

# THE BEAVER INSIDE THIS ISSUE

All Night London  
Hunt Sabbotage

State of the Union  
Around the LSE

London School of Economics Students' Union

Monday 19th October 1987, Issue 266

## AIESEC Out Again



## Alton Bill Opposed

by Shantanu Mitra

by ANDREW CORNWELL

AIESEC have vowed to continue to organise at the LSE, despite last Thursday's union vote to ban them. The business students group will defy the decision as they believe that "what we are doing here is right." In response they may be faced with legal action from the Students' Union.

The 60-40 vote came at the end of a heated Union General Meeting debate. Anti-apartheid campaigners Phil Evans and Avinash Persaud proposed to continue the ban on AIESEC, begun a year ago, because they believe the organisation's links with South African industry are aiding the Botha regime.

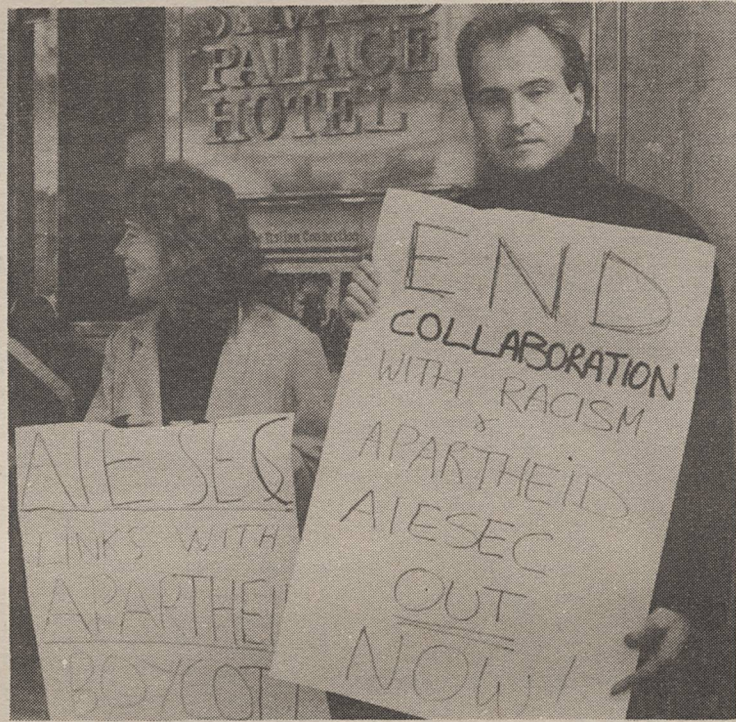
To counter this charge, AIESEC brought out their national president, Glen Roddy, and a Kenyan student, Kent Lubiso. Lubiso's claim that Bishop Desmond Tutu supported AIESEC's role in South Africa failed to convince the meeting when the Anti-Apartheid Movement's condemnation was pointed out. Lubiso's presence in the debate was afterwards privately criticised by opponents of AIESEC as "playing the token black card".

The day before the UGM (Wednesday), members of the SU executive had been enraged by

AIESEC's promotion of a careers day at the Strand Palace Hotel. Posters appeared throughout the LSE publicising the event and describing it as an "LSE Careers Day". However, a crossed-out name at the bottom of each poster revealed the true organisers of the event: AIESEC. Why AIESEC decided to remove their name from their own posters is unclear.

What is clear, however, is the deception practised on both students and companies participating at the careers day. Most firms approached by The Beaver on their stalls believe the official LSE Careers Service had organised the event. Several companies said that if they had known the identity of the organisers they would have stayed away. The investment bank, Salomon Brothers, which has no links with South Africa, were upset. A spokesman at their London office said they had tried hard to tell students of their moral stand, but by being lied to by AIESEC their reputation could have suffered.

Students too were surprised to see a hastily organised picket outside the hotel. The hotel itself will be looking into the incident of who booked the room: the name of the LSE was used although the Careers Service



Picketing the careers day: collaboration is over but the row goes on.

Photo: Jennifer Clapp

have denied any connection with the event.

AIESEC organisers were unswayed by the accusation that they had used deception in setting up the careers day. They were also bitterly disappointed at the UGM vote. Taymour Ezzit claimed that four of seven "Un-

ion Notes" items in Phil Evans' UGM motion were false. National president Roddy repeated his view that AIESEC is a progressive force and regretted that time had cut short his final speech, where he wanted to give more information on AIESEC's work.

Opponents of AIESEC were jubilant. Avinash Persaud, Student Governor, described the decision as "another blow against apartheid and the policies of constructive engagement. It would have been inconsistent with the divestment campaign not to have kept this link with South Africa broken."

Nick Randall, General Secretary of the SU, intends to inform LSE's Bursar of the decision and will ask for the School's support to avoid a repeat of the careers day controversy. He intends to ensure that AIESEC stays banned, if necessary "by taking legal action to enforce the democratic Union decision."

There was, however, a bizarre sequel to the events of last week for Randall. During the UGM, LSE Liberals slapped in a censure motion on Randall, attacking his failure to organise a careers day. But Martin Flatters withdrew his censure only two hours later after realising that it was not part of the General Secretary's mandate to organise a careers day.

The Union now awaits AIESEC's next move. At the time of going to press, it was not known if AIESEC will attempt to democratically reverse the ban at a future UGM, but their recruitment efforts at LSE will continue.

Additional reports by Nick Moreno and Francisco Ferrerra.

## Half million wasted at Butler's Wharf



Photo: Gavin Allan-Wood

By TOM PARKER

The Beaver has learnt that bureaucratic chaos has added an extra £500,000 to the cost of the Butler's Wharf hall of residence project before the land has even been purchased. This further increases the already crippling burden the project has placed on the

School's limited resources. Since 1985 when the first estimates on the project were made public, costs have risen from an initially reasonable £3.5 million to a present working figure of £7 million with both the administration and the Students' Union in agreement that the final figure will be even higher at around £8 million.

It goes without saying that the School is having difficulty raising such a sum. Usually the LSE would expect to raise about £8 million for development in a year, and a quick glance around the School enables one to appreciate the other demands on the administration's purse.

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# Letters

## The School replies SWSS on Perdition

Dear Editor,

Such was the serious nature of the highly inaccurate report on the front page of The Beaver, issue 265, that I must put the record straight.

**Student files:** The School has no "political files" on its students. Following extensive consultation with students, a statement on protection of data in students' personal files has been in force since its adoption by the Academic Board on the 27th June 1984. This statement appears in the 1987-1988 of the two handbooks entitled "Notes for Undergraduates and their tutors" (page 4), and "Information for Graduate Students and their supervisors" (pages 2-3). It reads as follows:

Statement on protection of data in students' personal files:

1. There is only one file for each student, even though he or she might start as an undergraduate and finish as a postgraduate.

2. Access to student files is restricted to those who have a direct interest in them;

(a) The Director, the Pro-Director, Deans, the Secretary and the staff in the Academic Registrar's division;

(b) Tutors, Convenors, departmental tutors, class teachers, teachers named as referees by students, or teachers who have other *bona fide* reasons for examining a file;

(c) The School's medical staff.

3. Files contain application forms, references supporting application, academic records showing progress at the School, and accumulated correspondence.

4. The School does not place any reference to specific political or religious beliefs or activities in personal files except where the subject has been raised at the initiative of the student. Reference to extra curricular activity may be included where relevant to a student's academic progress. 5. After a student leaves the School the personal file is retained indefinitely. Access to the file continues to be tightly restricted to the categories of staff set out in paragraph 2 above. 6. The medical records of students are kept entirely separate from their academic files and medical staff alone have access to them.

7. The School's practice in dealing with outside requests for information about current students (other than those of a routine and public nature, e.g. confirmation that a named student is registered at the School) is to refer the request to the student, leaving it to him or her to decide whether to respond."

The School adheres to the terms of this statement.

**Union General Meetings:** For many years, it has been the practice for a member of the School's administrative staff to attend UGMs in order to be aware of and report on matters of interest and concern to the School as a whole. The School does not use the tape-recording equipment in the Old Theatre to record the proceedings of UGMs.

Yours Sincerely,  
Christine Challis  
Secretary

Dear Editor,

It was to be expected that in last week's Union meeting the baying right should join the Zionists in barracking a SWSS questioner on the subject of the banned play "Perdition".

What are the issues involved? "Perdition" is a play written by a distinguished playwright, Jim Allen. Allen has been active in the anti-fascist movement for over 40 years and cannot remotely be described as a racist. It dramatises a real-life courtroom battle which took place in the 1950's. The play exposes the fact that a leading figure in the Hungarian Zionist movement collaborated with the Nazis during WW II to transport tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz in return for safe permits for 600 others.

The play was bound to be controversial. No-one, however was prepared for the hysterical reaction to its planned showing. In fact, pressure from the right and some Zionists has effectively ensured that no venue can be found in Britain to show the play.

For us in SWSS this is a blatant attempt at censorship. The reaction on the right at the Union meeting shows clearly that the same mentality which has led to the banning of the "Real Lives" and "Zircon" TV programmes, and Peter Wright's "Spycatcher" also motivates the attempt to stop "Perdition" being shown.

Nick Randall's reply to our question was, at best, disingenuous: if he is so concerned that "politics" should not come into Union meetings, why did he pepper his report to the Union with anti-Tory and anti-Liberal jibes (with which we wholly agree)?

We in SWSS believe that the issue of "Perdition" raises important questions about the extent to which Zionists are prepared to re-examine the history of their movement without, as happened on Thursday, smearing their opponents with charges of anti-semitism.

Students will make up their own minds about this question. The play, while being banned from the stage, is available in book form and sold (price £4.95) on our bookstall.

Yours sincerely,  
Nick Cicutti  
Socialist Worker Student Society

The Beaver accepts letters on any subject but urges writers to keep their letters short. All letters should be addressed to the Editor and left in Room E205.

### STUDENTS' UNION HARDSHIP FUND

If you are a self-financing and in need of money, you can apply to this fund. It provides small amounts of money (maximum of £150 per term). You can apply each term, whether or not you have been helped previously. Application forms are available from the Student Welfare Office (Room E294). The closing date for application is Friday 23 October.

# Facing the future: the way ahead

By NICK RANDALL,  
JUSTIN RUSSELL and  
RICHARD FORD

The next five years are set to be difficult ones for the LSE Students Union, as they are for all Student Unions. The re-election of the Thatcherite Conservative Government will mean contrived attacks on collective institutions.

We have seen the decimation, devastation and destruction of such bodies. Local authorities ability to provide the services they are legally obliged to do has been decimated by "ratecapping".

The Trade Unions means to defend their members have been devastated by attacks on Union autonomy. While some collective organised bodies have been literally destroyed such as the GLC and Metropolitan County Authorities.

While not on the same scale as the above, student unions as collective organised bodies have not been free from such attacks. The so called "Free speech" clause in the recent Education act has fundamentally undermined Student Union autonomy as we have all had to enter extensive power stripping negotiations to establish codes of conduct. It is unlikely such attacks will cease.

