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V100 | EDITORIAL

he Mercer Varsity 100 is not a talent list. To make a talent list in Cambridge would be like making a list of dangerous objects in an armoury. The Mercer Varsity 100 is a list of one hundred people who have made their way through the assault course of being nominated by Tutors. Faculty Heads, Varsity Section Editors or by having friends with enough nous to fill out the online form, and then being chosen by a fairly random panel of judges who have never met them before, but who they liked the sound of on paper. There were some, of course, it was not difficult to eliminate from the process – Adolf Hitler (Hermes Webmail Address ah204 apparently), several unnamed rugby boys who are "great in bed" and a lacrosse player with 'amazing legs' did not make it onto the shortlist. But through the titters at the back of the classroom, you might note that that it is not part of the everyday to sit and pass 10 A Levels at once, to write a best selling novel at the age of eighteen, to found a Ugandan Education Charity, to tirelessly campaign for Green Issues, or freedom for political prisoners, or an abolition of top-up fees.

Among the 100, there are those for whom it could be said that the gods were discriminate in their distribution of talent, there are those who may have stumbled into talent whilst having their heads in the clouds, and there are some who have worked relentlessly to follow their own passions whilst the rest of us were working our hips in Cindies. Of the many exceptional people in our fair Cantab. there are certainly more than a hundred who will make the world sit up and take notice. These 100 are but a soupçon of the incredible feast of intellect, creativity and downright persistent energy that typifies our student population here in Cambridge.

Though let's not go over the top with this vision of the *Mercer Varsity 100* as some kind of mass celebration of the diverse talent

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We remember well the desperate pangs of jealously and hope that rose in our hearts, as well as the small amount of vomit that rose into our mouths, when we first encountered the list.

99



in Cambridge. Most people. when reading the list, will not breathe a satisfied sigh and marvel at the achievements of their peers. Let's face it, the 100 exists because of the crucial importance of status and hierarchy in Cambridge life. It would be hard to deny the competitive element in the most part of our academic and extracurricular. We print the Mercer Varsity 100 because our readership engages with the idea of listing and discriminating between achievements, and because the Mercer Varsity 100 is the most talked about publication of the year, a reaction that, like it or not, gives it a certain amount of significance.

Of course significance doesn't mean gospel truth, and the list is read, criticised, and often rejected. We still remember well, before ever being involved in Varsity, the desperate pangs of jealously and hope that rose in our hearts, as well as the small amount of vomit that rose into our mouths, when we first encountered the list in previous years. Back then our new understanding of what a smug, insular and elitist place we'd arrived at was accompanied by a secret desire to be at the warm centre of all that smugness, breathing in the opiatic fumes of small noterity.

Yet, inescapably the list is a random and subjective creation. Though we try our absolute utmost to make it is as accurate and democratic as possible, the old cliché remains that talent cannot be so easily defined. So we suggest you try to enjoy the 100 for what it is, and not get too hung up on its choices.

The 100 this year also has two supplementary lists: the IQ Five, chosen by British Mensa from among those who sat the advertised Varsity-MENSA IQ test at the end of last term, and the Power 10, voted for by Varsity readers. Do students have any power at all? And if they do, what does it mean beyond the three or four years of undergraduate life? Is the Mercer Varsity 100 self important or stupendous? you decide.

Simon Hoggart



Simon Hoggart is a political journalist and broadcaster. A graduate of King's, he now writes for *the Guardian* and has written for *the Observer* as well as *the Spectator* and *Punch*. He lives in London with his wife and two children.

Jeremy Hardingham



Jeremy is Production manager for Escape Artists, a company that seeks to promote social change through the arts. He has been a professional writer and performer for 12 years, specialising in collaborative live theatre and video.

India Knight



India Knight was born in Brussels, read MML at Trinity and is now the author of three highly acclaimed books. She lives in London with her three children and long term boyfriend, Andrew O'Hagan.

Richard Brown



Richard is Head of Music at the Junction. He has toured with bands throughout the UK and Europe and promoted for several Cambridge pubs. When he's not practising pedal steel guitar, Richard likes spending time on his allotment.

Jon Ronson



Jon is a *Guardian* columnist, documentary film maker, radio presenter and author of three books. He lives in London with his wife Elaine and eight year old son Joel, who helped him select the *100* on a day off sick from school.

Raj Shah



Raj graduated from Cambridge in 2003 with an M.Eng in Chemical Engineering. Swapping Sidgwick for shareholder growth, he now works as a consultant for Mercer Management Consulting.



A word from Mercer Management Consulting

We would like to be the first to congratulate each of the memebers of this year's 100 on the impact that theyhave made on Cambridge University life and in furthering the University's image. While no doubt there will be some debate about the final make-up of the list, the idea of recognising and congratulating those

making the most of their time at Cambridge and changing it for the better, is one we wholeheartedly support.

Having impact is fundamental to everything we do at Mercer. We help senior executives across a wide range of industries solve their most difficult problems. Our unique approaches combine analytical

rigour, creative thinking, and deep business insight. Put simply, we help our clients make a difference. This term we're recruiting for summer analysts. If you would like to solve some of the toughest problems in business and start to make a difference in the commercial world as well, we'd love to hear from you.

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V100 | PERFORMING ARTS

Lizzie Crarer

Trinity Hall 2nd Year Theology: II.1

The current fresh face of the Cambridge thesp-world, Lizzie wowed audiences playing the lead in last year's Freshers mainshow at the ADC. She took up the role of Alice in



Closer (and left half the university dribbling at the muchtalked-about strip scene). though portraved a more modest Hero in Much Ado About Nothing. She headed up a schools touring theatre company last summer in Nepal and India.

Sarah Brocklehurst



New Hall 3rd Year English: II.2

Sarah is best known as the current President of the ADC. Dedicated to changing the more conservative face of the ADC program, she has taken on a variety of more controversial productions including *In the Blood*, *Blasted*, and a devised piece called *Something About Life and Music* – all to much acclaim. She has been involved in over seventeen plays, and is PR and Marketing director of Close Knit Productions.

Max Bennett

Queens 4th Year MML: II.1



Max Bennett is without doubt the most sought-after actor in Cambridge. He has proved a heartthrob in every major lead, from Macbeth, to Don Juan. His Romeo wooed audiences all over Europe, whilst his part in the 2005 Footlights touring show left towns all over the UK chuckling in admiration. However, this year he has bucked the hero typecast by playing the demanding role of 45-year old rapist Ian in the ADC production of *Blasted*.





