

THE PRINT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF QUEEN MARY STUDENTS' UNION

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Student attacked in Soho hate crime



Image: Peter Fingleton

QM student assaulted outside The Box nightclub in Soho for his sexuality, told by attackers: "It's Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve"

Davey Brett

A Queen Mary Drama student has been attacked due to his sexuality whilst waiting for a friend outside The Box nightclub in Soho. Benedict Stewardson, 20, was approached by a group of men who told him "Halloween hadn't started yet." After responding to the remark Benedict, was aggressively confronted by one of the men asking for a fight.

The man then verbally abused Benedict, who was dressed in drag, allegedly saying: "I'm not the one with the problem, you are. God made men and women not men and men, Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve. You're the one who takes it up the bum." The attacker then punched Benedict causing him to fall to the ground, before fleeing from the scene.

Benedict has commented on the as-

sault, saying: "After an attack where a stranger demonstrates prejudices you are aware of - constantly aware of - yet have managed to manoeuvre yourself away from, it brings reality into sharp focus. London is not a haven for queer people, it isn't safe and gay-bashing and anti-queer violence is not something that we left behind in the dust of the 2000s. Queer rights do not end with equal marriage. We as a society have a long way to go because

people like me still face the fear that comes with being attacked and physically assaulted because of what you are and who you love. Until every citizen can walk down the street without having to check themselves or take detours because they fear for their own safety, then we can not claim to be a fair and equal society."

The Met police are treating the incident as a homophobic hate crime and

have issued a statement, commenting: "Westminster police is committed to tackling hate crime in all its forms and is dedicated to working with, and improving services for the LGBT communities within the City of Westminster." The assault comes in the wake of a string of attacks on Soho drag queens in July, in which two were arrested.

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The Print is printed at Mortons of
Horncastle Ltd, Media Centre, Morton
Way, Horncastle, Lincolnshire, LN9
6JR. Tel 01507 523 456. Each issue
has a print run of 750 and costs £467
to print and deliver.

Established in 2014, The Print is the
free official student newspaper of
Queen Mary Students' Union. The
Print is created by students and
the publication retains all copyright
of design, text, photographs and
graphics, along with the individual
contributor. The Print's layout was
designed by Molly Lattin.

Any views expressed in The Print
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Humans of QM

What advice would you give to students studying at Queen Mary?

"Don't get panicked into taking the first job that comes along. Don't be afraid. I think many people come out of university worried and go off in a rush and think 'Oh, okay. I'll just do this or that'. Don't. I meet people with great jobs all the time." – Dan Snow



Image: Humans of QM. For more, like 'Humans of Queen Mary' on Facebook

A Note from the Editor

Davey Brett

Calling ALL students – we want you! The Print is always looking for contributors and the good news is you don't need a Pulitzer or nomination for the Man Booker prize to get involved. We're looking to get as many students on board in as many ways as possible to provide a diverse student voice and interesting content to match. The student newspaper is a perfect way to get your voice heard and with six sections covering a vast array of possible topics – there's something for everyone!

Been tipped off about an interesting scientific advancement in your academic department? Report on it for news. Want to voice your opinion on a topic you feel isn't getting the coverage it deserves? Vent in a comment article. Discovered something that would make for an intriguing long read feature? Want to shamelessly take the

p**s out of things? Satire is the place for you. Are you an armchair sports fan that fancies a change from Football Manager? Cover one of the many exciting sports teams for us. Want to sing the praises of societies or take a closer look at their events? Societies are always looking for articles.

Our section editors are always willing to provide inspiration and ideas for articles as well as listening to anything you may have to offer so don't be afraid to contact them. A full list of editor contacts is available on our Facebook contributors group (search 'The Print – 2k14 Contributors Group') and for those not on Facebook we welcome emails. We're always looking for feedback so let us know your thoughts on social media - good or bad. Thanks for picking up the latest issue and hope it provides enjoyable reading.

“ you don't need a Pulitzer or nomination for the Man Booker prize to get involved. ”

QMUL unveils new Centre of Excellence in partnership with Brain Tumour Research

New and groundbreaking research centre based at QMUL's Blizard Institute paves the way for a £20m investment in brain tumour research over the next 5 years

Rachel Barrow

Patients, scientists, and celebrities gathered late last month to unveil a new and groundbreaking centre for brain tumour research based at Queen Mary's Blizard Institute. In cooperation with the UCL Institute of Neurology, the research Centre of Excellence is a welcome boost to long-term sustainable and continuous research into brain tumours - the biggest cancer killer of young adults in the UK. The launch comes as research produced earlier this year revealed that 1 in 50 deaths under the age of 60 are caused by brain tumours, yet the field currently receives just 1% of national cancer research spending.

The event was hosted by Brain Tumour Research Patron, the Rt Hon John Bercow MP – Speaker of the House of Commons. Bercow spoke about his ongoing support. "This is an historic moment for Brain Tumour Research. Based on what they have achieved already, the prognosis is now brighter for patients and families affected by this terrible disease, but we can't be complacent. Unlike many other cancers, brain tumour research does not benefit from general research. It is only through giving to charities funding laboratory-based research that all 120+ types of brain tumour will be cured". Also in attendance was retired actor Ian Reddington, a Patron for Brain Tumour Research who now spends his time working to raise awareness of underfunding in brain tumour research.

The centre is being led by Professor Silvia Marino, a leading brain tumour scientist and neuropathologist based at the



Image: Gary Schwartz

Blizard Institute. Marino will specialise in identifying how glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) forms and grows within the brain with the final aim of identifying more efficient treatments. Attending the event, Professor Marino spoke of her support for the partnership: "The launch event signified a milestone for brain tumour research. As long-term funding is secured, it frees us from the constraints of applying for one specific project grant after another and will facilitate the recruitment of the brightest junior scientists and clinicians to the neuro-oncology field. This is a major initiative in an underfunded research area in the UK"

Attendee Lucy Jones, a PHD student

who was diagnosed with a brain tumour at a young age, spoke at the event of her experience with the illness, "After my diagnosis I felt I'd been dealt two blows. Having a brain tumour and a disease about which so little is known. Today is a hopeful day for me, a positive step forward which means others may not have to face the devastation my family and I have had to face."

With secure long-term funding covering crucial salaried positions, researchers at QMUL will now be free to pursue the sustainable and continuous research so desperately needed by scientists and clinicians working in this underfunded field. The centre hopes to train scientists to reach their full potential in brain tu-

mour research, who at present become tempted into other cancer research which currently offers both greater funding and job prospects. The relationship with QMUL, alongside additional new partnerships with Plymouth University and Imperial College in London, will pave the way for a £20 million investment in brain tumour research over the next five years.

This is just the beginning for the Centre of Excellence which will require fundraising from students across London and the UK to meet its long-term goals. Just £2,740 will pay for a day's research. If you'd like to get involved in fundraising events or find out more please contact Lauren@braintumourresearch.org

Reading week strike threatens to delay marking process

Universities UK are suggesting pension reform for lecturers and UCU are looking for a negotiation

Eden Gilby

A marking boycott took place on 6th November which saw academics and staff from 69 universities protest against proposed change to pensions.

Although the strike did not affect any contact hours within Queen Mary, it did threaten to disrupt planned exams and mean that students will not receive marks for coursework and other assignments as scheduled. University

and Colleges Union (UCU) have met with university employers to negotiate an alternative and are still awaiting a decision.

Universities UK were planning on changing the pension from a final salary arrangement to a pension based on an average salary throughout a career - but only up to a threshold of £50,000. On top of this, employers would start paying 18% instead of

16% into their employees pension. There are other propositions to the pension reform that UCU have opposed.

78% of UCU voted in favour of the strike in a recent ballot, whilst 87% voted for action less than a strike, such as a marking boycott. 45% of members voted in the ballot which is the highest turnout in a notional higher education ballot since the formation

of UCU in 2006.

UCU general secretary, Sally Hunt, said: "The proposals remain full of holes and the information they are apparently relying on to back them up keeps being exposed as misleading." She goes on, "[we] hope the employers will come back to the table for genuine negotiations aimed at resolving the enormous gap between our two positions."

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QMSU's LGBT+ representative for Mile End, Adam Sparkes, has commented on the attack, saying: "First of all I'd like to express my complete disgust at what happened to Benedict. Nobody deserves to be attacked for any reason, especially due to their sexuality, or the way they choose to dress."

"Homophobic attacks seem to be occurring more frequently within London and this is of course an issue we're trying to tackle head on within Tower Hamlets. This attack took place within Soho, an area which is considered to be much safer for members of the LGBT+ community. Attacks such as this highlight the amount of work that still needs to be done with tackling ignorance and homophobia, not just within Tower Hamlets but across London."

BOFFINS on Black History month

Victoria Adams

The BOFFINS Society (Biweekly Open Forum For Issues in Natural Sciences) took their own stance on Black History month last week and why it should matter to all students and areas of academia.

The main aim of the BOFFINS talk was to highlight the issues with talking about race in the scientific community, with the event highlighting two major points: firstly, the lack of reporting on the important differences between races (i.e. from a biomedical perspective) and the fact that this is neglected from scientific literature. Secondly, when scientists do report on things, they often touch upon historically controversial stereotypes, and these are all white scientists and therefore the clarity of biased reporting is neglected. Strangely enough, this is still a 21st century problem.

Clarissa Gardener, President of BOFFINS, commented on the event:

"I wanted to give a presentation on my race, things that interest me, like why everyone else has lighter skin, straighter hair, to biomedical phenomena like malaria resistance and the genetic influence of blood pressure. Just to show that there are interesting as well as biomedically important differences between us - that don't have to be controversial."

8,000

EU and
international
students

150

Different
Nationalities
represented
on Campus

Diversity is vital for educational success

QMUL's Principal joins university leaders from across the country in outlining their conviction that equality and diversity are integral to university excellence

Jessica Kendrixs

"The realisation of personal potential is in no way restricted by race, religion, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation or gender identity". This is one of a number of statements made by QMUL's Principal Simon Gaskell in a report published on 17 October. The national report, published by the higher education equality body, saw the Equality Challenge Unit target the lack of diversity across senior management positions and other top positions within higher education. Based on the results of a series of interviews with university heads, the consensus was that a university which failed to value staff or student diversity simply could not be considered excellent.

Simon Gaskell was one of 12 principals and vice-chancellors from UK universities such as Royal Holloway and Cardiff, who contributed to the 'The Rationale for Equality and Diversity: How Vice-Chancellors Are Leading Change', which aims to stress the virtues of equality and diversity at university - something most agree should be a fundamental part of any university ethos.

Historically, Queen Mary has repeat-

edly shown a commitment to embracing equality and diversity and supporting disadvantaged groups who hope to better their lives through education. The intentions of the university have always been rooted in the pursuit to educate disadvantaged groups in both local areas and across the UK, the embodiment of which resulted in the merge with Westfield College in 1989, a college dedicat-

It is well-known that QM itself is a university which prides itself on its high levels of diversity, now with over half of the undergraduate population and 50% of the 4,000 person staff-base being female, 26% of whom come from BME backgrounds

ed specifically to educating women. QMUL was also the first university to commit to paying all staff a living wage and to press industries to adopt it.

It is well-known that QM itself is a university which prides itself on its high levels of diversity, now with over half of the undergraduate population and 50% of the 4,000 person staff-base being female, 26% of whom come from BME backgrounds. There is a strong sense of cultural diversity here, with almost 8,000 EU and international students from 150 different nationalities. And this diversity extends overseas. QMUL now has over 2,000 students currently studying in Beijing for a joint degree at Beijing University.

Many of Principal Gaskell's comments originate from his time living in Texas, experiencing the way in which his children's Hispanic friends became victims of both societal and individual prejudice which resulted in poor educational performance and overall potential. This was "an eye opening experience" for him which developed a deep commitment to diversity which has clearly inspired his values as a university Principal. For Gaskell, diversi-

ty is about "making the most of the talents of all individuals", hence his belief that diverse groups are more likely to succeed "where all have contributed and all feel committed to the outcome".

