

BEAVER

NEWSPAPER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS STUDENTS' UNION

No. 198

FEBRUARY 25th, 1981

'I WOULD BE ON RENT STRIKE TOO' -WHELDON

BY PETE CROCKFORD AND SU DELEGATES

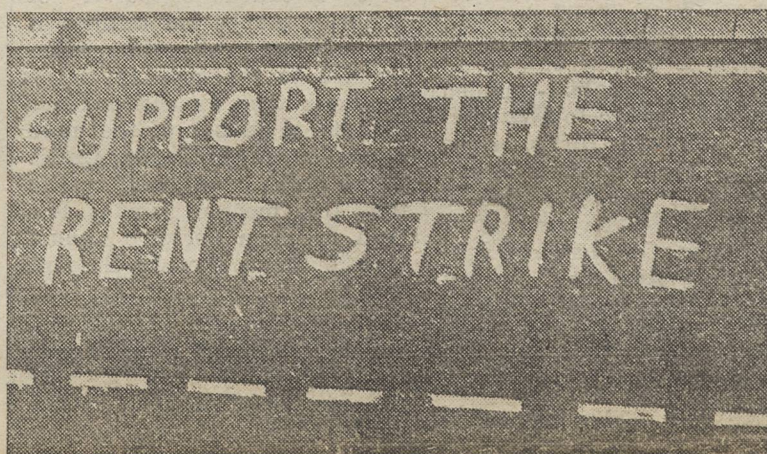
MEMBERS of the Standing Committee (of the Court of Governors) met a delegation from the Rent Strike Committee on Tuesday, February 17th, to discuss the Rent Strike and receive the petition of over 700 supporters of the Rent Strike. At this meeting the three delegates outlined the reasons for the Rent Strike: the 23.5% increase in rents was higher than the increase in both grants and inflation; that 53% of the grant goes on Hall rents and this is an unreasonably high proportion.

The delegates said they regarded decent and reasonably priced accommodation as a pre-requisite for and an integral part of a higher education. By pricing Halls beyond the means of many students the School will be unable to claim to be a "centre of Academic Excellence".

The Rent Strikers suggested that since the School had shown in the past year its ability to raise funds for various projects, e.g., the Library, now is the time to use similar methods to maintain a realistic level of Hall fees.

The Governors dismissed the idea that they had more money to fall back on with regards to accommodation. Since reserves are needed for possible difficulties next year and claimed that they are subsidising rents to the maximum level permitted by UGC regulations. Exactly what the level is, is a matter of some speculation since quoted figures varied between £150,000 and £200,000 in the course of the discussion. Mr Sinclair (Dean of Undergraduate Studies) commented "when I see you three delegates sitting opposite, I see £900 worth of subsidy." Mr Pyke (Secretary for Finance and Administration) suggested that students should apply to the Hardship Fund, but he did not see that the difference between the increase of 23.5% and the grant increase of 14% could possibly be so great as to cause any hardship.

The delegation asked about the proposed paving of Houghton Street at a cost of £53,000. Sir Huw Wheldon said this project would only be undertaken if outside finance was obtained and at the same time rejected any proposal of seeking similar finance to further subsidise the Halls.



Picture by Simon Grosset

Sir Anthony Part asked the Rent Strikers for "constructive suggestions as to how savings could be made with regard to services provided in Halls," the delegation said detailed accounts would be needed before they could comment.

Intimidation

The Governors denied all knowledge of intimidation of Rent Strikers by Hall Wardens and promised to look into the matter. They further stated that they wished to see the problem settled internally and were not considering issuing summonses.

The meeting proved to be fruitless. The delegation feels this can be attributed to the way members of the Standing Committee see the students as stark figures on a balance sheet, not human beings faced with real hardship over which they have control. The seriousness of their attitude towards the delegation can be judged from the way the Chairperson of the Standing Committee asked a delegate: "What do you think sonny?"

Later on in the evening the question of the Rent Strike was on the agenda of the joint meeting of the Standing Committee and the Student Governors.

Hardship

Sir Huw Wheldon (as Chairperson) reported on the meeting with the delegation stating that the SC had noted the petition and had heard a well considered and clear statement of the case for lowering the rents. However, he said that everyone in the School was facing financial hardship. The S.C. would refuse to use finance from the Rockefeller Fund to lower the rents as it is the only endowment policy the School has and the School found it very useful for a number of purposes. Using it up would mean that the School could not

look into the question of extra accommodation.

Wheldon claimed that LSE was always careful to handle the welfare of students properly and that if "people were really up against it" the School would be responsive. However, no financial promises were made. Whilst he emphasised that the School wished to see the question resolved internally without recourse to the Courts, he added that from the view of the SC, the Rent Strikers would eventually "have to pay their debts". I am not surprised that students are on rent strike. I would be doing the same if my grant had gone up 14% and my rent had gone up 24%.

25% not paid

There was a further report that 122 people had not paid their rent in the Michaelmas Term and that so far this term 25% of students in Hall had not paid their rent. The SC agreed to the Inter Halls Committee recommendation to lower the interest repayment on the loan for improvement of Passfield Hall from £55,000 to £40,000 because the increased number of places in Passfield had resulted in a net increase in income of £15,000. Even with this extra income the School still felt that it still could not reduce the rents.

Senor Treasurer Kelvin Baynton reiterated the written questions that the Student Governors had asked the SC. These covered threats of evictions, court action, and preventing rent strikers from taking exams. The Director and Sir Huw Wheldon stated that they would prefer to settle the matter by discussion and did not want to take students to court nor would they prevent rent strikers from returning to Halls after the Easter vacation. On the question of examinations the School guaranteed that they would not prevent rent strikers from sitting exams but overall the School was evasive and reluctant to give him commitments.

Helen Fawcett emphasised there

was not a question of individuals acting independently, but that the Rent Strike was official Union policy and so the School should inform the Students' Union before any action was taken. As the Chairperson, Sir Huw Wheldon, tried to curtail discussion on the item, Kelvin Baynton warned that if the School was to act against the Rent Strikers it would arouse a backlash amongst a large number of students at LSE.

Final Note: Full minutes and agenda available from Senior Treasurer's Office and from the General Secretary.

Gen. Sec. candidate fined

GENERAL SECRETARY candidate Martin Clavane was fined £50 by Highbury Magistrates on Monday. He was arrested on a charge of "obstruction" while fighting fascism at an Anti-Nazi League rally back in November.

His "crime" was to come to the aid of a female LSE student as scuffles broke out with the police. Prosecution witnesses were four police officers.

Despite the fact that this term's grant is running out he has been given only four weeks to pay.

Another LSE student is due to appear in court on Friday having been arrested on the same march.

BEAVER ESCAPES

ONLY hours after the last issue of *Beaver* had been placed around the School, virtually the whole print run of 3,000 had disappeared—most were gone by 8.30 a.m., the papers having been set out at 9.45 p.m. the previous night.

Such was the rapidity of the disappearance that the *Beaver* editors and the Executive suspected that they had been removed en bloc rather than taken to read. An extra run of 1,500 copies had to be ordered.

As yet we have no knowledge as to who took them and to where? Anyone with any information please contact the *BEAVER* office.

ANNE TOPS THE POLL

ON Tuesday, February 14th, the most controversial election in the 144-year history of the Chancellorship of the University of London resulted in a convincing victory for Princess Anne, who polled 23,950 votes out of the 42,212 votes cast.

This is the first occasion that the post has been contested and the Princess's rival contenders, Jack Jones (ex-Transport and General Workers' Union general secretary) and the South African Nationalist leader, Nelson Mandela, received 10,500 and 7,200 votes respectively. Since the combined vote of Jones and Mandela was considerably less than that of Princess Anne, the threat felt by some people that Jones's nomination would split the anti-Anne vote proved unfounded.

The Princess's victory has further significance because she follows her grandmother, the Queen Mother, into this ceremonial position. Unless the holder chooses to retire, as was the case with the Queen Mother, the post is held for the duration of the holder's life.

At LSE, the Students' Union agreed earlier in the term to support the candidacy of Nelson Mandela. Advertisements were placed in the "Guardian" urging LSE graduates to vote for Mandela and General Secretary Ed Jacob sent letters to the other nominees requesting their withdrawal.

The General Secretary said he was "disappointed, but not surprised". The Mandela vote, he felt, was considerable since Mandela's imprisonment would probably have prevented him from taking up the post. His sizeable vote indicated the strength of anti-apartheid feeling amongst the members of Convocation.

Margaret Cameron-Waller

CONTENTS

- Page 2 — PEDAL POWER
- Page 3 — STRAND OPENING
- Page 4 — NO PLATFORM
- Page 5 — VIVISECTION
- Pages 6-7 — ELECTION SPECIAL
- Page 8 — FORBIDDEN ZONE
- Page 9 — RAGING BULL
- Page 10 — RAG '81
- Page 11 — PRESSING ALTERNATIVES
- Page 12 — INTO OBLIVION

EDITORIAL

A change of hands

HAVING survived a stormy last couple of months, our predecessors Keir Hopley and Simon Garfield have now retired and the tasks of editorship fall to us.

Though attempts to remove the previous editors at the beginning of term were defeated by a clear vote of confidence, the issue should not be ignored. It raised fundamental points on the running of the paper and of the constitutional position of the editors. While amendments to the Constitution to clear up the latter have been formulated and are awaiting debate at the UGM, it is up to us as the incoming editors to deal with the former.

In the last issue of Beaver, articles by Mark Kirby and Unmesh Desai raised the issues of restricted access and bias. Beaver is the SU newspaper so it is open to ALL SU members but obviously we can only print material from those who bother to write it. Soon after the beginning of the autumn term, a body of regular contributors and helpers is bound to grow up. This should not discourage others from contributing articles and getting involved with the paper though, and we feel that the problem here is one of communication. While copy dates and meetings are advertised in Beaver (bottom of credit box), possible contributors still do not know what happens and when. We will attempt to give more publicity to these events by putting up posters, and a large notice on the Beaver office door (E202). Please feel welcome to come along to any of the informal meetings, where we discuss what will be going into the next issue. If you haven't any ideas for articles, come along and see what is being done. Often items crop up that no-one is dealing with so you may want to pick up on those.

For those who want to help with production, dates of layout nights will be given. We usually start in mid-afternoon and work until all pages are completed. All help is most welcome so come along and learn how it is done.



THE EDITORS

Photo: Simon Grosset

On the question of BEAVER "going against Union policy", we must remember that the paper is for every student at LSE so should reflect majority and minority opinion. It should provide a platform for debate on policy issues, and to achieve this we will take views from all sides. However, we will uphold fundamentals such as giving no space in the paper to the propagation of fascist and racist ideas.

As for the question of bias, total objectivity is difficult to achieve in practice, even in news reporting. The best we can attempt to do is to restrict the number of value-judgements in our coverage of events. However, by its very nature, a feature will be biased. Its role is to investigate, examine and criticise an event and this has to be done from some standpoint. This should not, however, be an excuse to use the paper as an editor's megaphone. While on the subject of personal opinion, the "Briefly" column is to be dropped and a successor is not on the cards.

Coming down from abstract criticisms to the practical point of content, the new "Spotlight" feature started in this issue is intended to widen the scope of the paper from simply LSE and student news. The future of the "Alumnus Interviews" is under consideration and will only appear on a sporadic basis for now. Write in and tell us what you think on this and other aspects of the paper.

Next time you are around the Union corridor, drop in at the office and see what goes on. If the editors or any of the regular helpers are about, stop and give us your views. If not messages can be left on the notice board.

Colin Bates
Margaret Cameron-Waller



Call for unity

DEAR EDITORS,—I would like to open a debate about the most political issue facing students at the LSE. No, it is not the Rent Strike or the overseas students' fee increase or CND or Student Union financing or even Beaver accountability (though these are all critically important issues).

The most important issue at this place is that of uniting all progressive, socialist-minded people (as opposed to Thatcherites, or Left-wing Tories, or the Liberal or embryonic Social Democrat Parties), behind mass campaigns on student or other issues. We have to fight the combination of student apathy and personality conflicts that has hamstrung everything that the Union has tried to do this year. I am not suggesting that we can change the world (or even the LSE) in a week, but I am convinced that a pragmatic Socialist approach to issues would lead to victory for students (i.e. for you and me).

What is at issue is not whether you are a Labour Club or SWSO or Groucho-Marxist-Leninist-Trotskyist-Maoist (no insult intended), it is whether or not you believe that mass campaigns can bring victory on important issues.

To borrow a slogan or two, the students must Unite and Fight. Today the LSE, tomorrow the NUS?

How about giving up bickering and/or apathy for Lent?

