

the Waterfront

21st February 2011 - Issue 199 (1 to go!)
www.waterfrontonline.co.uk

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SPORT BAG EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH RISING STAR
Francesca Lewis talks about injury, Varsity and
Wimbledon dreams



HORROR-BALL

Students Engulfed In Flames At Fancy Dress Event: Ani-Ball

By **Laura Richards**
Deputy New Editor

PANIC ERUPTED on the smoking terrace of Oceana during the Ani-ball fancy dress night on Monday 7th February, as two students were seriously injured after fire engulfed their costumes.

The students, believed to be in their first year, appeared to be wearing sheep costumes comprising of cotton wool stuck onto a lycra underlay.

Their costumes caught fire whilst in the smoking area resulting in the students being transferred to hospital with serious burns to their upper body. One of the students injured sustained burns to his face and throat. A third student was also harmed after his costume caught fire but it is understood that he was not as badly affected.

Portia Evelyn, a 2nd year Geography student, was stood around two metres away from the students when the fire started.

"There was a guy in a sheep's costume and then all of a sudden he was on fire. There was a lot of panic and screaming and then the fire was put out."

Laura Clark-Jeavons, 3rd year Screen Studies student, was stood at the end of the terrace by the fire exit and can remember lots of people screaming and panicking. She revealed, "In all the commotion people were trying to open the fire doors as they just wanted

to get out of the way of the fire."

However Evelyn also stated that whilst the students were on fire, "everyone turned around to look at them but as soon as the fire was out people just kind of turned around and carried on with their own business."

Oceana have reviewed the CCTV footage of the incident which lasted between 45 seconds and a minute. It is inconclusive from viewing the footage how the fire started but it is understood an investigation is underway.

Another student who witnessed the fire, but wished to remain anonymous, stated that he didn't see how the incident started, but the first thing that he saw was just a small patch of the one students costume on fire.

"To start with it didn't seem like that big of a deal but then he started to pat the area which made the fire spread. His friend, who was also dressed as a sheep came over to help but his costume also caught fire. They both tried to take some of the cotton wool balls off their costumes which resulted in small balls of fire being thrown across the terrace."

Nick Jones, a safety steward at Oceana was the first member of staff on the scene and told *The Waterfront* that the episode started and finished very quickly.

He revealed that a girl tried to get his attention from the smoking terrace and once he opened the doors he immediately saw flames, smelt burning and heard people screaming.



Is this the coolest mum in the world? Read about Breda Donoghue hitting a student club night with her son and daughter on page 3.

By the time he reached the students, the fire had almost been completely extinguished by the students themselves.

Jones commented, "I shouted to the guys to stop, drop and roll and got the one guy to take off his t-shirt. I then took off my own jacket and placed it over them to ensure the fire was completely smothered."

Jones, who served in the Mid and West

Wales and Wiltshire fire service for 7½ years, before becoming a safety steward at Oceana, noted that he didn't think that his experience necessarily helped but it did give him a lot more confidence when confronted with the situation.

He also warned students that they needed to be a lot more aware of their clothing and surroundings on similar nights as this incident was the last

thing that anyone expected to happen.

Swansea Student Events praised Jones for his prompt reactions.

"We would like to thank the safety steward who was first on the scene for his swift action in administering first aid and remind all students to take precautions when making fancy dress costumes."

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Feature Pull-out - Page 20-
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Russian Student who
Witnessed Recent Moscow
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Editorial

What a week!

I hope like me you all enjoyed Valentines Censored last Monday night! I certainly had fun and it was a pleasure to meet one of the most fantastic Mum's in the world – Breda Donoghue who partied with a number of students into the early hours like she was 18 again. Guess my Dad was right in telling me that you are only as old as you feel.

Congratulations to Dan Ryan-Lowes who last week became our new AU President, well done on a good election

campaign – the media look forward to working with you and getting all the AU sport events promoted and covered.

Talking of elections, the rumour mill is constantly churning out lines about who is running for the SU elections, I didn't even know Gordon Brown was a student here, but I guess he has to get a win under his belt somewhere. Any students wanting to throw their hat into the mix and get onto the campaign trail for SU Election 11 should go and get an election pack from the Union reception – Hurry you only have until THIS THURSDAY 24th February.

I'm not sure how many of you still watch kids TV, but one show has certainly caught my eye in the last fortnight is Rastamouse, this cool little dude likes to jam some Reggae with friends before solving crime – quite creative. Unfortunately it appears the little bugger has gotten into my food cupboard this week as not one, but two loaves of my bread were munched away by the little critter. I'm sure most of you reading this might be able to sympathise with my situation, let's face it I've lived in student houses too! So I'm launching a personal attack on Rastamouse and his little friends to get out of my food cupboard.

Finally congrats to Amy and Josh (last issues Blind Date couple) they are now actually a couple – Awwwww wasn't expecting that. The feature is returning next issue. If anyone would like to apply to be involved please email me below (Lewis and Becca?). Remember it's just a bit of fun.

Next issue we hit the big 200! Make sure you check it out.

Have a good fortnight,
James

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Inside this week's edition



HIGH STREET SPECIAL
Inside this edition of Student Style
Fashion pages 18 and 23



NEWS FEATURE SPECIAL
The news team tackle the tough questions surrounding the upcoming March Welsh Referendum
Pages 20/21



GRUMMY KNOWS BEST!
Deputy Music Editor Sarra Grummett recommends some of the best unknown musical talent. Alongside exclusive interviews and CD reviews.
Music - Pages 15 - 17

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Welfare Officer, Lance Horsey, also reiterated Jones' warning regarding students' fancy dress, commenting that "everyone enjoys dressing up but students must be aware of what they are actually wearing. It is essential to keep away from flammable material and items; most fabric and cloth you buy have some kind of flame resistance but that does not apply to everything. Similarly, when you buy a complete outfit online or from a shop they are usually flame retardant. If you make a costume, it is your own responsibility as adults to ensure that you check what you are using and that you are sensible whilst making and wearing it."

Sarah Huws-Davies, Acting Director of Student Services, also wished to remind people to be aware when making their costumes and was keen to stress that a number of websites that describe how to make fancy dress costumes do not carry any safety advice.

Once the incident had occurred, Oceana promptly requested that other students dressed as sheep or wearing highly flammable outfits remove their costumes and change into clothing provided.

Steve Saunders, General Manager of Oceana, commented: "Oceana

Swansea prides itself on its outstanding safety record as its primary objective is for its customers to have a fun and safe night. Although we will not discuss the incident in question in detail, both independent witnesses and the club's own CCTV show that Oceana's team reacted in a quick, efficient and professional manner."

Kate Wilson, a 3rd year History and American Studies student, who was also dressed as a sheep for the event, revealed that her friend was pulling the cotton wool off her outfit when a safety steward approached her and escorted her to the office.

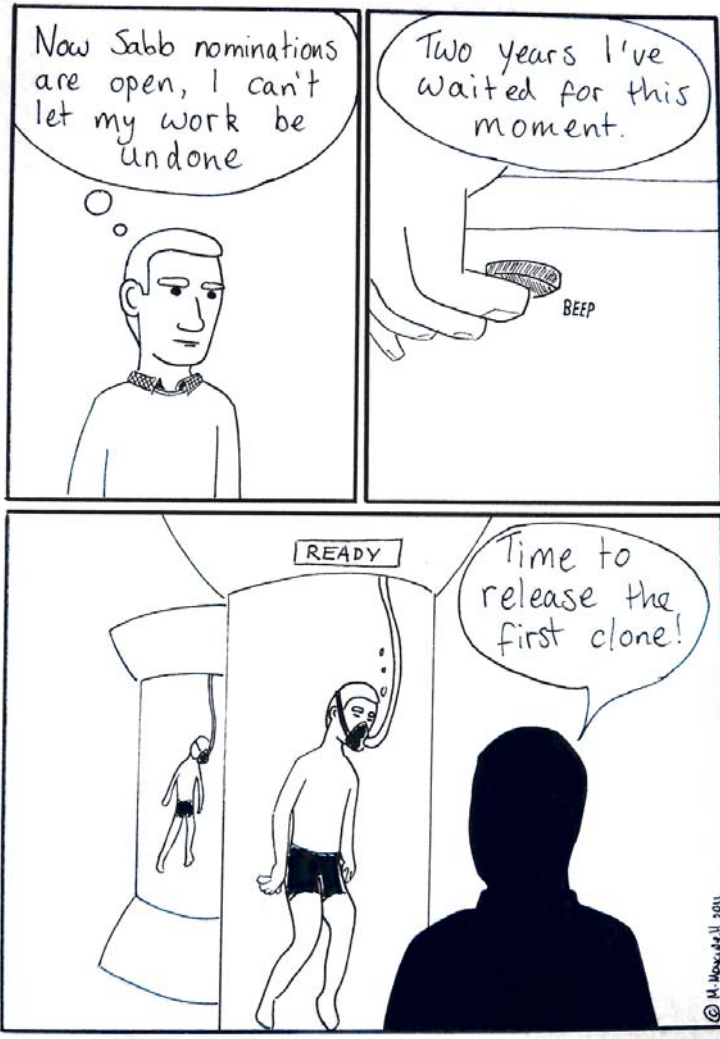
"I was provided with a top that had a coconut bikini on the front so in the end I was left wearing this t-shirt and leggings with underwear over the top. Even though they had no way of knowing that I wouldn't be going onto the smoking area, I would rather this action had been taken than I got seriously injured as a result of my costume."

The Waterfront believes the students have now been discharged from hospital.

Were you there that night and witnessed the incident? If you did, *The Waterfront* want to hear from you. **Get in touch via editor@swansea-union.co.uk or news@waterfrontonline.co.uk**

Check out Waterfront Online

For all the latest news and updates from around the Union and University



Political Clones

Cartoon By: Martin Maxwell

Library Agree Fine Amnesty



NO CHARGE: Return your books for free PHOTO BY Marc Holmes

By Elena Cresci
News Reporter

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY'S Library will be hosting a book amnesty from the 22nd to the 24th of February, *The Waterfront* can reveal.

The decision to hold a book amnesty is a coup for Education Officer Luke James, who came up with the idea over the Christmas period and suggested it to the Library. With around 1,500 items overdue or lost, staff at Swansea's

Library and Information Services are hoping that the move will boost circulation of books sorely needed by some students. For James, the amnesty "will save students thousands collectively and make sure that other students can get hold of resources when they need them because they are back in the library."

From Tuesday the 22nd of February, students will be able to return any overdue books, DVDs and CDs without having to pay fines on those items. The library stresses that this is a "one off

amnesty" and students will be able to return items to either the Library on Campus or The Miner's Library in the Student Village. Lori Havard, Head of Academic Services at LIS commented that: "The Library is happy to work with the Student Union to offer the Book Amnesty as a one-off event to encourage students to bring back long overdue and lost books."

Library fines are a common occurrence for students of Swansea. Jennifer Lam, a Biology student in her final year admits that she often forgets to renew books until it's too late. 'I keep forgetting to give stuff back, or I really needed the book and couldn't renew it. Once, I had to pay a £20 fine!' Lam is pleased about the amnesty. "Who wouldn't be pleased about having their fines waived? I think it will be a real incentive for students who were perhaps afraid to bring back items because they were long overdue."

While Llinos Jones, a postgraduate student of Welsh, welcomes the amnesty and its efforts to encourage students to bring back overdue books, she's sceptical that it will help boost the circulation of books on her course.

"Getting books for my course was always difficult because there was a shortage... although I do think the book amnesty will encourage students to return overdue books, I doubt it will help solve that problem for a subject such as Welsh where the books in the library are limited anyway."

For some students however, the amnesty is very much welcome for entirely financial reasons, which Havard cites as a reason the Library chose to hold the book amnesty. "We realise that some students might find the fines overwhelming, so as a good-will gesture we will allow them to bring their overdue items back without a fine for a short, limited period. Waiving fines for a few days will be offset by getting items back in circulation."

This is not the first time that James has tackled library fines. In November 2009, *The Waterfront* reported on the findings of a Freedom of Information Act commissioned by James in his time as General Secretary, which revealed that late library fines cost students around £75,000 a year. Luke James told *The Waterfront* "I've always had an issue with students having to pay big library fines. The library doesn't want to fine students but they do need the books back in the library for other students to use. So this amnesty is a solution that works for everyone."

There are several ways that students can return books during the amnesty; students can either return the items in person at the issue desk, or via the self-service machines and book bins. Want to avoid fines in future?

Books can be renewed either in person at the Issue Desk, online or students can phone 01792 295178 to speak to a member of staff or leave a message if the library is closed.

COOLEST MUM IN THE WORLD?

By Laura Richards
Deputy News Editor

DO SWANSEA students, Neil and Eva Donoghue, have the coolest mum in the world?

47-year-old Breda Donoghue attended the Valentines Ball at Oceana last Monday 14th February along with her children and their friends commenting, "It was a great setting, great environment and great banter!"

With the event controversially previously named, "F*** Me I'm Horny," it would be expected that many parents would want to steer clear of the club night.

The Waterfront exclusively contacted Breda back in her hometown, where she revealed what she enjoyed about the night.

"I enjoyed everything, I liked the variety, I liked the place, it was a fun night and everyone was really friendly."

For most parents, seeing their daughter get wet and wild in a hot tub full of bikini clad girls and boys in front

of thousands would not be ideal for most parents, but this Mum actually though it was the best part of the night.

When asked about her actions Eva Donoghue told *The Waterfront*, "I wasn't embarrassed at all that my mum went to the event although I did panic a little when I was on stage in the hot tub. However when I came off stage she just congratulated me and told me the photos definitely had to go on Facebook."

When asked her opinion about the event being previously named 'F*** Me I'm Horny' and having to change it on SU guidance, Breda told us that she thought the SU needed to stop taking things so seriously.

"Neither I nor anyone in my company found the name of the event offensive or suggestive in any way, we live in the real world, in fact, if anything I thought it was a brilliant idea, and changing the name prior to the event was uncalled for and unnecessary. It was all part of the fun and entertainment."

She continued, "It's ridiculous, it's Valentines night, it's meant to be fun and

it was a bit of banter."

Breda also pointed out that everyone behaved themselves and just enjoyed a good night out.

One of Eva's friends Amy Drawbridge commented "I loved it, she was hilarious, I wish my Mum was like that."

With Eva still a fresher and Neil about to graduate there are still plenty of opportunities for Breda to grace another night out in Swansea. "It was a great night, with great kids and great entertainment; when are we doing it again?"

Eva responded "She is an absolute lad and I cannot wait for her to visit again so that we can party."

Breda thinks that she is the coolest mum but do you have a parent that would also bust some moves on the dance floor during a student night? *The Waterfront* is starting an official search for the coolest mum or dad so get in touch on editor@swansea-union.co.uk or news@waterfrontonline.co.uk.

GET GREEN THIS ENVIRONMENT WEEK!

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY paints the town green in Environment Week 2011 which will take place between Monday 28th February and Friday 4th March in Fulton House Refectory each day from 10am.

This gem of an event will be providing free giveaways and advice on how you can be 'Green' yourself.

The week will be presented with a theme a day starting with 'Energy Monday', with solar panel displays, free energy

saving giveaways and a chance to speak to industry experts on career opportunities.

This is followed by 'Travel Tuesday' with University Travel plan and bike security information courtesy of campus police and 'Waste Wednesday' providing free pink, green and black bags and information on how to recycle in Swansea and on campus.

'Biodiversity Thursday' presents a display of the local shoreline biodiversity

By Adele McGregor

and University biodiversity trail and finally 'Food Friday' for free fair-trade tasting sessions and fair trade wine tasting!

There will also be a display of the Campus Catering Sustainability food project along with information on the Discovery Food Co-op! Environment week is a joint project between the University Estates Department, Students Union and SusForum.

Vox Pops

What's your opinion?

Do you know much about the Welsh referendum for the Assembly to gain more law making powers?



Jenny Vandome
1st Year Law

"I think the Welsh referendum is good. It means that Wales can decide on laws that cover them and politics won't be just kept in London"



Bridie Morris
3rd Year Media Studies

"I have heard of it but haven't got a clue what its about. I'm just not interested in Politics"



Felicity Ryan
2nd Year Zoology

"Although I think it is a good idea I do not think that it will benefit Wales that much in the long run"



Ollie Gwilliam
3rd Year Psychology

"I'm not actually from Wales so I haven't heard about the Welsh referendum. As a result I do not really know that much about Welsh Politics."

MET MERGER PLANS



SUPER UNI: Met looks to merge

By Daniel Matcham
News Reporter

THE FUTURE of the university system in Wales has been placed into doubt with the announcement that a merger of three institutions has been agreed. Members of the University of Wales Council have been discussing the possibility of the formation of a so-called ‘super university’, with the eventual aim of reducing the number of separate institutions from eleven to six. Under the plans, the University of Wales Institute Cardiff (UWIC), Swansea Metropolitan University and Trinity Saint David (in Carmarthen) would become a single university known as the University of Wales. In doing so it would become the third largest educational facility in Wales, behind Swansea and Cardiff. Ministers are eager to cut back on the number of separate institutions in the country. Education Minister Leighton Andrews spoke last year of the future of funding for the universities being dependent upon such a merger.

The discussions to alter university education in Wales have been met with a mixed reaction. Professor David Warner, the current vice-chancellor of Swansea Metropolitan University, described the proposals as being “not in Wales’ interests”.

In contrast, National Union of Students (NUS) Wales President Katie Webb, while acknowledging that there could be potential problems if plans went ahead, was supportive of the efforts by Leighton Andrews to protect student numbers in the country.

The agreement is the latest development in the efforts to streamline university education in Wales. In 2004, the University of Wales College of Medicine became a part of Cardiff University. Three years later, a similar merger happened, between the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and the University of Glamorgan. Only last year, UWIC rejected a suggested merger with Glamorgan, claiming that there would be “no benefit”.

W Check Waterfront Online for all the latest news, updates and expanded stories

Nominations Close Thursday For SU Elections

By Robert Smith
News Reporter

NOMINATIONS FOR Student Union Sabbatical Officer election candidates will close this **Thursday**, and we at *The Waterfront* decided to find out what students thought about this year’s nomination process and the upcoming election. Candidates who want to run in the upcoming elections still have until Thursday the 24th February to gather their signatures. But how much do student elections matter? What impact do they have on the lives of our students? Second year student, Hannah Parry, said “I think the elections are going to be really good this year and it’s exciting to have a new set of sabbatical officers. This year there has been a lot of hype

around the elections and hopefully this will make for a great election week and some good campaigns. I think it is even more important this year for people to use their vote as times are most definitely changing for students and we need a good group of people to represent us in the best way possible.” However, one third year, who preferred not to be named, said “as I’m leaving next year I don’t really see this election affecting me that much really”. Nevertheless, the general student consensus seems to be that this election is one to pay close attention to. The elections themselves will be held between the 22nd and the 24th of March, and for those of you interested in running for a Sabbatical Officer position, more information is available from Shona at the SU Reception, Level 2 in Fulton House.

Village Beer Pong

By Desirae Gostlin
News Reporter

STUDENTS LIVING in Hendrefoelan Student Village have a new fortnightly activity to look forward to: Boston Beer Pong. Woody’s Bar is looking to accommodate the influx of 109 American students who moved into the Village this year designing events that will specifically interest them. Boston Beer Pong gets its name from the Boston Tea Party, although Manager Daz Thomas assured it has nothing to do with dressing up as Native Americans and dumping overtaxed beer into the sea. Beer pong is played in teams of two. Players throw ping-ping balls into their opponents’ drinks across a table. The first team to make all of their opponents’ cups wins. Boston Beer Pong isn’t just about generating revenue and getting traffic into Woody’s; it’s about building a sense of

community within the Village, according to Mr.Thomas. “Last semester the American students were close knit with each other. We want the new students to integrate with students who are already here. There’s a comradeship to keep going,” said self-titled Beer Pong Pro and Village warden Ross Davies. “It’s an opportunity to continuously meet new people and socialise,” said Mr. Davies. Drinking alcohol isn’t required. The bar also sells mocktails and soda. Students can pour as little or as much drink into their cups as they want. Beer Pong isn’t the only event Woody’s has sponsored this year. Thanksgiving and the Super Bowl were also on the agenda. Live rugby and football games are shown at the bar, and more projects are in the works for later this year Thomas confirmed. The full set of rules and updates on the next Boston Beer Pong can be found on Woody’s Facebook page.

‘GwyddonLe’ Exhibition Goes National

By Alun Rhys Chivers
World News Editor

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY has given the Urdd National Eisteddfod a boost, with the announcement of an innovative science partnership at the annual youth festival, to be held in Swansea in May. GwyddonLe (which means ‘science place’), a flagship exhibition, was piloted last year in Ceredigion and proved to be a huge hit, with its range of exhibitions, experiments and other activities for children and young people. The partnership, which comes at a time of financial worries for the Eisteddfod, is now looking to attract local businesses and ventures to contribute to what it calls “a varied and attractive science experience”. The university will also hold outreach activities with local schools in the lead-

up to the Eisteddfod, which will be held at Felindre on the outskirts of the city, from May 30 to June 4. Vice-Chancellor, Richard B. Davies said, “Swansea University has a world class reputation for research and teaching and is particularly strong in science, technology, engineering and maths. Through GwyddonLe our staff and postgraduate students will bring science to life in a fun and interactive way for thousands of young people flocking to the Maes.” Urdd Chief Executive, Efa Gruffudd Jones added, “We’re grateful to the University not only for their support but also their expertise in the science field.” This partnership is the latest step in a series of developments in Welsh-medium community provision, and builds on the achievements of Academi Hywel Teifi, which was itself officially launched at last year’s National Eisteddfod.

POSSIBLE PIER CLOSURE



SAFETY: Could walking on the pier soon be a distant memory?

By Katie Whitehead
News Reporter

MUMBLES PIER is facing possible closure due to safety concerns. The Victorian structure’s condition is deteriorating, and will be closed if inspectors deem it to be unsafe for public use. A spokesman from the company which owns the pier, Ameco, commented that the pier is, “reaching the end of its useful life”. As the pier is privately owned, it does not qualify for government funding for repairs. Therefore Ameco are relying on a £39 million foreshore development scheme, to provide funding for the restoration of the pier. The application for the planned development has been submitted to Swansea Council, and includes plans for a hotel, apartments, restaurants and

leisure and retail development, as well as the building of a new modern lifeboat house. It was hoped that the pier would have been closed by now for restoration, however Ameco stated that, “...planning permission has not yet been granted”. They are unsure whether the pier will pass its next safety survey and, “if that’s the case the pier will have to be closed to public access”. Mumbles Pier is viewed affectionately by generations of visitors and residents, and is one of the key tourist landmarks of the area. Faye John, a 3rd year English student at Swansea University, who is from the Mumbles area commented, “It would be a terrible shame if the Mumbles Pier closed. I enjoyed many days out there as a child, and hope future generations can do the same”.

Student Helps Heroes

By Sarah Wilson
News Reporter

A SECOND year History student is attempting to raise £2,500 for the Help for Heroes Charity. In September 2011, Chanai Operanta will trek The Great Wall of China to raise much needed money for members of the armed forces who have been wounded serving their country. The distance of 64 kilometres will span over 7 days and Chanai has told *The Waterfront* it will be the toughest physical challenge she has ever faced. Chanai will be holding a colossal charity bake sale and grand raffle in Fulton House on **Tuesday 22nd February**, to help raise funds for our wounded soldiers. The vast number of prizes include a complimentary Sunday lunch

for 4 people in an award winning 5-star hotel, St David’s Hotel & Spa worth £140, a £45 voucher to spend at Chiquito and a £30 voucher for Topshop. When asked why Chanai has invested so much time and effort into the Help for Heroes cause, she replied, “Help for Heroes is a charity that lies close to my heart. As the daughter of a military veteran who actively served in various conflicts, I know how important it is for soldiers on active duty to know that they are supported at home. As a nation we seldom thank them enough for the sacrifices they make.” Chanai has raised £2000 so far and would be very thankful to anyone who comes along to the bake sale to show their support. Raffle tickets are £1.50 and the winners will be announced at 4.30pm.

Apology and Correction

The Waterfront would like to make an apology and correction for an article that appeared in Issue 198 on the 7th of February 2011 titled ‘Event F***ed by SU’. The story led people to believe that the reason the ‘Lock and Key’ Party has been changed and modified by Swansea Student Events (SSE) was due to complaints from the LGBT Society as a whole, when in fact it was

only certain members of the society that wanted the event changed because they felt excluded by “the connotations of the night”. We were only going on information supplied to us from sources inside the SU and would like to apologise to any LGBT members where offence was caused. James Snaith Editor

“I HOPE IT DOESN’T HAPPEN AGAIN”

Russian Student talks to The Waterfront about Moscow bombing

By Kate Wilson
News Reporter

MOSCOW BORN, Yulia Rozhkovskaya, has just received her Master’s in Finance from Swansea University. This week however, she took the time to speak to *The Waterfront* about the bombing of Domodedovo airport that took place on January 24th, and the affect it has had on her, her family and friends, and the Russian consciousness.

Yulia, who was back home in Moscow when a suicide bomber blew himself up in the International arrivals area at Domodedovo airport, heard about the bombing while on the tube travelling home after meeting some friends.

In a blast that killed up to 36, with 114 others still being treated in hospital, most of the victims were taxi drivers and people waiting to pick up relatives and friends.

“Everyone was so shocked by the news. At first we didn’t know where the blast took place, we couldn’t imagine it would happen in the airport, we just assumed that they had blown up a plane”, Yulia told *The Waterfront*.