Gaskell highlights in the report that the commitment to our diverse student body is one of the key reasons Queen Mary has retained excellent quality research staff for many years and also why student satisfaction has been on the rise, now with 89% of students claiming to be satisfied with the quality of their course.

QM's own strategic plan states that "we celebrate the diversity of our staff as much as that of our student body. We will reinforce targeted programmes of staff support and personal development, including opportunities related to teaching skills and student support, the High-Potential Leaders Programme, Women into Leadership, and tailored provisions for new senior office holders. We will build on recent success to further extend our accreditation in Athena SWAN and related diversity schemes."



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who account for a high number of the cases so far. These countries unfortunately do not have the capacity to care for the number of patients affected, with Liberia in particular having over 2,000 too few beds. This means that these patients are sent back out into the community to be cared for by their families, enabling them to spread the disease further.

There are no effective treatments for Ebola at present, although there are clinical trials being fast tracked, so the main focus at present is on preventing people from contracting the disease. Issy Marks, Medsin Barts Co-President, comments, "The Kick Ebola Out campaign is doing a fantastic job at teaching local communities about Ebola in ways that international agencies could never do."

As well as individual visits, the campaign aims to reach the widest possible audience, using radio broadcasts and publications to ensure everyone is armed with the knowledge needed to minimise the spread of the disease. They will also be spending money on Chlorine, one of the few disinfectants known to be effective against Ebola. Ebola is a viral disease that is spread through close contact with infected human bodily fluids. Once someone has caught Ebola, their symptoms will not begin for 2 to 21 days. In this 'incubation period' people are not infectious, but as soon as they start showing even mild symptoms, they are able to pass the disease on to others. Early symptoms are quite vague, including muscle pain, tiredness, headache and sore throat. A sudden fever

is the biggest early warning sign, and the sufferer goes on to develop vomiting, diarrhoea and a rash, with both internal and external bleeding. This bleeding gives rise to the red eyes that are seen as characteristic of advanced disease. Not everyone who contracts the illness dies, but the rates remain high due to dehydration and multiple organ failure caused by the bleeding and diarrhoea. The outbreak in Africa has so far affected Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone, with a further few cases in Nigeria and Mali. Only 3 cases have been contracted outside of West Africa. Because Ebola is so contagious, patients need to be cared for in specialist centres, so that other vulnerable patients do not become affected. This is also to protect the staff providing healthcare,

Sabbs on tour: An update from QMSU VP Education

Your sabbatical officers keeping you up to date on all the latest QMSU news, watch out for them on their 'Union on Tour' initiative

Carolina Mantzalos



QnImage: QMSU

Hey Everyone! I am your Vice President Education and look forward to working with many of you this coming year. My role is to be the voice for all students on all academic related issues as well as being in charge of groups such as QMSU Course Reps. I sit on many university level meetings as the student voice so please come to me if there are any issues.

The SABBs this year have agreed to write a few articles over the year just to keep you in the loop of what we are working on, how things are progressing and general SU news. One thing to note here - 'Union On Tour'. You may be asking what I mean by this, so let me explain:

'Union on Tour' is a project that the four SABBs (Dola, Mashalle, Sam and I) strongly wanted to work on this year. This is where we go out onto all of our

campuses (escaping our offices), once a week to talk to all students across the university. This is a chance for all students to be able to relax on a deck chair and eat some free sweets and food (well, not so much that.) This is a way to speak to our students to find out how they are finding their experience at university and also if they have any positive or negative feedback. As SABBs, we are here to represent our students and their voice, so the more we know about what is going on at the ground level, the more we can do on a university level. A fun fact is that we have already spoken to just under a hundred students and there is already a growing trend in key issues that have been highlighted, such as Study Space and QReview Lecture Recordings, which are both issues that I am working on this year! Raising issues like this on a larger basis is why it is so important to hear back from all our

students, so that we can provide help in improving our student experience and strengthening our community.

I mentioned Study Space and QReview. I will be out seeking feedback for both these issues, as the Library has identified a few areas where they could incorporate more study space (yay!), and are also planning on allocating rooms in our main buildings for students to book out for private study. As for QReview, I will be sitting on working groups, and trying to communicate to departments, as to why they should be recording lectures and carrying out surveys on the ground level to see how they are being used across our departments. Some of the Faculty Reps and part-time officers for the SU and myself have also organised our own working group within the Education Zone to all work on this issue together, so watch this space!

This is a way to speak to our students to find out how they are finding their experience at university and also if they have any positive or negative feedback.



'The History Man' visits campus for History Society event

Jack Sheldon

TV historian Dan Snow has visited Queen Mary as the university prepares for this year's Remembrance Day. Snow, the face of the BBC's commemorations of the two world wars, spoke in front of a packed Arts Two lecture theatre, at a special event organised by the History Society.

In a wide-ranging discussion chaired by Dr. Robert Saunders, Lecturer in Modern British History, Snow talked about how he believes history has "come back" in the post-9/11 world, and entertained the audience with anecdotes about his work on The One Show. Afterwards he signed copies of 20th Century Battlefields, a book that he wrote alongside his political journalist father Peter, and posed for pictures with students.

Snow also gave up some time to speak exclusively to CUB magazine, telling Lauren Cantillon that it was "exciting" to play a central role in this summer's events which marked the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

"It roused huge public interest, and people who perhaps have a latent interest in history could really get on board with my passion for the past", he said.

"The best part for me is meeting people - I was with David Cameron and the royal family, but meeting the veterans themselves was definitely a highlight of my career. Meeting the real people is amazing and we often forget that they still live around us."

The School of History has played an important part in preparations for the centenary of the First World War, in which approximately 800,000 British servicemen were killed. Dr. Dan Todman, a specialist on the world wars, was involved in the research for a new exhibition at the Imperial War Museum which opened this July, whilst the School has hosted lectures and conferences.

A special issue of CUB devoted to the commemorations has been published ahead of Remembrance Day, which will be marked by a two-minute silence at 11am on Tuesday November 11th.



Plagiarism: Does Queen Mary have a problem?

With an increasing number of students buying essays online or from other students, Rachel Michaela Finn investigates whether Queen Mary, among other universities, has a problem with fake and plagiarised content

Rachel Michaela Finn

Deadlines are looming as the end of term approaches. You have what seems like a million books to read, not to mention research papers, essays and even a dissertation. Sure, maybe you should have started earlier, or taken better notes in lectures, or maybe even gone to your lectures. But now is not the time to look back. You're mid-way through that all important research when you see it in the ad sidebar. "Buy custom essays online", it says, "buy cheap non-plagiarised essays written quickly."

Most would simply ignore the message, assuming these sites are dodgy or illegal. Yet an increasing number of students are turning to these "essay writing services" which, can write your essay, or even your whole dissertation – for a price.

These prices don't start cheap. We queried one such company, Oxbridge Essays, who claim to provide "the UK's best essay writing service, as featured on the BBC", making inquiries into how much it would cost me to get an undergraduate 3,000 word essay written in two weeks by one of their writers. To receive a 2:2 piece of work, it would cost around £300, all the way up to £700 for an upper 1st (75+) piece of work. Decide you want the essay this time tomorrow and the price at least doubles; that same upper 1st essay costing me £1450 for next day delivery.

Despite the astronomical cost, buying an essay from one of these companies is not actually cheating; submitting one, however, is. Oxbridge Essays claim "ordering a model essay or dissertation does not make you a cheat. In fact, it usually shows that you are a hard-working and conscientious student." These companies get around

the fact that submitting an essay written by someone else is cheating by claiming their essays are only written as 'examples', a pretty expensive one albeit.

But how does this fit in at Queen Mary and at UK universities as a whole? We produced an anonymous survey posed to students, 65% of respondents being current or ex-QM students and the remaining 35% being current or ex-students at another UK-based university. 40% of those interviewed said they knew someone who had submitted work they had not written, either by someone else writing the essay entirely (essay buying) or by copying someone else's work (plagiarism) although only 3% of those surveyed admitted to having done it personally. Of those respondents, 64% were produced by a fellow student and 14% were bought from a website such as Oxbridge Essays.

64%
At least 64% of those who knew someone who had bought an essay said the essay was written by a friend or another classmate. 14% of those essays were bought from a professional essay writing service.



"I couldn't believe my friend got away with it," one respondent told us, at a University of London college aside from Queen Mary, "he literally submitted his brother's dissertation. But his brother was at an American university, not a British one". Another respondent, this time from Queen Mary, told us that a friend "submitted an entirely plagiarised dissertation", whilst another claims that they have a friend who "paid someone else to write an essay". It all leaves a lot of questions as to how thorough the university's checks on submitted content are.

With an essay written for you by someone else, plagiarism check systems are usually unable to detect it, as they check for the originality of the essay in terms of other published sources, not originality in terms of the author who submitted the piece. Queen Mary's plagiarism check 'Turn It In' boasts a worldwide database of 45 billion web pages, 337 million student papers, and 130 million academic books or publications. But despite this, plagiarism sometimes slips through the net.

Students fluent in more than one language can be at an advantage. One respondent said: "students with the ability to understand one or more other languages than the university's chosen language for submission can get material [in that language] and translate".

But obviously, the university's stance on cheating is clear. A QMUL spokesperson told us: "we take plagiarism very seriously and have robust processes in place for both preventing and detecting instances of plagiarism. Our students also have a responsibility to understand the



Image: Kevin Choi

gravity of plagiarism as an issue and we have clear guidelines outlining our policies."

But are these guidelines clear enough? Almost 40% of respondents said they were "unsure" how the university even checked for plagiarism, and a further 43% claimed that they felt "not enough" information is provided on plagiarism and cheating.

Not everyone who 'cheats' does it deliberately. Your essay can get flagged up as being self-plagiarised (repeating some of your own previous work), or by incorrectly referencing and appearing to try and pass off a theorist's work as your own. 16% of respondents have accidentally plagiarised, with incorrect referencing being the most common source of accidental plagiarism. Further technicalities add to this problem; for

example, in the English department, you usually can't write about the same novel in more than one essay in any particular module, although this might not always be made clear.

Our research suggests some students unaware of checking and plagiarism processes are being caught out, and some that are deliberately cheating are getting away with it, which leaves this question as to how many students have got away with essays, dissertations or even parts of their entire degrees due to the work of others. Does QMUL have a cheating problem? Admittedly, nearly all of our survey respondents claimed they "probably wouldn't" report someone they thought to be cheating, but with 4 out of 10 respondents admitting they know someone who has cheated, it seems to be a problem known about but not reported.



"So you're a Tough Guy, Eh?"

With an increasing number of reports coming in about some door staff crossing the boundaries, Ciara Judge looks at students' experiences with bouncers, and what the common misconceptions are on this subjective role within London's nightlife

Ciara Judge

We all know the parody: a big guy, bald, neck rolls, puffer jacket and an aggressiveness that just won't quit. We all have a story about "that unfair bastard of a bouncer" who man-handled you last night and, if you don't, you'll most likely know someone that does.

Regardless of the cliché that we're all too familiar with, there are common misconceptions on the authoritative powers bouncers actually have. It's believed that they can get away with overt aggressive demeanors and are allowed to use pressure points, pain compliance holds or wrist locks to manhandle their patrons. This is not true. The authority of door staff is the same as that of an ordinary citizen. 68% of the people we asked did not know this. They have no special authority to physically eject an intoxicated customer. Many claim that some untrained staff are often forced to rely on their own common sense to control aggressive behaviour. The situational dynamics of the bouncers' environment naturally means that their role is exposed to violence. It's no surprise that allegations of assault from both patrons and staff members are common.

We conducted an online survey and talked to a variety of people under the age of 30 about their experiences with bouncers that were considered too heavy handed. One student explains "most of the time bouncers are really subjective. On some occasions the attitude is very unfair." Of the 38 people who filled out our survey, a whopping 47% of them reported to have had an experience with a bouncer that was considered too heavy-handed for their situation. One person told us how he was pepper sprayed and maced for no reason

other than being next to a separate conflict, "they head butted me, threw me to the ground, and punched me in the back of my head." A female described how her boyfriend was pulled out of the crowd; he was put up against a wall for accidentally spilling a drink. One student even showed us her formal complaint against security "I was forcibly dragged up the stairs. At no point did the security man give me a reason as to why. I was then chucked out." These are just a few of the anecdotes we received.

