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The Newspaper of the LSESU

TheBeaver

TheEditors: Ian D. Curry & Mukul Devichand
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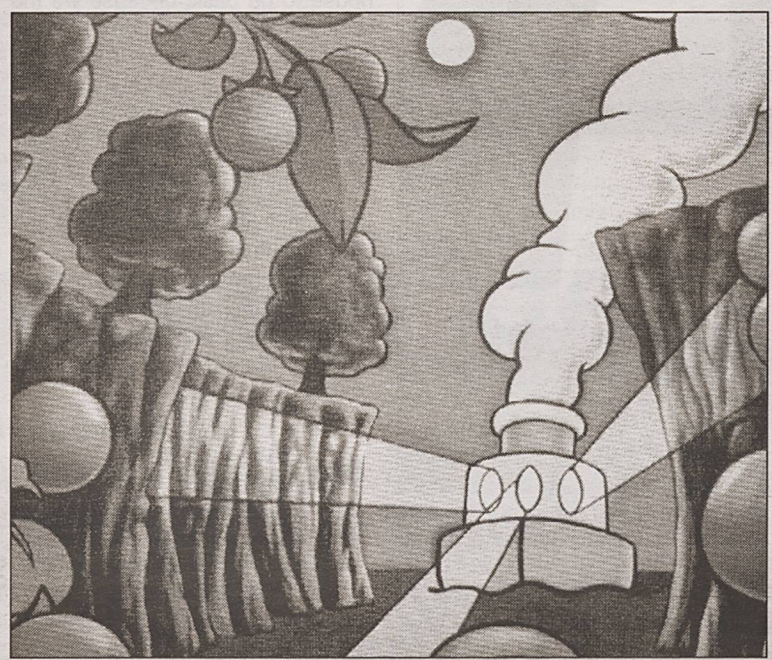
Hall Committee set to save the planet

Mark Ready

The LSE often styles itself as an institute that spearheads socially beneficial change worldwide. Environmentally friendly initiatives, prevention of global warming and wasteful use of limited or important resources are recognised as such change, third perhaps only to reform of the health and education systems. The administration wishes LSE to be one of the "trailblazer colleges" on environmental issues.

The LSE has introduced a number of environmentally friendly measures. A campus-controlled thermostat (part of the Building Management System) ensures that no more than enough energy is burned up in maintaining the temperature both on campus and in halls. Male students are probably familiar with the waterfree urinals on campus by now.

However, the administration has fallen down on recycling issues. A report (commissioned from Wastebusters Ltd in line with a review in Houghton Street during the summer term 1999) recommended in March 2000 that the halls should recycle waste, purchase recycled products, and



Garbage-mountains, pollution-disasters, noise-problems. Environmental issues need to be solved. Picture: Archives

further limit energy consumption. The report also suggested organisations that specialise in all of these areas. An inter-halls committee meeting on 5th May 2000 recommended that "the Residences simply work to their own waste and energy minimisation targets". The administration has seemed content to let the report pile LSE's reams of waste paper higher, rather than

actively encourage the halls to follow its recommendations.

Students and management at Carr-Saunders have salvaged the report from the landfill. Previously the hall society, like those in other halls, initiated recycling schemes. These relied on the committee carting any collected paper to the nearest public recycling points. Predictably these schemes have proven unsustainable with the

waxing and waning of committees. During the summer, however, the Carr-Saunders committee arranged for London Recycling Ltd (020 7511 8000) to collect the hall's white paper, free of charge, when they collect a certain amount. A recycling bin has been set up in the common room and the society purchased a wheely bin (£58) for easy transport.

The hall committee have to carry paper 20m rather than 200m, so the scheme should prove sustainable.

Yet the Carr-Saunders-Pioneers received e-mails from other hall society committees asking for advice on installing similar schemes in the face of management indifference. Maybe hall managements have more pressing concerns. If so, and if LSE administration is serious about being one of the "trailblazer colleges", should Houghton Street not take a lead in encouraging recycling? That the administration has had a relatively expensive waterfree urinal system installed

on campus, but not forced paper recycling (one of the most basic of environmental initiatives) in halls seems ridiculously anomalous given that wheely bins for all the halls would cost less than £500.

If all halls installed a white paper recycling scheme though, would it work? Admittedly the bin at Carr-Saunders contains barely enough paper to save even a small twig at the moment, but the students there expect to start saving some trees when the first years realise how little of the Freshers' material they need to keep.

Even more re-assuring is the thought the residents of Carr-Saunders have shown in distinguishing between the normal bins and the recycling bin. I personally have only found a solitary beer can in the recycling bin during Freshers' week.

Either Carr-Saunders students are not recycling their beer cans or, truer to form, they're not drinking very many of them in the first place.

The administration has seemed content to let the report pile LSE's reams of waste paper higher, rather than actively encourage the halls to follow its recommendations.

Sorry I'm late, the cyber terminal crashed

Mathias W. Benzer, News Editor

In order to improve the availability of students' time tables the London School of Economics and Political Science have scheduled the introduction of seventeen new information kiosks around the campus. These will be located in the entrance areas of the Old Building, St. Clement's Building, Clement House, St Philip's House, the East Building and 20 Kingsway.

The information provided is said to not only include up-to-date time tabling information but also news about events and activities at the University.

Using eye-level PC screens, the kiosks will enable students to check timetable details from PCs

all around the school, as well as in halls of residence. It is these screens, however, that cause some discussion among students at LSE.

TheBeaver asked several students about the advantages and disadvantages of the screens. Catherine Wallace, a second year BSc Sociology student, pointed out: "I saw the screens in the Old Building and they fine. Last year we had to literally fight our way through to the time-tables on the pin-walls. Now, however, we might have to queue in front of these remarkably small screens for hours given the fact that so many students will want to know their time tables once teaching has started. I suppose it's worth a try, but experience will show if the new screens are a real improvement."

Lee Federman, SU General Secretary, came to the following

conclusion: "The new screens have already had a very positive



Find your way through the jungle of Lectures and Class-schedules using new technologies
Picture: Ian Curry

response from the students. Quick access to timetables is now ensured. I am sure that they will help to make the first weeks of term that little bit less hectic."

According to a Students' Union Press Release the aim of the new facilities is to improve internal communications around campus, while more general information will also be available in poster and leaflet formats, below the screens. A very positive response is to be expected from students with disabilities who now have easier access to their time tables using the lower level screens that have been placed in the Old Building. If students have any further queries concerning timetable information they are advised to consult the course offices.

Out of halls, into real life

Edward M. Jones

After a week of living in halls of residence, many new undergraduates at the LSE have experienced the more basic aspects of living in halls - the joys of sharing toilets and showers with absolute strangers, the culinary "delights" of canteen food and the lack of home comforts such as sofas. For reasons such as these, living "out" in the second year of your degree appeals to many students as you can combine a great social life with all the comforts of home. Living outside the strict rules and regulations of a halls of residence also brings a high degree of independence - one group of second-year ex Carr Saunders residents decided to spend the money they had set aside for a microwave on laser quest sets and vodka to celebrate their house-warming.

However, living in private accommodation also has its pitfalls; some landlords try to limit

their expenses by not replacing damaged furniture and fittings and failing to meet safety laws.

Landlords are required by law to fit smoke detectors on every floor of a property, have a fire extinguisher

in the kitchen and to have gas appliances checked annually. Bringing complaints quickly to the attention of the landlord does pay off, as he has an obligation to keep the contents of a furnished house in a decent condition. Alex Glascott, a second year BA History student moved into a house in the Turnpike Lane area with six friends a week ago: "We expected the house to be basic because we the rent is only £65 each per week, but when we moved in we found that the light in the kitchen wouldn't work because of a broken fitting, the washing machine door was jammed shut and we had to prop the oven door shut with a chair. We complained to the landlord and after a few days he sent an electrician round to fix the light and we should be getting a new washing machine soon, although nothing has been done about the oven."

Although some students at the end of their first year may want to experience the independence that living in a privately rented flat may bring, many would like to stay in halls because rent is cheap considering their central position and because of the social life that halls of residence bring. However, only a small percentage of second year undergraduates who apply for a place in halls succeed, and those who do have to meet strict criteria. The LSE has responded to the demand for places in halls by building High Holborn and Bankside during the past few years, yet the high rent charged to students for living in these "super halls" puts them out of reach of many students who because of financial reasons have to live in the more modest surroundings halls such as Passfield or Carr-Saunders.



Living in affordable LSE-residences is mostly not possible for Second Year students. Picture: Archives

Many would like to stay in halls because rent is cheap considering their central position and because of the social life that halls of residence bring.

The Union Online

Sari Rannanpaa, News Editor

The LSE Students' Union web site www.lse.ac.uk/union was launched last week. The pages are still under development, and they are to be expanded in the coming months to become a comprehensible store of vital information for all LSE students. The web site will contain UGM and Union Council agendas, the constitution of the LSESU and information on the functioning of the Students' Union. Each society will also have their own web pages, and photo libraries of LSESU will be created as well. The pages will also greatly assist the Athletic Union, as fixtures, results and tables will come online.

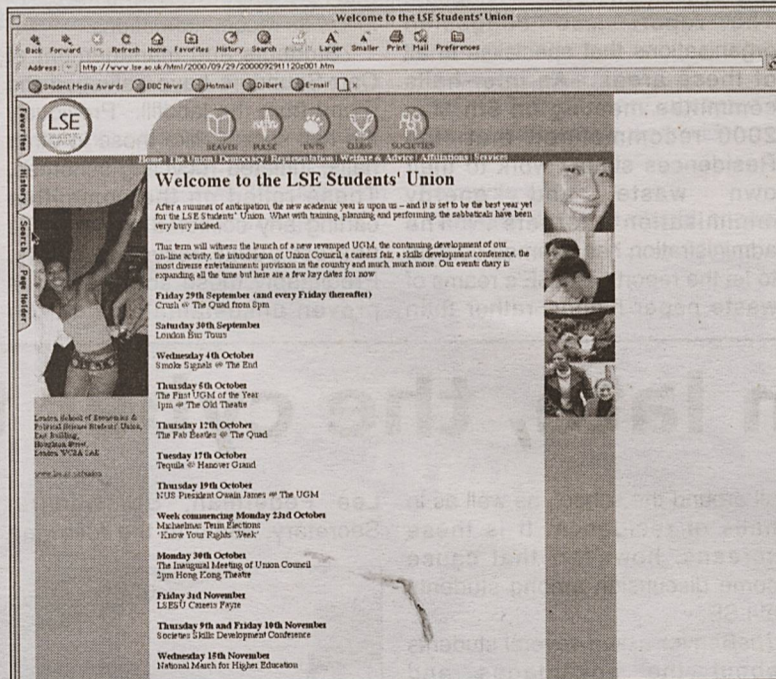
Another aspect to the project will be the development of e-

commerce sites with mail order catalogue for the SU shop and an accommodation database for house-hunting students.