Homerton 3rd Year Education: II.1

Anna has entertained Cambridge audiences in many a Footlights Smoker and as Faust in the ADC/Footlights panto, amused Edinburgh in *Grow Up*, and German audiences as Lady Bracknell in The Importance of Being Earnest, amongst many other notches on her thespy belt. Her direction of Beautiful Child caused quite a kerfuffle. We look forward to seeing her on stage in the real world in the near-future.



Megan Prosser

Homerton 3rd Year Education: II.1

Megan has proved herself a stalwart of the Thesp-world, having been involved in over 30 shows in Cambridge. She has acted, directed, designed and even been a lapdance choreographer. She is especially acclaimed for directing South Pacific and A State Affair at the ADC and has starred in productions from Taming of the Shrew to Bat Boy. She has just finished a three term tenure as TCS theatre editor.

Osh Jones

Homerton 3rd Year English: II.1

Osh has the strongest claim to being Cambridge's best director. His productions *Blasted* and *Oleanna* have been ADC triumphs as was 1, 2, 3, 4, (5) and Edinburgh's dark and daring *The Cabaret of Menace*. He

has shown as much talent on-stage, having acted in shows including Baal and The Goat.
Next term's The Seagull is eagerly awaited, as is his contribution

to Varsity as Theatre co-editor.



Fitzwilliam 3rd Year **English: II.1**

Holly's many stage appearances have made her something of an musical theatre icon in Cambridge. Having a great pair of lungs, they say, helps. She has played Mary Magdalene in Jesus Christ Superstar (Fitz Theatre), Deirdre in Wetmarsh College (Edinburgh Fringe), Sheila in *Hair* (ADC), Elvira in Blithe Spirit (ADC), Mrs Lovett in Sweeney Todd (Fitz Theatre), Shelley in Bat Boy The Musical (Edinburgh Fringe), and Anna in *Closer* (ADC). She'll be top-ping this lot off as Gloria in Return to the Forbidden Planet at the ADC in March.



Alastair Roberts

Churchill 4th year Oriental Studies: 1st

Does Alastair Roberts ever leave the ADC stage? A regular performer in smokers and pantos, he made for a disturbingly sexy Crassus in Spartacus and an endearingly unsexy Cornelius in Faust. His portrayal of Subtle in The Alchemist showed that the comic facility he displayed in Grow Up and Circus is matched by serious acting ability. He also studies Japanese (perhaps from a desk and chair backstage?)





Fitzwilliam 3rd Year **Engineering: II.2**

Will Wykeham is undoubtedly one of the most ambitious technicians in Cambridge. He began his ADC career by building the now legendary two-storey house set of A Small Family Business and created the catwalk structure used in *Closer*. Will sits on the ADC Committee for a second year running. We await his work on Return to the Forbidden Planet this term with much excitement.

Vivienne Storry

Homerton 3rd Year Education: II.2



Vivienne's talents do not merely stretch to acting alone: in her tenure as President of the Marlowe society she has helped build the bridge between Cambridge drama and the world of professional theatre. She organised a casting showcase for budding Cambridge actors - and in the process bagged herself a job at a top casting agency. Her acting credits include Beatrice in Much Ado and Margaret in Richard III.

Helen **Cripps**

Homerton 3rd Year Education: II.1



Helen looks remarkably like Annie, from Annie. but that is not her only talent. She is a regular performer in Footlights Smokers, and has starred in their 2006 tourshow

and Circus. She does both Beckett and Shakespeare, as proved by CAST's Much Ado About Nothing and Beckett Shorts. She also provided our Christmas entertainment for two years in a row in pantos Spartacus and Faust. Her profile on camdram runs onto two pages; that says it all really.

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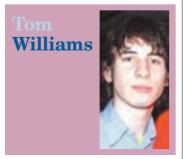
V100 | WRITERS AND PERFORMERS

Tom Kingslev

Caius 3rd Year English: II.1

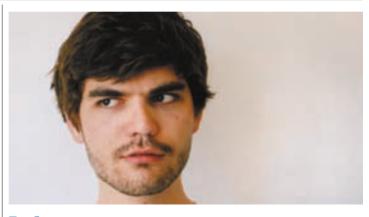
Tom has directed shows Dead Funny and Kafka's Dick. His name is synonymous with that of the Footlights; he co-wrote and directed shows *Grow Up*, Our Darker Purpose and Circus, and he designed the set and publicity for their ADC panto *Faust*. Tom has also been features editor, a satirical cartoonist and a designer for Varsity. He's a dab hand at photoshop and





Emmanuel 3rd Year English: II.1

Vice-President of Footlights, Tom Williams co-wrote and performed in *Grow Up*, co-directed and co-wrote *Circus*, and will be acting in *I'll Be Back Before* Midnight later this term. His stand-up at smokers is regularly well-received, though some postulate that his singing went somewhat under-appreciated. He certainly put things right in Faust as Satan. Finally, Twill in a towel in 1,2,3,4,(5) was an (almost) undisputed highlight of the term.



Luke **Roberts**

Churchill 3rd Year English: 1st

After reaching the final of the BBC New Comedy Awards, Luke appeared on Radio 4's 28 Acts in 28 Minutes, on Robin Ince's Book Club and Josie Long's Sunday Night Adventure Club. His first Radio Sketch show, Spats, was broadcast by the BBC in December. He has also proved himself an exceptional playwright, having been awarded both the Footlights Harry Porter Memorial Prize for Evelyn Budden: Auctioneer and the prestigious Other Prize for 1, 2, 3, 4, (5).

Tom **Sharpe**

Trinity 3rd Year Classics: II.1

As President of Footlights, Tom appears in every Smoker, he cowrote and composed the music for Faust, starred in Grow Up, directed Circus and wrote and performed his own solo stand-







Magdelene 3rd Year English: 1st

Multi-talented and with a reputation for being completely lovely, Henry won this years Harry Porter prize for The Barber Shop, described by judge Michael Frayn as "fresh, lively and entertaining". He also adapted and directed The Third Policeman by Flann O'Brien and had a hand in writing this year's Footlight's panto. Memorable stage performances include Sir Epicure Mammon in The Alchemist, Prospero in The Tempest and Baptista in ETG's The Taming of the Shrew. Plays a mean accor-

Spurrier



Emmanuel 3rd Year History: II.1

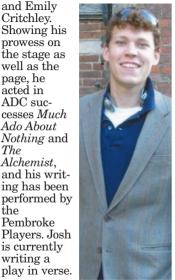
Martha is a true theatrical polymath: having started in the NYT, she went on to perform in, direct, write and produce many plays in Edinburgh and Cambridge, including ADC 150th Anniversary show Wild Honey. She managed the Footlights National Tour this vear. Martha co-founded a theatre company to explore devised drama, which produced the original and muchacclaimed Calvino Project.