Security staff also come into difficulty when it comes to drug use across venues in London. A bouncer who talked to VICE stated "you have to disrupt [drug use] just enough to make sure people get the message that it's not legal. Any more...there's not really any point putting the party on". It's said that they have to get the right balance, "If the police decide to ask awkward questions about the drug policy, I'm the first to take the blame. But if I get hard-ass...I'll get fired." There's that partiality cropping up again. Speaking to students from Queen Mary, one describes how on a night out a bouncer planted a bag of MDMA when he was being patted down, "...turns out it was a joke but I've never felt my heart drop so quickly." On the other hand, some have no tolerance; another patron explains how he was dragged out of the toilets. "They insisted I open the door because I blew my nose; they incorrectly assumed that I was taking drugs." It seems as though it depends on the venue and the individual.

As a reporter, I'm not wholly surprised by these somewhat extreme disputes. It's not all doom and gloom though, there were many anecdotes of bouncers going out of their way

to help. Personally, one night I lost my friends who had my phone and purse, and they said if I couldn't find my friends after half an hour I should go straight to them. I went back and they paid for my taxi home without hesitation. Additionally, 20 people out of the 38 had concluded that, for the most part, the attitudes of security are appropriate and fair. It's a shame that the misrepresented minority of the "tough guy" and their undeniable subjectivity plagues the industry.

What makes a good bouncer? "Empathy is most important thing and stops 90% of problems before they occur," an anonymous bouncer told VICE, "you need restraint; you'll want to hit infuriating drunk people after a while. Satisfying? Yes. Productive? No." Ideally the best bouncers are personable, a mix of male and female, mature and unimimidating. The best bouncers do not "bounce", they manage people.

With this industry, we should take their role with a pinch of salt. Their job is in the interest of the business and safety of the crowd; if you affect incoming custom, you are a problem. However, it is vital that if unreasonable or aggressive action takes place, complaints are made. 51% of people we asked chose not to make a complaint as they felt they wouldn't have been taken seriously. This is why they fail to be investigated, and frequently fail to be brought to justice. But if there were a more solid attitude to the procedural method employed by both bouncers and venue staff anyway, it would have a detrimental impact on what seems to be a subjective role in London's nightlife.



Image: avlyzy



The Price is Right?

The student riots of 2010 appear to have been forgotten. As £9,000 tuition fees become the norm, how exactly have universities, particularly Queen Mary, improved to reflect their new luxury price tag?

Anna Savage

Do you remember when it was announced that tuition fees would rise to £9000? First came the outrage; students swarming the streets of London, anarchist flags flying over Tory HQ as the son of Pink Floyd's David Gilmour decided to create his own version of swing ball using the cenotaph as a post. Next came the panic; newspapers interviewing jittery school pupils who had quickly pieced together a personal statement, desperate to miss the impending deadline. The death of higher education as we had known it appeared to be looming.

Now we seem to have entered the age of acceptance. While Nick Clegg's approval ratings may have not recovered from 2010, universities haven't lost their popularity. This year Queen Mary received a record breaking 31,878 applications. With an ever increasing number of job applications stressing the need for a degree, it seems the enormity of student debt is now simply a fact of life, and those violent protests a very distant memory.

The question remains; as tuition fees have risen, has the "university experience" actually improved? The National Student Survey would suggest yes. According to recent polling, student satisfaction of third year undergraduates revealed that a record breaking 86% were happy with their course overall. Since 2005, satisfaction in teaching standards has risen by over 5%. Not a drastic improvement, but an improvement nevertheless.

First years are a little more confusing. Over 58% of those polled believed that their first year of university was

not worth £9000, and yet over 80% would still enroll into university if the choice were given to them again. As first year commonly does not count towards your final grade, it is quite unique, and this is perhaps why it is seen as too expensive. Contact hours remain an ever present bone of contention, with some statistics claiming that 1 in 2 students believe the amount of teaching time is not adequate. This all seems to paint a picture that, nationally, university may not be providing the service a £9,000 price tag implies, but is still a worthwhile investment.

So how well is Queen Mary competing with the rest of the country? Alumni speak very highly of the institution, but opinion doesn't seem to have changed as drastically as the cost of university education.

Think back to a distant time when government grants covered the cost of university education. A former student that studied with the School of Geography, and was within the last year group to receive full funding for higher education, said "I received something like 16 hours a week contact time (which was a mixture of lectures, seminars and time with my Personal Tutor). This is a much higher figure than most Arts students get today." However, she also notes that "there were far fewer student facilities on campus."

In 1998, tuition fees, of £1,250, were introduced for the first time. Another Queen Mary student reflected "[I] loved the experience. I can't see how increasing tuition fees helped increase the quality of teaching or the enjoyment we've had, the reason



being I did my second & third year (2007 & 2008) after the £3,500 tuition fee was introduced (2006)."

In 2004, tuition fees were raised again to £3,000. When asked whether this increase marked major change, another student stated: "Academically speaking things did not change dramatically. I think that it will take another year or two for the departments to finally see the need for changes to be made. Once they have invested the new income properly, then the students will directly see a difference." Another said, "Queen Mary does have some fantastic teaching staff and some great facilities, but they were all there before the increased fees..."

As an educational institution, Queen

Mary keeps students content, but the level of satisfaction doesn't seem to have changed much since university fees were introduced. Queen Mary had this to say on the matter: "The rise in tuition fees did not result in additional funding for QMUL. Tuition fee increases occurred alongside a reduction in core funding from central government. Despite this, QMUL has made very significant improvements for our students over the last number of years. We continue to invest in improved teaching and learning resources, better access to bursaries and scholarships, exchange opportunities, employability services, and the development of campus facilities. Our capital investment programme will include the renovation of existing buildings and the delivery of a new £25m graduate

centre."

Ultimately, perhaps we are overpaying for higher education. Queen Mary and universities across the country have not received additional funding as a result of £9000 tuition fees. That doesn't mean we should accept being billed for a service that doesn't match the price tag, as this fee rise will undoubtedly be responsible for a generation consumed by debt. Sadly, this is the reality we face to get the "university experience", but one positive can be taken from this; it has encouraged students and institutions to judge whether or not university is value for money.

Image: Michael Fleshman Flickr



Foreign Correspondent: Hong Kong

This week's foreign correspondent talks overcrowding and privacy in one of the world's most vibrant metropolises

Luke Baker



Images: Left: Kevin Choi. Top: Hong Kong apartments, Flickr hyperspace328. Bottom right: Love hotels, Flickr Quasi-mime

We often spare a thought for those living in less fortunate environments than ourselves in the 'developing world', but rarely do we compare our situation with those living in some of the world's most affluent cities. Despite Hong Kong being viewed by many as the model of a truly modern, advanced city, thousands of residents can only afford to live in tiny, illegal cubicles created by dividing up rooms in some of the city's oldest factories and apartments. Some families even find themselves crammed into self-constructed shacks on the rooftops of Hong Kong's unaffordable apartments.

Sharing a room in residential halls myself, as is the norm in Hong Kong, has been a new experience for me, but just like the food and language,

it is something that I have learnt to adapt to. It has however made me wonder if I would be so content had my girlfriend back home also made the move with me. The shortage of housing becomes particularly interesting when you consider the necessity of private space in order for relationships to flourish. Not just in terms of sexual intimacy, but the ability to watch a movie or have a conversation without the presence of others. Unlike you and me, the locals here often do not have this luxury; the majority moving out much further into adulthood and even then often having to share their newfound space with others.

This issue has found one solution in the city's 'Love Hotels' which are rented by the hour. Although some

still believe the use of a 'Love Hotel' is somewhat shady due to its association with sleazy one-night stands, some areas have a proliferation of such businesses and an app has even been developed to help users locate the nearest one. When discussing this issue with locals I have found what is perhaps the most interesting aspect of Hong Kong's shortage of residential housing to the outsider. Having grown up in this environment, many have learnt to adapt, and simply do not know what they are missing. One individual informed me that it has had to be accepted by society, with some residents who cannot afford the luxury of hourly hotels taking up more extreme measures, such as finding the quietest areas of Hong Kong in order to have public sex. Just as I have encountered the issue of

private housing whilst living in Hong Kong, travel has often opened my eyes to the things we take for granted. But the thought of not having my own private space whilst studying or working full time in one of the world's wealthiest cities is particularly problematic for me. Whilst London is facing an affordable housing problem of its own, the next time I go to complain about the cost of my room in London I will most likely spare a thought for the students in Hong Kong who can only dream of such a luxury.

I also believe that there is lot to be learnt from this issue from a global perspective. Should the world's population continue to grow and the rate of urban migration be sustained, a lack of residential housing could

well become a truly global issue of our generation, alongside the challenges of environmentalism and poverty alleviation. Consider the possibility of London's property prices continuing to spiral. Should the housing shortage not be resolved, the future generations of students in London could well find themselves visiting one of the capital's very own 'Love Hotels'.

If you are on your Year Abroad or know someone who is, get in touch with us via Facebook 'The Print' or Twitter @ThePrintQM to share your story



Miranda Wadham

“Whether the threats are received online or through your letterbox the psychological effects and terror caused are the same”

As social media's popularity has continued to rise, so have the cases of internet 'trolling' - and it's increasingly clear that the current laws regulating online threats are outdated. In my opinion, any threats made online need to be taken far more seriously than they are now.

The current laws mean that the maximum custodial sentence that can be given to internet trolls is six months. In the case of Frank Zimmerman, who sent threats to MP Louise Mensch saying that “one of her children would be killed”, the sentence given was suspended - meaning it was unlikely he would actually go to prison at all. However, the maximum sentence that can be given for the crime of sending threats in real life - harassment - is five years. It seems irrelevant to me whether the threats are received online or through your letterbox - the psychological effects and terror caused are the same, and therefore the sentence for online trolling should be upped to reflect that.

Some argue that if there is too much policing online it will have a negative effect on freedom of speech. I think it is necessary to make a clear distinction between an opinion and a threat - whilst the comments may not always be nice, everyone has the right to tweet their thoughts on people's weight, appearance or actions. This cannot be criminalized.

However, a direct threat is a crime and should be taken seriously. An account named @killcreasynow sent numerous death threats to MP Stella Creasy, threatening to rape her and “put the video all over”; more recently, TV presenter Chloe Madeley has received rape threats over her mother Judy Finnigan's comments on Ched Evans. There is a clear distinction between an opinion and a threat - just criminalizing online threats will not affect freedom of speech.

Lastly, in response to those that say two years seems “harsh” - I would argue that since internet trolling is on the rise, the current sentence just isn't harsh enough. Increasing the maximum sentence to two years may be what is needed for sufficient deterrence, and encourage trolls to think twice before acting. Furthermore, the judge in the case is still left with discretion. The sentence is a ‘maximum’ of two years - it could still be six months, depending on the severity of the case. I believe that, in cases of serious online harassment, it is much better to have the option to come down hard on internet trolls - and show that in our society threats of death and rape will not be tolerated.

THE GREAT DEBATE



Image: David Choo

New laws mean internet ‘trolls’ could spend up to two years in prison – is this fair?

YES

NO

If we are prepared to sentence people for voicing their opinions, for which social media is an excellent facilitator, what will we condemn next? Will it be illegal to make a pithy comment to someone who is holding you up in the street? Admittedly, unlike extreme internet trolling, this is unlikely to damage the offending individual. Nevertheless, life does pose uncertainty and there is a permanent risk that you might just catch someone at their lowest, wounding them more deeply than initially intended. All voiced opinions pose the risk of offence and so essentially, the right to free speech would be infringed upon with the implementation

Internet trolls spew their poisonous venom all over social media and it is true that this can potentially result in devastation. Yet, imprisoning someone for expressing his or her point of view (however abhorrent it might be) threatens our human right of free speech. Our speech and ability to think freely is what renders us human - it should be protected, even if it not always comprehensible to the majority. It is more important that we speak out against the violation of an individual's free speech, rather than what exactly is being said, no matter how depraved an opinion might be. An unpopular view should not warrant a sentence of up to two years in prison. Ultimately, free speech must preside over poor taste.