J. C. Williams

(A Socialist, though not a member of any political party at LSE)

PEDAL POWER

DEAR EDITORS,—The SPG will raleigh (sic) together against an excessively rich autocratically biased Union who seem to care nothing for the environment and fuel crisis. This so-called supporter of minority groups has deemed it fair and just to allocate a pathetic £30 to the SPG with the provision that we abandon our identity in favour of the more dynamic title of "Cycling Club". Union hacks must surely realise that this meagre sum is less than my own personal annual contribution to the LSE Student Union.

Our reply to the Union is that we would prefer to accept £100 and call ourselves the "Strand Pedal Group".

It is this pedantic obsession with the so-called morality of words and names that has earned the Union no respect at all. Their influence extends only to the superficial despite their pretensions to democracy and other more substantial concepts. The SPG does not wish to pander to their idiotic *idees fixes* (see Larousse) and will have no part in Union plans. The loss of the SPG is a practical one; the riddance of the Union's bigotry can only be a step in the right direction.

Public notice will be given of the first general meeting of the SPG soon after the publication of this letter. In the meantime "bike it babies".

Tim Bourne
Keith Conlon

More defections

DEAR EDITORS,—Last week we the undersigned tendered our resignations from the Labour Club, after a long period of disillusionment with the way the Labour Club has mismanaged and abused the Students' Union.

This past year the Labour Club has had a majority on the Students' Union and it has been in a position whereby it has controlled and run the Students' Union. Instead of using this power to further students' interests, it has begun a process of student alienation from the Union which we believe must be stopped.

There are issues which we believe must be taken up urgently—September re-sits, class sizes, Student Union financing loans, Overseas students' fees—and yet the Labour Club seems more concerned with class warfare and the "inevitable revolution" than with the welfare of ordinary students.

As well as this, long-serving members of the Labour Party have been progressively ousted out of the Labour Club affairs, so that membership of the Fourth International seems more important now than membership of the political party the Labour Club is supposed to represent.

We believe that the time has come when it is necessary to win back the Students' Unions for ordinary students once again. We stand under the Social Democratic banner not necessarily because we want a new, independent political initiative in LSE student politics.

This decision was not taken easily, but we must make a stand now before it is too late, and the Union stays a shambles for yet another year.

Mark Withers	Sarah Phillips
Keir Hopley	Nick Goddard
Angela Benton	Justin Webb
Nic Newman	Jenny Beeston
John Munford	Becky Smithers
Danny Finckelstein	Dave Bearman
Peter Burke	

Chancellorship farce

DEAR EDITORS,—Has the recent election of the Chancellor of London University been an episode from the BBC1 programme "Not the Nine o'clock News"?

Is London University in a lower league than the Oxford and Cambridges, the Warwicks, Bristol and Edinburghs of this world? The Chancellor of London University is not an academic, and should at least have some popular standing that gives cause for respect (the Queen Mother, although she did not go to university and is not an academic, at least had respect and popular appeal when she held the distinguished office). In any case the Chancellor ought to be in the senior age group, more in line with those like Harold Macmillan.

All three candidates in the recent election seemed undesirable in one way or another. The election of Princess Anne does not give cause for enlightened rejoicing. Besides, Royalty should not be brought down into the hustings

scene. Nelson Mandela, fighting and suffering for a cause that only asks for the reasonable aspiration that the human being be treated with dignity, whatever his background or colour, must strongly be supported but to use the office of Chancellor purely for the sake of creating political embarrassment might just have shown what a farce the position of Chancellor could have become. Jack Jones, perhaps with better credentials than either Princess Anne or Nelson Mandela unfortunately is too associated with a sectarian interest. He is not quite an elder statesman.

The recent election of the Chancellor was really a case where abstention was the best option.

Let us hope that the next time a more acceptable result occurs. Hopefully Princess Anne will not suggest her husband as successor.

Andrew Garrett.

New centre party emerges

Ed Jacob, Keir Hopley, and Christina Archbold are some of the names behind the new LSE Social Democratic Party. This alliance of Tories, Liberals and Socialists announced its existence last Tuesday and has put up candidates for next year's sabbatical and executive posts.

Ed Jacob, the present General Secretary of the Union, told Beaver that the new party was uninterested in "ultimate goals". He cites the "No platform for racists and sexists" policy as an example of empty posturing taking the place of any serious opposition. This represents a departure from his previous line at the time of the Rhodes Boyson incident, when he justified to London Student the LSE march on King's College and consequent disruption.

This new alliance in LSE politics follows weeks of secret negotiations involving Ed Jacob of the Labour Club and Christina Archbold of the Conservative Association. After deciding that the potential support existed, the two are in the process of persuading others to join them. Mr Jacob claims that already around 25 people have defected from Labour to the Social Democrats—they join ex-Liberals and a large section of LSE Tories. On Thursday Labour Club Secretary Tony Donaldson said that he had received only five resignations, from people disgusted at Ed Jacob's "opportunist behaviour".

But others, previously not members of any party, are expected to form a sizeable part of the new alliance. Owen Bennett-Jones told Beaver: "Both the Labour Club and the Tories contain too many extremists. Too often, vital issues are buried by empty slogans."

The Social Democrats already have one Executive member, Arthur Wood, who was elected in a by-election held earlier this term. Mr Wood, ex-Secretary

of the Conservative Association, says he is primarily interested in specific issues within the School. To those who question the need for a new party he points out what he sees as the farcical state of the Executive: "If any student would take a look at the graffiti in the executive room he or she would get a true picture of the mentality of the present Executive".

Splits are already appearing though, with the emergence of two candidates for Senior Treasurer from the party. Christina Archbold sees herself as the "alternative Social Democratic candidate", in opposition to fellow member Keir Hopley.

Reaction to the Social Democrats from other parties has been predictably hostile. André Brown, acting chairman of the Conservative Association, called the new party "a cop out". He accused Mr Wood of "stabbing his own party in the back". On the Labour side, Jacob is seen as an opportunist, moving from SWSO to Labour then to the Social Democrats for his own advantage. Said Kelvin Baynton: "That's not politics, that's using people."

The test for Social Democracy at LSE will come in this month's vital elections. While refusing to predict the outcome, Social Democrats are hoping for dramatic successes.

JUSTIN WEBB

[After consultation with the Returning Officer, we have had to cut references to specific party candidates and policies from this article due to electoral regulations.—Eds.]

Nursery set-back

ATTEMPTS to provide adequate nursery accommodation in the LSE are facing a number of further unforeseen setbacks. In the academic year 1979-80 the School agreed to expand its nursery facilities to include 12 places for the under-tuos, and the Union agreed to transfer subsidies from its own nurseries to the provision of this service.

Three major problems have since arisen. With the death of the owner of the proposed nursery site, it is not certain that present ownership will wish to continue with the scheme. Westminster Council have refused to grant planning permission until they are completely satisfied with the proposed changes, stating a preference for the provi-

sion of nine places in view of the space available. A further condition of the acceptance is the employment of a further member of staff, a commitment not considered when costing was undertaken.

The need for nursery provision is acutely apparent. Yet, with fewer places, lower income levels will be generated. The Union is pressing for an increased subsidy and a commitment to no nursery fee increases above and beyond the rise in student grant. The School has agreed to consider these proposals. All that may be definitely stated is that further delay is inevitable, although the School in theory maintains a concrete policy commitment—if only to serve the demands of its own staff.

Sheila Curran

NEWS IN BRIEF

THE issue of racial discrimination in the Careers Advisory Service was raised at last week's meeting of the Standing Committee of the Court of Governors. The Union maintained that no colour bar should operate on any vacancy at the Careers Office and full publicity be given to black working conditions in prospective areas of employment. The School attempted to sidetrack, recommending that the issue be raised at the Careers Service Advisory Committee where students had representation. It was agreed that UK vacancies be open to all applicants but overseas posts could not be guaranteed and the Careers Department be asked to

allow Union and/or Anti-Apartheid publicity within the C.A.S.

The issue of LSE as a "centre of academic excellence" was similarly raised, the Union observing that such a description was not applicable to undergraduate standards of tuition. An increase of 400 students had not been paralleled with increased resources. The Academic Board agreed to set up a sub-committee, with students probably given observer status, and to consider an independent chairperson.

In considering the issue of women's safety, the Director has agreed to the provision of hand alarms and self-defence

classes as a long-term policy commitment. The Standing Committee, however, would wish the Students' Union to consider payment of a deposit. Agreement was made to investigate the possibility of alarms in Halls, a long-term strategy at present, "tepid and exploratory" in the words of an observer; the school has raised objections on ground of cost.

The Students' Union has finally obtained control of the Haldane Bar, which will pass from the School's hands at Easter, a significant step forward for the Union, which will also be given control of the Cobden Room bar.

SHEILA CURRAN

Zimbabwe transition completed in the Strand

AFTER more than a decade of neglect and decay, Rhodesia House in the Strand ceremoniously reopened its doors last week in an atmosphere clouded by the news that the Bulawayo township of Entumbane was experiencing the bloodiest days of violence since Independence.

The building, now renamed Zimbabwe House, had lain deserted since the break in relations between Britain and Mr Ian Smith's UDI government 11 years ago. Since Independence last year, it has undergone a £500,000 facelift, most references to "Rhodesia" have been changed to "Zimbabwe", and the Zimbabwe flag has been raised in the newly-decorated hall.

Mr Witness Mangwende, Zimbabwe's Foreign Minister, officially declared the High Commission open for business. He was joined by three fellow Cabinet ministers in welcoming Lord Soames, the Governor of Rhodesia in the transitional period, and former Foreign Secretaries Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Dr David Owen.

Speaking to "Beaver" directly after the opening, Dr Owen said: "Zimbabwe already shows great maturity. The (Independence) negotiations have concerned both Labour and Conservative governments—it is a good example of achievement by sticking firmly to a policy through successive administrations. This day marks a great achievement. I always believed it could happen."

The confrontations between Zipra and Zanla guerrilla forces cast a shadow over the sentimental and good-humoured proceedings. Over 300 were killed and 400 injured last week when Zipra elements loyal to Joshua Nkomo, the Minister without Portfolio, clashed with Zanla forces who support Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

The incidents were similar to heavy clashes last November, in which more than fifty people died.

Speaking at the Zimbabwe



Zimbabwe House — Open for business after 11 years.

House ceremony, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, the Minister for Local Government & Housing, played down the significance of the Bulawayo incidents, blaming the fighting on "acts of disobedience" by a few members of the armed forces.

"The situation is now absolutely under control. We have no further anxieties arising from the acts of dissidents. The events in Bulawayo do not represent a setback in any shape

or manner to our process of reconciliation", he said.

The fighting ceased last Tuesday after a personal plea for a Zipra surrender from Mr Nkomo. It is likely that the government will stick to its policy of gradually integrating former Zanla and Zipra guerrillas into the new army, despite criticisms that the process has been too rushed and has led directly to the recent confrontations.

Simon Garfield

New editor

Sarah Lewthwaite, a 3rd year student at the LSE, is to be the new editor of London Student. She has worked on the paper for 18 months and has done much to improve the standard of features in the newspaper since becoming features editor last year. She beat David Bennett, the current News Editor, by 18 votes to 7 in the elections last week at the University of London Union.

She has plans to expand the paper from an 8-page to a 12-page and incorporate an Entertainments/Time Off centre-piece pull-out. She also has long-term plans for a student radio programme to be incorporated into one of London's commercial stations.

BEAVER

Newspaper of the Students' Union of the London School of Economics, East Building, Houghton Street, London WC2.

EDITORS—
Colin Bates
Margaret Cameron-Waller

WITH THANKS TO—
Simon Garfield, Helen Fawcett, Chris Armero, Pete Crockford, Keir Hopley, Sheila Curran, Stella Orakwue, Roddy Hallifax, Alex Wynter, Becky Smithers, Jenny Beeston, Terry and the print-shop lads.

PHOTOS—
Simon Grosset
OPENING MEETING—
Tues 3rd March, 12 noon, E202.
COPY DATE—
Wednesday 4th March
LAYOUT—
4th and 5th March, mid-afternoon onwards
ALL WELCOME.

SPOTLIGHT

This issue we begin a new feature, **SPOTLIGHT**, in which people can voice their opinions on any issue that they feel is not getting enough publicity elsewhere, or they feel that it could do with more explanation. Today we look at the approaching controversy over the Union's "No Platform" policy. Union chairperson Steve Pound and Exec. member Martin Clavane put opposing views, while Stella Orakwue looks at the recent racist atrocity in Deptford.