Josh Stanley

Queens' 2nd Year English

Josh's poetry has been published on-line and in journals alongside some of the biggest names in contemporary poetry and has been commended by the likes of Keston Sutherland

and Emily Critchlev. Showing his prowess on the stage as well as the page, he acted in ADC successes Much $Ado\,About$ Nothing and The Alchemist, and his writing has been performed by the Pembroke Players. Josh is currently writing a





Joshua **Farrington**

Trinity 2nd Year English

Swooned over by the majority of the English faculty (both staff and students) he is also one of Cambridge's most talented writers. He won the Powell Prize for Serious Verse with his entry The Hectoriad written in classical hexameter. Beyond Cambridge, Josh has had features and articles published in the NME, The Western Mail, Wales on Sunday, WM Magazine, and many more.

Judith **Fathallah**



Emmanuel 2nd Year **English**

Despite being a mere 18 years old, Judith has proved that she is not too young to turn a horrific experience into something inspirational. After overcoming anorexia as a young teenager, she wrote the novel Monkey Training, about a girl with the same affliction, which was published this year. Judith has wanted to be a writer since she was five or six, and now it seems she is well on her way.

Ruth Gilligan

Cauis 1st Year English

name to

An Irish native with boundless energy and real star potential, Ruth has already proved herself a precocious and accomplished writer with her first novel, *Forget*, which was an Irish bestseller, and is currently writing a second. She has starred in a mainstream Irish soap opera and in The Blue *Room*, appeared in several magazines, and is a fully fledged Emeralds devotee. Definitely a





St John's 2nd Year **English**

Issy is the influential writers' rep for the Marlowe Society. She has established links with the professional writing world and organises a Scriptlab that takes place on alternate week-ends. Here she has helped members of the writing community practice their writing with professionals. She is also organising a writers' showcase, "Writing for Tomorrow" at the ADC Theatre, this term. Issy has a remarkable talent for enabling other writers, and as such is quietly responsible for much of the great writing generated in Cambridge.

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V100 | JOURNALISTS

Ellv Shepherd



Fitzwilliam 3rd Year **English: II.1**

Elly has been appointed editorin-chief of TCS for Lent Term 2007. She has been a regular contributor since her first year, and has held various editorial positions, including that of *TCS* Features Editor last term. She also writes poetry and short stories, has showcased her work at various readings during her time at Cambridge, and was published alongside other gifted young writers in the New Writing 13 anthology.

Marv **Bowers**



Queens 3rd Year History: II.1

This girl of many talents began writing Comment for Varsity in her first term at Cambridge, captivating her readers with her witty asides on Sudoku and Cambridge dating. Having edited the Music and Arts Sections, she rose to the task of co-editing the paper, and became renowned for making the Varsity office a fun place to be. Mary is also lead singer and songwriter in Her Daddy is a Guru, who last year received special interest from a top producer at Sony.

Adam **Bott**

Caius 2nd Year English: II.1

Adam is co-editor and founder of the new political magazine Scrap, which is produced by and for students at Cambridge, Oxford and the London universities and online

Scrap's inaugural issue featured writing by Noam Chomsky and has attracted sponsorship from JP Morgan. To prove that his

tongue is as sharp as his pen, Adam is current national debating champion and last year's international debating champion.

James Shepherd & Michaela Freeland



Cauis 2nd Year NatSci: 1st



Newnham 2nd Year Maths: 1st

Dedicated to raising the standard of scientific journalism in Cambridge, Michaela and James are Lent term's Varsity Science Editors. They have both made invaluable contributions to BlueSci and have been involved with The Triple Helix. The two have also been very successful academically, gaining high firsts in Part 1. Between them they hold an impressive range of committee positions including TTH writer and Editor-in-Chief (Michaela) and Faculty Rep (James). Michaela also conducted and published research into black holes for Sydney Uni. Both are involved in SciSoc.



Jonny Ensall

Fitzwilliam 3rd Year English: II.1

Jonny made the leap from Varsity Film Editor to Co-Editor in one term, taking up a secondary position as Chief of Design in the process. He's the promoter of (and occasional DJ at) Shut Up and Dance! at the Union, which has ensured a massive turn around of the Union's ailing Ents programme. The second incarnation of Shut Up and Dance! launches at The Soul Tree this term. Jonny is a current Reddaway Scholar at Fitzwilliam College.

Hermione **Buckland-Hobv**

Pembroke 3rd Year **English: 1st**

In her time off from being an all-round Cambridge beauty, Hermione has risen from theatre editor to the position of Varsity co-editor within the period of a term. She also scored a top first last year. Before Varsity, she acted to acclaim and was involved in ten Cambridge shows. Also a talented classical singer, she's performed in the Royal Albert Hall amongst many other places.







Robinson 3rd Year History: II.1

Since finishing his tenure as Editor of *TCS*, Ben has continued his journalistic momentum by penning film reviews for several internet sites. He continues as a *TCS* board member and will, this year, edit *Contraband*; a quarterly magazine including short fiction, political essays, poetry, artwork and satire.

Ed Grouse



Queens' 2nd Year Classics: 3rd

Ed had been working at the Hedge Fund Journal only a few months when he was promoted to News Editor, a job which he is currently taking on full time. On his return to Cambridge he plans to continue writing freelance. He is also setting up an Oxbridge Speed Dating company and will attemp a charity climb of Kilimajaro in March. For those of you who were wondering, he is dressed, in this picture, as a candle.



Emily Stokes

Trinity Hall 3rd Year English 1st

Nominated for *the Guardian* Student Features Writer of the year award, Emily has made many important contributions to journalistic life at Cambridge. As interviews editor for *Varsity* in 2005 and 2006 she interviewed many, from Rushdie to Shrigley, Andrew Motion to Emma Thompson. She became editor of *Varsity* in 2006, completing a redesign of the paper. She now writes occasionally for *the Observer*. You'll know Emily as the girl riding a tricycle around Cambridge with a fag in one hand and waving with the other.