It is clear that the Russian government, as well as the Russian people, did all they could to help on the day. Not only did emergency services act very quickly, but people at the airport, unhurt by the blast, help those injured out of the airport to a safe zone.

Locals drove their own cars to the airport in order to pick up people who were stranded due to the instantaneous rise in Taxi fares. According to Yulia, “the people really wanted to help.”

The Government made the train from Domodedovo airport to Moscow city centre free for the rest of the day, giving passengers a way of leaving the airport.

Unfortunately, Yulia was booked to fly back to the UK on January 29th, only five days after the blast. She told *The Waterfront*, “I was very nervous the day after the blast, I even avoided going on the tube. However, the number of police on the streets helped strengthened security and helped me to feel safe not only in Moscow but also about flying.”

When arriving in the airport on January 29th, Yulia was faced with long queues for security, what with there being only six metal detectors in use at

Domodedovo airport. She said, “I would rather wait and be checked numerous times, than for there to be another blast.”

It is believed that the attack was carried out by a 20-year-old man from the Caucasus, a problem territory that is known for its dislike of Russia.

According to Yulia, “People in Russia are subconsciously becoming more cautious of people who look like they are from Caucasus, as well as people with big bags. In fact since the airport bombing there has been lots more reported bomb scares.”

There have also been a number of conspiracy theories surrounding the bombing, especially considering there is not a great deal known about the bomber.

“Some people think that the bomb was set off deliberately by the government as an attempt to make the people forget about a promised increase in food prices and the shortage of wheat and other recourses due to a draught last summer.”

Yulia is heading back to Moscow in June. Although she says she feels much safer now that the government has taken immediate measures to upgrade security

in airports, she is worried that these will only last a month or so while the event is still fresh in people’s minds.

“Back in 2001 when terrorists targeted America, no one thought it could happen in Moscow, but any big city is dangerous nowadays. All I can hope is that it doesn’t happen again.”



STUDENT: Yulia Rozhkovskaya

UK UNI ROUND UP

Cherwell- Oxford University

Disturbance in the early hours

Finalists at Oxford University were woken up in the early hours of Wednesday morning by noise and smoke causing the fire alarm to go off. The disturbance was due to a late night service taken by history candidate Yagoob Bangash in the campus chapel. According to students Bangash and his guests were singing loudly in the corridors at around 1:30 am. The fire alarm disturbing the students was triggered by a pan catching alight whilst Bangash made tea for his friends. He has since apologised for his behaviour.

Gair Rhydd- Cardiff University

Charges for extra tuition

Cardiff University Business School have acted upon the revelation that economic tutors have been charging their students for extra tuition. Peter Marlow of the department has carried out a full investigation into the matter just after the issue came to light, as this act is against University guidelines. It has been confirmed that two PhD tutors were charging third year students a fee between £25-40 on extra tuition sessions. Students are being urged to visit their personal tutors if they are having difficulties with their studies which are free of cost.

Nouse- York University

Southwestern interfering in lectures

The American internship company, Southwestern has been criticized after inappropriately attempting to recruit students for their summer internship programme in lectures. The company approached students at the beginning of lectures without asking permission of the University departments. A spokesman for the University said “The University has a firm policy on companies promoting themselves on campus”. Companies offering internships are usually confined to career fairs, not during vital teaching time.

Leeds Student- Leeds University

Technological teaching

Ipads are being provided by the biological science department for students to encourage e-learning. The Apple software is being used to monitor how students’ use of technology influences their learning. Dr Neil Morris of the University hopes to examine the changes in students’ academic performance due to the use of the Ipad. The three month experiment will determine the use of such products in the department’s future.

LIS Bag Civil War Books



LARGEST IN THE UK: Collection of over 2,000 American Civil War books

By Desirae Gostlin
News Reporter

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY library is now the home of the largest collection of books on the American Civil War in the UK.

The collection was donated last summer by Alan Milne from Cardiff. He spent nearly 30 years of his life collecting 2,000 books on the Civil War, many of them primary sources including soldier diaries, naval war records and presidential papers.

“It’s unusual for a library in this country to have such a collection,” said Ian Glen, subject librarian for the Arts and Humanities team.

Swansea University received the collection because the donor wanted it to go to a Welsh university, and

Swansea was the only one in the country with a large scale American studies programme, according to Glen.

“Because of all its primary sources and huge array of topics covered by the collection, it has the capability to aid in multiple fields of study, from women to medicine to literature to social sciences,” said Jessica Jacob, an American intern responsible for the collection. It’s her job to create a literary guide to the collection in order to spread word of it through the UK.

The collection started as a personal interest and grew to fill every room of Milne’s home until he donated the collection. Milne plans to continue donating books to the library.

On the 27th February, 200-300 more books are due to arrive in Swansea to add to the collection.

CHARITY TREK

By Simon Andrew
News Reporter

TWO SWANSEA students, Chris Church and Ash Gardner, are set to spend their Easter holidays on a gruelling 315 mile trek across isolated regions of mid-Wales in order to raise money and awareness for Cancer Research UK.

With the company of friend Richard Kerr, the trip will begin by walking from Swansea to Cardiff in order to link the trip to the university, then following the ‘Cambrian Trail’ across Wales to Conwy in the north. The route, dubbed “The mountain connoisseur’s walk” will incorporate the Black Mountains, Brecon Beacons, Devils Bridge, Cadair Idris and then finally Snowdon – and will take a month to complete.

The cause is close to both the students hearts, giving them a great deal of inspiration to draw upon and keep going - with cancer having had a personal effect on both of their families. Ash described the route as “trying at

best” and that is seemed logical “to use it as an opportunity to generate money for a great cause. I lost my Uncle two years ago to cancer and Chris currently has family members suffering with this disease, so Cancer Research UK seemed like a perfect choice”.

Fundraising is nothing new to Ash, who previously scaled Mt. Kinabalu (the highest mountain in South East Asia) in order to raise money for Sepilok Orangutan Sanctuary; whilst this will be the first such expedition for Chris, who said he was “very excited” to challenge himself whilst raising money for a charity close to their hearts.

The target is to raise £315, a pound for every mile, though it is hoped that the target can be far exceeded.

Donations can be made at <http://www.justgiving.com/waleswalk2011>, whilst Ash is hoping to be able to make progress updates via <http://waleswalk2011.blogspot.com>. Everyone at *The Waterfront* wishes them the best of luck!

Have you got a news story for us? SEX, SCANDAL AND VERY JUICY BITS:

If you’ve got a news story *Waterfront* wants to know about it. Drunken rampages, house problems, gossip, grumbles, gripes, mishaps, even good news and achievements – we really want them all!

Stop by the Waterfront office – 3rd floor Union House
(one floor above the Spar shop)

Or email our news team/editor:
news@waterfrontonline.co.uk or editor@swansea-union.co.uk

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WORLD NEWS ROUND-UP

Polite robber arrested

By Daniel Matcham
World News Reporter



A man has been arrested on charges of armed robbery in Seattle in the United States. This has been described by some sources as “one of the politest cases of theft ever caught on camera”.

Gregory Hess, a 65-year old man, entered a Shell petrol station in Seattle to buy a cup of coffee. He proceeded to politely ask John Henry to open the till. When the confused petrol station owner asked Hess what he wanted, he repeated himself.

Footage of the incident captured on the CCTV cameras in the shop appeared to capture Hess bringing out a handgun, but he allegedly remained polite as he reiterated his demands. Hess, who spoke of his family’s negative financial position eventually left with \$300. According to Henry, the 65 year old remained calm as he was handed the money.

The so-called ‘polite robber’ was caught after videos of the robbery were uploaded to the video-sharing website YouTube. Viewers were able to help police to identify the thief. He was charged by the Seattle authorities with first degree robbery and placed on bail.

President’s cousin among Irish crash victims

By Emma Slattery
World News Reporter

Six people were killed and another six injured after a Belfast to Cork flight crashed due to severe fog on Thursday 11th February.

The small commuter plane crashed on the runway after its third landing attempt. The flight had already encountered weather problems after being rescheduled and moved to Belfast International airport due to fog surrounding George Best Belfast City airport.

Three British citizens, two Irish people and a Spaniard were killed. Among the dead was a cousin of Ireland’s President Mary McAleese. The six survivors were taken to Cork University Hospital where four were said to be in a serious condition and the other two were said to be “comfortable”.

Brian Cowen, the Irish Prime Minister, praised the work of the emergency services and also said: “My thoughts are with all of those affected ... including the families and friends of those who have died. I also want to send my best wishes and those of the government to all of those who survived the crash and are being treated in hospital at present.”



Whipped Girl Bled to Death

By Steven Kay
World News Reporter

A Muslim cleric is among four people arrested after Hena Begum, a 14 year old Bangladeshi girl, bled to death six days after being publicly lashed in the remote village of Chamta within the Shariatpur district.

Hena Begum stood accused of having an affair with her cousin, Mahbub Khan, a married man, in breach of Islamic Sharia Law. A village court of elders and clerics issued the punishment of 80 lashings despite protests that she was innocent.

At first, it was unknown whether she had died due to the public whipping as the initial post-mortem report, carried out locally, stated that they had found “no sign of any external or internal injuries to the body”. But the Bangladesh High Court ordered the body be exhumed and taken to the capital, Dhaka, following suspicions of an attempted cover-up by the local authorities.

The second post-mortem claimed that “multiple injuries were found. The girl died because of bleeding”. The death is being treated by the police as murder, with her cousin the main suspect after he fled Chamta.



All these stories and more are expanded @ waterfrontonline.co.uk

Mexican journalist sacked

By Simon Andrew
World News Reporter

Freedom of the press has been brought into question in Mexico over the sacking of well-known radio and TV journalist, Carmen Aristegui, following comments calling for President Calderon to respond to claims of alcohol problems allegedly plaguing him.

Aristegui claims that she was sacked from her role at MVS Noticias because of government pressure, though the radio station claims to have terminated her contract for breaking their code of ethics for “broadcasting rumour as news”, leaving them with no option after she refused to apologise for her comments.

MVS Noticias is currently waiting to have its broadcast licence renewed by the government, leading to concern that the sacking resulted from government pressure on the station, in order to secure a new licence.

Ms. Aristegui responded by saying that “an act like this is only imaginable in a dictatorship that nobody wants for Mexico; punishment for opining or questioning rulers”, and that there was no reason for her to apologise.

The Presidency meanwhile issued a statement stating that “the federal government is and has been scrupulously respectful of freedom of expression”.

Egypt: Two weeks on

By Kate Wilson
World News Reporter

Hosni Mubarak stepped down last week after more than two weeks of protests which killed 300 people.

The higher military council is currently in power after Mr Mubarak’s departure, and on Tuesday they made their first official democratic act, stating that the amended constitution would be put to a popular referendum.

The eight-member committee largely comprises experts in constitutional law, but includes a senior opposition figure from the Muslim Brotherhood. It is headed by Tariq el-Bishri, considered one of Egypt’s top legal minds. The committee is instructed to “amend all articles as it sees fit to guarantee democracy and the integrity of presidential and parliamentary elections”.

However there are still concerns from groups such as Activists for Democracy, as to whether the military and the new government will fulfil all promises made.

The success of ‘people power’ in Egypt has been hugely significant for Arabs everywhere and has inspired other Arab countries such as Libya and Iran to protest against their own government regimes.



Bout-fixing Hits Sumo Tournament

By Laura Stowe
World News Reporter



Japan’s sumo association has cancelled its entire forthcoming tournament after the sport was hit by a number of bout-fixing allegations. Three wrestlers have already admitted to being involved in the scandal and a further eleven are accused.

The 15 day tournament was due to kick off in Osaka on March 13, but on February 2, Hanaregoma, Chairman of the Association, confirmed it would not go ahead. He said that “until we can completely root out corruption in the sport, we cannot appear in the sumo ring. We will do everything we can to establish the facts as quickly as possible.”

The cancellation is expected to cost the association 1.3bn Yen (£9.8m) in lost revenue, a figure which includes 720m Yen in ticket sales.

The reputation of the sport has suffered considerably in recent years following a number of problems. Several wrestlers were involved in an illegal baseball betting scam last year and one of the sport’s grand champions was forced to retire after he assaulted a man in Tokyo.

The last time a tournament was cancelled was in 1946 when a venue was damaged during the war.

COMMENT

By Columnist Elena Cresci

Surprise, Surprise - Elite Universities set to be the most expensive

The news that Oxford and Cambridge are planning to charge the maximum £9,000 in tuition fees in autumn next year comes as no surprise to anyone. However, Imperial College London pipped both universities to the post on February 15th by becoming the first university to formally announce that they plan to charge the maximum amount of £9,000 a year.

Although Cambridge, at the time of writing, is still going through the decision making process and Oxford's formal decision is slated for March, there is no doubt in which direction they will choose to go, especially with Imperial's latest move.

Both Oxford and Cambridge claim that they have no choice but to triple the fees, with Oxford's pro Vice-Chancellor reportedly saying that fees of any less than £8,000 would lose the university a significant sum of money, while Cambridge's consultation paper claims that, even when charging the maximum

amount possible, the university still carries 'the burden of a significant loss per student'. While both universities have proposed systems to aid students from a background of lower financial income, the move is still one which will inevitably mean easier access for the richest to enter the hallowed halls of Oxbridge.

The question is, do these high-flying universities truly meet the 'exceptional circumstances' Universities Minister David Willetts claimed was needed in order to charge full whack for the tuition they offer? I spoke to former Imperial student Jessica Woodward for her views on the subject. "I don't really think it's necessary to triple the fees," she said, explaining that "Imperial have recently sacked loads of really good lecturers from the science department, everybody was really annoyed, but they still went ahead and sacked them. I think Imperial need to think more about what benefits the students, and clearly

getting rid of some excellent lecturers is completely contrary to their future plans to triple fees."

The government's Office for Fair Access can still block any plans to lift the fees if sufficient plans for poorer students are not put in place, but these decisions taking place now precipitate the plans of other universities across the country, who will undoubtedly rather be in the elite £9,000 club than the poorer £6,000. Essentially, universities are putting a price tag on their courses, and the inevitable effect is that the most expensive will be seen as the more prestigious. On the one hand, some argue that £9,000 a year shouldn't deter bright students who will inevitably go on to successful jobs after completing tuition at one of these universities. However, one of the key problems is that a debt of £27,000 (or more, if maintenance loans are taken into account) is a hefty one for any student of any background to take on.

How does this affect us at Swansea and other universities? While we may not share the same group as the Oxbridge and London elite, there will be clear pressure not to appear weaker or less worthy than these universities. After all, people often say that you

get what you pay for; except in this case, it's education which is at stake, and surely education shouldn't be 'too good' for someone to afford? Add to this plans to cut courses and staff, and it makes you wonder if even a price tag of £6,000 would be worth it.



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MON 28 TH FEB	TUES 1 ST MAR	WED 2 ND MAR	THURS 3 RD MAR	FRI 4 TH MAR
MUHAMMAD (PBUH): A TIMELESS LEGACY Venue: Swansea University (SA2 8PP) Room: Grove Purnell Lecture Theatre Time: 6.30pm	WOMEN IN ISLAM: OPPRESSED OR LIBERATED (A WOMEN ONLY EVENT) Venue: Swansea University (SA2 8PP) Room: Grove Purnell Lecture Theatre Time: 6.30pm	MISCONCEPTIONS OF ISLAM: DISPELLING THE MYTHS Venue: Swansea University (SA2 8PP) Room: Faraday Lecture Theatre Time: 6.30pm	EVENING WITH THE QUR'AN (A NIGHT OF BEAUTIFUL RECITATIONS) Venue: Swansea University (SA2 8PP) Room: Faraday M Lecture Theatre Time: 6.30pm	THE PURPOSE OF LIFE: WHY ARE WE HERE? Venue: Swansea University (SA2 8PP) Room: Faraday M Lecture Theatre Time: 6.30pm

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Waterfront

Rewind 1995 2011

This academic year marks the *Waterfront's* fifteenth year of circulation to Swansea students. This year we look to celebrate and mark the publications fifteen years by looking back and reminding ourselves of some of the stories covered and the students who wrote them. This week we look back at issues from early February in 1996, 2005 and 2007.



SPLASH-BACK: Three front pages from ninties to naughties



Village life was violent in 2007!

Issue 153 - 26th February 2007

“Student Injured in Village Violence” by Jason Sannegadu

Student Katie Parker exclusively told the *Waterfront* her memories of suffering a fractured skull when attacked during a snowball fight at Hendrefoilan student village.

Parker said “about 30-50 schoolchildren gathered outside the Spar shop and started throwing snowballs at us, the Spar workers and at innocent people driving past”.

What began as a harmless snowball fight between students and local children from nearby Olchfa comprehensive school, soon escalated into a violent situation, leaving Katie unconscious after having a log thrown at her head.

“One of them hit me across the back of the head causing me to collapse into another tree”. Fortunately other students saw the incident and carried Katie to the Tutors’ house for treatment.

Students working at the Spar shop who also witnessed the incident, described it as “frightening”.

An investigation was launched soon after, in which members of the Estates department liaised with the school to identify the culprits.

Parker recognised that student security in the Village was usually very good but at Halloween and during times of snow, it needed to be increased to ensure incidents like this were avoided.

“Student to Launch Youth Club” by Jason Sannegadu

Second year economics student Ian Ross was the forefront alongside a group of local residents to launch a new youth club for Uplands and Brynmill.

Aimed at 11-16 year-olds, the youth club wanted to address issues such as graffiti and underage drinking.

Ross told *The Waterfront* the reason for him getting involved with the project was because of his concerns over youth anti-social behaviour in the area.

“Rather than complaining about youth anti-social behaviour; we thought, let’s tackle the issue directly.”

“University Library Shouts Out to People” by Caroline Sutch

The University Library was visited by Swansea City Captain Garry Monk and Izzy Iriekpen to support a Wales Wide campaign to encourage more people to use their local library.

The ‘Welsh Libraries – Something to Shout About’ campaign saw famous faces from across Wales lend their support to library services across the country.

Issue 8 - 13th-26th February 1996

“Fight Government Education Cuts” by Becca Purewal

Further cuts in Government funding for education was the front page splash 15 years ago – not much changed there then! Representatives from the Student Union, Manufacturing, Science and Financing Unions attended the meeting aimed at stopping cuts to educational funding by up to 30% that was set to affect students, lectures and University buildings. The Union’s aim was to persuade the University not to implement the new changes with concerns put forward that there was already a lack of funding where space and lecture rooms were concerned.

“One suggestion to combat the problem of overcrowded

lectures was for lecturers to tape record the lectures for those unable to find seats.”

“Welsh Woman of the Year” by Kate Nelmes

Two women from the University of Wales Swansea were nominated as finalists in the 1995 Welsh Woman of the Year awards as recognition for their work.

Alison Partridge, UWS European Liaison Officer, and Dr. Natalie Danford of Microptic were put forward in the ‘Women into Europe’ and ‘Women into Science’ categories respectively. Both women told *The Waterfront* they hoped the awards ensured the creation of role models for younger women, encouraging them to succeed in a labour market where they may feel disadvantaged.



Issue 127 - 21st February 2005

Ball is Back by Adele Buxton and Brad Gerrard

Today it might be a regular annual feature student’s look forward to each and every year but in February 2005, after a one year break, it was announced that the Summer Ball was back!

Abbey Meadow on campus was confirmed as the new venue with Goldie Lookin’ Chain being the headline act quashing rumours that the event was set to move to Llanelli.

Dogged by controversy over the lack of an established venue, the

event had previously been held at Swansea Airport on Fairwood Common until the introduction of international flights made it unfeasible.

Ents (now Swansea Events) manager, Ben Lucas, stressed the importance of bringing the event back, telling the paper “it will be an awesome event with lots of different arenas with different types of music.”





Waterfront yn Gymraeg

Y Gymraeg yn Abertawe

Beth yw'r Refferendwm?

Y Golygydd Cymraeg, Jess Main sy'n rhoi ei barn hithau ar y Refferendwm.

Bydd llawer ohonoch chi wedi clywed am y Refferendwm i ddod yn 2011. Bydd y digwyddiad yn cael ei gynnal ar Fawrth 3ydd, ar ôl blynyddoedd o ymgyrchu gan y Blaid Lafur yng Nghymru a Phlaid Cymru. Ond beth yw'r refferendwm yn y bôn? Ar gyfer pobl heb ddiddordeb mawr mewn gwleidyddiaeth, rwyf wedi rhoi crynodeb o'r hyn y mae'r refferendwm yn ei gynnwys.

Ar hyn o bryd, mae gan y Cynulliad ddylanwad i lunio rhai deddfau o fewn meysydd penodol, er enghraifft amaethyddiaeth, addysg, yr amgylchedd, iechyd, tai a llywodraeth leol. Ym mhob adran, gall Llywodraeth y Cynulliad lunio deddfau ar rai materion, ond nid eraill; mae'n rhaid iddynt ofyn i'r Senedd am ganiatâd. Felly, prif amcan y refferendwm yw galluogi Llywodraeth y Cynulliad i wneud penderfyniadau pwysig heb sêl bendith y Senedd. Wedi dweud hynny, ni allai Llywodraeth y Cynulliad ddylanwadu ar adrannau fel amddiffyn, trethi, neu fudd-daliadau lles. Ni fydd hyn yn rhan o'r dewis beth bynnag fydd canlyniadau'r refferendwm. Felly, pe bai'r pleidleiswyr yn dweud 'Na', yna byddai'r sefyllfa bresennol yn parhau.

Yn fyr, pe bai'r canlyniadau'n gadarnhaol, byddai pwerau deddfu yn cael eu hystyngtu dros Gymru. Os ydych chi'n edrych ar y pól piniwn diweddar a gynhaliwyd gan 'YouGov', gellir gweld bod 46% o bobl yn bwriadu ateb 'Ydw' i'r refferendwm. Fel polau piniwn rheolaidd, rydych chi'n gallu dangos eich pleidlais drwy roi croes naill ai yn y bocs 'Ydw' neu 'Nac ydw' ar eich papur pleidleisio. Er y cynhelir y refferendwm ddeufis yn unig cyn etholiad y Cynulliad ym mis Mai, gobeithio y bydd pawb yn cefnogi'r bleidlais.

Wedi'r cyfan, efallai y gallai'r canlyniad benderfynu dyfodol ymreolaeth ddeddfwriaethol Cymru. Un grŵp o bobl sy'n gobeithio am ganlyniad cadarnhaol yw'r Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol. Maen nhw'n ymgyrchu ar gyfer y refferendwm oherwydd eu hen draddodiad o gefnogi ad-drefniant datganoli yng Nghymru. Y maent yn credu y dylai Cymru fod yn uned gref ac y dylai ymgyrchu am fwy o reolaeth dros Gymru er mwyn ymdrin â materion Cymru o ddydd i ddydd.

Mae rhaid i mi gytuno â nhw, â dweud y gwir. Credaf ei bod hi'n bwysig cynrychioli Cymru a cheisio cael mwy o statws a hunaniaeth genedlaethol. Wrth gwrs, rwyf yn siarad drosod fi fy hun – nid llais y Waterfront ydw i. Rwyf yn gwybod, wedi dweud hynny, y bydd canlyniad y refferendwm ym mis Mawrth yn ddiddorol ac y gallai olygu newid mawr ar gyfer dyfodol Cymru.

Refferendwm Mawrth 3ydd i Gymru

Daniel Harvey sy'n bwrw golwg dros y Refferendwm ar hawliau deddfu i Gymru.

Mae'r Llywodraeth yn cynnal refferendwm i roi mwy o bŵer i Gymru yn y 20 mater datganoledig yng Nghymru, fel Addysg, Cludiant ac Iechyd ac yn y blaen. Hyd yn hyn, bu rhaid i bob polisi fynd trwy Senedd San Steffan cyn dod yn gyfreithiau. Pe bai ymgyrchwyr dros ddatganoli yn llwyddiannus, byddai'r Senedd yng Nghaerdydd yn cynyddu eu pŵer dros faterion datganoledig. Ond pe bai'r ymgyrchwyr yn erbyn datganoli yn llwyddiannus, yna fydd dim newid.

Mae'r ymgyrchwyr o blaid deddfau llawn yn pwysleisio bod datganoli yn ddemocrataidd ac yn arbed amser ac arian. Maen nhw'n dadlau bod y system bresennol yn mygu democratiaeth yng Nghymru ac yn dechrau mygu'r economi. Maen nhw'n credu y byddai pwerau llawn yn sicrhau swyddi, sefydlogrwydd a diddordeb y cyhoedd. Maen nhw'n dadlau bod hyn yn bwysig i Gymru sydd â'r economi gwanaf o wledydd Prydain. Felly mae llawer o bobl o'r farn bod datganoli'n anhepgorol er mwyn i Gymru ddatblygu a sicrhau buddsoddiad. Ond maen nhw'n pwysleisio mai Senedd Caerdydd ddylai gael rheolaeth dros Gymru, ac nid Senedd San Steffan er mwyn cysylltu â'r cyhoedd yn wleidyddol ac o ran materion Cymru.

Ond mae llawer o bobl yn meddwl nad yw'r refferendwm yn ddigon cryf i Gymru. Roedd rhai pobl eisiau'r un pwerau â'r Alban sy'n gallu codi trethi er mwyn rhoi nerth i'w polisïau a dibynnu arnyn nhw eu hunain, ac nid ar Senedd San Steffan. Ond mae'r ymgyrchwyr yn erbyn datganoli'n dweud na fyddai'n helpu Cymru o gwbl. Maen nhw'n meddwl y bydd datganoli llawn yn achosi mwy o ddrwg nag o dda. Maen nhw'n awgrymu bod y newidiadau'n torri aelodau seneddol San Steffan allan o'r broses o ffurfio polisïau sy'n effeithio ar eu hetholaethau. Maen nhw'n pwysleisio bod y llywodraeth yn lladd llais Cymru yn San Steffan.

