

# THE PRINT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF QUEEN MARY STUDENTS' UNION

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# QM medics first in country to use Google Glass technology



Image QMUL PR

## Victoria Adams

Queen Mary is set to be the first University in the UK to use Google Glass technology for teaching medical students. The initiative to introduce the exciting technology at Barts Medical School follows the use of Google Glass by Virtual Medics, a group of consultant surgeons at Barts Health NHS Trust and staff at the medical school as well as medical students at QM, who used the device to film a surgical proce-

cedure in what was the UK's first global live-streamed surgical teaching. 13000 people across 115 countries viewed the session, which saw a surgeon remove cancer ridden tissue from a 78 year old man.

Google Glass, originally launched in April 2013 for a limited period in the US, before going on sale to the public in May 2014 is hands free, wearable technology, with an optical head mounted display developed by Google. The technology, which clips onto various pairs of spec-

tacle frames, allows users to do a variety of activities from scrolling the internet, watching and filming videos, to playing chess. The device is voice-controlled and Google are understood to be formulating further ways to integrate the technology into daily life.

Barts is currently using the device for surgical teachings allowing students to follow along from the classroom as well as from their phones and laptops. Students can also interact with the surgeon per-

forming the procedure to ask questions during the operation. Barts is hoping to roll out further usage of the technology to other modules and year groups taking a medicine degree.

Google kindly offered The Print a chance to try out Google Glass in their Kings Cross Glass Basecamp, so Victoria Adams went to check it out:

It was very clear from the very start to see how these are going to be a massive

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## UCU Marking Boycott Suspended for Talks

A marking boycott by members of the UCU lecturers' union was suspended last week following joint negotiations

Rachel Barrow

The UCU marking boycott which began on November 6th over pension rows has been suspended as of November 18th. A statement issued by the University and College Union and Universities UK relayed the news that the assessment boycott would be lifted following a series of negotiations to seek a joint reform of lecturers' pension schemes until the next meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee, scheduled for January 15th. The joint statement announced that:

"Both parties are committed to seeking a joint proposal for reform that offers an affordable, sustainable and attractive pension scheme, for both current and future members."

The dispute began after proposals to reform lecturers' salary schemes prompted warnings from the union that pensions could reduce by up to a third, and included staff from 69 universities including Queen Mary. Lecturers from QM who would prefer to remain anonymous stated that

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# Humans of QM

## When is a time you remember being happiest?



"I have real difficulty on saying when. I can't really pinpoint any particular moment in my life where I'm really, really happy or I'm happiest; it's more like lots of nice moments blend into one. I have a general period in my life where I've been really happy, where everything in general is okay, and generally, the happiest moment in my life, so far, has been the age of 16/17 where everything was coming

together quite well, nicely, personally for me. I was enjoying work and my A-levels and my friendship groups and that's the year Chelsea won the Champions League - that really has to be up there actually; jumping around the living room with my dad who is a lifelong Chelsea fan, and he'd lived 50 years to see that moment - so generally, I know that sounds a bit pathetic, but in general, I think

that capped off a really good year: 2012, when I was 16/17, so I wouldn't really pinpoint one particular moment, just that whole year. That was just a year where I felt very good and my future seemed bright - it still seems bright, I don't think my future is that dark! But yeah, the year 2012, that kind of age, just everything that was happening then".

## Leadership Conference brings political experts to QM this December

Victoria Adams

On December 5th, Queen Mary alongside the University of East Anglia and PSA Political Leadership are hosting a Conservative Leadership Conference. The event will take place on QM's Mile End campus from 11am to 6pm with Lunch, refreshments and drinks included. The event, chaired by Rt. Hon. Charles Clarke, will hear speakers including Matthew D'Ancona from the Evening Standard, QG and New York times, famous political historian Sir Anthony Seldon and Guardian columnist Anne Perkins as well

as leading academics from across the country. Professor Tim Bale, QMUL lecturer and speaker at the event tells us: "The Tories have always been a top-down party, albeit one prepared to get rid of leaders if things aren't going well - which is why they've been labelled 'an autocracy tempered by assassination'. But they've also had an incredible range of leaders, from toffs to grammar-school boys - and of course one very famous grammar school girl!" Bale ends, "so anyone who wants to understand this party - one of the oldest and

most successful in the world - needs to understand its leaders, and there will be a great bunch of experts giving presentations on some of the most interesting leaders. I think it's a must-be-there event for anyone interested in British politics and political parties more generally." For more details and to buy your £4 discounted student ticket, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/conservative-leaders-conference-tickets-1396696055>

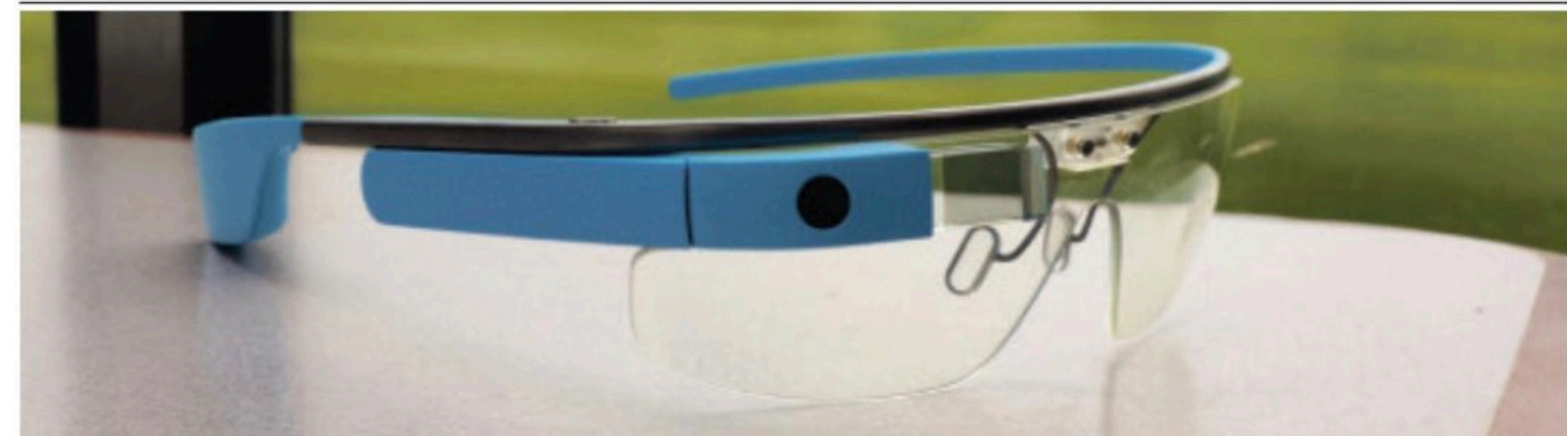


Image: Flickr/ Ted Eytan

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If, like me, you are a glasses wearer, you sit the Glass on the top of your frames and adjust until you can see the four squares of the screen in your right eye. To begin using the glass, you simply tap the side of the frame and you can begin the experience of hands-free, somewhat life changing, technology. Everything from thereon is voice-controlled, from surfing the internet, to taking photos, video recording to jotting down notes - all hands-free. For those people concerned about eye strain, the screen disappears automatically when not in use. Developers at Google reveal that world leading medical professionals have been developing their own apps to accompany the google glass, proving further medical and surgical usage even more viable. Apps that allow the student or doctor to scroll through symptoms and solutions at a faster pace means solving the medical issue far more efficiently and effectively than scrolling through patient notes and medical books.

The cost - £1000 per unit, excluding the normal wearing glasses - may raise some eyebrows, but in comparison to the costs per medical student in attending surgery, the cost of a sterilisation gown, gloves and hat per session alongside the cost of biologically cleaning the scrubs comes to a similar price. Costs aside, the reduced risk in removing additional persons from the operating theatre is arguably somewhat priceless. Thuva Amutham, final year Barts medical student who accompanied me to Glass Basecamp, commented: "Medicine has always lagged behind in catching up with technology, it's about time we caught up. I believe it is inevitable technology and we have too much to gain from not utilising it to its full potential, with the interest of our patients at heart." After experiencing the Glass first hand he said: "Google Glass has revolutionised medical education. We have moved from an era of three or

four students trying to get a glimpse of what the surgeon is doing without decontaminating the environment to being able to sit at a desk and have the best view as well as narration." "As a generation at the frontline of interactive technology it is our responsibility to play our part in this revolution and empower the patient. Records of the stream with narration and discussions with students could replace books. How better to learn than from watching and experience?" Thuva weighed in on where else Google glass could be used in medicine:

“the reduced risk in removing additional persons from the operating theatre is arguably somewhat priceless”

"Students sometimes book patients in when it is not an emergency or review patients on wards. They then report back to a supervisor on what their findings are and a possible diagnosis. The consultations are rarely watched as the doctor is usually busy attending to other patients or jobs. If the doctor can watch the consultation on his glass and do the other job he'd get a fuller picture than the report of the medical student. That's not to say it is not double checked currently, but it may save some time." With the success of Google Glass implementation at Queen Mary, other Universities across the country including Kings College and the University of Edinburgh are looking to follow suit. To find out more information about the initiative, visit <http://glassmedics.org/>

# Students Broke and Stranded Abroad

## Students studying abroad in Europe through the Erasmus scheme stranded without funding for the semester

Jessica Kendrixs

The Erasmus programme which offers students from British Universities the opportunity to travel to EU partner universities to study has been a popular choice for British students since its inception. Hundreds of students enter into the programme each year to experience a new culture whilst studying for their degree at a reduced cost. However, many home students are lacking this life-changing experience abroad this year, instead struggling to provide for themselves after being left without funding for the entire semester. It was revealed this month that the British Council has not provided a large number of students abroad on the Erasmus programme with their promised Erasmus grants due to high demands for funding. Michael Barraclough, an English and German student from Queen Mary who is currently studying in Germany through the Erasmus programme is one of many students who are still yet to receive their Erasmus grants. Michael comments: "I moved over here in August and survived on the first instalment of my student loan and my wage. But no one told us we'd be waiting months and still not have a penny." Fortunately, Michael is currently in full-time employment

which covers his rent and living costs but many other students studying through the programme have not been so lucky. "Some people are studying full-time and so don't have money coming in regularly. People have had to borrow from boyfriends, parents etc. A few of us emailed and tweeted the British Council and we all got similar answers and are still awaiting payment." Many students are struggling to pay living costs and, if funds are not received before the winter break, will not be able to make it home for the holidays. The British Council has come under deep scrutiny over the handling of the grants with British students studying abroad. Hundreds of students are continuing to contact the Council via twitter, emails and letters about when they can expect their grants, receiving only responses similar to that sent to Michael. "They told me to be patient and speak to my university and that it was always going to be a long wait". Daniel Hibler, the Erasmus programme manager for the British Council says: "We regret any delays students are experiencing in receiving the funds. They should be aware that this is a complex programme in its first year, with different actors working together to ensure it is launched as envisaged. Demand has grown by 9%

on last year - more than in recent years - but the budget has only grown by 1%. So there's real pressure now on the mobility budget. The Erasmus grant is a maintenance grant - a contribution to the additional costs of mobility. Students should still be receiving their loan from the student loan company. But we are sorry and that regret applies to any of the delays from whatever origin, including those beyond our control." The mix-up is not only a British problem, with students from universities across the EU continuing to face similar issues with no money coming in. The situation for French students has been particularly difficult with some being told that the demand for funding has been greater than the amount available. A French student currently studying at the University of Bologna in Italy was told just after travelling overseas that there was not enough money available and that she would therefore receive no funding. Despite the financial strains that students are facing, the programme has had some benefits, offering eye opening opportunities for students to experience activities in their host country. As Michael highlights, "I'm having a great time - I luckily got a job that I enjoy and am having a really good time here - it's worth doing it, but we need more clarity before we move out here."

Image: Flickr/ Alex Guibord



## QMUL scientists win 2014 Cancer Research UK prize

Rachel Barrow

A group of scientists attending the NCRI Cancer Conference in Liverpool took home the prestigious 2014 Cancer Research UK prize for Translational Cancer Research early this month. The team, led by QMUL's Professor Jack Cuzick and including other professors from the University of Manchester and the University of Newcastle, Australia, have a long-held commitment to cancer prevention.

The prize acknowledged the achievements of the team who developed the IBIS-I and IBIS-II breast cancer prevention trials. The trials, commencing in 1992 with IBIS-I, found that the early use of preventative drugs such as Tamoxifen could substantially reduce the risk of breast cancer development in high risk women. The trials continue to produce important information on the long-term benefits of preventative drug use for women at risk with other drugs such as Anastrozole.