Roland Foxcroft

Churchill 2nd Year SPS: II.1

Roland re-launched *The Berry*, Cambridge's political newspaper, in Michaelmas term and is currently its editor-in-chief. He also expanded the political events calendar, the only centralised information source for politically-minded students, and offered all political societies free advertising. He is Director of Recruitment at the Cambridge Union, pioneering the campaign to make the Union more inclusive and transparent. He has tirelessly campaigned to





Joe Gosden

Downing 2nd Year History

Joe is one of the in-coming editors of *Varsity*. He's been a stalwart of the paper for the last two years, rising to the top by way of the News Desk, using both his canny knowledge of Cambridge wannabe politicians and his deft handling of a good pun. He is President of the Downing Tribe, a rowing sporting society, and has rowed in the Downing 1st VIII for the last year.

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V100 | VISUAL ART AND DESIGN

Bethan Bide

New Hall 2nd Year English

Current Designers' rep at the ADC, Bethan has done much to push the importance of original and daring design to the centre



stage. Her creative energies have stretched beyond the eight Cambridge shows she's worked on: a fashion designers' collective she founded now stocks boutiques in London, Madrid and Barcelona.

Rob Petit

St John's 3rd Year Geography: II.1

Rob already has one foot in the film industry, after having worked as Assistant Producer for *MTV Flux* in the Summer holidays. His film project *BBTV* was selected for the 2006

Rotterdam
International
Film Festival
as well as the
Akbank Film
Festival
2006. Rob is
also heavily
involved with
the Cambridge
film-making
scene as VicePresident of
CineCam.

Julien Hunt



Robinson 4thYear

The main illustrator for *Varsity* this year, Jules honed his talent on a Barcelona fine art course in his gap year. Unlike the rest of us, who put our watercolours away after interrailing around Southern Europe, Jules persisted, and it's lucky for us he did. His stunning drawings are lively and professional and always perfectly suited to the theme. This year's *Varsity 100* cover is a case in point.

Lucy Minyo

King's 3rd Year Architecture: II.2 Despite her own unique flair for fashion, Lucy is not limited to being the belle of the house party; contributing to Cambridge theatre productions as a costume designer since her first year. She used this experience in designing her much-talked-about run for Cambridge Catwalk this year, which exhibited a lauded Regency style.



Benj Ohad-Seidler



Homerton 3rd Year Architecture

His collection at Cambridge Catwalk was slick and beautiful but also very wearable – rather than creating abstract art he designs with his friends in mind. Having interned at Anna Sui, Bottega Veneta and Roland Mouret, as well as being highly commended in 2006's Vogue Talent Contest, he is set to take the fashion world by storm. Most famous in Cambridge this year for covering Portugal Place with giant knitting.



Ben Jones

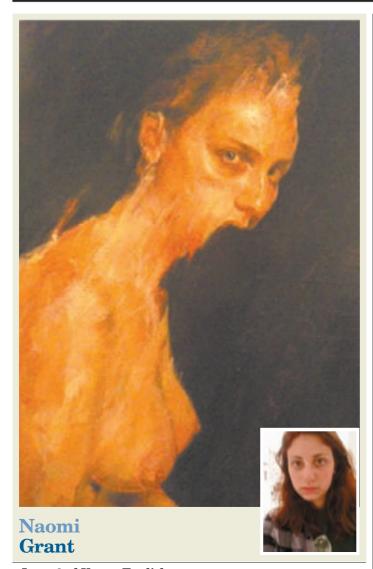


Magdalene 3rd Year Philosophy: II.1

As former photo editor for both Varsity and TCS, Ben has been one of the highest profile photographers at the University for several years now, snapping away at gigs and events throughout the town. He has also been involved in CUSU. Staff photographer for drownedinsound.com, Ben runs his own professional photography company. He is present at almost every gig in Cambridge, and even at the odd supervision or lecture in the Faculty of Experimental Psychology.

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Jesus 2nd Year English

At a university where facilities and encouragement for artists are distinctly limited in scope, Naomi has quietly continued to paint masterpieces, her work standing head and shoulders above other offerings in the recent Pembroke exhibition of students' art. The protégé of artist Israel Zohar, her influences are numerous, although admirers of her work cite Rembrandt and Schiele. She never enunciates, but always points out the direction of greatness in her own very quiet way.

Thomas Hewitt-Jones



Caius 4th Year Music: II.1

Tommy is former principal cellist of the National Youth Orchestra and played as a concert organist in the UK and the USA. Winning the BBC Proms Young Composer Competition 2003 kick-started his career beyond Cambridge as an excellent pianist and writer of music for the BBC. He is best known to his audiences in Cambridge, however, as the composer of the much-loved facebook song.

Charles Siem

Girton 2nd Year Music: 3rd

The most prominent of any undergraduate instrumentalist in the University, virtuoso violinist Charles Siem won the coveted CUMS Concerto

Competition in 2006, performing Wieniawski's first violin concerto in the Stephen Hawking concert last term. An IMG Artist, he is well on his way to a stunning musical career.



Cath Richardson

King's 3rd Year Classics: 1st



Under the talented stewardship of outgoing Cellar Bar Chair Cath, King's Cellars has over the last year reclaimed its status as one of the best college venues in the University, after a campaign to reopen it was (thankfully) successful. Adapting from its previous billing as a drum'n'bass haven, everyone's favourite sweaty-hole-in-the-ground can now truly claim to offer something for everyone, the only common denominator being high quality.

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V100 | MUSIC

Katherine Hambridge



Girton 3rd Year Music: II.1

The big momma of Cambridge musical management, Katherine, whilst not tending her choral flocks as senior organ scholar at Girton, has held down positions on the Opera Society, Chamber Choir and Organ Scholars' Forum, as well as organising concerts for the Cambridge Music Festival and her own college. A mezzosoprano and conductor to boot, Katherine is an exemplary proponent of classical music, combining frightening zeal with seeming administrative infallibility.

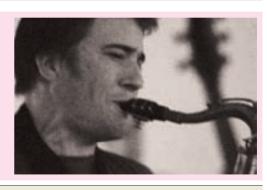


David Johnson

Queens' 3rd Year Music: 1st

David received the highest grade in his year for his Part I Music Tripos. He has Grade 8 Distinctions in guitar, cello and piano, as well as a Licentiate of Trinity College London in Piano Performance. His Cambridge musical formations – from classical to jazz to the odd bit of metal – include CUGQ, Black Shabbat, Anada and Fiend. He played 19 gigs in May Week 2006! He was awarded the James Beament Prize and is president of MagSoc.