The government's white paper "Higher education: Meeting the challenge" and its attempts at increased privatisation of higher education have drastic implications for Student Unions. Universities will be funded to provide quotas of graduates and business is unlikely to be keen to provide additional sponsorship for collective organisations.

Many polytechnics are already preparing for this onslaught and we must do the same. We must fight these changes as hard as possible, but, also we must develop our own "corporate identity", establish the LSE Students Union as a powerful separate organisation.

In the past we have failed to publicise our own union to our members: We have to make it clear to everybody, both in the union

and outside, who we are and what we are about. A corporate identity means the promotion of our own values and symbols. Union values are upheld through a united and campaigning union.

A union symbol or 'logo' needs to be produced, something entirely separate from the college badge we have traditionally used. Every letter the union writes, every service the Union provides, Welfare, the shop, the bar, the cafe, all printing must bear the logo so that everybody is aware of what the union does.

The services the Union provides are services to be proud of. The Cafe, refurbished last year, provides quality and prices that can not be matched anywhere else in central London. A full range of vegetarian snacks, cakes, full meals and beverages are available. The Union shop sells a wide range of stationary, food, toiletries and memorabilia. All kinds of T-shirts, mugs, bookmarks etc are on offer. The prices cannot be matched elsewhere, and so it is well worth a visit. The Three Tuns Club, refurbished this summer and completed ahead of schedule (unlike other building projects I could mention), has an improved atmosphere, decor and product range, particularly non-alcoholic drinks. The hope is to provide a clean and pleasant bar in which all our members can feel relaxed and comfortable. Changes in the bar lay-out now means we can serve a good range of "Pub-grub".

We believe in collective institutions because they are more likely to work better for more of the people for more of the time than individualised solutions.

But, we must make them work well. To contrive to do this we must contrive input from you, the union members. You can do this by attending the committee meetings for the services, giving suggestions to the services manager/ess or speak to us the Union sabbaticals, myself Justin Russell (Senior Treasurer), Richard Ford (Social and Services officer) and Nick Randall (General Secretary).

## Highly prized site

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Consequently the Student's Union has recently been asked to help with the fund raising. Nick Randall thinks that he and his colleagues on a hurriedly set up fund raising committee will need to raise at least £1.5 million in just over a year to cover the current shortfall in funding. If the Union had been approached originally in 1985 or even just last year, things might have been different: but as it stands the School has proposed that money be diverted from Rag Week funds to help make up the amount needed.

The General Secretary stressed that there was no question of money from the Housing Association being used at Butler's Wharf. He suggested the Union could have used £8 million more profitably to house more students (Butler's Wharf will hold 280 students) through the Association.

Incompetance by the architects means that £0.5M has already been wasted in preliminary blunders. The first design for the Hall tabled by the architects (Conran Roche) was simply too large for the site! It trespassed on a neighbouring property and had to be scrapped. The second design fitted onto the School's property but when it was shown to Southwark Council it was rejected as being "unattractive". The designers had to go back to their drawing boards. Time was wasted, fees paid and costs rose. Still, third time lucky, a new plan has recently received planning permission and will be put out to tender on the 16th of November. However permission was only granted at a cost; the new plan has had to meet Southwark's requirement for a more complicated three dimensional, frontage to break up the wall facing across the Thames and to use a more varied, and more expensive range of materials.

It would be too harsh, though, to say the School was entirely responsible for spiralling costs - the other main culprits are London land prices and the University Grants Commission. Butler's Wharf is an enterprise zone South of the Thames near Tower Bridge, only fifteen minutes walk from the LSE. As such it is a highly prized site for firms looking for a base in central London. Normally the School could not hope to even bid for property in such a site, but as a result of guidelines laid down by the London Docklands Development Corporation, the Developers of the site (the consortium Butler's Wharf Ltd) were looking for low income residents to give some social balance to their proto-community.

The School was quick to latch onto this and are in the process of buying a plot from Butler's Wharf Ltd at a vastly reduced, though still substantial, price (currently kept under wraps). The University Grants Commission role in our drama was to cut all funding for university accommodation projects out of their budget leaving the LSE to soldier on alone.

The School expects building work to commence on the seventy week project in mid December though surely with the purchase of the land not yet concluded and with only four weeks to examine the various tenders and select a company this has to be an optimistic estimate. The Beaver has to be sceptical about such optimism having seen successive building projects run into unforeseen complications. No doubt this will not be the last of the problems at Butler's Wharf.

# THE BEAVER

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A hot, tired atmosphere permeated the UGM as it was finally brought to life by the surprised squeak of the PA, under the cute, and indeed competent chairpersonship of Ross Broadstock. It remained a relatively quiet, even orderly affair, providing a sombre backdrop to the day's business.

Indeed, as the time dragged and the sweat dripped, things seemed to go into slow motion. An hour is a long time in SU politics, especially the hour between 1 and 2 on a Thursday afternoon. At times it looked as if the whole thing would stand still. Occasionally, however, individuals were jolted into action, and we scraped through the important issues of the day; abortion and AIESEC.

"As a democratic union", it reads, somewhat abstractly, in the guide, "the most important part of the Union, as far as the students are concerned, is the UGM." However, for once, this truly proved to be the case. This was made possible by the climate. Rarely have two such partisan issues been given such respectful attention by the audience. Even Broadstock's amiable, if dangerous, ploy of thanking people for their politeness at the end of each piece of business did not backfire as one might have expected, and uproar was reserved for the angry wailing of the defeated at the end.

The importance of the meeting had, however, more to do with the fact that rarely have issues of freedom and democracy on the

## AT THE UNION

comes of having to watch a flushed boy (in the case of Groves) subverting the sensibilities of the mass of the Union. Most frightening is their palpable belief, their sense of presumption and of persecution in the face of the wall of rejection which consistently greets the mindless outpouring of rage which they seek to unleash.

The consummate authoritarian, the one who wishes to regulate areas of other people's lives about which he, or she, knows nothing, is the one who cannot conceive of his actions as impinging unfairly, never mind detrimentally, on others. Moreover, they believe that they are promoting a general good (defined by themselves), encouraging "freedoms", in this case aright to life" (Steve Biko, for one, didn't have that); essentially meaningless concepts which the rich dangle in front of the poor to shield their baseness.

This shields their "non-political" concerns, their "non-political" organisations, their "non-political" profits, and the

league Martin Flatters. With the consummate bad timing that becomes the Liberals, they latched onto the sinking AIESEC ship, seemingly on the grounds that the expulsion of AIESEC from the LSE had irreparably impaired their career prospects. Displaying a fine sense of perspective, regarding the political issue in question, and of their own (limited) value in the job market they delivered the first censure motion of the year. Unfortunately, this would appear doomed, given the fate of AIESEC, and will probably never see the light of day, or at least the light of serious debate.



Photo: Sunil Shah

It seems that such hacks from times gone by could do with an attitudinal change", to bring them more into line with the calmer character of the contemporary UGM. Interestingly enough, an "attitudinal change" is what AIESEC want in sunny South Africa, where "things", their African representative suggested, look very bright." I should imagine they do, to P.W. Botha and crew, with Thatcher doing such sterling work for them at the Commonwealth meeting in Canada.

AIESEC, like presumably, the British government, look to prepare them (blacks) for tomorrow". However, they presented a picture of what sounded like a tomorrow of entrenched apartheid, based on a restructured capitalist economy run by AIESEC trained managers". Meanwhile, we had the advice of the AAM, ANC, SACTU etc, laid out by the forceful Phil Evans and the rhetorical Avinash Persaud. They were countered by AIESEC's African speaker, but AIESEC lost out when their second outside speaker rambled incoherently about prejudice; "being down on what you are not up on", etc, etc.

At the end, one of the papersellers nearly ran everybody out of time with his superfluous attempt at a summation. Fortunately the vote was squeezed in. It was disappointingly close, but calls for a recount were largely perfunctory. It had just gone two. It was still hot and sweaty, but we had stayed awake long enough to do some good business.

by JAMES ROBERTSON



Photo: Sunil Shah

one side, and the thinly disguised threat of authoritarianism on the other, been so clearly presented to the student body.

This became increasingly apparent during the abortion debate, where the strained eloquence of the movers of a motion opposing David Alton's amendment to the Abortion Act was contrasted with the fumbling, incoherent, anger of those who spoke against the motion. Clearly, the spirit of Phillip Groves (LSE's own wide-eyed, Conservative, precursor to Alton) lives on.

There are few things more embarrassing than the disorientating feeling of tingling disbelief that

non-political" suffering of their opponents. It is a position that can only be truly held, with heartfelt (dis)honesty, by those too affluent or too unperceptive - whether failed Liberal hacks throwing censure motions around like there's nothing better to do, or AIESEC's "black representative" from Africa - to want to learn an alternative stance.

Liberal politicians these days are like dodos who don't know that they're supposed to be extinct. Someone should mention it to Adrian Dixon, ex-small time student unionist, (one half of the Bisto kids" as was), now in his fourth year, and his political col-

## Saatchi's Top Tory Dobbs at LSE

Stephanie Ganes meets Michael Dobbs.

On October 26th, Mr Michael Dobbs, Deputy Chairman of Saatchi and Saatchi, one of the largest advertising agencies in the world, will discuss "Selling Ideas; Information or Manipulation?"

Mr Dobbs, also a part-time government special advisor, most recently held the position of Chief of Staff of the Conservative Central Office. He was more widely known as one of the men who masterminded the Conservative Party's victory at the last general election. Firmly in the Tebbit camp, he was among those over-

ruled in the last week of the campaign under increasing pressure from Lord Young and Mrs Thatcher who favoured a different approach to the electorate.

Dobbs finds his two occupations "reasonably closely related". He stipulated that politics and management work have many similarities and offered the election campaign and the Saatchi's take-over bids as examples. Furthermore, he believes that until recently British industry and government did not have a sufficient understanding of each other, yet both are "dependent" upon each other. Though Dobbs believes this

shortcoming has "improved" in recent years, a significant gap still exists. "Quite a number of people are making a living out of helping bridge the link", he said.

The lecture will concentrate primarily on political manipulation, but other issues such as commercial manipulation will also be considered. As he stated previously, these are "... certain common principles in selling the Conservative Party and commercial products". Dobbs' lecture will focus upon the most recent election campaigns, examining whether promotion is "helpful or confusing" to the electorate.

# VOX POP

## FRESHERS' VIEWS OF THE LSE



Samantha Mason

I'm glad I didn't go to King's, because I like it here. It's very friendly and small. Passfield is brilliant and I like the internationality of the L.S.E., but I've had trouble with registration and the bank.



Ekow Eshun

There are no real high points of the L.S.E. The school is very run of the mill; not too dramatic. I'm a native Londoner and enjoy being in central London. The worst thing about the L.S.E. is the lecture rooms with broken windows and the sound of drilling. Lectures are more boring than I expected, and it's been taking so long to get classes organized.



Thea Taggart

I like the L.S.E. I find it quite friendly and the people are down to earth. I like the international aspect, but I don't like the men's attitude to Irish women.