NEW CROSS FIRE

Black people's day of action

MONDAY 2nd MARCH is the date set for a mass turnout of the black population in London and from other cities to protest against the handling of the fire in Deptford in which 13 young blacks were murdered on January 18th.

The fire, which numbered the hostess, 16-year-old Yvonne Ruddock and her brother Paul (22) amongst its victims, occurred as Yvonne's joint birthday party was coming to an end and devastated 439 New Cross Road in five minutes. Cause and motive of the blaze have been the subject of contradictory reports in the media which have given rise to deep feeling of anger amongst blacks.

Immediate media reaction to the disaster all mentioned fire bombing as its cause. Police statements recently have been reported as confirming that an inflammable liquid such as paint thinner is to be blamed and could have been spread by a partygoer.

The black community, however, view the Deptford fire as the latest in a history of fire-bomb attacks on blacks in London by racist extreme Right-wing groups, and believe that the police are not putting their

full weight behind the investigation. One black journalist commented: "Things would be moving faster if they [the dead] had been white."

There is fury that no-one, not even the local MP, has brought up the case in Parliament or in public. At a meeting which led to a demonstration outside the house three weeks ago, young blacks chanted, "Come what may we're here to stay". One woman added that "Black British is not a term coined by the race relations industry, it is a fact".

The New Cross Massacre Action Committee was established on January 20th to give support to the bereaved families. It has set up a commission to collect its own evidence from witnesses due to fears of a police cover-up. The New Cross Fire Fund was organised to raise money for the cost of the funerals. The bank account number is **91340565, Barclays Bank, 5a Marylebone High St., London, W1.** Any donations would be welcome.

The march begins at 10 am when demonstrators will assemble at Fordham Park, near Pagnell Street SE14, and continue past the scene of the fire, Fleet Street, Scotland Yard, House of Commons, 10 Downing Street, and end in Hyde Park.

Stella Orakwue

Steve Pound

I HAVE been criticised for my action in adjourning a recent UGM when I considered that matters had got too far out of hand. In reply I would say that the UGM must rise above sectarian squabbles if it is to deserve the right to be called the supreme body of the Union. Most people would agree with me that UGMs must not become gladiatorial combats where the loudest voice wins.

More controversially I firmly believe that the present "no platform" policy encourages the intolerance that scars the union meetings. That this policy has been used at LSE against T. Raison and at Bristol U. against Tony Benn shows how open to abuse such a platform can be. How can I defend the right of an individual to speak at the UGM when the ill-conceived "no platform" policy denies such tolerance to outside speakers? Worst of all the policy actually lends credibility to the victims of the ban: something that was exploited by Keith Joseph and David Irving (after the recent fracas at Birmingham

SU). By using the tactics of the banning policy the speaker's argument goes unanswered and the moral victory is clearly with the perceived "victim." It is surely unnecessary to state that those of us who call ourselves socialists have fought long for the rights of the individual; to see this concern negated in the name of the left is to see an ideal betrayed. I stress that I am not allying myself with that group whose parrot cry of "free speech" is betrayed by the actual intolerance of their attitudes and is abused as merely a stick to beat the left with. I simply believe that a democratic institution has no place in its constitution for the intolerance displayed by the "no platform" policy and the sooner it is repealed the sooner the fight against the evils of fascism and racism can rise from the sectarian swamp and command the respect and allegiance of students who are capable of deciding the issues themselves. The present policy is unworthy and militates against the tolerance and free discussion which the UGM must have if it is to retain any credibility at all.



Flashback—Raison is silenced.

Martin Clavane

LAST term, Home Office Minister Timothy Raison was prevented from speaking at LSE. Large numbers of students voted for this course of action at the Union Meeting and took active part in the expulsion. This was carried out because he is the sponsor of the racist Nationality Bill, and the Union has a policy that there should be no platform for fascists and racists.

Since then various individuals have been raising a hue and cry in the pages of *Beaver* and elsewhere that this policy is wrong and that we "must" allow "free speech." This is a totally incorrect viewpoint. In the fight against racism and fascism, the policy of "no platform" is very important.

Those who advocate that racists and fascists must have rights to free speech like everyone else want to make the question of rights very abstract. The issue is: rights for whom and for what? In society, there is no right to commit murder because to give rights to murderers automatically denies the rights of the majority of people to a secure life.

Similarly, with racists and fascists—to allow them to speak and

organise means to allow them to carry out serious attacks on people; because it is well known that racism and fascism are directly against the interests of ordinary people.

This fact, i.e., allowing racists and fascists rights, means depriving the majority of people of their rights—was admitted even by the British Government after the Second World War, when it signed the Potsdam Declaration and pledged "to destroy the Nazi Party and its affiliated and supervised organisations to dissolve all Nazi institutions, to ensure that they are not revived in any form and to prevent all Nazi and militarist activity and propaganda." The task of carrying out this falls upon all progressive people.

Some people put forward the argument that it is better to let racists speak and to then "expose" their lies and falsehoods. This is also incorrect. The advocates of racism and fascism are not misguided individuals making mistakes. No amount of debate and reasoned argument would show Raison the "error of his ways". To take the stand of debating with racists and fascists give credibility to their views, and confers respectability

upon these notions. The issue is not to "prove" racists and fascists to be wrong, the issue is to defeat the schemes of the racists and fascists.

Some people say "this is all very well, but who is to decide what is fascist and racist, and where does it all stop?" First, there are very definite criteria as laid down in international law, in the UN Declaration on Human Rights, Article Two says: "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms . . . in this Declaration . . . without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour . . . national or social origin . . . birth or other status." Thus anyone who advocates racist discrimination, be he a government minister or not, should be prevented from speaking.

Secondly, the question of which speaker is barred is not left to some invisible, unaccountable body. The students themselves are responsible for the active implementation of this policy.

The policy of no platform for racists and fascists, as well as the principle that Nazis have No Right to Organise are not ill-founded, hot-headed or unreasonable. On the contrary, they are essential for safeguarding the rights, freedoms and very lives of the majority of people. We should all uphold them in practise.

OPEN COMMITTEE ON SEXISM

presents

THE MEMBERS and Guest Support playing an ANTI-SEXIST BOP to combat sexism in this college

MONDAY, MARCH 2nd — OLD THEATRE

£1 advance

£1.25 on door

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN UNION SHOP

SINGAPORE'S DEVELOPMENT: A Model for Malaysia . . . ?

A Forum, Exhibition and Film on Development in Malaysia and Singapore

(Organised by London Unions of Malaysian & Singapore Students)

PROGRAMME

4.00 p.m. Film, "Controlling Interest" (colour). A film about multinational corporations in developing countries.

5.30 p.m. Exhibition: Development in Malaysia and Singapore.

7.00 p.m. Forum: "Singapore's Development—a model for Malaysia?"

DATE: SATURDAY, 28th FEBRUARY, 1981

Venue: University of London Union, Malet St., London WC1



ANIMAL AID

Future Events—

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17th:
"The Curiosity that kills the cat."
Award-winning anti-vivisection film.
1 p.m. Room S.75.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24th:
Jean Pink (Founder of Animal Aid
and President of the B.U.A.V.) will
be talking about "Animal Rights
and the need for a radical and
militant campaign." 1 p.m. Room
S.78.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11th,
6.30 p.m. Room S401. Debate on the
subject of vivisection between Pro-
fessor Scott, Dept. of Physiology,
Royal Free Hospital Medical School,
and Dr Robert Sharpe (National
Anti-Vivisection Society).

Regular Events—

Bookstall every Tuesday 11 a.m.-
1 p.m. outside "Florries". Meeting
every Thursday to arrange future
activities, 12 noon in the Under-
graduate Common Room.

Everybody is welcome to all the
events.

SOVIET JEWRY

JEWISH SOCIETY has so far this
term had some interesting people
speaking at its weekly meetings.

At the beginning of this term,
Paul Kember, playwright, came to
talk about his play, "Not Quite
Jerusalem", which had been playing
at the Royal Court and which
Michael Billington, in The Guardian,
acclaimed. The play discussed the
illusion of life on a kibbutz, a
place basically full of people mixed
up in themselves who have come
to Israel simply to escape the
traumas that society in the West
can and surely does only offer. It
was interesting to note that Mr
Kember is himself not Jewish but
a Catholic from Liverpool. And it
was with great joy (nachus) that
this guest was heard to have been
awarded the "New Standard Drama
Awards" for best new playwright.

Later in the term Georgi Grin-
berg came to speak at one meeting.
Himself a "refusenik" (people de-
nied an exit visa), he is currently
touring English universities in order
to gain support for the worrying
plight of Soviet Jewry. He told
the meeting that he was studying
medicine at the Pavlov Medical
Institute; his family's application
to emigrate to Israel resulted in
Georgi's immediate expulsion from
the Institute, a campaign of vilifi-
cation against him and an attempt
to induct him into the Soviet army.

Georgi, together with his mother
and younger brother, succeeded in
emigrating in 1978, but his father
Karl was forced to stay behind in
Leningrad. Karl was denied an
exit visa on the ground that he
allegedly possesses secret informa-
tion. He was forced to leave his
work as an engineer and has been
working since then as a tailor in
Leningrad.

Georgi is now a second-year
medical student in the university
of Beersheva where he lives with
his mother and younger brother.
He is personally acquainted with
Jewish student prisoner of con-
science Boris Kalendarev and with
many other Leningrad "refuseniks".

Georgi Grinberg is just one of
many many people in the Soviet
Union and it is greatly hoped that
more of his fellow students will
be able to join him, especially with
the ever-increasing work of the Jewish
Academic Committee for Soviet
Jewry and the 35 groups all around
England.

Jeremy Rosenblatt

Do we have the right ?

A look at vivisection

THE subject of experiments on
live animals is one of the most
emotive conceivable; and is,
suitably, the one on which MPs
receive the most correspon-
dence. It would seem only
proper that, given the vast
range of students societies at
LSE, there should be a group
to combat such a demonstrable
wrong as vivisection, especially
since it is being practised in the
University of London.

On Monday January 12th, Dr
Robert Sharpe, scientific adviser
to the National Vivisection
Society and the Lord Dowding
Fund, came to speak at an in-
formal meeting at LSE. The
case he presented was well-
rounded and, to most people
present, basically unchallenge-
able.

It is reported that there are
now about five million animal
experiments performed each year
in Britain, a national total ex-
ceeded only by America (75-100
million per annum). Fifty-one
per cent of the British experi-
ments involve new cosmetics,
and only three per cent have
anaesthetic used at every stage.

Opposition to the practice of
vivisection can be categorised
into:—

(1) MEDICAL

There is a crucial and usually
large difference in cell struc-
ture, metabolism and reaction
between humans and animals,
so drugs for humans may be
harmful for animals. Thus tha-
lidomide was tested safely on
rabbits and hamsters, aspirin
leads to birth defects in rabbits
and rats, and kenzine causes
leukæmia in man but not in
animals. Additionally, no test-
ing can resolve what psychologi-
cal effects any drug has on
an animal so every drug has
to be tested on a sample of
humans as well before it be-
comes available.

(2) PRACTICAL

There are already enough
drugs available; 90 per cent of
new drugs are in any case modi-
fications of those already avail-
able. Whereas the World Health
Organisation has categorically
stated that 200 different types
of drugs are sufficient for any
country, there are now over
200,000 available in Britain. It
is hardly surprising that 15 per
cent of hospital admissions
(Ministry of Health figures) are
caused by the side-effects of
drugs.

(3) MORAL

The motivations for vivisection
are profit and the further-
ance of scientific careers, not
the good of mankind and cer-
tainly not the good of animals.
Much of the American animal

rights movement is based on
the concept of "Animalism"
(comparable to racism and
sexism). Thus an American pro-
fessor argued recently "... the
scientific justification for experi-
ments is that animals are like
us; the moral justification is
they are unlike us ..."

The morality that says that
"the end justifies the means" is
a wicked one in the area of
experimentation, having been
used in World War II prison
camps to justify hideous activi-
ties. Man and animals share
the capacity to suffer and it is
false to pretend that there is
any overall difference between
man and the animal kingdom.

At present, anti-vivisection
group pressure is aimed at four
areas:—

(a) The Draize rabbit's eye test,
conducted by Revlon, in
which various cosmetics are

applied to unanaesthetised
rabbits' eyes;

(b) The LD 50 test, in which
various new toxic and non-
toxic substances (e.g., lip-
sticks, polishes) are force-
fed to a test batch of ani-
mals, with the number of
them that die in the follow-
ing 14 days allegedly deter-
mining the safeness of the
product;

(c) Psychology and behavioural
experiments at academic in-
stitutions;

(d) Cancer research. The use
of animals in cancer experi-
ments is especially ludicrous.
Mice are most commonly
used yet the cancer induced
in them is of a different
type from that found in
humans. Besides this, in
humans, cancer comprises
100 separately definable
diseases.