Lee Federman, the General Secretary of the LSE Student's Union said that 'The key to the success of the new website will be its maintenance. Fortunately we have employed web scholars to update the site at regular intervals, and soon students involved will be given the necessary guidance to update their pages themselves.'

The societies will be given the necessary instruction to construct their own web pages during the Students' Union's inaugural skills development conference during week 6 of the Michaelmas term.

The move is a welcome one, bringing the SU into the information age at last. All that remains to be seen is whether the students will abandon hotmail for a few minutes to check it out.



www.lse.ac.uk/union

Picture: LSESU

UGM

Living democracy at LSE to many might seem like a slogan with little active connotation to it. However, there is one weekly event that makes one refute this theory: the General Meeting of the Students' Union. The UGM takes place every Thursday at 1 pm in the Old Theatre of the Old Building. Starting this week it normally lasts for about an hour and provides - apart from hot political debates - a certain degree of amusement.

TheBeaver would like to advise all students, but especially those who spend their first year at the School, to come along and get to know the Union, the main participaters in several debates, and most of all to join in the debates and find out about the "paper-throwing-ritual".

Maybe some of you will even have the privilege to become a member of the "balcony-gang" and cause the LSE-version of political riots.

What is more, there will be an election coming up at the Union General Meeting. Fat Bob, last year's legendary chairman, famous also for calling non-voters "fascist little shits", and Charlotte Knowles, last year's charming Vice-chair who has moved on to being treasurer of the Union, left two empty positions, which LSE-Students can now stand for.

New Career Magazine Hits The Union Stands

Espen Greig

The LSESU is to distribute a new weapon in the crusade to win the holy grail that is the golden career. Following in the vanguard of MIT, Harvard, and Wharton Business School, the Students' Union is to distribute over 3000 copies of 'MBA Jungle', a

brand new magazine devoted specifically to guiding both undergrads and post-grads in choosing their career paths.

Reaction from the Student body seems positive: "Many LSE students will inevitably work in the City, commented Lee Federman, the General Secretary of the SU. And at some point may be

encouraged to study an MBA. I think that this magazine will be a valuable resource to LSE students, serving to inform, educate and entertain students across the board.

The magazine promises to provide different insights to MBAs than those students may hear from their professors. MBAs are highly

valued commodities and not easy to get, and in an area where up-to-date and informed advice is crucial, the advent of a new publication will be obviously welcome, and hopefully MBA Jungle will give potential LSE applicants the edge needed to succeed in such a competitive market.

Abort, Retry, Fail?

Welcome to the LSE Internot

Alison L Perine

Freshers got a rude awakening to the wonders of the LSE IT department this weekend, when they discovered that the internet was broken - and no-one could tell them when it would be fixed.

New and old students alike wandered around C120 like lost sheep as they tried in vain to access their Hotmail.

"I promised I'd e-mail Mom to let her know how I was getting on in London" said Danette, a new General Course student. "I can't access my e-mail account because the LSE network is down, I can't ring her because I've got problems

with Campus Link, and no-one will tell me when the internet will be back up. I've never had this trouble getting on the internet at my College back home, and I've only been here a week!"

LSE's very own radio station, PuLSE FM, was one of those hit hardest by the internet disruption. "We broadcast via the web, and LSE's internet problems have shut us down" complained PuLSE's web guru, Siavush. "No-one can access our web site or live output, and we've been unable to broadcast since Friday."

The network connection broke some time on Friday night. Many students were frustrated that the entire IT department appeared to have disappeared for the weekend.

Students took to asking LSE Security for information on the breakdown: "We have no idea what's happening with the network - but we've had a stream of students coming up to us and demanding to know exactly what's going on. LSE has an IT helpdesk, but if it's shut all weekend, what's the point of it?" moaned one security guard. "David PS Dalby gave us a note at 7pm on Sunday night, but by that time it was too late - where was he all weekend?"

The network fault meant that students at home could not access their new timetables, causing long queues at the timetable terminals on Monday.

The Beaver managed to track down an off-duty member of the IT

helpdesk for comment: "Members of the IT department were in over the weekend trying to fix the problem" he said. By Monday, they had done so: the solution - a cable across the Strand and sharing Kings' College's backup connection. In other words, LSE's own connection is still faulty and one of the UK's premier academic institutions is relying on The-Poly-on-The-Strand's spare internet link. The high demands of web traffic being what they are, a second-hand connection is never going to be sufficient. As a result, LSE students found that the web was very slow on Monday, and PuLSE was forced off air.

On Sunday, The Beaver rang up Flo, PuLSE's Technical Wizard,

in Austria to see if he could diagnose the fault. "I've run a traceroute via America to try and connect to the network. The problem is that the data link between the LSE and JaNET [LSE's internet provider] is down, and it hasn't been fixed for 48 hours now. No traffic can get in or out of the School; These problems should be planned for, and you would expect such outages to be fixed within a matter of minutes. The money spent on the posh new timetable screens could have doubled the LSE's internet connection speed, and prevented this problem from ever occurring - instead we have to rely on Strand Poly"

Mad month gets going

Sib Hayer tells it like (he thinks) it is

Well, it's another year and another fresh batch of LoSErs. I was designated as the Chosen One to report on the week of Freshers.

I guess it all started pretty weakly for me at the alternative Crush... unless you like that bull they call music they played in the Quad... and unless you were one of THOSE aliens who were practising some kind of voodoo limbo out-of-body experience-style boogying. You know who you were. Everyone was looking at you. Best hid your face for the rest of LSE unless you want us all to laugh at you and call you names when we see you.

Also on Tuesday night was the gig at Sound. I went along of course, but my lady was declared too fit for entry (cause all sorts of

rival jealousy stuff with the others), so I left it out, not being able to go in without the lady of course. Anyway, my spies tell me it was trash and the usual hip-dislocatory business. I went off to Los Locos to orgy-funk the night away. It's a always good for a groupie laugh.

Wednesday brought Emporium, and some decent tunes on the dance floor. Usual multiple harassment of women (hostile takeover experience at least) and dudes drunk on the podium (hey Mukul). But hey, who didn't enjoy themselves (Anita, get some sleep next time woman).

A quick walk into the Westminster bar of Dragons (Thursday) and some hardcore hip and some hardcore girls left me knackered.

Cocktails at UCL on the same night was surprisingly decent downstairs in the jazz room with some spinning breakdancing and smooth vocals. Upstairs the RnB was alright, girls performing, as



The madness was overwhelming

Pic: MWB

usual (but next time I want 'satisfy you' played, yo DJ).

And what fun and frolics could the first Crush bring on Friday night? Even more beer bottles and plastic glasses on the dance floor (please return to M.Devichand),

but everything else was status quo. Yawn yawn. That's all you've got to look forward to for the rest of university life, LoSErs. Really. I hear Swansea Uni is kickin', however - ...

LSE Halls filled to bursting

Mukul Devichand, Co-Editor

Paul Trivett, head of LSE Accommodation, and his brave band in Clare Market were inundated this week as the waiting list for Halls reached epidemic levels.

Those hoping to get themselves installed in any vacant rooms were dejected to learn there were 600 people on the waiting list. Indeed, a significant number of 1st year undergraduates were without a place. They have priority over others in the allocation of new rooms.

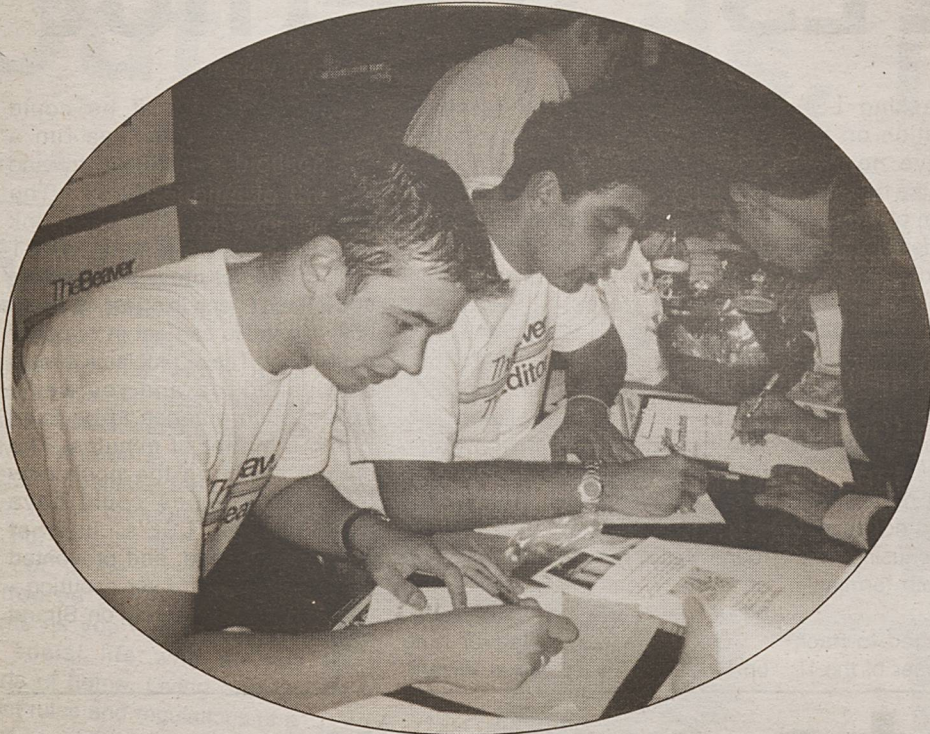
In halls themselves, room swap posters were as abundant as ever: an indicator that demand severely outstrips supply in LSE this year.