David Ellis

My first impression of the L.S.E. was not what I expected it to be. I expected it to be built. The best thing so far is that I haven't had to do any work yet. The worst is the price of the beer in London. In general, I'm glad to be here.



Phil Grey

The Union meeting was fun. It was very chaotic and interesting. I may get involved next year. I live in Commonwealth Hall which is pretty quiet. I have attended all my lectures, but there hasn't been much work yet.



James O'Gara

Freshers' events were terrible! They put too much pressure on us to make friends. It was a lot of bullshit. I like living in Carr-Saunders, but it's very cliquey and there are androids living on the third floor. There's an overkill on politics here at the L.S.E. I'd much rather talk about surfing and football. Even so, the Union meeting was good fun.



Phil Parsons

The L.S.E. is a real "melting pot" and I like the fact that we get to mix with a lot of different nationalities. I've had some problems with clashes of lecture and class schedules. The L.S.E. is more compact than I expected, hence, you can't avoid your enemies.

# How Fit is the Athletics Union?



Photo: Jennifer Clapp

By STAVROS MAKRIS

Gavin Pottinger, a twenty-one year old student of Government from Newcastle, is the current president of the LSE Athletic Union. The problems he has inherited from a previous AU Administration have done little to water down his good spirit and enthusiasm.

In 1986 the then AU administration, due to bad management and loose control over athletic clubs, ended up with an overdraft of £12,581. At the time accusations of malpractice and corruption were levelled. Nothing was ever proven, partly due to ineffective record-keeping and possibly partly because there was nothing to prove. The 1987 AU administration made a great effort and was overall successful in cutting down expenditure. However, 1986's overdraft remains and drains resources in the current year ('87-88).

This year the LSE SU received a 10% increase in its budget from the school. This in essence meant that the LSE AU also received a 10% increase since they always get a fixed 20% of the overall budget, as prescribed by the LSE SU constitution. The increased budget though can only help service the overdraft - as it was initially designed over a three year period.

The AU budget is distributed to all athletic clubs following criteria of activity, membership, nature of sport. Last year a set percentage cut was taken across the board for all clubs. Most clubs met their target expenditure and the payment of the overdraft is now on target.

Over the years complaints have been raised as to why some clubs get more than others. Part of the reason behind this is that clubs budgets usually include tuition fees, travelling expenses, paying for referees at competitions. Some clubs have also incurred a capital expenditure and part of their budget goes towards the payment of these. The squash club built the currently over-used squash courts with an interest-free loan taken from the school; part of their budget goes into repaying this loan. The rowing-club, which no longer exists due to reluctance of students to restart it, owns three boats which are now rented to other clubs. Some revenue is thus raised but the boats are depreciating in value. In fact it was the purchase of those same boats in 1986 that was largely responsible for the overdraft incurred then.

Because of the current financial situation the AU's plans on capital

expenditure is limited, though the grounds at New Malden are as well maintained as they have always been. It is the distance of the grounds from the School and the travelling involved which scares many students away from field sports. But the enthusiasts always manage to get there regardless of weather and travel.

All facilities on the School site are heavily used. These include the three squash courts and the multigym. The one badminton court has now been converted to a classroom, which effectively means that the AU has to hire outside courts. Furthermore the multigym has been a source of headache for a while due to its bad condition. An effort has been made to maintain it. Plans now include the acquisition of a new one to be installed in the room adjacent to the basement squash courts.

The current facilities can just about cope with the heavy demand. However if more LSE teams were to do better at competitive level, just like the excellent Basketball Team and the dominating Squash Teams, then lack of facilities could become a problem.

Gavin Pottinger is keen to see the numbers of participating students increasing. He now knows that the competitive teams do not suffer from having to share facilities. Success at competitive level will improve the image of the School, and give the opportunity to more students to be involved.

In a sense the whole affair is a vicious circle; successful competitiveness will attract people while people will not be attracted unless the LSE improves. The current AU committee wants to improve communications within the AU and, between the AU and the rest of the School. This committee has for years been controlled by members of field sports simply because they are the ones more willing to be involved in the running of the AU. However, Pottinger in particular and the AU as a whole are "approachable, with an open door philosophy".

Finally in accordance with the auditors report, the AU has decided to formalise financial procedures by using authorized expenditure forms and signatory lists. Guidelines are being issued to secretaries of clubs. Adequate documentation in the form of receipts must be kept for all clubs. Additionally the auditors have requested the setting up of a constitution stating the rules under which clubs should operate.

# Essential Reading

by Tom Elliott

"A whole generation of students will suffer from the delay in improving the library", Nick Randall told The Beaver this week. Urging the School to re-think its strategy for extending the teaching collection, the General Secretary of the Students' Union called for immediate action from the School. He said they should either take £250,000 out of the general account to fund the project itself, or employ additional staff in order to allow the library greater flexibility until the University of London allows a capital grant for the project.

In the summer of 1986, a grant for £500,000 was awarded to the L.S.E. to help meet the £600,000 bill for the A45 / East building scheme, but a request for £250,000 for their library was rejected.

The planned project is aimed at allowing undergraduates a greater access to the material in the library. By extending the student collection to include all course books, and by introducing a variety of computer-based checks on the use and the demand for material, the library hopes to substantially improve its service to undergraduates. The principal cost for the project was in the construction of a corridor connecting the library to Clare Market and the consequent re-organisation of the main entrance. Better security, a more flexible service and a coffee room will be the result.

A spokesman for the library, Mr Bovey, said the School had given full support to the library for the project, and the delay was regrettable but unavoidable. Mr Bovey said that extra staff would enable the teaching collection to remain open for longer hours, but that the basic problem - that of inflexibility - would remain. The re-building of the main entrance, and the extension of the student



Photo: Sivan Lewin

collection, was the key to the whole project and he expressed confidence in the School's handling of the matter.

That confidence was shared by the Bursar, Mr Louwerts. He said that the School had a good chance of gaining the capital grant that was needed when it re-applied in two years' time, "relying on this being top-priority at the time." To use money taken from the general account of the School would be a set-back to the progress being made on improving student/teacher ratios, and reduce the School's ability to keep pace with

innovations in Information Technology.

Meanwhile, students will have to wait for a better library service. For some it will come too late: two years is longer than many courses.

"But the School", says Randall, "can not sit back and wait until 1989", when the project is once more to be referred to the University. "The School must act now: the library, heavily weighted against the undergraduate, can not be allowed to continue unchanged to the detriment of a further generation of undergraduates."

# Alton Bill Opposed

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escalation in the rather more horrific back-street variety). His stated reasons for a reduction in the legal time-limit from 28 weeks to 18 weeks are different, however, and have left him open to accusations of hypocrisy. Firstly he argues that late abortions involve more pain for the woman and necessarily require a more violent technique, and that they are thus a form of state-approved violence. He asserts, further, that late abortions are "notoriously more dangerous to the woman involved".

Amanda Hart did not dispute this latter assertion, but pointed out that the latest abortions are performed only in the "direst emergencies, when the woman would otherwise have been in grave danger. Of 5,665 late abortions last year, only 29 were performed after 25 weeks, and all of these were cases in point. Opponents of the Alton Bill are arguing, moreover, that if David Alton is concerned about the danger to women undergoing late abortions, then he ought to be campaigning for a better funded and more efficient NHS - the UGM motion drew attention to the fact that

20% of late abortions last year were the result of NHS delays when the women had approached their doctors before the 12th week. Alton's bill in seeing a solution in preventing these women from having abortions at all, fails to acknowledge this crucial fact.

Alton claims his bill "aims to challenge the assumption that abortion is of itself a prudent or desirable operation". None of his opponents, least of all those who have actually undergone the operation, believe that abortion is desirable in itself, but their case rests on the belief that whether or not it is prudent, given the alternatives, should be a matter for autonomous decision by the woman.

The outcome of Thursday's debate suggests that this is a belief shared by the great majority of the interested student body at LSE. The LSESU has a strong tradition in this area. Its "Right to Choose Fund" offers financial assistance to any student to help them to cope with the consequences of their decision. It is important for students to be aware that the fund exists not merely to pay for abor-

tions, but also to help those students who decide to continue with their pregnancy, and that male students may apply on behalf of their partners. Awards range from £40 to £145. Unofficial figures for 1986-1987 show that 12 students (seven women and five men) were helped by the fund. Three of these awards were for terminations and nine for continuations of pregnancy.

The LSE campaign, co-ordinated by Amanda Hart, will sponsor "Fight Alton's Bill" (FAB). FAB is a national campaign sponsored primarily by the National Abortion Campaign (NAC) and supported by the Abortion Law Reform Association, Doctors for Women's Right to Choose, and NUS as well as other groups. A national NAC demonstration is planned before the bill receives its third reading in March, and will receive official NUS support.

The anti-Alton campaign also intends to encourage other trade unions on the campus such as the lecturers (AUT) and office staff (NALGO) to start their own campaigns on the issues. Time is running very short if the Bill is to be defeated.

## AROUND LSE THE

Firstly, as a quick explanation it should be pointed out that we (Julia and Ross) only write the general LSE stuff. The hall info comes from anyone who writes it and is only arranged by us.

Not getting discussed last week seems to have made AIESEC even more important this week. The careers day brought waves of protest with half a dozen demonstrators at least. The position of our 2 Labour sabbaticals was never in doubt and we're sure that the papers they were clutching on leaving the conference were purely for research (know the enemy in order to defeat him and all that). Indeed, after the Barclays venture and now another contact with high finance, how much longer will Scandal and J.R. be able to tread the straight and narrow of evangelical socialism?



Photo: Jennifer Clapp

On the topic of evangelicalism, good old Rory O'Driscoll was seen prowling around the LSE. When asked, all allegations of a take-over were denied but he's still prepared to make "an offer you can't refuse" to LSE students on Irish sweaters.

On the mega-hack front, Hazel Smith made the pages of Private Eye for her behaviour in the true spirit of LSE politics. She and Baalfe (a member of the LSE Court of Governors) have done some nasty wasty carving and hacking and poor old Hazel has gained the reputation of the Left's hitman/woman/person. According to the Eye, Baalfe stitched a post up for her, so in exchange she won't stand against him for the euro-post.

Something that's not making a hit is the music in our hyper-modern and trendy Pizzaburger. The older staff there are apparently not really into this modern rock junk, especially as it's repeated from 9 to 5. In its defence, though, the younger staff say they like it and work to the rhythm. Does this mean the modern rap trend will produce faster burgers!!!

### Trials of Passfield

On the point of boring, Passfield have woken from their slumbers and library studies long enough to reply to last week's allegations of "niceism" - the lowest insult of all. Here it is... News from the Front: Trials of Passfield

According to the Beaver hacks

### News from the Front from Ross, Julia and sources: Mark Mosher, J. Deebee

responsible for College Scene ("Peace Rains at Passfield", Ross Broadstock, et al), social life at Passfield Hall is on the decline. As this reporter sat in Passfield's Dining Hall pondering these denigrating allegations, I was interrupted by a decidedly unwholesome looking stripper, who arrived to help an unsuspecting Passfielder celebrate his 20th birthday. Stranger to Passfield that I was, I sat with eyes wide and mouth agape. Yet most veteran Passfielders shrugged it off as a normal occurrence. Brazen and uncouth as it may be, life at Passfield is never dull.