Furthermore, if this new law is passed, it could result in social media users feeling that they must tread carefully around every single topic that possibly exists. Social media, then, would become a restrictive zone and would no longer be allied with its definition. Social media can be defined as “websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking.” If people do not feel that they can share their genuine views and participate in online discourse, then social media will no longer be a powerful tool for inciting action and change.

Got a hot topic for the great debate? Got something to say in response? Let us know on social media. Drop us a line on Facebook at: [Facebook/ThePrintNews](#) or Tweet us: [@ThePrintQM](#) using [#thegreatdebateQM](#)

“It is more important that we speak out against the violation of an individual's free speech, rather than what exactly is being said”

of this law. There is also a concern as to how far the notion of internet trolling will go and the possibility of the term being redefined and manipulated for personal gain. People complain about companies on online forums on a regular basis - the offended company could construe this as a form of trolling and prosecute the individual for defamation. The manipulation of the term ‘trolling’ undeniably poses a risk; inoffensive individuals may be at a risk of acquiring a criminal record simply for asserting their dissatisfaction.



Black History Month: Broadening knowledge or patronizing the majority?

Afolabi Adekaiyaoja



Image: Elishama David Udorok

Black History Month is a very interesting celebration. It's held in the United States and Canada in February, and here in the United Kingdom in October. Different activities are used to highlight and celebrate the month - talks, symposia, parties, shows - and they usually mark the history of the Black race. The month is usually filled with a look back to a coloured (forgive the pun) past, and an evaluation of the present day for Africans and Caribbeans. However, I argue that the often-mentioned reason that we need some sort of period to be celebrated isn't exactly why it's needed.

Several critics point out that other races do not have similarly allocated months to celebrate their history. Morgan Freeman, a popular black actor himself, has said that “Black History is American history as well”. I agree with him to a certain degree. It often happens that we use October as our “guilt-pass”. We soak up all the history we can, take our token freebie, and attend an event to show our acknowledgement of the cause.

We often read up and are exposed to a greater degree of information on the subject, and take that as our allocation for the year. Societies are not exempt, and we use the month to have many events with the purpose of promoting culture, but the large majority ceases this once the calendar changes to November 1st. It is saddening that a very proud and interesting aspect of history has largely been constrained to a single month of celebration.

So why is this month important? I believe it only benefits the ignorant. The fact that a large number of us fail to understand that Africa is not a country, but a continent of over 50 sovereign and independent states, is still a sad fact. The fact that “African” is a language and not a demonym to reflect over a billion people with thousands of languages, is heart-breaking. The still prevailing notion is that Africa is an area where small children and large cities are dependent on foreign aid or that “£1 can help this child eat for the next three days”. I won't even bother

fleshing out the sad argument that many believe that Black History is just African History, forgetting the important Caribbean contributions that have also contributed largely to ‘Black History’.

How do we fix this? We should acknowledge that some statistics are sad and should be fixed. Corruption is rife, children are getting kidnapped, and there are areas without electricity, but we should not forget that these are problems that are not unique to the African continent alone. We should also remember the success stories. The giants of our culture and literature, the athletic heroes that have dominated and continue to dominate sports, and the progress we have made from ancient times.

The fact that certain cities are almost comparable to their western counterparts with luxurious hotels and electricity. The fact that some companies and leaders are beginning to prove that we are not a barren wasteland but that there are solutions

to the problems we face. The fact that we have fashion and entertainment industries worthy of attention and that we really do know how to enjoy ourselves. We should celebrate this.

At the African and Caribbean Society, we did this with an event called Showcase, where, in partnership with the Barts and the London African and Caribbean Society, we put on a talent show and competition with £300 in prizes. We celebrated hidden heroes and also had a tribute segment to those who had passed on in the year (Fallen Heroes). The Boffin Society also had an event which highlighted the issues with talking about race in the scientific community, dealing with stereotypes and explaining different phenomena. Events like these, with more varied and innovative examples of history, show a different side to Black History Month.

I believe that Black History Month is important because it helps those who haven't had the chance to learn about a culture different to their own. Black

History is still part of World History and is not more or less important than any of the other aspects we have. It also helps those of us in the diaspora know more about an area that will always, to a certain degree, be home. It also helps those who do not know about different cultures to learn and be intrigued. But more importantly, there are now universally held notions that need to be corrected and challenged.

This month gives us a mandatory opportunity to correct, inform, and educate those who need to be taught how different stories are from reality. There are many beautiful cultures in our world, and we should learn the truth about them all. Black History month may not be all encompassing of this, but it is definitely a good place to start.

Ched Evans: A Female Supporter’s Perspective

Why allowing Ched to return to football would not only be an insult to his victim but validate his act as a night of infidelity and not the heinous crime it was

Lucy Oliva



The Chedwyn Evans rape case has polarised opinion, not only within the football community but also across the general population, since early 2012 when he was sentenced to jail for five years, to the current day where he is tastelessly and vehemently protesting his innocence. Most tragic of all is the treatment of his victim, whose ordeal is being forgotten in this media storm surrounding his proposed return to the football pitch.

As a passionate female football fan, the idea that Evans may be allowed to return to the sport in a professional capacity makes me extremely uncomfortable. The fact that some are even open to the idea is even more baffling to me. Undoubtedly many other fans also share my concerns, but there is a certain group of supporters who seem to believe that he should get the opportunity to pick up where he left off and continue a career in the spotlight, with all the perks that come with being a footballer. Just a week after he was released from prison, supporters of his club, Sheffield United, were heard chanting his name in the stands in support of his return.

Google ‘Ched Evans’ and you will come across his official website, with the opening statement “Ched Evans was wrongly convicted of rape on 20th April 2012.” Again, not one iota of remorse; instead a self-indulgent and comprehensive defence of his character and conduct. The content is frankly sickening, with options to “Write to Ched with Your Support”,

a statement written by his girlfriend signed off with “Justice for Ched”, and personal “Letters from Ched” to update us on the struggles he faced while serving less than half of the already lenient original sentence.

This is a man who protests his innocence and dismisses the incident as a night of infidelity, all while his girlfriend is sat next to him as he addresses the media in a clearly choreographed video. It is painful to watch her and the façade that is being played out in front of the cameras.

Not just as a woman, but also as a fan that is pursuing a career within the industry, it is shocking and saddening that a heinous crime like this can be belittled and branded as ‘consensual’. If Evans gets the opportunity to resume his career, he will be earning tens of thousands a week, living life as an innocent man. What justice is there for the victim, whose name has been dragged through the dirt? What hope does that give to victims of rape? Serving only two years of a five year sentence is bad enough, but being constantly exposed to her rapist through news stories due to her profession is surely merciless.

As he pursues a retrial on the grounds of wrongful conviction, one can only think of his victim. Not only has she unlawfully had her name revealed in the press, but she will now have to relive the trauma once again. If the evidence is re-examined and Evans is found not guilty after a retrial, then his

name can be cleared, but the nature of the crime and the manner in which he, his legal team and his supporters have conducted themselves, has been far from dignified.

Perhaps the only other comparable case is that of Marlon King, who was playing for Wigan Athletic when in 2008 he was convicted of punching a female in the face and sexually assaulting her and ultimately placed on the sexual offenders list for a period of seven years and jailed for 18 months. Despite more than 14 prior convictions, after his release from jail he was allowed to continue playing, until returning to jail for a further 18 months after a hit and run incident in 2013. Another player that has brought disgrace to the sport and should never, under any circumstances, be allowed to resume his career.

Many forget what a privilege it is to be a professional footballer. Not only because of the lifestyle and financial benefits, but because of the position and esteem they are held in by thousands of fans, particularly young children. What kind of example would the Football Association be setting by allowing a convicted criminal the opportunity to continue living in the public spotlight as though no crime was committed at all?

Most important of all is to think about the girl who was taken advantage of and now must rebuild her life. If there is any justice, Ched Evans will never take to the field again.

Quieten down dear

Maansi Kaylan bites back after an unsavoury encounter with misogyny at Monday’s Calling

Maansi Kaylan

“You talk too much for a girl” I was recently at Mondays Calling with my best friend, when one comment cast a bit of a downer on an otherwise brilliant night. Being the extrovert that I’ve always been, I thought I’d delve into a conversation that was going on behind me in the smokers’ area (where all the best conversations occur, undoubtedly) – the boy asked me what course I did, then undeniably made a pass at both me and my friend (being the classy gentleman that he was) which we both refused. I still wanted to have a chat, however, and decided to expand on our topic of conversation, at which point he shook his head and mumbled the above.

quiet, angelic, softly spoken individuals. As soon as we demonstrate any form of intelligence that belittles a man, we are suddenly referred to as “loud”, as to not be possessing the “true” nature of a woman. My experience alone demonstrates the double standards that exist for women in today’s society, a society that prides itself on freedom of speech - until, of course, a woman appears to be elevating herself above the role she is given, because then it becomes necessary to “talk her down” before she starts showing someone up - before she gains a power that would challenge the patriarchal power that still runs rife in the 21st century. It’s the elephant in the room, the elephant in every room: men and women are referred to as ‘equals’, but only superficially. As soon as a woman begins to take advantage of the equality that has so very rightly been bestowed upon her and fought for, it is mankind that pounces on her by asserting her true duty on earth - making a sandwich, apparently.

Excuse me? I talk too much? I’m so very sorry, you were fine with the length of my sentences before we turned down your advances. I went on to tell him that his statement was inappropriate and that I deserved an immediate apology and of course, as expected, what I instead received was another retort: “women should be silently working in the kitchen, not opening their mouths at clubs”.

“ You were fine with the length of my sentences before we turned down your advances ”

It irritates me that a small percentage of men believe that women should be

THE GUILLOTINE



Image: Anna Titov

Childhood favourite Oakie Doke murdered in cold sap: Forest erupts into chaos

UKIP Calypso- not fooling us

Our mystery debunking intern and undergrad investigation studies student looks into the more sinister aspects of a far-right anthem

A.R.

The recent release of UKIP Calypso by Former Estate Agent and Radio 1 DJ Mickey Manchester (also known as Mike Read) has puzzled many and Mile End campus has been buzzing with speculation about the mysterious circumstances of its creation. Well I don't know if it has really, I don't speak to many people but I think I overheard a few people talking about it in the Hive the other day. I've definitely mentioned it a few times.

Chris Moyles has hit out at the media after the huge amount of press garnered by Read's song, saying "I can do a much better song than Mike Read in a much more offensive accent, remember me? I'm Chris Moyles. Remember Comedy Dave? Please somebody subscribe to my YouTube channel."

Mickey has responded to the outrage against the questionable taste of the song with various excuses, none of which corroborate. At first he refused to comment, screaming in a muffled voice at reporters "I am not an animal, I am a human being!"

Afterwards he claimed it was a novelty song for Halloween and that "in the video I would have been dressed as a werewolf or something," but when

asked to provide proof in the form of video or photographic evidence he began to cry and bang on the table with his fists, changing the subject rapidly to the dangers of fireworks and urging parents to be careful handling fireworks around children on November the fifth.

Upon suspicion that this was simply a distraction technique he was asked again and his response was that he was forced to write and record the song as "a dare" when pressed for an explanation he said: "Ken Bruce dared me to do it, he said that if I didn't I'd have to show my pants to some girls." Adding, "It was a double dare mind, and you can't get out of those."