Ond rhaid imi ddweud nad yw'r refferendwm wedi cael llawer o gyhoeddusrwydd yn y cyfryngau o gwbl. Rydw i'n amau nad yw llawer o bobl yn gwybod unrhyw beth am y refferendwm o gwbl ac mae rhai o'r bobl hyn yn gwybod llawer am wleidyddiaeth ar y cyfan. Mae hyn yn dangos nad yw datganoli yn flaenoriaeth gan y cyhoedd yn ystod yr amserau celyd hyn. Ni yw'r bobl sy'n gwneud y penderfyniad ynghylch datganoli yng Nghymru. Rhaid inni wneud y dewis cywir i ni ein hunain ac i'r wlad. Ond rhaid inni gael digon o wybodaeth am lefel nesaf datganoli.

Ein dyfodol ni yw hyn. Rhaid inni wneud y dewis cywir pan ydym ni'n pleidleisio.



Le neu Na: Bydd refferendwm ar bwerau deddfu i Gymru ar Fawrth 3

Y Refferendwm: Blog Americanes yng Nghymru

Gan Pegi Rodgers



Dyheaf am bleidleisio. Gwnawn mewn eiliad, a byddwn yn pleidleisio o blaid y refferendwm.

Y mae llawer o sôn wedi bod dros y blynyddoedd am dorri o Loegr. Nawr, o'r diwedd, y mae gan Gymru gyfle digynsail i gymryd cam enfawr ymlaen tuag at y toriad hwnnw. Y mae cyfle i symud tipyn bach yn agosach at rywbeth nad ydy Cymru wedi profi ers Llywelyn ap Gruffudd - annibyniaeth. Mae'n gyfle i anfon neges groch tuag at San Steffan bod Cymru yn gallu gwneud deddfau drosti hi ei hun, llywodraethu ei hun ac achub ei hiaith am genedlaethau i ddod.

Fel person sy'n dod o'r tu allan i Gymru, y mae'n hawdd dweud 'dylen nhw wneud hyn neu'r llall'. Ond hefyd, y mae'n haws rhoi sylw i'r manteision a'r anfanteision weithiau. Rwy'n ofni os metha Cymru achub ar y cyfle hwn, y bydd y wlad ar lwybr i ffwrdd oddi wrth annibyniaeth. Byddai'n anfon neges i San Steffan bod Cymru yn hapus i gael y Sais, sy'n gwybod dim am fywyd yng Nghymru, yn rheoli gwleidyddiaeth a "llynynnau pwrs" y wlad. Os digwydd hynny, yn fy marn i, byddai'n gam enfawr tuag yn ôl ac yn rhoi'r cyfle i San Steffan gadw mwy o ddylanwad a mwy o bŵer dros Gymru. Yn drist, po fwyaf o reolaeth sydd gan San Steffan, lleiaf yw'r siawns y gall Cymru dorri'n rhydd.

Felly, er bod y refferendwm hwn yn golygu llai nag y byddai llawer o bobl yn licio gweld, dechreuad yw hyn a fydd yn cadw Cymru ar y ffordd i ddatganoli llawn.

Arweinydd Plaid Dan y Lach



Y G o l y g y d d Cymraeg, **Alun Rhys Chivers** sy'n bwrw golwg ar fater a allai peryglu canlyniad y refferendwm. Ar drothwy'r R e f f e r e n d w m ar Fawrth 3ydd, mae ffræ rhwng pleidiau'r glymblaid yn y Cynulliad yn

Mae'r Dirprwy Brif Weinidog, Ieuan Wyn Jones yn credu bod aelodau blaenllaw'r Blaid Lafur yn San Steffan yn ceisio'i bardduo'n ddienw oherwydd ei anallu honedig i gyflawni'i swydd fel Gweinidog yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth.

Mae'r Prif Weinidog Carwyn Jones wedi amddiffyn ei ddirprwy, gan ddweud bod y Llywodraeth yn ymroddedig i gryfhau'r economi.

Tra bod Ieuan Wyn Jones yn siomedig gyda'r feiriadaeth, dywedodd ei fod yn hyderus nad oedd unrhyw aelod o Lywodraeth y Cynulliad yn gyfrifol am yr ymosodiad, a bu'n rhaid iddo wrthod cyhuddiad mai ymgais oedd hyn i ymbellhau Plaid Cymru oddi wrth y Blaid Lafur.

Dywedodd Ieuan Wyn Jones, "Cafwyd sylwadau nad oes modd eu

bygwth taflu cysgod dros yr ymgyrch am ddeddfau llawn ym Mae Caerdydd.

priodoli y gwelwch chi sydd wedi ymosod arnaf i'n bersonol. "Dw i ddim yn gwybod o ble daethon nhw oherwydd nid oes modd eu priodoli – dyna pam dw i'n credu ei bod hi'n anodd ac rwy'n siomedig iawn am hynny."

Ymddengys fod y stori'n deillio o sgwrs rhwng y ffynhonnell anhysbys a phapur newydd y Western Mail, sy'n codi'r cwestiwn a ddylid caniatáu i stori gael ei chyhoeddi heb enwi'r unigolyn sy'n gwneud yr honiadau. Yn ôl y gyfraith, nid oes gorfodaeth ar newyddiadurwr i enwi ffynhonnell os oes perygl y bydd yn peryglu enw'r unigolyn dan sylw. Pe bai'r unigolyn - Ieuan Wyn Jones yn yr achos hwn - yn penderfynu dwyn achos, yna gellir gorfodi gohebydd y Western Mail i enwi'r ffynhonnell, neu fe allai wynebu cyfnod o garchar.

Beth bynnag fydd canlyniad yr helynt, does dim amheuaeth y gallai'r cyfan effeithio ar gytgord Llywodraeth y Cynulliad, ac o bosib fe allai ddylanwadu ar ganlyniad y refferendwm am hawliau llawn ar Fawrth 3ydd.

FRONT

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It's your essential student culture guide*



MUSIC EDITOR CHARLIE TEASDALE GETS STAR STRUCK BY LITTLE
COMETS AS THEY TOUR THEIR DEBUT ALBUM
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW PAGE 15

Swansea Culture

Culture Editor
Suzanne Beynon

Deputy Culture Editor
Sophie Bamber

Editor's Choice: Totally free, tasty treats at Uplands Diner



Elin Davies

Since discovering the free cookery lessons at Uplands Diner I have attended two fantastic sessions. These lessons really are perfect for anyone looking for something different to do in the evenings whilst at the same time, learning crucial culinary skills. The lessons at the diner have been so successful that renowned chef Chris Keenan has already agreed to do a total of eight lessons, as opposed to the original two.

The atmosphere on entering the diner for our first lesson was relaxed and welcoming. All the diner staff were really friendly, offering free soft drinks and wine upon arrival. When I first heard that the principle things Keenan would be cooking in the first lesson were poached eggs, scrambled eggs and an omelette I have to admit I was a little disinterested. However, the attitude of our animated chef completely changed my opinion. He showed us how much more you can do with eggs and also told us interesting facts; for instance, eggs are used as a fundamental test for top London chefs, because they are among the simplest things to cook but also the easiest to ruin. As well as this he gave us some handy tips of his own, like adding cream to scrambled eggs instead of milk, and putting a poached egg into

vinegary, swirling water to give it a perfectly round shape. In addition, he went on to point out the many things which can accompany scrambled eggs to turn them into a thrifty meal for any student. As Chris mentioned smoked salmon and mushrooms as perfect partners for scrambled eggs, the ever generous owner of Uplands Diner, Lance Pardoe, quickly whipped out some smoked salmon from the fridge allowing everyone a taste with scrambled eggs piled on top of a slice of French stick. This taster was quickly followed by a sample of mushroom and onion omelette, followed by Thai stuffed pancakes for everyone present.

At the risk of sounding cliché, the scrambled eggs and omelette were the best I'd ever tasted, and last week I was inspired to make some omelettes of my own. Omelettes are great cheap food because you can put almost anything you like in them, making them useful for using up leftovers. Throughout the session Chris

gave countless culinary tips and funny anecdotes to keep us all upbeat and gave us the chance to contribute what we'd like him to cook the following week. After settling on linguine carbonara, duck stir fry and Thai fried banana, I was already licking my lips in anticipation for the next lesson. At the beginning of the second session I was

keen to know Chris's reason for extending the number of lessons from two to eight. His response was that he had enjoyed taking the lessons so much that he wanted to do more. He also stated that he really appreciated being able to interact with those that he is teaching, because he is used to more theatre-style cookery demonstrations. As promised, the second session held demonstrations and tasters of each dish chosen the week before. Nearly everyone from the previous week was in attendance and it seemed that most people among the group were eager to taste a sample of the duck stir fry and to

benefit from more experienced advice. The recipes from this week immediately sounded more sophisticated than those from the last session, however, as another member of the group pointed out, "although the dishes sound incredibly complicated they were actually really simple and this was a pleasant surprise". As Chris cooked he again gave more tips; for instance when he was making the stir fry he explained that courgettes are brilliant because they are "dirt cheap" and are useful for "bulking up" meals. The generosity of last week was still in full flow with sizeable samples of each dish, leaving everyone full as they exited the diner. One of the women in attendance even stated that she felt like she'd had "a three course meal for nothing". Other comments came from a group of second year students who all said they will definitely be returning for the third lesson and agreed that their favourite dish so far was the Thai stuffed pancake of the first week. The next session will be held on Monday 21st February and the dishes being cooked will include a fish recipe, risotto, and "something chocolatey". The lesson will be held between 6.00-7.30pm and there will be printed recipes of all the dishes cooked so far. If you would like to attend tonight's session or any others please email gareth.watts@hotmail.co.uk.



Editor's Choice: The Ugly Lovely Town Exhibition

Kate Wild

The Ugly Lovely Town exhibition commemorates the Three Night Blitz of February 19th – 21st 1941, highlighting the devastation and destruction of those nights on the town of Swansea, and incorporates the changing image of Swansea Town to what we now call Swansea City. The main focus of the display is images – paintings and aerial photos of Swansea past and present. These images are accompanied by war memorabilia and echoes of Dylan

Thomas. Though modest, the exhibition offers personal details which add plenty of room for reflection. These details – such as journals, rationing cards, advertisements, and the story behind a wedding dress – all draw attention to how the war affected the home front in Swansea. The experience of the Blitz alone must have been terrifying – not knowing if you or your loved ones would survive the night or even if you would have a home to go to after the bombardment. The sense of community must have been incredible. Certain aspects

of the exhibition, such as the wedding dress made of curtain material because there was not enough material for such extravagant luxuries, put our culture into perspective. One section of the exhibition displays the bomb sites showing how Swansea has changed physically as a result of the Blitz; the audio accompaniment – personal accounts recorded by Blitz survivors – is there to give atmosphere to what you witness on the walk. Having not been on these walks myself, I would not like to pass judgement on the experience they

produce, though I expect that to fully appreciate the experience you would require some imagination and a certain empathy for the victims of the Blitz. The wartime paintings of Will Evans are also on display. His paintings, to me, give a realistic view of the morning after the night's destruction – smoke remains in the air, there is a certain haze to everything, and buildings are still crumbling. There is a brutality about them, the details are laid bare for all to see. Nothing is hidden. I was a little disappointed to find that the exhibition barely fills one room; there

should have been more there. I have no doubt, however, that Swansea is brimming with history in various places and, if you are genuinely interested and willing to search for it, this exhibition will serve to enhance those other resources. The Museum also offers specific workshops surrounding the wartime experience in Swansea and more information on the Blitz – collected memories – can be found on the BBC website. The exhibition will remain at Swansea Museum until **early** May.

Free Recipe

For those of you looking to try something a bit more adventurous this Pancake Day here are Chris Keenan's six simple steps to making Thai Stuffed Pancakes:

- 4 beaten eggs with a dash of cream/milk
- 1 pack of minced pork (alternatively try turkey or beef)
- 2oz chopped onions
- Pinch of cinnamon
- Pinch of coriander
- 2 spring onions
- 1 chilli (whatever spice strength suits you)
- Salt & pepper
- Garlic
- Fresh basil (to garnish)

Step 1. Begin by heating an oiled frying pan. Next crush the garlic (if using the flat edge of a knife then add salt to turn the garlic into a puree), and add to the pan along with the onions and mince.

Step 2. Once the mince begins to brown add in the spices and the chopped, deseeded chilli.

Step 3. Keep cooking the mince until it reaches a dry consistency, and then put it to one side and begin making the pancake.

Step 4. Add salt and pepper to the beaten eggs and cream (or milk) and pour the mixture into a well oiled, hot frying pan.

Step 5. Keep loosening the edges of the pancake to ensure it is not sticking and after a couple of minutes put the mince onto the pancake whilst it is still in the pan.

Step 6. After a few more minutes, allowing the pancake to fully cook fold it in from each corner to make a square. Turn the frying pan upside-down over a plate and garnish the pancake with fresh basil.

Check out Chris Keenan's website: www.chriskeenanfood.com

Theatre: Does size matter? Big Ballet comes to Swansea

Kate Godding

The Size Does Matter Tour - “A comedy ballet of weighty elegance and adorable humour” is coming to Swansea’s very own Grand Theatre for one night only on the **4th March 2011**. Although tickets can be pricey, at **£15**, it will be well worth it to be able to indulge in some light (not literally), fun culture. The minimum requirement for each of the dancers is a hefty 110 kilos which is roughly 16 stone. With their grace and beauty in leotards it will be amazing to watch as they proudly flaunt their bigger figures and glide across the stage effortlessly. One review of the performance stated “It is way beyond this reviewer’s descriptive powers.” It has to be seen to be believed! These ladies enchant their audiences with different classical and modern ballet pieces in a hilarious comedy show full of fun and astonishing choreography for such sizable ladies. All from Russia, they prove that the stereotypical angry Russian is just a farce and their carefree and comedic natures are what drive the show. Doors open at 7.30pm and with the plush surroundings from the Grand Theatre it will make a different and more memorable night than just hitting Wind Street.



Theatre: ‘Wild Vision’ - Photography lecture at The Grand



Jessica Carroll

John Beatty is undoubtedly one of the most inspiring and exhilarating nature photographers of the modern day. With over twenty years of work to his name he has become widely acclaimed and his photography certainly reflects an experienced and artistic individual. Beatty manages to capture what few photographers are truly able to achieve; a sense of the wild. If you have ever felt the desire to travel, seeing snow topped mountains, derelict plains, the wilderness; then his pictures will make you yearn for it all the more.

He manages to capture the most simplistic images and turn them into something incredible. If you’re a fan of the BBC’s current series *Human Planet*, Beatty’s portfolio certainly reminded me of some of the spectacular images captured during some of these episodes. His section on people in his recent portfolio *The Wild*, reflects an amalgamation of individuals from all over the world in the most incredible light. His current website (www.wild-vision.com) comprises four portfolios (*The Wild*, *The Adventure*, *The Vision* and *The Bridge*), each with their own unique and distinct style.

Dedicating his life to capturing the world’s most spectacular scenes through his lens, Beatty has travelled to over 38 countries. From experiencing the volcanic eruption in Iceland, to seeing the deserts in America and the Galapagos Islands, Beatty certainly has no limits. His most prolific adventures include several months spent in Antarctica, a four hundred mile trek across the Greenland Icecap and a winter spent in Spitzbergen. The freedom and vivacity with which Beatty accomplishes his work is all the more evident through the diversity expressed in his portfolio. Not allowing himself to become stereotyped or subjugated to a genre of photography, he refreshingly delves into any appealing area presenting itself.

Reflecting both adventure and art you get a real sense of this man’s travels around the globe. Described by Sir Chris Bonington as “a superb creative experience”, John Beatty is including the Swansea Grand in his current UK tour. In his tour, entitled *Wild Vision*, Beatty presents rugged untouched landscapes counteracted by the human life surrounding them. Having already exhibited and presented his work to thousands of people around the globe, his tour promises to combine the highlights of his previous achievements into one enthralling masterpiece. Both a captivating and inspiring storyteller, this rare lecture offers anyone interested in photography or travelling an opportunity to hear and witness the incredible life led by this fascinating man. The tour *Wild Vision* will be at Swansea Grand on **Wednesday 23 February at 7:30pm**. Tickets are priced at **£13** with concessions available.

History: Who was St. David?

So, he’s the patron saint of Wales, we all know that. But how much do we actually know about him? Here’s a little bit of history so that this March 1st we know a bit more about who we’re celebrating. He was born on the South West coast of Wales, near the present day city of St David’s.

The legend goes that an angel foretold the birth of David to St. Patrick 30 years before. His mother gave birth to him on a cliff top in the middle of a violent storm. It is told that as David was born, a lightning bolt from heaven struck the rock dividing it into two. David was educated at a

monastery, where, it is said, that by making the sign of the cross, he was able to cure his tutor of blindness. When it was realised that he was blessed, he was sent off as a missionary to convert the pagan people of Britain. David became a Priest and began travelling, founding 12 monasteries in Southern Wales.

David’s monks lived by his strict principles without complaint because his piety and charisma was such that he could easily unite his followers. This charisma, however, did not translate to his followers in one monastery who tried to poison him. The story tells that David blessed the poisoned bread before

eating it and came to know harm. David transitioned from monk to abbot to bishop, and eventually became Archbishop of Wales, working to spread knowledge of the Christian faith throughout the country. Check out the Swansea council website for more information on this year’s celebrations!

What's On

Monday 21 February,
Tour de Force Theatre presents *Swansea at War*.
To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Three Nights Blitz on Swansea, Tour de Force presents a double bill of radio plays, old and new. *The Goat Street Runners* is a tribute to the tireless work of the defenders of Swansea on those terrible nights and all through the war. It is seen through the eyes of a family living in the soon-to-be-destroyed Goat Street, the street that time forgot. *Return Journey* is Dylan Thomas’s masterpiece based on a return to the city that once was and is no more, is all at once touching and tragic, funny and frivolous. These will both be presented as if they are live radio plays and the performance starts at **7.30pm** at The Dylan Thomas Centre. Tickets are priced at **£6**, concessions are **£4.20**. Repeated on Saturday 26th at 1pm.

Thursday 24th February
The Masters of the House Sing The Musicals
Back by popular demand! Don’t miss this musical feast featuring former stars from Les Miserables and other hit West End musicals performing in concert. The Masters of the House are renowned for their superb vocals and entertaining presentation delivered with panache by some of the leading theatre artistes of today. The show starts at **7.30pm** in Swansea Grand Theatre. Tickets are priced at **£15.50** and **£16.60**.

Saturday 26 February
St David’s Celebration featuring Only Men Aloud and Morriston Orpheus Choir. More information about tickets can be found by calling **01792 637300** or going online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/brangwynhall. Tickets are priced at £20 and the show starts at 7.30pm at the Brangwyn Hall.

Tuesday 1 March
Enjoy delicious traditional Welsh food at Sketty Hall, Morgans, or Norton House on St David’s Day this year. Sketty Hall have a 4 course, Welsh themed dinner which includes entertainment, coffee and welsh cakes, while Morgans have a 5 course Welsh themed lunch or dinner and Norton house a 3 course dinner of the finest local produce.

Wednesday 2nd March
Sing-a-long-a ABBA
From the people who brought you Sing-a-long-a Sound Of Music. This is the concert event ABBA fans have been waiting for... the Swedish supergroup’s greatest hits performed live with on-screen lyrics so everyone can join in! With live singers on stage, a party bag for everyone, fancy dress, a Dancing Queen competition, the big screen with lyrics and, of course, some of the best music you’ll ever hear, Sing-a-Long-a ABBA is the perfect night out for all! Fancy dress is not obligatory but highly recommended! The show starts at **7.30pm** at Swansea Grand Theatre. Tickets are priced at £17.50.

Poetry: John Haynes



Katherine Dickinson

John Haynes is a critically acclaimed and well-established poet. He was born in Newquay, Cornwall in 1936 and has been writing for many years – his first book, *Sabon Gari*, was published in 1974. He spent time teaching as an associate professor of English at the Ahmadu Bello University in Nigeria in the 1970s and '80s, where he founded a literary journal called *Saiwa*, and it is clear that this experience has had a great influence on his work. Alongside his poetry, he has written several books on language, African poetry, and teaching. He has won many prizes and critical accolades for his poetry writing, from competitions such as the Arvon, to prizes in the National Poetry Competition. His more recent work, a book-length poem titled *Letter to Patience* won a 2006 Costa poetry award, and critics labelled it “autobiographical realism on a grand scale”.

His latest work is called *You*, and is addressed to his wife. *You* is a collection of poems, each one without any individual title, forming an entire

book, and the work has attracted great praise, as well as being short-listed in the top ten for the 2010 T.S Eliot award. *The Guardian* called it “an engaged and engaging work”. In this most recent work, Haynes, a white British man, focuses on the cultural differences between his own upbringing and that of his wife who was born and raised in Nigeria, and how these differences can cause conflict and form preconceptions of love. As expected, much of Haynes's work is intensely personal in subject matter. Another thread of complexity is added when the issue of bringing up children is brought into this mix of cultures.

Both *Letter to Patience* and *You* have been published by Seren books, a Welsh poetry publishing house. John Haynes will be the guest poet at the Dylan Thomas Centre's regular event, Poets in the Bookshop. As well as Haynes's reading there will be an open mic opportunity for audience members to do their own readings. This reading is an excellent chance to hear a reading from a critically lauded modern poet.

Thursday 24 February at 7:30pm.
Entry is £4 but £2.40 for students.

Theatre: I Can't Remember Anything

Philip Dewey

The American playwright Arthur Miller depicted the lives of ordinary working people on the stage throughout his distinguished career. Characters such as Willy Loman from the Pulitzer prize winning play *Death of a Salesman* and Eddie Carbone in *A View from the Bridge* represent the hard working and un-appreciated everyman who often lose themselves in their attempts to achieve the American dream.

The Fluellen Theatre Company's production of one of Miller's lesser known plays, *I Can't Remember Anything*, took place at the *Dylan Thomas Centre* in the lunchtime theatre slot. The performance began with an informative and compelling account of Miller's life and career by actor Peter Richards. The audience was taken through Miller's upbringing in Harlem, his struggles as a young writer, his breakthrough as an established writer with *All My Sons*, his marriage to Marilyn Monroe and his later work such as *I Can't Remember Anything* written in 1987. Richards gave a little background information on the play before the performance began.

The play itself concerns two friends, Leo and Leonora, who are both pushing old age and are starting to reflect back upon their lives in contrast with their present lives which they find unsatisfying. It takes place in Leo's apartment where Leonora, a wealthy widow from New England, is visiting to talk about old times. The main theme that Miller conveys here seems to be about the transience of memory. Throughout the dialogue of the play, both characters forget facts and events in their own lives. For instance, Leo has problems with calculations which he has done with ease throughout his life and Leonora is confused when her son writes to her to say he is separating from his wife, she cannot remember her son having a wife.

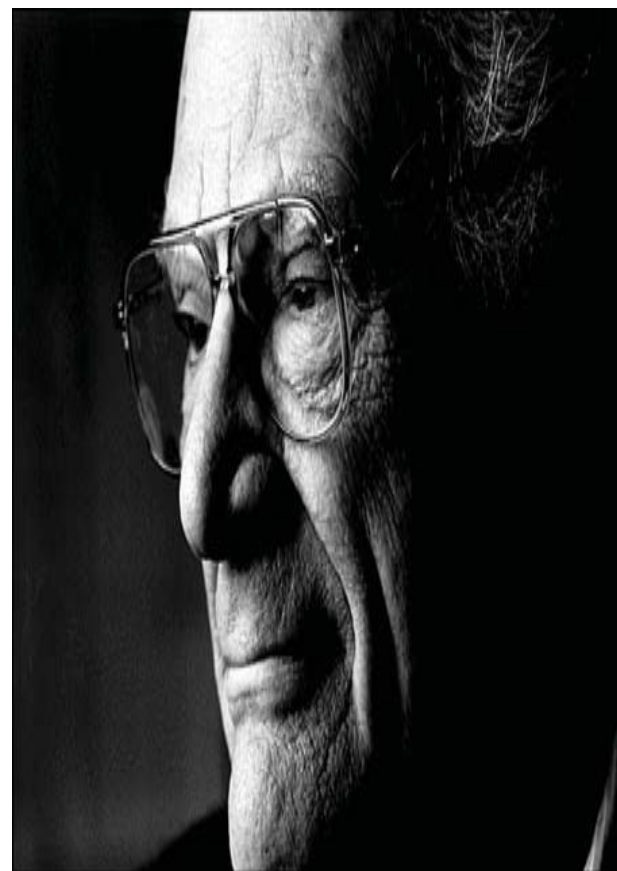
Miller addresses concerns about whether memories are creations of the mind or events that have actually happened. As we grow older and our friends and family die out there is no one to confirm or clarify our memories and they become buried along with the deceased. At the climax of the play there seems to be a sexual tension between Leo and Leonora but this is never acted upon. He asks her to stay but she refuses and promises to phone him once she is home. After receiving the phone call Leo sighs the final line of the play; “Oh Jesus”. This line could signify his pity at the disintegration of his friend's mind or the realisation that he is losing his own mind. Either way the ending is a bleak one.