The inability of the aforementioned hacks to recognise Passfield's festive atmosphere has now become a rallying point for Passfield residents, veterans and freshers alike. Conspiracies abound to burn Stavros Makris at the stake for his treacherous comments in last Monday's Beaver (he only called you nice - Ed). Contrary to Stavros' belief, Passfield's new contingent of freshers are a lot less "nice" than he would lead the public to believe. One need only visit Passfield's dank, cavernous bar to realise that it is a haven for some of the LSE's most exciting and unsavoury characters. This motley assortment of bar flies is led by Passfield's beloved bar-crawler, the infamous Chaz.

When asked about the scandalous claims of Monday's College Scene, Chaz simply chuckled and replied mysteriously, "Any time Ross, any time". Chaz then proceeded to issue a challenge to Carr-Saunders residents for a drinking contest to be held at the neutral venue of the Beaver offices. Passfield residents are now eagerly awaiting the reply of Carr-Saunders. If the residents of Carr-Saunders are such devoted party goers then they will rise to the occasion. As Chaz poured a quadruple whiskey for an eager fresher it was easy to see where the action really occurs at the LSE.

### Carr-Saunders Life

Well, in response I have to say any time Chaz, any time - but not in Beaver's office - I'd hate to have to work in the mess you would leave, Chaz!!

Moving on to more exciting pastures, here's the all important run-down on... Carr-Saunders Life

A novel way of saving the Hall money has been introduced by Mandy on the second floor; it's called showering with a friend. We're not so certain who the friend is yet - he keeps changing appearance - but our spies are working on it.

As for our spies, could whoe.er it is please let "The Blob" get some sleep. Your sensual pleasures are undoubtably important, but he is our number one informant, and hasn't been able to work properly since your midnight liaisons began.

He did manage to reveal, however, that Rich "firkin" is really a pseudonym for Giles "Goose Firkin" - last seen pouring a pint of Stella into Dana's ear.

Apologies to Elisabeth (one in three months?) - we love you really Liz: and a word of advice to "DON PONNAS": instead of openly staring, try subtly. It certainly works for Katrina who

has bounced to the top of the Dancing Brave race; unfortunately Ross isn't bookmaking on that event. He is for the pool tournament however - sensible money is on Mohammad at 15 to 1. No money is being taken on Simon Duncan ever finishing his quest for a light unless his "older woman" buys him one!

Justin the loud needs volunteers for his illegal parties; qualifications required: female, goodlooking, but not apparently necessarily single - hello Kathryn!

Greetings to "I want my name in the Beaver" Fiona, and further commendations to the kitchen staff - it's almost edible now. However if you desire alternative sustenance, Liz "adorable" Gower has apparently been offering free meals in her flat; perhaps Jose should send his lady friends there; judging by the state of his neck, they get hungry.

Steptoe and Son promise that liquid refreshment will be available for Tuesday's Booze Contest, not that Tony needs any, he apparently can't get out of the toilets.

### Rosebery

We now pass to what is traditionally the non-hall - but wait, even as I write an "official" Rosebery Hall Report has just been handed in. Apparently, reports are a committee decision down in Rosethorn. Do the committee have something to hide? Are they into suppression and censorship? My my, how silly - that's our privilege!

So if anyone in Rosethorn wants to smuggle copy out we'll take it!

So here's snippets from the "official" and the more juicy unofficial bits and pieces we've picked up.

It has been a very tense time indeed down at Rosebery with elections in the air. Gorgeous Geordie, faced with the seasoned opposition of the Derek Hatton protege, Micah Gold, found himself overwhelmed; populist pressure, demanding his roller coaster ride to the heady heights of Chair. Some brilliant speeches were to be heard, especially on the part of the new vice president (emphasis on the vice) - I'm Welsh... err... I like sheep... err... I come from Cardiff... I'm Welsh... err... vote for me... err I think. Along with Caroline's charm, teddy bear resemblance, this public speaking ability won her the post.

The great social event of the week was the much loved warden's party and perhaps the little cubes of dutch cheese being scoffed provided some clues. The lovely orange squash must have been potent stuff because by half past ten "Designer-ripped" Dave was unconscious in an armchair. The lads look after their own of course and soon had sleepy Dave safely tucked up in bed.

The next part of this report is directly from the "official" report - "Anxious to prove that she is the only first year who can write, we have but one thing to say; those who do, do; those who don't write"... "the Rosebery report is not a means to your end, but an end to it". If this is the attitude to criticism and residents making an independent contribution, then I'm sure that the non-hall is destined to stay "non".

Love and kisses till next week!

## C SOCIETIES RNER

By STAVROS MAKRIS

The India Society had its first meeting on Wednesday 7th October in extremely cramped conditions. It was quite a disorganised affair, the purpose of which was the nominations for the executive body in preparation for the following week.

The meeting was mainly full of Asians of an Indian origin. Though it claims to be a society for all peoples of the Asian Sub-continent it is called the Indian Soc. This is apparently due to the existence of a Pakistan Soc, (but this does not sound reasonable). So far its main plans are a couple of parties for cultural events and festivals.

The LSE Law Society hosted a well attended party. Its future plans include on 5th November, Leon Britten MP and on 10th November Paul Sieghart, a law reformer speaking on "The role of law and the rule of law"; a co-ordinated Christmas party with the other UL Law Societies is being planned; a visit to Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park which will give a chance to students to socialise with staff and other students around a programme of informal lectures; a long weekend trip to Holland as a revenge to Dutch Law students visiting last year. Help for the organisation of the above events is needed - all interested should contact the President Anna Barlow.



Photo: Kapi Khadda

The Malaysia Singapore Society is back. This year it boasts a membership of 150 though only about 100 of them are of a Malaysian or Singaporean origin, the rest are of a different nationality. Arguably the MSS is one of the most cosmopolitan LSE Societies, with an extremely friendly atmosphere. Last year it was the most active society and this year it has already planned its activities. These started with a riverboat trip/disco on the Thames last Monday 12th October, a second one is to take place tonight Monday 17th October. Both trips are co-ordinated with other MSS of the University of London. An AGM has been called for Friday 30th October. Elections are to take place at this meeting while in the evening of the same day a disco has been organised at "Legends" off Regent Street.

EGEE is trying to live up to the claim of being the most dynamic society. A long array of events has been organised both here and abroad, more details next week.

The South American Society has just been reformed and its first meeting is on Tuesday 20th October at 6 p.m. in S27.

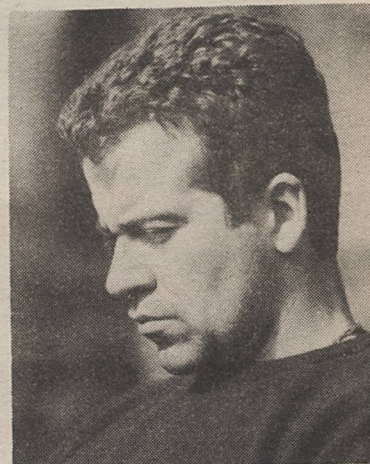


Photo: Ann Henry

The Amnesty International Society has promised its members a great amount of direct involvement. Elections have already taken place. The society this year will be concentrating on a fund raising effort hoping to raise £30,000 and the continuation of letter writing to heads of state. However its main effort will be focused on the government policy of refusing entry to refugees into U.K. and consequently organising action against this.

The Financial Forum has attracted a membership of around 275. It now claims to be the second largest society of LSE. During its first meeting members were informed of the Society's aim to introduce them to various financial institutions in the City, to investigate their practices and perhaps "get some hands on experience for its members".

The society decided by a large majority:

1. Not to join the LSE Union.
2. Not to hold elections for executive posts.
3. To retain the present organising committee working as a team in various aspects such as advertising, finance and inviting outside financial personalities.

The Jewish Society will be hosting an Israeli evening jointly with Kings Jewish Soc. on Tuesday 20th October in the Vera Anstey Room at 5 p.m. The evening will be enriched with Israeli food and dancing.

A Ballroom Dance Society has been formed to promote and teach ballroom and Latin-American dancing. Beginners and intermediate dancers are welcome to the Junior Common Room, Sheffield Building, Imperial College on Monday and Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. for intermediate dancers and 8 p.m. for beginners.

The Lesbian & Gay Society is holding its first meeting in A506 on Friday 23rd October at 7 p.m. (Free food and wine.)

The Revolutionary Communist Students will be having a meeting on "The Alton Bill and how most effectively to fight it" on Wednesday 21st October in Room S53.

The Society for the Enlightenment of the Able-Bodied comprises of both students with disabilities and students without. It aims to improve communications between disabled students and the rest, with a view to drawing attention to the disabled students' difficulties as well as abilities.

The Temporary Graduate Common Room is in a mess. Confidential post is lying on the floor while classes and parties take place in S75. Most Post-Graduate students are not aware that this room is now used as a common room, and even the porters are not too sure of the situation. Post is delivered to students at irregular intervals and then abandoned... at the mercy of ignorance and neglect.

# Murder in the Countryside

**Tom Beardshaw reports on the plight of foxes**

Foxhunting, like the now illegal pastimes of dogfighting, bearbaiting and cockfighting, serves only one purpose: to provide amusement for humans. It is not a form of fox control, nor is it meant to be. The "control" argument is merely an excuse fabricated by fox hunters to combat the protests of those who see the killing of animals for fun as morally obscene.

Hunters make some of the wildest claims about foxes: how they have been seen carrying off live lambs, running amok in chicken coops and generally creating havoc in the countryside.

This is simply untrue. Foxes and chickens rarely meet since the vast majority of the latter are kept in cruelly constructed battery cages and deep litter houses. As far as sheep are concerned, foxes may take the occasional stillborn lamb. There is no real evidence however that foxes kill lambs.

Foxes are primarily scavengers. Like all carnivores, their number is governed by the availability of food - voles, rats, worms, beetles, rabbits and small birds - and by the favourability of breeding conditions.

In 1911, government decided to protect animals by introducing the "Protection of Animals Act". Quite rightly this made the cruel treatment of animals illegal. The cruelty involved in hunting would have led to its abolition. Wild animals were denied legal protection. Parliament, it seems, failed to recognize that wild animals are just as susceptible to suffering as domestic animals are.

The treatment of hunted foxes is disgusting. The night before a hunt, fox earths and badger sets are blocked up to ensure that the hunted fox is unable to find re-

fuge. Foxhounds are not as fast as foxes but they have more stamina. The hunt can therefore enjoy a long drawn out chase until the exhausted fox is caught and ripped to pieces by the hounds.

Even if a fox manages to find an unblocked earth or set, it is not safe. Terriermen move in and send their dogs down. The fox is dragged out and is either shot, re-hunted or tossed to the semi-starved hounds. Some foxes simply die of sheer terror while being "dug up".

However, there is now a new enemy of the hunt. The foxes now have hunt saboteurs on their side. The "sabs" disrupt hunts every week saving thousands of animals and discouraging bloodsports.