The rate of incidence of major
cancer forms is not decreasing.

The stress on animal experi-
ments indeed diverts attention
from the real issue, namely the
cause of cancer; lifestyle and
environment. The World Health
Organisation estimates that 80-
90 per cent of human cancers
are environment-related and
therefore preventable (smoking
is the cause of 40 per cent of
male cancer deaths). Mean-
while, 95 per cent of the income
of the major British cancer
charities goes on experimental
research and not on prevention
work.

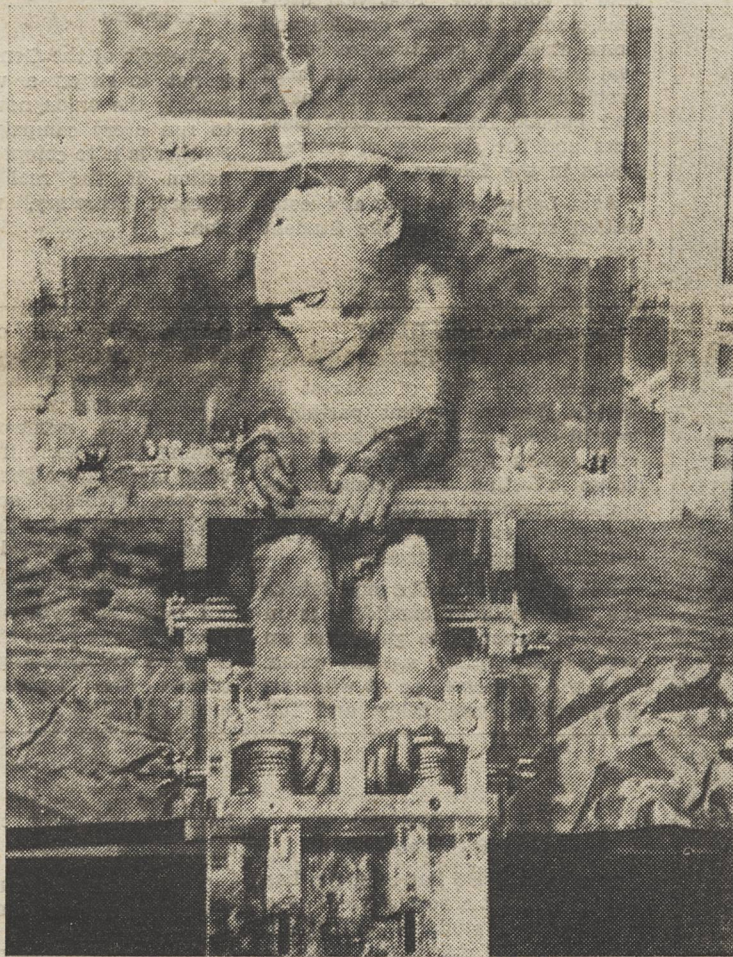
It is a somewhat sterile exer-
cise to quote examples of ex-
periments, since the arguments
extend considerably beyond the
actual process of the experi-
ment, touching its aim and very
morality.

Suffice to say that in the Uni-
versity of London there are
hundreds of cruel experiments
each week on such animals as
cats, rats, mice, dogs and mon-
keys and that all major anti-
vivisection groups are united in
their opposition to such experi-
ments.

Combined with this is the in-
sidious vice of secrecy found in
so many areas of British life.
Only the 15 Home Office in-
spectors have the right of entry
to experimental laboratories,
and nine of them are past vivi-
sectors. Other people are re-
fused access, normally because
it "would upset and stress the
animals". The outlook for im-
mediate radical reform of the
1876 Cruelty to Animals Act—
under which contemporary ex-
perimentation is conducted—is
not good. Few MPs support the
cause of abolition, and the
main pro-vivisection body is
particularly adept at persuading
politicians to see its point of
view.

The only anti-vivisection
group in the University of Lon-
don is at LSE. Please help us
in our fight against something in
our midst which can and should
be changed.

Mark Tanner and
Tim Barnett (of
Animal Aid)



A monkey with an electrode in its brain.

The Jesus factor

CONSIDER this: "This Jesus of
Jesus of Nazareth, without
money and arms, conquered
more millions than Alexander
Caesar, Mohammed, and Napo-
leon; without science and learn-
ing, He shed more light on
things human and divine than
all philosophers and scholars
combined; without the elo-
quence of schools, He spoke
such words of life as were never
spoken before or since, and pro-
duced effects which lie beyond
the reach of orator or poet;
without writing a single line,
He set more pens in motion,
and furnished themes for more
sermons, orations, discussions,
learned volumes, works of art,
and songs of praise than the
whole army of great men of

ancient and modern times"
(Phillip Schaff, historian).

Jesus Christ makes a radical
difference in human affairs be-
cause of who He is. The LSE
Christian Union invites you to
discover who Jesus really is
through a variety of forums it
is sponsoring this week. These
include a film, talks/discussions,
a social, and other events. De-
tails are in the pamphlets being
circulated and at the CU book-
stall located outside Florries.

No-one can deny the great
impact Christ has made on mil-
lions of lives—we sincerely in-
vite you to find why.

John Gorin,
for the LSE CU

**UNIVERSITY OF
LONDON
C.N.D.**

BENEFIT GIG

"MISTY"
and
"IVORY COASTERS"

7.30 p.m. U.L.U., Malet St.
February 27th

**THIRD WORLD
ART EXHIBITION**

2nd to 14th MARCH, 1981
and ART AUCTION

An Exhibition and Sale of the
work of one hundred artists
representing forty 'Third World'
countries is to be held at the
London School of Economics and
Political Science and will be open
to the public from Monday
evening, 2nd March, until
Saturday, 14th March, 1981.
We are told that never before, in
Britain at least, have so many
'Third World' artists and coun-
tries been represented in one
exhibition.

C.N.D. Open Committee
present
E. P. THOMPSON
(Author of "Protest & Survive")

12-1 Thurs., Feb. 26th
Old Theatre

ELECTIONS . . . 26th FEBRUARY . . . ELECTIONS . . . 26th FEBRUARY . . . ELECTIONS . . .

THE CHOICE IS YOURS

PAUL BLACKNELL
(Conservative)

I WOULD like to urge people to vote for me in the forthcoming elections for one of these reasons:

1. I am the best candidate
2. I am not a Social Democrat
3. I am a Conservative and a moderate
4. All the other candidates are not conservatives nor moderates.
5. Unlike the other candidates there exists as much chance of me being elected as England winning the current Test Series

against the West Indies. Considering that 60% of students voted Tory 1½ years ago I consider this to be a ridiculous state of affairs indicating the absurd nature of SU politics.

Anyone actually considering voting Social Democrat would do well to note that their careerist opportunism has led to a General Secretary candidate that was once the Communist chairman of NUSS. Indeed the so-called passive following of the SDs was until Monday a group of communists, conservatives, liberals and non-aligned 3rd columnists. Their campaign slogan is to be the old problems—new answers; I suggest old hacks—new labels.

SOCIAL SECRETARY



NICK NEWMAN
(Independent)

RECENTLY ENTS has been too concerned with promoting bands and very little else. Arranging gigs is obviously an important part of the Social Secretary's job but there are a large number of students who never go to an LSE event and I believe these should be catered for too so I would like to see more diversity in:

- (1) Types of bands promoted — for example more reggae and jazz
- (2) Entertainment provided — I would like more events like "An Evening Without", stand-up comics, pub pianists, jazz bands in the Tuns.
- (3) The help the Social Secretary gives to Societies.

I have worked actively for ENTS in the last two years. I feel I know what the job entails and that I have both the ability and the experience to do it well. I have held posts as ENTS Treasurer, Disco Manager, Passfield Social Secretary and Rag Chairman.

If elected I would be responsible to an open ENTS Committee and to the sovereignty of the UGM. I am committed to keeping politics out of my role as much as possible, and that is why I am standing as an Independent.



PURNA SEN
(SWSO)

I AM standing for the post of Social Secretary as I want a busy social life in college next year, involving the most people possible in ENTS. Many people are pissed off with so few gigs having been put on this year.

Experience is a helpful but not necessary requisite for the post. Activity in ENTS at LSE is certainly not sufficient reason for holding the post. I have been involved in organising the anti-sexism gig being put on as an alternative to Hot Gossip, and other gigs elsewhere.

On that same issue, I believe that the Social Secretary is subject to Union policy. The Social Secretary is responsible not only to the ENTS Collective but to all students. He or she does not have jurisdiction over events run by Union societies, in fact their events should not be aided by the Social Secretary nor re- or dis-organised by him/her. I intend to uphold Union policies, including organising gigs that the Union mandates on the Social Secretary.



NIGEL RYAN
(Independent)

SOCIAL Secretary should be approachable; they should be in the office when wanted. It has always been the case that the Social Secretary is a somewhat unaccountable not collective but to be available to all. Participation at the Union is essential. The Social Secretary is responsible to all people who will only feel they are well served.

The ENTS collective is surrounded by an appalling atmosphere. It is surrounded by people who are counted on to do the job. This trend must be reversed. People must be encouraged to participate. I am standing because I believe the Social Secretary should be applied to Social Secretary also to dictate c

The office of Social Secretary has lost much of its value. It is wholly unsatisfactory. Hot Gossip was a dramatic of the communications and which I should like to see replaced.

TONY DONALDSON — LABOUR

FRANKLY we are in a hell of a mess, since the Tory government has succeeded in making massive cuts in education. Last year overseas student fees were doubled and home students' grants were cut in real terms. Every student has faced problems with higher rents inside and outside halls, increased class sizes and the shortage of relevant books in the Library.

As a Labour candidate and committed socialist I see the Student

Union as of vital importance in organising the fight back against education cuts. I am also concerned that the union should provide a useful range of services to its members.

The role of the General Secretary is not to sit on a white charger leading the union nowhere, seeking to run every campaign personally. Neither is it to compromise. Participation is the real role of the General Secretary, not pontification.

accountability of officials. The widest possible participation is the only guarantee of a Union which campaigns and wins on the issues affecting its members. Over the coming year we will have to develop mass campaigns on the issues of fees increases, accommodation, student union autonomy, government loans instead of grants, women's issues, gay work, etc.

I hope you will support me if you share my basic aim of wanting a mass campaigning union that tackles the issues facing its members.

UNMESH DESAI
(SWSO)

There is a lack of interest in UGMs, narrow student participation in Union affairs, and a student body which fails to pick up the issues affecting its members because a resultant failure to develop a mass student base. It is the problem that I hope to tackle.

However, electing the most left or the most militant candidate is in itself not enough to guarantee an active campaigning student union. This will only come about when we have action from below and full

here without using cheap slogans, but fundamentally:

The choice is yours—you have more of the same revolting mixture in varying strengths from the inappropriately named DSF to SWSO and the Labour Club. Or you can begin to make your own decisions. Come to our meetings and let's exchange ideas, some people at least think what you have got to say counts. A vote for me isn't that much—but it is at least just a small step in the right direction.

JOHN MUMFORD
(Social Democrat)

The way the SU has been run has made it at best a boring irrelevance to most LSE students—and that's the way it will stay if you don't do something about it soon. What is the alternative?

A new approach is needed—with the emphasis being on democratic involvement by students. How many decisions taken around here do you have a say in? There is not enough space for me to say what I want

MARTIN CLAVANE
(Democratic Student Front)

In my three years at LSE I have always fought for the welfare of the student body as well as all the other sections of people.

I am standing as a Democratic Student Front candidate. DSF was founded in the college two weeks ago with the objective of uniting the students in action to defend their basic rights, opposing those who aim to divide the students by putting their sectarian politics before the welfare of the students or compromise basic rights. DSF is not an electoral front or a coalition of

left group leaders but a genuine fighting organisation of all students, who agree with its principles and who support the fight to defend our hard won rights which are at present under serious attack from the Government.

I believe that such an organisation is necessary in order to stand against the offensive by the government and authorities. If elected, I will do my utmost to put into practice the principle of unity in action to defend our rights, the only way the interests of the students can be defended and advanced.

TREVOR GRAHAM
(Maverick)

- ★ Standing, unlike any other candidate, for the P.S.I. (Pure Self Interest).
- ★ Doesn't like Reggae and says he would get XTC for every other week.
- ★ Is standing because he likes the greenbacks, the easy job, and can't think of anything better to do.