Peter Richards and Clare Novelli's performance as Leo and Leonora was outstanding. They effectively

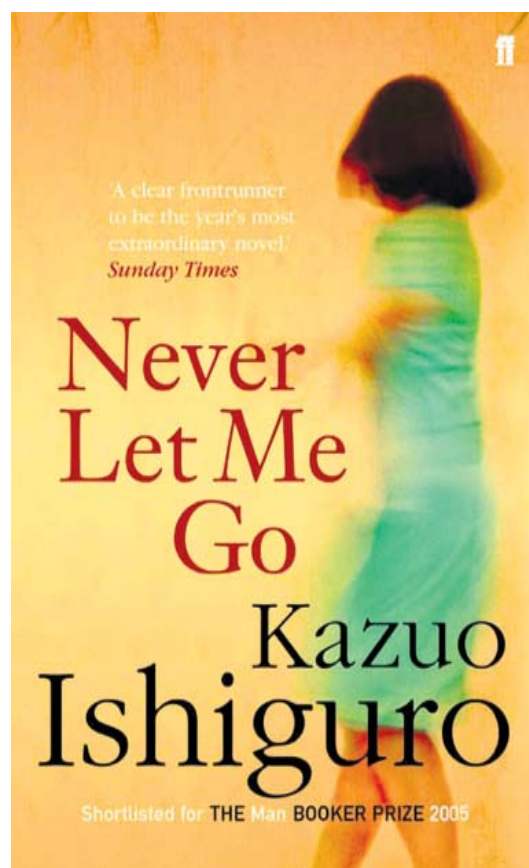
captured the naturalistic style of the play while subtly portraying the breakdown in communication between the two old friends. Their love and passion for Miller's work shone through. The scenery and props were kept to a minimalistic standard which benefitted the one act performance because it enabled the audience to focus on the social commentary and poignancy of Miller's script.

I managed to have a quick word with Peter Richards after the performance and I asked him what it was about Miller's work that was so enduring. He said that it was the timelessness and truthfulness of Miller's writing. He described him as perhaps the greatest archetypal American playwright because of his individual and political voice.

The Fluellen Theatre Company's production of *I Can't Remember Anything* proves that a flamboyant set is not needed to create great drama. The most important factor is the voice of the playwright. In this case, Arthur Miller's beautifully colloquial dialogue was allowed to breathe through two superb actors.



Literature: Never Let Me Go -Kazuo Ishiguro



Verity Rogers

I came across the author Kazuo Ishiguro while studying English Literature, having read *The Remains of the Day* (1989) as part of the course. While I didn't enjoy that book, I found Ishiguro's later novel, *Never Let Me Go* (2005), far more intriguing. *Never Let Me Go* is Ishiguro's sixth novel, which was nominated for the 2005 Booker Prize, and named by Time magazine as the best novel of 2005, more than enough reason to give it a read. It was also released as a film in 2010, directed by Mark Romanek. The tale is written in quiet, descriptive prose which creates a mystery that is only revealed piece by piece through the book. Set initially in the late 1990s, as the reader you soon discover that although this is England, it is a slightly skewed parallel version of the world we know. Ishiguro introduces us to Cathy, a 31 year old carer, who narrates the story that unfolds. From the start there are certain ordinary words used in

unusual contexts that hint at the unnerving differences in this version of England.

The book is divided into three sections: two that look back to Cathy's past, and one, the present. In Part One, Cathy reflects on her school days at the seemingly idyllic Hailsham, and her two friends, Ruth and Tommy, are introduced. Cathy reminisces on this time with a slightly hazy perspective that adds to the building sense of uncertainty as the mystery unravels. While the school seems very 'ordinary' there are clearly some odd aspects; the regular health checks, their used possessions, and the sense of isolation of the school.

Part Two is focused on Cathy's memories of The Cottages to which they were sent after their time at Hailsham, to prepare for their lives as 'carers' or 'donors'. By this point, Ishiguro has established the emerging love triangle between Cathy, Ruth and Tommy, and the reader begins to understand more about the limited world in which these characters are living. The book

finishes with Part Three, over a decade on from when Cathy left The Cottages to become a carer, and she has lost all contact with Ruth and Tommy. A chance encounter with Ruth while she is working brings the three back together for a short time, to reminisce on their Hailsham days, and finally gives Cathy and Tommy a fleeting chance to be together. Written in a subdued style with no big moment of escape - while some find this frustrating, I think this is what makes it such a moving read. The novel is not about Cathy, Ruth and Tommy escaping the lives they are destined to lead, but rather about their acceptance and the way they understand and deal with this. The novel is based on a premise of science fiction, which is only fully revealed as you piece it together. It is not, however, a typical science fiction thriller; it has more depth and understanding of human nature. Ishiguro's style of writing keeps you interested in discovering the mystery and relating to the characters. It may not be a wildly exciting read, but it is thought-provoking and poignant.

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BURN OUT OR FADE AWAY?

MUSIC EDITOR CHARLIE TEASDALE TOOK A TRIP TO CARDIFF ARTS INSTITUTE AND CAUGHT UP WITH GEORDIE FOUR PIECE LITTLE COMETS AS THEY TOURED THEIR DEBUT ALBUM - 'IN SEARCH OF ELUSIVE LITTLE COMETS'.

How's the tour going?

In the world of touring, it's like Inception; a day in the normal world is like a week on tour...

Debut album 'In search of Elusive Little Comets' is now out, how's it being received?

Well most of the postal deliveries have gone quite well... There are a lot of people at gigs singing the more obscure songs, so yeah it seems to have gone down alright.

The album nearly didn't come out because of problems at Columbia, what happened there?

When we signed I think we were pretty naive in thinking that we'd be able to do everything ourselves, because all the production etc has always been done by us. But I think they were as naive because it wasn't like we'd had meetings and said something like "yeah, you do everything for us". So it came down to the fact that we weren't willing to compromise that much, and neither were they, so there was a lot of head banging for six or seven months and subsequently it just didn't work and they said the album didn't sound enough like, I think the phrase was, 'American Radio Pop'.

Did you ever think the album wasn't going to get released?

We were all quite depressed for about 10 days because you never want to

have someone ring you up and say "look, we had faith in you, and now we haven't and we don't want to release your album", but we quickly came to the conclusion that the reason we got signed in the first place was because of our hard work and the craft we'd put together. Plus because we'd produced and recorded the album ourselves we felt a strong musical ownership of it, and we owed it to ourselves. We've

Well in terms of locality we tried to stay away from Newcastle, because there's definitely a sense of anonymity when you play where no one knows you and you can pretty much do whatever you want. So yeah, we'd end up bursting into lectures and getting physically started on by lecturers, there this one amazing Irish guy that just went straight for Ricky, I think it's because he's got the nicest face. A lot

way of getting a captive audience, because when you're in there people can't leave, and have to take notice of you. Plus we thought once we got some tracks released and our name out there a bit more, people would catch on to the lecture theatre idea a bit more, and when we came in be like, "I know who these lads are!"

So is there any talk of touring beyond the UK yet?

Well we're off 'across the pond' to Texas to play SXSW in March. Huw Stephens is doing a night out there and he's asked us to come along.

So what's the deal with all the on-stage dangling instruments?

Well we'd done a gig at this place in Newcastle called The Bridge Hotel where we used to gig all the time, and one time we decided to put a washing line up... When we play live, it's quite hard to translate some of the music across because the recordings are quite busy in places, so to still get the percussive sound live we couldn't just pick up a tambourine and then drop it on the floor, we would have ended up playing out of time.

You played the BBC introducing stage at one big weekend in 2009; did that help with the progression of the band?

Well we got to meet Fearnie Cotton so, yeah. It was a time when we were still in quite a happy place with Columbia, so if they'd wanted to use that they could have done, but we then went to record the album and it was hard to build up momentum after that.

Is this the first time you've played in Wales?

No I think it's the fourth just in Cardiff.

How do Welsh crowds compare to everyone else?

We did a gig in Wrexham and they were crackers. Then we gigged in Cardiff the next night and I tried to speak Welsh on stage and it was appreciated but apparently would have been much more appreciated back in Wrexham.

Got the Brits coming up; do the Little Comets aspire to win awards? What would you want to win?

Stuff like the Mercury Music Prize; that would be amazing. We're not really concerned about Brits. Mark (drummer) would like 'Best Haircut' from Smash Hits Magazine...

The BBC have just announced their list for who to look out for in 2011, have you got any tips for bands or artists that'll be big this year?

'The Big Sleep', they're supporting us tonight, and 'Grandfather Birds' from Newcastle and this lad called Fran from Edinburgh who goes by the name of 'Ajimal', he's got some awesome music.

Describe Little Comets in 4 words.

Nice. Well Rounded. Apathy. But just one word will do; 'Bootlaa!'

Have you heard about 'Geordie Shore'?

I wish I'd never heard of it. One of my mates emailed me about it and he was genuinely really angry about it. It's just going to ruin Newcastle's image.



been playing songs since we were 13 or 14 and we weren't just going to stop because some bloke called us up and told us he didn't like the album.

Your 'guerrilla gigs' were an inspired form of self promotion, but you didn't just perform around Newcastle and Sunderland did you?

of them assumed we were students and they'd ask our student number and we'd look at them and be like, "four!"

Now the album's out do you see a need to do that anymore?

Well we did about a month ago. If it's a new idea or a uni we haven't done yet then we'll do it. It's a really good

WANT TO HEAR THE BAND TALK FOOTBALL, ONSTAGE FURNITURE AND BEATLES TATTOOS? WATCH THE FULL INTERVIEW ONLINE NOW AT WWW.WATERFRONTONLINE.CO.UK

MUSIC REVIEWS

The Waterfront's music writers tuck into some of the latest releases.

Tinie Tempah – Wonderman (ft Ellie Goulding)

What an absolutely mad 12 months it has been for Tinie Tempah. From conquering the United States through to smashing it at the Brit Awards, and going certified platinum in between, the London based rapper has gone from strength to strength with complete ease. To follow the huge success of hits such as 'Pass Out' and 'Written in the Stars' the man known to his mum as Patrick, releases his next single from the critically acclaimed *Disc-Overy* album with songstress Ellie Goulding lending her vocals. 'Wonderman' is a compelling track from Tinie, which blends numerous musical elements including rock and rap with particularly heavy influences of electronic synths. Goulding's quivery-yet-angelic vocals build up a terrifyingly strong chorus which combines beautifully with Tempah's distinct hip-hop lyrics.

'Wonderman' tells the story of a man coming from absolutely nothing and progressing to the top and this obviously relates directly to the rapper, who looks to have yet another hit in the bag. Tinie truly looks unstoppable.

Dan Charman

I Blame Coco – Turn Your Back on Love

Does lead singer Coco Sumner sound familiar to you? Well she should, because at times she sounds scarily similar to her father, veteran pop star, Sting! But let's forget that for a moment, because clearly Coco has a bright future out of her dad's shadow. 'Turn Your Back on Love' is the fourth single from the band's first album *The Constant* but as of yet they have not had much mainstream success in the UK. The synthy sound and yearning vocals make easy listening and show Coco's enthusiasm and singing ability. I Blame Coco's sound is similar to Ellie Goulding's and this single also has an eighties vibe to it. The lyrics "Turn your back on love, you turn your back on me" are catchy and easy to follow, and set the tone for the rest of the album. Overall, this single won't be a classic, but it's not bad.

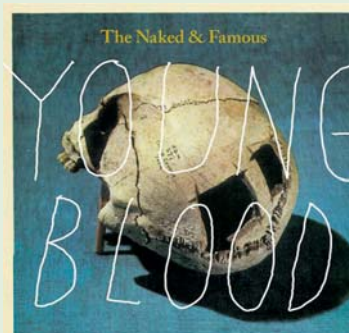
Megan Gullam



The Naked & Famous - Young Blood

The Naked & Famous are tipped to be one of the big new things for this year, and after initial success in home country New Zealand it isn't hard to see them having the same effect here. The sound is not unlike something you could imagine hitting the radio waves these days, but the first single 'Young Blood' manages to offer something different and a lot more interesting than the array of same pop songs around right now. It's a synth-pop dream song that'll get stuck in your head, and promises good things for the album release later this year.

Esther Wright



Sunday Girl – Stop Hey

After releasing her two other singles, 'Four Floors' and 'Self Control', Jade Williams a.k.a Sunday Girl has released her third single, 'Stop Hey'. This single has many drum thumps, breathy vocals and also uses retro keyboards to create a laid back vibe and its own unique style. It is a really catchy, upbeat tune and after an amazing 2010, this is just the start for Sunday Girl. It is bound to chart well and will be a great start for 2011 for Jade. She is a strong female artist bringing a new edge to pop, especially with this new cool single. She is currently touring with Ellie Goulding and is also the new face of the River Island design forum. What a start!

Stacey Whitcombe



The Strokes - Under Cover Of Darkness.

Waiting is a tedious activity, whether it be waiting for an overdue bus or for the guy spending too long choosing his pasty at the bakery. But waiting six years for one of your favourite bands to bring out new material; that's the kind of wait which either ends in joyful skipping around your room or moping in tragic disappointment. Fortunately The Strokes have ended their six-year hiatus with a worthy successor to their classic fame-defining hit "Last Nite" with "Under Cover of Darkness", a comeback single which heralds back to their 2001 sound and distances itself from First Impressions of Earth's more heavier efforts. Vocally Julian Casablancas sounds surprisingly more exuberant than ever, while the roaring guitar solos of Albert Hammond Jr. provide a familiarity which suggests they'd never been away. They may not have done anything hugely experimental, but recreating the unmistakable sound of The Strokes is probably the best move they could've made.

Ollie Launn

GRUMMY KNOWS BEST

Deputy Music Editor Sarra Grummett recommends some of the best signed and unknown talent out there. This week, Nightmare Of You.

Band: Nightmare Of You

Genres: Indie / Indie-Rock

Members: Brandon Reilly (vocals, guitar), Joseph McCaffrey (guitar) and Michael Fleischmann (drums)

Location: New York, NY

For listeners of: Head Automatica, The Smiths, Hot Hot Heat, Mae

Named after a line from *The Cure's* 'Kyoto Song' ("A nightmare of you of death in a pool / gets me up at quarter to three"), *Nightmare Of You* are a rather misunderstood, critically forlorn group that pay gratifying tribute to bands from the British wave of the early 90s. Though there are some bands who swear down on the musicians that have influenced their sound and unfortunately prove instead to resemble a pretty cheap imitation of the original, *Nightmare Of You* are not only sensationally uncommon, but also appear and sound less like a standard American emo band than a relatively pitch-perfect reverence to *The Smiths*. That is,

Nightmare Of You typically check off most, if not all of the important facets made renowned by *The Smiths*-- the fine-tuned melodic guitars, wonderfully exaggerated lyrics and sickly sweet intonations of which front man Brandon Reilly captures delightfully. Oddly enough, even Reilly's high-pitched shrieks are reminiscent to the feminine squeals made by Morrissey himself. From the quite frankly sarcastic 'Dear Scene, I Wish I Were Deaf', to undeniably the best track on *Nightmare Of You's* self-titled album, 'My Name Is Trouble', which sounds like something from *The Queen Is Dead*, the band's second full-length studio album *Infomaniac* may not embrace all the unique traits that their first album did, but sure upholds the very same warmth and charm of a band who constantly reminds us of their heavy 80s influences, as well as the incorporation of their very own uniqueness.



2011 PREVIEW

THE WATERFRONT MUSIC WRITERS GIVE YOU THEIR TIPS FOR 2011 AND THE GIGS, ALBUMS AND GENERAL EVENTS THAT ARE MAKING THEM MOIST WITH ANTICIPATION.

Frankie and the Heartstrings

Coming straight out of Sunderland, indie outfit *Frankie and the Heartstrings* have been touring extensively for the last 12 months and 2011 will see the release of their debut album *The Hunger*. The five-piece deliver a delightfully unique sound which combines wonderfully chirpy pop riffs with charming lyrics which makes them potential festival favourites this summer. Expect 2011 to be a massive year for a band with such great talent.

Blink-182 New Album

It's nearly eight years since the release of the self-titled *Blink-182* album and since then, it's fair to say a lot has happened. Despite band differences causing an 'indefinite hiatus' as well as the formation of new side-projects, *Blink-182* finally settled their differences and the result is a brand new album for Summer 2011. Here's hoping the pop-punk heroes go back to their roots and delight fans with another masterpiece.

Dan Charman

Katy Perry Gig

I am really looking forward to the Katy Perry gig in Cardiff as she is a very classy, worldwide performer that is really down to earth and I am sure she will do a fantastic show. Her tour, *California Dreams 2011*, will be performed in the Cardiff International Arena on the 1st April, she will be singing all her latest songs and top hits including *Firework* and *I Kissed A Girl*. I cannot wait!

Stacey Whitcombe

SOAD Gigs (reunion)

About ten years ago I set foot down a path that would change the course of my music taste for the next few years. One of the bands that really got me going back then was *System of a Down*; now old

fans are going to have the chance to see them play. With sell out shows and appearances at many European festivals, 2011 should be a great year for the band.

James Andrews

PRETTY RECKLESS

From the moment that Taylor Momsen opens her mouth, it is clear the blonde haired and blue eyed teen of seventeen is a natural. As opposed to other actor-turned-singers, the girl can actually sing. Though what appears to sound much like a nicotine rasp, Momsen instead emits intonations that don't sound that much different to that of Shirley Manson and Karen O. Throwing in a few lyrics about angst and sex and



impressive punk riffs tailored especially to her vocals, *The Pretty Reckless* are exactly what their name states, and dangerously appealing.



Mayday Parade 2011 UK tour and upcoming EP release

2011 is set to be huge for Floridian heartthrobs *Mayday Parade* who are

currently in the studio recording their third full-length album that is expected to be released sometime this summer. As well as flying over to Australia at the end of this month to begin their 2011 tour, *Mayday* will also be touring the UK in May. Busy this year is an understatement as the five-some are due to release their new EP titled *Valdosta* on the 8th March. My teenage heart is beating fast.

Sarra Grummett

Blink 182 UK Tour

If the release of their first album in 8 years wasn't enough to get you excited, the promise of a UK tour means *Blink 182* will be a band people are talking about this year. After their "indefinite hiatus" of 2005 leaving disappointment, the reformation was something to be hopeful for. A band with legendary live shows, the gig in July is sure to be one of the highlights of my year.

Patrick Stump – Spotlight (New Regrets)

Patrick Stump is set to release his first solo album this year, *Soul Punk*. He's already released two editions of a free single 'New Regrets', and a series of acapella videos on YouTube, but the album is sure to show off the creative talent that he's recently been putting into other artists' albums and songs. After selling out all his shows in the US, I'm sure there'd be no stopping him over here too.

Esther Wright

J. Cole

He has yet to release an album, but he's released 3 mixtapes that are better than your average favourite artist's albums and that's no exaggeration. With a dynamic flow, real wit, punchlines for years and actual substance, he has more than a promising future. He also makes his own beats as well, for evidence of his talent check out his *Friday Night Lights* and *The Warm Up* mixtapes, they're great and more importantly free!

Yelawolf

Part of the Shady records renaissance, Eminem's newest signee along with hip-

hop supergroup *Slaughterhouse* is set to take the industry by storm. Gritty, multi-syllabic rhymes layered over a distinctly southern bounce make him a unique entity in an industry too willing

uniquely experimental, they may as well just hand him the Mercury right now.

Death From Above 1979 reform for Coachella



It's safe to say that nobody saw this coming. When the *Coachella* line-up was revealed last month, fans were stunned. *Death From Above 1979* had disbanded in 2006 over reports that, well, they basically couldn't stand each other. But the dance-punk duo has left their fans salivating for the chance of new material, excited by what their set at *Coachella* might bring. And the even better news for us Brits? They're playing a date

at the London Forum in May.

Ollie Launn

The Strokes

Possibly my favourite band of all time, is just about to release new material after a few years in the doldrums, and this is wonderful news. *The Strokes* are one of the most important and influential bands of this century and new single 'Under Cover of Darkness' (see Ollie Launn's review p16) seems to signal a return to the glory of *Room On Fire*. I was lucky enough to see them perform over the Summer, and it was hands down, the best gig I'd ever seen. Roll on new tracks and a 2011 tour. (Oh and don't forget to check out *Little Comets* after you've read the interview on p15).

Larmer Tree Festival

This is a tiny festival that's set in the picturesque Larmer Tree Gardens in the village Tollard Royal in Dorset. Fair enough, it's only half an hour from my house, but it's still my favourite festival of all. The set-list is mainly bands only middle aged men with beards have heard of,



Pitchfork, his bewitching brand of soul mixed with sub-bass and autotune has created a niche for itself— his much anticipated eponymous debut is impossible to group into just one genre. There's no doubting Blake's chances of taking over 2011. With an album this

but the reggae, dub and folk that drifts through the trees is well worth a listen. Every year I find a new band to become obsessed with, 2010 was *Tunng*; check them out.

Charlie Teasdale

STUDENT STYLE

High Street Special

STUDENT LOCK-IN SURVIVAL GUIDE!

BY CARA DARE-EDWARDS

LOCK IN OPINION

BY LUCINDA REID

“Go for the experience rather than a bargain hunt”

St David's 'Student Lock In' is perfect for students who need their fix of Superdry, Henleys, Jack Jones and Luke as with an attractive 20 per cent discount the trip to Cardiff is a treat. Alongside the energetic atmosphere and friendly retail staff, the experience is certainly positive. However, if you are a student that favours brands like New Look and Warehouse the 20 per cent seems irrelevant due to the stores offering this reduction many times throughout the year. Indeed, there was a discount in H&M, which is a rare occasion, but with their prices sustaining their cheap price tag, you save pennies rather than pounds. Overall, the 'Lock In' is aimed at students who need an excuse to shop, the discounts a perfect reason to spend their money. In hindsight, the cost for a Swansea student to travel to Cardiff by train unfortunately devalues that reason. Therefore, go for the experience rather than a bargain hunt.

With over six thousand fashion-eager students queuing in anticipation of a night of exclusive retail discounts, offers and giveaways at St David's 2, Cardiff, it's no wonder student nights have become so attractive! Generous discounts from favourite student retailers like Cult, H & M, New Look, Warehouse, Debenhams, Republic and many more, goodie bags and prizes, and a lively sound system seemingly creates an idyllic atmosphere for student shoppers! Sadly, keen shoppers like myself, may experience rash 'heat of the moment' expenditures resulting in a tiresome trip back to the shops to part with those lovely, yet unnecessary purchases! Luckily for you this event has enlightened me to the error of my ways, and I've constructed a simple survival guide to student discount nights to avoid guiltily indulging in more than you can afford!

Plan!

Retailers normally preview their Spring/Summer collections in online look books prior to the collections being released! For the keen fashionistas check out the collections online and have an idea in mind of what you want to buy before you show up to the event. Think of the discount as a way to save money within your budget, not as a reason to go over budget! New Look provides fantastic look books and the student lock-in showcased many of the new styles. My favourite pieces were florals like this gorgeous, fresh blazer almost identical to D & G's Spring/Summer 2011 theme!

Invest:

Liven up your basics for Spring! The most stylish people are the ones who never directly copy or imitate catwalk looks; think about your own personal style and how you can incorporate an innovative, fashion edge into your wardrobe. That way instead of splashing out on extravagant, trendy pieces you wouldn't normally buy without the discount, you'll remain sensibly stylish! H & M provides ideal basics in striking, Spring colours, check out their pumps, cardigans and dresses!

“Favourite Picks include- Bright Basics”

Christopher Kane SS 11



Dress £29.99
Pumps £7.99
Rings £3.99
all H & M



Dolce & Gabbana SS 11



Blazer, shorts, crop top and bandana all New Look ss 11 collection coming soon!

Best Destinations/Others!

Think practically, H & M was my top destination as it never offers student discount whereas shops like Warehouse and New Look do! Prioritize where you should shop first! Get there early, avoid the queues and get the best out of your experience such as goodie bags and freebies. Also, don't forget makeup! Benefit and Mac in Debenhams both offered generous discounts of 10-20% so stock up on your beauty essentials!

EDITOR TREATS



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WELSH REFERENDUM 11

Make your vote count



WELSH POWER: Inside the Senedd

Emma Slattery explains the ins and outs of the Referendum, and delves into the 20 devolved fields for which the Assembly has some law-making powers.

On March 3, the Welsh Referendum will take place across Wales, allowing the people of Wales the right to decide whether law-making powers should be extended in all devolved areas.

At the moment the Welsh Assembly has the power to make laws (Assembly Measures) on twenty subject areas. However, in each area the Assembly can only make laws on certain matters. In any of the other matters, the UK Parliament must first be asked for their agreement and they must decide if the Assembly can pass these laws. The legislation then must be signed via an 'Order of Council' by the Queen to ensure its approval.

The twenty areas devolved in Wales include:

- agriculture
- education
- the environment
- health
- local government
- public administration

- town planning
- the Welsh language.

In 2006, the Government of Wales Act was created by the UK Parliament, which reformed the National Assembly for Wales. It created an executive body, known as the Welsh Assembly Government, which is separate from the National Assembly for Wales. It also allowed the Assembly to make laws in the twenty devolved areas and to create referenda. Although in principle the assembly has no tax-varying powers, it has some limited powers in reality. For example, charges for NHS prescriptions have now been abolished in Wales and university tuition fees are lower for Welsh students in Welsh universities than for other students in the UK.

If the majority vote 'Yes' then the Assembly will be able to go ahead and make laws on all matters within the twenty subject areas for which it has power, without needing the UK Parliament's permission. The status quo will apply if the majority of the vote is 'No'. Whatever the outcome of the vote, the Assembly will not be able to make laws on subjects such as taxation, defence or welfare benefits.

Do you want the assembly now to be able to make laws on all matters in the 20 subject areas it has powers for? You can vote in Fulton House between 7am-10pm. Make your vote count.