Hunt "sabbing" is now quite developed. In the old days meat would be thrown to the hounds to stop them chasing the fox. Now, tactics are designed to cause the minimum of harm to the environment, humans and animals whether they are involved in the hunt or not.

There are many ways to disrupt a hunt once it is on the move. A hunting horn blown at the right moment can totally confuse even the most disciplined pack. Voice calls are also effective.

The most important goal of "sabbing" is the continual disruption of a particular hunt meet. Many hunts find themselves spending an entire day vainly trying to escape from our ministrations. In situations like this, kills are extremely rare.

The legal position of hunt sabotage is very unclear. It really is up to the police that are present at the hunt. Some of them seem to be utterly paranoid about any form of anti-bloodsports activity. This is usually due to their own personal involvement. For instance, in the Hampshire Chief Constable's report for 1985, anti-bloodsports is mentioned more times than murder, armed robbery and rape put together. It clearly shows how the Chief Constable of

Hampshire, a New Forest Fox-hunter himself, is using his Police Force to curtail any activities he personally dislikes. When faced with unsympathetic police, effective hunt sabs may find themselves arrested on a triviality, and re-

leased at the end of a hunt without charge.

Another problem that hunt sabs may encounter is that of hunt violence. Without any civilised arguments to put forward, hunts have been known to resort to

violence in order to defend their sport.

Although they are isolated, there have been some serious incidents. Last November, a Land Rover full of sabs was ambushed by more than 30 thugs in West Sussex. Windows were smashed using fencing posts, pick-axe handles and baseball bats. The attack was pre-meditated, and heavies were actually hired to do sportsmen's "dirty work." (Two hunt sabs were offered 20 each to "give the anti's a good kicking"). Although five sabs had to be taken to the hospital, the police excused themselves by saying that those accused of attacking the Land Rover had all denied it (surely not!) and they could not prosecute in the absence of any independent witnesses.

It is very unlikely that this government will ban hunting. Even in the future, many other "important" issues may force the abolition of hunting to be postponed. It was because of this that sabotage started nearly 25 years ago. Today hunting is still legal, but "sabbing" is stronger than ever. Therefore it is essential that as many people - people like you - get involved.

If you would like to know anything about hunt sabbing, hunting or any other form of animal abuse, just get in touch with the LSE Animal Rights Society.



Photo: League Against Cruel Sports

## Where is our anger?

By Chris Gordon - (Lesbian and Gay Society)

Just over a week ago Channel 4 showed once again the Oscar-winning documentary "The Times of Harvey Milk", as part of its innovative season of lesbian and gay films.

I first saw this film about two years ago, just as I was accepting that I was gay. For me then, and for many lesbians and gays since, it quickly became something of a cult film, and Harvey Milk something of a cult figure. The film was intended as a glowing tribute to Milk, who scarcely a year after being elected the first openly gay city official in the United States (almost exactly ten years ago) was assassinated by a fellow Supervisor.

In that short time San Francisco's gay population made significant strides - within weeks a gay rights bill had passed into law, and the wave of anti-gay feeling which had resulted in legalised discrimination against homosexual teachers in some states, was firmly abated, in California at least, with the rejection of the Briggs Initiative - the notorious Proposition 6.

But perhaps we are too eager to find martyrs for our cause; Milk's political career was brief: after four years without success he finally achieved a seat on the Board of Supervisors only in 1977. There is no doubting his energy, and his commitment to the gay cause, and to protecting the rights of other minority groups. But the gay rights bill owed much to the already extremely vocal and political gay activists in the City, and the defeat of the Briggs initiative was ultimately the result of the opposition of President Carter, and the former Governor of Cali-

fornia, Ronald Reagan.

Randy Shilts, Milk's biographer, makes great play of his political initiatives, his support for the closing of the South African Consulate in San Francisco, and his tireless opposition to real estate speculators. But it's much easier to see how Milk stirred things up than how he changed things. He was a charismatic figure, but San Francisco was much the same after 1978 as it had been before. The concept of lesbian and gay rights was now a legitimate one, but there were many other gay activist politicians behind that change too.

The film consciously sets out to make Milk into a hero. Perhaps that's why nothing is said of his lovers, not even of Jack Lira, Milk's last lover, who committed suicide shortly after Harvey Milk's election. Now it seems we have our hero, one with whom we can more easily identify with than Radclyffe Hall or Edward Carpenter - that very literary sort of activist - the backstairs politicians of the 1960s, or the largely forgotten characters of the early 1970s when the Gay Liberation Front in England was born (interestingly in this very institution) and the gay world thrived briefly on resistance, new ideas, and a vivid counter-culture. But we should beware of the temptation to construct heroes.

And having got our hero, we stagnate. For Harvey Milk, being gay meant being involved in a permanent political struggle, to force gains, and to encourage others to come out. By hiding one's sexuality one was internalising the oppression of straight society, and therefore one could never be free. Milk's creed is as relevant

today as it was then: the gains so far have been insulting; they faced and still face startling opposition; and worst of all they remain tenuous. There is a battle to be fought. But the gay world seems too respectable to fight it, too involved in the bar scene, picking up the next one-night stand, to see anything beyond it, and too worried about their GUPy lifestyles. Where is our anger?

## Lesbian and Gay Soc

By MEHUL TANK

Firstly apologies to all those students who arrived at the Freshers Fair expecting to see our stand. Also thanks to the Young Conservatives who had to deal with the hundreds of disappointed students who apparently mistook them for us! Obviously this is because so many members belong to both societies... No seriously the Lesbian and Gay Soc has been re-formed (not reformed!) and are proud to announce their first meeting this year. There's going to be wine, food, music and lots of people. Its a chance to meet other Lesbians and Gay men like yourself who offer support and friendship in a relaxed, non-hostile atmosphere.

Future meetings will raise and discuss topical issues of importance to gay students, provide a forum for outside speakers, in addition to organising social outings. So whether you're questioning your sexuality, looking to get involved in gay student politics or just want to meet other gay people, come and see what our society has to offer.

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# All Night London

**Sivan Lewin looks at what does happen after dark.**

The midnight streets of Paris are still busy. The bars and cafes are still full of people eating and drinking. In New York many clubs wouldn't even have opened. But in London it is different, there are laws, licensing laws, entertainments licences, noise limitations and fire regulations. The pubs shut at eleven and most restaurants by twelve. By twelve-thirty the Underground has stopped and by three-thirty most nightclubs are turning off the music and closing their doors.

Dead by midnight, or so it would seem. However a little determination might reveal that the city does actually breathe. Not everything shuts down, the bread needs to be baked, and the papers printed. The trains still run, but ferrying maintenance crews instead of commuters, computers run through the night and from the early hours the trade markets are busy selling the produce which will stock shop shelves during the day. Nightshift workers go about their work, the streets are cleaned and the rubbish collected and of course, the police continue to go about their business. Finding places that stay open late isn't easy, but those used to a nocturnal lifestyle always do.

**Lido** 41 Gerrard St W1 (437 4431) open seven days, until 4am. An old favourite amongst LSE students, just never let a sabbatical take you there for dinner. From £5 per head

**Yungs** 23 Wardour St W1 (735 4566) open until 4am, seven days. First class food and smarter than the other restaurants. About £6 per head.

**Up All Night** 325, Fulham Rd, SW10 (325 1996) Open til 6am seven nights. Serves a mixture of hamburgers, pasta and kebabs. About £6 per head.

**Le Casino** 77 Lower Sloane St, SW1 (730 3313) last orders at 1.00am seven days. One of Peter Illic's newer restaurants. Smart with good quality food, around £10 per person.

**Shawarma Kebabs** Opposite Leicester Sq tube, open late seven days. Cheap take away kebabs and falafel. Expensive to eat inside.

**Kiosk outside Kings Cross Station** Open all night selling sandwiches, hot dogs, tea, coffee and cigarettes.

**Bagel Bake** Brick Lane, E1. Open til 6am Mon-Fri and 24hrs over the weekend. Sells the most delicious bagels (a roll with a hole in the middle) piping hot straight from the oven, filled with cream cheese and smoked salmon. The clientele are a mixture of cab drivers, policemen, real EastEnders and a few trendies.

**Morry's Bagals** Wardour Street, W1. Open till around 4am. Bagals are not baked on the premises but are still quite good. Also sells sandwiches.

## LATE NIGHT FILMS

There used to be many more late night films but the closure of

After hours bars do spring up around Soho and Tottenham Court Road. You are supposed to eat with your drink but this stipulation is not always imposed.

One or two late-night supermarkets outside the West End are rumoured to sell under the counter drinks after hours. These are known of by word of mouth only.



Photo: Sivan Lewin

Pubs around the Markets and round Fleet Street open in the early hours for the nightshift workers, they will usually only serve regular customers, but are worth a try if desperate. Some of the best are:

**Thomas A'Beckett** 320 Old Kent Road, SE1. Open until midnight Mon-Weds and Sunday, and until 1am on Thursday and 2am on Friday and Saturday. Several Pubs in this area stay open late, but this one is the best.

**Market Tavern** 1 Nine Elms Lane, SW8. Open to market workers from 5am until 9am.

**Victoria** 25 Charterhouse Street, EC1. Round the corner from Smithfield Market.

## SNOOKER HALLS

For real pool sharks and Tom Cruise look alikes, London has a few all-night pool halls. These mostly require membership, although joining is not always very expensive.

**New World Snooker Club** 153 Goldsmiths Row, E2. Open all night seven days. Membership is £3.00 per year plus £2.20 per hour on the tables, also has a cafeteria and a licenced bar.



Photo: Sivan Lewin

**Centre Point Snooker Club** Underneath Centre Point, New Oxford Street, WC1 (240 6886). Members club open 24 hours, also has a sauna and gym facilities.

**Cafe de Paris** 3 Coventry St, WC1 9.30-3, £7 members only. £10 membership. Passe, unless you have nothing better to do with your money...

## THURSDAY

**Delirium Heaven.** 9-4; £5. Still as packed and popular as ever. Reggae upstairs and Noel and Hamish downstairs, always good entertainment.

**Gaz'a Rockin Blues Gossips.** 9.30-3.30 £5, £3 before 11. Longest running one nigher in London. Ska, rocksteady, blues, and 60's soul.

## FRIDAY

**Metropolis** The Astoria, Charing Cross Road, W1. That cult figure from the LSE, spins fast and furious funk with Family Funktion and Shake and Fingerpop. Check out the newly reopened Astoria and a good line up of P.A.s. Next Friday and every week in November.

**City of Angels** (Basement) YMCA, Tottenham Court Road W1. 10.30 -late; £6, £5 mems. A new club from the Raw crew, aimed at an older crowd. Imported Sapporo beer and membership on micro cassette. Hard Funk.

**Black Market** The Wag club, Wardour Street W1. Long time Friday night club. Expect huge queues to get in.

## SATURDAY

**Raw** (basement) YMCA, Bedford Ave, WC1. 10-late. Perennially popular.

**Casablanca** Busby's. 10-3; £7. Good club aimed at an older crowd, but might be hard to get in. Latin, jazz, '60s R & B, Tamla Motown.