But my dad says Mike Read's probably not the kind of bloke that would keep up his end if someone dared him, he said he met Mike Read once outside a Costa Coffee near the White City tube station and he asked for directions to the big Arndale centre and Mike Read ignored him. My dad said he stood there waiting for an answer for a while too and Mike Read just said nothing and Dad had to find the big Arndale centre by himself but it wasn't far so it didn't really matter, all that is according to my dad who's

pretty smart, not smart like a doctor or a scientist but he's been about for a while and he knows what he's on about. The latest suspicions that have arisen about Mike Read's conduct centre around the suggestion that UKIP Calypso is in fact an encoded message and that Mike Read is a skilled cat-burglar and is planning a heist of the Crown Jewels. Linguists and professors of English literature have pointed out that, with minor manipulations, the song can be read as an acrostic poem in which the first letter of every line spells "OOH NIKIN TC&WNJLES. F**K [THE] QUEEN"

This is the second time Mickey has embarked on a politically motivated musical project, in 2006 he performed a ten-minute rap at the Tory party conference. Its length is purportedly due to the vast amount of information hidden among its lyrics; that it held clues to the coordinates of the future burial location of the Crown Jewels and gave Douglas Carswell and Mark Reckless suggested dates for their defection from the Tory party to UKIP.

Nigel Farage refuses to comment on the speculations that he and his party may be behind the conspiracy to steal

the Crown Jewels, saying: "I've never even heard of the Crown Jewels". An allegation that Farage would use the Crown Jewels as a bargaining tool to become King of London was attributed to a rumour spread by Douglas Carswell, who was unable to appear in public this week, which a PR representative attributes to Mr Carswell being "trapped in a hedge maze". This allegation came under question recently as Mark Reckless let it slip that he believed the Crown Jewels to be "imbued with untold magical power that grant the wearer any wish he desires, except the wish for more wishes obviously, that's the rule with most enchanted artefacts of this kind, so if Nigel wanted to be King of London he could just wish for it".

While the case remains open, fears that UKIP are dabbling in black magic, the occult and grand theft are mounting. It is clear that the public should be mighty afraid and that's for certain, oh there's trouble a-brewing yes siree.

Sick fuck. Beedo. Beelzebub.

I woke up the next morning to find my suitcase next to the hive. This was it. My decision made for me. I gingerly pressed my lips to the wood and whispered "It's going to be alright, hunny"

"You mean to tell me-"
"Yes. My love for the bees extends further than you previously thought."

Chapter three of the Bees Knees: Beecomings a Man

The latest installment of our internally award-winning and award-revoked series

L.B.

"You know when I told you that thing."
"What thing?"
"Nothing."
"COME ON."
Janet was extremely volatile now-days. She slipped into a fury like a seal into water, and like a seal, found it very difficult to get back onto dry land.

"That thing about me and Beatrice."
"YES I REMEMBER. WHY ARE YOU BRINGING THIS UP NOW, JER."
"Can you stop shouting please?"
"Jerry, our problem doesn't concern Beatrice."

But it did. Years ago I'd had a brief encounter with "Beatrice". It was

a purely sexual affair that lasted no more than, let's say, ten minutes. But that pseudonym covered up my shame no better than Adam's fig leaf. I told Janet what actually happened that day, and who with.

"You mean to tell me-"
"Yes. My love for the bees extends further than you previously thought."

Forest frenzy erupts as children's TV favourite Oakie Doke murdered in cold sap

J.H.

Last week popular children's TV presenter Oakie Doke was brutally murdered just outside his bachelor-pad-oak tree home. Oakie Doke was a celebrated local personality and friends of the helpful acorn-man displayed their disbelief: "What f**king cowards," a visibly distressed Mrs. Tickle told us, "can't believe scum like this are allowed to roam the forest. They should be locked up behind bars forever, the c**ts."

Reactions like Mrs. Tickle's are all too common and the way the community has dealt with this tragic loss, although somewhat understandable, is far from positive. The lynching of one Albert Corncracker - a particular low point. "We all had our suspicions of Albert," a frog who preferred his identity to remain anonymous told us, "he was never really part of the community, and besides, everyone knew he was an aggressive drunk. What I reckon happened is that Oakie tried to stage a small intervention on his behalf, but Al wouldn't take that, and he stabbed him."

A newspaper is no place for idle speculation, but upon seeing the glorious - nay triumphant - display of naked chaos, this reporter could not help but be swept into the beautiful dance of the damned. I am not ashamed to say I stripped to the waist and bathed myself in the blood of Mr Corncracker that night. I feasted on the roaring flames that charred and devoured his rodent body. I laughed as if possessed by some demon spirit as the Corncracker family wept for their innocent father. I knew Mr Corncracker was innocent, and a reporter of my stature has seen communities torn by grief indulge themselves in finger-pointing, but usually this reaction is hidden under hushed tones. It was exhilarating to see such unabashed violence, such a grotesque display of the id, thatid that I wished to leave my corporeal shackles and wash the land in a godly hellfire. The truth is, as a collective, we had managed to do so. We were at one, and we were cruel.

But this ecstasy, like all joys that are

born from malice, soon faded. My eyes grew tight; I feared my fellow man. The blood! The blood! My heart cried, where is the blood?! I snatched up the young Hickory Corncracker, holding his squirming body like a trophy. "My friends!" I cried, "here is our unholy sacrifice!" The crowd bayed and howled with hot relish. They snarled and spat. I know it is unprofessional for a journalist to dictate the action rather than observe it, but every once in a while a man must disobey his professional ethics and plunge into the aching soul. My heart burned like sulphur, my mind span in violent, whirling passion. Released from the prison that society built for me, I threw the child to the writhing masses. I was Beelzebub and the Buddha, enlightened by the darkness.

Reactions like Mrs. Tickle's are all too common and the way the community has dealt with this tragic loss, although somewhat understandable, is far from positive

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I began writing this article as an obituary to a friendly woodland creature. It was to be a homage to a little man who was made of acorns and oak leaves who helped people. Oakie Doke was a pillar of a respectable neighbourhood. One must ask the question, what happens when the pillar is ripped from its place? Some unnamed Judas crippled

this forest and the pagans revelled. I am no longer man but beast. There is a song they used to sing in this forest, when the glades were green and the water bubbled and spat. The song was an ode to the departed, and the chorus sang fresh and free.,

Oakie Doke, Oakie Doke
What a helpful handy man
Get ready for good old mister
Oakie Doke

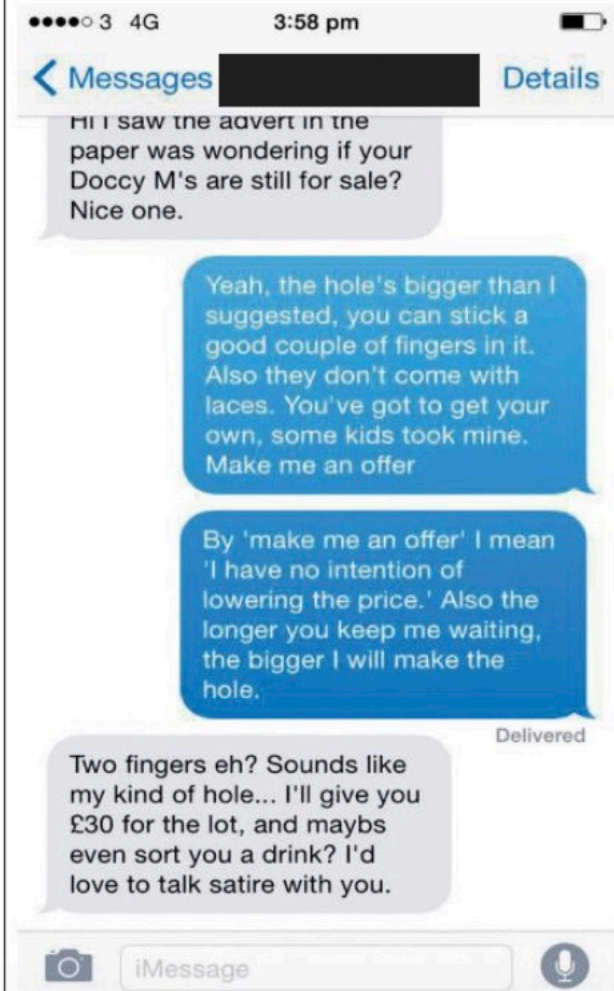
No one was ready for this.

I report to you now from the carcass of a tree. I write with a stick burnt into charcoal, and my page is the shirt that I ripped off my back. I am lost now and I hide from the villagers, who maraud still, artlessly and furiously. I am now imprisoned by my lucidity, my guilt. What happened here was wrong - all so wrong - and there is dark pit resting in my belly. When I close my eyes I see the ghost of Oakie Doke though I never saw his face, and it calls me by name though he never knew my name. "Declan..." it whispers, "Declan..." My name is not Declan, but I forgive this because, as aforementioned, he never knew my name. "Declan... Atone Declan..." The message is clear. I must forget what I once was, even if it takes me a lifetime. I must crawl across deserts, I must fight against injustice, and above all, I must do all this in the name of Oakie Doke. Though we are merely a cult now, soon we will be a religion. I am the conduit, I am the tidings. Worship me, that you may worship the countenance that only I am privileged to, the face that sleeps and dreams in my head. I must escape this sulphurous hellscape that I built out of what is good and joyous, and I must find myself a parish.

If you are interested in the teachings of the Reverend Deacon Declan, please consult your local climbing club for more details. Declan will be the one with the big papier-mâché acorn on his head.

Reader's feedback

Satire Editor almost sells shoes after article in last edition of paper



Societies Selected Events Calendar Semester 1

AhlulBayt Islamic Society
December 2014
'Who Is Hussain?' Talk

Archegos Society
Every Sunday
Campus Church Service

Anti-Austerity Society
19th November 2014
March For Free Education @ Malet Street, 12 noon

Conservative Society
Every Month
Networking with MPs

Commuters' Society
November 2014
Thorpe Park Trip

Economics Society
11th November 2014
Oliver Cornock's OBG Speech
26th November 2014
Karl Cheng Trading Speech

Harry Potter Society
17th November 2014
Pub Crawl
13th December 2014
Surprise Event...

International Society
November 2014
Food Festival with Eastern European Society

Knit-a-soc
Every Wednesday
Meet @ next to the Hive, Mile End Campus, 3-5pm

PsiStar: The Physics & Astronomy Society
November 2014
Careers Month December 2014
Northern Lights trip

Singapore Society
November 2014
Nottingham Winter Games

Student Action for Refugees Society
26th November 2014
Refugee Group Performance

Theatre Society
November 2014
Festival of Plays

Unite Society
27th November 2014
Come Union

Meet the Mentor of Wall Street – Muzzafar Khan

Presented by Economics Society: How to ace your interviews



Image: Economics Society

Amber David

The Economics Society brought us an exclusive lecture, given by the famous entrepreneur Muzzafar Khan, who was given the esteemed title of 'Mentor of Wall Street'. I sat down in a packed lecture theatre with quiet, but anticipatory, chatter amongst students. In all honesty, coming from a non-economics and maths-phobic background, I was a little apprehensive about a two hour lecture on the intricate and complex dealings of the financial world. I was mistaken. This was not a lecture for economics students' interviews at banks – it was for all interviews you will sit in your life, and so was universally applicable to everyone at university.

Mr. Khan explained that he was going to apply to teach us, and we were to decide if we would accept him, as an interview. He said persuasion is what the industry is about. There is an art of seduction (steady on, not literally), by which two conversations occur; one with the mouth and one with the body. Yeah I know this sounds very steamy and you're wondering where I am going with this, but, rest assured, it was all very professional and there were no audible giggles. Anyway, an important fact to remember is "an interview, at the end of the day, is a conversation". This is what led to bankers from Wall Street opening up to him about their problems.

According to Mr. Khan there are three key points which a candidate must demonstrate; credibility, value-add, and empathy. At this point, he relaxed his firm business-like exterior and showed a more human side by telling us about himself. There were stories of getting a job, losing a job, quitting a job, an anatomical description of how to shove an employment contract up your bosses butt, not being hired for a job, retiring from a job after five years because, let's face it, there's only so much money you need (questionable for women), a heart-warming tale of a sibling's academic struggle, and, my personal favourite, a racially stereotypical story involving; an angry

Pakistani father, failing your university exams, a gun, and a passport, and finally, flying in private jets, setting up funding for energy projects, mentoring Wall Street firms and bankers, and still being a nerd at heart.