GRAHAM "BIG G" STEWART
(Maverick)

- ★ Candidate for the S.P.B.O. (Simple Protest, Blind Opposition).
- ★ Expresses extreme distaste with current operation of the Student's Union, preferring the establishment of a Free Federation of Autonomous Student Bodies.
- ★ Has green eyes and is founder-member of several radical organisations: The Animals, The Kropotkin Fan Club etc.
- ★ Would prefer it if he didn't win.

STEVE DAWSON
(Democrat)

CLAIMS that he is rather more intelligent than Tony Donaldson, whom he regards as an illiterate, unshaven degenerate.

GENERAL SECRETARY

STV

HAVE you ever wondered how the Single Transferable Vote works? Colin Bates attempts to make things clearer.

For the sabbatical elections, STV is in its most simple form, since there is only one post to be filled. All first preferences are distributed and if one candidate gets over 50 per cent of them he or she is elected. If no-one does this, then the candidate with the fewest first preferences is eliminated and his votes transferred according to the second preferences on them. If all candidates are still below 50 per cent the next lowest candidate is eliminated etc until someone has a majority of the votes.

Since there are considerably more places to be filled in the Executive election, the quota of votes a candidate needs to get elected will be lower. The process is the same as before except that any votes a candidate gets over the quota he needs are redistributed. However, rather than just picking out an arbitrary selection of these votes to redistribute, all of the candidate's votes are redistributed but given a small value, e.g. Quota = 100 votes. Candidate A receives 120 first

Attention

Due to an Hardship Fund we are we interviews a

All applications

Collect applications Welfare Office

Please note considered would not

preferences so would be equivalent of 20% redistribute all 100 the value of one

This ensures that all the votes of the elected candidate are redistributed and not just a representative sample

You may use as many votes as you wish when practice only the votes or so are needed. If you vote to go to candidate B and not to candidate A just put a 1 in the box. Easy, isn't it?

ELECTIONS . . . 26th FEBRUARY . . . ELECTIONS . . . 26th FEBRUARY . . . ELECTIONS

YOURS . . .

All photos by Simon Grosset

SECRETARY



NIGEL RYAN
(Independent)

for the post of
as I want a busy
lege next year, in-
people possible in
people are pissed off
s having been put

a helpful but not
ite for the post.
at LSE is certainly
reason for holding
been involved in
anti-sexism gig
an alternative to
other gigs else-

ssue, I believe that
ary is subject to
ne Social Secretary
only to the ENTS
all students. He
have jurisdiction
by Union societies,
nts should not be
cial Secretary not
sed by him/her. I
Union policies, in-
ng gigs that the
on the Social Sec-

SOCIAL Secretaries need to be approachable; they need to be in their office when wanted. This has not always been the case. The Social Secretary is a sabbatical office and accountable not only to ENTS collective but to all students. He should be available to answer questions at the Union Meetings. Participation is essential if the Social Secretary is to function at all and people will only participate if they feel they are welcome to do so.

The ENTS collective has shrunk at an appalling rate. Mr Goddard is surrounded by a group who may be counted on the fingers of one hand. This trend must be reversed; people must be encouraged to participate. I am standing as an Independent because the political ticket applied to Social Secretary seems also to dictate collective members.

The office of Social Secretary has lost much of its credibility. The wholly unsatisfactory way in which Hot Gossip was selected is symptomatic of the breakdowns in communications and in accountability which I should like to reverse.

EXECUTIVE

Conservative

- Andre Brown
- Nick Fernyhough
- Chris McQueen

Liberal

- Thor Gudmundsson

SWSO

- Julian Dean
- Julia Clayton
- Purna Sen

Labour Club

- Diane Lye
- Rosemary Leach
- Adam Holmes
- Julian Chaffey
- Matthew Brettler

Social Democrat

- Dave Bearman
- Nick Goddard
- Arthur Wood
- Juan Costain
- Owen Bennett-Jones

Independent

- Mick Coleby

Remember . . .

**VOTING BY
ALL-DAY BALLOT**

Thursday, 26th February

**MAKE YOUR
VOICE COUNT!**

Attention all Self-financing Students!

Due to an unexpected increase in the allocation to the Hardship Fund, money has been underspent to date and we are welcoming applications for the third term's interviews and allocations.

All applications should be in by 1st May 1981.

Collect application forms from the Students Union Welfare Office, Room E.294.

Please note, however, that all applications are carefully considered and compared on the basis of need and would not normally exceed £100.00.

preferences so we must spread the equivalent of 20 votes. We thus redistribute all 120 but give them the value of one-sixth of a vote.

This ensures that the true feelings of the electors are redistributed and not just some unrepresentative sample of votes.

You may use as many preferences as you wish when you vote but in practice only the first half-dozen or so are needed. If you wish your vote to go to only one candidate vote to go to only one candidate and not be transferred later then just put a 1 in the box.
Easy, isn't it?

MATT PICTON (Maverick)

★ Standing as an Enlightened Despot.

★ Claims that he stands because it came to him in a vision that he was predestined, and had the Divine Right to rule the Students' Union.

★ But he is not sure.

★ Also claims to be good at "numbers".

CHRISTINA ARCHBOLD (Social Democrat)

THIS year is going to be a difficult one.

Fighting the School for the sake of it, however, will achieve nothing. To demand that the School does not implement the fee increases ignores the reality of the situation. It is the government we must pressurise to stop the spiralling fee increases and the threat of student loans. This is done with the coherent campaigns that all students will support.

The welfare budget this year has been expanded by 50%. This is a positive move and must be con-

tinued. The amount spent on advertising for student accommodation should be increased and a Union Housing Trust should be set up.

The hardship fund must be extended to help those students who receive grants but do suffer difficulties because their parents do not make them up with contributions. We could set up a text book stall, run by students, which can provide essential course material at a discount.

I believe a Senior Treasurer should be someone who involves themselves in everyday student affairs.



RICK YOUNG (Labour Club)

LSE is faced with problems created by the government's reorganisation of Student Union finances. Although the LSE administration has guaranteed the income of the Union this guarantee is not fool-proof, because our income is determined centrally by the University of London. As a Labour Club candidate I am prepared to defend the right of the Students' Union to maintain its autonomy. Over the last year with this control we have increased welfare by 50%, increased the Hardship fund (by 65%) and built links with Housing Trusts. Societies budgets are up by 25% and we hope to ensure they increase in real terms

next year. Why throw this all away?

On another front student loans are looming. We have to organise against them and the Labour Club as part of the Labour Party outside the college is in the best position to do this.

Although the Senior Treasurer's job is largely administrative the time he or she has available should enable s/he, along with the General Secretary, to organise campaigns. As a member of the Finance and Services Committees I can cope with the administrative side, but the Students' Union invests a lot of money in paying sabbatical officers, I intend to do more than "just sign cheques."



KEIR HOPLEY (Social Democrat)

DURING the coming year, the Union faces a hard time. Tokenistic gestures of "direct action" will make this go away. What is needed is a sensitive and positive approach.

own housing trust is worthy of careful investigation. These are positive policies: petty slogans are no answer.

We must also remember that the way the Union affects most of its members is through services. We must therefore look to improve the shop, bar and Florries and to expanding BEAVER and ENTS. Most students are not interested in obscure political campaigns, and they too deserve something for their £39. We do not promise instant solutions — there are none. We put forward positive and realistic proposals, and on that basis I ask for your support.



CHARLES MATHIAS (Conservative)

SINCE I have been at the LSE, I have seen some disturbing trends. Earlier in the year, Hot Gossip were asked to come to the LSE. I have nothing against Hot Gossip, but how can you justify spending £1,350? A tighter financial control is needed. At UGMs far too often there seems to be so much discussion about national and political issues. Although such issues are important, student affairs and matters concerning the LSE directly should be discussed more often and more fully. As Ed Jacob wrote in

his business motion at the last U.G.M., "Union notes: I. Its complete lack of an academic affairs policy." There has also been a tendency to prevent people from speaking at the LSE — I refer to Mr Timothy Raison. Everyone has the right to free speech — this is a fundamental principle of democracy. I am a Conservative, but I am totally opposed to the present Government's plans to introduce Student Loans and to restructure Student Union financing. The Conservatives at the LSE have continually lobbied the Parliament to try to persuade it to drop such plans.



CLAIRE HARRIS (SWSO)

AT LSE the Senior Treasurer is often thwarted from implementing Union policy by such red herrings as Ultra Vires, and other attempts to wrest control of our money away from us. The Union has the right to dispose of its funds as it sees fit. The actual objects clause in the Constitution states:
"to promote the welfare, the interests and corporate life of the students."

is a political one: the right of students in their own autonomous organisation to give support to those causes which the supreme body of the Union — the UGM — considers deserving.

I would support any move to extend existing services and facilities at LSE and I would be prepared to subsidise Florries and the bar. As a postgrad. I have considerable experience of running such campaigns and of sitting on University Committees. Vote SWSO to ensure the Union controls the purse strings!



SENIOR TREASURER

THE LONDON ARTS

Reaching the Forbidden Zone

WHEN the leading Soviet filmmaker, Andrei Tarkovsky, gave his talk at the NFT recently, three major points arose from the answers he gave. Firstly he seemed, surprisingly, to be well content with the present Russian environment for his work. Even though it is well known that he has had great problems with many of his films, he never mentioned state censorship directly and when asked about the problems he retorted by saying that it was the same for film-makers all over the world.

"Mirror", his penultimate film, was not allowed to enter any film festivals, for fear it might win and thus provide unwanted propaganda for itself. It was eventually released to the West four years after it was made and remains virtually unseen inside the USSR. A previous film, "Andrei Rublev", was held back for five years; "Stalker", just released in the West End, had similar distribution problems.

Secondly, many of Tarkovsky's turns of phrase seemed very religious for a Soviet citizen. He constantly referred to the soul and described the ultimate purpose of art as the preparation of the soul for the perception of Good. In "Stalker" the religious motifs are also omnipresent, and some critics have given the film a completely religious meaning.

Finally, it is to the critics he

referred when he emphasised, above all, the emotional importance of his films. He severely criticised all those who insisted on giving allegorical meanings to his films. "My films are simple and mean what they show, there is no hidden meaning . . . what is the point for me to hide any message I might have behind layers of allegory." Tarkovsky described his films as having a primordially emotional message in the impact the images should create on the viewers' sensitivity.

This is especially true of "Mirror", a dream-like autobiography, composed of four basic ingredients. Firstly the real lives of the unseen narrator and his wife/mother (both played by the magnificent Margarita Terenkova), secondly memories of his childhood, his childhood dreams and nightmares, and lastly some newsreel sequences of relevant historical events—the Spanish Civil War, the second world war, and the Sino-Soviet confrontations—which provide reference to the collective memory as opposed to the individual memory, both of which, for Tarkovsky, are indivisibly linked.

This accumulation of materials presented in black and white, in colour, in slow motion, in dream-like surreal sequences, in scenes composed like a painter's still life, in scenes of simple contemplation of nature, all mix together to produce an ethereal film, which seems as if it were about to vanish like the mark of hot breath on a cold window. Although it may be a difficult



Anatoly Solonitsyn in Tarkovsky's "Stalker."

film for contemporary cynics to watch it is not a difficult film. All it demands, and deserves, is some sympathy from the spectator and a willingness to open one's mind to the images.

"Stalker", Tarkovsky's latest film, which has just opened at the Academy Cinema on Oxford Street, is his second attempt at what could loosely be termed science-fiction. He has previously made "Solaris" which was considered to be the Russian answer to Kubrick's "2001". Tarkovsky's science-fiction, however, is not of outer space or adventure, but of the exploration of inner space: in this he is reminiscent of the writer who is for me the best contemporary British writer, of any kind, J. G. Ballard.

In some unknown land made desolate by the forces of industrialisation, a strange occurrence (whether it was a meteorite or an alien landing nobody knows) has created a forbidden area called the Zone. The authorities of this police state have had the Zone cordoned off, since rumours spread that in the heart of the Zone there was a Room where one's secret desires came true, and people who entered the Zone never came back. However, a breed of men known as the Stalkers know the way through the labyrinth of deadly traps in the Zone and are prepared to lead people through the cordon and to the Room. The story of the film follows one of these Stalkers, who leads the Professor and the Writer to the heart of the Zone.

Alternating between a splendid monochrome and beautiful colour, we enter the Zone only to find that it is as polluted and void of life as the outside. In the struggle to reach the Room, Tarkovsky reveals to us the motivations of the three main characters and carries out an analysis of faith and doubt, both of which are ever-present topics in his films. The climax with the three characters on the edge of the Room is a fitting if at first seemingly pessimistic end to an optimistic film as is seen in the epilogue. Again Tarkovsky provides beautiful images which return to haunt our minds after the film has ended, confirming the view that he is the most visual director currently in work.