Wan't it nice of them to do this?

Pic: MWB

Well Fresh, Well Fair



**Editorial
 Campaigning
 at TheBeaver's
 stall**

Freshers' Fair attracted the attention of this year's new students. The following pictures serve as a reminder of what was happening last Thursday and Friday at this event.

The atmosphere (temperatures up to a billion degrees) of people handing out freebies to the extent that some of the Freshers could not even be bothered to receive presents anymore, societies hectically advertising for their purpose, tons of karies-provoking candy, and PuLSE radio heating up the ambiance even more by providing a program of steamy, funky, and rocky music, made the end of Freshers' week a remarkable venue.

Dive into the extrarodinary meltpot of LSE's social life one more time!

**Packed like
 cattle - but far
 less tasty
 in a burger.
 Freshers' Fair
 on Thursday**



**Increasing
 the PuLSE
 frequency:
 The radio station
 proved a magnet
 for the Freshers'
 interests**

DO YOU WANT TO...

...interview the LSE-crowd, make people speak their mind, make people's voice heard, present it in an interesting way, take lovely pictures of lovely men and women, have your own page in *TheBeaver*?

Turn to page 6 and see if you are interested in doing Word Up. Contact *TheBeaver* if you're inspired!

**"You will have our free
 CDs! You will have them!
 They are free! Have our
 free CDs! Have 'em!"**



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The Presentation for Postgraduate and International Students will be at The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2 on 12th October 2000 at 7.00pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Presentation for Undergraduate and British Masters Students will be at The Commonwealth Institute on 8th November 2000 at 7.00pm.

www.mckinsey.co.uk

WORD UP

Freshers' Fair, LSE-Societies Hunting For New Members
 News Editor Matthias W. Benzer took his camera and clipboard and asked:

What do you think of Freshers' Fair?

Nafisah Ermes, Second Year Geography



Freshers' Fair is informative, but a bit too messy. It needs to be more organised. I like the freebies, though and the vibes at the Fair are generally good. I also like the music at the PuLSE-stall and the multicultural atmosphere here. What's more, Freshers' Fair seems to be the only time when people are relaxed at LSE. I've so far joined *theBeaver* and the Islamic Society.

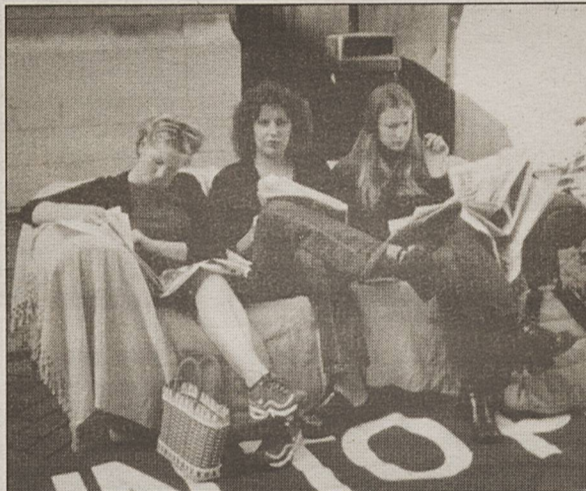
Cherkyl Weeks, First Year Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management



It is good to have everything you need here. You can sign up for clubs and meet people. It is also great to get offers for clubbing and stuff that helps you find your way around London. Every society under the sun seems to be here, everything you're interested in. Apart from collecting freebies and signing up for cards I have joined the Hockey Team.

Ric Wilding, First Year Law

It's been OK so far. Freshers' Fair is a bit intimidating, though, and very busy. I think it is an opportunity to get everybody to do lots of different stuff and that's definitely a good thing. I am going to join the Athletics Union and the newspaper.



Oliver Ranson, First Year Geography with Economics

It's too hot in here! I've joined the Debating and the Question Society, and the Christian Union. The Fair's quite noisy and a bit confusing, because for example the sports clubs are in an entirely different place than the others. But on the whole I like the environment at the School.



The Sofa Girls

Seen on Houghton Street throughout Freshers' Week - The Girls on the Sofa speak exclusively to *TheBeaver*;

"We are just too busy to go around the bustle of Freshers' Fair, we are simply going to sit down on Houghton Street and check out the new Fresher talent. So far we have not had any luck, but if any one is around at Crush, and thinks that they are up for it, please give us a shout! In the meantime listen to us on www.pulsefm.co.uk."



Nishta Jogoo, First Year Economics

There are times when Freshers' Fair gets too crowded and there is a lot of pushing and shoving. Maybe it'd be good - if the weather is good - to have it in the open. I've joined the Mauritian, Indian, Hindu, and Philosophical Society. I'm looking forward to joining *theBeaver* because I enjoy writing and participating in such activities.



T'Unt'Eet'Aat McKormick, Fourth Year Massaging

Fresher's Fair is an incredible Cocophony of diverse groups. You have the University of London Officers staring down at the Socialist factions, you see the Christian Union meeting the Islamic Society face to face, and many more exciting combinations. I have joined the Socialist Society and the Financial Markets Society. In order to get to grips with my sexuality I joined the Salsa Society



O Brother, Thou Shalt Not...

A Korean speaks; Claudia Junghwa Kim explores the reality of a peninsula still split in two. What does the future hold for the two brothers?

Summer 2000. Two old people crying and hugging. Featured on the front page of newspapers, nation-wide, for days and days and days...

A president, walking down the street, heading off to an official engagement. Waylaid by an old man, holding a picture, yellow with age.

A group of athletes, walking to applause, holding a single flag.

Students, trekking across the country: All 8 provinces in 40 days in the name of a good cause.

This summer may prove to be a landmark in the history of Korea. Huge, great steps were taken towards the unification of North and South Korea. The South Korean President Kim Dae-jung visited the North Korean leader in an historic meeting in the North Korean capital of Pyoung-yang. On his way to the airport, Kim Dae-jung was waylaid by an old man holding an old, crumpled photograph of his mother from more than 50 years ago whom he had not seen for all those years. He asked the President to please find a way for himself and many other people to be reunited with their family. International media had full access to the highly publicised, well-staged summit. In the following issue of Economist magazine, the reclusive North Korean leader Kim Jong-il graced the cover under the caption 'Hello Earthlings!'. The international media was pleased, the South

Korean media was pleased, political leaders everywhere were pleased, people were pleased and Kim Dae-jung's political party was ecstatic.

Now, imagine your typical North Korean... Or rather, the image that we typically hold of North Koreans.... He would look something like this: short, as all us Asians are short, right? and hungry, 'cause North Korea has featured most in the West as this starving nation in the Far East, and slightly insane, they have a dead person as their head of state (Kim Il-sung), and militaristic, although why I don't know as they are all supposed to be half dead with hunger, and brain-washed, as they are from one of the few remaining Stalinist states.

Now, as for the South Koreans... We're seen as: short again and surgically attached to our mobile phones and someone in our family has something to do with electronics and we either have lots of money and consider ourselves as nouveau-riche or we don't have much and drive a small Daewoo car.

It is ironic that in actuality, it is the South Koreans and North Koreans that know the least about each other, in terms of the 'typical' kind of person. That is the most tragic aspect of the situation in Korea: the amount of distrust and suspicion within the peninsula. Both sides have heard so many stories and propaganda that we do not know whom or what to believe. There is a



growing danger of each ceasing to think of the other.

If I sound quite cynical about the 'ground-breaking' summit meeting that took place this summer in Pyoung-yang, it is because breaking ground really does not do much. If you think of the typical North Korean and South Korean that we have drawn above, the summit does not change their lives in any respect. The North Koreans are not any better off and there has been no impact on the lives of the South Koreans.

On the 15th of August, a National Holiday when Korea was liberated from Japan in 1945, 100 people from North Korea who were natives of South Korea before the Korean War were

allowed to cross the infamous 38th parallel and be reunited with their families. It was a great occasion. But then, they all returned to the North after the reunion, which was a bit of an anti-climax, to say the least. There was an aged and infirm mother who had, throughout her life, held on to the hope that she may be reunited with her son who was conscripted by the North Korean army in their drive South during the Korean War. The mother and son, holding each other, eyes streaming with tears was the front-page photo on nation-wide newspapers for many days. It is heart-wrenching to think of what happened afterwards, after the photo had been taken and the joy turned again to sorrow as the son prepared to return again to the North.

Perhaps the best and also the worst aspect of the developments this summer is the atmosphere of huge optimism. It is the best aspect in the sense that hopefully there will be further developments which will be more concrete. It is the worst aspect in the sense that there was nothing truly concrete achieved and that the sense of optimism may allow the leaders to feel a false sense of security in 'a job well done'. At the end of the day, it is the political leaders that must take the smaller steps of concessions and co-operation for the hopes of reunification to be realised. It is not just the leaders of North and South Korea who must work toward this goal,

although they have the bulk of the responsibility. In this age of globalisation, which is something that I am not too eager to dwell on, the inter-connectedness of every state's fate has to be admitted. Other states who are related to the Korean peninsula such as the USA and Japan, China, just to name a few, must help.

Many students in South Korea have taken to the streets. Not in mass protests like there were in the turbulent days of the 70's and 80's but to calmly walk through all 8 provinces of South Korea and end close to the DMZ as a manifestation of their desire for reunification. We have also shown the world that we have taken steps by entering under the same flag, the reunification flag, in the 2000 Sydney Olympics. I do not want to belittle any of these efforts. Truthfully, I respect all the people who have partaken in these activities and made them happen. It is by far, more than I have done myself. However, I hope to see real developments and concrete results from the reunification process in the near future.