As well as these exciting tales that leave you questioning your own mundane life, there was a lot of valuable information to absorb - explain your experience in the relevant sector; demonstrate a passion; what is the person going to gain by hiring you? Offer them something of value. And if all else fails, use the backdoor method (honestly, stop being so childish!). Networking can be used as a tool to break into the industry; sometimes just speaking to the right people will get you to where you want to be – do not underestimate the power of nepotism. But emphasis is placed on following procedures, especially in the banking industry "anyone who tries to be original ends up in prison".

Mr. Khan also held CV workshops during the day where he hand-tailored each student's CV. The President of the Economics Society was thrilled to have someone of such a high calibre come in and speak; he took up Mr. Khan's tips last year and landed himself an internship – so there is proof of results! Other students were impressed with his bold and honest thoughts towards the financial industry, others found him inspiring and took on life advice, and I thought about a sequel to the Wolf of Wall Street.

Start Up a Society!

You can't always guarantee a perfect fit with a society... Unless you made it!

Amber David

So, you have had six weeks to trial around the 150 or so societies to see which one clicks with you. You have tried the meet and greets and socials, and the Facebook pages, but nothing seems quite right. For some reason you are unable to slot into the designated social cliques. Either you are far too hipster to be tied down with labels, or you are socially impeded/awkward/terribly dull. But in any case, if there is something that you are interested in, even if it's not to the extent of "passion", you can still do something about it. You don't have to sit alone on Netflix at 3pm on a Wednesday in your pyjamas thinking "there should

be a society for this".

Why not make one? It sounds like a lot of unnecessary effort (what isn't to students?), but if you have a couple of willing buddies to help you out then it's a lot easier than you think. If you're very passionate about a society and no one you know shares that same enthusiasm, just go for it yourself, chances are there will be another person in the 17,000 student population that will be on the same page as you. This is also a great opportunity to get some extracurricular activity down on your CV or applications; not necessarily to say "yeah I love cereal so I set up Coco Pops appreciation society", but to demonstrate your project

management and organisational skills. It may even expand your social horizons beyond imagination (not guaranteed).

Information about starting a society is online at <http://www.qmsu.org/societies/start/>. Students fill in the application / development plan, the Student Union usually check it, give any feedback and recommend any changes. Then it goes to the elected Societies Committee for them to approve, deny, or make any further suggestions. Each society is given a £50 grant to help them get started. Societies can then bid for further funding in the Societies Grant rounds. The Student Union has £30,000 (an

increase of £10,000 from last year) which societies can bid for. This is split into 5 rounds and distributed by the societies committee at the same meeting as the new society applications review.

Societies are entitled to receive an amount of funding based on their membership; the more members they have, the more they can receive. There are also two one-off pots this year, the £5,000 new society pot and the £5,000 employability pot. Basically, the best bids are the ones that are in line with the societies' aims and objectives and benefit their members. Have a gander online – it can't hurt!

QM does Comic Con

Roman Aleksandravicus takes us through the weird and wonderful world of the multi-genre fan convention



Clockwise from left: R2D2 and some sinister looking Tusken Raiders, a very well trained dragon and its owner and Batman's The Riddler with Bender from Futurama
Images: Federico Di Veroli



Roman Aleksandravicus

If you are interested in anything from Sci-Fi to Indie comics, then attending the MCM London Comic Con is a must. With the event hitting over 100,000 attendees last May, MCM is the biggest convention of its type in London, and one of the biggest in Europe. The Con is bi-annual, taking place in both May and October.

Attendance of MCM is a major event for the Queen Mary Anime Society, with the members attending both May and October Conventions every year, and this year was no different. Around fifty members of the Anime Society set out this year. After I led my little flock into the convention, I set about enjoying it for myself, making a beeline for one area in particular – the autograph section. On my way there I saw what is arguably MCM's

biggest attraction: Cosplay. The art of dressing as one of your favourite characters from any form of media is incredibly popular, with attendees pouring their time and effort into their costumes, with many putting their own twist on characters, with people arriving as anyone ranging from a (long overdue) female Doctor Who, to a father and son turning up as Batman and Robin.

After I had made it to the autograph section I had to wade through the hundreds of people waiting in line for their chance to meet actors such as Arden Cho who plays 'Kira Yukimura' in TV Show Teen Wolf, and some of the original actors from the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers TV series – that's right, even the original Power Rangers were there. After finally

making it through the crowds I arrived at the autograph segment for one of my all-time heroes, Shinichirō Watanabe – legendary Anime director, with classic titles such as Cowboy Bebop, Samurai Champloo and Kids on the Slope under his belt. I had arrived an hour before the official time designated to Watanabe for signatures, but I was already close to the fortieth person in the queue, and after about an hour and a half I finally got to meet my hero and was able to hand him a Blu-Ray to sign, as well as getting the chance to grab a (very nervous) picture.

With my goal for the day accomplished I set about finding some of my society members and checking out the rest of the convention. I found some of them in the Comic village section checking

out some indie comics, while others spent their day in the video gaming section testing out playable demos for the newest games. Despite the long queues for MCM our members weren't discouraged, with one of them posting to our Facebook wall to tell us: "The queues didn't stop me from having a great day though! First time and absolutely loved it. Thank you QM Anime society for today!"

If you are looking for a truly unique experience then you won't find any better than the MCM London Comic Con, where entertainment culture reaches a fever pitch like nowhere else in London. For a taste of this, please don't hesitate to get in touch to attend one of our events!



Mile End Park hosts first Quidditch tournament

Talhah Atcha

You might have read about Quidditch before, but not with gloomy Mile End as the backdrop

And we're off! After a year of planning, our first Quidditch tournament has finally taken place. The weather looked ominous but we, the committee, trooped out all the same.

After a couple of hours the pitch was set up and everyone was ready to go! I was refereeing, Wilf, my co-president, was the snitch, and the heads of houses were spurring their teams on. First up was Hufflepuff vs Gryffindor, which turned out to be our closest match. The game went into overtime due to a tie, at which point Gryffindor's seeker, Adnan, scored an amazing snitch catch to win the game! The second match was Slytherin vs Ravenclaw, which again was a great match (and tested my patience as a fair few fouls were committed). The matches continued throughout the day as each house played the others once.

The winner at the end was Gryffindor with a whopping 300 point total. Their prize? A match against the committee! Obviously the committee smashed them, but we still count the Gryffindors as the ultimate winners of the tournament.

Overall it was a brilliant day. The matches were intense and there were a fair few injuries along with a very long list of fouls. Nevertheless the teams all had a great time and the weather held

up!

So how does Quidditch in the Muggle World work? We've had a few queries as to how Quidditch works in the Muggle World. The game works in almost the same way as in the books and movies. The differences? No actual flying, unfortunately, but every player is required to run around with the broom between their legs. The snitch is a person dressed in gold with a tennis ball in a sock hanging out the back of their shorts which the seekers have to try and catch.

There's a twist though: Seekers aren't allowed to touch the Snitch, just the sock. However, he/she can grab, push, shove and trip the seekers all they like. Once the seeker snatches the Snitch the game ends and they score their team 30 points (we don't know what Rowling was thinking when she gave the winning team a massive 150 points). The Quaffle is a volleyball, and there are 3 Bludgers on the pitch, which are actually dodgeballs. If you get hit you have to run back to your hoops and touch them.

Further differences include having a Yellow and Red card to award penalties (any players awarded a penalty are given a 30 second penalty in the penalty box). The game is set to last between 12 - 20 minutes, and there are unlimited substitutions. For a full set of rules see the International



Image: Harry Potter Society

Quidditch Website (<http://www.iquidditch.org/>).

Quidditch really is a lot of fun! What other game do you know that involves a mix of netball, rugby, dodgeball, and football, with 5 balls on the go at once? If you'd like to join one of our Quidditch teams simply email us at admin@qmharrypotter.co.uk (please pay your subs first).

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to announce that we will also be starting a QM Quidditch team in January to compete nationally (and internationally if we get that far) from 2015.

Quidditch results (in match order):

Results:

Hufflepuff vs Gryffindor - 50 : 80

Ravenclaw vs Slytherin - 110 : 10

Slytherin vs Hufflepuff - 30 : 140

Gryffindor vs Ravenclaw - 50 : 10

Ravenclaw vs Hufflepuff - 30 : 80

Slytherin vs Gryffindor - 40 : 170

Gryffindor vs Committee - 40 : 70

Final standings:

Gryffindor: 300

Hufflepuff: 270

Ravenclaw: 150

Slytherin: 80

24 Hours to Make It Or Break It

24 hour Theatre Festival causes whirlwind of excitement and sets the bar extremely high for this year's Queen Mary Theatre Company

Betsy Dallas

"There's only one cowboy in this town, Boy". A girl with an eyeliner beard draws this line, sauntering towards another dragged up cowgirl/boy/person, across the stage of Queen Mary's Pinter theatre. Queen Mary Theatre Company's 24-Hour Theatre Festival is well under way, and we're currently watching 'Don't Be a Dick', an aptly named cautionary/western tale.

Exactly 24 hours prior to this moment, around forty five members

were gathered in the theatre and given two 'key themes' (such as Western/Romance or Sci-Fi/Comedy), a glittery costume mask and a rubber replica of a bloody severed hand. With little other explanation or guidelines, the committee told each team of actors to create a 10-15 minute piece combining all of these elements. What ensued was beyond expectation...

QMTC had long been keen to launch a 24-hour festival. The premise is simple: all actors are split into groups of around five, and are given exactly 24 hours to create, rehearse, direct,

stage, and perform a short piece with just a few stimulus items and phrases. The response to the launch of the festival was better than the Theatre Company's committee could have hoped for. In the end, there were seven fantastic 15 minute pieces of theatre, presented on the 4th of October to a packed out Pinter Theatre. Launched just after Freshers' madness was over, the company's brand spanking new members were champing at the bit to sign up and show their peers exactly what they were made of. And boy, were they made of some weird stuff. Over the course of two hours of

performances we witnessed a time travelling duo's search for the right hand of Napoleon, a magical retelling of all of western literature's classic novels (including a Harry Potter without Harry Potter), the immersive initiation ceremony of an unsettling cult and a silent film version of a bar-room murder in the Wild West.

What made this festival special for QMTC members was the unabashed and unfettered enthusiasm of all involved. With no audition process, no director in charge, and no long and arduous rehearsal process, what

emerged were the wonderfully mad outpourings of a group of sleep deprived student brains. There was very little censoring, and very little worrying about image or reputation - just fun. It was a joy to see old and new members alike mingling in their silliness and creativity. All of the productions performed on that Saturday night were tiny tours-de-force in their own right and totally incomparable to each other, as well as incomparable to anything that QMTC had attempted before. Ambitious? Oh yes. Successful? Undoubtedly.

Marrow Society: Miracles can be simple

How To Save A Life: Step 1. Spit. Step 2. Resume studying.

Eve Bolt

It can be that simple, as I found out when I attended an enlightening event in the Draper's Lounge. As President Anja Bosio said: "You can have a direct impact, save a life without getting up from your library desk."

Donor Recruitment Co-ordinator and 2nd year Biomedical student Bosio was kind enough to explain the wonders of the work of Marrow, which is a society founded on the very core of that word: it seeks to connect people. This is a human movement that enables sufferers not only to survive, but to thrive.

Marrow is a network of student groups across forty universities, one of which is a joint society between Queen Mary and Barts. It is a project run by Anthony Nolan, a charity whose mission is to combat blood cancer and disorders. A simplified synopsis of blood cancer is that it wipes out the immune system. Stem cell and marrow transplants can tackle this and be victorious.

One in five of those who send off a spit sample are found to be a match for a sufferer. The sample is sent off to Anthony Nolan, where it is tested for a tissue type match. Essentially, all cells contain the same genome that is specific to you, your "code", and this is what is analysed. That match can help save a life in another country as well as here, where 4,800 lives were lost in 2012.

This year, ethnic minorities, specifically the black/Afro-Caribbean community, are being targeted as there are simply not enough donations from these demographics, ergo affecting who can and cannot

be saved. It is currently a "Caucasian cause". This needs to change. Students of all backgrounds are prime candidates, aged between 16 and 30, and 1 in 100 go on to donate.