C. Armero

A Month in the Country

IT was a happy evening for balletomanes at Covent Garden a fortnight ago when Merle Park returned to dance Natalia Petrovna in Sir Frederick Ashton's "A Month in the Country" after almost a year's absence due to injury. More than once during that long period, disappointed audiences wondered whether they would ever see this most wonderful of the Royal Ballet's ballerinas dance again as one after another of her scheduled performances were cancelled. But finally, a delighted audience was able to pronounce her to be "as good as new" on this evidence of her recovery from the late summer operation on her leg.

Merle Park danced beautifully and if her characterisation of the part was slightly underplayed (although all the elements were clearly there), then this was perfectly understandable in the tense circumstances of such a "comeback". At least her interpretation of Natalia Petrovna as the bored, egotistical woman who all but seduces her son's young tutor is correct—a lot more than can be said for some of the dancers who, in the absence of Miss Park and of the recently retired Lynn Seymour, portrayed her as a woman of shyness and passivity bordering on innocence.

As if in tribute to Miss Park's return, the rest

of the cast were outstanding. But then Merle Park always seems to have this effect on the dancers around her. She has the gift of drawing the most committed performances from them. Given the rare opportunity of playing opposite a correctly interpreted Natalia Petrovna, Michael Coleman gave what must have been the acting performance of his life as Beliaev, the naïve young tutor who is puzzled by the effect he has on the women of the Islaev household and whose love for the lady of the house disrupts the life of the family. That his dancing was impeccable can almost go without saying. Gillian Kingsley danced well and gave a most convincing account of the Islaevs' ward Vera, who falls so unhappily in love with Beliaev. Derek Rencher and Wayne Sleep continue (unbelievably) to improve their portraits of Natalia Petrovna's admirer Rakitin and her child Kolia, cameos which many felt to be already perfect.

The evening had started with a ballet which is relatively new to the Royal Ballet's repertoire, Robert North's "Troy Game". Created for the London Contemporary Dance Theatre and adopted as a hallmark by the fabulous Dance Theatre of Harlem, this is a very modern work which caricatures the attitudes of sportsmen to a background of Brazilian batucada music. The Royal Ballet's Artistic Director,

Norman Morrice, has come in for a lot of criticism from so-called "informed" quarters over his decision to stage the ballet, mainly on the grounds that the Company's classical dancers do not have the muscular physiques necessary to carry it off.

Having seen both the Dance Theatre of Harlem and the Royal Ballet perform "Troy Game", I am happy to report that the latter are intelligent enough not to copy the former's version and that their own is very successful indeed. All ten dancers were excellent but the show was stolen by Wayne Sleep and Stephen Jefferies. In fact, Stephen Jefferies danced so well as the embodiment of perpetual motion and has developed his comic talents to such an extent that he succeeded in upstaging Wayne Sleep—no mean feat!

The last ballet on the triple bill was "Les Noces". Despite its effective evocation of peasant Russia (thanks partly to Gontcharova's lovely designs) and its distinguished pedigree—choreography by Bronislava Nijinska (sister of the legendary dancer) and music by Stravinsky—I remain completely unmoved by this ballet. Vergie Derman (deputising for the indisposed Judith Howe), Julian Hosking and Wayne Eagling gave creditable performances in the leading roles and there was some fine singing by the soloists, notably by the bass. The orchestra played competently, as it usually does under the baton of Ashley Lawrence.

Jane Kleiner

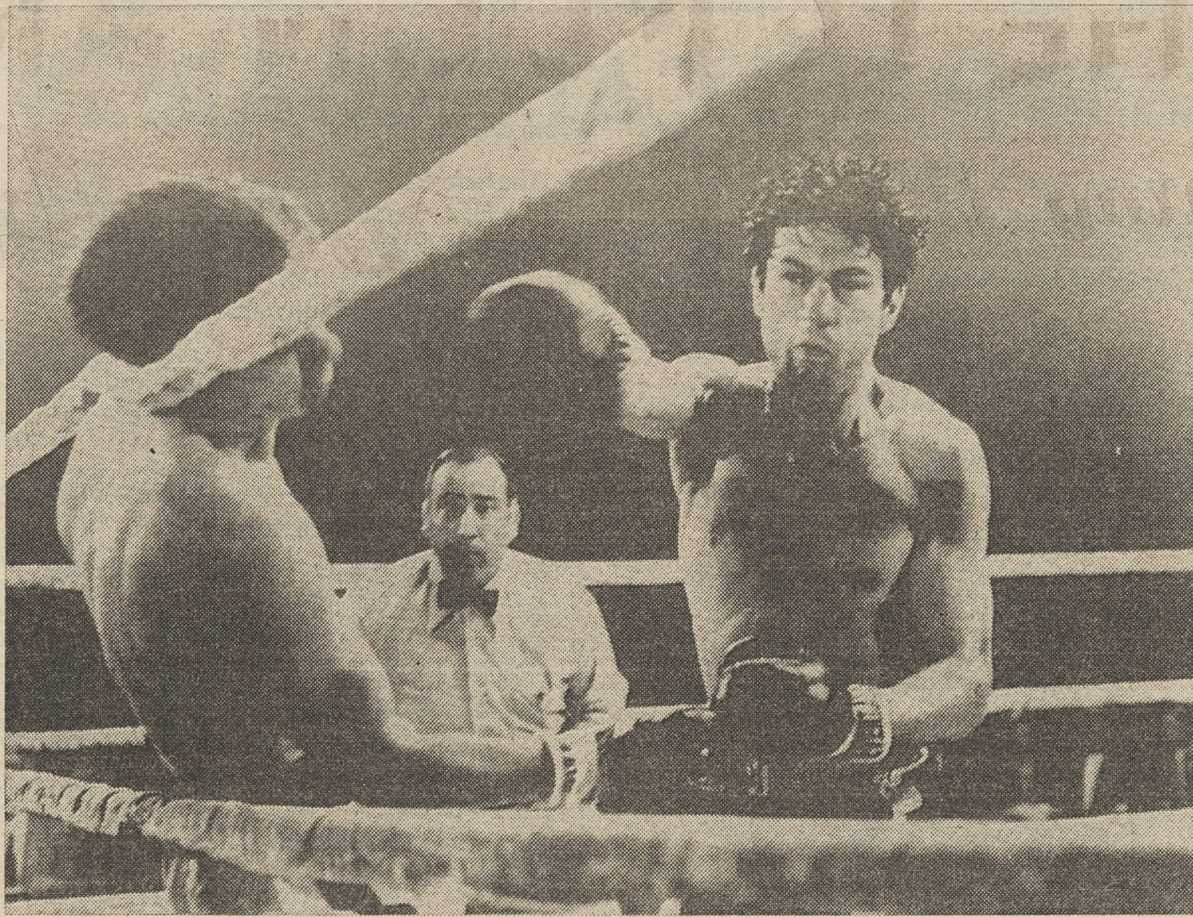
Raging Bull

MARTIN SCORSESE'S background is very evident from his films. A strong Catholic upbringing in New York which led to an initial intention to become a priest; but, on failing his devoutness tests at the Jesuit Fordham College, he entered New York University and did Film Studies. The effect of all this is also visible in his films (such as "Mean Streets", "Taxi-Driver", and even "Alice Doesn't Live Here Any More" and "New York, New York"), in his main character and "Passion", "Frustration", "Struggle", "Guilt", "Redemption" (indeed if you added "Driving" you could also be referring to Bruce Springsteen—another prime exponent of the Latin spirit). "Raging Bull", Scorsese's latest film, is a continuation, and he has referred to it as a conclusion to all the above.

"Raging Bull" has been photographed in glorious black and white, and certainly comes out the better for it. When he talked at the recent London Film Festival Scorsese gave three reasons for the black and white.

Firstly, he is the main contributor and the leader of the campaign to get Kodak and other film companies to invest in the necessary research to produce a colour film stock that does not fade, as all the Eastmancolor films made since the forties have or will do, so he did so primarily to protect his film and give it a greater chance of surviving in its original form for future generations to watch.

Secondly he wanted to re-



"Blood dripping from the ropes and soaking in the sponge"—"Raging Bull"

create the atmosphere of the old black-and-white boxing pics (such as the original "Champion"). Finally, while "Raging Bull" was being made another three boxing films were also being produced—"Rocky II", "The Champ" and "The Main Event"—all of which were in colour, so Scorsese acted to differentiate his film from the others (not that it was really necessary). Even though he himself admits that there are a limited number of ways you can shoot a boxing fight, it is an important factor that Scorsese has managed to provide a new look at boxing.

In "Raging Bull" we see the fight as the human blood-sport it is really is, and Scorsese accepts that many people might be put off or disgusted by the violence and bloodshed (however stylised). Combining slow-motion with electronic sounds, each punch seems to rock all

heaven and earth! The boxing scenes are brief, though explosive, and provide the chronology of Jake La Motta, the Raging Bull's career. They act as discrete units in the structure of the film, and do not represent any allegory on La Motta's struggles (except in one case where he especially disfigures his rival because his wife happened to say he was good-looking) and are not dramatic entities in themselves. For boxing, however strange this may seem, is not the subject of the film; the film is about Jake La Motta—person.

"Raging Bull" is about frustration, and in such a way that the spectator is never really at ease watching it. For La Motta is not a nice man. He's a bastard, a violent man in and out of the ring, who vents his rage on his wife and brother whom he eventually alienates completely. La Motta is a man who

can never be satisfied and the film is faithful to this, so when he eventually wins the title, or wins the girl (not meant as a sexist comment) there is no feeling of euphoria; when he is destroyed and batters himself against the walls of his cell there is no feeling of depression; because what "Raging Bull" (i.e. Scorsese), has to say is that life is one long struggle, against your past (your Catholic repressions), against your present (when nothing seems fulfilling, and everything we want dissolves as soon as we get it) and against your future, where you hope to succeed, but you really know there is nothing.

The subject of redemption is ever-present. La Motta makes himself, and eventually destroys himself, but redeems himself through his self-denial (which in Catholicism is the essence of redemption) when

he loses his audience, and the light of the world in his dark cell. At the end of the film we see La Motta working his way back up, back to the audiences. We see him in the dressing-room of a hotel where he recites literary pieces and, on hearing there is a full house, he gets ready to fight.

A final word is in order about the performances. Much has already been said about Robert de Niro and I risk repetition, but his work is really worth the praise. De Niro has gone past acting as a mere chameleonic change, he is now alone in the acting world as a performer of pure matter and mind transformations. What is also surprising is the way newcomers Joe Pesci and the incredible Cathy Moriarty, stand up to the De Niro presence and stand their ground.

A last anecdote is that Scorsese had a particular image in mind for the role of La Motta's second wife, that of Lana Turner in "The Postman Always Rings Twice" and the first person he approached was Deborah Harry. But in the end he took Ms. Moriarty, who often rings bells of Ms. Harry's role in "Union City" (soon to be released, I think) but somehow seems much more authentic.

C. Armero

LSE DRAMA SOCIETY

present

TWO ONE-ACT COMEDIES

TOM STOPPARD:

'THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND'

DAVID CAMPION:

'US AND THEM'

THURSDAY & FRIDAY,
26th & 27th FEB., 7.30 p.m.

OLD THEATRE (50p)

Tickets available at the Union Shop

Atlantic City

ATLANTIC CITY, the second American feature by the well established French director, Louis Malle, has one of the best scripts, best gallery of characters and, appropriately, best performances of any recent film.

The storyline follows the lives of a series of people, inhabitants of the reborn holiday-resort turned-gambling-haven of the American East coast, none of whom is totally honest, yet none of whom is totally bad.

Burt Lancaster plays an ageing petty hood with delusions of grandeur who cashes in on the sale of a family sized pack of cocaine which he doesn't know has been stolen from the Philadelphia mob. Susan Sarandon is the young neighbour, who aspires to become a croupier, whose ex-husband is the one

who brings the coke to Atlantic City. The mob is after him . . .

The story is told by Malle with such delicacy and feel for human detail, that even the bitter-sweet ending with a final doublecross, seems appropriate and optimistic. Atlantic City is a beautiful film about people trying to survive, which doesn't judge its characters and just begs for them to be accepted as they are.

C. ARMERO

LSE JAZZ SOCIETY

presents

GEOFF CASTLE QUARTET

combining dynamic pieces with fun rhythms in the THREE TUNS BAR

Friday, Feb. 27th

7.30 p.m.

Admission only 20p

A Band you can enjoy without being "into" jazz.