Speaking after receiving the award, Professor Cuzick, Head of the Centre for Cancer Prevention at QMUL, commented that the research "has been an exciting new development in breast cancer prevention - leading to greater risk reductions with fewer side effects. We now have good choices for high risk women to prevent some breast cancers, but their remains a lot more to do."

He added that, "We are truly honoured to receive this prestigious award and would like to thank our colleagues at CR-UK for this recognition of our achievements. We work as a team and a huge number of people contributed to the exciting new discoveries of the IBIS I and II trials, and we all share in the recognition."

### Continued from P.1

the proposed reform of the Universities Superannuation Scheme would devalue the reputation of UK universities in the long-term by pushing academics into more highly paid positions at US and European universities, meaning that the Action Short of Strike was in the interests of both staff and students. This could be particularly damaging for QMUL students as the university continues to rise in national league tables, currently increasing the value of students' degrees year on year. Disputes were further exacerbated after some universities

## News Through The Viewfinder: Free Education March

Alex McDonald

An estimated 10,000 students from across the UK shut down central London on November 19th in the most recent action in the campaign for free education. The march went from the old heart of student protest on Malet Street to the heart of government in Westminster,

ending in a rally attended by radical MPs, community groups and SU officers. Though the police clashed with splinter groups amidst accusations of aggression on both sides, the march was overwhelmingly peaceful and confident.



Images: Kevin Choi

announced that they would dock between 25 and 100 per cent of the pay of those boycotting.

Commenting on the action, QMUL's Claire Preston, Professor of Renaissance Literature, stated that: "Action of some kind was essential, but naturally no one was happy about the effect of the marking boycott on our undergraduates, and that's been tough — withholding marks is not what we came here to do. I've been really impressed by the forbearance and patience

of my students. A row about pensions is probably not that compelling for them, but I've found them very willing to listen and question thoughtfully — I would have expected no less, but it's been encouraging all the same."

The agreed suspension of the boycott has now removed the threat of losing pay. The joint statement further disclosed that: "Both parties are pleased that the agreement to suspend in-



## Queen Mary History at war

A team of student researchers are winding the clock back to provide an insight into Queen Mary during the First World War.

Jack Sheldon

Eleven volunteers, overseen by the School of History's Dr. Patrick Longson and Dr. Dan Todman, are contributing to QM's East End at War project by posting regular updates online at eastendww1.org and on Twitter @EastEndWW1. The project aims to bring to life the hustle and bustle of war-time London, stimulate public debate during the centenary commemorations, contribute to historical understanding of the home front and reveal new insights into a formative period in world politics.

Regular blog posts reproduce newspaper reports - taken from local titles such as *The East London Advertiser*, *The Hackney and Kingsland Gazette* and *The East End News* - exactly a century after they were first published. Recent entries include a Guy Fawkes Ball, the call-up of omnibus drivers and protests against the early closing of Shoreditch pubs. One of the more unusual stories to have been re-discovered reveals that Madam Tussauds had acquired a German dispatch carriers collapsible bicycle to add to their collection of objects connected to the war.

The blog also includes the reflections of participating students. Sandip Kana, who had previously worked with Dr. Todman on the Exhibiting the First World War project, wrote: "The war is often studied and researched through a military lens, whereas local narratives of a community's

everyday experience of the war have come to be forgotten, or viewed as irrelevant. But projects such as this have begun to shed light on this forgotten part of the war, and can serve to only enrich our knowledge of the experience of the war at home."

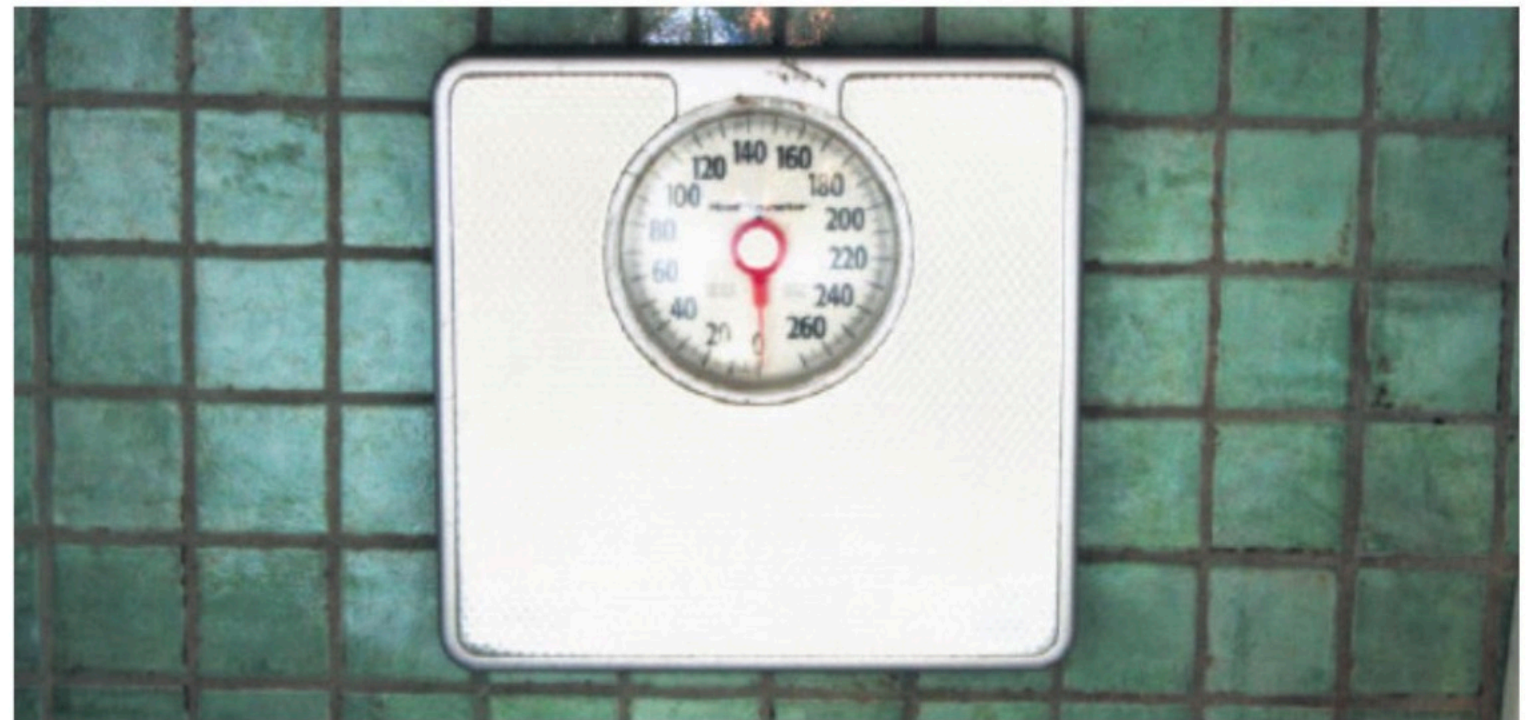
Maya Bhogal reflected the views of a number of contributors in remarking upon how her historical skills had been boosted by participating in the project. "When I first set out to participate in this project, I was motivated primarily by the notion that we would be given our own independence in doing archival research, something which surprisingly as a second year history student, I have had no contact with", she said. "Not only have I now had experience within archives, but I've had the independence of finding articles that interest me and sharing them with others".

The East End at War project is supported by the Hackney Archives and Tower Hamlets Local History Archive and Library. Both have provided training to contributors as well as access to their historical newspaper collections. The project will continue throughout the four-year long centenary commemorations and so there is plenty of time for new volunteers to become involved - all you need to do is send your name, year of study and an 80-word statement of interest to [eastendww1@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:eastendww1@qmul.ac.uk).

marking boycott has been suspended. Whilst the union has very valid concerns that need to be addressed, hopefully negotiations will help to close the differences between both sides and will prevent industrial action which really is a last resort. No one, least of all the committed staff at Queen Mary, wants the academic experience of students to be disrupted if it can possibly be avoided." Academics are now expected to catch up on marking and delivering feedback within a reasonable period of time.

Following the suspension, Queen Mary researcher Harriet Howes commented that "I'm very pleased that the

# Eating independently: University and Eating Disorders



Eden Gilby

Image: Flickr/Mason Masteka

Around 1.6 million people in the UK are suffering from an eating disorder. Depending on the disorder, symptoms can last for between 5-8 years and affect people of all ages. The average age of a sufferer is 12-25 but we very rarely see campaigns or outreach programs set up around schools and universities. University is most young people's first taste of freedom, but for some this can be dangerous. Does the lack of parental supervision and increase of independence lead to self-neglect and an increase in eating disorders amongst the student body?

It is estimated that of those with eating disorders, 10% of sufferers are anorexic, 40% are bulimic and the rest fall into the EDNOS (Eating Disorder Not Otherwise Specified) category. According to the National Collaborating Centre for

Mental Health, it is estimated that 1 in 250 females and 1 in 2,000 males will experience anorexia nervosa, and around five times this number will suffer from bulimia nervosa. However, similarly to self-harm, it is likely that these figures are underestimated due to significant portions of sufferers not receiving help. Anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any psychiatric disorder, and research shows that 20% of sufferers will die prematurely from the illness.

With statistics as shocking as these, it seems bizarre that eating disorders are something that the majority of people rarely have to think, let alone talk, about. They are rarely shown on TV, rarely discussed in the media, and spoken about in hushed tones between family and friends.

Should universities and student unions be doing more

to help those who are suffering with eating disorders? Charity B-Eat (Beating Eating Disorders) have said that "[t]he University environment presents a number of risk factors to those who may be pre-disposed to developing an eating disorder including academic pressures, financial concerns, making new friends, moving away from home and living independently."

Queen Mary offer help in the form of The Advice and Counseling Service. Whether students have been undergoing treatment for years in their hometown, or have never spoken to anyone about having eating problems before, The Advice and Counseling Service offer support. The support they give is tailored completely to the student which means no one has to suffer in silence.

Something that Advice and Counseling cannot control

is who chooses to seek help. Even if a new student had been receiving years of treatment in their home town, when they start university no treatment is automatically put in place. This is an area that is not controlled by the university but by the NHS and does pose some implications where patient confidentiality is concerned.

As university is so often seen as a fresh start and the beginning of an independent life, it may be confused for a time to start dealing with problems on your own. This should not be the case. Universities across the UK set up services that are on hand to help alleviate the stresses that come with being a student away from home for the first time. Although a lot more could be done to advertise services such as Advice and Counseling within Queen Mary, it will always be the

responsibility of the student to make the first move.

Visit the B-Eat website for online support: <http://www.b-eat.co.uk/>

Contact advice and counseling: <http://www.welfare.qmul.ac.uk>

QMUL Eating Problems page: <http://www.welfare.qmul.ac.uk/>

Follow Eden on Twitter: @Eadiegilbs





# Islam: Beyond the headlines

With all the bad press, stereotyping and negative associations, Hannah Sargeant speaks to Muslims at Queen Mary to hear their responses to whether the media is turning their faith upside down

Hannah Sargeant

What do you think of when you hear the word Islam? For many, Islam represents a religion of peace and a secular way of life. For a worryingly large number of others, Islam connotes terrorism, extremism and ISIS. As for those who are unsure – the very taboo nature of Islam in Western society prevents the initial willingness for the curious or confused to discover and engage with Islam and its beliefs. This striking contrast in perception is a result of ill-informed word of mouth and a lack of learning on the teachings of Islam. It doesn't help that the misconstrued ideas that tarnish the Muslim community across the West are by no means contested in what we hear, see and read in the newspaper spreads and on our television screens.

In this month's coverage of the Alton Nolen case, the *The Daily Mail* published the headline: "Factory worker who was beheaded by Muslim colleague with a serrated cooking knife fought back" despite no clear indication that the attack was in no way religiously stimulated. In fact, *The Daily Mail* reports that Mr Nolen was a regular offender who had been found in possession of cocaine and marijuana, who had previously assaulted a Highway patrol officer. Nevertheless, these seemingly important details became lost among the repetitive statements that the offender was "a recent convert to Islam" and the numerous images of Nolen at mosques and reading the Quran.

A similar example of inappropriate associations with the word 'Muslim' and terrible acts of violence can be seen when *The Daily Mail* reported on the 2014 shootings at Parliament Hill in Ottawa with

the headline "Muslim convert who shot dead soldier when he stormed Canadian parliament 'communicated with British hate preacher Anjem Choudary on Twitter' despite its ongoing investigation into the motives behind the attack."