Independence: The Next Inevitable Step?

Laura Stowe gives her view on whether independence is an inevitable result of a potential 'Yes' vote in the forthcoming Referendum, or whether it remains a distant Nationalist ideal.

Opinion polls throughout 2010 seem to suggest that a 'Yes' outcome in the Referendum is looking likely, but is it also fair to assume that the a 'Yes' vote will pave the way for full independence in the future? There are certainly those who will be hoping so.

It is no big secret that Plaid Cymru has garnered a significant surge in support in recent years, and that they were also pivotal in securing the backing of other parties in the 'Yes for Wales' campaign. The party is surely hoping that devolution will not only add strength to

their arguments for secession, but also lay down the foundations for a fully independent sovereign state.

A nice idea perhaps, but are these views reflected in communities across Wales? I recently attempted to discuss this topic with some other students and discovered that many felt they didn't know enough about the Welsh political landscape to pass comment. In some cases, students are shying away from voting altogether owing to a lack of understanding about the issues that affect Wales.

With such a large student population in Swansea alone, I can't help but think that political parties of all persuasions are somehow missing a trick. Opinion polls over the last decade have suggested that just

10 – 15% of those eligible to vote are in favour of withdrawal from the UK; rather a low figure but could this just be down to lack of political education? Maybe not. Beyond the confines of the campus walls, a friend of mine (Rhondda Valley born and bred) told me that she could not see any major advantages to independence. She was of the opinion that although it might be nice for cultural identity, she couldn't see how it would help on issues such as housing, jobs and education. And I can see her point. At present Wales can, and does, benefit from numerous UK funding streams and government initiatives. Could it really sustain itself economically if these were withdrawn? I, like many others, remain sceptical.

YES OR NO?



Elena Cresci goes on the trail of the 'Yes' campaign.

At the Swansea launch for Yes For Wales on January 12th, it was clear that this would be an interesting campaign. After all, it's not often that you have a campaign supported by all the main parties of Wales, with a representative from each present and supporting the 'Yes' vote. Each expressed the view that a 'Yes' for Wales would mean a positive move forward for Welsh politics.

The 'Yes' campaign has made a clear focus on the people, with the Chairman of the Swansea meeting and former Tower Colliery miner Tyrone O'Sullivan expressing the view that 'this is about us, the people'. Swansea represents a particular stronghold for the 'Yes' campaign, having been the only major city of Wales to vote 'Yes' in the 1997 referendum which led to the formation of the Welsh Assembly. As it stands, the process to pass new laws in one of the devolved areas is a lengthy one which has caused much delay in planned legislation, for example changing the organ donation process from opt-in to opt-out. For the 'Yes' campaigners, "time and money is being wasted jumping through needless hoops".

They claim that this is detrimental, not only to the politics of Wales, but most importantly to the people of Wales. The 'Yes' campaign has kicked off all over Wales, from Caerphilly to Caernarfon and Carmarthen to name a few, where campaigners have been out in full force handing out leaflets. Additionally, the 'Yes' campaign has gained much support from public figures, such as Olympic swimming medallist David Davies, comedian and singer Max Boyce and Melanie Walters of Gavin and Stacey fame. Unlike the referendum in 1997, the 'Yes for Wales' campaigners have the power of the Internet at their fingertips, and have been making use of social networking sites to full effect, engaging with supporters via Twitter and Facebook, making this a truly modern campaign for Wales. On March 3, we'll see if the 'Yes' campaign's efforts will have come to fruition in leading the people of Wales to pledge a 'Yes' vote for their country.



1979: WALES SAYS ‘NO’

Alun Rhys Chivers looks at a referendum which was ultimately rejected, helped unseat the Labour Government and gave rise to the reign of the Iron Lady.

On the back of Scottish nationalist pressures for devolution and a narrowing of James Callaghan's majority as Labour Prime Minister between 1974 and 1977, it was clear that a change in dynamics in the political structure of the United Kingdom could be on the horizon. Between them, the Scottish Nationalist Party and the nationalist Plaid Cymru had 14 seats in parliament. The Kilbrandon Report of 1974 recommended that a Scottish parliament be established. This paved the way for a devolution referendum in Wales.

The devolution Bill for Scotland and Wales was introduced in 1976 but split opinion on its proposals, and proved too difficult to push through. A second reading was rejected, and 350 amendments were introduced amid numerous parliamentary resignations.

A year later, individual bills for Wales and Scotland were presented, and given royal approval on July 31 1978, enabling the Referendum for the Assembly to be held on St. David's Day 1979. Any devolution measures resulting from a positive outcome in the 1979 Referendum would not give any form of law-making powers to Wales.

The pro-devolution campaign, 'Wales for an Assembly', was established almost immediately under the leadership of Elystan Morgan, and supported by the Labour Party in Wales, the Trade Union Congress, the Liberals and Plaid Cymru.

But devolution had its opponents. Indeed, there was almost unanimous opposition to devolution from the Conservatives in Wales, along with six

Labour MPs, including Neil Kinnock, under the collective name, 'Vote No'. This opposition group argued that an Assembly would be expensive and irrelevant to Wales.

In order for devolution to succeed, 40% of the whole electorate had to vote 'Yes'. Failure to vote was essentially a vote for 'No', due to a controversial late amendment to the Bill. On March 1, a total of 1,119,378 of the people of Wales (around 58% of the electorate) voted in the Referendum. Of that approximate 58%, a mere 11.8% were in favour of the Assembly.

Soon afterwards, the failure of the Labour Party to secure devolution, having spent much time and money on it, contributed to its losing the General Election, bringing about a tumultuous period in Wales under Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Government. The Labour Government had looked to be fragmented. A minority within it had felt that devolution in Wales could have jeopardised the unity of the working class in Britain, and that such unity was required in the 'winter of discontent'. A side issue was the so-called threat that a transfer of any power to Wales could ignite a wave of nationalism, and that independence could rear its ugly head.

So, on St. David's Day 1979, Scotland voted in favour of devolution although 32.9% of the electorate was insufficient to bring about a Parliament, having failed to satisfy the 40% rule. The notion of devolution had been overwhelmingly rejected in Wales, and it was to be another 20 years before the National Assembly of Wales was established.

1997: WALES SAYS ‘YES’

On September 19, 1997, the people of Wales woke to Ron Davies' "A very good morning in Wales" victory speech. Jess Main examines how the 'Yes' vote in the 1997 Referendum shaped the future of Welsh politics.

Many people are set to take part in voting for next month's Welsh Referendum. However, not all will be aware of its significance and just how far the idea of devolution has progressed in Wales over the past decade. The 2011 Referendum comes after several years of campaigns and planning for devolution and while some people are sceptical of a 'Yes' vote this time around, that was not always the case. With the first devolution referendum being held in 1979, 1997 saw the second to be held in Wales.

The main aim of that campaign fourteen years ago was slightly different to that of today. It was a commitment of the Labour party, and aimed to investigate whether or not the people of Wales would support the creation of a Welsh Assembly. Similar to the current situation, both the Welsh Labour Party and Plaid Cymru, along with the Liberal Democrats, supported the 'Yes' campaign,

whilst the Conservatives were the only major political party to vote 'No' to the suggestions.

The results of the 1997 Referendum were extremely close, with 50.3% of the voters saying 'Yes' and 49.7% voting 'No', a majority of just 6,712 votes. However, this was enough to pass the vote of course, and resulted in the passing of the 'Government of Wales Act' in 1998, meaning that power could be transferred to Wales. In turn, it also resulted in the establishment of the National Assembly for Wales in 1999.

All facts and figures aside, it's interesting to recognise how all votes make a difference, and this perhaps makes us wonder what Wales would have been like, had the 1997 results panned out differently?

The Welsh Assembly, then, has the power to make legislation in Wales, something which is sure to have affected us all living here at some point over the years. Will this Referendum - fourteen years on - have the same effect on Welsh politics and enable us to extend our legislative powers? Or will the people of Wales vote 'No'? Only time will tell.



DECADES OF DIFFERENCE: From Thatcher to 97 Referendum victory

Will Hunt goes on the trail of the 'No' campaign.

"It's time to stop treating the people of Wales like children with whom the Bay's political classes cannot share the secrets of its unraveling radical devolution."

These are the bold words of Rachel Banner, spoken at the launch of the 'No' Campaign in Caerphilly's Newbridge Rugby Club on January 19. 'True Wales', the organization of which Banner is head, harbors concerns about the lack of adequate scrutiny with regards to the passing of laws that would be brought about by a victory on behalf of the 'Yes' campaigners. Numerous laws have been significantly improved by Welsh MPs, they say, and their involvement is vital.

From the outset, there were fears that the 'True Wales' campaign would fail to meet the electoral commission's criteria to become lead organization for the 'No' side. This made proceedings all the more interesting when, at the launch of the campaign, she announced that True Wales would not be applying for lead campaign status, which, due to the strange rules employed by the Electoral Commission, meant that the 'Yes for Wales' campaign group could not be designated a lead campaign organisation either, and that both sides would miss out on £70,000 of public funding and a free leaflet distributed by Royal Mail.

When the campaigns met for their first televised debate in Aberystwyth on Feb 1, Nick Martin of 'True Wales' held his ground despite being faced with tough opposition. Kirsty Williams, head of 'Yes for Wales' remarked on the "slow" and "cumbersome" nature of the current system, to which Martin argued that rectifying this by giving politicians in Cardiff Bay more law-making powers "will do nothing for the wellbeing and economy of Wales." He also suggested that a faction of the Assembly would seek to make laws in Wales for the sake of being different to England, something that "would serve no purpose but to satisfy powers."

Fellow 'No' campaigner Mark Beech's blog presents the similar view that a 'Yes' vote entails handing absolute power to a mere 60 politicians in Cardiff.

"People vote for all sorts of reasons," remarked Beech. "Last year 215 voted for me, 1,360 voted Plaid and 141 even voted BNP. Regardless of who sits in the commons the UK has the protection of the Lords, but if this referendum passes, whoever sits in the Assembly has full power without control and the people of Wales lose their protection."

The next televised debate takes place on the 28th February.



Contributors to the Welsh Referendum News Feature - Alun Rhys Chivers, Jess Main, Laura Stowe, Elena Cresci, Emma Slattery and Will Hunt

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ONE, TWO STEP.

BY LUCINDA REID

This Spring, it is the men's shoe department in the spotlight. Plimsolls, including the common Converse are history, as the high street embrace the new shoe designs that strolled down the catwalk. For more alternative designs of the shoe, including open-toed sandals, look to shoe shops including Schuh and Russel and Bromley as there is more choice. River Island do a great selection of the smarter shoe, including the loafer which will soon replace the brogue in popularity. Finally for a casual look, Topman do a trendy boat-shoe in a variety of colours that will look great with jeans or chinos. With so many styles on offer, now is the time to put your best foot forward.

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DESIGNER TO HIGH STREET

BEAUTY ON A BUDGET.

It may not seem like it, but beauty trends change with the seasons just like fashion. Whilst it is nice to indulge in luxurious, high-end beauty products from time to time, an easier way to stay up to date with key beauty trends is to pick up some bargains on the high street. There is an array of affordable, high street make-up brands but one that is standing out for all the right reason right now is the Topshop make-up range.

If you could only buy one thing from this range, we would definitely recommend one of their Duo Eyeshadow compacts. These gorgeous little compacts are very reminiscent of the Chanel 'Les 4 Ombres' eyeshadow quads. At £9 they're a downright bargain! Another fantastic dupe from the line is their two Highlighter compacts, £9, which are strikingly similar to MAC's Mineralize Skin Finishes. The shade Sunrise would be great for adding a subtle tanned glow, whilst the shade Sunbeam would be better for highlighting your cheekbones. We can bet that both would be perfect additions to your Summer make-up. With brands like MAC and Bobbi Brown heralding their gel eyeliners as must-haves, it is no surprise that they have made their way into high street collections. Topshop's Sold Gel Eyeliner, £8, comes in a little pot with a mini brush and is perfect for travelling or make-up application on the go. If you are more a lipstick kind of girl, the Topshop lipstick in 'Hazard' is bang on trend. 'Hazard' is a rich, dark red lipstick that promises to hydrate and nourish lips. Go on, release your inner vamp and rock some deep red lips!

BY LYDIA O'CALLAGHAN



A DEAL OF DENIM.

BY MICHAEL BELL

Christmas is over and the extra pounds in our bank accounts, thanks to the Student Loan, weren't the only pounds we gained this holiday. Luckily boys, the high street is our saving grace to cover our winter sins whilst giving our bank balance a sigh of relief.

Looking washed out is what's up on the high street. Topman is showcasing faded basic tees priced at £7 and when combined with 'spray on' jeans (£39) and black corporal fleet boots, you achieve a casual yet contemporary look. You may feel like a member of The Wanted and that you've been through mum's spin cycle too many times but this is a good thing.

Another key trend you will find on the high street is the return of the denim shirt. Topman have a varied range of denim shirts retailing between £26 and £38, providing you with a piece that can really spruce up the blandest of outfits. In order to achieve this look, try combining a denim shirt with a blazer, found in H&M for a reasonable £39.99, to balance out the casual and formal look that would suit both a lecture and a night out.

However be careful when you wear a denim shirt. Avoid wearing similarly coloured jeans and a brightly coloured t-shirt. While denim shirts are an excellent way to imply that you got ready in ten seconds and still look great - the 'Woody the Cowboy' look is a style I cannot condone - so I suggest either dressing it up with a blazer or dressing it down with a white vest underneath.

The high street has some brilliant finds that won't break the bank. Aim for the faded colours and staple denim shirts and your wardrobe will be set for Spring. Happy shopping!



ASOS £12



RIVER ISLAND £34.99



TOPSHOP £3.50



ASOS £30.00

EDITOR TREATS

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World In Motion

By Andy Belcher and Sam Barnett

Welcome to another exciting edition of World In Motion, The *Waterfront's* "world renowned" travel section, in this edition we follow Sam Gardner's trip to India and we continue our journey with Lidia through the Balkans. Today she leaves Macedonia and travels into one of the least travelled states in Europe, Albania.

Balkans Adventure Part 3

It was time to move on. From the bus station one can go everywhere and I didn't feel like hitch-hiking so I took a bus to Štip. In this town there is absolutely nothing to see or do. I'm not kidding, in one afternoon, one can see all that the city or town has to offer. However, I was really lucky. The Couch Surfer there was lovely! I had an apartment to myself with a beautiful German Shepherd named Bush. I met plenty of locals and enjoyed eating with them and I went to watch a football match: Štip vs. Tetovo. Zikica, my host, told me it was meant to be a dangerous match because Tetovo was formed only by Albanian-Kosovars and the tensions between them and Macedonians had increased, especially in the northwest of the country. So, it seems they don't only have problems with the Greeks! Luckily, there wasn't any incident during or after the match, which goes to show that the tensions are just differences that can be overcome.

My time in Štip flew by. If you go to Macedonia you can skip this stop, but for me it was a nice relaxing weekend. No exciting things to do or see in particular. Just eat, walk, chat and mix with the locals. It was here where I asked for the first time if they eat fruit salad called Macedonia. None of them have ever heard about a fruit salad with this particular name. They were really surprised when I told them that in Spain, France or Italy a fruit salad is a typical dessert called Macedonia. The origin of the name is not clear but the most widely spread version is that the name alludes to the ethnic diversity within the Macedonian Empire during Alexander's time.

The next country on my list to visit was Albania, so I decided to head south. I had heard incredible things about a city and lake called Ohrid, so I decided to stop there. What was supposed to be a stop for one day turned into three days by the lake. Without a doubt Ohrid is a must-see in Macedonia! When I got home, I discovered without surprise that the natural and cultural heritage of the region of Ohrid is listed on the UNESCO World's Heritage list. Again, I made

use of Couch Surfing as a means of accommodation. Ohrid is a really touristy city but there is only one hostel. However, a lot of people rent private rooms. Sometimes if they see you walking with your rucksack they'll stop you to offer you accommodation.

The city is small but there are plenty of things to see. It is said that at some point there were 365 churches, each one dedicated to a different saint for each day of the year. I didn't count how many are left but I'm sure that there are still more than a dozen. You can also enjoy the views from the fortress, walk by the Ohrid fortification or sit by the antique theatre. While walking around, you might notice that there are some houses that look different to others. According to my host Aleksander, those are the typical Ohrid houses. They are white with brown wooden-framed windows.

Everyone knows that sightseeing can be quite tiring; the best thing in Ohrid is that when this happens you can take a glass of boza with ice-cream (a really typical drink here) and go to the lake. It is wonderful. If you bring a tent with you and prefer to stay in a quieter place, go to Ljubaništa. It is a much better place to enjoy the lake; there is an official camping area but some people camp outside it; on the beach side. There you don't have the facilities of the camping, but who cares when you have a magnificent lake almost to yourself?

I wished I could have stayed there longer, but I still had a lot of things to see and only one month left to get back to Belgrade and catch my plane. I checked the map. I was close to Albania. I hitch-hiked to St. Naum and from there I decided that I would walk over the border. I have never done it before and it will be a nice way of starting the next stage of my trip. Albania, here I come.

By Lídia Pedro



Statue of Alexander the Great

My India Experience

Sam Gardner is a Materials Engineering student in his final year at Swansea University. Last summer, he spent a month in India on a programme offered through the university. Here he tells us about his experience of a life time.

Before going to India I was enormously excited, not only to go there, but also to meet all the new people who I would be travelling with.

We landed in Bangalore and got onto a coach; within five minutes I saw a family of four riding a moped and a small herd of cows eating out of the rubbish on the side of the road! Another surprise came during a lecture on the caste system, I didn't realise it's still used in modern India.

We worked for NGOs and stayed in a remote village called Solur; each were equally rewarding and quite upsetting experiences. Some timeout in an Ashram doing yoga and learning about spirituality and religion was a rest in a haven away from the hustle and bustle of Bangalore city.

Experiencing India was without a doubt the best thing I have done since being at university. This opportunity has opened new doors for me; by experiencing a new culture I now have a different, broader view on life, especially religion. Since being back I have signed up for the international student mentoring program and I hope I can share with them the knowledge I have gained whilst being in another country. I also now find myself interacting more with students around campus, this program has improved my communication skills massively. I would recommend this program to anyone as it really is a once in a lifetime opportunity.

To read the full case study on Sam's experience, visit the *Summer in India* web pages:

www.swansea.ac.uk/internationalisation/StudyAbroad/SummerProgrammes/

By Sam Gardner



Sam and the other volunteers in India

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CUT OR KEEP...DEBATING ISSUES THAT DIVIDED CRITICS
AND AUDIENCES ALIKE**Awards Season**

With the Critics Choice Movie Awards, BAFTAs and Oscars all following one another in quick succession, it can be easy to become oversaturated and dismiss awards season as a slightly redundant hype-machine. Awards evenings can be seen as simply lots of famous people telling one other how wonderful they are, but when this superficiality is looked past, there are many aspects of awards season that are genuinely rather important and necessary to a healthy artistic culture.

Good acting and writing have been rewarded in ceremonies since classical Greece, when annual dramatic festivals rewarded the best offerings each year, and our modern awards shows simply follow in this tradition. More importantly, with so many substandard, lowest-common-denominator marketed films wasting studio money and clogging up cinema timetables, it's vitally important that we reward quality and good work. That fact that an Oscar is said to add an extra zero to an actor's pay check certainly shows that studios listen, and so awarding prizes to the films with the best screenwriting, direction, acting and production encourages studios to fund more of the same (at least in theory). An Academy Award under a director or actor's belt can secure the trust of funding executives and ease the process of filmmaking for the truly deserving.

When discussing awards season, we can't forget the annual awards for tragically bad cinema, the Razzies, which (despite lazy nominations this

year) are entertainingly sarcastic, and serve to diffuse the vague air of self-congratulatory luvvie-ness that can hang around the more traditional awarding bodies, as well as just being genuinely funny and enjoyable viewing.

From a slightly shallower point of view, awards shows can, as well as celebrating quality cinema, simply be good fun to watch. Although some may scoff, it's enjoyable to watch a good awards evening - to discuss what, and who, the nominees are wearing, and whether or not it was a good idea. Each year we watch awards shows for the entertainingly painful repartee between hosts and award presenters, to see the reactions of those winning, or those losing out. The acceptance speeches are always worth a watch, as we secretly hope for somebody to throw a good, old-fashioned tantrum or have a Hallie Berry style emotional meltdown - if nothing else, the bit where they play the Get off the Stage music is always a highlight.

Awards season is necessary - it gives the magazines something to write about, and even though these elements of the season can seem rather superficial and irritating, the shows are fun to watch and I genuinely believe we do need awards shows in order to highlight achievements in cinema, reward exceptional artistic achievements, and hopefully encourage more of the same.

By Evey Moriarty

In the midst of awards seasons, it makes one wonder as to why they bother televising these self-congratulating ceremonies. Whilst the other side of the argument is that good work deserves merit, however, can someone please explain why *The Tourist* was nominated for anything at the Golden Globes? Ricky Gervais was the only part worth watching in what is usually boring 3 hour self-congratulation because he did not mind about offending anyone when he pointed out what everybody across the world was thinking about these celebrities.

Obviously there are exceptions to the idea that all awards ceremonies are terrible - example being *Slumdog Millionaire* scooping Oscars at the 81st ceremony after nearly not seeing the light of day, but these stories are few and far between. The majority of award winning films are purely because they bait such awards. As examined on the opposite page, there are films with the pure intention of winning awards. This causes awards ceremonies to ignore many of the films released throughout the year and concentrate on those released in the early part of the year leading up to award season.

Oscar-winning director William Friedkin stated that those behind the Academy Awards are more influenced by marketing than the film itself and that the awards themselves are the greatest marketing technique that Hollywood has designed. This is exactly the issue with awards season as a whole.

Within all the glitz and glamour associated with awards season, the

Golden Raspberries (or 'Razzies') turn a mirror upon Hollywood and awards films for being truly terrible. Whilst this is a positive within the context of awards season as a whole, it begs the question, what's the point? What is the entire point of awarding people for making terrible films? The only reason that the Razzies exist is to point a finger at the pointlessness of the awards season as a whole.

Yes, there is a case that if people do well, they deserve praise however, there's a line. Is it really necessary to make such a big deal about it? And why so many? Why does every single sub-section of the film community that maintains an interest in Hollywood cinema need its own award ceremony?

I'm not against film awards as a whole, only the ones that exist during 'awards season'. Awards gifted during film festivals tend to genuinely draw attention to unheard of films, but the Oscars? I implore people to ask anyone with a mild interest in films who hasn't heard of *The Kings Speech* or *Black Swan* by this point in time.

Awards season always seems to me as celebrities patting themselves very smugly on the back proving to themselves exactly how necessary they are. Although, whilst the media gives such ceremonies the attention they crave, they are unavoidable.

By Andy Williams**YOU HAVEN'T SEEN!?!.. Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs**

It's a great shame that in the face of the new generation of the animation titans like the near faultless Pixar and the (now rapidly declining) quality of Dreamworks, any animation that's made outside these powerhouses tends to be overlooked. The stand-out star of these near forgotten or ignored films is without question Sony Pictures *Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs*, a truly bizarre and endlessly inventive original in a time when producers seem to want to only work with a tried and tested formula that will only appeal to children.

The story focuses on a young unsuccessful inventor called Flint Lockwood who lives on a tiny island that's only famous for the only food source being sardines. Bored with such a tasteless diet, Flint creates a machine that converts rain into food which will then fall from the sky and keep the town fed for years. Sounds simple enough, but added into the mix is a brilliantly well done father/son complex relationship for kids and the moral basis that being too greedy can lead to disaster. One of the main things that sets *Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs* apart from any other animation, however, are the absolutely awe-inspiring scenes of animation when the food falls from the sky or when the entire town is changed into an ice-cream snow-scape

overnight, a dream I'm sure many of us have had. But the real reason *Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs* deserves your attention is just for how whole body shakingly funny it is. A brilliant script that incorporates witty one liners, visual jokes and humour that appeals to both kids and parents delivered with great gusto from the voice talents of Bruce Campbell, Mr.T, Anna Farris and film-stealing Neil Patrick Harris as the adorable Steve the monkey. A particular highlight is when, trying to get more tourism, the mayor opens 'Sardine Land' featuring the 'world's largest sardine and his flaming hoop of glory'. Trust me, it's hilarious.

By Oli Ryder

NEW RELEASES

In the midst of awards season, check out the latest batch of nominated films

TRUE GRIT

STARRING: Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon, Josh Brolin, Hailee Steinfeld

WHAT'S IT ABOUT?: When Mattie Ross's father is murdered by the outlaw Tom Chaney. A tough U.S Marshall called Rooster Cogburn helps track down her father's murderer.

WHATS IT LIKE?: *True Grit* is an old-school Western set in a world plagued by a similar sense of lawlessness, but countered this time by a trio of ruthless justice seekers who'll stop at nothing to track down a murderer called Chaney whose only real skill is his ability to exploit public apathy. The Coen brothers new film is presented not as a remake of the 1969 classic starring John Wayne, but as a new adaptation that stays truer and closer to the novel written by Charles Portis. The film is definitely much darker than the original, making it all the more watchable. In 1969 it was all about Mattie and Rooster's comic father-daughter relationship and LaBoeuf was a minor figure. Now it is an emotional triangle, and Damon gives a really outstanding performance as the prickly Texan Range. With outstanding cinematography and a great cast, The Coen brothers have achieved something special that hasn't been seen in a Coen brothers' film for a long time.

VERDICT: This film definitely has *True Grit*.