Are
you from Korea?
Are you interested in
Korea? Come along to the
LSE Korean Society AGM
on 10 Oct 6pm or e-mail
c.j.kim@lse.ac.uk

Next year

*we'd like to reward his
innovation and flair*



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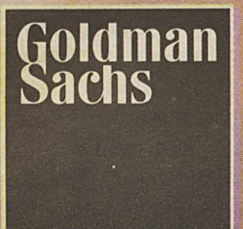
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Thursday 5th October

*LSE/Imperial
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Deans Yard
Westminster
6:30pm*

*Graduate Recruitment Firmwide
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register your attendance.*

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Radiohead - Photograph courtesy of EMI Music

b:active, b:involved, b:art

b:mad for it - Clubbing News

**b:aware - The architecture of
the Aldwych**

b:here - Radiohead's new album

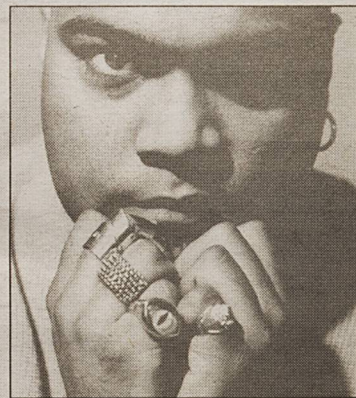
DRUM'N'BASS

MOVEMENT

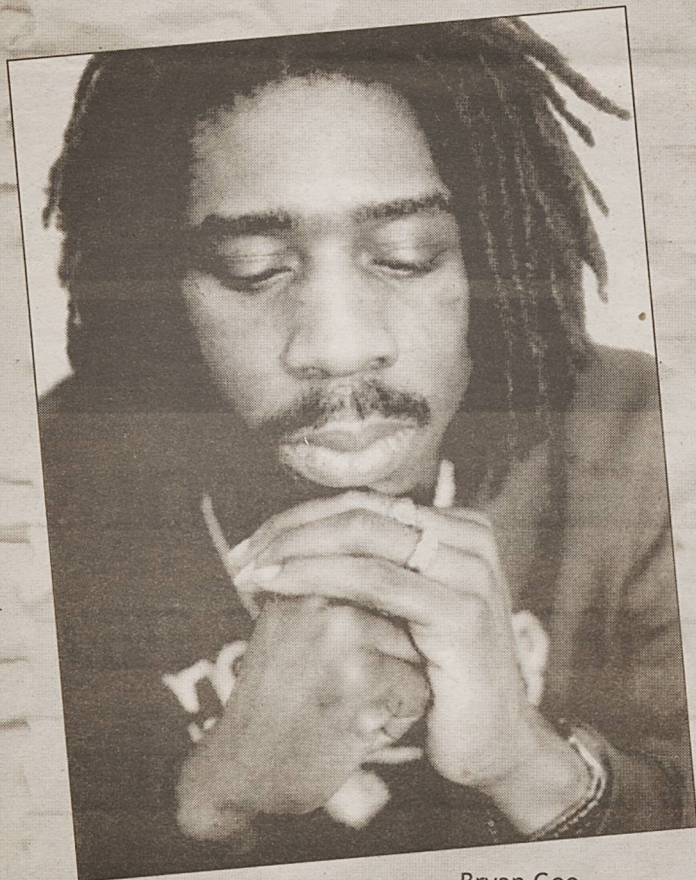
"Junglists are you ready???"

For over three years, Movement has been the capital's phattest drum'n'bass weekly night, always packed to the rafters with the most energetic, enthusiastic d'n'b headz around, screaming for the reload on the scene's hottest sounds of the minute, spun to perfection by regulars Bryan Gee, Ray Keith, Tonic, Brazilian supremo Marky, alongside MCs Moose, IC3, Fearless and Darrison, and joined by special guests such as bad boy Jumping Jack Frost, the godfather Grooverider and scratchmeister Hype. It may have sounded like an impossible feat to try and encapsulate the atmosphere and vibes onto an album, but they've only gone and f*cking done it haven't they?!!!

The album, entitled 'Movement: Perpetual Drum'n'Bass Motion' contains a absolutely wicked selection of classics mixed by Ray Keith while the one and only Bryan Gee digs into his record box to present tunes currently doing much damage on the drum'n'bass scene. The track listing is incredible: Total Science's remix of the hardcore anthems 'Dubplate' and 'Champion Sound', Digital's heavyweight 'One Ton', Krust's 'Kloakin' Devices', the dancefloor smash 'The Nine' from Bad Company and Shy FX's congo natty venture 'Bambaata, the laid back bubbler 'How You Make Me Feel' from Marcus Intalex and ST Files, plus future classics such as J Majik's awesome 'Love Is Not A Game' featuring the unmistakable vocals of Kathy Brown. For all the DJing crew, the vinyl sampler includes Souljah's amen rinse-out 'Fade 2 Black' and an 'It's Jazzy' remix from Roni Size. Unbelievably bad, and that's not even the half of it.



Ray Keith



Bryan Gee

If you've never been to Movement before there's no better time than this week when you can celebrate the album launch party TWICE in one week! The Bar Rumba launch party is on Thursday with a Ray Keith and Bryan Gee special, plus there's the monthly at Mass in Brixton with an incredible line up of Bryan Gee, Frost, Tonic, Ray Keith, Digital, Hype, Ed Rush, Supply & Demand, Ruffstuff, with MCs GQ, Moose and IC3, with special guest DJs and MCs on the night. See you there!

Movement weekly
Thursdays
@ Bar Rumba - 36 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1
8.30-3AM
£3 b4 10pm/ £4 members/ £5 NUS/ £6

Movement monthly
Every 1st Saturday of the month
Saturday October 7th - album launch
@ Mass - St. Matthews Church, Brixton Hill, SW2
9PM-6AM
£7 b4 10.30/ £8 NUS & members/ £10



BLACKMARKET RECORDS
DRUM'N'BASS CHARTS
Week ending Saturday 23rd
September

1. Lemon D - Planet V rmx (V)
2. Total Science - Dubplate remix (CIA)
3. Reel Time/Suv - Mine (Full Cycle)
4. Dylan - Plankton (Biotic)
5. The Dragon - Tai Chi (Poison)
6. Cool Hand Flex - Human Race (East Side)
7. Digital Nation - Flashback (white)
8. Ryme Tyme & Trace - Move VIP (1210)
9. DJ Daze - Religion (Armageddon)
10. Special K - Force 9 (white)

Calling all the raving massive!

If you want to write for b:art clubbing section, come and see
Jo (j.selioux@lse.ac.uk) in the beaver office (Co23) on Fridays
from 12.30 - 1.30 pm !!!

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VACATION: MON to FRI 9am-5pm

Breakfast 9am-11am: continental, traditional, and healthy options, special price reductions.

Lunch 11.45am-2.30pm: freshly cooked pizzas; jacket potatoes; pasta; stir fry/omelettes to order; international cuisine; fish and chips; lots of vegetarian choices; salad bar

Supper 4.30pm-7.30pm: An ever changing choice of hot dishes and snacks, salad bar.

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WEDS & FRI, 9.45am-4.45pm

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BEAVERS RETREAT BAR

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TERM TIME: MON to FRI 12noon-2.30pm & 5pm-9pm

VACATION: MON to FRI 12noon-2.00pm & 5pm-7pm

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SENIOR DINING ROOM

(Members only)

COFFEE BAR - MON to FRI, 10.00am-4.30pm

LUNCH - MON to FRI, 12.30pm-2.00pm

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This is the Winter of Our Discount Ents

Charlie Jurd brings you the lowdown on the gigs and tours dropping in on the capital this term



clash of dates for all none of those fans wanting to see both those acts.

It is not until mid-October that we will get the really exciting acts in London. The 16th sees **Roni Size** and his **Reprazent** collective returning to the live sphere with new material and a new live show that promises much if history is anything to go by. Responsible for pioneering live drum and bass with frightening immediacy a night of **Reprazent** live, with new angry single *Who Told You*, is a truly mouth-watering occasion.

To diversify a little how about sampling new UK and Irish indie rock heroes **Coldplay** at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on October 22nd or 23rd and **JJ72** at the University of London Union on October 19th and 20th - but be warned - tickets for these will be selling like the proverbial toasted pastries. **Toploader** also bring their radio friendly rock and pop stall to the capital on the 19th October to appear at the Shepherd's Bush Empire.

Other less publicised highlights could well come from **The Webb**

Brothers, playing at London's historic 100 Club in Oxford Street on the 12th October and **Soulwax** electro-rocking Camden's Electric Ballroom on the 25th October. Young grunge outfit **Llama Farmers** team up with **The Crocketts** to rock the Astoria LA2 crowd on October 13th too.

Granddaddy's 31st October outing at the Shepherd's Bush Empire promises much, their melancholic post-electronic psychadelia was a crowd pleaser at the Reading festival this summer and they are well worth devoting a chunk of your student loan towards. More established UK rock fare arrives at the same time in the form of **Placebo** (Brixton Academy, 31st

JJ72



October and 1st November), **Reef** (Shepherd's Bush, 2nd November) and **Mansun** (Shepherd's Bush, 4th November). But are these stalwarts of the late 90s music scene still up to it in the new millennium? One thing's for sure, **Paul Weller** and **James** show no signs of tiring, returning to put a bit aside to help with the winter fuel bills by playing at Earl's Court on the 4th November and **Brixton Academy** on the 8th November

present a somewhat different post-modern orchestrated soundscape of millennial madness at the Scala in King's Cross from the 19th November to the 22nd.

The Smashing Pumpkins also drop into the capital as part of their final ever tour on the 3rd and 4th of November. If you fancy getting tickets for the Wembley Arena dates I would consider either a sideline in prostitution or drug dealing as tickets will be somewhat difficult to come by. Ageing pop-punkers **Green Day** also drop in to the capital's Wembley Arena on December 8th to tour their new *Warning* album. It's an impressive autumn line-up I'll think you'll agree. Indeed, the musical ambassador is spoiling us with his Ferrerero Rocher of sonic delights.