Queen Mary has a large Muslim population and according to the 2011 Census, Tower Hamlets is the only London borough where the Muslim population is the largest religious group. With such a large Muslim community within Queen Mary and on its doorstep, it seems wholly essential that the unfair and unwarranted stigmatisations seen daily in the media are confronted.

Following meetings with groups of Muslim students at Queen Mary in a series of low-key discussions on the taboo subject, I was surprised by the willingness to talk and the positivity the project generated. I was met with the overwhelming sense that Muslims wanted to talk about Islam and the hostility they have experienced – and more importantly, they wanted to be heard. After being welcomed to the East London Mosque, this feeling was reiterated and I was given ample opportunity to learn about the aspects of Islam that the tabloids choose to leave out.

For many Muslims across the globe, Islam is the defining point of their identity. Speaking of what their religion means to them, the students emphasised Islam's ethos of peace, how it is a way of life, how it defines them and gives them a position in the international community. However, for some Muslims, identification with Islam and their beliefs can be swayed as a result of coverage in the Western media. One student commented that as a young Mus-



Image QM Islamic Society

lim teenager, she understood "honour killing" – a concept not mentioned in the Quran – to be true to Islam because she had seen it in the media.

The Western media's approach to tarnishing the name of Muslims raises the question of whether Western society even wants to understand the positive aspects of Islam. One student complains that the media is extremely selective in what it chooses to depict, and other comments in agreement that some of the things she has read in *The Daily Mail* have been too painful to read and extremely upsetting.

Many of the Muslims we have met with to investigate their responses to the media backlash also complained of the frustration of Islam as a religion being so often confused with Middle Eastern culture and politics. The oppression of women in the Middle East is taken as an example in the discussion, and one student comments, "Yes, oppression of women in the Middle



Image Flickr/Horizon

East is a big problem. But it is part of Middle Eastern culture and politics. It is not to do with Islam. There is nothing in Islam that says women should be oppressed."

The students reflect on how they were shocked to see the Syrian scholar, Shaykh Muhammad al-Yaqoubi appear in an interview with American broadcaster CNN, who offers what they believe to be a true representation of Islam.

those who are speaking out in Islam's defence are reducing. This is partly due to extremist rebel groups like ISIS who are responsible for capturing and murdering scholars in order to reduce the threat of opposition.

It is not just reading about the negative labelling of Islam in the news that affects Muslims at Queen Mary, but also their personal experiences of living in East London. One student Muslim commented that as a young Muslim woman being brought up in a multi-cultural area of Bow, she felt safe to walk the streets. Since the 2013 murder of Lee Rigby in Woolwich, there has been a significant increase in Muslim-orientated abuse. The students note that there was a fear to walk on the streets due to a strong backlash towards the Muslim community, with one commenting that "my dad wanted to take my scarf off after the Woolwich incident" in order to protect her from acts of anti-Muslim aggression. In other incidences, one student recalls her mother being spat on in the streets and others being cursed, verbally abused on public transport and victimised on the grounds of their faith.

So what exactly is Islam and its representatives doing to help eradicate these misconceptions? Muslim students at Queen Mary generally feel that the lack of Muslim voices in the media is a political motive and are left feeling frustrated and embarrassed when public speakers like Anjem Choudary receive media attention by communicating ideas on Islam that do not represent the majority of the Muslim community. In conjunction with speakers like Choudary receiving excessive air time in British news channels, speakers like the pro-Palestinian activist and journalist, Lauren Booth, wrote an article speaking out about her visit to Lebanon but this took an astonishing 4 years to be published.

Despite the major Muslim presence in East London, coming across a rebuttal from the Muslim community in defence is sometimes difficult to find. Undeniably, orchestrating a positive representation of Islam in the Western media which predominantly produces continuous stigmatisation is a challenge within itself. When asked what Muslims were doing to defend and raise awareness of Islam, an overriding "it's a problem if you do, it's a problem if you don't" stance characterised the response. Muslim scholars and representatives have condemned ISIS and other acts of extremism; expressing strong denunciation and stating how nothing in Islam condones those kind of violent actions. For some of the students, they feel that if their representatives are public-



Image Flickr/lan Wright

“Muslim scholars and representatives have condemned ISIS and other acts of extremism; expressing strong denunciation and stating how nothing in Islam condones those kind of violent actions”

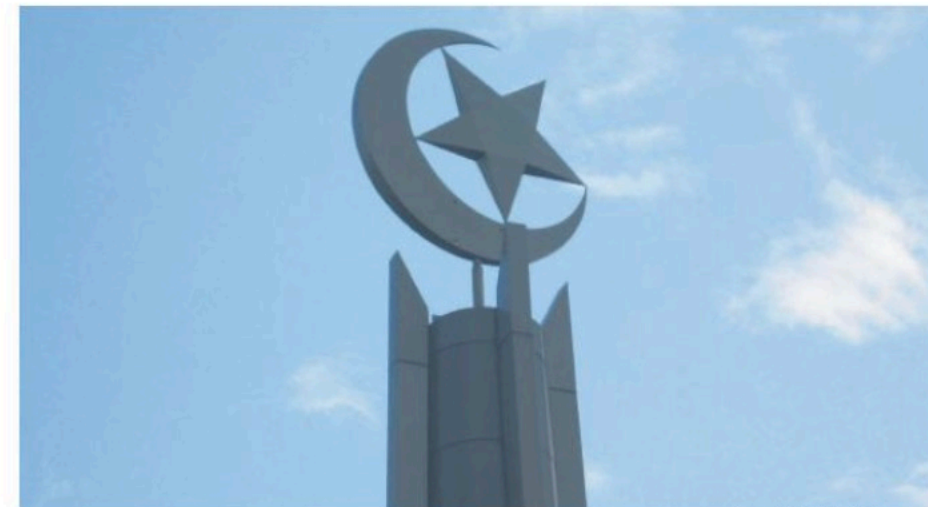


Image Flickr/Rudy Herman

ly condemning groups like ISIS in far away countries like Syria, Iraq, and Eastern Libya, then there is not much more they can do.

As Muslims living in the West, many Islamic students at Queen Mary feel privileged despite the upsetting hostility. In meeting with a group of QM Muslims, there was an agreement that living in the West has strengthened their connections with Islam as the sometimes difficult environment has tested them and furthered a desire to connect to their faith. In the everyday life of a Muslim, it is compulsory to communicate Islam in order to facilitate a better understanding. Some students feel like they and the rest of the Muslim community could be doing this better, and should apply a stronger defence to anti-Muslim aggression. With disagreements within the community on whether to appease the aggressors in order to communicate Islam or whether to speak out directly, the students feel that a better unification of Muslims in the UK could help effectively combat the hostilities. Others feel that many people choose to be ignorant towards Islam and in return, Muslims don't know how to respond. They ask, "What can you say to make them listen?" and I begin to fully understand the frustrating position they find themselves in.

Collectively, our discussion concludes on the idea that the issues the Muslim community are currently facing in the West is "a test to see how well we present ourselves". As many Muslims now live in the UK, and the Westernisation of their situation means that it takes more to connect with Islam, it is the responsibility of non-Muslims to try to understand it rationally. In such a multicultural university and in the wider sphere, it is just as much the responsibility of the Non-Muslim to listen, learn and avoid stereotyping and question the hate preaching in the media.

Follow Hannah Sargeant on Twitter:  
@hansarg







# Volunteering: live and learn whilst helping others

The Print takes a look at the different types of Volunteering Queen Mary students are involved in, finding out how they make an impact on the community around us and across London, and finally what it's really like making an impact.

Ciara Judge and Sarah Garnham

QMSU Volunteering, the Volunteering Service at Queen Mary Students' Union offer students the opportunity to volunteer with charities and non-profit organisations in Tower Hamlets and across the city. Volunteering gives students opportunities for new experiences and developing skills that make a genuine impact on people's lives. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved with throughout the year whether these be one-off opportunities or more regular placements – meaning there is something for everyone. For those with limited time, students can volunteer with a large group without having to commit on a regular basis – these include the diverse one-day opportunities which take place throughout the year. So far this year one-day opportunities have ranged from cooking breakfast for the homeless, to breaking the world record for the most people dressed as penguins, planting poppies at the Tower of London to stewarding fun runs and concerts. For more specific interests, students can also choose from over 130 different volunteer placements with charities or even set up their own projects with other volunteers with similar interests. QMSU Volunteering also offers support before, during and after the experiences as well as you're not thrown in the deep-end. Not only does volunteering look great on your CV, but also it makes a huge impact on people's lives. Sometimes it's easy to forget that there is a community outside our campus that benefit from our student-volunteers.

Not only is it rewarding in this way, but also by logging your volunteering hours online, QMSU Volunteering will recognise and reward your hard work. These include Bronze, Silver and Gold awards based on the number of hours you have done, and also special rewards

for those who go above and beyond expectations. There is something for everyone to get involved in, and it's also a great way to meet new people – whether this be like-minded students or those from around our local community.

Below are a number of profiles from a variety of students currently volunteering at Queen Mary. They've told us more about why they began volunteering and why they've continued to do so. They've also shared some of the key projects they've been involved in, which ones were their favourites and work they're continuing to do now. Finally they share what the best parts of volunteering really are, and why they find it so rewarding.

Katherine Palmer is a second year Law student who, excluding other volunteering she does at the Legal Advice Centre, did around 55 hours volunteering last year and is already up to around 27 this year. When asked why she got involved, she told us "I just really liked the sound of the events and wanted to make a difference in the community. Often I feel as though QM has its own community yet we don't mix with anyone from outside so it's nice to get out!" Events she has participated in include; the Breakfast Challenge Whitechapel Mission – A very early start, cooking breakfast for the homeless, but for a great cause. She also has helped distributing water, giving moral support and marshalling a number of runs including the Sports Relief Mile, The Royal Parks Half Marathon and the Bupa 10k. The Neon Fun Run was a particular highlight as not only did she raise money for the Royal National Institute of Blind People, but she told us that as an added bonus "we also got the chance to run part of the course so were covered in very bright neon paint by the end of the event". Katherine has also helped to man the stall at the Volunteering Fair and took part in the recent poppy planting at the Tower of

London. She told us, "It was a very special occasion and my favourite one day event that I have done so far".

Liz Harris is a third year student studying Biology and Psychology. When QMSU Volunteering recruited groups of students to help out at 45 different community/charity events last year Liz was chosen to be a 'One Day Leader', supporting and coordinating students at these events. She has also volunteered regularly with Mildmay Hospital, a charitable HIV hospital, as a Patient Befriender. Their patients have some of the most complex and acute conditions associated with HIV seen in the country and are the only centre in Europe dedicated to rehabilitation for people with a complex HIV condition called HAND – HIV Associated Neurocognitive Disorder. We asked Mildmay to comment on how volunteers help them and they said; "A volunteer's time can literally help to transform a life, and you don't get a much better feel good factor than that." They continued, "Sometimes our volunteers may begin by helping out with patients, then expand to include some fundraising. In Liz's case she took on a personal challenge that helped to raise some vitally needed funds to support our work. Because Liz had direct experience of our work she was also able to share this with others on the trek – spreading the word, talking about what we do and why it is so important is also an invaluable gift to our charity."

Hazel Woodward is a second year Economics student, another 'One-Day Leader' and is also President of the Bow Foodbank Volunteering Group. She's done a number of activities such as cooking breakfast for the homeless, helping out at Spitalfields Festival of Heat, and the London Moon Walk. She told us "I decided to start volunteering after seeing the stall at Freshers' Fair. I realised that I didn't have a

hobby and so thought it would be a good way to meet new people whilst at the same time building my CV". This year Hazel has also set up The Bow Foodbank Volunteering Group within the university, where, she told us, "we organise local food collections and have the chance to go down to the foodbank and help out every week". When asked why she volunteers, she said "I find volunteering a great chance to have time off from studying. I enjoy meeting new people and discovering different charities and events around the city. It is also very rewarding when you realise that your work is helping so many people".