GLENN JOHNSON

NEVER LET ME GO

STARRING: Carey Mulligan, Andrew Garfield, Keira Knightley.

WHAT'S IT ABOUT?: Based on the best-selling novel by Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go* is the reflection of a young woman's life, from the seemingly idyllic days spent with her friends Tommy and Ruth at Hailsham school, to the realisation and acceptance of their collective destiny as young adults.

WHAT'S IT LIKE?: From the offset, it becomes apparent that the world the characters inhabit is much unlike our own. Opening captions reveal a medical breakthrough which has extended human lifespan beyond a hundred years - a fact that binds our protagonist and her friends so tightly to each other. While the eventual reveal places the film in the realms of sci-fi, it's so detached from explanation or emotional regard, it would be unjust to call this anything other than a human drama. The story develops at a pace that allows the characters to grow, from a sheltered existence at the Hailsham boarding school to awkward encounters in the wider world. At the forefront of this drama is the inevitable love triangle that emerges between the trio; the almost world-weary Kathy and callow Ruth vying for the affections of Garfield's Tommy. The resulting romantic entanglements and complications culminates in a profoundly affecting climax.

VERDICT: A harrowing and thought-provoking adaptation that meditates on life, love and mortality.

STEFFAN MORGAN

BLUE VALENTINE

STARRING: Ryan Gosling, Michelle Williams

WHAT'S IT ABOUT ?: Former sweethearts Dean and Cindy are torn apart by a destructive relationship that's become the polar opposite to their romantic beginnings.

WHAT'S IT LIKE?: *Blue Valentine* takes absolutely no sides whatsoever, it's simply the tragic story of a married couple struggling to keep any sense of a relationship together, proving infinitely more interesting and believable than your standard Hollywood fare. We see how both leads, Michelle Williams and Ryan Gosling, have become worn down by their growing resentment of both life and one another. *Blue Valentine* cleverly chooses to hop back and forth from the past and present as we go from their dark marital fall outs to the beautifully complimented scenes of when they first meet. Despite capturing the gloom and doom of a broken relationship the film also has brilliant bursts of humour that end up being the very definition of awkward laughter. The central thing behind this has to be the performances of the leads, and Gosling and Williams make for one of the most convincing onscreen couples in history. In the most bizarre way possible, it was immeasurably satisfying to know that a film could still leave you feeling like you'd been punched in both the stomach and heart whilst steering totally away from the schmaltzy sickeningly sweet Hollywood garbage that stinks up modern cinema.

VERDICT: A gloriously downbeat, beautifully soul-crushing masterpiece.

OLI RYDER



TANGLED

STARRING: Mandy Moore, Zachary Levi, Donna Murphy

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? : Retelling the classic fairy-tale of Rapunzel, Tangled is about a Rapunzel who's locked in a tower by a woman she calls her mother. Rapunzel's life is turned upside down once she encounters a runaway thief and discovers the world - and who she really is.

WHAT'S IT LIKE?: *Tangled* uses Disney's mainstay tradition of being a musical as well as being a fairy tale. Continuing in the vein of *The Princess and the Frog*, and forgetting that films such as *Home on the Range* and *Meet the Robinsons* existed, *Tangled* is up with Disney's very best. Visually, this is one of the most spectacular animations out there. In order to get Rapunzel's hair to move in a believable fashion, the animators had to invent new ways of animating. The animation itself is beautiful, feeling like a traditionally animated Disney film whilst looking like a current animation was a fine line to walk and *Tangled* does it perfectly. Up until *The Princess and the Frog*, Disney's output had been questionable at best, however on the evidence of *Tangled*, we could be about to experience a Disney Renaissance not seen since the early 1990's. All the standard Disney themes are present; an innocent princess, a dashing man to save her from her overbearing 'mother' and show her a life she never knew, the comedy side-kick; however, *Tangled* breathes new life into these themes and is always entertaining.

VERDICT: It will definitely have you tied to your seat.

ANDY WILLIAMS

Actor Profile: Jeff Bridges

Jeff Bridges was born in Los Angeles in 1949, and got his first big break when he starred in the 1971 coming-of-age drama *The Last Picture Show*, for which he received his first Oscar nomination for best actor in a supporting role. Throughout the 1970's, Bridges starred in films such as *Thunderbolt and Lightfoot*, *Fat City* and *Bad Company*. In the 1980s Bridges become noticed more as an actor landing leading roles in films such as *Starman*, *Tron* and *The Fabulous Baker Boys*. Although nominated many times throughout his career it was not until 2009 that he won his first Oscar for his leading role in the film *Crazy Heart*. Throughout his career, Bridges has created many timeless characters, one his most beloved characters being "The Dude" from the Coen Brothers film *The Big Lebowski*. *The Big Lebowski* became a cult phenomenon in the years following its release thanks to the laid back performance of Bridges as its leading role. Recently, Bridges has taken his most challenging role which sees him step into the the mighty boots of American legend John Wayne in the Coen Brothers remake of beloved western *True Grit*. With over 40 films and numerous awards in his career, Jeff Bridges has become one of the most diverse and talented actors of our time.

By Rhys Williams

WHAT ABOUT?... Award-Baiting Films

With the award season underway and the Oscars on the horizon, now is a good time to talk about the films which are considered by many to be 'Oscar Bait'. 'Oscar Bait' refers to films which have generally depressing or hard hitting storylines which are generally favoured at the academy awards. A regularly regarded 'Oscar Bait' theme is that of the Holocaust, with *Schindler's List* sweeping seven Oscars in 1994, including Best Picture, and more recently *The Reader* nominated in five categories and winning Kate Winslet the Best Actress award. With the emergence of the great summer blockbusters in the 1970s and their heightened popularity, films which were considered to be heavier and more serious began to lose audience interest. However, the genre still fared well at the Academy Awards and so these films were generally saved for the first few months of the year for a better chance of being noticed and nominated. With the high profile the award ceremony has, it was an ideal platform for films to get noticed and recognised, and for these films to reach the public over the blockbusters, so, naturally, films of this nature strive to make their impact on the award ceremony. However, this has lead to situations where 'Oscar Bait' films have won awards over much more deserving films, such as *Chariots Of Fires* victory over *Raiders Of The Lost Ark* at the 54th Academy Awards. Fortunately however, this trend of 'Oscar Bait' dominating the awards seems to be coming to an end. Sci-Fi films rarely got a look in, but last year *Avatar* was nominated for nine Oscars. This year *The King's Speech* ruled over heavier 'Oscar Baits' such as *Black Swan* and *The Fighter* at the BAFTAs, and looks set to sweep again at this years 83rd Academy Awards.

By Charles Gallery

Waterfront TV

What's on the tube

Waterfront TV critic Len Cresci examines the effect of shifting the filming of *Being Human* inside the Welsh borders

Ever since *Doctor Who* first transported his TARDIS over to South Wales, we've seen a whole host of television shows being based or set in the area. *Gavin and Stacey* put Barry Island on the map, while *Casualty* decided to move its set from Bristol to Cardiff. *Being Human*'s third series has followed in *Casualty*'s footsteps, with the characters all moving to good old Barry to resume their supernatural activities. Coming from the Vale of Glamorgan and having gone to school in Barry, it's still surreal to see familiar backdrops from home crop up on my television screen. There has been a fair bit of unease about the move in setting, some of it from disgruntled Bristolians who understandably begrudge the show no longer being set in their hometown, and others saying that it just wouldn't be the same now that the motley crew of werewolves, vampires and ghosts are no longer in their original house. It was clear that the finale of Series 2 left the characters with no option but to uproot and flee Bristol, but has the move to Wales been a detriment to the newest season? In terms of the overall plot of the series, I don't feel that it has damaged the core spirit of the show in any way. There have been some interesting developments for sure, with zombie lore making an appearance in Episode 3, further werewolf drama on the horizon and some major developments on the vampire and afterlife front. I've always loved *Being Human*'s frank and British take on the supernatural and this hasn't changed one bit in the new series. The developing romance between Mitchell and Annie is something I could do without, but I've been enjoying the series so far.

Being a BBC show set in South Wales, there have inevitably been many familiar faces from the likes of Melanie Walters, Gwen of *Gavin and Stacey*, as a well to-do vampire who shares a kinky lifestyle with her husband, to Kai Owen of *Torchwood* fame, who unfortunately ends up in a cell with a George on the verge of a transformation. As per, my fellow Welshies seem to add a little bit more comedy value, and the full blown Welsh accents are out in force, even though I know for sure that you won't find that many Swansea or Valleys accents in Barry! All in all, Series 3 of *Being Human* has had a great start in its new home, and I'm particularly looking forward to seeing the developing fallout of Mitchell's major lapse in control at the end of Series 2. I haven't heard one instance of a 'What's Occurin'?' just yet, but it'll pop up soon enough I'll bet.

By Len Cresci



My Top 5 Picks...

Each issue we put the question to one of *The Waterfront* faithful. What are your top 5 TV shows of all time? This week, Deputy News Editor Laura Richards answers...

Celebrity Juice

With so many catchphrases such as 'Bangtidy' and 'Shhhhting', every time I see this show I am in stitches. Keith Lemon constantly tries to get into the pants of Holly Willa-Boobie whilst simultaneously bantering with Fearne Cotton about her huge nostrils. The episode where Verne Troyer is carried around the studio whilst pretending to be Superman and then chased by Keith during a re-enactment of Jurassic Park has to be one of my all time favourite TV moments. I am an absolute sucker for the guy and the show and definitely would love some TLC, Tender Lemon Cuddles!

Gavin and Stacey

'Oh, what's occurring?' A romantic comedy following the relationship between an Essex lad and Welsh girl, with their two best mates thrown into the mix; who wouldn't want friends like Smithy and Nessa? The only problem with the programme is that I found a lot of people became disappointed with my accent seeing as I'm Welsh but don't sound anything like Nessa! Although it has to be said my family does throw a party like the one in the 3rd series; people falling over drunk, dancing on the sofa and trying to light the wrong end of the cigarette.



Glee

I hate to admit it but I am in fact a "Gleek." I'm such a Gleek that I didn't watch my first episode until this year and managed to watch the entire first season as well as the beginning of the second season in 2 weeks! There is nothing better than a programme where the characters sporadically break into song and dance whilst trying to avoid getting slushied. And of course when there is a bit of eye candy in the form of Mr Schuester, it's hard for a girl not to love the show.



WHAT'S HOT, WHAT'S NOT



The *Soccer Saturday* boys are loving the amount of goals flying in; left, right and centre. This is the time of year the Premier league really hots up and the banter flies around the studio like it's *The Waterfront* office

Take Me Out has enjoyed a very successful run on primetime Saturday nights, bringing back the dating show for the first time since *Blind Date*. With Paddy McGuinness stealing the show with terrible lines and catchphrases... No Likey, No Lighty.

How I Met Your Mother is turning into a typical American sitcom that is outstaying its welcome. Having once been highly entertaining, it's become very desperate and is flapping around for a plot like it's Nemo on dry land.

Eastenders is slowly becoming more depressing with each show. The baby storyline seems to be being dragged out to be as controversial as possible. Word has it that it will run on until Easter; do me a favour, invest some time in other storylines.

BY ANDY WILLIAMS

Gossip Girl

When I was living at home, this was the programme that my dad would always try to delete off the recordings, labelling it a pile of tosh. The constant scheming and sexual tension between Blair and Chuck leaves you wanting more and with outfits to die for, it is a TV must, just ask my Italian MALE housemate.

Top Gear

I am definitely not a big car fan but then I suppose this isn't really a car show. It's more about the constant bickering between Clarkson, May and Hammond and how they have every boy's dream job (even though I'm not a guy I wouldn't mind their job, speeding around the racetrack with The Stig by my side!) Even though I know that the majority of the programmes are scripted, I still can't help loving the parts when things go wrong; who could forget the time they set their caravan on fire, which then proceeded to ignite the tarpaulin of the neighbouring caravan...?





GAMES REVIEWS



Games I'm addicted too : Dead Space 2

Angry Birds (iPhone, Nokia N900, Mac, PS3)

I know I'm a little late on the curve with this one, especially seeing as I have had my iPhone for about 6 months already, I downloaded the trial version bitterly refusing to fork over more overdraft to the MAN known as Jobs. AND guess what?! 12 ridiculous levels of crazy, addictive and original gameplay wasn't enough. I doubt even when I have finished the wealth of levels given to you for 59 pence, that I'll go off catapulting homicidal birds into forts of wood and glass, hoping to crush a green piggy's puny cranium...where did I put my phone? Just one more level...



Mass Effect 2 (PS3)

Again I know, I'm riding the wave when everyone else has done in because its getting dark and the tiger sharks are coming back after a hard day's hunt...Yeah. I don't get Sharks. Anyway, its not really that I'm addicted to the game or anything like that (ALTHOUGH it does rock, easily one of the best games ever ever) No I find myself more addicted to creating new characters and planning how I'm going to develop them, whether a male or female Shepard, paragon or renegade, hero or bastard, heroine or bitch, I just can't stop. I'm also incredibly rubbish at character creation, my first male character looked like Damian Lewis (Ginger guy from Band of Brothers), only if Damian Lewis had a cheese grater viciously dragged across his face, then his ears pulled out far enough apart to pick up SkySports. Luckily a friend of mine directed me to a

internet site where you can choice user created faces, all far sexier than my recently described yokel. Simple pick a face you like and put in the code. www.masseffect2faces.com is the link.

[Note to PS3 owners, not all the faces will work, for example some use modified textures that work only with PC, but they are all a damn sight better than my John Shepard...poor guy, I'm finding it hard to take him seriously anymore...]

Pokemon SoulSilver (DS)

Unlike one unfortunate Ash Ketchum I did become the very best, the best there ever was. But now thanks to the new remakes of the original Pokemon Gold and Silver into all new forms Pokemon HeartGold and SoulSilver I can play through them all over and over again without bankrupting myself on double A batteries and become a Pokemon master again. I'm a junkie for collection, and Pokemon is pure collection, but with monsters! Nothing beats that. Although I do still question the wisdom of sending your 10 year old out into a world when fluffy creatures could potentially belch fire at them.

By Ben Rogers



In 2008, Dead Space shocked audiences by de-throning the Resident Evil franchise as the kings of atmospheric, gory survival horror. Dead Space's rule of the horror genre was unchallenged, until now.

Following on from Isaac Clarke's escape from the Ishimura in the last game, our hugely unfortunate protagonist awakes to find himself in a psychiatric ward on a space station, three years after the events of the last game. Within minutes all Hell breaks loose, and you're running unarmed through a hospital infested with creatures that look as if they've been made out of the contents of a serial killer's bin.

The game keeps this astronomical tension up pretty much until the credits roll twelve hours later. In terms of gameplay, if you've played the first game, you won't have any trouble here, the basic mechanics are essentially the same but more streamlined and responsive.

Dead Space 2 features a far greater emphasis on action and swarms the player with enemies from the very start, thankfully, there's an arsenal of weapons for the player, each with its own strategic advantage. Graphically, Dead Space 2 is sharper, and more varied than its predecessor. The new setting of 'The Sprawl'; a city in space, just adds atmosphere and intrigue into the game, from the creepily lit Cathedrals to the eeriness of an abandoned playschool.

In a nutshell: if you like your games innovative and scary get this! In space no-one can hear you scream, but your neighbours bloody will!

By Michael Kavanagh

Michael's Rating: 9/10

Magic with Magicka

Fire, water, earth, arcane and many more will help you cast mighty spells to help you through your quest. But does the immense amount of spells at your disposal make up for the number of bugs?

The plot is simple: you are one of four mages from a sacred order which must fight against an evil sorcerer and a number of obligatory creatures and monsters hindering your progress. However it is more light hearted with many funny references to Star Wars, Monty Pythons Holy Grail and 300. Checkpoints are an issue, as there are few and therefore can potentially send you back to the beginning of the level.

Team up with 3 other players online or locally to get the full experience of the challenge mode and online co op play. It gets crazy and fun with your teammates 'accidently' aiming their spells at each other rather than the enemy. With the occasional bugs (however these have decreased since launch, with the number of patches) it is a good laugh with friends.

From the title you use magic, and casting spells is very entertaining and unique. You have 8 different elements (water, fire, life, arcane etc) to combine to create bigger and deadly spells. Some are simple but some require a combination of 5 elements to cast. It does get complicated with the dizzying number of combinations that and choosing to either cast as an area. Apart from this it is simple as there is no inventory to worry about and you pick up better staffs and melee weapons through the game.

With the added online and challenge mode this game has replay value, especially playing with friends. If you are a fan Castle Crashers (Xbox 360) and want something light, fun and at only £8, then I recommend this.

By Chris McColgan Rating - 8/10

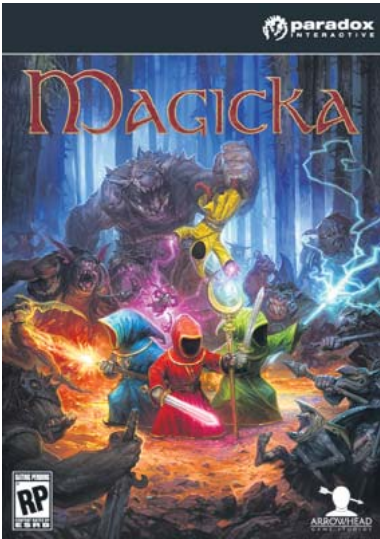
PC Only (Steam Download)

Do you spend your Uni life playing console games?

Why not write about it?

The Waterfront Games Section is looking for reviewers

Email: editor@swansea-union.co.uk





L I V E



UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY 22ND FEB

7.45 - FC Copenhagen V chelsea

WEDNESDAY 23 FEB

7.45 - Marseille v Manchester united

THURSDAY 24 FEB

6.00 - Liverpool v Sparta prague

SUNDAY 27 FEB

1.30 - West ham v Liverpool

4.00 - Arsenal v Birmingham

(Carling cup final)

DRINKS OFFERS

PINT OF BRAINS £1.80

PINT OF FOSTERS £1.90

BOTTLE OF MAGNERS £2.50

SMIRNOFF VODKA (SINGLE) £1.30

JACK DANIELS (SINGLE) £1.30

WHITE, RED, ROSE WINE £1.50

CUERVO TEQUILA £1.10

SOFT DRINKS £1.00

SCIENCE

The Science of Dreams

By James Ward and Oli Preston
Science correspondents

You sit in a crowd, the atmosphere uncomfortable and unnerving. Beside you and behind you drift mutterings of your inadequacies. Shadowy figures that you recognise as your peers, sneer and laugh at you. Suddenly a voice booms out, calling you to make your important presentation. However when you reach the stage, you realise that your clothes are gone!

Sound familiar? This is a typical anxiety dream, experienced by many people at some point in their lives. But why do so many of us share similar dreams? While our understanding of the brain's anatomy continues to advance, the mysterious phenomenon of dreams remains a controversial topic.

The function of dreaming remains a largely unsolved area of research, surrounded by speculation, theology and misinterpretation. Why do we dream? Do dreams serve a biological purpose? Are dreams relevant, and can they be understood? These are some of the questions facing sleep and dream analysts. Sleep and dreaming are recurring themes in modern media. Films such as *Inception*, *Fight Club*, and *Vanilla Sky* popularise the phenomena of insomnia and lucid dreaming – a sense of awareness within a dream state. But are these ideas scientifically viable, or simply an attractive Sci-Fi interpretation?

In order to assess dreaming, it is first necessary to address its facilitating process – sleep. You often hear that you should get 8 hours of sleep per night in order to stay healthy, and indeed, some studies have demonstrated a correlation between average amount of sleep and life expectancy. The common belief is that sleep is a necessary process for mitosis – cell replication and regeneration. And this may be true of several animals such as rodents, the subjects of much lab-based study; however in humans it is shown that regeneration actually occurs in a state of

physical rest, and is more significantly facilitated by the gut, and our protein intake.

The physical rest needed in order to facilitate bodily regeneration is quite easily manageable –



have a lie-down, or crash out on the sofa. But with regard to the brain, simply switching off is not an option. Our brains are wired to remain in a state of readiness; an evolved tendency for the purpose of survival. It is therefore proposed that sleep permits the shut-down necessary to induce a rest state. As such, sleep serves to promote an immobile state of both the body and the brain so that regeneration may occur.

Dreaming, on the other hand, is a far more obscure target of research. Due to the difficulty of measuring dreams, there are certain barriers to their analysis. It is a common belief that dreaming serves the purpose of memory consolidation; however experimental study actually demonstrates

otherwise. Dreams are commonly associated with REM (rapid eye movement) sleep, although dreaming is not exclusively a REM occurrence; subjects report dreaming on roughly 80% of

occasions when woken during REM as opposed to 7% of the time when in other sleep stages. REM occurs at approximately 70-90 minute intervals throughout normal sleep patterns and is characterised by brain patterns similar to wakefulness. The emotive content of our dreams is believed to occur due to the proximity of sleep systems to the amygdala – the emotional centre of the brain.

Several of the misconceptions surrounding dreams are in relation to a lack of sleep. Insomniacs often report perceptual disturbances and hallucinations of some form – often thought of as an overspill of dreams into reality. Furthermore, some studies suggest that sleep deprivation can

cause psychoses and events somewhat similar to schizophrenic symptoms. This, however, represents a misunderstanding of much of the literature. Several studies have used patients with histories of mental illness; one study used an entirely schizophrenic subject pool. In these cases, the stress of sleep deprivation may have acted as a trigger for psychotic episodes. In contrast, studies that have been conducted in line with more empirical procedures demonstrate that the magnitude of hallucinations experienced by those deprived of sleep is far less than in psychotic patients. Sleep deprived subjects do however have slight delusions, are irritable, and suffer certain psychomotor impairment, particularly in regards to vision.

The phenomenon of lucid dreams is a further subject of interest to dream analysts. Being in an alternate reality in which the typical rules of physics do not apply is undoubtedly appealing. There has been a line of study into lucid dreaming in which an eye mask, with the ability to detect the eye movements of REM sleep, flashes red light at the wearer as an indicator that they are dreaming. A switch on the mask can be pressed in order to turn off the light – if the switch is pressed and the light continues, they can be sure that the sleeper is dreaming. However, is the interference with our natural sleep patterns recommended? As mentioned above, the shut-down of the brain is a necessary function of sleep, and engaging in cognitive activity contradicts this important process.

Dreams remain an enigma. Some sleep analysts share the belief that dreams may resolve mental conflicts and problems. Others maintain that they serve the purpose of simply occupying the brain during sleep in order to prevent waking – a so called 'cinema of the mind'. The fact remains however, that there is no evidence to suggest that dreaming is the purpose of sleep, nor that it is a necessary process for wellbeing. In fact, dreams often seem simply to serve as a source of interest for those interpreting them.

Die Hard Fans



Check-out *waterfrontonline* for more Science articles

By Oliver Preston
Science Correspondent

SUNDAY the 6th of February saw the Green Bay Packers triumph over the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 45th Super Bowl. Like the many that have become hooked on American sport, I watched on as the Packers lost star receiver Donald Driver to an ankle injury. Sat in the comfort of our homes, we are undoubtedly aware of the risks faced by players – sprains, breaks, tears, concussions and so on – but what about the risks faced by the fans?

It seems that the supporter is put under greater strain than previously thought, particularly in terms of heart problems. A recent study by Robert Kloner at the University of Southern California has reviewed cardiac mortality data from Los Angeles hospitals during Super Bowl games in which Los Angeles teams were playing. Kloner and his colleagues concluded that a loss at the

Super Bowl was indicative of increased deaths in both men and women, particularly in older patients, whereas a game-win reduced cardiac mortality.

Furthermore, this is not the only case of sport-fan correlated deaths. A prior study demonstrating similar implications at the 2006 World Cup in Germany showed that "stressful matches" more than doubled the risk of cardiovascular events such as heart attacks.

With an estimated 5.25% of people in the UK suffering from cardiovascular heart disease, and an even higher percentage in the elderly, there have been recommendations that preventative measures for high cardiac risk sports fans are necessary.

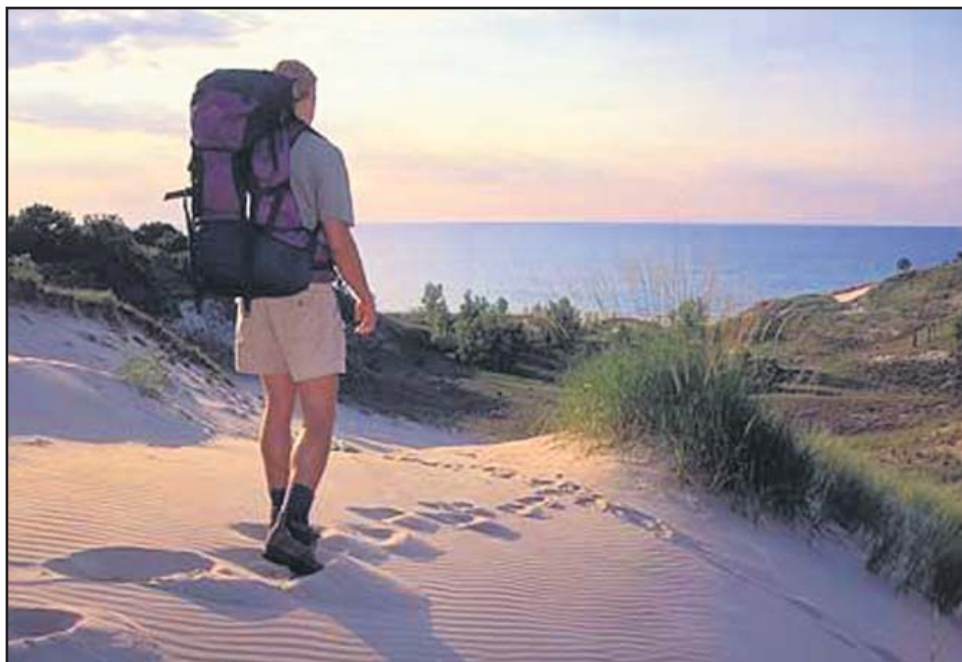
So, with such a fairly full sporting calendar ahead of us – including the 6 Nations, Euro Qualifiers, the Champions League, and not to forget, Varsity – try not to get too worked up over a match, it might be more dangerous than you think.