ENTER *TheBeaver*

If you are an amazingly talented writer and have an embarrassingly encyclopaedic knowledge of music you exist only in my journalistic dreams. Everyone else who wouldn't mind getting some free CDs and gig tickets and writing reviews for the LSE's most looked at organ then e-mail **Charlie** (c.r.jurd@lse.ac.uk) or come along to *TheBeaver* office at 12:30 on a Friday lunchtime and leave your details.

If you had any doubts about coming to London to university, be reassured by the sheer volume of great music that will be resonating around capital this autumn. There's the return of monolithic rock acts whose royalty cheques are drying up (allegedly) such as **AC/DC** (Wembley, December 4th and 5th), **Motorhead** (Brixton Academy, October 22nd), **The Who** (November 16th) and **Hawkwind** (Brixton Academy, October 21st) but also the rising stars from the UK, **JJ72**, and US, **Queens of the Stone Age**, to look forward to as the nights draw in. Here's a few reasons why, if there isn't blood trickling from your ears come December 8th, you will have wasted the Michaelmas term.

If the excitement/alcohol consumption of Freshers' Fortnight has not left you a penniless and vomit stained agoraphobe you could do a lot worse than making your way to Kentish Town Forum on the 5th of October where **Elliot Smith** will be peddling his emotive brand of classic acoustic guitar led songwriting. Scots **The Delgados** are coming to the Royal Festival Hall on the 8th October to bask in the long overdue recognition given to their last album in this year's Mercury Prize Nominations.

Then its off to Wembley arena with the ear plugs and Praktika compact binoculars to get a good look at the results of **Britney Spears'** knee operation from the 10th to 12th of October. Fellow

Americans **Everclear** rock their post-grunge thang at the London Astoria Theatre on the 10th October - a worrying



respectively.

SINGLE SINGLE OF THE WEEK



Drugstore

I Wanna Love You Like a Man

The last time we heard from Isabel Motiero and her gang of latino indie kids, they were urging us to Kill the President, and their early stuff sounded like Throwing Muses produced by Steve Albini. In Buenos Aries.

Now they've dropped all the fuzzy guitars and shouty bits (so nineties darling) and are trying some surf guitar/piano stuff. It's OK, I suppose, but I can't be the only one who was hoping for a little more from the Y2K - why does everyone, even ex-grungers, want to sound like David Gray? Are we in a massive existentialist crisis that means we can only handle really soft quiet stuff?

So, yeah, it's cool, stick it on while you water the pot plants and fill in your mortgage application. I'm off to listen to Stiff Little Fingers.

6/10

Tom 'wisdom is wasted on the old' Livingstone

Bjork triumphant



Bjork is shattered after her latest run of tour dates

Picture : One Little Indian Records

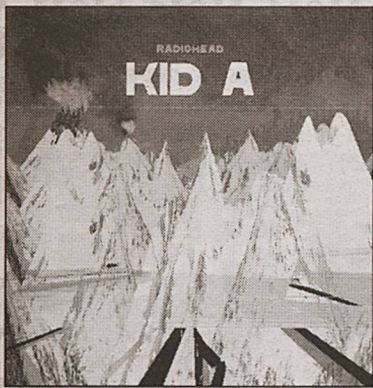
For any other popstar launching a film career would be a daunting prospect. Not so for our favourite Icelandic songstress. The album *Selma Songs* comes from the highly acclaimed *Dancers in the Dark*, the film that has made Bjork's cinematic debut a worldwide success on the serious film circuits.

The album is short, with only seven tracks in total, but the whole composition is beautifully formed. She launches the album with the song *Overture*, which is familiar territory for Bjork fans. Swelling orchestras compete with a distinct, almost mechanical beat.

It is this clash of cultures, the classical with the contemporary that makes Bjork's style stand out in an increasingly homogenised musical industry. Another key aspect of her success is, of course, her very distinct voice. Lambasted by some for being high pitched and indistinct, praised by others for being individual and dynamic, on this album it is perfectly lent to the song's composition.

Would I recommend this as a purchase? Any Bjork lover would be mad not to have this in their collection. It is almost a fusion of the best aspects of *Homogenic*, *Post* and *Debut*, previous hit albums. Anyone who is indifferent will probably not be swayed, however, as Bjork defiantly sticks to her distinct style

Here's Looking At You Kid A



The wait is over, Radiohead emerge from the studio with their fourth album proper but its Radiohead not as we know it. *Kid A*'s documentation of Radiohead's progression from *OK Computer* initially hides itself due to the ease with which one could immediately

latch on to the "traditional" Radiohead elements. This is somewhat ironic given that it materialises that it is the inverse position from which Thom Yorke writes; trying to express how much has changed in his world, the "fear" of the unknown which comes to dominate the album.

Everything In Its Right Place and *Kid A*, the title track, open the album in unconventional style but are notable merely for their lack of impact. Yorke almost challenges the listener to tolerate him further as his voice, and the whole soundscape, warps away into an ice-cream van slumber.

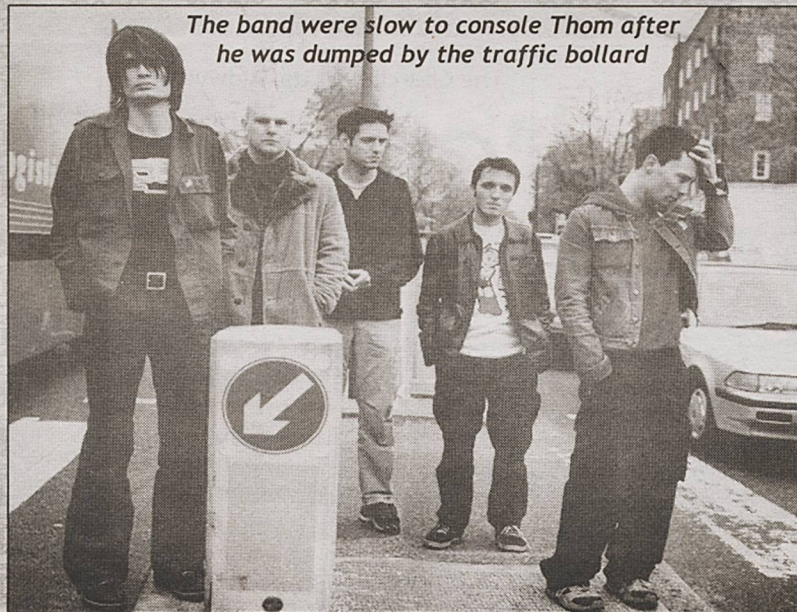
The National Anthem drags *Kid A* back on to more familiar Radiohead ground, the *OK Computer*-esque drums add unsettling rhythm to the probing bass line as Yorke's vocals are stalked by various wind instruments to a superb finale in which wailing trombone and stabbing saxophone wastes away to nothing. *Optimistic* too stands out, partly because of the, albeit-hazed, guitar laced structure and soaring drum-rippled-*OK Computer*-melodies.

"*Kid A*" is a new "experimental" side to the Radiohead legend. However one is being sucked in to Thom Yorke's post- *OK Computer* paranoid self-deprecation if one doubts their credentials as both mainstream rock act and experimental musicians. In truth the millennial Radiohead is experimentalism not single-handedly pressing hard at all sides of the rubber walled boundaries of rock music, as on *OK Computer*, but operating outside of those walls, beyond, even *OK Computer*'s, constraints. Unfortunately it is under these circumstances that *Kid A* must be judged, and as such it is impossible to see *Kid A* as the album, for music as a whole, we had hoped it would be.

Motion Picture Soundtrack, *Morning Bell* and *Kid A* failing to add meaningful impact to atmosphere as successfully as *Idioteque* which is a scathing, brilliantly arranged, two-step, attack on clublife with Yorke's haunting vocals at their most effective.

There is a certain sense too that Radiohead themselves are willing to make an orphan of *Kid A*; the new "proper songs" (a phrase notable for its naïve ability to justify musical ignorance) that the band previewed at their summer live shows are relegated from the album. *Kid A* was, from conception, a cloning project of Yorke circa mid-late 1997, its features are predominantly Yorke in character, its impressive foray into electronica the result of Yorke's muse. This further explains the relative lack of Yorke's vocals on the album, whilst "The Bends" and "OK Computer" were a man fronting a band, *Kid A* has no such need.

Usually albums generated from this kind of context are misunderstood at the time, only to be hailed as classics later on, or just fade away due to their sheer lack of quality. *Kid A* is destined to do neither, it was destined to be the bastard son but which has been tempered with legitimacy. There is a distinct lack of both quality and quantity but *Kid A* is nevertheless infused with Radiohead's temporal ability to move the listener.



The band were slow to console Thom after he was dumped by the traffic bollard

★★★★☆

Charlie Jurd

All on Aldwyck

words by Mukul Devichand

pictures by Ian Curry

b:art takes a look at one of London's most famous streets

Question: What's long, bendy and architecturally splendid?

Answer: The Aldwyck, of course.



Australia House/India House

The biggest island in the world has its link to its former colonial master here. So too for the world's second most populous country. All this makes the Aldwyck a portal to the wider world and a stop on the way home for Indians and Australians, both resident in Britain and passing through. Travellers, therefore, must often stop by the Aldwyck.

[and if none of that appeals, the square in front of India house is a nice place to eat your sandwiches]

The nation's most controversial civil legal battles are decided on the Fleet Street side of the Aldwyck, at the Royal Courts at the delta of Chancery Lane. The law is made here.