**Dance Exchange** The Fridge. 9-2; £4 Jay Strongman plays go-go, hip hop, house and R & B. Always popular.

## LEGAL & PERSONAL

**Release** 24-hour emergency service for those seeking advice on drugs, criminal and legal problems. 377 5905 during the day and 603 8654 after 6.00pm.

London Samaritans operate a 24-hour service for the despairing and suicidal. 283 3400

## TRANSPORT

**London Transport** runs nightbuses (always with the pre-fix N) after the ordinary buses stop running at around 11-12pm. They run about every half-hour or so until the buses start again in the morning. They do go a bit faster than ordinary buses as there is so little traffic. All nightbuses run from Trafalgar Square. For information on times and routes phone London Transport's 24 hour number on 222 1234.

## NIGHTCLUBS

There are hundreds of nightclubs in London many running running one-nighters on each evening of the week. They tend to cater to different groups with widely differing musical tastes, so be careful to check out what sort of music is usually played.

Most of the best clubs have tight door policies, and you will have to look right if you want to get in. Even then you may have to try and talk your way past the bouncer. Getting in free is something only the most practiced liggers can usually manage- that is unless you happen to know someone.

Most clubs shut by 3.30am. After that it is hard to find a good place to dance. The underground scene originated with the warehouse parties of '85 and '86, as a consequence of the failure of the glossy West End clubs to keep up with musical tastes, or to cater for those with only a student grant in their pocket. These have now mostly disappeared or gone legal. Documenting the underground scene is harder, since clubs open and close quickly, late clubs and backroom bars are often illegal and can disappear and reappear unpredictably. However the odd warehouse party can still be found - watch out for leaflets in West End clubs and various pubs around Soho.

For nightclubs always check listings in Time Out or City Limits.

## MONDAY

**Jazz Night**, at the Wag club, Wardour Street W1. 10.30- 3.30; £4. Jazz from Sylvester, Bob Jones, Chris Bangs and Giles Peterson. **The Jungle** at Busby's 10-3: £3.50, £3.00 before 12, £2 before 11. The best mixed gay club in London. Serious dancing to excellent funk and House music.

## TUESDAY

Tuesday has always been the worst night for clubbing, generally considered a good time to stay in and do your washing. The only exception is: **Sacrosanct** Shaftsbury, 24 Shaftsbury Ave, W1. 10-3.30; £4. Up-market fashion victims and queens dance to House, Hi-Energy and tacky disco.

## WEDNESDAY

**Nautilus** Tattershall Castle, moored opposite Embankment tube. £3.50. Romantic riverside raving from Family Funktion, ex-warehouse party crew and DJ Jules ex of the LSE. Hard Underground funk for the discerning.



Since it might take years to discover them by yourself, this week we list a selection of favourites.

## RESTAURANTS

**Dionysus** 14 Tottenham Court Road, W1 (637 5917) Mon-Fri open til 2am, Fri-Sat til 4.30am. Quick cheap kebabs and hummous, eat in and drink wine or beer from £3.50 per person or take away from £1.45 per person. Only minutes from Carr Saunders Hall for late night munchies.

so many of London's cinemas has seen their decline. Some cinemas still have late night screenings, usually on Friday or Saturday nights. To find out what's playing check weekly listings in Time Out or City Limits.

The best cinema for late nights has to be **The Scala** in Kings Cross which shows films all night every Saturday. The **Screen** cinemas, in Islington, Belsize Park, Baker St and Portobello Road and some of the **Cannon** chain either run their main programme or a number of old favourites.



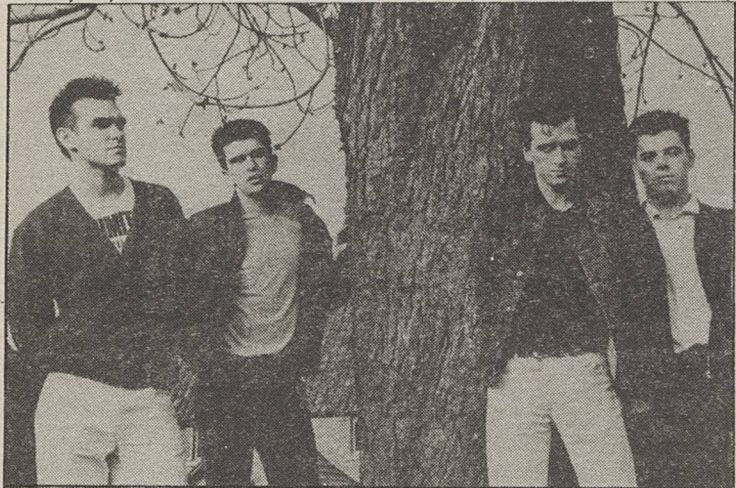
# Music

## 1987 What the fuck is going on!

... is the best album title of the year and it comes from a band called The Justified Ancients of Mu. Incidentally, the song title of the year is "I wanna be aborted" by Purdah. "How can I find out about these brilliant records?" you might wonder. Well, if you are new to London, the city of the megastores, or if you have missed out on music in the last year and you suddenly realise that your record collection needs an urgent update you don't have to worry; just read the Beaver. The next few lines will guide you through the best 1987 releases so far. Let's start with the second best album of the year.

"Shabini" by the Bhundu Boys is a masterpiece by anyone's standards. It's the first album the Zimbabwean band have released in this country and it demonstrates the rhythmic superiority of African music over most Western rock music. Following the surprise success of that album which stayed in the indie charts for almost 5 months the Bhundu Boys released their second fine album "Tsvimbozekoto" which is also recommended. They have just released their third album "True Jit".

Another surprising indie hit came from the American folksinger/songwriter Michelle Shocked. The brilliant "Texas Campfire Tapes" album recorded live on a walkman features her on guitar with the campfires providing the background noise. Good tunes and great lyrics reminiscent of early Dylan.



The Husker Du double album "Warehouse: Songs and Stories" is a very good rock orientated noise-pop album but unfortunately their sound is becoming more and more mainstream. If you really want to get into them you should buy their earlier stuff ("Zen Arcade", "New Day Rising" etc).

The folk album of the year is "In my tribe" by the 10,000 Maniacs, which is dominated by Natalie Merchant's marvellous voice. Unfortunately they've made the same mistake as Husker Du in joining WEA and thus getting a very commercial sound but the album is still great.

The noise-pop album of the year (so far) is "Up for a bit with the Pastels" by the Pastels. Songs like "I'm alright with you" and "Automatically yours" show that good indie pop beats Top 40 crap at any time.

The Cure have come back with "Kiss me kiss me kiss me", a double album that neatly follows

up their recent work ranging from love songs ("Catch") to depressive guitar orgies ("The kiss"). Most of their former gothic fans might have deserted them but I still love Robert's voice.

The Smiths have split up and yet they've provided us with two of the best records of the year and there are even rumors of a live album in December. "The world won't listen" was a brilliant compilation, especially because of the slow songs on the second side and their swansong "Strangeways here we come" is just superb. It might take years until there's someone worthy enough to step into their footsteps though there are already a few contenders. The Railway Children might be a good candidate after topping the indie chart with their debut album "Reunion Wilderness". Their music is guitar pop of the post-Postcard generation. Another band that could do the job is The Wolfhounds whose debut album "Unseen ripples from a pebble..." is also very good.

Napalm Death on the other hand will never follow the Smiths. A sticker on their album "Scum" describes it as "28 tracks of savagely brutal hardcore trash" even though it always sounds like one track with 27 breaks to me. Great stuff nevertheless. Their political stand is summed up by one songtitle: "Conservative Shithead".

"Babble" by That Petrol Emotion is even better than their first album and with the very anti-British single "Big Decision" almost making the Top 40 their new style of indie rock really

seems to take off. They certainly beat U2 as the best Irish band.

"Inky Bloaters" by Danielle Dax is a very peculiar album. It creates a strange hypnotic atmosphere mainly because of amount of unusual instruments (Tablas, sitars etc.) used. Apparently Peel won't play it because he's got something personal against her so don't wait to hear it on the radio, just buy it!

The Golden Palominos, lead by ex Pere Ubu drummer Anton Fier, had their back catalogue released by Celluloid recently and both their albums are worth getting. The first one, with horses on the cover (Can't remember the name) is mainly drums and basses and is very useful to get rid of unwanted visitors (you could also use Napalm Death for that). The second one, "Visions of excess", has a similar production to PIL's "Album" and features Michael Stipe of REM on vocals. Need I say more?

The 4AD compilation "Lonely as an eyesore" is as much 4AD as any 4AD record. If you like the Cocteau Twins, Xymox, Throwing Muses and the other 4AD bands then you can't go wrong with this one. 4AD also issued a Throwing Muses mini-LP "The Fat Skier" which is almost as good as their debut album but might not appeal to everybody.



The Go Between's 5th album "Tallulah" is their best work yet. It is sad that superb singles like "Bye bye pride" and "Right here" shouldn't get any airplay just because they haven't got major label support whereas untalented actors (Willis) and football players (Chris and Glenn) get hyped into the top 10 just like that.

Even though I haven't heard the new albums by Primal Scream, Wedding Present, Echo, Tom Waits, Jesus and Mary Chain, REM and some others I have made my mind up already. Unless someone comes up with a sensationally stunning album soon the album of the year has to be "SISTER" by SONIC YOUTH. These people have created a new style. "Hotwire my heart" includes some of the most inspiring guitar playing for years. Or listen to the almost hypnotic beginning of "Pacific Coast Highway" for a real treat. They've got everything right this time, the distortion, the lyrics, even the cover is perfect. If you only want to buy only one record this year then buy this one!

Fabian

## Tommy Chase

### At the LSE

The concert involving The Tommy Chase Quartet last weekend was an object lesson in literally beating a musical style to, if not death, at least submission. Near heavy metal levels of amplification appeared to succeed in their purpose of making some people dance, but at the cost of divorcing the music from its most salient features.

Perhaps the saddest aspect lay in that the band, whilst jazz lovers to a man, gave some idea what living through the fifties in Britain must have been like. Only then instead of blue note, Hawk Mobley and Monk it was Joe Oliver and Louis. However, the former during the fifties were largely ignored. It would be truly sad if people wasted their time and money on what is arguably intense, but mistake that for emotional involvement or even something new. Check out the originals and see the likes of The Jazz Warriors.

George Paton

## Searching For Soul in London



With the explosion of interest in Soul music in recent years old sections in most record shops have widened while rarer items - many of James Brown's 70's releases for example - are apparently difficult to find in New York, let alone London. But if you're looking for that perfect beat you heard on LWR, here are some places to try.

Small is usually beautiful in record shops, but an honourable mention goes to the Virgin Megastore. Opposite Tottenham Court Rd. tube and temptingly close to Carr Saunders, its selection of Cut-Outs, Imports, reissues and new releases is hard to fault. But Virgin's "7" section is hopeless and it's worth checking their chain stores for discounts on chart LPs.