So, you've come this far. Here is the less simple Step 3: A blood donation, for stem cells, as in 90% of cases, or surgery for bone marrow. The former can take 3-5 hours. The latter has been described as inducing no more pain than a rigorous session at the gym, a relatively blissful task for a donor compared to the agonies battled by patients.

Leukaemia is an agonisingly infamous blood cancer, which stole the life of two year old Margot Martini in October. She was diagnosed with lymphoblastic and acute myeloid leukaemia at fourteen months old, and a world-wide search profited a partial match that was devastatingly defeated by an aggressive relapse. If a perfect match had been found, her life may have been won.

I've repeated the word 'simple' in this article, perhaps inadvertently making a certain Russian meerkat a mascot of Marrow. But seriously:

The process of spitting into a test-tube is simple. Taking the chance and providing a sample is simple. The consequences are profound.

Giving blood or, less commonly, undergoing surgery, may seem like complex choices to make if you prove to be a match, and they are decidedly, undoubtedly serious, but simply miraculous.

Contact: qmb1@ukmarrow.org

We want to hear about your society experiences! Went to an event? Joined something different? Want to promote your society? We are always looking for societies to feature and writers to contribute to the section. Drop us a line on Facebook at: [Facebook/ThePrintNews](https://www.facebook.com/ThePrintNews) or Tweet us: [@ThePrintQM](https://twitter.com/ThePrintQM)



A Photo to Stop Torture

Amnesty International are raising awareness throughout London but it's not easy to tell people things that they don't want to hear.

Karin Narita



Image: QM Amnesty International

Across the road, a bored-looking rickshaw driver - grey T-shirt, canvas shorts and sneakers - waits for fickle tourists, an elbow perched on the handle bar of the bike, hand holding up his drooped head. When he sees me approaching, he immediately straightens up and calls out to ask be-camera-ed tourists whether they'd like a lift anywhere. Too busy, he tells me, to give me any time.

This typically grey Wednesday afternoon, Covent Garden is overrun with something other than commercial shops and German tourists: members from Amnesty International branches are stationed around, asking people if they would mind being photographed to raise awareness of torture around the world.

The concept of a photo petition is simple: take photos of people who support the "Stop Torture" campaign and give them a social media link where they can tag and share the photo of themselves. Through the tags, shares, and likes, awareness and, hopefully, interest in the campaign spreads. Simple enough.

The problem is getting passersby to stop and listen - there's only so much one can say in the three seconds before they shut you down: "Hi, did you know that 141 countries are known to practice torture for information gathering and extra-judicial punishment, by government and police?"

Or, "Hello there! Did you know that in the past year alone, Amnesty has documented 27 methods of tortures used by governments

around the world?"

Or even simply, "Good afternoon! May I take a photo as a visual protest against the use of torture?" None of these seem to catch their attention.

The trick, then, is patience. And knowing that somebody will be interested in taking a picture, in stopping torture, in the story of Moses Akatugba: arrested in 2005 by the Nigerian Army at the age of 16 and sentenced to death at 24, for allegedly stealing mobile phones; the only evidence being a statement by a dead man and two "confessions" obtained by the Army through torture. Or in the story of Claudia Medina Tamariz, accused of being part of a violent gang; in 2012 she was forcibly taken from her home by Mexican marines to a local naval base where she was wrapped in plastic as to leave no physical bruising from the kicks, beatings, and electric shocks. She was made to sign unseen "confessions" extracted from her under this duress, the content of which she later denied in court.

No, taking a photo won't change the fact that these individuals have gone through unimaginable pain, fear, and humiliation at the hands of institutions rhetorically meant to protect them.

But maybe one photo of one person will be seen by ten people, five of whom might go on to do more research and be inspired to spread awareness, or even join the campaign. And maybe, just maybe, we can put the practice of torture where it belongs: in the past.

GET ACTIVE SESSION

OLYMPIC
PARK SPORTQueen Mary University of London Students' Union
Get Active

Did you know that as part of Get Active, we are holding some sports sessions down at the Olympic Park in Stratford for the low price of £2 a session. This is your opportunity to try BMX Cycling and Swimming at an iconic venue at a low cost of £2 a session.

how to get involved

All you need to do to get involved is register with us, then book yourself on to the sessions you want to attend. For BMX ensure you are wearing clothes that cover your arms and for swimming, appropriate swimwear will be required.



QM.Getactive



@qmgetactive



QM seconds sweep aside Writtle

Men's Rugby Seconds continue their winning streak despite last minute line-up changes, with convincing second half performance

Michael Petty

QMRFC 2XV 18

WRITTLE 10

1) Fuentes Arevalo, 2) Mcleavy, 3) Lyons, 4) Thompson, 5) Petty, 6) Main, 7) Pupkevich, 8) Hatcher (C), 9) Petiet, 10) Parmenter, 11) Blanc-Garin, 12) Fagan, 13) Talboys, 14) Farouk, 15) Lange, 16) Yip, 17) Sing

After a quality win against Barts, Queen Mary 2XV were the team to beat coming into this game against Writtle. Despite the 1XV taking key 2XV players (Oye Callum and Paddy Vasey) from last week a strong side was still fielded.

Large changes were made to the previous week's team, in the pack AJ started at flanker following his strong defence in the Barts game and Callum Thompson filled in at lock. Dan Barter couldn't attend due to a

Spurs game. Billy replaced an injured Heavyweight and Adrian returned to complete the 2XV front row. The backs saw even more change. Fady moved to wing because Maz was missing, as he was busy preparing for joint netball session, whilst second row

“The Writtle pack got the shove in the scrum on most occasions. Whilst in terms of line-outs, QM were significantly more successful than that of Writtle”

Talboys did a job at centre. Antoine debuted at wing due to Alvaro missing the game to appear on Gardener's Question Time, and Chesley replaced Joe Ball.

The game started with neither team able to exert dominance over the other. The much larger Writtle team were able to slowly gain ground despite the QM defensive line stopping most runs before breaks could occur. The QM backline, though solid for the most part in defence, were somewhat disorganised in the first half when guarding against kicks down field.

Although QM had early chances, attempting a kick at goal, it was Writtle who scored first; their fly half kicking deep down field into space and collecting it for an easy run over the line. The Queen Mary boys quickly rallied, spending a large proportion of the first half in Writtle territory, concluding with Parmeter dancing through a number of challenges for a try under the posts. Petiet comfortably potted the conversion.

Both Writtle and Queen Mary commanded a different forward set play. The heavier Writtle pack got the shove in the scrum on most occasions.

Whilst in terms of lineouts, QM were significantly more successful than that of Writtle, whom suffered from inaccurate throwing. In spite of this, one of their few effective lineouts led to a try just before the first half ended after QM over committed to a ruck on their own five metre. Charles slotted a penalty, leaving the teams even at 10-10 going into half time.

Going into the second half, Writtle were given a number of penalties near the QM try line, none of which they were able to convert into tries. Captain Paddy Hatcher chopped down a runner metres from the try line, with the ball stolen moments later by Main. Even Mcleavy looked somewhat pleased. As the Writtle pack began to tire, gaps increasingly began to appear. Adam Parmeter kicked down field into space when the replacement Writtle winger wasn't home, gaining QM a large amount of territory. A few minutes later Paddy Hatcher scored, running over a weak challenge on the line to give a try.

QM had been giving away a number of penalties throughout the game, largely due to infringements at the ruck, culminating in Farouk going off for 10 minutes due to slowing the ball. Writtle took advantage of the overlap to almost score in the corner, the ball drifting forward on the last pass. Possession changed hands a number of times between the teams whom remained in the middle of the pitch. A successful attempt on goal by Petiet left the final score of the game, 18-10 to Queen Mary.

Upcoming Fixtures:

19th November

LSE vs. QM 1XV (A)

QM 2XV vs. Hertfordshire (H)

3rd December

Canterbury 1XV vs. QM 1XV (A)

Canterbury 3XV vs. QM 2XV (A)

Kings nilled by Queens

Women's Rugby begin season in style, thrashing Kings for fifteen without conceding

Kathryn Fisher

QMBL 15

KINGS 0

Line up: 1) Abdalle, 2) Buttery, 3) Collins, 4) Mayers, 5) Zhao, 6) Daniels, 7) Lightfoot, 8) Houvast, 9) Ranft, 10) Menon, 11) Fisher, 12) Duker, 13) Marasinska, 14) Dadulla, 15) Shand, 16) Wade, 17) Miller, 18) Newton-Ford, 19) Strupp.

The first game of the season against the only team we've beaten before was greatly anticipated by all. With several newbies in the QMBL lineup, now was the time that the efforts of the previous weeks' training sessions would be judged.

Initial exchanges between both sets of forwards were fairly even, the persistent rain of the Chislehurst afternoon making handling difficult for both sides, so no one was really too surprised by the high number of



QMBL Women's Rugby

scrums that were to take place. Of much greater surprise though was the disparity between the two sets of scrummagers.

The QMBL tight five of Abdalle, Buttery, front row virgin Kate Collins, and the 2nd rows Mayers and Zhao, totally dominated their opposite numbers, driving them, wheeling them, and pushing them back to within

inches of their tryline during a succession of scrums in the visitors' 22. Equally as taken aback as the Kings' pack was the referee, who felt the need to praise our forward cohesion on a number of occasions, but also claimed the opposition back feet of another retreating scrum had already crossed the tryline, so thus awarded a 22 drop-out when the ball was touched down in goal. However, a marker was laid

down by the ladies in blue (later acknowledged by the Kings' pack, and the referee with a request for uncontested scrums): "The scrums belong to us, here will you find no joy."

More handling errors in continuous rain caused knock-ons from both sides, so rarely was the ball passed along the backs to the wing without going to ground. Rucking from both sides was not as clinical as it could have been, many forwards opting to pick and go, but QMBL discipline at the breakdown, plus great tackling on some of Kings' larger forwards, enabled the ever lively Ranft at 9 to feed Menon, the QMBL speedster at 10, to run in the first try (conversion missed).

The 2nd try from QMBL came from good, quick-release forward combinations down the left, with Ruby [Lightfoot] securing another score (conversion missed).

The spirit in the home camp was great and forward pressure from all those taking to the field restricted Kings to

isolated forward drives, with some really considerable units in the Kings' pack being brought to ground in such unceremonious fashion that retaliatory elbows and boots began to fly. QMBL ladies maintained discipline, preferring to exact revenge within the laws through some excellent tackling (plus the odd high shirt-scrag).


Defensive line-speed in the backs continued to improve, so much so that continued pressure on pass recipients led to even more uncontested scrums, where newbies Strupp and Daniels both tried their hand at Hooker. As testament to defensive structure, the blue 22 was not encroached upon once during the whole game.

The third try came through an individual solo burst by Ranft (conversion missed). With such forward dominance, perhaps more points could have been amassed, but the weather conditions did not allow for much movement of the ball in the backs, nor continuous ball to hand in the forwards that a drier day may have allowed.



Heads in the Game

Having shot up in the rankings as one of the universities most successful clubs with an undefeated record in both their Men and Women's games this season; it seemed that no one was willing to face QM Hockey. Rather than send them away, The Print decided to follow through with what our other sports clubs had practically handed to them: a page of bragging rights, without opposition



Runman Sikdar

ROLE	President
Nickname	Grandad
Chat	10/10
Red Beer Ability	Better than Rugby
Awards	Committee of the year

“We would like to see both teams get promoted, which so far we are on course for”

Interview by Pollyanna Benson

Hockey are undefeated this year, you must feel pretty proud of your strikers?

Rumman: Actually none of the strikers have scored yet this year, the Men's captain Tom Fletcher is centre back but likes to think he's a bit special. Has a few douchebag moments on the pitch.
Colan: And off...
Rumman: (laughing) At half time against Kings he called for 3 cheers because he thought it was the end of the game, and they just looked offended. Also, sometimes his girlfriend comes to watch so he likes to show off when he celebrates his goals.

So the games are going well. What are your plans for the club for the year?