Its later Victorian architecture is much influenced by a Gothic revival that swept many of the institutions of the nation, most notably its legislative twin in the form of the Houses of Parliament at Westminster

Royal Courts of Justice

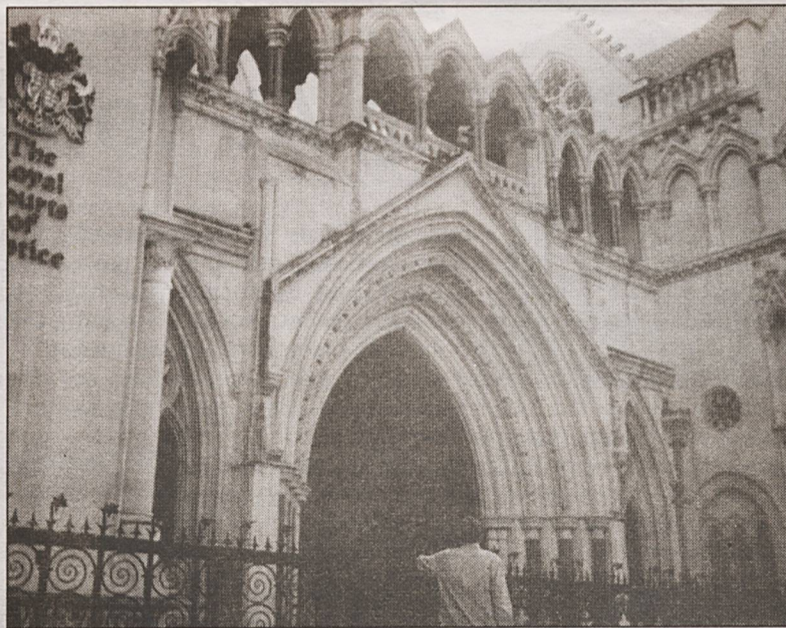


The curved promenade of the Aldwyck ranks as one of London's most interesting streets. Although only a short little affair, Aldwyck stands out as a London landmark. It screams out its unusual shape when viewed on a map. It's angle-less pillar-filled frontage is a testament to the Romanesque leanings of a colonial London. When London was the capital of the world, the Aldwyck with its slight curve and elegant feel was at the centre of London. The centre of the capital of the world. Aldwyck connects Fleet Street, the Strand and the Kingsway: that is to say, Aldwyck connects the City, West End and Legal District. Indeed between the overlapping universes of Commerce, Law and

Leisure runs the Aldwyck, the curved street that for so long connected the twin cities of London and Westminster

All the more surprising given that it was constructed on a slum clearance site. At the turn of the century the Aldwyck was declared a slum, and on its ruined island site the American entrepreneur Mr Bush decided to found a second trading centre for London. Step in Bush House and the familiar classical facade of the Aldwyck. Its real history and influence, however, span back over many more centuries.

[and if none of that appeals then well, it's a nice street anyway]



The Churches of the Aldwyck

God is well served by his houses on the Aldwyck. St Mary in the Strand and St Clement Danes both compete for the prize of the most attractive place of worship.

St. Mary in the Strand is the home church of the Women's Royal Naval Service, whilst St Clement Dane's own claim to fame is being the home of the famous bells, which chime their familiar peel every hour.

Any Danes at the LSE will be interested to know that the church has its historic roots in an ancient Danish settlement located on the edge of The City



Bush House

The towering twin pillars of Bush House at the head of the Kingsway stand elegantly as guards to the Aldwyck. Within, the BBC World Service broadcasts to an audience that is truly global. The world's first and only global listenership hear the sounds emanating from this towering monolith.

Bush House looks its best from the road junction in front from where, surrounded by a sea of traffic, LSE Students can daily see Bush house with the curved Aldwyck trailing off in either direction.

[and if that doesn't appeal, there's a really nice Italian cafe inside which you can access on the Strand side]

The old Strand Station, once a direct entry for the Aldwyck-going public, now closed and abandoned by all but the tramps.

Strand Station



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Beyond The Mandelson Facade

James Corbett takes a look at a recent biography of New Labour architect Peter Mandelson, which casts a fresh perspective on the controversial politician.

It was a year and a half ago when I first saw Peter Mandelson in the flesh. We were both walking down Whitehall, he in the opposite direction to me. I remember two things about him that day. The first was the extraordinary whiteness of his shirt: it was as if he'd stepped straight out of a Persil commercial into the heart of Westminster. The second was his bespectacled assistant Benjamin Wegg Prosser following ten yards behind him clutching an armful of files. I saw him again a few weeks later on College Green, opposite the Commons: his shirt still snow white; Wegg Prosser still following in his wake. I remember thinking how faintly ridiculous, arrogant even, that Mandelson should seemingly treat his assistant in the same manner a colonial master might have treated his servant boy a century ago.

Those two brief sightings added to the impression I had garnered from the media of the vainglorious Mandelson. He was the man who'd used dirty money to secure a W11 address, who was most at home at Prince Charles' 50th birthday bash or with his pals Elle McPherson and Elisabeth Murdoch. When Rupert Murdoch was reported to have described him as a 'starfucker' nobody ran to his defence. To many his social status was the epitome of New Labour's brand of champagne socialism. To others though, he was a more sinister figure. He was the Machiavellian pulling the strings at the top end of the government. He was undoubtedly

one of the 'people in the dark' a fellow minister had once publicly berated. Another parliamentary colleague even admitted, "he may be a bastard, but he's our bastard." For one so accomplished at polishing the image of the Labour Party, his own could have done with a bit of a makeover.

His dubious reputation hadn't been helped by the publication earlier that year of 'Mandy' a biography by a writer who had once boasted that he was going to 'kill' Mandelson. That book: brief, brash and tabloid had brought out

To say that Peter Mandelson saved the Labour Party is to overstate his case... but along with Brown and Blair, he formed a triumvirate intent on fully modernising it

the revelation that Mandelson had borrowed £373,000 in 1996 from his colleague Geoffrey Robinson. The loan, used to buy a Notting Hill house, had not been declared on the parliamentary register of interests and caused a clear conflict of interest when the DTI, which Mandelson was heading at the time, were investigating Robinson's business interests. The exposure of the loan led to Mandelson's resignation as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, but also overshadowed the publication of another biography of Mandelson by the Independent journalist Donald MacIntyre. Taking a more academic and balanced line it received rave critical notices but had to be withdrawn from sale after a libel threat from one of the book's sources.

Eighteen months on, thoroughly revised and updated, MacIntyre's book has been deservedly reissued (*Mandelson and the Making of New Labour*, Harper Collins, £6.99). It looks at the many faces of Mandelson -

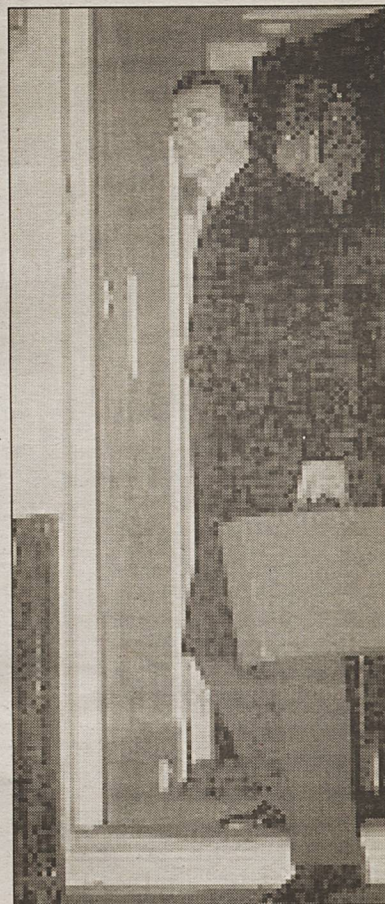
The Machiavellian; The sleaze merchant; The spin meister; and finally The Statesman - and leaves it to the reader to conclude which one fits the portrait MacIntyre strikingly paints. His book certainly did much to change my conception of the man. In amongst the glut of books about the current government published over the past three years, MacIntyre's superbly crafted and meticulously detailed offering stands head and shoulders above the rest of the pack. This is not just because of its obvious scholarly merits but because it is as much about an age when the Labour Party was led from disarray to one of the greatest electoral majorities ever witnessed as it is about the man who was undoubtedly at the heart of it.

to say that Peter Mandelson saved the Labour Party is to overstate his case though. Much has been written about his family's political heritage, his famous grandfather and his mother's friendship with Harold Wilson's wife, Mary, but his parents were apolitical and the young Mandelson had little contact with Morrison. Later, after a brief flirtation with the Young Communist League, he became a Labour councillor in Lambeth at 26. Six years later, in 1985, he was appointed Director of Communications fresh from a job with LWT. It was a meteoric rise, and perhaps speaks more about the parlous state of the Labour Party at the time - that they were willing to appoint an untried 32 year old into a key position - than it does about Mandelson's own abilities. Nevertheless he overhauled their, by today's standards amateur, communications department bringing in the now famous press monitoring unit, adopting the sophisticated techniques of the advertising guru Philip Gould and later by targeting 'key constituencies' and using focus groups. At the same time he saw and relentlessly made the case for the modernisation of the party. The 1987 General Election campaign was by Labour Party standards a famously slick and professional affair, but voters still felt threatened by the 'loony left' element who had plagued the Labour Party

throughout the early eighties. One of the most frequent criticisms of the modern day Labour Party is that they are all style and no substance, but 1987 was conclusive proof that style without substance will lead to defeat.

Mandelson continued in his role as Director of Communications but, three years later, abandoned the post as he sought a parliamentary seat of his own. He got this in the 1992 General Election in Hartlepool. By then he had formed, along with Gordon Brown and Tony Blair, a triumvirate of Young Turks intent on fully modernising the Labour Party. The death of the party leader, John Smith, two years later catapulted Blair to party leadership and Mandelson to fully-fledged national prominence. While it ensured the transformation of the Labour Party it came at a price: the now notorious rift between Brown and Blair and Mandelson. MacIntyre centres on the rift between Brown and Mandelson, crushing the myth that it was Mandelson backstabbing Brown that led to Blair and not Brown becoming leader. Such an argument was facetious anyway; it lends too much importance to Mandelson and miscasts him as kingmaker. Rather he was placed in an impossible conflict of loyalties: his two closest political friends were pitched against each other to be leader the Labour Party, who should he back? In the end he went 'with the flow created not by him, but by the polls, the press and an increasing number of named Labour figures.'

From then on it was Brown who refused to speak to Mandelson; Brown's aides briefed against him and ultimately it was one of Brown's political allies who tipped off a journalist to the loan scandal. In many ways this whispering has cast Mandelson as a serial pantomime villain and ensured that it will be difficult, if not impossible, for him to rise to a more senior



Mandy Pandey

Pic: Arcs

cabinet position.