A mixed bag

Regrettably many of the paintings in the Hayward Gallery's exhibition "Edward Hopper: The Art and the Artist" will do little to enhance the reputation of an artist who has become a cult figure of American painting. Many of the works in the exhibition leave the viewer with a feeling of anti-climax because they simply do not have the power and intensity of the better-known paintings which are on display.

However, the exhibition is important precisely because it contains a wide range of those paintings by which Hopper's stature as an artist will be assessed—that is to say, those paintings which strike a particular chord in the American imagination. Hopper illustrated a very downbeat version of the American dream—run-down houses, tatty shops and offices, empty railway sidings and dimly-lit hotel lobbies.

His observation of people is impersonal—he paints solitary figures

in hotel bedrooms, coffee shops and trains. One of the most impressive pictures in the exhibition is "New York Movie" 1939, which shows an usherette standing in a cinema, obviously uninterested in a film she has seen many times before, deep in thought. She is not necessarily a lonely figure, but her isolation is striking. When Hopper paints groups of people there is no human drama in the scene; the people in the picture seem unaware of each other's presence. Only in such paintings as "Office at Night" 1940, where a secretary is turned towards her boss who is engrossed in some documents, or "Room in New York" 1932, where a woman is idly playing the piano whilst her companion is reading, is there any intimation of an emotional connection between the figures.

Solitude is also a recurrent theme in Hopper's landscapes and paintings of the urban environment. There is a dominant impression of solidity and silence in his sombre colours and use of heavy shadow. No matter which hour of the day

the artist is painting, no matter how bright the sunlight, Hopper's paintings convey an uneasy melancholic atmosphere. The famous Hopper images are best conveyed in such paintings as "Early Sunday Morning" 1930, which shows an empty row of shops or "Nighthawks" 1942, where we look at people sat under the glare of neon lights in a drug-store—each individual isolated from the other. Epithets such as "haunting" or "memorable" are applied to Hopper's work because his best paintings are concentrated by one image in all its solidity and exactness so that the paintings have the unique power to disturb and to capture a sense of urban unease. His composition technique—such as that used in "Compartment C, Car 293" 1938, where a woman sits reading in the dim light of a railway carriage, but our attention is focused on the night sky outside, and the originality of his paintings make his vision of America uniquely powerful. It is because a good many of these great paintings are on show at the Hayward exhibition that it should not be missed.



YOUR STARTER FOR TEN

Teams from Academics, Post-graduates, Undergraduates and King's College will appear in this Rag Week bonanza. Bamby Shackleton asks the starters for ten. Entrance 30p. In Old Theatre, 1-2, Friday, 5th March.

RADIO FUN

Fifty hours non-stop broadcasting from Friday, 27th February to Sunday, March 1st. Special features include the second best disco in town on Saturday evening, a quiz, outside broadcasts, a live telephone link, a book at bedtime, mystery guests and lots more besides. Requests will be 5p each. Donations for prizes or for auction over the air would be appreciated. Enquiries, suggestions to the Ents Room, or the Radio Passfield Studio T26.

Sponsored pub crawl

For sheer togetherness the three-legged pub crawl must be the event of Rag Week. Find a friend, find The Yorkshire Grey by 12 o'clock on the morning of Sunday 1st March; strap your leg to theirs and you are away.

For the next two hours all you'll have to do is drink your way around NW1 and it's all in a good cause. So pick up a form NOW from The Three Tuns, the Ents Room, Tracy Lloyd or Tamsin Cottis, and be there! PLUS a free rag T-shirt if you can raise more than £20 from your sponsors, and if you can muster up £30 or more we'll proudly present you with a free ticket for the Rag Ball.

RAGTIME LUNCHTIME

And by way of a culture shock, the music of Scott Joplin can be heard in The Three Tuns at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, 3rd March. Don't miss Live Rag music for Rag Week.

RAG CALENDAR

Friday, Feb. 27th - Sunday, March 1st—

Sponsored Radio Passfield.

Sunday, March 1st—

Sponsored Three-legged Pub Crawl.

Monday, March 2nd—

Tug of war.

Welly throwing.

Hit Squad.

Hot Gossip.

Tuesday, March 3rd—

Intercollegiate Pancake Race.

Ragtime Lunchtime—Three Tuns.

Wednesday, March 4th—

City Collection.

Oxford Street Stooges.

Sponsored Disco Dancing.

Thursday, March 5th—

Bar Games Championships with Pilsner Lager at 2 bottles for 50p, 3 bottles for 60p.

Celebrity Tug of war.

Friday, March 6th—

Mock University Challenge and

Grand Auction—Old Theatre

Comedian Night

Saturday, March 7th—

RAG BALL — with "Squeeze"

Bars till 1.30 a.m.

Tickets available now.

Sunday, March 8th—

Sponsored Soccer:

Women's Team v LSE 1st XI.

Rag Week ends.

Saturday, March 14th—

Roy Harper.

City collection

Unfortunately the Police have put something of a damper on our proposed Marx march on the City. The alternative is a Street Collection which will be based in the Royal Exchange forecourt all day, Wednesday, March 4th. We desperately need volunteers to person the collecting cans and do zany things to attract stockbrokers' cheque books. Marx himself will be there, as will Bruce the Beaver, who is nearing the end of his long ordeal in captivity. His release is expected next week, although he will require a couple of days for mental adjustment in the Costa del Sol (and as Rag Chairman I will travel with him), before being reunited with his other arm, friends and family.

Rag stall

Starting Monday, 23rd February, a Rag Stall will be blitzing the St. Clement's foyer with bright and colourful Flash Beaver T-shirts, Rag badges, Rag mugs and tickets for all the wonderful forthcoming events in Rag Week.

P.S. Any volunteers for the stall would be very welcome. Contact Tracy Lloyd or leave a message in the Ents Room.

HIT SQUAD

IS there anybody you really dislike enough to have them hit by the LSE's answer to the professionals—the hit squad?

For a few pennies (all going to our worthwhile causes) we will soak them for you. Or, for an exorbitant cost, we will do our "special" treatment—water, flour, shaving foam.

All applications to E206—with money please.

	PRICE LIST	
	Ordinary	Special
Student	£0.50	£1.00
Exec	£1.00	£2.00
Sabbatical	£2.00	£4.00
Lecturer	£5.00	£10.00
Director	£25.00	£50.00

But, of course, the recipient of our attentions could always pay protection money to us . . .

ATTENTION!

Anyone who raises over £20 in sponsorship or Rag Mag sales gets a

FREE

RAG T-SHIRT

worth £2.50

Over £30 wins a

FREE

RAG BALL TICKET

worth £3.50

The Final Rag '81 Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 24th Feb., 1.30 pm, TV Room



SQUEEZE

THE RAG BALL

Yes, after protracted negotiations, SQUEEZE have finally agreed to headline the Rag Ball on 7th March

THE SUPPORT BANDS (IF NOT AS FAMOUS) DESERVE SOME MENTION—

RED BEANS & RICE—have been exhausting London audiences with their boppy R 'n' B for over three years now and are the sort of band everybody loves.

THE DISTRACTIONS—Highly reputed, post modernist pop combo with Mancurian/Factory Records origins.

BEAT ROOTS—Jazz-Reggae, with about 98% emphasis on the reggae!

LATE DISCO & BARS

FILMS — Santa fe Trail ; Three Musketeers ; Omen II

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW from Union Shop & Rag Stall (3.00 Advance :: £3.60 on Door)

BE THERE!

NICK GODDARD

AN EVENING WITHOUT

THE absence of Griff Rhys Jones (summoned to Monte Carlo . . .) made little difference to the professional show which "An Evening Without" presented in the Old Theatre last week. Sketch upon sketch, from the people who really wrote the "Not . . ." team's jokes, had the audience in stitches for the whole ninety minutes. Participation was demanded from those in the front rows, who were alternately showered with cornflakes and asked about their private lives, to the delight of the rest of the audience.

Highlights abounded—a meeting of the Paranoia Society went down well with like-minded sections of the audience, and Jimmy Mulville's version of "Send in the Clowns" threw a whole new light on showbiz hype.

The occasional intellectual joke happily fell on receptive ears, with Kafka being brought into disrepute along with Pearl Harbour; but the French "Crime of Passion" did not seem to be quite as fully understood as the song about their alcoholic beverages, with its German and English equivalents (the latter being a one-liner "Newquay Brown," quickly followed by collapse into unconsciousness). The only troughs in the polished flow came when one of the team reluctantly made a racist quip, and when Clive Anderson produced a copy of the Daily Telegraph, greeted by a rise of hissing from the audience. Rory McGrath intercalated a not-so-wide variety of blues songs into the performance, and their brilliance was only surpassed by the audience's rendering of "Land of Hope and Glory" at the end of the show—but somehow the words weren't quite as I recall them . . .

Note for aspiring comedians—don't give up the daytime job! Clive Anderson really IS a barrister.

ISABEL MORTLOCK



Pictures by Colin Bates



Coming soon

DELTA 5
Saturday, February 28th

ORIGINATING from Leeds, the twin bass/twin guitar attack of Delta 5 has evolved from uncertain beginnings to a finely-honed level of dynamism. Delta 5 take the rhythmic twists and turns of an accepted musical format — in their case funk—and strip it down to the barest essentials before building anew on the stark framework. They have become harder and more abra-

sive with increasing maturity and they are all the better for this gradual toughening up.

The syncopated rhythmic funk of the basses and drums act as undercurrents for tense and sparingly used shrilly guitar lines. The resultant effect is clean and simple, the rhythms crisp and supple and the interweaving twin bass lines never less than danceable.

Loved by the music press and John Peel, this is your chance to get to know them!

THE NIGHTINGALES

. . . are a Brummy band motivated it seems by cynicism, gloom and silliness—i.e., they are typically Brummy! Formed in November '79 from the remnants of The Prefects, they have so far been deemed worth two Peel sessions and a single distributed by Rough Trade. Another band that is definitely on the up.

JOSEF K

Having never heard of any of this band's music makes it difficult for me to preview them. However, I have heard a considerable amount about them and they hit our capital from Bonnie Scotland with a reputation that deserves investigation.

Nick Goddard

Pressing alternatives

From "Private Eye" to "Spare Rib", from "The Rochdale Alternative Paper" to "Hackney Action" — the Alternative Press is booming. Beaver concludes a two-part look at the changing face of Britain's news-stands.

by Simon Garfield

SEATED in a sparse, eighth-floor flat in Westbourne Park in the hot summer of 1976, Mark Perry is stapling together the messily-produced first issue of the punk "fanzine" *Sniffin Glue*. It contains a few brief interviews and some confused thoughts on recent Clash and X Ray Spex performances. There are a few hundred copies in all—each one badly photocopied from the hand-written original. Later that day, he goes to the Marquee Club in Wardour Street and sells the entire print run in a few minutes.

Seldom has there been a more striking example of the nature, ap-

searcher and librarian at *Time Out* for six years, puts the continued success of most alternative papers down to a deliberate attempt to "keep within their limits". "As far as *Time Out* is concerned, fourteen years have seen relatively little change as far as editorial policy is concerned. The biggest transformation has been the size of the magazine—there hasn't been a marked move either to the left or right. A lot of our readers have grown up with us—many have now got cars and mortgages — so there's no call to go fighting on the streets any more. Most people seem content to fight particular issues rather than

lective summed up their political stance at a recent reader's meeting: "We have to think about the way we write, the style we use, not to make political assumptions. Because we are feminists who live in feminist households, work in a feminist collective, it's easy to lose touch with what a vast number of women are thinking. So we have to be strong . . . and at the same time be accessible."

Spare Rib find such local meetings the best way of keeping in touch with regular readers. Even in their fiftieth issue, *The Leveller* confess "we haven't yet found a way of involving readers outside London," and this remains a constant problem for most London-based alternative publications.

In the days of the Underground and the early years before the real Alternative boom, almost all publications emerged from within a 10-mile radius of Leicester Square. If, as has been suggested, the Alternative Press began "in a duffle-coat at Aldermaston", then it's just as certain that the first ideas travelled south to be typeset in Islington, Brixton or Camden Town.

Yet the slow, systematic rise of alternative local papers, some of which claim to have replaced conventional local weeklies as the genuine, unbought voice of the community, was perhaps the most positive and permanent effect of the Underground. Ten years on from *Oz*, the "alternative voice" now flourishes in places as diverse as Rochdale and Dundee.

Most concentrate on working conditions, housing, education, poverty and town planning. They unearth political and welfare failures, fill gaps in the social system and offer new solutions to local problems. In the area of welfare rights legislation they concentrate on getting information to those who most need it, to where leaflets left in post-office corners do not reach.

