sadly, Oxford took all the honours, with the exception of the Ladies 2nds competition where Cambridge's girls fought their way to victory by the closest of margins.

Individual mentions should go to Jo Faurewalker and Chris Aylard for Cambridge's best individual performances.

Ladies Blues: Elizabeth Blakeway - Newnham (c), Jo Faurewalker - Jesus, Pippa Hemmings - Fitzwilliam, Laura MacDonald -

New Hall, Sarah Taylor - Girton, Judith Schleicher - St John's.

Mens Blues: Daniel Holyoake - Downing (c), Chris Aylard - Caius, Chris Caulkin - Girton, Alistair French - Magdalene, George Herd - Caius, Henry Jeens - Magdalene, Maxim Littek - Wolfson.

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Shanaz Musafer

As delighted as I was when Charlie Desmond dived over the Oxford line to bring the scores level in the Varsity rugby match, I could not help feeling a sense of hollowness as the final whistle went and Cambridge celebrated retaining the MMC Trophy.

Those of you unfamiliar with the rules and regulations of the Varsity match may be a little confused. The teams drew yet Cambridge went home with the trophy? Surely that does not make sense.

Allow me to clarify things for you. In the event of a draw, the winning team from the previous year retains the trophy. Hence it was award-

ed to Cambridge, who triumphed 15-13 in last year's fixture.

I am sure that I am not the only person who thinks that this a ridiculous rule for a Varsity match. Now, I am not saying that the rule itself is absurd, merely that there is a time and a place for it.

Nobody would argue that a series of test cricket ending in a draw needs some way of deciding who should go home with the spoils. If two teams cannot be separated after a series of five, six or even seven matches, then it is probably right to go back to their last encounter in order to award the trophy at stake. This does mean that in the unlikely event of England

When drawing still leaves winners and losers

somehow managing to scrape a draw against Australia we still wouldn't be able to get our hands on the Ashes but so be it.

But a series of tests and a one-off match are two very different things, and the Varsity match falls into the latter category. It is a showpiece event and is all about who is the better team on the day. If at the end of the game the two teams are tied, then either they should both go home satisfied or, if there is a trophy to play for, there should be some other means of settling the match there and then.

Imagine the controversy that would have been caused if, following Elton Flatley's equalising penal-

ty in normal time of the World Cup final, Australia had been crowned champions on account of the fact that they were the current holders!

Of course I am not comparing the Varsity match to the World Cup, but the principle is the same. All that is needed is to introduce extra time and then, if necessary, some kind of kick off or penalty shootout, depending on the sport.

I am sure that players would rather win or lose outright on the pitch, rather than come away unbeaten yet still feeling as if they have lost. Even the most ardent Cambridge fan would find it hard not to sympathise with Oxford, who

had played their hearts out and probably deserved to win the game.

Both the Oxford coach and captain drew attention to Oxford's open play, with Captain John Allen saying, "We went out there to play in a certain style and we did. I am proud of that."

Even though the final score was a draw, the upshot of the day is that Cambridge return to Grange Road with the MMC Trophy once more. Until this out of place rule is remedied, one can only look at the reactions of the respective teams to the outcome – sheer jubilation for Cambridge; utter disappointment for the Oxford camp. Despite the fact that things finished all square.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Cross Country Varsity Match

Cambridge won both Blues races for the first time in 11 years. Julia Bleasedale broke the course record for the Ladies Blues, and James Mason in second place led home the Cambridge men. In the lower team races Cambridge scored a 4-2 victory. The event took place after the end of last term.

Coe Fen Relays

A relay open to all members of the University on Sunday 18th January, start 12pm. Teams of 4, each person running a short and scenic 2 mile course starting in the centre of town. Turn up and run for a college team, or come as a team of friends from a University sports club or department. All standards, from occasional joggers to the best running talent in the university will be there. Registration (free) from 11.30 by the Mill pub (down Mill Lane behind the Anchor). Event will finish at approximately 1pm. For more information please see our website at www.cam.ac.uk/societies/cuhh/collreps.htm or email bbv20.

Judo

On Sunday 23rd November, CUJC made a trip to the Ipswich Judo Club Kyu grade competition. It is a fixture which gives beginners a good taste of competitive fighting. A good day was had by all with everyone winning at least one medal. The day began with the individual weight categories. Cambridge dominated the low grade under 66kg category, providing 3 out of 4 fighters. However, this made the competition even more intense as knowing the opponent made the thought of losing unbearable. In the end Payman Owladi triumphed with Parin Metha taking the silver and Dave Anderson the bronze.