Gilman Ahmed is a third year economics student who has been involved with and is now the President of the volunteer group, Aspire, who give primary school children the chance to experience Paralympic sport. When asked why he got interested, he told us; "when I met the president at the time, Kristina Stoli, and she really seemed very excited and enthusiastic about leading the project and instantly felt interested when I heard what the project was about". Working at the Olympic Park the previous summer, he was sad to hear about the limited knowledge of the Paralympic Games and so Aspire was perfect for him. His work now including running Paralympic activities at local primary schools and running promotional events on campus. From joining as a general committee member, and being promoted over the three years, Gilman is now "proudly leading the group for this academic year". WWW

Harriette Pearson is one of this year's elected Volunteering Officers for BLSA and a Medical Student. She has set up a Volunteering Group, Project Play, where students regularly visit and provide play activities at A&E and the Children's Wards in the Royal London Hospital. Recently, Harriette checked in to see how their teen club was going. She told us; "one volunteer

was consoling a crying patient, who wanted to carry on painting even though she was in tremendous pain. The volunteer spent the whole hour and half with this girl, without losing patience or enthusiasm. Another volunteer had gone to play cards with a teenager who was bored out of his mind in hospital. Others were just chatting with the teens, helping them to forget about their problems or that they're in hospital". She continued, "volunteering with this group reminds me what wonderful students I am lucky enough to study alongside. I am constantly amazed at their commitment, skill and compassion."

To find out more, visit the QMSU Volunteering homepage to see what's on offer and how it all works: [www.qmsu.org/volunteering](http://www.qmsu.org/volunteering)

They also have a Twitter page to keep up to date with upcoming events and opportunities: @qmsuvolunteer

Or if you have more questions, the QMSU Volunteering Team can be contacted on [su-volunteering@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:su-volunteering@qmul.ac.uk)







# Foreign Correspondent: Bogotá

This week's Foreign Correspondent comes all the way from South America, with Lizzie Crew challenging stereotypes and revealing there's more to Colombia than just cocaine and cartels



Images: Lizzie Crew, Top left: Playa Blanca, Cartagena. Nothing more and nothing less than sun, sea, and sand. And rum. Top right: Wax Palm tree forest, Valle de Cocora. Colombia's national tree emerging from the cloud forest in the coffee region. Bottom: A beautiful mural showcasing the skill of Bogotá's street artists in La Candelaria.

Lizzie Crew

When I first bounced the idea of spending my year abroad in Colombia off of family and friends, the responses weren't exactly positive. Most were torn between the idea that I would get kidnapped, and the possibility that I would end up as a drug mule for a cocaine cartel. The negative press that Colombia receives, and it's very sad history, unfortunately don't serve to create the fun, care-free stereotype of a country that most university parents hope their offspring will be tempted by.

But generally I find ignoring stereotypes to be a good place to start when getting to know a new place, and when I moved to Bogotá this was no exception. Everybody I met during my first week, Colombians and foreigners alike, told me that at the very least I would be robbed in the historic area of town, La Candelaria. Something that I decided to not mention to my parents during our weekly Skype catch-up! However,

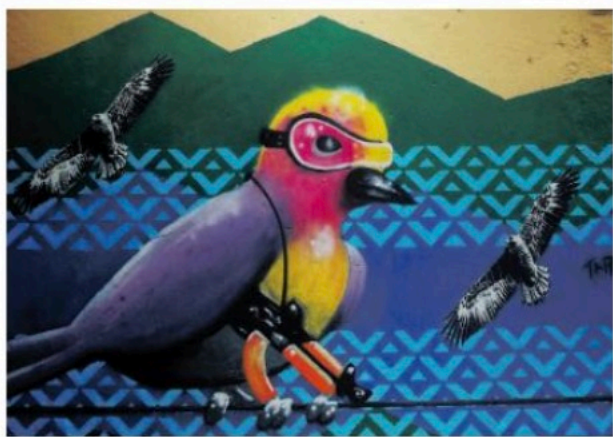
5 months on and I still have everything I brought with me; perhaps as I learnt early on not to "dar papaya" – the Bogotano slang for flashing your cash.

What you can find in La Candelaria is some incredible street art. The liberal Mayor has recently made some big changes to the city including outlawing bull fighting (a very controversial move) and making graffiti a legitimate form of personal expression. The pieces range from small, monochrome, delicate stencil work to whole walls converted into a spray painted political statement. The area is also home to over 25 different museums, including the Gold Museum, which is home to the world's biggest collection of pre-Hispanic gold work, and the Botero gallery, displaying an excellent selection of the artist's sculptures.

Bogotá, with over 8 million inhabitants, and at 2,600 metres above sea level, is at the very least impressive. But Colombia has a lot more to offer than just big bustling

westernised cities. In spite of my heavy university work load I have found some time to travel around the country. From mountain ranges to Caribbean beaches, and coffee plantations to cloud forests, the Colombian landscapes are hard to beat. The Colombian people are also just as varied as it's regions, and all have their own stereotypes – Bogotanos are closed off and cold, Costeños (from the Caribbean coast) are vulgar and brash. Luckily these perceptions are more than a little off the mark.

Being so close to the equator, other than wet and slightly more wet, seasons don't exist. Instead, the climate varies according to elevation which means that you can leave the chilly heights of Bogotá and a few hours bus journey later be wandering around the coffee region in 30 degree heat. Colombian coffee is one of many things that the country's inhabitants are very proud of, and rightly so. Surprisingly, Colombia is also the world's largest emerald mining and producing country.



As the country is still fairly new to the backpacker trail, domestic travel is refreshingly affordable. As such, popping off for a weekend to the Caribbean coast or conversely heading over to see some turtles hatch on the Pacific

coast is all too easy. Every day I feel spoiled to be living here, and I couldn't be happier that I threw caution to the wind and broke this stereotype for good.



## One part peach schnapps, one part sparkling wine, and a splash of sexism

Beware of the free drink app, it's spiked with sexism

Tierney Cowap

Is a free drink ever really free? Yes, if I am to believe the makers of the new app 'Drinki'. The principle is simple; you download the Drinki app, go to one of around thirty participating bars (including 333 Mother bar and several others in Soho), show your phone to the bartender and in exchange for a Facebook check-in, you receive a free drink. Sounds great, but here's the catch – this deal is for women only.

A simple scroll through the Drinki Twitter feed gives you an immediate insight into how this app is being marketed. The page is full of sassy song suggestions for your next #girlsnightout, recommending artists such as the Spice Girls to boost your #girlpower credentials whilst sipping on your free Porn Star Martini. Drinki's thunderclap page (kind of like a crowdfunding site, but with an emphasis on generating

more hype than money) is full of the same rhetoric. It claims that we, as women, "deserve free drinks, like the Queen" – a sentiment repeated in capital letters further down the page. I agree that it would be nice to get a free drink now and then, but simply because I deserve it. I deserve it because I've been at work since 7am, I deserve it because I've handed in all my assignments a day before the deadline, I deserve it because I went to my 9am lecture instead of indulging in a Game of Thrones marathon whilst heavily hungover. I don't, however, deserve it merely on the basis that I am a woman.

The whole female geared premise of the Drinki app makes me uneasy because it is reminiscent of the practice of giving women free entry into nightclubs, which is arguably rather sexist. Far from being empowering, free entry is granted in these circumstances

for the financial gain of club owners. They waive the entry fee for women in the hope that men will pay to come in, chat them up, and spend their money buying drinks in the process. And yet the Drinki app is possibly worse. Not only is it about luring women into clubs and bars, but also, it's about inebriating them. Furthermore, it's about duping women into believing that the only motivation for presenting them with a drink is in the support of #girlpower. I am not saying that this app should be the target of a blanket boycott – by all means, take advantage of the opportunity to save your cash. I'm simply suggesting that there is a seedier side to Drinki, which underpins the image of a fun, girls' night out that is so keenly promoted.

With the launch of Drinko, the male-centric counterpart to Drinki ('coming soon' guys), it could be said that the people behind



Image Flickr/Star5112

these apps are attempting to introduce some gender equality into the free drinks game. Despite this, I can't help but remain unconvinced. Having two separate gender-specific apps simply opens up the door to sexism; a woman gets her free Drinki on her giggly, bubbly night of cocktails and karaoke, whilst a man gets his free Drinko on

his beer-fuelled night out with the lads. The problem is, not all women drink cocktails, and not all men like beer. A free drink is great, but not when it comes at the cost of gender stereotyping, I'd rather pay the £7.50.

Follow Tierney on Twitter: @TierneyAmber

## Suspending the marking boycott: merely a pleasant interlude

The marking boycott causes a lot of frustration, but who should it be aimed at, the union or the 'greedy' bosses?

Jack Sheldon

Another academic year, another round of industrial action from the University and College Union. Do not despair first years; you will soon become accustomed to this. During my two and a half years at Queen Mary, academics and their employers have been engaged in a seemingly endless series of disputes.

This time, the action taken was billed as "action short of a strike". In actual fact, the marking boycott had more effect on students than the previous full dress strikes, which only sporadically disrupted teaching. It also hit participating lecturers, who were being docked 25% of their pay, much harder than the one-day walkouts that were

a regular occurrence over the past two years.

It is not for me to get into the minutiae of the current dispute over pensions. Academics clearly have a right to make their views known in regards to this issue. It is likely that they have a stronger case than they did when striking over pay last year, despite receiving the same 1% rise as other public sector workers. My problem is not with what is being demanded, but with the methods used to make the case.

The UCU claim that their members "overwhelmingly" voted for action. Among those that voted, this is true. However, the turnout in their October ballot was 45%. When this is taken into

account, less than four in ten members voted for action short of a strike. This should not be a mandate for a boycott that is likely to have caused significant distress to many students.

Feedback is crucial to the academic process. Whether it be first years trying to get to grips with alien assignments or students in their final year embarking on dissertations, improvement is very difficult without knowing the nature of your errors. The timing of the boycott, starting just as first assignments were due to be returned, inevitably resulted in anxiety regarding academic progress thus far. Students are obligated to move on to subsequent assignments on their course and so there is

a risk that they will perform more poorly than if they had previously received grades to address potential problems.

Ultimately, this is a dispute in which students are being used as political footballs. Just as during previous strikes, the UCU's aim appears to be to take advantage of the propensity student unions have for supporting left-wing causes. This is so that they can claim that the massed ranks of students and academics are pitched against 'greedy' bosses. The hope then, is that we will direct our frustration at the employers rather than at the union.

As I write, the boycott has been suspended. However, the threat to resume it in January if negotiations are not successful

remains. Furthermore, hard-core strikers have suggested that a separate local boycott might be called if docked wages are not restored. The students, innocent bystanders in the whole dispute, would once again be the principal victims if this were to occur. It is time for us to stand up for our own interests rather than kow-towing to the ideologically driven demands of the UCU. In this respect, the Student Union's vote to support the action but not the method of the marking boycott is a small step in the right direction. Next time – and there is bound to be a next time – they should condemn action hitting students hardest before it takes effect.



# Education should be free, not just for the bourgeoisie

Reflections from the front line of the Free Education March



Alex McDonald

Image Kevin Choi

The Free Education march, organised by NCAFC, took the abolition of tuition fees as its main demand, but the call for a free education goes so much further. It includes inward-facing criticisms of a university culture which is increasingly committed to commercialisation and big business, outward-facing criticism of general employment prospects after university which create a feeling that university ought to be preparing students for employment in a quantifiable way in the first place, and possibly most important – yet most often overlooked – opposition to the effect which government policies, such as scrapping EMAs and allowing apprentices to be paid as little as £2.73 per hour, have on the prospects of people in all forms of education.

On the march, along with the obvious question and

answer “What do we want? A free education!” students chanted “People before profit”, “We’re here, we’re queer, we can’t afford nine grand a year”, and “Students and workers: unite and fight!” These slogans put the march in a broader context of solidarity from across society against the Conservative party’s pursuit of endless austerity.

The march began outside the building-previously-known-as-ULU, the site of much of last year’s student protest. Campaigns then had included Save ULU, Cops Off Campus and the successful 3 Cosas organised by IWGB members – the outsourced cleaners and security staff who continue to demand sick pay, holiday pay and pensions. Students from across the country, including a reported 200 from Sussex university, assembled before marching around Russell

Square, down King’s Way, past Trafalgar Square and ending in a rally outside the Houses of Parliament. I joined the two or three hundred-strong King’s College block on their Strand campus and we took to the streets as the rest of the march passed by.

The atmosphere was positive and confident as we began marching, with cheers from the public and a reasonable level of policing. The black block – masked anarchist protestors – soon ran down the side of the march to join us. In typical style, they were more confrontational and weaved through cars, but also offered a burst of energy with their chant “anti-capitalista”. Nevertheless, the majority of protestors stuck to the prescribed route and refused to be drawn into the block’s antics.