Yet so long as Blair is at Downing Street his influence, seen or otherwise, will continue to be hugely important to the Government. It is no coincidence that the Labour Party's current annus horribulus has come when Mandelson has been fully occupied in Ulster. If the government is out of touch with the people, as is so often being claimed, then the people it could be argued, are out of touch with the government. Where Mandelson is at his best is bridging that gap, at least in the media's eyes, between the public's aspirations and the government's limits. Perhaps it will take Mandelson's full time return to Westminster to again bridge that gap.

You can contact James at J.Corbett@lse.ac.uk

He was undoubtedly one of the 'people in the dark' a fellow minister had once berated. Another parliamentary colleague even admitted, "he may be a bastard, but he's our bastard."



The W11 Resident Pic: Arcs

Drinking pints with Poles

Huw Williams spent eight months studying and travelling in Poland: he found the country to be staunchly European in this era of rapid change

The most frequent response to my decision to study in Krakow for a year was "why Poland?", or some other, more colourful phrasing to the same effect (you know who you are- Mason). That I couldn't actually come up with a straight answer did nothing to inspire anybody's confidence in my decision, including my own. Although I am still unable to answer the same question, I can definitely say it was 8 months well spent.

My first day went a long way to allaying any fears I held; having had some of the usual in-flight banter with my Polish neighbour about the origins of the pink thing known as pudding. Once in Poland, she proceeded to take me all the way to the station, got my ticket and waited an hour before she could put myself and my luggage on the train. Then, using our combined charades expertise my next travel companion and I had what must have been the longest four sentence conversation

Now they have the chance to make up for those lost years, to once again establish themselves at the "Heart of Europe"

bar none. I think he fitted tyres...

These two were indicative of the Polish I was to meet over the next eight months. (except the bank clerk who seemed to react to my appearance like I was her personal recurring nightmare). Friendly, concerned and always good for a laugh.

Travelling across Poland in a train is a novel experience, not least because of the old style carriages with their compartments, giving you that feeling of being in Bond film. Unfortunately that feeling tends to wear off at two in the morning when, rather than having a blond called Busty as your travel companion, there are two drunks, one practicing their German and the other rummaging through your bags in search of sustenance. The other shock is to see just how flat Poland is, the majority of its land mass lying on the Great Northern Plain, and seeing it makes it easy to understand how the country has been a battle ground for centuries.

And to understand this history is, to a great degree, to understand the mentality of the Poles. Some of its past has been glorious, its best days being at the height of the Jagiellonian empire when, together with Lithuania, their territories stretched from the Baltic to the Black Sea. This period is overshadowed by a whole century. Poland was wiped off the map for nigh on a century, being shared amongst the Russians, Prussians and Austrians. There followed a



The intrepid explorer himself

Pic: the intrepid explorer

brief period of independence in the interwar years, before once again being stripped of their self determination, dignity and freedom under the yolk of Communism. And now they have the chance to make up for those lost years, to once again establish themselves at the "Heart of Europe" and utilize their pride, ambition and determination. Rightly they perceive themselves as an elemental part of Europe with a shared history which almost half a century of Communism did not succeed in eradicating.

This shared history is what struck me most the first time I walked from Krakow train station and through the old town. Unfortunately, Polish train stations belong to that era where town planners stuck them in locations where they rapidly took on the atmosphere of an armpit. This squalor however, only heightened the sense of elation at seeing the architecture in the old town - the churches, the main square, the Cathedral, the Castle and the Cloth Hall - in all my time there, these

never ceased to take my breath away every time I took a minute to appreciate them. This didn't feel like part of the ex-soviet bloc, many of the drab concrete blocks outside the old town made it unmistakably so, but at the core, Krakow is comparable to Vienna, Berlin, and many other great European cities.

But aside from this splendour Krakow is also a great cultural city; music, museums, galleries, cafes, and pubs - lots of them, over 350 in a couple of square miles in fact. Combine this with the 24 hour licensing hours and yes, it's dangerous. The drinking capabilities of the Poles are testament to this. What was more frightening was the potential for us, the foreign students. Teaching and study seeming to be of little consequence to our teachers once the fees were paid (which I was used to as an LSE student...). Hence, as the exchange rate was favourable, drinking took on a whole new dimension. Add to this the Polish capability for unadulterated fun and the local ladies (beer goggles not required), this was a recipe that couldn't fail. Not quite grasping the local lingo also seemed to work in my favour as I discovered that without talking as much, I had less chance of revealing myself as a gibbering idiot, thus increasing my success rate. In my case the language barrier seems to have been the ability to talk...

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Editorial

Well, what a busy week! The corridors of the LSE and the cobbles of Houghton Street have reverberated to the patter of new feet as the Freshers descend on our well loved campus. After many months of quiet it was a welcome change to see so many new and familiar faces.

Freshers' Week had every appearance of being a big success. Having worked many of the main nights, I can personally attest to the busyness of the Union's entertainment venues. But it was not only in beer swilling and general merriment that the Freshers indulged. This years Fresher's Fair was a huge success, with the milling herds having the opportunity to join more societies than they could shake a stick at, if they wanted to shake a stick at a society.

PuLSE and *TheBeaver* led the way in producing a stall that saw the enlisting of over 700 members between the two societies. I would like to thank all the people who gave up their time and sanity to work on the stands. Even more thanks have to go to the editors who have given their time to work on this issue. Without their help, even more than usual, this issue would have been but a twinkle in the proverbial eye.

Not only was Freshers' Fair a huge success, but the Entertainments events for this years' Freshers were so far a huge hit. The first Crush in months lived up to its name, being so packed that the atmosphere was literally electric. Lots of fun for those enjoying the night, not as much fun for those of us working!

However just because Freshers' Week is over with, don't feel left out or as if you have missed the boat. Get involved. Get interested. If you want to join a society, then do. They want you probably more than you want to join!

As I am writing this we have just held the collective meeting for the Beaver. This was the first of the new academic year, and hopefully we have seen laid out before us the rising stars that will bring new vitality and blood to the paper, and help us raise it to new heights. If you missed this meeting, but are still interested in writing, don't hesitate to come on down to our meetings, to be held weekly in the Beaver office at 1pm on Fridays, or alternatively contact any of us by e-mail. We will be more than happy to include you in our merry band!

Ian D. Curry
Editor
TheBeaver

correction

In the tribute to Morris Perlman we mistakenly referred to one of his sons as David, when in fact he is called Nathan. We apologise wholeheartedly for this mistake.

Letters

The LSE mission is clear; 'to be a world class university centre of the social sciences in the heart of London'. Many would argue that this mission has already been achieved. The question now is how will it be sustained?

Over the coming months the school will be reviewing its long term strategic position and asking itself some fundamental questions. How can it offer the best and most competitive range of academic courses? How can it retain its supremacy in teaching and research, with other top universities breathing down its neck? Should the school form any academic or corporate alliances, as is the trend in other leading institutions? How could the school be restructured to optimise the use of its scarce resources?

The word 'restructuring' worries me greatly, as does recent talk by politicians of government deregulation.

No matter how hard we try, we cannot escape from the fact that top-up fees are a very real threat at the LSE.

To some extent LSE already bares all the traits of a privatised university. With the introduction of 'tuition fees' all student are now paying consumers. Some 75% of



Gen Sec's
Column Inches

these students are paying close to £10 000 per year as international or postgraduate students. This leaves the remaining minority of Home / EU undergraduates in a very vulnerable position indeed.

Governmental support for the social sciences has dwindled in recent years and this pattern looks set to continue. Nearly half of LSE's income comes from academic fees, while less than a quarter comes from the government. The rest of the money comes from fundraising, entrepreneurial activity and other services. While all of these



Baker's Mullet

THIS WEEK I 'ah been mostly eating my words. Just as I had sarcastically told Amar that he knew how to throw a good party when the Quad was empty at 8pm; the place became packed.

At the start of last Tuesday's welcome party I thought that this years "Crush" would have to be renamed to "As much room as you want." Well done Amar it was good to see Le Grand Fromage back again with his crazy A-Ha antics.

As much as that was a great party the trips to clubs in Fresher's Week must have had their day. It's the same old story, everyone in the queue has a ticket yet they can't go in.

Wednesday night was rubbish. It was pissing down and the queue was huge for the Emporium, coupled with the surly bouncers and ridiculous prices it made for rather a shit night.

All credit to the Ents team though because these problems happen year in year out. We pay for a ticket, get told to wait outside and end up spending a week's rent buying a can of Hofmeister and a pack of fags. Trying to get pissed in these clubs costs an arm, a leg and quite possibly a full head of hair.

initiatives have been successful, they are not nearly enough.

Many other UK universities receive nearly half of their income from the government, and so are able to cross-subsidise courses in the social sciences. LSE is unable to do this.

While other more traditional British universities, would not be wrong in expecting total uproar from the student body at the thought of introducing top-up fees, LSE may expect relative calm from the overwhelming minority, as the right to Higher Education is lost forever.

As a Union we must continue to fight for what is obvious and what is right. We must raise awareness of the implications inherent in these 'restructuring' proposals, and bring the student view back into the debate. There are certain realities that we cannot escape from. Postgraduate fees are too high. International students should not continue to subsidise Home students - this should be the job of the government. Top-up fees would inevitably lead to a two-tier Higher Education system, and access for many would be denied.

These are the realities - let the battle begin.

Surely with the budget LSESU has we should be able to get some proper decent offers on in these clubs instead of rubbish ones. There should be no need for us to wait 45 minutes (after pushing in halfway down the queue) in the rain and no need for the kind of abuse we have come to expect from the monkeys on the door.

It would also be helpful if we had maps to direct us to these clubs, it's no good telling us that the Emporium is at Oxford Circus tube when you have to walk halfway to Hull to get there.

Again, my moans aren't directed at Amar or the rest of the Ents team, in fact I think Amar will be the best Ents sabb we've had since Hatton. But things must change, new ways have to be discovered to cope with the same gripes we have every year.

Well done though to Ents and the rest of the Sabbs for a terrific effort over fresher's week, the fair was perfectly organised, and despite my moaning above the entertainments have been sweet. We should all buy the sabbs a beer. Except for me though because I'm skint after going out last Wednesday.