In the under 81kg, Gary Chandler swiftly beat everyone, leaving the remaining three players to fight for the second spot. These fights proved to be extremely tight encounters and had to be rerun a few times before second and third places were awarded to the exhausted players. Pete Mash from Cambridge got the bronze.

The under 90kg category saw Glyn Edwards secure silver and then bronze in the open event, while Junta Sekimora won himself a silver medal in his weight group.

After the individual events a fun team event was held including many of the referees and coaches. Cambridge had two teams entered with one borrowing a girl from Sawston Club to fill it. The first team, consisting of club Captain James Adams, Gary Chandler, Glyn Edwards and Parin Metha got the bronze out of the seven teams, and although our second team got knocked out by our first team in round one, Payman Owladi managed to get subbed into the winning team to pick up his second gold of the day. The day provided valuable match lessons that will be used against Oxford in February.

Downing clinch the double



Courtesy of Eaden Lilley Photography

The Downing Ladies first VIII on their way to victory

COLLEGE ROWING

Bryan Coll

During the last few days of Michaelmas term, when most of us were wrapped up in layers upon layers attempting to shield ourselves from the freezing Cambridge winter, college rowers were braving the elements on the river Cam. The occasion was the end of term Fairbairns race, the highlight of the Michaelmas calendar and the chance to put those sub-zero early morning outings to good use.

In the senior divisions, which took place on Friday 5th December, Downing had most cause to celebrate as they stamped their authority in both the men's and women's events. Their senior men claimed first place with a time of 14.58 minutes and were the only college crew to break the 15 minute barrier with a particularly impressive row. They were closely followed by the Black Prince crew who clocked 15.03 minutes with Churchill a further five seconds adrift. The prize for the fastest second eight was picked up by First and Third Boat Club.

Downing achieved a unique double by rowing to victory in the women's division. Their first ladies crossed the finishing line after 17.17 minutes of solid and controlled rowing. Caius beat Jesus into second place with a time of 17.25 minutes. They have established themselves in 2003 as the club to beat on the Cam and will undoubtedly be looking to consolidate their Fairbairns victories with at least one headship in the Lent Bumps.

If Downing were the force to be reckoned with in the senior events, then Queens' took on a similar role in the novice races. There was a slight sense of confusion surrounding the results of the men's novice division as Queens' second boat emerged as the fastest crew. Due to the strong winds on Thursday morning, a considerable number of crews posted somewhat slower times than might have been expected. Nevertheless, Queens' II were awarded first place with their finishing time of 11.32 minutes.

In a closely fought division, only eight seconds separated the top three crews. Downing and Churchill were the next best after Queens' II, winning second and third places respectively. Queens'

men added to their success by picking up the prize for the fastest second crew which was, confusingly, won by their third VIII.

First and Third BC prevented a Queens' double by pipping them to first place in the women's novice division in 12.57 minutes. The Emmanuel novices, fresh from winning the Clare Novice Regatta, finished in third place. Wolfson II earned themselves the title of the fastest second crew with an impressive 13.11 minutes, a time which would actually have won them third place in the overall competition.

In the senior IVs event, Robinson were the only college crew to go under 12 minutes, taking the men's title with a time of 11.53 minutes. Christ's claimed the women's crown in 13.39 minutes, ten seconds ahead of Caius.

After victories were celebrated and sorrows drowned at boat club dinners across Cambridge, college crews were looking forward to training camps taking place over the Christmas break. With the best novices being miraculously transformed into senior rowers, there will now be considerable competition for seats on many crews for Lent Bumps.

Cambridge Under 21s mauled by old enemy

UNDER 21'S VARSITY RUGBY

Shanaz Musafer

OXFORD U21S 22

CAMBRIDGE U21S 0

Cambridge Under 21s were played off the park in the curtain-raiser to the main Varsity rugby match, losing 22-0 to the old enemy Oxford.

Oxford ran in three tries and could have scored more as they exhibited a display of total class and dominance.

Any latecomers would have missed the first points of the day as Oxford scored a penalty to go 3-0 up in the opening ten minutes. Their first try came shortly afterwards as a series of scrums led to a superb passing move finished off by fullback Cuff.

Cambridge then entered what was to be their best period of the game. Dave Akinluyi, rather confusingly wearing no. 11 but playing on the right wing, sprinted clear down the touch-

line but was called back for an earlier Cambridge knock on. For the only time in the match, Cambridge were able to apply sustained pressure on the Oxford defence, gaining territory in their opponents' half.

They were let down by their kicking though, as scrum half Henderson had a game he would rather forget. With the chance to put the first points on the board for Cambridge he missed a penalty from in front of the posts. The Oxford crowd howled with glee at the glaring miss.