George Crowley



Magdalene 3rd Year English: II.1

An extraordinary jazz saxophonist, George has been in almost every ensemble in his time in Cambridge. He has transformed Fitzswing as Musical Director, and is a frontman of Oxbridge band CUJO. He plays frequently with many other up-and-coming musicians on the London scene. George's talent looks set to break the bubble. He takes up a place at the Royal Academy of Music next year.

Clare Hammond

Emmanuel 4th Year Music: 1st



Clare is one of Cambridge's outstanding pianists. She has been awarded both the Langley Senior Scholarship and the Greenwood Prize for academic achievement and the Nigel W. Brown prize for performance. With such adulation, it is unsurprising that she plans to remain at Cambridge next year to complete a BMus before moving to London to study piano at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2007.

Sam Leon & Mike Misiewicz



Girton King's 3rd Year 3rd Year Philosophy: Philosophy: II.1 1st

THE NICE UP TOP 5

Justice To The People – Lee Perry & The Upsetters

Back To Black – Amy Winehouse

Hustler – Simian Mobile Disco

Erotic Discourse – Paul Woolford

Bump - Spankrock

Sam and Mike are the duo behind Nice Up The Shake Down at Kambar, and are often to be found playing an eclectic mix of everything from Reggae to Electro in Kings (Cellars, Mingle, Affair) Emma Bar, Kambar and The Cow. Probably the biggest double-act in Cambridge at the moment, the pair are getting plenty of attention from outside the bubble. However, they share more in common than just a set of decks: both are academically talented and plan to go to New York on a five-year fully funded philosophical research programme.

Giovanni Menegalle



King's 2nd Year MML: II.1

Giovanni has rejuvenated DJing in Cambridge. Starting with electrosleaze last year, and now having run Admin and Duplo, he has led a DIY DJ renaissance. Bringing a bit of Shoreditch into Cam with an eye for 80s retro fashion, and a much-envied wardrobe, he has firmly established himself as a talented DJ and an important part of the Cambridge music scene, not to mention its unofficial catwalk.



Davidson

King's 1st Year English

Together with three friends from school, Stephen formed indie-rock band Tellison.
Calling themselves "a self determining unit without girls from Hammersmith", Stephen, and Tellison, have had feet atapping at venues from Scarborough to Goole and have received a large amount of positive press attention. Apart from Tellison, Stephen has made a number of successful solo recordings. Plays a mean guitar.

David Wyatt

Trinity Hall 4th Year Engineering: 1st*

After a gap year working on robotics in Australia, David arrived in Cambridge to prove his academic credentials, topping the Engineering Tripos in his first year and coming second in the second vear. In his third year he went on an exchange to



MIT. Now in his forth, his tutors hope he will stay in Cambridge for a PhD, despite efforts from across the pond to lure him back to the US.

Paul Jefferys



Trinity 3rd Year Maths: 1st*

Aged just 20, Paul arrived in Cambridge already with a first class degree in Economics from the Open University which, of course, he completed in his spare time. At Cambridge, he came top of the maths tripos last year, with an astounding 96% result. This precedent for academic over-achievement was set at 6th form where he gained 10 As at A-level (the UK record). He's also been the world infomatics championship and has topped the UK Maths Challenge four times. However. Paul is not one to sit behind his desk. He holds a half-blue for Eton Fives and captains this year's team, whilst last year he won blades at May Bumps. Definitely one of this year's least debatable inclusions in the list.

Ed Kite



Pembroke 4th Year NatSci: 1st*

Ed has a passion for all things planetary. Impressively, he will have been published in respected scientific journals three times by the end of this vear. He has already worked with the lab that created the Beagle spacecraft, as well as both MIT and Caltech. Ed is a key member of the university's naval unit, a talented speechwriter and, let's face it, will probably know more about most subjects than we do. Amazingly, he does it all in a really fun way.



James Trafford

St Catharine's 2nd Year Geography: 1st*

Last year James won the Andrew Hall prize for the highest part 1A Geography tripos result, after achieving a starred first and averaging 87%. He also won the Alfred Steers memorial Award and is AAL Caesar Scholar at St Catz. He has showed his non-academic talent, not only on the *Club Twenty-Two* dance floor, but also through his responsibilities as CUSU LBGT ents officer and Catz JCR RAG rep.

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Magnus Gittins

Trinity Hall 3rd Year SPS: II.1

Magnus has returned to complete his degree after taking two years out to set-up a nanotech company, Advance Nanotech, with operations in the USA, Singapore and the UK. It links to a number of universities and is listed in New York. Magnus was CEO over the two years before returning to Cambridge, and is assured a glittering entrepreneurial career after graduation. One is left asking whether Magnus needs a degree at all...

Matt Lewis



Churchill 2nd Year CompSci: 1st

Matt has been programming since the age of 7. He works for Matta, and wrote the key part of a groundbreaking piece of network security software designed to make security systems hackerproof, which will be released in April. He has contributed as a writer for the industry standard book on security. Matt has been published anonymously in one of the oldest and most respected hacker journals.

Camilla MacDonald

Queens' 3rd Year History: 1st*

Milli is one of only two Part I History students last year to receive the coveted 1*, no small achievement in a subject where the joke about everyone getting a II.i is not actually that much of a joke. Such an achievement becomes all the more impressive when bearing in mind that she

also draws political cartoons, took the lead in *Relatively Speaking* at Queens' last year, and has perhaps the best pair of legs in the History Faculty.



John Robb



King's 3rd Year Classics: 1st*

John received the highest (and only) 1* in Part 1b Classics last year, suggesting that he never makes the fatal error of writing "Sophocles" instead of "Socrates" in his examination essays. He is also a member of King's College Choir and has performed on several of their recordings.

Kunal Patel

Robinson 3rd Year Engineering: 1st

Kunal has had unparalleled success as Vice-President of Cambridge University Entrepreneurs. He has spent a great deal of time securing connections in London. Incredibly



bright, going places, fast - and taking lots of Cambridge students with him - Kunal is hotly tipped to be President of C.U.E. next year. Somehow, he has casually managed to achieve very high firsts every year too.