Angry? Annoyed? Enraptured?
Overjoyed? Have Your Say on articles
in *TheBeaver*

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TheBeaver - The Voice of the LSE

TheBeaver

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Is your name missing? Contact the editor if you have written in three separate editions of *TheBeaver*

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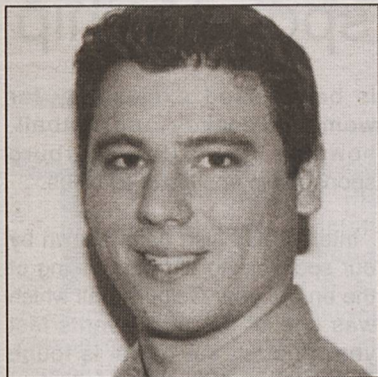
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All letters for printing should be received by Noon on the Thursday preceding publication.

The Nine Lives of the Athletics Union

J.B.Brom and Conor McNally reveal all in this year's AU Exec

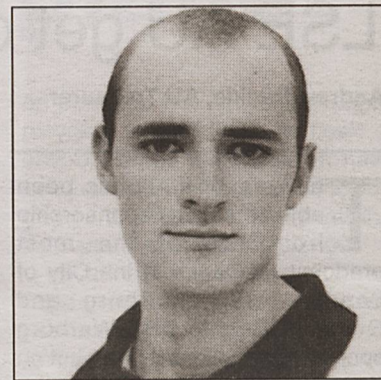


Nick Wogan
AU President

Also known as Terry (for obvious reasons), this is the man, the top gezer you want to see for anything about sports. Something of a footballer / pornstar, he can be seen haunting the Tuns on many a nights.

Andrew Buckle
AU Treasurer

Official mystery man of the AU, as most people don't know his real name. Legend has it he got his broken nose after a fierce encounter with a great white in Australia, although his close friends know it comes from trying a diving header on a hockey ball.



Jon Milsted
AU Secretary

It is rumoured this man plays hockey, although most would argue his time is spent slurring comically or repainting the toilets on a drunken Friday evening. Most girls out there will have met him already, but let me assure you, he can hold a decent conversation when sober.

Anna Foster
AU Events

Token bird to brighten up the meetings. You'll definitely see her around at those great parties to be organised. Bear in mind these two words: AU Barrel (no that's not a fat rugby player, but the ultimate sports party where we're legally entitled to go mad).



What can I say, but congratulations. For all of those of you who made the immense effort to trek down to the Old Gym to sign up for sports, worry not, you will be rewarded. Its seems like yet another fascinating year at the LSE with high flying athletes joining the various clubs. Hopefully for all of you, the trials that took place over the weekend

were not too painful and did not trouble your beauty sleep. Although this is going to the press this Friday night, I can assure you the team captains will have had to deal with numerous winges, gripes and shouts of "oh god that fifteenth pint in the Underground last night must have been seriously dodgy - sorry mate I can't run or do anything in the least bit tiring".

There you go, it is a difficult, but make sure you make the effort to train in those first few weeks to get a place in the squad. OK enuff of the boring stuff now....

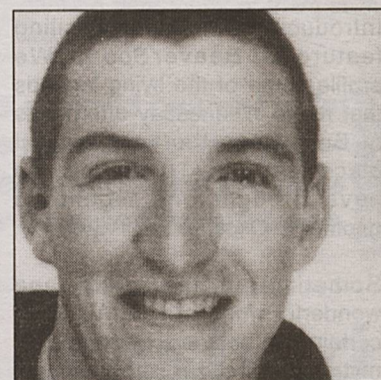
Introducing (drums, tadadum) this years AU Executive. If you didn't pick up a booklet at the Fair, this is a quick summary of who we are and what we'll do for you guys during this year.

JB Brom
AU Communications

Godlike figure admired and revered throughout the Union. Crafty Frenchman with phenomenal rugby playing abilities coupled with an amazing good looks who denies any guilt in writing this article. NB *TheEditor* would like to add a slightly ego deflating note - if JB speaks like this again, we will have to remind him that he is a garlic crunching, stripy shirt wearing Frenchie!

Conor McNally
AU Club Liaison

For those of you who are club captains this is the man you want to see. Lives in Wales in a hut on the moors for most of the time, but has been on a two year vacation at LSE to learn about civilisation (and economics). Learnt his great tackling techniques in Gaelic games with his Irish cousins.

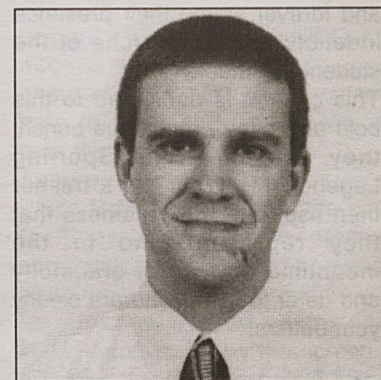


Sarah Breaks
AU Admin

Pillar of strength within the AU, Sarah is really the Top Dog, Big Cheese. Knows everything necessary about sports at LSE she is the person to see in case of any problems that might occur. Taking maternity leave now in preparation for the arrival of "Baby Breaks".

Richard Clayton
AU Admin

During the Sarah's absence (maternity leave) he is the Don. King of the Mountain, Ruler of the Underworld, his realm extends from his office to the gym and the sports ground. Extremely sociable, especially with a pint in his hand.



Pictures (from the top)

Nick Wogan - AU President

Jon Milsted - AU Secretary

JB Brom - AU Communications

Sarah Breaks - AU Admin

Aren't they a lovely bunch?

"Baby Breaks"
AU Mascot

Already one of the most well known members of the AU! Currently just a small, round football-like object, (with a passion for recreating Steps dance moves - Tragedy!), rumour has it that one hell of a sports God will emerge soon. Like the top baby it is, it already has it's first LSE rugby jersey; we all wish Sarah the best, and look forward to seeing both her and baby at Easter.



Pictures (from the top)

Andrew Buckle - AU Secretary

Anna Foster - AU Entertainments

Conor McNally - AU Club Liaison

Richard Clayton - AU Admin

But are these even lovelier?



This year's AU exec -
profiled inside
BeaverSports

BeaverSports

A Golden Haul

LSE AU get off to a flying start with this year's bumper sponsorship

Andrew Buckle, AU Treasurer

This year the AU has been able to secure sponsorship from two of the most predominant banks in the City of London, UBS Warburg and Goldman Sachs. UBS Warburg sponsored the AU last year, but on a much smaller scale than the forthcoming year. In fact, the year will see a considerable increase for the AU as a whole. UBS Warburg were more than willing to continue its relationship with the LSE AU and give us more money to fund the clubs and subsidise its

members. You will also probably have seen many of the freebies that were given out over the Freshers' Fair, a random selection of Yo-Yo's, mouse mats and pens. Goldman Sachs are our new sponsors for women's sport, that is, women's hockey and netball. They did not have a stall at the Freshers' Fair but they did have many freebies to hand out, mainly including the most powerful mints in the world! So anyway, what does this all



UBS Warburg and Goldman Sachs - Proud Sponsors of the LSE AU

Goldman Sachs

mean for the AU as a whole?

It means that we have a larger budget to use for the running and improvement of the AU for all of its members. This is particularly useful with the increase in fixtures and games due to the restructuring of BUSA and ULU. The sponsorship money will be used on a variety of aspects mainly including transport, kit for teams and new equipment for the old and new gym. The sponsorship from Goldman Sachs

is being used exclusively for women's hockey and netball, however the UBS Warburg sponsorship applies to all clubs.

Interest has also been shown by our sponsors to aid the funding of the end of year Colours Ball which was one of the best events last year (though the barrel is tough competition). With the addition of the Welcome party this year, things are definitely looking up! We will undoubtedly see the benefit that this sponsorship gives the AU throughout the forthcoming seasons and take part in a successful year for LSE sport!!

Introducing Charterhouse

Introducing a new and exciting feature for **BeaverSports**. We profile some of the living legends that make Wednesday afternoons at Berrylands the very special place that it is. To kick off, we have brought one legend to another ... Oscar - take it away!

Sometime in the weird and wonderful world of LSE AU sport certain characters achieve a near mythological status, they become heroes and villains of the school and forever stamp their presence indelibly into the psyche of the student community!

This column is dedicated to this bold and often outrageous bunch, they are the LSE Sporting Legends™. If you are a fresher then aspire to the greatness that they represent and in the meantime bow down gracefully and defer to those who are clearly your betters!

Legend number 1 : Charterhouse

alias Pete Drewienkiewicz

Degree subject:
Philandering, Pornography and Economics (PPE) to those who didn't get into Oxford.

Occupation:
Stripper, Pisshead, Tuns Barman,

Rugby Player and sometime student.

Hobbies:
Whoring, Vice, Streaking, Philandering and alcohol

consumption.

Favourite party trick:
The amazing Pubic Inferno™ that is to say the spectacular setting on fire of ones own nether regions!

Favourite Credit Card:
"My trusty Mastercard, accepted in overpriced brothels worldwide"

Favourite totty:
"Anyone drunk or stupid enough

to fall for my dubious charms."

Favourite sayings:
"What are you, some sort of cunt or what?" "Do you know who my daddy is?" "Bring it on laughing boy see what happens!"

Favourite drink:
"Any kind of monster as long as its not mixed by my idol Oscar Kent."

Finest hour:
The Houghton Street Streak™ need I say more.

This years ambition: "To continue to try, unworthy as I am to emulate the Mythical and Omnipotent Oscar Kent"

Future Occupation: "I exist only to serve and study the philosophies as laid out by my Lord and Master Oscar Kent though I may have a go at being a pub landlord if he lets me!

Well there you have it a brief introduction to one of the greatest chaps in the Tuns, makes a bit of a prat out of himself now and then, but he always gets the beers in and we love him for his antics, emulate him at your own risk!

Well, there you have it, another living legend to add to your collection! Stay tuned for more next week.



One of the proudest moments in the life of a young Charterhouse

Picture : Brave