Careers Advice... Ask Jo

Work Abroad and boost your prospects

Written by Careers Advisor
Jo Davies



Choose a new path: Why not work abroad ?

As a student I had the opportunity to study for a term at a French university, followed by a year working as a teaching assistant at a school in Germany. This gave me the chance to really immerse myself in different cultures and ways of life, gaining lots of amazing experience, a whole new social life, a broader perspective on life in general and, of course, a much greater sense of independence.

International experience gives you much more to offer employers, and with the current shortage of opportunities in the UK it's worth considering, either in the short or longer term. Some EU countries have not suffered as much as the UK in terms of employment, and you might also consider options further afield – perhaps in Asia, China or Japan, e.g. the Japan Exchange and Teaching programme (JET): <http://www.jet-uk.org/>.

With a flexible, open-minded approach it's possible to find opportunities in innovative, entrepreneurial environments as well as more structured graduate training programmes. UK graduates now face more competition from overseas graduates, especially with increasing European mobility, so an international outlook can give you a sharper edge in your personal and career development.

Transfer your skills around the world

Opportunities are out there for students and graduates of all disciplines, even if you do not yet speak a foreign language. Sensitivity to other cultures - particularly an understanding of the workplace culture in a given country - and your attitude, mindset and enthusiasm are just as important as linguistic ability, if not more so in some respects. You can apply your professional or technical skills abroad while learning a language at the same time. English does often tend to be the main working language of business but nevertheless, even if it's your first language, don't miss out on opportunities to learn a new one and impress your employer.

Similarly, skills that linguists possess, including communication, networking and analytical thinking, can help them to break into many different professional areas in the UK or abroad – management consulting or tax consultancy, just to give a couple of examples. **Graduate employers look for a range of high-level transferrable skills beyond the specific knowledge gained from your degree subject**, so think creatively and laterally – helpful ideas about options with your subject on the Graduate Prospects website can be found here: www.prospects.ac.uk/options_with_your_subject.htm.

Starting points for information on living and working abroad

The following resources include information on summer jobs, casual work, internships and exchange programmes, volunteering opportunities, teaching English and lots more ...

- The Careers and Employability Service website:
o www.swansea.ac.uk/careers/jobs/Opportunitiesoverseas/
o www.swansea.ac.uk/careers/jobs/Opportunitiesoverseas/Workplacementsabroad/
- For opportunities with UK based companies who may have overseas operations, explore the jobs section of our website at www.swansea.ac.uk/careers/jobs/.
- **The Graduate Prospects website at www.prospects.ac.uk/working_abroad.htm** covers in-depth information including types of work available, sources of job vacancies, self-employment options, contacts, resources and country profiles at www.prospects.ac.uk/country_profiles.htm.

- The EXODUS database of employment, work experience and country-specific information is available free of charge to Swansea University students through the Interactive Career Planning course in Blackboard.
- Advice about travel and living abroad on the Directgov public services website: www.direct.gov.uk/en/BritonsLivingAbroad/index.htm and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office site: www.fco.gov.uk/en/.
- www.monetos.co.uk/ for practical guides on living in different countries.
- www.swansea.ac.uk/careers/Jobsearchskills/Networking-CreativeJobSearch/ for ideas on networking and using your contacts as a job search strategy.

Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)

TEFL is an increasingly popular option that can take you around the world, and gaining appropriate qualifications makes it much easier to get a job. You can find in-depth information at www.prospects.ac.uk/working_abroad_types_of_work.htm.

English Language Training Services (ELTS) at Swansea University offers courses leading to the Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults: www.swansea.ac.uk/elts/TeacherTraining/CELTAProgramme/. Email: p.l.neville@swan.ac.uk, telephone: +44 (0)1792 295391.

EU Careers Month

The Foreign Office has recently launched EU Careers month to raise awareness of opportunities in the EU Civil Service and increase employment of UK graduates in a wide range of roles – not just bureaucratic ones. The initial phase of the EC's recruitment competition has changed and now has to be completed mainly in



Teach English as a language in another country

English. Visit www.telegraph.co.uk/eucareers for information that includes 'Day in the life of' films, case studies and types of job roles, blogs, top tips, competitions and the opportunity to ask for expert advice. You can expect interesting challenges and a good level of responsibility at an early stage in your career. **16th March is the opening date for applications for the EU Civil Service Graduate Administration positions** - see <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/eu-careers-form> where you can sign up to be notified when registration begins and receive preparation materials. Also visit the European Personnel Selection Office at http://europa.eu/epso/index_en.htm.

Swansea University's Internationalisation Programmes

All students at Swansea University, whatever their degree discipline, are encouraged to take opportunities to study and/or work abroad. These include programmes that form part of degree courses as well as other short-term programmes; see www.swansea.ac.uk/internationalisation.

The University engages strongly with European initiatives to encourage mobility in the graduate employment market. It has therefore adopted the principles of the European Credit Transfer system, and Swansea was the first university in Wales to provide all its students with the Diploma Supplement developed within the European Commission to increase the transparency and recognition of academic and professional qualifications: <http://www.swansea.ac.uk/diplomasupplement/>. The Diploma Supplement is provided in addition to the academic transcript that all students receive on completion of their studies. It not only gives information about the level and nature of your qualifications and skills, but also indicates where your qualifications fit within different national qualifications frameworks, which is very helpful in demonstrating your experience and skills to potential employers in other European countries.

Before you make a decision ...

Think carefully about what you **aim to gain from experience of working abroad**, how it fits in with your longer-term plans, the timescales required to find a job or placement, the logistics of organising a move to another country and how you feel about orientating yourself in a different culture. You can find detailed help with this at www.prospects.ac.uk/working_abroad_before_you_make_decision.htm.

Once you have done some initial research, you could come and have a chat with one of our Careers Advisers to help you clarify your ideas and decide whether you're on the right track. **Visit www.swansea.ac.uk/careers/Makingappointments/ to book an appointment online.**

letters'
to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Lewis Roach and Joe Burnham make excellent points in defence of Swansea University owning shares in BAE Systems, whose ethics are drawn into question by the SU. Before jumping in to take the moral high ground on such issues, here are some fun facts:

Education officer Luke James argues that the forthcoming rise in tuition fees should allow students more rights to decide where and how the money should be invested by the university. Part of the reason for the massive rise in tuition fees is the government's need to claw back money lost year after year in tax avoidance schemes employed by many large companies, including among others Topshop and Virgin Media. Topshop has been highlighted as one of the worst offenders for this, so much so that demonstrators recently targeted the flagship (London) Oxford Street store. Yet a walk up to the level 2 shop in the SU itself leads you past giant advertising posters

for the company, and a quick glance at the fashion pages of Waterfront reveals numerous plugs for items in the store. The SU might also be interested to know that Topshop ranks amongst the ‘big 8’ companies who have not entered into the ‘Ethical Trading Initiative’ [1]. On a similar note, Virgin Media purposefully bases divisions of its company outside of the UK, most recently including a subsidiary in Luxembourg to deal with their HD TV service which allows them to pay just 3% tax on each subscription rather than the 17.5% they would be paying were they based in the UK, where the customers of their HD service reside [2]. This would be the same Virgin Media that the SU are presumably happy to have camped outside Fulton House for weeks around the start of Michaelmas term, selling its services back to the students being hit hardest as a result of tax dodging. In contrast, as a leader in one of the few industries the UK has left to be proud of, BAE Systems contribute a healthy amount in tax to the government each year. While such tax avoidance schemes are currently legal, one would question how ‘ethical’ this practice is.

I also notice a full page advert proudly advertising the availability of Sky Sports in SU bars in Waterfront #195. Sky Sports is one of several companies belonging to Rupert Murdoch's media empire 'News Corporation' which also includes tabloid newspaper News Of The World, about to be dragged through the courts after an overwhelming number of allegations of illegal phone hacking in order to gain news stories. If found guilty, fines and out-of-court settlements for News Corporation could rival those imposed upon BAE Systems.

A story on page 3 of Waterfront #195 documented Swansea University's direct involvement in the unprecedented land speed record attempt of the Bloodhound SSC. Being chosen to collaborate in such a project is a tribute to the university's excellence, and will ensure Swansea can share some of the spotlight when the world's media focuses on the record

attempt in the next two years. Although perhaps the SU would also have us boycott this event, seeing as Bloodhound's other collaborators include, you guessed it, BAE Systems.

I am not suggesting any action be taken regarding the above, I have made my peace with the fact that certain companies will engage in unethical practices from time to time. Nor am I for or against BAE Systems, but merely pointing out that if action is taken regarding ethics in one situation we'll very quickly end up with a university devoid of any interest, funding or entertainment. Of course if the SU can present a viable investment alternative to BAE I'm sure the university would be open to suggestions.

Regards,
Zak Quiney

[1] <http://www.corporation-free.org/big8/topshop.html>

[2]<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/standard-business/article-23864899-virgin-media-in-luxembourg-tax-saver.do>

- WANT TO ASK A QUESTION?

• THINK YOU HAVE A COMMENT?

SEND A LETTER!

Editor@swansea-union.co.uk

Simmo says...



I'm sitting here at the moment, having just returned from [Censored], wearing what can only be described as a soaking wet, hot pink, lunchbox filled with meat not served at most delicatessens. If you weren't around in the Icehouse when I entered the Hot-Tubs on stage with perhaps a little too much ball-fro on show, then congratulations, you still have perfect vision.

Hot Topic - Sheep on fire. Don't get me wrong, I love a bit of mayhem in the smoking area, but as a patriotic Welshmen, when I saw 2 sheep on fire I couldn't help but think... 'S**t, my chances of sex tonight have reduced.' But in all seriousness, I hope the two boys involved make a speedy recovery and the rest of you keep warm outside the traditional way - Finding someone to grind your crotch against

in return for a nice hot slap across the cheeks.

Take Me Out has been pretty special recently. I'm pretty sure Lucy needs to get an electrician in! Her bills will be massive as her off switch doesn't seem to work. And then, that tall one with the red hair, teeth that resemble Wooky Hole Caves and a face like a Stuntman's knee actually ended up on a date with someone?!?! As a footnote, who was impressed with the cross-dressers voice?? It was like a mix between Rihanna and Bryn Terfel! Would be a lie if I said I wasn't packing a chub-on.

Now, I may just be a bit bitter about the result of England V Wales in the 6 nations recently, but what I would like to know, is where the hell all of these English fans come from following a few good results?? I saw during that game, some knobber, covered in St. George's Crosses, rubbing his snotty little nose in some poor welsh birds face, shouting swing low and waving his arms around like a Dutch windmill, only to recognise him from about two weeks ago at The Liberty Stadium where he was chanting with the rest of us 'Always S**t on the English side of the bridge!!!' - Do us a favour you massive nause, go and support a game of hide and seek where everyone's a winner - You'll probably support whoever's on 'cree'.

I've discovered a new craze - Tuesday Club. It basically began a few weeks back when my housemate and I headed to the Bryn Y Mor for the football. A few drinks later we were grinding on portly fifty year old women in Reflex on Wind Street. Now, to describe the crowd who gather in there on a Tuesday would probably have to be - Louie Spence's birthday at Asda with Zig & Zag from the Big Breakfast Dj-ing. It is mental! Believe me, do it once, and every Wednesday morning you'll wake up with little memory of doing 'The Lawnmower' across that light up dance floor whilst winking at Michelle McManus' stunt double.

Simmo Says... Vote Simmo!

RAngharad's Round-up

Someone pass us the sick bucket, it's Valentine season. We say 'season' because it seems to be getting painfully longer and more expensive every year. The card displays started popping up as soon as the Christmas decorations were down in shops, you could practically see the pound signs glinting in the manager's eyes. One such place was selling a pink plastic heart-shaped mould to fry eggs in. It was £5. Really? Have we genuinely all gone this insane? But while we truly weren't that interested in heart shaped breakfast, it is always nice to receive an anonymous card and bunch of flowers.

For those of us in a relationship, the first V-Day can be hard. Despite the wide array of cards, it's difficult to find one that doesn't profess love and eternal devotion. What if it's just sex and McDonalds? (in Uni, this counts as a relationship)

One friend bought a card with ‘I really, really like you’ written on the front. Another took his date to Spoons. Nothing says ‘I love you’ like a beer and a burger. We think this was perfect. Since when did splashing the cash show how much you care about someone? And since when were we so interested in everyone else’s relationships?

Facebook became a competition to see who had the best day. Our news feeds were clogged with the 'LOVES MY PRESENTS – LUCKIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD! =) XOX' statuses, the 'can't wait for you to see the best part of your present ;-)' comments on the wall... what's wrong with sending this in a good old-fashioned text? Whilst it's wonderful being in a loving relationship and having the ability to rub it in everyone else's faces, subtlety can't be forgotten. Think of the single people!!

Most singletons are happy enough riding solo for the entire year, but along comes February 14th and suddenly it's like the Mayans were right and the world is going to end. One person blasted Whitney Houston's 'I will always love you' continuously for about three hours then proceeded to hit the vodka. Hard! It really was like something out of Bridget Jones.

We all remember when we were younger and we bought one of those huge A3 cards so it had enough room for our essays on how our love was 'as big as the ocean, I'm going to love you forever' etc. but we're in University now people, lets pull it together! After all, it's only one day. Close your eyes and it's over before you know it. Hopefully now we can return to sanity. Next time – less angry.



the waterfront



SOCIETIES

Upcoming Society Events:

Monday 21st Feb:

CU Week - 'A Sporting Life'

Tuesday 22nd Feb:

Chemical Engineering Society trip to Nottingham & Art Society session – 6-9pm, Divas

Wednesday 23rd Feb:

CU Week – 'A Unique Life'

Thursday 24th Feb:

CU Week – 'A Talented Life' & History Society UV Party & EngLit Society social

Friday 25th Feb:

CU Week – 'A Future Life' & American Studies Society Year Abroad talk

Tuesday 1st March:

Art Society session – 6-9pm, Divas & LGBT School Disco in Oceana

Wednesday 2nd March:

Shoreline production of A Midsummer Night's Dream

Thursday 3rd March:

Shoreline production of A Midsummer Night's Dream

Friday 4th March:

American Studies & Ancient Studies Playzone Party



Soc Facey B Page up

Good news to all Facebook addicts... the Societies' Facebook page is back up and running! It will be updated regularly with all your society events, news and information. You can also find on there (under the 'Discussions' tab) a list of current societies with links to their Facebook pages.

Whether you're a society committee, a member of a society or if you're just interested in what societies do, it's a great way to stay updated. Make sure you find 'Swansea SU Societies' today!

Rosie Hunnam, Societies & Student Development Co-ordinator (societies@swansea-union.co.uk)

Swansea Bright Futures



What is the Bright Futures Society?

Bright Futures is a student society geared towards helping students to make informed career choices, we give Swansea students the opportunity to network with top graduate employers which we bring to our campus and ultimately, it seeks to develop and improve employability skills and commercial awareness of students during their time at Swansea University, so that they can get the best jobs upon graduation. We specialise in professional development advice, qualifications after graduation, applications and interview skills, networking and writing good CVs

We are regularly in contact with top recruiters as featured in 'The Times TOP 100 Graduate Recruiters' such as:

PricewaterhouseCoopers, Deloitte, KPMG and Ernst & Young, Teach First, Royal Navy and Royal Marines, RBS, HSBC, Rolls Royce, NPower, MOD – Ministry of Defence, IBM, BT, BNP Paribas – Investment Banking, BAE Systems

We are not just a society for helping business and accounting students, we also have contacts within law, media, public sector, teaching, engineering, IT, retailers, consulting, charities and many others, skills that you learn from being a member of Bright Futures through attending our events are the 'transferable skills' that an increasingly tougher job market is asking for. We also work alongside local businesses in Swansea and promote job prospects in Wales. We work closely with:

Tata Steel, The College of Law, South Wales Police, Go Wales Careers Service, Dawson's – local estate agents And many more...

This upcoming term we have an opportunity for our members to attend our award winning 'Dinner with Industry' 2011

Event: 'Dinner with Industry' hosted by Swansea Bright Futures Committee.

Date: Tuesday 15th March 2011.

Time: Arrive 18:00 for 18:30 start until 22:00.

Location: Prembray Suite, Dragon Hotel, Kingsway, Swansea City Centre, SA1 5LS.

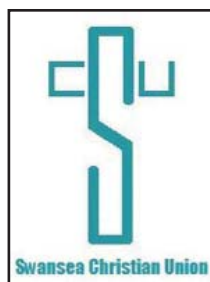
Summary

The Dinner will involve a champagne reception and a 3 course meal with the opportunity to network and build relationships with the people you meet. It is a speed dating concept whereby the 3 courses will be served and after each course the students will move tables and get the opportunity to network with as many of the businesses and corporates attending as possible.

During the networking you will have the opportunity to gain careers advice in a speed networking fashion, regarding current and future opportunities, potential professional qualifications and development, dates of applications, passing psychometric tests, good interview techniques, as well as hints and tips on what graduate recruiters are looking for as an ideal candidate. Recruiters will be there looking for Swansea University's proactive students – an invaluable opportunity to get yourself noticed.

MEMBERSHIPS ARE £3 and to sign up or find more information about what we do and the events we are holding can be found by contacting us through:

Email:
swanseabrightfutures@gmail.com
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Christian Union - Design for Life

A week of events designed for you!

Monday 21/2: A Sporting life

Do you see Christians as weak? Boring? No fun? Are you trying to find identity and meaning to life in your rugby, football, hockey team?

Come and visit us on Fulton Lawn for some sports activities and tell us what you think. Then at 7pm there will be a "Question of Sport" quiz in JC's coffee side with a short talk from a local church leader and rugby player on how he came to find life in Jesus.

Wednesday 23/2: A Unique life

University is when you are supposed to discover who you are. Are you struggling to find your identity? Come to our free lunch bar in JC's 12-3pm and discuss the uniqueness of life and having a purpose filled life.

Thursday morning and afternoon 24/2: A Stressful life

Feeling stressed and loaded with lectures and work? Jesus said "Come to me all you who are weary and heavy-laden and I will give you rest" you will find us outside the Faraday and Digital Technium buildings before the first lectures handing out free hot drinks to help with those early lectures. We will also be around through the morning and afternoon with a tent for you to relax in where you can pick up a de-stress bag to help you relax yourself.

Thursday evening 24/2: A talented life

Are we a talented Uni?

We are going to see by having an Open Mic Night in JC's at 7pm.

We believe this is a chance to celebrate some of the gifts and talents that God has given us here at Swansea University. If you can dance, sing, play an instrument or crack a joke (keep them clean please), this is your chance to display your talents.

There will also be an acoustic act and short talk from a local songwriter. Sign up on our Facebook event page.

Friday lunchtime 25/2: A Future life?

Everything we decide to do has an effect on our future and many of the decisions we make are for the future. We go to school to get A-levels, we get A-Levels so that we can get into university, university to get a degree and get a good job, so that we will have security for the future...But what then? Have you ever wondered about the meaning of life and where we're all going next? Come along to Extreme lounge at 12pm for a free lunch bar and hear a short talk on the design that God has for YOUR life, how it has meaning and it may change everything for you forever...



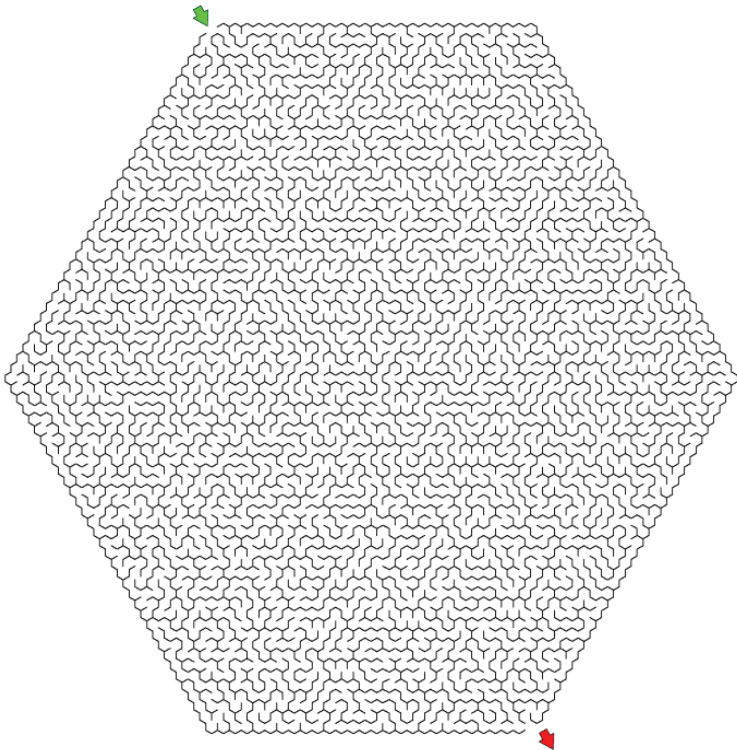
'Missions Week' last year

TAKE A BREAK - SUDOKU

GUESS WHO? _____



Can you master THE MAZE?



Answers from Issue 198

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The ‘Guess Who?’ from issue 198 was Will Smith from the film Ali

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Intramural Football - History torn apart as Sketty go top

By Intramural reporters Owain Harries and Rupert Williams



Balls Deep managed to penetrate the SPR defence but ultimately lost 8-2

Intramural Varsity Announced!

For the first time in the history of Intramural football at Swansea and Cardiff, an Intramural match has been announced between the two Universities to coincide with all the other Varsity matches occurring on Wednesday the 30th of March. The match was announced during the exam period and every Intramural player will be hoping to put in some impressive performances over the coming in weeks to cement a place in the squad of 18.

The squad selection has been confirmed to be done through a form of open trial towards the end of February, and an Intramural sub-committee will have the final say on the squad after watching matches and speaking with captains from all the Intramural teams. Training will then be held with the final squad in order for them to work well as a unit before the final showdown.

Speaking to league organiser Richard Fouracre, he seemed very excited at the prospect of taking on Cardiff in their own backyard and he shed some light on the organising work needed to create such an event. ‘This was something which we looked at potentially last season, but which nothing came of, however the growing reputation of Swansea Intramural (in terms of organisation, size and quality) has led to Cardiff IMG Football (their equivalent) challenging us to an ‘Intramural Dream Team’ type fixture consisting of the finest players across the two leagues. Thanks to the support of the AU and its partners (SSE - notably Simon Bright who has helped drive the likelihood of the fixture forward) Intramural football will have a place on the Varsity programme in the early afternoon on the 30th March’.

Weighing up the opposition, Fouracre

seemed confident of the quality offered by the Intramural league, ‘Whilst the Cardiff set up is larger than ours, I’m confident we have the required quality in this league to compete on the day, this is no means a David and Goliath clash and the team will be ready to perform. For anyone who’s seen an Intramural fixture over the last couple of years, such as the SSE cup final last year, there are many good quality players in this league’.

With the excitement already hotting up prior to the announcement of the final squad, players are urged to support the Intramural XI along with their housemates and classmates by creating an electric atmosphere down the M4 as has been done many times before, to take the spoils from Cardiff in the first ever Intramural XI match.

Results 16/02:	Sub-Standard Liege 3 - 2 Armadillo	Ajax 2 - 1 Sloth
	Uni 6th's 4 - 3 Geography	Sketty Bolognese 5 - 2 History Boys
	SPR 8 - 2 Balls Deep	Photosynthesis 6 - 1 Urine Trouble
	Hardly 1 - 3 Blazin' Bonville Bulldogs	Uni 7th's 3 - 0 FC Climax

Sub-Standard Liege 3-2 Team Armadillo AFC

Sub-Standard won 3-2 against Armadillo with Charlie Bridgewater being the star of the show, claiming two goals and an assist. The first goal came about 20 mins into the match, Charlie was put through on goal and knocked it past the keeper who brought him down giving away a penalty. Charlie himself took the penalty and scored.

The next goal came on the half hour mark, when Luke Lo Bianco picked the ball up on the left wing and delivered a great cross for Charlie to header in from close range. It was Bridgewater’s 5th goal this season against Armadillo in both league and cup.

Despite being 2-0 down Armadillo didn’t give up hope and came back strongly, hitting the post with a break away attack. Their persistence finally paid off and they managed to get a goal back just before half time when Rich Jones’ shot nestled into the top corner from close range.

In the second half Sub-Standard attacked strongly and deserved their goal after Charlie broke down the right and delivered a cross to Jack Wilcox who put it in from close range, albeit with a little help from an Armadillo defender. Armadillo again refused to lie down and scored their second fifteen minutes

from the end when Greg Stephenson found the bottom corner from 10 yards. The last ten minutes were frantic with Armadillo pushing for an equaliser and several important blocks were made by the Sub-Standard defenders.

Talking to Sub-Standard captain Tom Wilford he said, ‘It was a cracking game, probably our most entertaining this season and I was proud with the boys, who stuck in for the win when under pressure. Saying that I do think Armadillo probably deserved something from the game, but I’m glad to get the result.’