For the more obscure current releases you'll need to try specialist shops. A short walk from "Virgin", Greek Street's Groove Records has an exhaustive selection of import 12's, arranged in a totally random order. It's easier to ask at the counter, and it's always better to know at least the title of what you're looking for - if you try and whistle it they'll probably just look at you funny. Out of the hundreds of others, my favourite is Red Records (cross the road from Brixton tube, head left). Check here for House and import 7's. Both shops will play anything you might want to buy, on request.

If that rare gem you're looking for hasn't been covered by the recent spate of reissues, head for the second hand shops. Unfortunately many pre-1980 releases have become increasingly expensive and

hard to find, but you will find bargains on slightly soiled new stuff. Of the larger second hand joints, the Notting Hill Record & Tape Exchange (Pembroke Road) and Reckless Records (Berwick St., Soho) are the most consistent. Also try the surprisingly cheap Discover Records (in Chelsea Antiques Market, Kings Rd.) and Popbeat (underneath Vinyl Experience on Buck Street, Camden, open Wed. through Sun.). Popbeat specializes in the more in-demand stuff with prices ranging from 2 to the unprintable, and it's next to Camden Market which has some good record stalls. Also check "NME" and "Echoes" listing for record fairs and mail order lists. These cater for rabid collectors and are priced accordingly.

For lower prices try places that don't know what the stuff is worth. If you think you can handle flicking through endless Little Jimmy Osmond picture covers, a stall in Earlham St. sells unsorted singles at 20p a throw. Similar stalls can be found at Brick Lane Market. Your local junk shop may be flogging some ageing Mods' Curtis Mayfield collection for peanuts.

Finally, to repeat the advice of your Jazz correspondent, a word of warning. Record buying can become a dangerous habit; one that could result in you wasting hours of your valuable time in record shops (while your friends gaze despairingly at the door), and which could prove seriously damaging to your grant.

Happy hunting now, Y'hear?

Tom Lloyd



# Film

## Peek the Movies

By Beaver Staff

It had been a hard day, tramping the streets for no reward. Sustenance consisted of a Vitamin pill, tropical fruit flavoured, 2 pints of budweiser, and briefly, a somoza. Sometimes I hate myself. Time for some entertainment.

Outrageous Fortune begins as an everyday American tale of sexual rivalry on the parts of Bette Midler and Shelley Long (she of "Cheers" fame) and ends as a high adventure involving espionage, counter-espionage and the salvation of America as we know it. The plot treads water in the middle of the film as the scriptwriters desperately search for ideas to flesh it out, and the witty repartee between our two unlikely heroines is in danger of grating instead of amusing at this stage.

When a male corpse, in a bad state of decay tells an attractive young woman to "come to daddy", you know that you are dealing with an "inferior" imagination. Hell-raiser is a film strangely out of time and place, with no context, no script, no characters, etc. Above all, it that most boring of contradictions, a horror movie with no suspense.

All the imagination went into the visual images, and there is nothing left for the other components of the film.

A man whose only comment on having his body pulled apart by fish hooks is "Jesus wept" is quite amusing. Less amusing is having to sit through 90 minutes to get there. My curiosity had left long before.



## The Belly of an Architect



Peter Greenaway, even though he only has three full-length feature films to his name, has carved out a unique position among directors. His first film, *The Draughtsman's Contract*, won critical acclaim and commercial success, highly unexpected in view of the nature of the film, a thriller set in seventeenth century England. His next feature *A Zed and Two Noughts* was much more ambitious and inaccessible; some hailed it as a filmed version of Baudelaire's poetry, while others dismissed Greenaway as a mad "Artsy-fartsy" provocateur.

The extent to which he listened to his detractors is debatable, but the fact remains that with *The Belly of an Architect*

he has managed to produce a hugely enjoyable and eminently accessible film.

Greenaway describes it as follows: "The Belly of an Architect is the story of a distinguished American architect, Stourley Kracklite, who goes to Rome Museum and Mausoleum of Western Art to put on an exhibition in memory of his

hero, the 18th century visionary French architect, Etienne-Louis Boullée

Rome is of course the ideal city to have present and past meet, but Kracklite chooses to set himself in the past, ignoring his young wife, the child that she is bearing and even the exhibition. He prefers to concentrate solely on himself and his belly, which is slowly being eaten away by cancer. One by one, every person and every thing he held dear falls away from him, as he identifies himself more and more closely with Boullée.

Interestingly enough, Boullée did exist. He lived in Paris, was born 1728 and died 1799, but very little is known about him. His architecture (even though it only existed on paper) was heavily inspired by Ancient Rome. In the words of Greenaway, "He is an ideal architect, as his dreams do not have to stand the test of construction or time. Boullée's vision could well be a vision of Heaven or Hell."

What could have been an intellectual "Euro-scene" study of how a disciple assimilates his master's works and words is in effect a

powerful and beautiful film, mainly thanks to two men (aside from Greenaway). The first is Sacha Vierny director of photography. Never has Rome been so splendid. The colours (dominated by dirty yellows and bright whites) and the lighting are those of an old master of film photography (Vierny is 68 years old).

But the one man on whose shoulders the heaviest weight weighs is Brian Dennehy

And his performance as Kracklite is nothing short of historic. Everything about him is enormous, beginning with his talent. He is surrounded by very good actors such as Chloe Webb and Lambert Wilson (France's equivalent of Daniel Day-Lewis in the hearts of teenagers).

One cannot feel that, if Greenaway continues not to make too difficult, ambitious and ultimately wierd films, he may well be the truly great director Britain has waited for for so long.

Narr Havas

## Angel Heart

"It is a very private deal, made years ago. He's got something that belongs to me." That is all Harry Angel, a small-time detective is told by the sinister gentleman who hires him. His objective is to find Johnny Friendly, a one-time frontman for a big-band who disappeared soon after retiring from music.

The trail Harry Mickey Rourke Angel follows is a faint one outlined by a bloody path littered by bodies at the crossroads of the highway to the climatic solution. Harry does not know what he is looking for; what he finds is a mystery of the occult. He is not the hound but the marionette.

Strong advert imagery supplements a none-too-obvious plot of Chandleresque story and the Faustian supernatural. This is a directors' movie. Mickey Rourke supported by the stunning Lisa Bonet tries hard to escape expectations of previous roles. DeNiro as Louis Cyphre intrigues and leaves you guessing 'til the end, while

Charlotte Rampling holds a small but influential part.

Director Alan Parker has chosen yet again to work on a different genre. To it he brings the visual imagery employed so successfully in his previous projects (*Midnight Express, Fame, Pink Floyd - The Wall, Birdy*) learnt at the high pressure make or break world of filming adverts. There is a stunning opening scene full of symbolism - if one chooses to look for things deeper. The scene, which seems significant during the first ten minutes, then to be forgotten as the plot gets lost into the mist of the occult, is yet to be remembered and apprehended belatedly at the end. And as the credits roll, it is still going on and on until it reaches the bottom where it explodes into red.

Harry finds what we will all find out the end, only he does not want to believe and when he does all he can do is all we can do. Surrender.

Stavros Makris

## The Tales of the Silver Surfer



The Silver Surfer's parting from the lovely Shalla Bal did not go unwatched by Galactus, who was interested in overseeing his heard's behaviour.

Over time, Galactus hardened his heart, burying his own humanity so that he no longer cared about the lives of those he slew in the course of satisfying his eternal hunger. Galactus could not allow his servant to have feelings of compassion and love.

And so, over the long years that the Silver Surfer served Galactus, the planet-destroyer used his powers to alter the Surfer's mind, until the Surfer too came to disdain ordinary mortal beings.

Thus, it was a now inhumanly unemotional Silver Surfer who soared along the routes of hyperspace leading to Earth, in search of an energy-rich planet upon which his master could feed.

It was Uatu the Watcher, a supposedly impassive extraterrestrial observer of Earth, who broke his vow of non-interference in order to warn Earth's superhuman champions, the Fantastic Four. However, even the Fantastic Four could not halt the Silver Surfer from completing his mission, although the Surfer was hit by the Thing, and had hurtled from the edge of the Fantastic Four's building towards the ground. But Galactus had received the message that the Surfer had sent, and his universe-spanning sphere was already entering the atmosphere. The mighty starship landed atop the Fantastic Four's headquarters, and its fearsome occupant strode ominously forth, and spoke.

"My journey is ended! This planet shall sustain me until it is drained of all elemental life! So speaks Galactus!"

The Thing attacked Galactus, but to no avail. Next, the Human Torch flew into battle against the seemingly invulnerable menace, but was defeated ungraciously. The guardians of Earth's future security had no alternative but to retreat ignominiously inside their headquarters, leaving Galactus to do as he wished.

Galactus created a force field around the area in which he wished to work, and sent his starship back into Earth orbit. Then he began using his incredible power in order to assemble the unearthly device with which he would destroy the planet.

Ben the Watcher

## Let us now praise famous women

Women photographers for the US Government 1935 to 1944

Watermans Arts Centre Brentford

In an era when the creation of jobs by government goes no further than YTS and the like, those schemes set up as part of Roosevelt's New Deal appear more than ahead of their time. For what was remarkable about such projects was the degree to which practical help for the unemployed was combined with a strong artistic element. Nowhere is this approach more clearly typified than in the work of the Farm Security Administration (FSA) founded in 1935. Not only did it provide financial aid to impoverished farmers, it also employed a group of photographers to record the plight of rural America visually, and to underline the need for the existence of such an agency. These included two prominent women photographers, Dorothea Lange and Marion Post Wolcott, as well as Walker Evans, co-author with James Agee of that celebrated document of the depression, "Let Us Now Praise Famous Men".

Unfortunately, (except perhaps in the cases of Lange and Wolcott), the work of the women photographers of this period never really achieved the same renown. Indeed, after 1941 when the work of the FSA became swallowed up by the Office of War Information (OWI), their work was never even credited, and vanished into obscurity. If only for this reason alone, the trip to Brentford to see this exhibition of their work is worthwhile. But more than this, the images of an America gutted by the ravages of the Depression are truly haunting – vast empty landscapes, recently

deserted communities and, most of all, a people laid waste. Yet for all the desolation that surrounds them, these photographers never once descend to the depths of sentimentalising or patronising their subjects. Instead, the overriding image is of courage and pride, of strength through true adversity.

The later photographs, taken under the aegis of the OWI, are quite literally a different picture. Smiling and self-satisfied, their characters pose rather self-consciously against the background of their newly-emergent consumer society. So much so that at times some of these images seem like stills for a movie, or an advertisement for The American Way of Life, a portent perhaps of the spectre of McCarthyism, which was to appear a decade later.

But for me, the most memorable photograph is one of the earlier ones – Lange's "Migrant Mother". A woman prematurely aged by the burden of poverty and seemingly oblivious to the camera, looks on with resignation at a scheme which her children are too weary to contemplate. It is one of the most powerful symbols of womanhood imaginable. Did she, I wonder, or her offspring ever get the opportunity to enjoy the fruits of a lifetime of conspicuous consumption in the consumer boom which followed? Let us now praise famous women indeed.