Dan Hill

Emmanuel 3rd Year Music: II.1

Dan's professional web-design has brought visual polish to the image of Cambridge's leading ensembles. As well as sites for the University Opera Society and Music Club (of whose Chamber Orchestra he is also President), Dan has constructed the invaluable Cammuso database, enabling publicists to enter details of their events to create a calendar of University musical events. His smooth tones, clear layouts and rational navigation characterise his technological prowess, matching the musical expertise which earned him a conductorship of CUMSII.

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Kim Roach & Stephen Jones





Emmanuel Robinson 3rd Year 4th Year Engineering: Engineering: 1st. II.1

As joint chief executives of UKwide international student development charity Engineers Without Borders, Kim and Stephen have raised over £50,000 for its activities, and have been responsible for over 100 student placements. Between them, they have also carried out considerable work in Nepal and India. With a strong ethic and clear vision, Kim and Stephen together prove to us lay people that Engineering is about much more than building wobbly bridges.

Brian Lavery



King's 3rd Year NatSci: II.1

As Cinecam President, Brian is effectively charged with promoting and ensuring the success of student filmmaking in Cambridge. He has, in his tenure, done much to increase membership and access to filmmaking projects. Despite some criticisms levelled at the society by writers in *Varsity*, Brian is confident of Cinecam's bright future. We look forward to the Cinecam short film competition this year.

Hamish Falconer

St Johns 2nd Year SPS: 1st



As Michaelmas term's chair of Amnesty International Cambridge, Hamish headed a new initiative called "Weekend of the Letter", collecting 2000 letters and signatures for Amnesty in just two days. This term he will be heading the main Annual Campaign, which will focus on Refugees' Rights. He has also launched a new nationwide campaign for divestment in Sudan, starting with Cambridge colleges and liaising with other British universities and institutions.

Mark Koller



St. John's: 3rd Year Classics: 1st

As President of U8 and The Cambridge University International Development Society, Mark has done much to raise awareness of international politics in Cambridge. At the Student U8 event in Cambridge last March, Film Director Michael Mungai commented, "never in my life have I met so many inspirational people in such a short period of time". Presumably he met Mark first of all.



Tess Riley

St Catharine's 3rd Year English: II.1

Varsity's very own Interviews Editor and Ethics Girl has devoted great amounts of positive energy to promoting green issues in Cambridge. Among the many environmental groups Tess has campaigned for, she is co-Founder of the Cambridge branch of Plane Stupid, an action group opposing the expansion of air travel. In between protests, she still finds time for her performances as a singer-songwriter, and as a former President of the Shirley Society, there are few authors she doesn't know. Whether she sleeps is another question.

Sam Rose

St. Johns' 3rd Year (Sabbatical)

Sam crossed the road from the Fitzwilliam Museum to the CUSU office one day and suddenly found himself on a yearlong sabbatical from History of Art as CUSU Welfare Officer. Since then, he's known for his broad grin and sense of

humour after the
all-night work
stints that
have produced tireless campaigns on
everything
from alcohol
awareness
to do-it-yourself Chlamydia
testing. Sam's a
man who's not afraid

to talk dirty for your benefit.

Management Consulting

V100 | SOCIETIES AND ORGANISATIONS

Rachael Morris



Newnham 3rd Year NatSci: II.1

As chairman of RAG, Rachael has continued a long tradition of proving to students that they can create charitable donations out of their silly, drunken and slightly irresponsible behaviour. Her work this year has facilitated everything from the mandatory Pyjama Pub Crawl to the eagerly anticipated Blind Date. All in all, RAG's work is expected to pinch approximately £160,000 out the pockets of miserly students this year.

Kate Eyre



Queens 3rd Year NatSci: II.1

Kate set up and now runs Esuubi, a charity which looks after orphans, and runs schools in Mityana, Uganda. The vision behind the charity came during Kate's Gap year, but unlike the rest of us, the philanthropy did not dissolve in the Duty Free on her flight home. Despite this veritable full-time job, Kate still manages to find time between charitable deeds to be among the highest achievers in her tripos.

Donnacha Kirk

Churchill 4th Year NatSci: 1st

Donnacha has been heavily involved with Education Not For Sale, an organisation that fights for universal, free educa-tion at every level. When not protesting against Top-up Fees, he is busy as Fisher House Rep. for Čhurchill and as a member of the Gaelic Athletics Squad and the Quiz Society, A technician for six Cambridge shows, he has also tried his hand at directing. and is treasurer for the God's Dramatic Soc at



Downing 4th Year NatSci: 1st

Churchill.

mean game of Tiddlywinks.

Plays a

Ed Bolton describes himself as a "broadcasting journalist of the lowest degree". We can only beg to differ. As programme controller of University Radio Station CUR1350, and the best live sports reporter they have ever had, Ed has added much of his professional experience and vision to the organisation, whilst putting in a more-than-valiant bid for a material science degree at Downing. A teetotaller himself, he organises the annual college pub-crawl, donning fluorescent tabard and goggles as their self-appointed Safety Officer.



Cong Cong Bo

Emmanuel 2nd Year Medicine: II.1

Cong manages to interconnect artistic flair with the mind of a scientist - reaching very high standards in both fields. She is co-President of the Scientific society and President of the Photographic Society. A natural leader, she has had a great influence in the way the Photographic Society has improved in terms of attendance, and has organised fascinating talks and workshops. Business-minded, she also started her own photographic company.

Fran Lewis

Caius 2nd Year History: II.1

Fran says she loves Cambridge student life, and tries to "get as involved as she can" in the Cambridge community. In that case, her CV would suggest she's living the dream. A keen Union debater, she is also Secretary

General of Cambridge Model United Nations, and acts as Undergraduate Liaison for Coger's Debating Society. She is also an editor of *The Berry* and writes for *TCS*.



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Matt Clifford

Clare 3rd Year History: 1st*

From the moment he arrived in Cambridg, Matt showed himself to be nothing less than the young upstart of student politics: JCR President by his second term, then CUSU Chair, he went on to Found Clare Politics, bring speakers such as Douglas Hurd and Shami Chakrabarti to our very own backwater, all while achieving the highest 1* in his year in History. US Congress intern for Summer 2007, only American naturalisation now stands between him and the US Presidency.