Their crowing grew louder as the

hapless Cambridge no. 9 then made an even bigger hash of his next attempt, the ball drifting short and wide of the right hand post. His confidence shattered, the next penalty Cambridge were awarded was safely kicked to touch. A converted Oxford try just before half time punished Henderson's misses and put the Dark Blues 15-0 up.

The most surprising thing about the second half was that it took Oxford until injury time to add to their score. Time after time they put together promising attacks but just

couldn't convert them into points until finally, two minutes into added time, Jamie Hammond dived over next to the righthand post. Captain Steve Pitcher converted to give the scoreline some reflection of Oxford's supremacy. Fittingly, strains of EMF's *You're Unbelievable* blared out around the stadium.

Cambridge were lucky that the margin of defeat was not extended as Oxford looked set to cross the line again but were stopped short by the referee blowing the final whistle to end the rout and the Light Blues' misery.

Desmond rescues draw and trophy



Clockwise from above left: Cambridge celebrate retaining the MMC Trophy; Aki Abiola looks on as Charlie Desmond breaks away for Cambridge's try; Dormer takes on the Oxford defence.

VARSETY RUGBY

Shanaz Musafer

OXFORD 11

CAMBRIDGE 11

Cambridge retained the MMC Trophy after salvaging a draw from a Varsity Match which looked to be slipping out of their hands. 11-6 down with seven minutes to go, a superb try by Twickenham debutant Charlie Desmond rescued the day for the Light Blues and ensured that the match ended in a draw.

Both sides will feel they were robbed of a victory in a match that swung first one way and then the other. Oxford dominated the second half but failed to convert possession into points and found themselves victims of a smash and grab

Cambridge try. Cambridge, on the other hand, will look back on what might have been, when Dafydd Lewis' attempted drop goal, with the score at 5-6, was not given by the officials even though television replays suggest that the ball dropped just over the bar.

Cambridge fans would have been delighted with the first 35 minutes play, as, after a slightly shaky start, the Light Blues grew in confidence and began to dominate the game, forcing Oxford to concede a string of penalties, two of which Lewis converted to give Cambridge a 6-0 lead.

Cambridge continued to control the game while Oxford racked up the handling errors, but were unable to add to their score. So it was perhaps to be expected that Oxford would come back into the match, which is exactly what they did in the 35th minute. Breaks by Bradshaw and Raftery set up prop

Henry Nwume, who made a diagonal run and dived over with aplomb to take them within one point of Cambridge.

And to add insult to injury, following Lewis' disallowed drop goal, Oxford full back O'Mahoney kicked a penalty to give the Dark Blues an undeserved 8-6 half-time lead.

Cambridge fans could not be too downhearted for long though, as the crowd were treated to a handful of England players parading the William Webb Ellis Trophy around the stadium during the interval.

With the crowd buoyed by the sight of some of the current darlings of English sport, the players entered the arena for the final forty minutes. Unfortunately, it was Oxford who seemed to be inspired by the half time visitors as they started the second half like men possessed. The forwards, led by Tkachuk and Nwume, made marauding runs, and were amply supported by their

backs, who gathered any long balls safely and ran them straight back at Cambridge. The difference between the two sides' styles of play could not have been more evident: Cambridge set out to kick and chase long balls, while Oxford were willing to play a more free-flowing game, running with the ball in hand at any given opportunity.

For all their possession, though, Oxford merely scored one penalty in the second half.

It is often said that it only takes one moment of brilliance to turn a match around, and with time running out the Cambridge faithful were grateful that Aki Abiola and Charlie Desmond were on hand to provide one. In Cambridge's first real attack of the second half - coming after 73 minutes - Abiola, on as a second half substitute for Neil Toy, played scrum half at the ruck. Picking the ball up in the middle of the park, he got his first chance to

run at the Oxford defence and headed for the right hand corner, before passing out wide to Desmond. The young wing coolly sidestepped O'Mahoney to touch down in the corner and send the Light Blue fans into ecstasy.

All of a sudden Cambridge looked like a different side. With the crowd having found their voices again, Eru pushed his men forward. However, neither side were prepared to go for broke. After all, no-one wants to be known as the player who lost the Varsity Match. Cambridge in particular were happy to settle for the draw, knowing that, as holders, they would retain the MMC Trophy. Indeed, at the final whistle, the Light Blues celebrated as if they had won whilst the Dark Blues hung their heads in misery. And it was Cambridge who got to climb the famous Twickenham steps to collect the Trophy and who got to take it home with them.

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