Sandra Jones

The Waterman Arts Centre is at 40 Brentford High Street. Nearest tubes are Gunnersbury and South Ealing. Buses 267, 65 and 237 stop outside.

## Macbeth vs Mad Max at the Half Moon Theatre

Imagine Mad Max, Macbeth and the Marx Brothers all in one package – A representation of our fast food culture, or merely a bad case of cultural diarrhoea?

Director Chris Bond presents a world rife with contradictions. The historical tragedy is set against the anachronistic pop-culture props and elaborate pyrotechnics, creating a dissonance that becomes more distracting than interesting. Picture the immortal lines, "Oh, most sacrilegious murder . . ." delivered to the strains of "Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Old Oak Tree". One is captivated by the colourful, flashing, lighting console rather than the subtler aspects of the plot. Have we been rudely transported from Shakespeare's Scotland to the futuristic set of Dr. Who?

Macbeth's witches are portrayed as the dominant force; acting as the Masters of Ceremony, hi-tech gadgets and many a cheap joke. However their continual presence only undermines the levity of such issues as predestination and free will. The gags and gimmicks for six pounds become a painfully expensive laugh.

A play with a more definite

direction is called for, rather than Macbeth vs. the Marx Brothers, each fighting for attention. As separate entities, each was well-executed though there was an unwarranted emphasis on the slapstick. Noreen Kershaw's ruthless Lady Macbeth stands as the only cohesive force in this play, adding spice and passion to the confrontations with Ron Donache's laudable Macbeth. The chemistry between the two is riveting.

The production is a gentle but zany introduction to the classics for those who hated O-level English Literature. For us boring purists, the tragedy of Macbeth has been trivialised, adulterised and finally, bastardised. Admittedly, such follies at the Half Moon and prove to be good entertainment better than spending another drunken soiree down at the Tuns.

Bond has much raw talent waiting to be refined. It is refreshing to see such enthusiasm side by side with professionalism. A better medium would do more justice to both the director and the cast. We look forward to future productions from such a promising company.

Katherine Pena



## Theatre

### Sarcophagus

An RSC production at the Mermaid Theatre

It is perhaps a little simplistic to say that Gubaryev, has capitalised on the new spirit of *Glasnost* which has affected Soviet arts; but certainly this sort of production – and indictment of state policy as the cause of national disaster (Chernobyl) – would have been virtually impossible under a less tolerant leader than Mikhail Gorbachev.

Having said that, it does tend to run painfully, or if both the writer and actors are unused to their newfound intellectual freedom. Set in a Radiation Sickness treatment ward,

it attempts to explore the trauma following the explosion at no.4 reactor at Chernobyl nuclear power station. Shock, bewilderment, frustration and rage are all well expressed by the various victims but it lacks the power and intensity such a theme could have.

The ward contains an unsavoury-looking, grotesquely-discoloured radiation victim – Bessmertory or "Immortal" or "Fred un-dead" as he calls himself (referring to his second-long stay in the ward). He manages to stay more or less centre stage for most of the play, providing bizarre humour, bizarre insight and bizarre narration to events and attitudes which undulate uneasily between hysteria and resignation as the radiation victims pile in and the full weight of the catastrophe hits everyone. Add to that three young internees, allegorically (and implausibly) named Faith, Hope and Charity. Hope leaves, not being able to take the strain (the symbolism is heavy and blatant) and the patients start dying, each with their personal tragedies: one laments that his hair is coming out in tufts; another that the strawberry crop will be contaminated, depriving him of his income . . .

But Gubaryev refrains from being too moralistic; nuclear power is never actually condemned. On the contrary its usefulness is emphasised; the culprits are corruption, inefficiency and ineptitude – and the message, if any, is of man's helplessness in the face of this source of colossal energy, and of the intelligence and care required to harness it properly. Token American scientists are brought in at the end, reminding us that this is not just a Soviet problem, but a catastrophe with world-wide implications.

"The Guardian" has called it "Unquestionably the most impor-

tant play in London', but I found it difficult to see it that way. The theme is certainly interesting, but the production lacks the poignancy or the intellectual debate one is led to expect. Bessmertory's indictment at the end is typically incisive: the sarcophagus around the crippled power-station will be a monument to coming generations of 20th century follies, just as the pyramids have been to the Pharaohs' grandeur for the last 5,000 years.

Sheryor Sarwar

## Serious Money

Wyndham Theatre

BIG BANG – LONDON:

Next day, small obnoxious man wakes up to find that his small insignificant company is now something "rather big" in the City. Money, money, serious money everywhere. All to be had by fair means or foul. In the heart of our man festers a burning desire to become not just rich but superfucking rich.

In a case of no holds barred, award winning playwright Caryl Churchill has managed to capture the capricious essence of London's financial centre at work and play. This is a play for the alert. It is bawdy, funny and fast. The multitalented cast parries classic lines with effortless ease.

It's a play I strongly recommend if only to see how the quest for money is the lifeblood of a varied collection of people. Where scruples and morals are unheard of. I would suggest that those contemplating a career in the City take their filofax with them. They are bound to run into at least one merchant banker.

Val Small

Apologies to Richard Scott for omitting to print his by-line under his Jazz Column in ISSUE 265.



# Houghton Street Harry

Another year and time for comment from the myriad world of sport.

The football season is well underway and already a few things are becoming clear. Liverpool are looking unbeatable (you can get 100-1 at William Hill against them losing a league game this year); Peter Shilton and Mark Wright went to the wrong club; Rangers are going a bit O.T.T.; and Coventry have proved to be a flash-in-the-pan bunch of no-hopers. Shame about El Tel (El Dole), but Britain's latest soccer exports, Ian Rush and Howard Kendall are doing well at their respective clubs.

On the international scene, England and Wales are both set to qualify for the European Championship finals, but even so, isn't it about time some younger players got an England chance - Neil Webb or David Rocastle for example?

And so to boxing - at last we are about to see the long awaited Bruno-Bugner fight, hopefully to end in "Aussie-Joe" being smashed to pulp. But what about more coverage for Lloyd Honeyghan? Not only is he a big "Shagger", but he also holds the record number of world defences by a British fighter. Thirdly, he is as explosive and exciting a fighter you'll see anywhere.

Nigel Mansell's dream of becoming World Champion seems to have gone forever - especially after the Williams break with Honda from next season; but those in the know must be asking a few questions about whether Mansell has his promised equal role with Piquet in the Williams team.

Finally, racing - a subject on which I don't even pretend to be knowledgeable. All I will say is this, - if anyone knows what happened to Fandango Boy, write to me c/o Beaver Office.

# Rugby

The mighty LSE try-machine winds itself up for another hard season, with many of our toughest fixtures coming in the first term. Unfortunately, our first trial was conducted in the pouring rain and the second was washed out altogether.

This Wednesday, forty players arrived at New Malden expecting our first match to be cancelled in favour of a re-scheduled trial. However, an administrative error meant that our opponents, Royal College of Science turned up expecting to play. LSE duly obliged, and both teams turned out good performances to produce two wins with both teams scoring over 25 points. The LSE backs performed especially well, showing great strength in depth.

Any more players wishing to play this season should ask for Julian or Gavin in the A.U. (E65), or come to our circuit training sessions at 6pm on Mondays and Thursdays in the gym.



Photo: Philip Papahippou

# Cricket Football

As cricket's fourth World Cup enters its second week, it can be seen that the game still survives even without its major stars - the loss of Hadlee, Botham, Gower, Garner and Marshall has not detracted from the event. The matches have been exciting to say the least - Alan Lamb showed that miracles can be repeated, India achieved the impossible and lost by one run to a mediocre Australian team, and New Zealand showed that Crowe alone is not enough to make up for Hadlee as the Kiwis lost to Zimbabwe.

With regards to the chances of England, qualification is by no means certain, especially if Britain's most famous carhorse, Derek Pringle, is retained. Surely Jarvis can't do any worse. As far as other teams are concerned, New Zealand are half a team without Hadlee, Australia bar Border have little going for them, and India seem unlikely to repeat their heroics of 1983.

Most people still fancy the West Indies as the eventual winners, but I must say I go for Pakistan myself. Their batting is ideally suited to the one day game and Imran will want to leave the international arena with a bang. But don't rule out England, since with performers such as Gooch, Lamb, Gatting, and De Freitas, they are still in with a shout. Let's hope that cricket continues to shine, and that we see no more unsavoury incidents, such as Javed's outburst, to mar the spectacle.

If the past week's events have inspired you, and you've played a bit of cricket before, bring your whites to Lord's this Tuesday by 8pm and join in the L.S.E. nets practice. Alternatively, see Dave Bridges in the A.U.



## LSE 11 New College 0

One trial - lots of new names and new faces: who to pick? This was the dilemma facing 1st team captain Alistair Mackenzie. To add further pressure the opposition were last season's premier league champions.

Well the match got off to a cracking pace with a lot of good work being put in by the new midfield line up. The opposition soon proved why they were last year's champions, but they could not make the opportunities up front and the first clear chance fell to the LSE when Justin Russell put the ball miserably wide.

The deadlock was broken in the second half by Bobby Jones, who fearlessly headed the ball into a gaping net as the goalkeeper rushed out. Unfortunately, Bobby lost his remaining front teeth in the process and was understandably "sick as a parrot" after the game.

The match then developed into something of a holding match as LSE clung to their narrow lead. Fitness was obviously lacking among some of the players - the result of a long, lazy summer. However, the defence was resolute with the new goalkeeper Gerald Lincoln in fine form behind them. Other newcomers, Kevin Darlington and Dave Newbold, had very good games; the former saving the neck of our own wandering romeo, Simon Duncan, who would be quite a star if he danced around the pitch as well as he dances through the tulips of Amsterdam.

Paul Wakefield

## England 8 - Turkey 0

England went into this game amid much publicity over the exclusion of Hoddle, but it soon became apparent that Turkey were no match for Robson's men even without this big name.

The first goal came in just 62 seconds. Webb's delightful cross going beyond Lineker's diving header to the feet of John Barnes, who made no mistake. Lineker calmly turned in a Sansom cross



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# Basketball

The LSE basketball team are playing their first match of the season at Plumstead on Sunday, 18th October, against Greenwich Tigers (tip-off at 5pm). If interested, please phone Paul Bradshaw on 701 0758.

# Netball

There is a meeting for anybody wishing to play netball for the L.S.E. team. If interested come to the Webb Room (Old Building) on Wednesday 21st October at 2.00 pm. If unable to attend leave your name and telephone number in the A.U. office, and hopefully somebody should contact you.

for number two, and Barnes added number three following a beautiful turn and pass by Beardsley. Lineker added another just before the break to make it 4-0 at half time.

Skipper Bryan Robson added the fifth, but the best goal of the night came in the 62nd minute. Lineker back-heeled for substitute Hoddle to supply a perfect cross for Beardsley to nod in. Lineker completed his hat-trick for number seven and the evening was rounded off by a superb volley from Webb, following a Hoddle cross to make it 8-0.

England now only need a point in Yugoslavia to reach next year's European Championship finals in Germany.

Man of the Match: Arif Pecenek J.B.