Only in the last hundred meters did the march begin to lose its otherwise cohesive

message for a free education. As we passed Parliament Square, those who favour direct action jumped the fences which had been erected following the farcical police crackdown on Occupy Democracy last month before heading to the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills and Scotland Yard to stage sit-ins. Marshalls and other protestors tried to make sure the march continued to its final rallying point, but the allure of confrontation was inevitably too strong for some. It is my suspicion that, just as the police plant liaisons officers whose ‘friendly banter’ provokes indignation and pushes protestors into behaving in ways they don’t set out to, there were a small number of charlatan marchers who pushed the rest into direct action.

Despite the schism, a far greater number did stay for the rally, which included speeches

from Green and Labour MPs, SU presidents and 6th Form Colleges. The speeches were inspiring and convincing, and focused on questioning the government’s priorities for spending and taxation, given the number of reported cases of tax avoidance by the most profitable companies despite those who have the least money finding themselves with increasingly less of it.

The next Free Education actions planned include simultaneous marches in every university city on the 6th December as well as a walk-out on the 3rd December. However, the campaign should be placed within a broader context of dissent heading up to the general election, with the main focus being on pushing all party rhetoric away from austerity and unchecked profit and towards the interests of the average people who elect parties in the first place.

## The Apprentice: The freak show of the business world?

How The Apprentice is ruining the reputation of the workplace

Savena Surana

With The Apprentice back in full swing again, thousands will tune in to see the pretentious and downright silly participate in a suited and booted version of the Hunger Games. But is this unrealistic portrayal of the working world doing anyone any good?

The Apprentice started as a simple idea, abiding by the general theme of TV, turning anything into reality television. But filling our screens with falsified ideas of what a workplace and professional boardroom is like isn’t something we should endorse. Young people growing up with these shows believe that this kind of business level success can be equated to the type of success found on X Factor or any other number of talent shows.

Working in professional industry should be anything but this romanticised, slap stick style journey, in which at the end of the day a middle aged white man determines your future with two words. Sir Alan Sugar offers up this dream task of working for and alongside him for a certain six figure salary, and has used the television show as the world’s longest interviewing process. Presenting task upon



Image Elishama Udorok

task, these successful and intelligent people are forced to work and compete together in high pressure situations, with everything from coming up with a new holiday to selling items which seem to be picked from a producers back garden shed. The tasks place emphasis

on what comedic and dramatic value they can provide for the audience. This would be fine if it was not for the marketing of the show revolving around it being a behind the scenes look into how the corporate world operates. Treat the audience with a little bit more respect

and don’t patronise them.

The idea that you have to be arrogant and self-invested to experience success in business is morally unhealthy, but is one that the show promotes time and time again. Absurd quotes from the contestants such as “I would trade my own

Grandmother for a packet of crisps” is again promoting the idea that being only interested in your own aims and ambitions is what makes you successful in life. However, in the real world, having traits similar to those we would classify as sociopaths is not a positive thing. Nor is bullying acceptable, another scenario we see played out time and time again in the infamous boardroom scenes.

Why are we still watching this show which parades people around (all of whom have genuine business skills in their chosen field), portraying them as mindless bodies who believe that the only way to get ahead in the world is through intimidation and back stabbing? A much more interesting story would involve a deeper look into how the candidates got to where they are today, as many are already successful in brilliant businesses. These interesting and realistic stories of how people strive in this post-recession era would be much more beneficial to an audience interested in business, rather than having this childish game show style of going from ‘rags’ to riches.

## Who is your gap year project really helping?

Becky Crawford argues that not all help is holy and questions whether young people willing to volunteer should always be allowed to jump straight in.

Becky Crawford

“So what did you do on your gap year then?” This is a familiar question to all those who opted to take a year’s break between school and higher education. Mostly, the answer is travel, quickly followed by a claim to have done charity work in a developing country. This charity work can involve anything from teaching and community work to conservation or construction. However, the question begs to be asked: whom are these projects really helping, besides the volunteers?

Volunteer tourism and gap year projects have taken such a rise in the last decade that the organizations running these projects are often large profit-making businesses. The appeal is clear: being able to travel the world whilst also ‘doing good’. It seems like a win-win situation, until these projects begin to harm the local community, rather than

benefit them.

Firstly, we should examine the motives of the flock of Western teenagers eager to be flung to all four corners of the earth – a short-term break before returning back to ‘real life’. Is it the burning desire to see change in the lives of low economic income families in that South African township that motivates young people to spend 2 months in Cape Town? Or is the allure of taking a selfie while stroking an elephant’s trunk or holding a cute African child?

Western culture is often guilty of projecting needs onto others. If we see someone living without a house, we assume that is what they need. This logic can seem simple, but it results in the charity giver feeling pleased about themselves. However, all they have done is projected their way of life onto someone else. Too many charities are

recruiting young volunteers to fulfill the needs projected onto the people by Western culture, rather than fulfilling the needs that actually exist. For example, volunteering at an orphanage can easily create a dependency syndrome for the vulnerable children involved. They form attachments to the ever revolving sphere of volunteers, only for them to leave after a few months, thus deepening the chasm of pre-existing abandonment issues. Therefore, if your motive for spending your gap year in a developing country is not to actively address a need that actually exists, then maybe it is time to question your impact.

Furthermore, gap year volunteers are often under equipped to have any long lasting impact in a situation. Volunteers without teaching qualifications are able to teach children not just

English but a plethora of subjects. Volunteers help with construction, ignoring the fact that the country in question hosts qualified builders who could actually earn a living from completing a job better than they could. Not to mention the language barrier that is often a huge obstacle in even communicating with the local people. We have somehow developed a culture in which, contrary to meritocracy, the fact that you are willing to volunteer is more important than the skills you can bring.

Of course, on the surface, this is a good thing. We should take advantage of young people who are willing to volunteer their time for a good cause. However, this can become very damaging when it idealises the ‘white saviour’ image. If Indian slum children’s only role models are Western volunteers, this

sends both the message that they need to be ‘helped’, and that this ‘help’ cannot come from people of their own culture and heritage.

Travel is great. Visiting other cultures opens your eyes, introduces you to new perspectives, and helps you to establish your identity. However, there needs to be a cultural shift that is not happy to accept people blindly ‘helping’ without intelligently questioning what impact Western volunteers can have on the world, and who they are there for. Sustainable and long term development should always be the primary aim, not just a holiday that results in exotic selfies.



# THE GUILLOTINE

*Friendly Facebook cat caught in coke scandal*



Image Anna Titov

## The man behind the penguin

Ever wondered who John Lewis hires to make his adverts? The Print wondered and then The Print asked

J.H.

I am the man who makes all the John Lewis Christmas adverts. I feel like some people have preconceptions about how these adverts are made. I've heard a lot of people claim that the penguin is 'special effects.' Wrong. It is a real penguin. He is a professional actor penguin and good friend of mine. Also the bear and the hare from last year were real.

Since everyone harps on about my seasonal work, I suppose it is only right that I indulge the philistines that only seem to enjoy that very select account of my filmography. So, to begin, you're scum. These pieces are my tritest, most banal works. I hate them. I don't even like penguins.

You know what I did as a joke? I pitched an idea where a little boy found a Santa in the woods, and the Santa was all poorly and cold so the boy brought him back and his parents said he could keep the Santa. Then as the Santa gets old and we see their friendship

develop. The Santa watches smiling as the boy has his first kiss, the Santa gets sad when the boy goes away to university. Then the boy gets a call from his parents and he looks sad. Then the next scene is the Santa on a bed and the boy crying and then the Santa gently dies. Then fade to white, "John Lewis." They loved it. I almost vomited.

I thought up the Monty the Penguin one when I was watching that nature documentary narrated by Werner Herzog. Werner was wondering aloud whether penguins ever kill themselves and I thought, wow what an idea, I could do an advert where a penguin kills himself. I quickly got bored of that idea and started reading Calvin and Hobbes. Then it hit me! I should do an advert about a delusional boy who thinks that his toy penguin is a real penguin. The boy is clearly tackling with some serious issues. And then to top it off at the end we see him making the penguin toys kiss

each other. That's weird right? They cut out the full original, where he proceeded to act like the penguins were going at it like mad, and his parents look at him worriedly.

That's why I wrecked the John Lewis offices, and threatened to do a Sainsbury's advert where Jamie Oliver learns the meaning of Christmas or something. Like, he learns it's not all about turkey or something. He actually thinks that you know, I've met him and he legitimately said to me:

"Oi you'd know this, what is Christmas actually all about? It's about turkey ain't it?"

I began to explain it to him that it was about love and Jesus but he ruined my stride by taking a big bite into a hunk of lamb he somehow had in his hand. We were at a swimming pool. Where did he get the lamb?

You know Jamie Oliver was originally going to be in the Christmas Sainsbury's advert? He was, he told me about it. Apparently he was meant to

be one of the soldiers in the trench, but they cut him out after he kept appearing in shot clutching a big roast ham. They kept taking it off him but he kept getting it back. They told him that soldiers in the trenches wouldn't be eating a big ham, but he didn't understand. I think the whole concept of war kind of confused him, he didn't get how they wouldn't have access to big hams.

But this isn't about Jamie, this is about me. Don't forget it bruddah, I'm the Big Kahuna of adverts, I'm the Karate Kid, I'm the Monarch of the Glen. Kapeesh, Romeo? I'm Killer Bob, I'm Kula Shakah, I'm the king of the swingers. Get ready for 2015 gang. It's gonna get hog wild.

## What 'She' really knows

Our zero-hour contracted mystery debunker ignores the laughs to see what Dapper is really saying

A.R.

Viner and popular misogynist Dapper Laughs has been everywhere in the news this week because he wore that turtleneck and told Newsnight he was really sorry about all the rape business.

The controversy has sparked flaccid debate at many university society socials where the lack of common ground due to friendships being based solely on the fact that I write for the student newspaper of which the other participant is the editor, deeming it improper to address any more morally ambiguous topic.

The real concern about Dapper Laughs however is not the inconceivable popularity

of his rapey lad humour but what lies behind his popular and much quoted catchphrase "she knows", also my dad says he very much doubts that Dapper Laughs is his real name unless it's a corruption of another name, he said he knew a woman called Jenny Luff once though, she was Scottish. Dad says there's no accounting for 'Dapper' but he conceded that you can pretty much call your kids what you want these days because he's a reasonable man.

Some women will shrug off this abuse with an agonised smile, knowing after the inevitable "she knows" that they are powerless to resist. "What kind of sorcery does this hellish incantation

hold!?" you impatiently whine having already read the title so you know full well that I'm going to explain it to you.

Just what is it that 'she' knows? And does Dapper know too? Because he looks pretty smug about something and I reckon it's that.

The terrible truth is that Mr Laughs' "she knows" reminds the woman in question — and it is a woman because he is definitely not gay, he never even considered it or experimented or had any dreams about it or any of that — about the ultimate futility of existence.

"She knows (about the inevitable darkness to which we are all doomed in this shallow and godless world)"

Dapper sneers. And he knows too. It is not only misogyny that he was sowing like seeds over the manured fields of England, but despair.



Drapers is voted BEST NIGHTCLUB IN REGIONAL AREA OF EAST LONDON

L.B.

Simon Gasket, Queen Mary’s head teacher, has today revealed that the international body for nightclubs, Tiffanynfriends, has voted Drapers Bar and Kitchen the ‘Most Outstanding Night Club in East London Area Not Including Romford’.

In a statement on the matter, Basket remarked that “today is a joyous day. Celebrate. Ring your parents, tell them you love them, because you don’t do that enough as it is! You only mask your guilt with all the cheap booze and cigarettes and marshmallow sandwiches you know.”

Drapers was born in 1755, and started life as a small and intimate tavern. A popular haunt, it harboured numerous obnoxious gaudy landlubbers on a Wednesday evening once a month – an aspect that Tiffanynfriends were delighted to find that today’s Drapers stays true to.

In her statement on the decision to award Drapers the award, Tiffany (the boss of Tiffanynfriends), told reporters that “we had to

choose someone – it was either that or give it to Nando’s again.”

Togy Jeeh from The Print interviewed several comers of Drapers last Wednesday night. A particularly keen comer jumped on him, spluttering the words “osh blunt foog purr”, as he proceeded to vomit onto Jeeh’s Dictaphone.

Drapers Bar and Kitchen are “determined to maintain the title for as long as possible”.



The Bees Knees Chapter 4: Beeneath the Stars

L.B.

I crouched. Snap! A branch underfoot giving my position away. I looked into the house from my shadowed cell. I buzzed swiftly underneath the canopy of miscellaneous shrubbery. I paused. I smashed my way in.

Janet had changed her locks – hair and door holes. After the news had come out she was put into a protection programme. I remember. People were jeering, people were jeering. The chants echoed in my ears night and day.