SPR 8-2 Balls Deep

Balls Deep took the lead in the fifth minute after a loose ball was not cleared properly and the ball was struck into the bottom corner. SPR equalised about 10 minutes later through winger JJ. Striker Toby Idris then wasted several opportunities to take the lead but Edwin Vaca scored a penalty. Two minutes before half time Will Houseman broke down the right and smashed a ball into the bottom corner, the Deep keeper no doubt feeling he could have done better. Second SPR continued to pressure

and JJ got his second and then third after executing a wonderful lob. Toby Idris made up for his earlier misses after his shot found the back of the net. Midway through the half SPR captain Luke Skidmore headed in a near-post header to make it 6-1. The goal of the game came from SPR right-back Dan Francis after a neat one-two with Ahmed Alshaibi and smashed the ball into the bottom corner. Deep made sure they scored in both halves after their midfielder rose like a salmon to head in.

Photo 6-1 Urine Trouble

This game was the battle of the bottom two and it started fairly evenly until Mike Thomas made it 1-0. A long throw-on was flicked on at the near post and managed to head the ball into the net. Photosynthesis were hungry for a second and continued to create chances and the hard work paid off when Mike Thomas struck a well-timed volley from the edge of the box. The game then quietened down and was played out until half-time.

The second half started slowly but did pick up pace and Mike Thomas claimed his hat-trick scoring from

outside the box with a drive into the top corner. Photo showed no signs of slowing and continued pressure led to their fourth with Justin George scoring from a tight angle. Captain Damian Paget nodded in the fifth from a great cross from star man Mike Thomas.

Second half sub Jamie Benson completed the rout with a back-heel inside the box. Photo clearly wanted to boost their goal difference and pressed but were caught on the break as a mis-kicked back-pass fell to their striker Josh Webster who slotted home to make it 6-1.

BBB 3-1 Hardly Athletic

Blazing Bonville Bulldogs and Hardly Athletic were involved in a mid-table clash down at Ash Road, and the Bulldogs bounced back from the previous games defeat to Sloth with a 3-1 win. The first half was a very end to end affair with both teams creating and missing numerous chances and despite the Bulldogs having the most possession, it was Hardly who took the lead through a long range effort by Rhys Bullock, giving his team the advantage at half time.

The Bulldogs manager made a number of changes at half time which instantly turned the game in Bulldogs’

favour as Samer Dahabreh ran circles round the opposition defence and grabbed an equalizer. Bulldogs took the lead out of nowhere with a thirty yard screamer from Charlie Cadogan, who outmuscled the Hardly defence off the ball.

A change up front worked even more wonders for the Bulldogs as Tom Hill constantly hassled the back four, coming close several times and his hard work eventually paid off to increase their lead to 3-1. With Hardly deflated, Bulldogs had a number of chances but failed to capitalize, ending the game at 3-1.

Geography 3-4 Uni 6th's

The 6th’s v Geography match was always one to watch from the beginning of the season, and it sure did live up to its expectations with a goal fest for both teams and a winner decided only in the final minute. The 6th’s took the lead thanks to their captain Dave Mitchell who slotted the ball past Geography’s keeper after a precise through ball from Matty Bennett.

Mitchell extended the lead to 2-0 after finding the back of the net with a finish created by a rather unusual body part to use in football, with Mitchell claiming ‘I had to improvise’. Geography came out of their stalls in the second half and

quickly turned the game around to 2-2, with two goals created by Tom Waters’ long throws which the 6th’s defence were unable to cope with. Top scorer Uba Azinge got the 6th’s back into the three points position after heading in the ball sent in from a free kick by Ash Patel but Geography responded instantly with an equaliser from a corner.

With the game in a tense position at 3-3 and the clock ticking away, the 6th’s secured a winner as Ross Tyson layed in a through ball to Paul Gregson who found the roof of the net. After a good win and a tough battle, the 6th’s know that any slip-ups could cause a huge dent in their league hopes.

SPORT COMMENT PAGE

Our writers have their say on the big issues

Can Swansea City win a place amongst the country's elite?

Chris Penn analyses whether Brendan Rodgers has found the formula for promotion



IT WAS in 2004 that Chelsea manager and self-proclaimed 'Special one', Jose Mourinho, appointed Brendan Rodgers as youth team coach for the West London side. Fast forward six years and the Northern Irishman is now in charge of Swansea City brandishing his own brand of attractive football that has resulted in much praise, most notably from Cardiff City's Seyi Olofinjana, dubbing the Swans 'the Chelsea of the Championship'.

It is quite remarkable how things have changed since Paulo Sousa's reign last season from the mentality of the players to the reaction of the fans, but when the ex-QPR boss left for greener grass in Leicester (and lasted 3 months there) no-one expected the appointment of Brendan Rodgers. However the doubts soon faded when Swansea made a promising start to the season with five wins from their opening nine fixtures which included away fixtures against Leeds, Nottingham Forest and Norwich City who are all now promotion contenders.

Brendan has definitely created a buzz around the city as the Jacks chase an automatic promotion place to the money spinning Premier League. However there is stiff competition from Norwich, Nottingham Forest, Leeds, Cardiff and current leaders QPR as the Championship hits the business end of the season. Doubts are being raised however, over whether Swansea have

the legs to keep up with the pace setters and whether their attractive way of playing is promotion material.

Swansea play a rather orthodox 4-5-1 formation that was introduced during the Roberto Martinez era and was has been developed by both Sousa and Rodgers, with the latter getting the system ticking perfectly. This is most likely due to the purchasing of winger Scott Sinclair from Chelsea that has added extra width to the Swans' play together with Nathan Dyer on the right.

The return of Leon Britton in January has brought stability and a new dimension to an already strong Swansea midfield. However the main problem seems to be the lone striker issue. New signing Luke Moore has struggled since signing early last month and record transfer buy Craig Beattie has only netted four times this season, his latest being a crucial last minute winner against Middlesbrough last weekend. There have been reports of Swansea making an approach for former striker Jason Scotland, but would that really be the solution?

The 4-5-1 system normally requires a strong target man of a forward which Swansea have in Beattie and Moore who hold up play bringing the wingers and midfield into the attack. This can be flawed by heavy defensive teams especially those that visit the Liberty Stadium - an example being Millwall in December who cut off supply to Beattie

by isolating the gap between Swansea's midfield and the striker, then hitting the home side on the break and earning a deserved draw.

The question is, if Swansea City were to make into the elite of English football, how would they fair? I guess a sign was in the South Wales derby against Cardiff where Swansea's midfield was outmuscled by the likes of Jay Bothroyd, Seyi Olofinjana and Jay Emmanuel-Thomas which is a standard that would be expected week in week out in the Premier League with very physical sides like Blackburn, Bolton and Newcastle. Investment would definitely be required if Huw Jenkins is willing to splash the cash, with the main areas being centre back, a clinical striker and reinforcement in the midfield as mentioned before.

The consequences of Swansea not making the Premier League could be the loss of a few key players to higher opposition, for example goalkeeper Dorus De Vries whose contract expires in June this year and Darren Pratley was heavily pursued in January by a few Premier League clubs including Newcastle and Bolton.

I guess this is Swansea's best chance at gaining promotion as the Championship has proved to have been a highly difficult league to get out of as Nottingham Forest and Cardiff have found out over the years with the play-offs being a risky lottery which has seen underdog teams

like Blackpool and Burnley earning the final spot in the top flight, however yet holding their own amongst the country's elite.

If asked whether I think Swansea will get promoted, I'm split. I would love to see Swansea in the top flight and have proved to be worthy with their style of football, however I feel that the other competitors in the race are better

equipped for life in the Premier League but how I would like to be proved wrong, and Brendan has definitely shown that he is the man to lead this club into the top flight.



A mixed bag of rugby with some interesting results

Richard Hasley examines the opening two weekends of the Six Nations

ANOTHER February, another Six Nations, but far from being a calendar disrupting formality, this year's competition has the added spice of being in World Cup year.

With just five games to play, each country involved will be refining their game to show off what they're made of, not just to each other, but to the world.

The likes of South Africa, Australia, and World Cup hosts New Zealand will be paying special attention to what goes on above the equator, make no mistake.

Well, what have they seen so far? A mixed bag it is fair to say. While the winners of each of the six games played so far may not have come as much of a surprise to anyone, the scorelines have

made for an interesting read.

The opening weekend of the tournament saw Ireland beat Italy by just two points thanks to a drop-goal from the out-of-favour O'Gara. Admittedly Ireland were playing in Rome, but still an unconvincing win for the men in green.

More convincing perhaps, but still not without its concerns, was France's win over Scotland in Paris. The French may have won by thirteen points, but this belies the fact that they conceded twenty one against a Scottish team that managed to score just nine in this fixture last year. This may be just the stepping stone France needed though to recover from their humiliating 59-16 defeat to Australia in November.

The stand-out tie of the first round was undoubtedly Wales versus England at the Millennium Stadium. Having not beaten Wales in Cardiff since 2003, there were high hopes for Martin Johnson's men, and they duly delivered. England look assured where Wales did not, and took their chances when they could.

Onto the second round of fixtures and Wales managed that all important first

win of the campaign, and most crucially, with a convincing display. Scotland may be one of the perennially weaker sides of the tournament, but to get a win at Murrayfield is never a given; England found that out only last year. From here, Warren Gatland will be hoping to mount a serious title challenge after a disappointing 2010 for Wales.

Little need be said of England's win against Italy as the result largely spoke for itself. England played with openness, style, and a lack of fear, three things the Twickenham faithful thought they were unlikely to see for a long time after last year's tournament. 59-13 was not an unfair reflection on the game. The only concern they do have is wing Chris Ashton's 'swallow-dive' celebration, one that some feel is offensive to the opposing team. Perhaps he can be forgiven though; to run in four tries at Twickenham must feel pretty good.

While Ireland may not have been quite hitting their 2009 peak in recent times, they're certainly no pushover; their last seven points of the game against France came after holding the ball for 24 phases. It comes as no surprise then that

'Les Bleus' could only just manage to win here 25-22. You should never count Ireland out of the Six Nations; they don't ever do so of themselves. Expect them to come out all guns blazing against Scotland next.

Worryingly for France however, is that after just two games of this year's competition, they have conceded 6 tries, the same amount as they did in the entirety of last year's Grand Slam campaign. No wonder head coach Marc Lièvremont is considering starting Sébastien Chabal and Jérôme Thion against England as he looks for some extra physicality.

Six games in is far too early to tell which way the title may be going, but we've already had some breathtaking individual displays, some nerve-wracking last minute points scored and some decidedly over the top celebrations. Thanks to the new laws at the breakdown, teams are playing with more freedom and reaping the rewards. In the year of the World Cup, this is the rugby to be watching right now. Who knows, we may be watching potential world champions.



Chris Ashton celebrates his try against Wales in the Six Nations opener

SWANSEA'S RISING STAR

Francesca Lewis talks to The Waterfront about injury, Varsity and Wimbledon dreams



DREAMS: Francesca hopes to one day grace the lawn of Wimbledon

By Ben Donovan
Sports Editor

sport@waterfrontonline.co.uk

A SPORTSPERSONS life appears so simple from the outside.

For Swansea University student Francesca Lewis, the future looks bright as the young tennis star continues her rise that will one day see her represent Team GB as well as compete in the most historic tennis tournament in the world at SW19.

Her career to date hasn't been short of highs and lows, however, as the youngster manages to juggle training and tournaments with her degree in Sports Science, as well as picking up a shoulder injury which ruled her out of the game for a year.

Prior to her injury, Lewis was ranked women's number 1 in Wales, and because she was classed as a junior, held a ranking in the top 16 in Britain.

The Waterfront were keen to find out whether Francesca could get herself a wildcard entry for Wimbledon in the future, but with a system in place that makes it difficult for players to get a ranking, Lewis explained the rigorous procedure that had to take place in order to work her way up.

"I've just started back in the last couple of months and I'm just getting back into a few tournaments to help my fitness levels" she said.

"Last year I qualified for the BUCS British Championships, but I played the qualifying rounds injured and then couldn't turn up to the main event through a recurrence of my injury which

was disappointing."

With Varsity 2011 just over a month away, I was keen to ask Francesca if she would be competing for Swansea in the showpiece event.

"I hope to, providing I'm not abroad in another competition but if I'm here I hope to play."

With tennis being such a competitive sport, particularly in the women's game, Lewis explained the complex route that the players face if they wish to compete in events such as Wimbledon.

"To turn pro, you can win one tournament but you won't get a ranking."

"For the men, you only have to win one match really whereas the girls have to win nine or ten matches just to turn professional."

Aside from this, the many tournaments that Francesca has entered often rely on the luck of the draw if the players wish to go further.

"Before I was injured I played two pro tournaments in a row and I played the winner of each tournament in the opening rounds, so it is complete luck of the draw."

So it is even more important that Francesca manages to secure herself a ranking in the future, something which Estates Capital, a firm in Uplands, has helped her with.

"I just got a sponsorship contract with them to help me turn professional."

"Once you become professional and gain a ranking, you can then pick up wildcard entries to Wimbledon play-offs where there will be six to eight players to compete against to win entry."

"But that's the whole point of me trying to get a ranking so I have a chance to get into Wimbledon."

Once Francesca has her ranking, it will enable her to make her way up the system, but she also explains that other players have a distinct advantage.

"At the moment I'm playing in professional tournaments but I'm still only semi-pro but once I have a ranking I am eligible for better tournaments."

"Some of the girls are put through because their coaches choose the wildcards. You still have to be decent but not as good if you know the right people."

Francesca hopes to emulate the feats of Rebecca Llewellyn, who she described as 'the best Welsh player in a long time' who qualified for Wimbledon in 2005 and 2006, becoming the first Welsh female to do so in 12 years.

"I have played with her a few times and she is probably the best female player we have had since Sarah Loosemore."

With funding being a huge talking point in British sport, Francesca explained to me the complexities that face tennis players in Wales compared to their English counterparts.

"Funding is poor in Wales, whereas in England they have a system where they train and are educated and have tutors come into the academy."

"In Wales you have to go to school and do your tennis on top."

"So one of the reasons why I'm trying to get a ranking is to try and raise the profile of tennis in Wales."

With a lot of young sports stars it is always interesting to see who has influenced them the most in their careers, and Francesca admits she owes a great deal of gratitude to her parents.

"My parents tried to get me to play when I was a lot younger but when I did start I was quite good at it so I stuck at it."

"My dad has been great with me in terms of travelling to training and tournaments."

In addition to her parental guidance, I was interested to know how Francesca balances her studies at university with her training schedule and tournament appearances.

"The university are really good because I miss a lot of lectures so they help with deadlines and help me catch up with my work."

"I'm on a scholarship here as well which helps with funding and makes a big difference."

Those that compete in a high level of sport have to make a number of sacrifices with regard to their social lives and Francesca is no different.

"My social life is at tennis tournaments because around that I don't have a lot of time to do much else."

The future is bright for Francesca as she has already targeted her goals for the next year ahead as well as thinking at the time when she decides to put down her racket.

"My 12 month goal is to turn pro and from there try and play in high profile tournaments."

"On a long term basis when my career

is over, I want to go into coaching and get the national position of Welsh coach but I want to get to the best possible standard first so I can do the best possible job."

However, despite her targets for the next calendar year, Lewis admits that Wimbledon 2011 is out of her reach.

"If I did get a ranking this year I would be about 900 in the world, and I would need to get down to about 500 which would take about six months, so it won't happen this year."

"I'll travel to France at the end of this month but I won't know if I'm in the tournament until I get there and sign in. That's why I rely on my sponsors to help with travel costs."

This level of uncertainty for the players must have a profound effect on their confidence and willingness to enter other tournaments without running the risk of not playing any tennis at all.

As a result, you may see young players dropping out of the game to pursue other sports or academia.

However, it was interesting to see what views Francesca had on the plight of the women's game and whether she thinks the future is bright.

"The women's circuit is a lot stronger than the men's at the moment" she said.

"After Andy Murray it is poor but because of him they get a lot of publicity."

"The women's game doesn't have one big name yet but we have a lot of good

players coming through and give it three or four years we could have a few players that could make the top 20 in the world."

As a final note, I asked Francesca if the 2012 Olympic Games were a possibility, or whether she was looking beyond that.

"I probably won't be in the Olympics but I'm looking more at the Commonwealth Games in 2014 and if I get a ranking it will be likely that I could get picked for that."

Whatever the outcome, Francesca is a humble and level-headed youngster which is testament to her background and *The Waterfront* hopes to keep tabs on Francesca's progress as she bids to become one of the few Welsh females to play in Wimbledon and represent Great Britain in future global events.

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LONG ROAD: Francesca competing at yet another tough tournament

Pictures courtesy of Rowland Charles Goodman
With thanks to Francesca Lewis

SNOWRIDER MEMORIES FROM TRIP TO TIGNES

Written by Giles Lewington

FOR THE eighty something Snowriders involved, the Christmas trip to Tignes kicked off on the 31st of December down Wind Street to celebrate New Year's Eve.

The next day on the coach leaving Swansea we were all pretty hungover but like mummy's little soldiers we powered through and begun the frolicking, pyjama party style. One Ella Desmond-Williams getting particularly animated after a bottle of Kick with the obligatory measures of complimentary spirits. It wasn't long before the marker pen got broken out for some pretty inappropriate facial doodling on the ferry. The marker pen being a crucial and recurring feature in the life of a Snowrider. And so we made our way to Tignes!

We had some great nights out with some hilarious fancy dress, made some awesome new friends and made some unforgettable memories. It's hard to pick out which stories to brag about the most because there's so many. The toboggan and mountain meal night was an especially good night, culminating in a lot of very inebriated Snowriders making a Sauna out of The Underground bar. Inappropriate night probably had

the best medley of fancy dress with various offensive but hilarious costumes on show. The intense chalet that is Folie Douce was another truly fantastic part of the holiday. Every day after 3pm it would break out into a massive après ski party half way up the mountain with some awesome live house and electro to cut a rug to.

I shouldn't forget to mention that the snow was good too and there was plenty to keep you busy. As well as the masses of piste in the Espace Killy and the two snow parks we were lucky enough to have two airbags in the resort. In all I had some challenging days, some relaxing days and some ridiculous days on the slopes. A good mix if you ask me.

Christmas Trip notoriety:

Most inappropriate fancy dress: Emily Marchant

Best Mazal Tov: Richard Green

Most Naked: Nicole Longden

Biggest Fail: Rob Reese & Ben Gentle (flooding their room)

Most Guilty: Sam Humphreys



AVORIAZ: Book early to avoid disappointment on the latest trip

This Easter the Snowriders are off to the Alps again to make the most of the season. This time to the ski resort of Avoriaz. The online booking is open and the deadline for final payment is just over the horizon. We've managed to get a sound base price of £325 for the holiday. It's a sizable chunk of any student loan I know, but you're not likely to find a ski holiday of the same calibre for a better price.

The resort's ski area falls on the border between France and Switzerland and gives people the opportunity to ski both sides with the Portes du Soleil (gates to the sun or something) lift pass upgrade. It's a massive upgrade and gives you access to some 650km of piste! Also Avoriaz boasts an awesome snow park

and a stash park which you'll want to check out regardless of what level you are.

The trip promises to be nine days you won't forget any time soon and nine of the best days of your life. If you've been on a Snowriders holiday then you'll know what's in store. Anyone is welcome to come and make the most of the 6 day lift pass, coach travel and accommodation all for the base price of £325. As per usual there will be plenty of après ski going on in the bars and clubs during the holiday. A plethora of epic days on the slopes and ridonkulous nights out.

The online booking for the Snowriders Easter trip to Avoriaz can be found at www.studentskiing.com and the deadline is Thursday, March 3.

Swansea University
Sport Swansea

Department of Sport
and Physical Recreation
Sports Centre, Skeetty Lane,
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LIKE WRITING?

The Waterfront is looking for volunteers to help out in writing match reports for the sports team at Varsity 2011. If you are interested contact sport@waterfrontonline.co.uk

MENS TENNIS BEATEN AS VARSITY EDGES CLOSER

By Chuka Madubunyi
Sports Reporter

AS VARSITY edges closer, the Swansea men's tennis 1sts are looking to step up their game to ensure victory when they meet Cardiff. They played against the Cardiff men's 2nds on 9 February in the BUCS Western Conference.

There was a bit of concern though before the match, as Swansea's Luis Jackson seemed to injure his right shoulder during a warm up. Fortunately he was able to play as the injury was not serious.

Cardiff served first, committing a couple of double faults and Swansea raced to a triple break point. Cardiff however, fought back to get deuce and eventually won the game when Jackson hit a forehand into the net. Both sides held their service games with Swansea's Richie Fowler using his powerful serve to good effect. The first break of serve came in the 4th game when Swansea's unforced errors handed Cardiff the game to make it 1-3. The next game was hotly contested as Cardiff looked to consolidate the break and Swansea fought desperately to break back. A gripping nine shot rally ended when Cardiff's Ben Wylie smashed a superb lob from Richie into the net, handing Swansea the break. Both sides held serve again with the next break coming in the 7th game when a combination of unforced errors and double faults handed Cardiff the break. Swansea seemed to be in a fighting mood because they immediately broke back with some scintillating net play to bring the score to 4-5. Cardiff held serve in the next game and broke Swansea in the 12th game with a tactful volley from Tom Foster to clinch the 1st set 5-7.

Swansea signalled their intentions in the second set by breaking to go 1-0. They consolidated the break in the next game with Fowler hitting a forehand down the line. Cardiff were not out of it though, and showed good resilience to hold their serve then break Swansea, bringing the score to 2-2. It was at this point that Jackson's earlier injury started to affect his game. Cardiff duly capitalized by holding serve comfortably in the next game before breaking Swansea again to go 2-4. Jackson and Fowler pushed Cardiff into some very good rallies in the next couple of games but were unable to break back or hold serve. The second set ended 2-6 when Swansea committed a double fault.

"I'm disappointed obviously because of what happened, but it was a good game. They're good players", said Jackson after the match.

Fowler also noted that they were unlucky to lose the match but will probably play better in their next game. Wylie and Foster were happy with the result. "We really clicked today and had a good game", said Wylie, "Things are starting to come together. But honestly enjoying ourselves is more important than the result."

Swansea men's 1sts play UWIC men's 3rd next at home on 16 February 2011.

FLASH TRIUMPHS TO BECOME AU PRESIDENT

By Nick Griffiths
Sports Reporter

‘Change we can believe in’.

THIS is a phrase that you may be seeing a lot of around campus next year after Dan Ryan-Lowes was elected as the new AU President.

The results were announced last Thursday evening after a busy period of campaigning and Dan beat runner-up Gareth Petts by 69 votes as he swept to victory.

Upon hearing the result, Dan described it as an ‘amazing relief’ and then immediately set about outlining what he wants to implement in the Athletic Union once he takes over from the current President, Siwan Lillicrap.

In his manifesto, Dan stated that he wanted to increase the number of first aiders within our sports teams, as well as generating income for clubs through the organising of tournaments.

In an exclusive interview with *The Waterfront*, Dan emphasised the main changes that he wanted to implement once he takes over full-time.

“I want there to be more clarity with

the AU and make it more accessible” he said.

“I don’t want it to be daunting when you come and speak to me, I want to be really approachable and want the clubs to come to me with new ideas and not be afraid of this AU entity.”

“There is no such thing as a minority sport; everyone has the right to be in the AU.”

Dan, who carries the nickname ‘Flash’, also set about outlining the changes that he wanted to see in terms of disabled sport, as well as utilising the facilities at Sketty Lane to benefit women’s sport.

“I want to improve women’s sport

within the university as well as introducing disabled sports such as Boccia.”

With funding being a big talking point within the AU in the last couple of years, Dan was quick to allay any fears that members of smaller clubs may have had.

“We have our focus sports that get extra funding, but sports that are not on that list do need our help because its excellence that we are looking for.”

Dan has been involved in the Athletic Union for four years and being President was one of his ambitions when he first arrived in Swansea by saying, “I feel I know how the AU is run and should be run.”

In addition, Dan had a message for those students who have yet to get involved in any sports so far in their time at Swansea.

“There are going to be lots of opportunities next year and so much publicity through both *The Waterfront* and *Xtreme Radio* to show that the AU is both alive and strong.”

“We want to make the most of the top class facilities we have here in Swansea, not just as a university but as a city.”

Dan was also quick to praise his campaign team after securing victory.

“I want thank my girlfriend as well as all my housemates and friends who have been a big help in what has been a really hard couple of weeks.”

Dan has been involved in a number of sports during his time at Swansea, such as intramural football and cricket, as well as helping to coach men’s and women’s rugby. All of these qualities emphasise his commitment and enthusiasm to sport through the need to help and change the Athletic Union.

The new President also wants



SECOND: Runner-up Gareth Petts
Wednesday afternoons to recreate the atmosphere that was seen at Varsity 2010 through maximising the facilities at Sketty Lane.

As well as this, Dan wants to make it easier for mature and international students to sign up for sports at the Fresher’s Fayre, as well as fundraising dinners and tournaments to make Swansea University a ‘fantastic destination for sport.’

As a final note, Dan made a statement that he hopes to carry forward into his reign and become emblematic of sport at Swansea University.

“It is not about winning on Wednesday afternoons, but it is about people reaching their goals.”

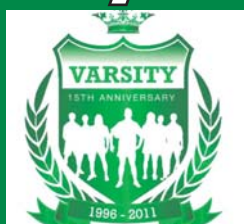
“It is not just the silverware that matters, but players developing their confidence and getting more fulfilment from sport regardless of your ability.”



CELEBRATIONS: Dan (centre) and his campaign team were looking forward to letting their hair down

Varsity Countdown!

36 days to go



Inside This Week’s Paper

Intramural



Snowriders



Comment