Pembroke 4th Year NatSci

Jenni, in her own words, has "given enough to Cambridge life now", after being President of, amongst others: the Union, Pembroke Stokes Soc. Pembroke Players and highranking just about everywhere else. It would be a shame just to think of her as an organisational machine, though having not had a free evening literally all of last term, she seems to not quite have realised her goal of taking something back quite vet.

Luke **Pearce**

King's 3rd Year SPS: II.1

The boy done good: Luke clambered from rural Wales not only to a degree in SPS at King's, but to the most contentious and sought-after position in Cambridge. As President of the Union Society, it is difficult to know which is his greatest achievement: holding together the University's fighting factions or entertaining Jeremy Paxman at dinner. In any case, like those before him with the

privilege of having presided over the famous debating chamber, the real world is sure to welcome Luke with open arms.

V100 STATS

Most Featured College:

- 1. Emmanuel
- = 2. Trinity
- = 2. Queens' = 2. King's

Most Featured **Subject:**

- 1. English
- 2. NatSci
- 3. History

Most Featured Gender:

- 1. Men (64%)
- 2. Women (36%)



Back-scratching, egomania and self-promotion - The Varsity 100 gets the Bishop's seal of approval. The official view from the pulpit on the more distasteful aspects of the V100 inside this week's edition.

V100 | SPORT



Emmanuel 3rd Year Vetinary Sciences: II.1

Current BUSA Individual Student Riding Champion, Samantha won individual gold for show-jumping in her first appearance on the British Student team. She captains the University riding team, and when off a horse, takes up her sword and fences for the women's sabre team. She hopes to make her first appearance at badminton (top level in the world) next Spring. Samantha events her own horses, and presumably puts her studies in Vetinary Sciences to good use in the stables.

Graeme Spence

Trinity Hall 3rd Year NatSci: 1st

Currently Captain of the University Swimming Team, Graeme also holds two University Swimming records, and remains, unsurprisingly, undefeated in Varsity Match races. A former youth finalist, he has gone against against the tide of all that is expected of



sportsmen in academia, not only earning a place at Trinity Hall to read Natsci, but also excelling in Chemistry and coming near the top of his year cohort.



Matt Austin

Emmanuel 3rd Year Economics: II.2

Never one to do things by halves, Matt has the rare distinction of holding full Blues in two sports. He is the current Captain of the University Squash Club, having won his blue for the sport in 2005. Swapping one bat for another, he was awarded a full blue for Cricket in 2006.

Charlotte Hill



Downing 3rd Year NatSci: II.1

Charlotte has proved that Cambridge female sport is about more than just jolly hockey sticks: Captain of the Blue's lacrosse team, she has also risen to play lacrosse for England. And all this whilst retaining a decidedly unsportswoman-like elegance and studying for a degree in Natural sciences and Pharmacology.

Edward Andrews



St John's 3rd Year History: II.1

A rugby and boxing Blue, Ed cuts a fairly buff figure in the Cambridge sporting world. Capped for Wales at Under 18s rugby, he went on to play for Saracens and London Welsh RFC before starting at number 8 for the University. In 2006 he matched the same distinction in heavyweight boxing, becoming the Captain of the CUABC. Ed will competing in the 100th Varsity boxing match in March.

Joe Ansbro



Robinson 3rd Year NatSci: II.1

Joe is perhaps Cambridge's most influential rugby player. Already signed up by the Northampton Saints, he has continued to play for the Blues. His name was the subject of much drunken chanting in Twickenham pubs in December after he memorably kept his opposing number, former Australian international Joe Roff, quiet during this year's Varsity match. He has also played for England U18.



Magdalene 3rd Year Geography: II.1

There were many individuals nominated for the *Varsity 100* as an "all round legend", but here is one that is truly qualified: Not only is Ed a professional snowboarder, athlete, footballer, rugby player and gymnast, he has also served as equal opportunities officer, proving himself a real man of the match. Whether all this leaves him with any energy to do his Geography degree is another question.



Phyllis Agbo

Trinity 3rd year NatSci

Phyllis holds international honours for long jump, 200m, 100m hurdles, 4x100m and heptathlon. In her first international European Youth (U18) Olympics in Spain in 2001 she came 8th in the long jump and 2nd in the 4x100 relay. Her first senior International was the European Cup Combined Events Super League, in Arles in 2006, where she was part of the team that came 4th out of 10, equalling Great Britain's highest ever position.

Tom James



Trinity Hall 4th Year **Engineering: II.2**

Loved by all women, envied by all men, the President of the Blues Boat carries demands beyond the merely physical. Tom, however, has also represented his country at international standard (Ölympic Games, World Championships and other events) and raced against Oxford three times. You might think this means we should envy him, but Tom has done all this while remaining level-headed, undertaking a demanding degree, and being enormously popular amongst his peers.

Rosie Sherman



New Hall 3rd Year Medicine: II.2

Rosie was elected in April 2006 as Captain of the Hockey Blues having been a Blue since her first year. The team is currently third in the BUSA league. Her guick start in University sports is unsurprising, considering she was Captain of her county team as well as Captain of West of England under 16 and under 18 teams, and that she had two trials for England team at the same ages.

raduates and postgraduates are excluded from the main body of the Varsity 100 this year. However, here are a few names to consider, who've either left Cambridge, or are studying on a postgraduate course, but whose acheivements demand recognition.

Simon Stephens
Having gained a 1* in both Part I and II History, Simon was awarded a year long Fellowship to Harvard University. As an undergraduate he founded Christ's Politics, served on the Union's External Committee and competed in inter-varsity debating.

Rahul Vohra

Rahul is studying for a PhD in Computer Science at Christ's College whilst serving as President of Cambridge University Entrepeneurs. Under his tenure the group has raised around 100K to help students start up their own businesses.

Bobby Friedman

Bobby was President of the Union in the first term of his second year. He went on from his undergraduate career into a job at BBC Newsnight and then returned to do an M.Phil in Management. Probably the most well connected man in Cambridge.

Natalie McGoldrick

Osprey of the year in 2005, Natalie has been riding for the British team for three years, representing her country on six occasions. In 2004, she won the World University Championships.

Kieran West

Studying for a PhD in history, Kieran is a former World and Olympic champion rower and three time Cambridge Blue. He raced for the third time in the university boat race in 2006.

Thomas Endlein

Studying for a PhD in Zoology, Thomas's stunning photography earned him the titles of BG Wildlife Photographer of the Year and European Nature Photographer of the year in 2005.