Billboards outside the house. ‘DIE BEEDOPHILE SMACK HEAD’. ‘BUZZING THAT YOU FUCK BEES YOU SHOULD BE INSECTIONED’. ‘NICE PUN BILLY’.

And I’d found myself having to stick around for a while, until I’d found a practical way to transport fifty thousand

bees across Manhattan. I’d tried minicabs, buses, trains, horses: nothing. So we set up camp in the back garden with the hope that Janet wouldn’t see us.

“Jerry, if you must stick around, could you please at least move that thing out of my sight?”

The bees buzzed with indignation. They’d had spats with Janet in the past, her shouting “home wrecker! Husband thief! Murderer!” all the time being stung. She’d had to buy her own bee suit. An ironic costume for her hairless body.

So for now we were in a stalemate. As I stood in the kitchen, searching for sweet pollen to bring back to the hive, I took a sip from my gilded hip flask and savoured the bittersweet homemade mead.

The Daisydale Community Noticeboard #1: A Faun Comes To Town

J.S.

Welcome! Hello, residents of and visitors\* to Daisydale. This is the first instalment in our new Community Noticeboard. Our Benevolent Leader – who goes by many names – will use this medium to warn residents of potential dangers, and would like to remind us that danger lurks behind every solid mass, including our new Community Noticeboard. But mainly amongst the trees.

\*Or at least I would say ‘hello’ to a visitor if I had ever seen one. Our green valley home does not accommodate visitors. It never has. Visitors do not come here. The Jolly One has never allowed visitors. And thus you have never had one. You have never seen one. However, if you do perchance happen to see one, Our Leaders – who, as you know, bear many names – remind you that you are required to report the sighting to the Appropriate Authority (there is only one) without delay.

Daisvelopments

Already, without even having published this instalment yet, a group of conscientious residents have come forward to report the mysterious sighting of a Faun. The Faun, speckled and brown, was seen today frolicking amongst the sharp foliage found on the western boundary of our valley. You know, that foliage. The foliage that grew atop the knoll. The foliage – come on, you know which I mean. The foliage that just kept growing, the foliage that would not stop growing, the foliage that grew through our streets, into our homes and away with our children. Think of the children. Think of the loss of those children, but don’t get carried away. Before you think of the children, I suggest you think about consulting our Community Book of Thought.

Is that better? The gates to the Western Wood have been locked for many years – I think we all remember The Event – and thus seemingly the Faun has the ability to transcend solid boundaries.

Coincidentally, trotting to and fro through solid iron has just been strictly prohibited, and so Our Benefactors have released this statement from the subterranean corridors in which they reside;

“It would be wrong of any resident to think they saw a Faun,

as the Faun does not exist. Think about it, residents – how often

is it that you feel those who exist only in the printed word are more real

than those who stand beside you? Even if ‘those’ in question are in fact

rustic forest creatures, and if all books were burned many years ago.

Coincidentally, we are beside you right now.

We, your Leaders, are what is real, Daisydale.

That said, do not stray west today. Do not stray west any day. Do not

stray west ever again.”

One dead and seven injured at Drapers music event

Horrific irony as ‘Battle’ of the Bands event turns into violent bloodbath

D.B.

Scenes of anguish and utter dismay were witnessed at Drapers last week after a newspaper sponsored ‘Battle of the Bands’ event turned into actual war-like violence and bloodshed. The event, the #EARSSessions in association with the Daily Mail and organized by Queen Mary Student Media turned nasty after fights broke out between artists over a dispute about who could do the best Weezer cover. The subsequent fighting left one bassoonist dead and another seven people injured.

The gig which saw acts including FlamingoUncertain, Jerry Gianluci, God, Occurences and Stealers play to a packed-out audience in the lounge room of

Drapers came to a violent close after tempers rose to flashpoint during the final song of FlamingoUncertain’s headline set. It is thought that a member of God mouthed the word “Co\*\*splash” to the band whilst in the crowd and was subsequently wind-milled to death by two intoxicated mega fans. A brawl ensued, with one man being almost choked to death with a pair of Vans tied together whilst another member of the crowd lost an ear after an especially sharp wide-brimmed hat was frisbeed into the crowd. The violence comes in the wake of Drapers winning a prestigious award for being the best venue in East London but not Romford.

Drapers has released a

statement on the tragedy providing commiserations to those involved but has vowed to keep its doors open. Solo artist Jerry Gianluci is thought to be thanking his lucky stars after missing his slot at the event. The guitar crooner commented: “I can’t believe it, I was scheduled to play but I got my shoelaces stuck in my pogo stick and I had no money on my Oyster card so I couldn’t make it. I’m thanking my lucky stars.” A QMSU investigation is underway and attendees have been given a full refund.







# Bangladeshi Society Holds Charity Event for Universal Children's Day



Amber David & Fahad Chowdhury

Universal Children's Day in Bangladesh includes a flood of thousands of yellow-shirted volunteers that go out to extend their hands to underprivileged children. This is a widely celebrated day in Bangladesh, and so the Bangladesh Society at Queen Mary decided to take the initiative to contribute to this special day as well. There were about 20 helpers working all day. All the money gathered from the event will go to a charity for impoverished children in Bangladesh through the Jaago Foundation. Jaago is one of the leading NGOs in Bangladesh today, who now also have international collaborations with projects around the world. They have been working with developing educational and health issues for the deprived children in Bangladesh for almost a decade.

Bangladeshi Society's main activities of the event were the indoor games such as tournaments for table tennis, chess, carrom and a chili challenge. There was sale of traditional Bangladeshi food as well as a homemade cake sale. There was also a traditional Bangladeshi dance performance which was choreographed and practiced only two days beforehand, as well as the lovely singing and open mic for anyone who wanted to share their talents and get the crowd cheering. Presentation videos were shown of the Jaago Foundation's work and

pictures were put on display all around the rooms. Other societies were also included in the event such as Ahlulbayt Society who ran the chili challenge, Carrom Club who lent out their tables, Marrow Society who sold their own homemade cupcakes on a stall, ELSA who were promoting human rights and children's rights and Asian Dance Society's vice president, Sakib Islam, who choreographed the performance.

The society was proud to announce the overall outcome was a success! There was strong promotion before and on the day of the event, with volunteers putting up posters, handing out leaflets and getting people to share the event link everywhere on social media. They were able to raise over £300 altogether and had over 200 people flowing into the Blomeley Rooms all throughout the day. There are still donation boxes circulating Tower Hamlets, so the total should increase. The committee put all their effort in working together with everyone to bring together such a large amount of people, all supporting a very important cause. The Bangladesh Society is satisfied and blessed to be able to help the underprivileged children in Bangladesh in getting warm clothes for the winter and providing support for their education, which could not have happened without everyone's contribution.

## The Quizard of Queen Mary

Jacob McQuarrie recaps on the Film Society Quiz

Jacob McQuarrie

On Tuesday 11th November Queen Mary's Film Society turned The Victoria Pub into a battleground. Seven teams entered, their only weapons their minds (all other weapons were confiscated at the door). This would be a quiz no one would ever forget. There was everything to play for: a £30 Genesis voucher, a round of drinks, and third prize was a collection of snacks. People had composed haikus in anticipation ("Come to the film quiz/It is not about cling film/Unfortunately" - Holly Burnham).

The teams were: The Quizard of Oz; The DD Tops; The Spice Girls; The Sinister Six; Sacks of Sh\*t (We're going to beat you, Baker); John Trivolta and Otrivia Newton John; The Far North Appreciation Society (in association with Nick Cleeve).

The various rounds would test these teams in ways they'd never been tested before. They would be brought to their breaking point. There would be tears, and maybe even blood. Only the strongest had a hope of surviving.

The room was alight with the sounds of teams furiously trying to solve all the questions. Delighted "Oh"s filled the room anytime an answer was figured out, dismayed "Oh"s filled the room whenever people were tragically stumped. Some desperately begged for clues, only to have their request cruelly declined with the explanation that "There are no clues in life."

During a brief break the half time scores were announced: The Quizard of Oz had the lead. But down in fourth place a rivalry had formed:

“  
Queen Mary's Film  
Society turned The  
Victoria Pub into  
a battleground...  
Seven teams entered,  
their only weapons  
their minds

”

Sacks of Sh\*t (We're going to beat you, Baker) and The Far North Appreciation Society (in association with Nick Cleeve) were tied. Things had heated up. This was a rivalry to match all great rivalries, like Muhammad Ali vs. Joe Frazier, like Lauda vs. Hunt. Like Lance Armstrong vs. the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

After a few more rounds it was time for the grand finale. Teams were shown five film posters with some subtle alterations: all the faces had been replaced by members of the film society. Everyone had to name the film or the actors on the original poster. After the reveal of Nick, Actually (an improved version of Love, Actually where everyone is former president Nick Cleeve) leading to the quizmasters being branded "absolute f\*cking monsters", the quiz ended.

The final results were added up. In third place and taking home all the snacks were The DD Tops. In second place a tie between Sacks of Sh\*t and The Far North Appreciation. The grand winner was...drumroll please... John Trivolta and Otrivia Newton John!

And so with the dust settled on the battlefield, it was time to disperse. Into the night, never to be seen again. Until the day came when it was time to quiz again. When people would look to the sky and wonder who the most filmed author was? Or which area of East London It Always Rains on Sunday was set in (every area?) Then would the quizzers and the quizzed return. However, before it was time to disperse, everyone stayed in the Victoria for drinks. Then they dispersed.

## Queen Mary Ahlul-Bayt Society answers the question Who Is Hussain?

Maisam-Reza Khaku

A man stood against tyranny 1400 years ago. Even today, his ultimate sacrifice is remembered and mourned by millions around the world. This week, Queen Mary Ahlul-Bayt Society aimed to raise awareness of his profile by holding a stall all week and giving out free water, drinks, food, leaflets and information.

Why did they do it? As it turns out, Hussain was the grandson of the Prophet Mohammed, peace be upon him, who was slaughtered in a land called Karbala, along with his family

and companions. They stood up for truth at a time where injustice was rife, and they were tortured, denied water for 3 days and held prisoners for much longer. The message the Ahlul-Bayt Society was promoting was one of peace, truth and justice. "It was a great turnout over the week, we managed to give out over 1000 bottles of water and we made so many people aware of the universal message of Imam Hussain, May Allah bless him."

"However, there is still a long way to go before everyone

is aware of the sacrifice of Imam Hussain, May Allah bless him," a member of the Society said. One of their other outreach projects was a blood donation drive, encouraging people to donate blood and save lives. Another spokesperson said that overall they managed to collect about 40 or more donors throughout the week and that can help over 200 lives. This, along with everything they did over the week, amplifies their message of unity, peace and justice perfectly.



# No need to venture to Chelsea to find some culture and class

A fan of the odd classical piece of music but never dared attend a concert? Amber David reports on her first classical concert courtesy of QM Music Society



Amber David

Image Amber David

The Queen Mary Music Society recently brought students a free lunch-time concert, with pieces from Gerald Finzi and W.A. Mozart. The Octagon was a fitting background for the prestigious event and the standard of music from the students was outstanding. Both pieces were based on a piano concerto along with a string ensemble.

I am no classical music critic, nor can I make an accurate comparison to any other classical concerts (having never witnessed any), but I must say, it was some of the most beautiful sounds I have ever heard. I do not believe you need to listen to classical music regularly or even play an instrument to appreciate the talent demonstrated by the players.

The string ensemble was comprised of: Violin 1 - William Atkins, Violin 2 - Clare Bartholomew and Clayton Rabideau, Viola - Ashley Seong and Sam Chadd, Cello - Rebecca Kriegbaum and Banjoab Kantangkul, Bass - Katerina Breitling, who were all directed by Dr. Paul Max Edin, the Director of Music.

Steven Dodsworth played piano for Finzi's 'Eclogue for Piano & Strings, Op 10'. Gerald Finzi (1901 - 1956) never finished this piece or gave it a title; it is believed to have been intended as a piano concerto. After his death, his publisher gave the piece a name and published them as separate works 'Eclogue' and 'Grand Fantasia and Toccata'.

The piece is simple, yet rich in texture and imbued with strength and eloquence, and, even though this description sounds like a pompous conversation heard in a wine tasting bar, the music was truly moving when performed.

Matthew Powders played piano for Mozart's 'Piano Concerto No 13 in C Major, K.415'. After being fired in Salzburg, Mozart moved to Vienna to begin a career in the city - a story which many students can relate to. In the winter of 1782/1783 Mozart composed K. 413/414/415 which he tried to sell manuscripts of to the public on a subscription basis. However, progress was slow and the scheme was unsuccessful, but he continued to

play the works on several occasions, including, notably, at concerts by the singer Therese Teyber.