From Brighton there comes *Attila* and *The Mole* ("We recognise our old friend, our old mole, who knows so well how to work underground . . ."); from Cardiff, the *People's Paper* ("Challenging and criticising the powerful and their system"); and from Staffordshire



peal or extent of Britain's Alternative Press. The fanzine — a literal cross between an idolatory fanletter and a regular music magazine — was a one-person effort expressing one person's views. It was a deliberate attempt at "anti-art" in true punk "anti-everything" style, and it presented the only alternative to the established music press which had initially turned a blind eye to the punk threat.

Whereas the inward-looking Underground Press aimed only to serve the new underground counter-culture and collapsed by necessity when the movement itself collapsed, the early Alternative Press concerned itself with far narrower and more specific issues, by no means always political, and was pitched neither from, nor at, a particular culture.

A quick glance at the mass of alternative publications on any news-stand today confirms a decade of remarkable development and success.

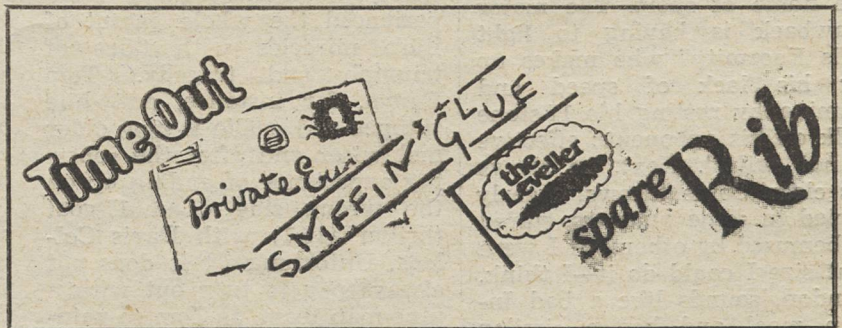
From an initial print run of 500 copies twenty years ago, produced in part at the waiter's changing room at The Establishment night club, *Private Eye* now enjoys a circulation fast approaching 200,000; from a four-page poster sold to cinema queues in 1968, *Time Out* has expanded into a comprehensive hundred-page document of "24-hour London" and boasts a circulation of 83,000 and an annual turnover of £2.2 million; from the blatant sexism of *Oz* in 1972, and as a direct alternative to *Woman's Own*, *Spare Rib* has expanded from a circulation of a few hundred to over 20,000 and is now firmly established, even in the most conservative of book stalls, as the only regular feminist magazine which reaches both politically active feminists and women with little or no interest in the movement; and as a direct offshoot from alternative investigative papers *Ink* and *Seven Days* came *The Leveller*, an independent, politically radical fortnightly which has a print run of 15,000 and this week celebrates its 50th issue.

Steve Pinder, who has been a re-

struggle against The System as a whole."

Time Out now employs over 60 staff, and with the exception of the Executive, all receive the same salary no matter what their role. Financial Controller Eric Read says that the magazine "is still small enough for management and journalists to speak to each other" and points out that in recent years there has been little of the union trouble that frequently halted production in the mid Seventies.

Despite *Time Out's* left-wing stance, there has never been any attempt to give staff financial control or turn it into a co-operative. *The Leveller*, lovingly described by its collective as "a sort of left-wing *Economist*" is, by contrast, owned and managed by its founding subscribers and journalists. Crispin Aubrey and Angela Phillips, the only remaining contributors from the days of the pilot issue, feel that the open collective has been a positive strength: "We've shown that it's possible to sustain an independent, credible socialist maga-

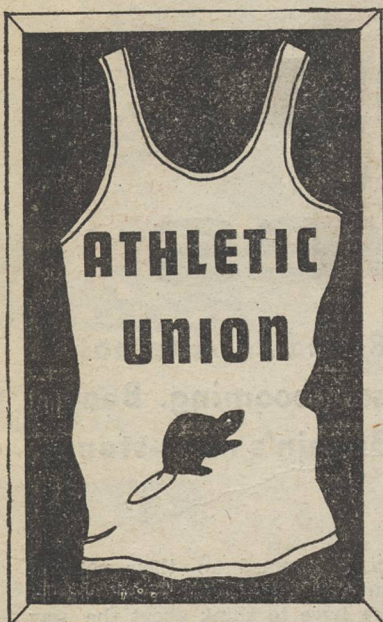


zine without a party, or big money, or making compromises . . . that it's possible to work collectively, without an editor, and with rotating responsibilities . . ."

Spare Rib is also run successfully on a collective basis, but, unlike *The Leveller*, decides not to follow a specific political line. Ruth Wallsgrove, a member of the collective, says that the magazine is often criticised for its "middle-classness" and that that criticism has long been a cause for concern. The col-

lective is *Cleveland Wrecking Yard* and *Titus Groan*, the latter offering "One per cent of all things they don't want you to know". Clearly the Underground had set in motion a cultural pendulum that would never swing back.

"What is this paper?" asks the first issue of *Hackney Action*. Their answer, that "It's yours to read, to write, to distribute . . ." would have been laughed at before the birth of the Underground. Now, 15 years later, it is a priceless reality.



Throwing their weight

IT is 4 p.m. Wednesday, and a small group clad in white pyjamas cross a bitterly cold Houghton Street. The porters look on nochalantly; the Judo Club is meeting to engage in their sado-masochistic pastime.

His enormity, the instructor, who doubles as a Statistics Lecturer, lumbers on to the mats and the session begins. "Warming Up" involves activating, stretching and preparing muscles unused in the past week for the ensuing exercise. Then everyone is paired off for ground work, similar to wrestling, the object being to hold the opponent down for 30 seconds or gain a submission. One method of achieving this is strangulation; a successful attempt entails the victim changing colour from bright red to purple, eyes popping and eventual unconsciousness. Until beginners have learnt to submit in time this is a somewhat unpleasant experience. The activity, it must be said, brings out the best of our primitive instincts; murder, violence, physical dominance, etc. Partners are changed so everyone gets a chance to inflict excruciating pain on an extensive scale. It also gives the men the opportunity to grope with, assault and abuse the women in the name of sport. The major drawback is having to fight "His Enormity" who makes up for his lack of speed and stamina by resting his 17-stone bulk on his opponent: effective if not skilful. Next, he shows his class. Some throws, eagerly copied in some quarters, stared at bemused by others—if I were that size I could do it—I think. Randon, sounds like a bad Indian meal and has a similar effect—makes you rather ill, is when these throws are put into practice. As injuries mount the session draws to a close leaving everyone drained and bruised.

After showering and dressing the class reconvenes in the Beaver's Retreat to restore body fluid and friendships. Fancy coming next week?

SERGIO

INTO OBLIVION

more drivel from Andy Dryszko

ANY qualms you might feel about being locked in a room full of domination gear with a seven-foot transvestite from the King's Road are nothing compared with the recent sufferings and tribulations of the LSE men's hockey club.

Having got you reading, the rest is pretty boring since I am a fairly feeble rhetorician at the best of times and I also have this terrible headache . . . But have no fear I shall come back to hockey.

In all flippancy I can say I am depressed. My optimism in the last issue about our chances against St Mary's was duly misplaced. Chronic illnesses, mainly to do with the conditions of various bones in the anatomics of some of the players, played a cruel fate on the team in that we only turned out with eight men.

After our customary and sporting pre-match chanting and fart arsing around rituals aimed basically at putting the opposition off, we proceeded to score a goal within seconds of the start; they were still recovering from their psychological ordeal.

The goal radiated sheer brilliance and comprised of Laurance Anga whacking the ball from the edge of the circle against one of the posts. The ball, obviously having a mind and will of its own, came to rest nicely on the goal line for Charles Baker to slot it in . . . quite ironic really for he did bugger all the rest of the match.

Well from then it was downhill all the way. We were 1-0 up at half-time but severely knock-

ed after soaking up much pressure and many frustration-induced fouls from the opposition; Tony Curran pulled a muscle . . . Charles Baker blew his nose . . .

They got two in the second half but not before Andy Dryszko ballsed up a beautiful solo effort from the half-way line by doing a pitifully incompetent dummy on the goalie.

Martyn Ford had an excel-

lent game at left back despite his increasing impatience at not being allowed to play centre forward, and worked well in tidying up the back with Jacques Steffens. Simon Lansley and Scottie ran themselves lame particularly the former since now I come to think of it, the latter was not even playing.

The game against UCH was a fairly low key affair; us turning out winners at 5-1. The competent play of Steve Holden was the only observation worth postulating.

The match against Goldsmiths was untrue; we had eight men again, because Steve Davis did his back. We lost 10-1 although we scored first again inside the first minute after a well-timed pass from Andy Dryszko was picked up and elegantly put away by Charles Baker again (Yawns).

Wednesday, February 11th, saw a full team of 11 turning out against Westfield. Mick Coleby was our only dead weight extra though he had made it perfectly clear that he was only there for the beer and proceeded to stroll around, hands in pockets aimlessly for most of the match.

It was a mindlessly boring affair with us scoring between 10 and 14 (we lost count). They were pretty hopeless really (they wouldn't they?) but good sports. An enjoyable afternoon was rounded off by our very own Simon Hall dribbling past two of his own defenders to flick a really superb own goal past bemused Yankee goalie Billy Vigdor.

(This article has been edited for obvious reasons—eds.).



Competition: Write your own caption.

OXBRIDGE TROUNCED

AT the University College "5" at Parliament Hill Fields on January 31, the LSE Cross-Country teams turned up in large numbers and won a set of 3rd place medals ahead of Oxford and Cambridge Universities with very good runs from Richard Wilding and Peter Biddlecombe and good packing by the rest of the first team.

Results:—

- 7, R. Wilding LSE A 27.55.
- 14, P. Biddlecomb LSE A 28.35.
- 25, J. Dolan LSE A 29.08.
- 27, P. Ramsay LSE A 29.14.
- 28, C. Lizieri LSE A 29.15.
- 48, R. Silemano LSE B 30.23.
- 68, C. Preston LSE B 32.05.
- 71, J. Pratt LSE B 32.20.
- 75, J. Shepley LSE B 32.34.
- 98, S. Carrier LSE B 38.42.

Teams:—

- 1. Bristol 54
- 2. Soton 96
- 3. LSE A 101
- 12. LSE B 315

P.S. The best Oxbridge runners were at another race.

WATCH OUT FOR THE AU RAG EVENTS
Five-a-side Football
Mixed Netball (Ladies' Team v. AU Committee)

Sponsorship for the Netball will be very welcome.

SID BONKERS

Football: a social disease?

THE Football Club does not, as some people may believe, consist solely of an amorphous and anonymous donkey rabble. It is a human club, a sensitive club (and an increasingly small club) and its members have experienced the whole gamut of life's miracles with tales of triumph and tragedy. Tom Denya, for instance, erstwhile skipper and goalie is now older and wiser and after the sobering experience of ending up on the wrong side of a 17-goal thriller (16-1) with Davis College. Unfortunately it does not always pay to turn out with a nine-man team, as Tom so painfully discovered. However, the club is having to resort to these desperate measures due to the paucity of playing staff. But for the 3rd team, it has almost proved to be a positive advantage as with a mere eight players they gained an admirable draw at Royal Holloway and quite regularly find ten more perfectly adequate to dispose of the opposition. Nevertheless, seeing as they are in-

involved in a hard struggle for their league title they do not mind occasionally reverting to a more conventional format.

But who is that shattered, shambling figure drifting aimlessly between the AU and the Tuns? Yes, it is tragedy personified in the body of Phil Blundell, broken by the strains of fixture arranging and the collapse of his second team who have had to forfeit games due to the vagaries of British Rail and reach a depressing nadir with an ignominious defeat at the hands of Kings 3rds in the Cup. Wrong time to make your humble acknowledgements of the Year of the Disabled lads. No wonder poor old Phil has taken to the booze (even more).

But in stark contrast, John Pittalis has devoted himself to a life of hard work and physical fitness. This paragon of good health is an example to us all and such virtue has reaped its inevitable reward. With his inspirational dedication to the

firsts, they have fought for the second year running into the ULU Cup Final, with John personally applying the coup de grace to the highly-fancied Imperial in the semi. With the rest of the Club largely inactive, recently the firsts have continued to stay away twice weekly in order to keep their championship hopes alive and while the rest of the team looks increasingly weather-beaten the fanatical Pittalis goes on, relishing it all.

Like last year, the firsts play Royal Holloway in the final and also like last year the LSE is doubly represented on finals day with the fourths in the final of the Lower reeve (up against Imperial College fifths). Most consider the Fourth's fate dependent on whether new skipper Rich Davis can maintain control of his bowels and whether Stan Walters can remain sober the night before. Yes, the football club still harbours the occasional degenerate.