Tom came top of his Tripos in Philosophy and then top of his year again in his Philosophy M.Phil. He is now doing a PhD and is also bass player and manager of Cambridge band Sleepwalker.

James Brown

James is currently doing a PhD in synthetic biology at Downing, whilst retaining his position as iGEM European Ambassador for the second year running.

Susan Kitagu

Backed by a grant from the Smuts Memorial Fund, Susan has devoted her energies to improving sex education in Kenya in order to bring about changes in the sexual behaviour of young people and curb the spread of STDs.

James Sherlock

Co-conductor of the university symphony orchestra (CUSO), James won First Prize in the Marcello Galanti International Organ Competition in 2005. He will play later this year in Japan and the US.

Louise Woodley

Louise was part of the founding team behind BlueSci, the university's science magazine, and is now its managing editor. The magazine has been described as "a leading source of information about scientific research in Cambridge."

V100 | THE IQ TOP FIVE

n assocation with British Mensa, Varsity held a free IQ test for Cambridge students at the end of Michaelmas Term. Here we list the top scores and explain the actual meaning of IQ.

Mark **Dickens**

Clare Hall, Oriental Studies, PhD

Score:159



Richard Gibson

Trinity College, Maths, II.1

Score:157

Michael Wallace Trinity, Maths, II.1

Score:157





Michael Contario

Trinity College, NatSci, 1st

Score:155

Adam **Edelshain**

Jesus College, Economics, II.1

Score:154



TAKE THE TEST

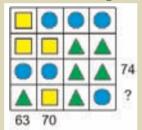
Answers on page 23

1. Which two letter word can be placed in the centre of each of the following words to form a longer word in each case? DOES CORNED **GOWN**

OUTING

2. What letter should appear next in this sequence? Z X C V ?

3. What is the value of the bottom row of the grid?



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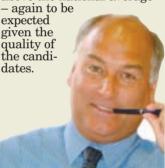
John Stevenage

The Chief Executive of British MENSA on the test

IQ or Intelligence Quotient is an attempt to measure intelligence. This can be interpreted to mean many different things, but generally the attribute of intelligence refers to quickness of mental comprehension, or mental agility.

People who show this ability tend to favour careers where quick thinking, a wider view of situations and attention to detail is important. These can be IT specialists, the legal profession, medicine, etc. There is no stereotype though, and it depends on the individ-ual how they wish to develop their own career. That is reflected in the diversity of membership of Mensa – from those who choose not to join the rat race, through white van drivers and blue collar workers, to celebrities, professors and politicians.

The students at Cambridge who took the Mensa test were a self-selecting group and – as they are recognised as exceptional students, by virtue of having been accepted by the University – it was no surprise that they all showed they had very high IQs. A total of 67% of the students scored in the top 2% which is the eligibility range for Mensa. This is slightly above the national average again to be



Mark Ferguson CUSU President



Michael Jacobson Union Society President



Sarah Brocklehurst ADC President

Various JCR Presidents

Special mention was made of Calum Davey at Clare, Maz Kemple at Magdalene, Amina Al-Yassin at New Hall, and Caz Neville at Queens'. "Unlike many of the Power Ten, she was actually elected by the student body and is liked and respected..."



Tom James Men's Boat Club President

V100 | THE POWER 10

Tarsity conducted a survey asking you to name the students with the most power, influence and ability to implement change in Cambridge. Here's what you told us.

66

The status of the Union Society President is probably based more on reputation and prestige than the actual power the position itself brings

99

Toby Young

The author and journalist warns of the fleeting reality of student power

When I was an undergraduate at Oxford, I read AJP Taylor's autobiography in which, among other things, he discusses his long career as a Fellow of Magdalene College. He says that one of the most pleasant occasions he can recall is a dinner he had to preside over featuring all the College's former JCR Presidents. He was dreading it beforehand – what could be more dull? – but it turned out to be a thoroughly enjoyable experience, mainly because the guests at the dinner had lost none of the charm that had enabled them to become JCR Presidents in the first place. However, he did note that not a single one of them had amounted to anything.

I took great comfort from this. Was it possible that theundergraduates who were so prominent in my day – a group that didn't include me would end up as non-entities in the outside world? I sincerely hoped so, but I scarcely dared believe it. Twenty years later, when I attended my second gaudy at Brasenose College, Oxford. Taylor's observation seemed to be borne out. All the undergraduates who'd impressed me as the Most Likely to Succeed when I'd first met them had failed to set the world on fire. Indeed, several of the Big Men on Campus had pointedly failed to attend, so embarrassed were they by their failure to live up to early expectations. The ones who'd done well for themselves - become successful novelists, or made millions as hedge fund managers - were those who'd been so anonymous as undergraduates that I sim-

66

College Presidents and the JCR are the only people who have actually caused meaningful change

99

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66

President among the triumvirate of Toms. He has the power over Cambridge University's up-and-coming funny men

99

ply didn't recognise them. Was such-and-such a person really a contemporary of mine? I had no idea. My fellow student at Brasenose who has gone on to be the most successful is David Cameron, and while I knew

Cameron, and while who he was, he did nothing outside the College to speak of-he had no interest in the Union or in the University Dramatic

Society or any-

thing like that. He kept himself to himself and concentrated on his studies.

Of course, there are exceptions. My Oxford contemporaries included Boris Johnson, who was as conspicuous then as he is now, and when I was a graduate student at Trinity College, Cambridge, I marked down a

pretty undergraduate called Rachel Weisz as destined for higher things. But 99% of my picks in both places have disappeared off the face of the earth. Even a Google search fails to turn anything up. So take heart, oh you wretched hordes of

anonymous undergraduates. The student gods you gaze at in wonderment today will nearly all come crashing down to earth as soon as they leave the University. It's men and women like you – the people that no one has taken

any notice of – who will really light up the firmament.

As Cyril Connolly said, "Those whom the Gods would destroy, they first call promising." The corollary of this is, "Those whom the God would anoint, they first pay no attention to."

66

It might not be a glamorous post but it involves real hard work and commitment day-to-day for something that really matters

Tom Sharpe Footlights President

> Dilly Nock Ospreys' President



Dan Barry Hawks' Club President

Gutteridge
Trinity May Ball
President



Luke Pickering CUSU Access Officer

MENSA test answers (from p

1.Do to give dodoes, cordoned, godown and outdoing.

2. B. These letters appear from left to right on the bottom row of a keyboard.