In more modern times, Matthew Powders, piano player of 12 years, gives us an insight about himself as a second year English student. Rather cruelly of me, I asked him what music meant to him:

"[that] is such an enormous question that I really struggle to formulate an answer to. I have however been inspired by various pianists and have identified with some of their ideas, such as Maria João Pires' view that one's approach to music is an extension of who they are. Music is the only language everyone can relate to, and it is a language I feel the

need to communicate. Some people will give speeches in front of large audiences, whilst for me the medium through which I can convey emotion, far more than in words, is through music."

Don't miss the QM Music Society Christmas Concert on Thursday 4th December at 7.30pm in the Octagon, Queens' Building. The Choir, A Cappella and Brass Ensemble perform a programme of works to reflect the festive season, including Vivaldi's "Gloria", William Walton's Film Music to Henry V, and Sibelius' music to The Tempest. Tickets are only £2 - I challenge you not to be blown away.

## Introducing: QM Biomedics' Society

Amber David

The BioMedics Society aims to provide large-scale academic events involving professional speakers speaking on everything from topical issues to career options. Last year, we were honoured to host the reputable Lord Professor Robert Winston as well as the co-author of Kumar and Clark's Clinical Medicine, Professor Parveen Kumar. Both events were hugely successful in attracting audiences from across London and beyond,

including many students from the Science and Engineering Faculty at QMUL!

Our committee this year consists of 12 members with Jay and Katherine, our President and Vice President respectively, leading our officers in the Academic Events, Careers, Charities domains and more. We are all very friendly individuals and more than welcome any student to come and approach us in person or

through our society e-mail (queenmarybiomedics@gmail.com) about anything to do with life as a student at QMUL.

We provide a plethora of volunteering schemes that broaden our members' experiences at university as well as giving them the opportunity to give back to the community. This year we are planning to work with the Marrow Society in supporting its affiliated blood leukemia

charity. Our Charities Officers are working hard in building links with Cancerkin to create a project for student involvement in raising awareness for breast cancer.

Despite being an academic society, we have lots of fun in our social events that range from go-karting and bowling to exhibitions across London taking advantage of the vast opportunities the city has to offer.

This year we are looking

to expand our horizons by creating links with fellow biomedical sciences societies nationwide and being leaders in pushing for better integration with the academic societies in the School of Biological and Chemical Sciences. Expect events to be iconic and unforgettable - we absolutely cannot wait to show our members what we have on offer!



# The tastiest test of the term

Societies editor Eve Bolt headed over to the QM Baking Society for a quiz of mammoth (pro)portion

Eve Bolt

The second event of the year for the Baking Society was a quiz of delicious proportions. Held in the Drapers Lounge on the 10th of November, it was a great opportunity to gather with enthusiasts who heartily welcomed all into the fold. I knew I was in worthy company when I noticed a fellow contestant's phone was the yellow of custard.

The quiz wasn't too much of a technical challenge, but delightful and fluffy for any oven fan. Anyone who'd eaten a cake or resisted the pastry-perfume lure of a bakery was eligible to enter, and what a pleasant exam it was (certainly more enjoyable than the many looming this year). Here are a few tasters (answers at the bottom):

1A) What sandwich sponge is filled with whipped cream and strawberry jam?

1B) What shortcrust pastry tart is filled with a layer of jam and a layer of sponge with ground almonds?

1C) Which flat, leavened bread, made of white flour and baked in a tandoor, is of northwest India?

1D) What cake is layered, filled with cream-cheese frosting, and traditionally coloured with beetroot?

1E) Which rectangular layered bake consists of shortbread, caramel, and chocolate?

It got a little stickier with questions such as:

2A) When was the chocolate



Image: QM Baking Society

chip cookie invented? 1730, 1830 or 1930?

2B) Who first published a recipe for pies? The Romans, The Vikings or The English?

2C) What fruit is a Tart Tatin traditionally filled with? Pears, Apples or Strawberries?

As well as an entertaining quiz, participants had also brought along a myriad of amusing 'never-before-baked' goods for our

bouches. Coffee and chocolate cupcakes, an apple cake that 'tasted like winter', chocolate muffins, and garlic monkey-bread, a marvellous menu to tide us over to the first prize: an assorted box of Krispy Kremes.

An hour of my time discussing cake on a Monday evening before getting back to the grindstone actually alleviated some stress, which in turn prepared me for productive work throughout the week. It was fruitful in forming new

friendships and turning a guilty pleasure into a victory, for it was my team, For Goodness Bake, who won. This was thanks to a genius idea by my teammates to turn the bonus points activity - decorating a sponge - into a Winter Wonderland with icing igloos, trees, and polar bears. The Rising Stars didn't quite rise to the challenge, and the Crou-tion Crew simply didn't accrue enough points, but their cakes were splendid, one a Snowman, the other a Christmas-

I was bowled over by the fun and merriment of this event, and heartily encourage any student gingerly peeping into the Societies sphere to give this group a go.

## Film Soc team up with LGBT Soc to present a joint screening

Film Society & LGBT society team up to raise awareness of Transgender Day of Remembrance

Amber David & Sarah Burnham

Film Society teamed up with LGBT+ to present a screening of "The Crying Game" (1992), which also marked Transgender Day of Remembrance. The film is a psychological thriller directed by Neil Jordan, who went on to make Breakfast on Pluto (2005) and Byzantium (2012). It concerns a love triangle between a member of the IRA (Stephen Rea), a sol-

dier who is held prisoner by the group (Forest Whitaker) and his girlfriend (Jaye Davidson).

Sarah Garnham attended the screening and reported on the event.

"The joint Film Society screening with LGBT society was so well attended by members of both societies (including former Filmsoc president Alex Turner) that we had to put out extra chairs! It was also Film Society's first joint screening of the year, with a

Rock and Metal Society one planned for later this semester.

The evening started with a brief talk from LGBT society about Transgender Remembrance Day, a day to remember transgender people murdered as a result of transphobia, for which we held a two minute silence. We then watched a short educational film entitled 'In My Shoes' before starting our main film, the 1992 multi Oscar-nominated 'The Crying Game'.

The film was an interesting drama that explored aspects of race, nationality and gender and centred around an IRA group. It starred Stephen Rea, Miranda Richardson and Forest Whitaker. It also tied into Film Society's current month of films all based in London. Afterwards we all went to Wetherspoons to discuss the film and get to know each other better. Overall it was a great success, and was nice to meet some new people."



Image: Johnathan Sayegh

# QMBL Women's Rugby tackle Kent

QMBL women's rugby fall short against a strong Kent side, resulting in their first loss of the season.

Kathryn Fisher

Kent	22
QMBL	5

We first met our seasoned Kent opposition two years ago in our first ever game. Ever. However, the club has grown massively since that fateful day and a second encounter with Kent was an opportunity to prove this.

In the starting line-up, Kent kicked to us. The ball was not held by QMBL and, fiercely chased by Kent, the ball moved from the attacking scrum wide right. A trademark tackle by QMBL full back 'Shand the Slaughterer' wiped out Kent's threatening run close to the touchline. A penalty was awarded for the tackler not rolling away after the tackle. The Kent captain attempted a somewhat over-ambitious kick for the posts. With the conversion missed, the ball landed in the front of the posts, which was where much of the first half was played out.

QMBL struggled to gain initial momentum, a shaky start with a serious case of 'butter fingers'. Kent had an awful tendency for high tackles, some with near-decapitating blows, though the referee was oblivious.

However, the resultant scrums were ably defended, with Daniels and Menon both quick out of the defensive blocks to terrorise the now flustered opposing

half backs.

QMBL gained the ball back and Shand put in a sterling breakout, but her long run was ended by a tackle just inside the 22. With further high tackles, the referee had to take note and called both captains to him to express his concern on the matter. Despite courageous defence, the continual Kent rucks staggered them closer and closer to the try line, which culminated in a well-deserved Kent try (conversion missed due to spirited charge from QMBL).

In the 2nd half, scrums were uncontested due in part to the QMBL hooker, Buttery, being forced to take to the sidelines after being repeatedly kicked in the shins by the opposition front row.

Penalties and free kicks against Kent began to mount, but in the absence of a kicking game, we repeatedly chose to run them into the heart of the opposition forwards. Pieces started to fall into place as Ranft tore up the wing, taken into touch but from the resultant

line out, ball was kept to hand and Duker whipped through the defences with a lung-busting charge to score (conversion missed).

Playing in our 22, numerous Kent phases led to another try despite valiant tackling. With injuries mounting, hesitancy grew in the QMBL approach to rucks and Kent tries came.

QMBL attacks in the forwards were well marshaled by Kent and a breakaway from attempts to offload under pressure heralded another try.

### Upcoming Fixtures:

3rd December

Canterbury 1XV vs. QM 1XV (A)

Canterbury 3XV vs. QM 2XV (A)

Line up:

- 1) Collins
- 2) Buttery
- 3) Carmignani
- 4) Newton-Ford
- 5) Duker
- 7) Lightfoot
- 8) Houvast
- 9) Daniels
- 10) Menon
- 11) Dadulla
- 12) Ranft
- 13) Fisher
- 14) Suzuki
- 15) Shand
- 16) Willis



Image: Clare Stockwell

## The Warm Up to Merger

Queen Mary Netball concede defeat to Barts in one of the most eagerly anticipated matches of the year, giving Barts a 2-1 lead in the overall scores

Pollyanna Benson

QM	42
BARTS	44

On Monday 17th November, QM Netball first team went head to head with BL Netball for the third time this year. With the overall score between the two rival teams at 1-1, the tension was evident as the girls stepped out on court.

Having taken an early lead and spurred on from last week's 19-goal victory, QM looked confident against the opposition. The game was tight throughout but the defense from Elly Watson and Faye Dench kept the goal score under QM control. The first quarter ended with a goal difference of only one, and the

pressure to stay on top was building as a strong looking Barts team showed intent to turn the score around in their favour.

The second quarter showed promise for QM as a few quick balls into the 'D' gave Edwina Wilson-Potter and Polly Fletcher the opportunity to increase the score gap between them and Barts. Still within reach of a win, Barts clung on with a strong show of focus and persistence, and kept the score close enough to see the light at the end of the tunnel. This positivity is certainly what kept them in the game, and QM showed signs of irritation that they hadn't been able to exploit the girls in black as they had the week before.

Co-Captains Ozyurt and Fletcher made changes within the team, intending to create a different rhythm of play

that Barts would not be able to keep up with. Unfortunately for QM, both the third and fourth quarter showed Barts capitalize on a few sloppy balls and as they got into the swing of things and made a few swift turnovers, the score was equal. The intensity of the game built as the final whistle drew close, still with no definitive winner as the scoreboard went back and forth between the teams, each managing to create a one goal lead and lose it almost as fast. Sadly for QMN it was not to be, as Barts managed to take a quick turnover in the final minute of the game and earn themselves a two goal victory, with a final score of 44-42.

Following the defeat, co-captain Ozyurt stated, "Now we're down 2-1 but all three games have been really tight. This could be anyone's Merger and that will be the real test that we have to face." There

is one more meeting between the two rival teams before the Merger Cup rears its head on 21st March 2015, and the question of who will come out on top remains unanswered.