Rumman: We would like to see both teams get promoted, which so far we are on course for. We also want to see an establishment of at least a women's second team. I can't see that happening necessarily for the men's, as there are a lot of third and final year students playing at the moment so we would need a huge influx of freshers next year.
Colan: Having said that though, the freshers this year are better than we

could have imagined and are showing huge commitment to the club. Rumman: We also want more mixed games – hopefully next year we'll have a mixed team in LUSL.

Last year at sports awards you won committee of the year. Is that something you're looking to this year?

Colan: Yeah definitely it's always in the back of our minds but really we want to develop the club and care for the members
Rumman: We reckon that if we keep doing things right and playing hard then the awards will come. It's not something that we necessarily have to focus on just yet. We know we're working hard and by doing things right, success will come hopefully both on and off the pitch.

How would you describe the social side?

Rumman: Messy.
Rumman: Incestuous.
Colan: We put a lot of emphasis on the social side of our club, once we're off the pitch we have a beer and debrief but then it's done and we can focus on having fun and hanging out together. If you bond off the pitch then it definitely helps you on the pitch.
Rumman: It's the whole thing about playing for the person next to you.

I find that if I care about the person I'm running alongside, then I'm going to care a hell of a lot more about how I play. Some people already have that competitive edge built in them but for those who don't, hockey club definitely deals with that in the best way. If I get smashed in the face with a ball, I reckon I'd feel confident that one of my teammates would take me to A&E.
Colan:

Where do you train? Is it split between Men and Women?

Colan: We train on Mondays at the Olympic pitch which was great to brag about at freshers' when we were drawing people into the club
Rumman: It's also quite a difficult pitch to play on if you aren't used to it so actually by training and playing our matches there, it definitely plays to our advantage. Both men and women train together as well and I think that apart from boat club we're the only club to do that which is pretty cool unlike rugby and football who have essentially split into two different clubs.

Is there a rivalry between the Men's and Women's game?

Rumman: I wouldn't say rivalry, but we're introducing a competitive edge within the club. We're both in the same division in BUCS, so I've told

the captains that they're competing for the best position on the league tables and they will get a nice little treat/punishment for that. I'm thinking of racing jagerbomb pitchers, but we'll see.

Colan: I think we differ from a lot of clubs in that we will always watch the girl's matches and they will always watch ours, so even though we're competing for a better place in the league tables, we still support each other a lot in games which I don't think many clubs are able to do.

What legacy do you want to leave when you graduate?

Colan: Well Rumman has been here for approximately 8 years so I'm not sure that graduation is on the cards for him...
Rumman: I want to see a more professional club being left behind with more committed players. I want to see promotion and for the league tables to show our talent – there's no reason for us to be in BUCS 4. We're a big university and we should be using our members to progress forward and put pressure on other universities.
Colan: I don't mind so much if our members have alcohol induced memory loss as long as they remember that they loved their time in the club. There's no point in having a society

if you're not going to enjoy being a part of it.
Rumman: Steady on, we're a sports club not a society... don't want to be lumped in with the likes of snowsports. We also want to get the old boys and girls to get involved with East London Hockey Club to keep everyone close and part of the club once they've left.

Finally: do you have any friendly/menacing messages for your fellow sports clubs out there?

Colan: Well we were expecting to face another club for Heads in the game but snowsports were unavailable and women's rugby were unwilling. I don't blame them I wouldn't want to face us with our stats either.
Rumman: We are trying to build bridges with different clubs this year having kept to ourselves last year. Our Hail Mary is with boat club this year which is cool. When I joined uni, boat club were a bit of a joke club so it's cool to see them grow over the years as well and we're looking forward to a session with them.

Twitter: @qm_hockey
FB: QMUL Hockey

Women's Basketball smash St George's 72-3

QMBL Women's Basketball team get off to emphatic start with 72 point triumph over St George's University



Image: Veronique Ivory-Johnson

Veronique Ivory - Johnson

Team: Rajbhandari, Paavola, Pierre, Santos, Snaas, Jakobsen, Uba-Ifeigwu

Queen Mary women's basketball team got their new campaign off to a flying start with an emphatic win over St George's University. QM started strong, with Jakobsen proving to be the backbone of a fearless and relentless attack, with Snaas maintaining a consistent defence throughout. It was in the 7th minute that the first spectacular shot passed through the basket, with Jakobsen providing a shot from the three point line, taking the lead to 11-0. Towards the end of the first quarter, Pierre came into her own - constant awareness, strong on the break as well as being a speedy option for the team.

At the beginning of the second quarter, Santos made the shot of the match with a piece of individual brilliance, dribbling and weaving through the defence, finishing with a fantastic jump shot. St George's attempted to put pressure on the QM team and did have a number of shots themselves, but the vast majority of which rebounded off the backboard or circled agonisingly around the basket. In the centre of the court Rajbhandari proved to be a nimble addition to squad, leaving St George's players literally in heaps on the floor whilst she moved across the court and passed to Paavola for a crisp finish, finishing the second quarter 36-0.

It wasn't until the third quarter when St George's got their first points, after something of a flying start to the quarter. However, it wasn't long before QM were back on top, putting

extraordinary pressure on the St George's defence, with Uba-Ifeigwu proving to be an unstoppable force in leading from the back. One brilliant shot was borne out of the fantastic team work of Jakobsen and Pierre. Jakobsen dribbled through the bodies in the area only for her shot to hit the netting, caught the rebound, and passed to Pierre who provided an elegant yet formidable finish to take the score to 54-2.

By the start of the fourth quarter the St George's players, perhaps unsurprisingly, looked downcast and played the final quarter with an air of defeatism. QM continued their relentless attack until the very end, with constant attacks on the break, effectively power housing through the St George's defence. With this fantastic win under their belt, this team are without a doubt a force to be reckoned with this year.

After the game, captain Anika Jakobsen was more than pleased with the result: "It was a great win to start the season off with! Everyone on the team played well and it was a good opportunity for new players to gain confidence and experience as we look forward to harder matches."

QMBL play their next match against Royal Holloway on the 23rd of November.

Men's 1st team unbeaten in opening friendly & league fixture



Football Round-up

QM 1XI	1
Westminster	1

Richard Gamble



A cool finish from Sam Hui gave QM the lead on 61 minutes after a menacing run from Romeo Kotun and, despite their overall supremacy throughout the game over a QM XI with injury issues, Westminster had to rely on an 85th minute penalty to restore parity and rescue a point for the side.

After an early chance was narrowly missed by Westminster, they began to grow into the game. In the early stages of the game the QM XI found it hard to find their rhythm, and only looked any genuine threat on the counter-attack. Ricardo Everiste, went down under a challenge after breaking clear of the Westminster defence, but the referee waved play on, ushering the forward man back to his feet.

After the break Queen Mary began with better energy and purpose than had been seen in the opening 45 minutes. However, it took a great diving save from Hussum Foliah on the 47th minute, after a Westminster break-away, to keep the sides on level terms. After dominating the early proceedings in the second half, substitute Romeo Kotun broke away and an inch-perfect ball onto the 6-yard line followed, and was slotted neatly home beyond the keeper by Sam Hui to open the scoring.

A visibly riled Westminster then responded to going a goal behind with a flowing passage of passing play, culminating in a low driven shot that was expertly stopped by the QM number one. The pace of play increased with

Westminster again growing into the game, and a dipping wide ball into the box struck the arm of Jake Nash on the 85th minute and the referee awarded a penalty. The resulting kick was converted low and hard into the left-hand corner of the net and Westminster were back on level terms. This led to an anxious last 5 minutes for QM, but the score remained at 1-1 until the final whistle.

After the game, captain Mass Ndow-Niie seemed happy with the point: "We have a lot of new players in the first team this year, and it was just good to see us begin to work together as a team. Overall we are happy, hopefully it will be an exciting season!"

Man of the Match: Hussum Foliah

QM 1XI	3
Kings	1

Liam Harrison



As with the first fixture of any season, neither side knew much about the other, so the opening fifteen to twenty minutes was a tentative period, working out strengths and weaknesses of the opposition. The ball retention ability of Kings was impressive. They were keeping the ball more and creating chances, whilst a cautious but clever QM favoured triangular moves in a possession based game and looked to attack on the counter.

The first goal arrived 20 minutes in and it was QM who took the lead. Matthew Hart drove forward through the middle of the park and slid the ball through to Lolu, who made no mistake with his finish. QM were resolute in their defence and were seeking to maintain possession when they had it and counter when possible. The chances for Kings kept

coming, but a combination of misses, chances being put wide/high, and some great reading of the game by the QM keeper Hussum meant the score at half time was 0-1 to QM.

Barely two minutes after the restart and Kings were level. The host's number ten had just collected a pass to the right of the D about 20 yards out when he unleashed a superbly hit shot with his left foot. As much as QM keeper Hussum tried, he simply was not getting to it as it flew into the top left corner.

QM returned on the offensive and saw a few chances come and go before they again took the lead, 20 minutes into the second half. A delightful through ball from the captain Mass put Manu through on goal, Manu saw his shot saved but fumbled by the keeper, and Lolu was on hand to smash the ball into the net. With the game now at 2-1, QM were feeling confident but also knew the next goal would change the game.

With just over fifteen minutes to go, Kings lofted a free kick into the box and a goalmouth scramble ensued. QM finally cleared the ball, and just one minute later they increased their lead. Matthew Hart's precise pass put through Lolu, who controlled the ball and placed his shot underneath the keeper to claim his hat trick and ultimately, the win.

Man of the match: Lolu Onabolu.

Men's Football

15th November
QM 1st XI vs. Kings (H)
LSE vs. QM 2nd XI (A)

19th November
Kings vs. QM 1st XI (A)
QM 2nd XI vs. Barts (H)

22nd November
Imperial vs. QM 1st XI (A)
QM 2nd XI vs. Royal Holl. (H)

29th November
QM 1st XI vs. Royal Free (H)
LSE vs. QM 2nd XI (A)

3rd December
QM 1st XI vs. LSE (H)
London Met vs. QM 2nd XI (A)



Sport



image : QMSU

Nursing her body back to full health after a week of Hail Mary and Halloween, our sports editor steps away from the pitch to consider the one thing that sports clubs across the country have in common: Wednesday night binge drinking

Pollyanna Benson

I Googled 'drinking culture in university sport' and it came up with almost 3.5 million results. The media loves to discuss the bingeing island of Britain, zooming in on the disgraces that are university students and not forgetting to focus, just a bit closer, on members of sporting societies. As I looked through a few of the pieces that I found online, they all bore a striking resemblance to each other. Don't worry young people, we can offer advice and wisdom so that next time you don't feel like you have to get involved.

One particular article stuck with me with the headline "you're old enough to say no", as two students were condemned for their actions after an alcohol-fuelled social with their club. I'm no detective, but the pictures of the boys involved in that particular event were brutish young men from a rugby club who, in my humble opinion, couldn't look less sorry if they tried.

Here, I will boldly assume that the boys chose to go to their club social, drank heavily and after deciding to be a part of the games, took it too far. I could be triggering huge controversy

here, but I'm certainly not under the impression that these boys wanted to say no at any point, despite having the privilege of crossing the age line that allows them to take responsibility for themselves.

Please don't think that I'm obnoxiously writing from the perspective of a member of a sports club who wants to rebuke the media and exercise my right to get royally smashed just for the sake of it. I understand that the argument of 'I'm a 21-year-old woman; I often drink more units per week than the recommended amount for an adult male and I'm

still alive' doesn't particularly hold up. My argument against the angst of the media towards sports societies is because I feel simultaneously condemned and patronized, and the latter is not an experience that I relish.

On the off chance that this reaches a single member of the public outside of QMBL, please let me make something clear. The difference between an innocent Fresher and the demon that is a third year, is not actually that vast. Firstly, while we may have more experience with it, more often than not they do actually know what beer is. Finally, for those

who do choose to come along, we are entering into two hours of drinking games led by one of our peers within the club. Correct, it's unlikely that many will leave these sessions particularly sober, but for as long as the SU continues to allow sessions to occur and the Daily Mail insists on writing about it, let the record show that when asked, we said yes.

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