Line up:

- N. Ozyurt (co-capt), P. Fletcher (co-capt), E. Wilson-Potter, J. Lewis, G. Mahal, S. Aujla, N. Siracusa, H. Ijoma, F. Dench, E. Watson

### Upcoming Fixtures:

3rd December

QMUL 1sts vs. UCL medics

QMUL 2nds vs. Imperial 3rds

Both games to be played at the Copperbox Arena



Image: Sarover Aujla



# Heads in the Game

This week we gathered together Women’s Football to take on Women’s Rugby in a Heads in the Game battle of wit. It turns out there are clubs within QM that get along with each other

Emily Sparke



ROLE	President
Nickname	Steak
Chat	5/10
Red Beer Ability	Tragic
Awards	Not surviving til midnight at Hail

“It’s only in the past 2 years that women’s football has actually been taken seriously as a club. When I joined it was just a social club”

Interview by Pollyanna Benson


How has the start of the season been for your clubs?  
Ruby: It’s been really good, we’re ranking highly in BUCS and we’ve had a load of amazing new freshers who are really keen which is great.  
Emily: Yeah, we’ve had a great start! I think we’ve only lost one game this year, which is really impressive  
Ellie: ...we’re undefeated  
Ruby: The thing is about women’s rugby is that hardly anyone can get teams out so we came second overall in BUCS last year even though we only played 5 games because so many teams conceded matches.  
There’s already been talk amongst a few clubs about Sports Awards, is that something that you’re thinking about already?  
Ruby: Not particularly, it’s not something that really bothers us – we just get on with playing.  
Emily: No, we haven’t really thought about it. I think we were nominated last year for an award but I’m not really sure how it works. I think it

starts with a voting process in order to get nominated so as a smaller club it’s easy to slip under the radar.  
Are there any links between yours and the men’s clubs of your respective sports?  
Emily: No, we’ve never been joined with the men’s club. The thing about men’s football is that it’s so huge and has so many teams and it’s only in the past 2 years that women’s football has actually been taken seriously as a club. When I joined it was just a social club.  
Ruby: You guys are doing really well considering it’s quite a new club.  
Emily: You sound surprised! Both your clubs add a strong women’s presence to the sporting community here at QM, is there any rivalry between your clubs?  
Ruby: Because of the similarities between the clubs, we actually get on really well. We’re both relatively small clubs just for women and we like sharing that in common. We just naturally form friendships.  
Emily: Out of all the sporting clubs, we get on with Women’s Rugby the most. Most of us are really good friends with each other, so there’s no power struggle

between our clubs.  
Ruby: Haha, we aren’t doing a lot of people are nervous about joining the club and then when they actually meet the girls involved they have the best time, so we’ve put a lot of emphasis on the socials this year to make everyone feel really involved. We’ve had people who have tried rugby and absolutely hated it but they keep coming back for the socials which is the best.  
Emily: The social secs this year are amazing, and people are really enjoying our socials. We don’t have them every week because often, when we get back from a game and everyone’s really tired, we just want to hang out.  
Ruby: Everyone seems to love it though, getting covered in mud and bruises on the pitch and then just heading to Drapers.  
Emily: We like going for meals... I like Nando’s way too much, I’d rather go there than Drapers any day.  
Where and when do you guys train?  
Emily: We train once a week

at St. Paul’s Way on Monday, also a lot of our members do S&C at the gym... you guys do that as well?  
Ruby: Yeah I think that’s about the same for us, although I think your members are perhaps more committed to the actual football side of things than many of our members are to the rugby side. Things are changing this year though, everyone seems a lot keener.  
Is anyone graduating this year?  
Emily & Ellie: Yeah.  
Ruby: No, I’m going into medicine after this at Barts but the club’s QMBL so it won’t change anything for me.  
Are both your clubs QMBL, or is there still a rivalry there?  
Emily: Yeah we’re a joint club.  
Ruby: Are you though?  
Emily: Well, we are QMBL but it’s quite awkward because when we go to the BL Freshers’ Fair to do promotion most people laugh, I don’t think that they realize that Women’s Football is an actual thing.  
Ruby: To be honest, we really try to push the club at Barts, but at Freshers’ Fair we were sent packing because we were a ‘QM Club’, which wasn’t great. Instead we just stood by

Ruby Lightfoot



Role	President
Nickname	N/A
Chat	Self Proclaimed 11/10
Red Beer Ability	Endless
Awards	N/A

“We’ve had people who have tried rugby and absolutely hated it but they keep coming back for the socials which is the best”

the men’s BL Rugby stand and hounded people with flyers because they wouldn’t give us a table.  
Does that mean that Merger is a bit odd because you’re playing against your own team?  
Ruby: No, we manage to generate a lot of rivalry between us in the months leading up to it, so that’s good  
Ellie: The real issue is getting enough girls to play for the Bart’s side because they usually only have a few players, so for a while we hijack from other clubs like Netball and Hockey.  
Emily: Are you even allowed to do Merger this year? Because I heard that QMBL clubs aren’t allowed to take part this year, which will be really annoying if that’s true. Let us play!

Follow on Twitter: @QMWFC @qmbldrugby  
Like on FB: QMWFC 2014-15 and Queen Mary & Barts and the London Women’s Rugby 2014-15

## Sutton Tennis Academy Open SuperSeries

QM Tennis had an adrenaline fueled weekend at the SuperSeries and came out on top

Patrik Bjorklund

During the first weekend of November the QM Tennis Men’s 1st team decided to participate in the Grade 3 SuperSeries event held at Sutton Tennis Academy. The tournament used what is known as a compass draw, where every player is guaranteed at least four matches: an ample opportunity for the QM Tennis team to get some well-needed match practice in addition to the regular BUCS fixtures.  
After one day of play, both Lorenzo Papi and Patrik Björklund found themselves knocked down to the consolation brackets after gruelling physical and mental contests with two of the highest ranked players in the draw. However, QM elite scholar-athlete Freddie Clamp defeated both his opponents on the first day of play, setting up a meeting on the following day with first seed Laurent Wels; who in turn had gotten the better of Lorenzo Papi in their match earlier that day.  
Freddie went into the semi-final knowing that he would need to be on form with a clear game-plan in mind in order to defeat the 42 year-old Frenchman. After having closed out the first set 6-3, Freddie struggled to find his footing in the second set; the man 19 years his senior quickly capitalised, winning the set 6-2, forcing a championship tiebreak to set the two contestants apart. Wels found himself at an 8-4 deficit but managed to claw his way to 8-8, again breathing some life into the contest. As a player who enjoys the big moments, Freddie struck a backhand down the line to finish the match, winning 10-8 in the championship tiebreaker.  
In the final of the main draw Freddie found himself face to face with a player whom he had beaten in their one previous meeting, Thomas Jarvis. Jarvis had played quite a few tough matches already, having had to go the full three set stretch in two of his prior contests. He defeated young gun Bradley Stoneham in the quarter-finals and Joey De La Nougerede in the semi-final, who in turn had proved too tough a test for Patrik Björklund on Saturday. In a highly entertaining, competitive and dramatic final, Freddie outlasted his opponent in what was probably the most strenuous match of the weekend. Notching a 6-4 6-4 win, yet again closing out the match with a backhand down the line.  
All in all, the weekend tournament provided the perfect practice for the QM Tennis Men’s 1st Team, who in the next couple of weeks are squaring up with some of the toughest opponents in the 2nd division of the BUCS league.

## This week in sport

### Club Sport

- Merger Cup date confirmed: 21st March 2014
- Record breaking membership numbers reach 2134 for November and had 6128 attendances from September – November
- Recruitment needed for Women’s table tennis: Training on Sundays 14:00–17:00 in QMotion, Active Studio
- New eleven-a-side football league launches

### Get Active

- New Ping Pong event continues to be a big success! Drapers every Tuesday night 5-7pm. Students have the chance to take on a Ping Pong robot in the Pongbot

Challenge, enter a doubles league or just have a go on one of the social tables.

### Community Coaching

- 24 coaches and 4 officials training to become sports coaches through the QMSU Community Sport Coaching programme.
- Programme looks to develop student skills and employability through delivering sports activities to young people in the local community
- Sports include Football, Basketball, Hockey, Tennis, Netball, Archery, Handball, Volleyball, Athletics and more
- Still opportunities to get involved – more info at [www.qmsu.org/communitysport](http://www.qmsu.org/communitysport)

## QM men’s teams triumph against Kings in LUSL & BUCS



### Football Round-up

QM 1XI 0 (4)

Kings Medics 0 (3)

Liam Harrison



QM scrapes through to the last 32 of the LUSL Cup on penalties.  
QMFC 0–0 Kings Medics (aet: QM win 4–3 on penalties).  
As the 1’s game had been called off due to a waterlogged pitch the day before, and the 2’s suffering from a few injuries, some players from QM 1’s dropped down to join the 2’s for this game. In what was admittedly a poor game, it took a penalty shootout for matters to be settled.  
With an injury preventing 2’s captain Jorge Alvarez from playing, he took on the mantle of managing from the sideline.  
The opening 10 minutes was a fairly scrappy affair, with possession being lost on several occasions. However, the three centre backs of QM were coping very well with everything LSE threw at them.  
As the game settled QM started to dominate; the centre of the midfield was very crowded but James Reeves and Jake Nash performed well, both dealing with LSE attacks and pushing forward themselves. Indeed, Reeves created the game’s first real chance 10 minutes in, when he set through Jorge Gadea on goal only to see the chance blocked. Not long after it was Reeves who was involved again, with a chance as he shot from a free kick to the left of the area, but it went just wide.

As the game continued, the amount of misplaced passes grew, possession was being lost a lot, and there was no real flow to the encounter. With 10 minutes remaining of the first half, QM had a goal disallowed as Adebayo Shokunbi was judged to have been offside. There was time left for one last chance as Reeves swung a free kick over from the left, and Stefan White managed to get his head on it but it went over.

The first notable moment in the second half came barely a minute in as QM won a free kick 25 yards out on the right side of the D. Jake Nash stepped up to take it and proceeded to smash it against the bar. QM was visibly the better side, but for all the possession and chances, they weren’t making it count. Time wore on and the mist drew in as each side was searching for the winner, both teams trying their luck with long range shots but to no avail. With a few minutes to go, Matthew Collins had a chance at the back post but it wasn’t to be. QM dominated extra time and Kings defence were made to work hard to keep it goalless. Extra time came and went and still, no goal. This game was going to be decided on penalties. Reeves and Khalid missed penalties but the QM ‘keeper made two crucial saves. After Nash had scored his penalty and LSE’s number 7 had blasted over, it was all on Zubair Iqbal to seal it for QM, and seal it he did, with a penalty placed to the bottom right corner.

QMFC 1’s are through to the last 32 of the LUSL Cup!  
QM took the lead on the half hour mark, when Lolu put Nesh through from the right and Nesh neatly slipped the ball underneath the ‘keeper.  
Kings looked for a response and it nearly came five minutes later from a volleyed shot following a corner, but the effort went just wide. They were made to rue that chance as QM extended their lead just before half time. Everiste provided the assist across the goal, and Sam Hui calmly slotted home to make it 2–0 to QM.  
The opening ten minutes of the second half saw Kings applying pressure but not really penetrating the QM defence. The centre back pairing of George Bickersteth and Tom Jackson proving to be more than capable of taking care of anything the Kings attack had to offer.  
QM were looking comfortable but they also knew that they couldn’t sit on their lead and they needed to take their chances when they came. Nesh was having joy down the right side with his dribbling, and with Everiste’s pace causing no end of grief, Kings were having trouble dealing with QM’s quality. Kings were now resorting to long range shots and ‘keeper Hussam was dealing with them. QM looked to grab a third, but that didn’t arrive, so in the end the game finished 2–0 to QM.  
MOM: Hussam

QM 1XI 2

Kings 0



First half goals from Nesh Evans and Sam Hui gave QM first team a well deserved victory over Kings.



# Sport



Image: Dylan Eames

## QM storm to victory

QMRFC continue their winning streak with a convincing 33-20 win over Hertfordshire

Michael Petty

Queen Mary 2XV were hungry to return to their winning ways after their first loss of the season to London Met 1XV the previous game. Going into the game against Herts however saw more changes to the squad due to injuries and players being unavailable. Usual second row/back row players Breslin and Talboys moved to the centres, something which proved surprisingly effective at times during the game. The right honourable chairman Simon Craig returned to the 2XV for another week at prop alongside heavyweight Austin Rose, who came back after a number of weeks due to a shoulder injury.

Second year flanker Tom Main got things started by going off injured in the first two minutes, and got to enjoy a nice seventy eight minute rest. Winger Oye Odewunmi put Queen Mary on the board with a great try, shimmying through two strong challenges to score. Later in the first half the convert from American football scored again, in unstoppable fashion, with Charles getting both conversions.

Hertfordshire were not to be out done however, a well-placed kick and chase leading to their first try. Herts' second try came just before the end of the first half. After a long period of sustained pressure near the QM tryline, eventually they broke through a tired

defence. Worse still, Captain Patrick was yellow carded for an infringement following a series of penalties committed by QM, and Herts went into half time leading 20-14.

Having suffered from inconsistent scrums in previous games, the return of Simon Craig helped stabilise QM's scrums, in a display of the player that Simon is. Unfortunately, Simon went off not long into the second half, after suffering an ankle injury. Lineouts similarly were solid for both teams, with each managing to frequently win their own.

The first score of the second half was the same as the first, with Oye quickly taking a penalty to go over for his third and final try of the

match. Callum Breslin scored a deserved try in the waning minutes of the second half, as the game started to open up for QM. With a slim lead, QM started to be more creative in attack, however 'Football' Dan Barter didn't live up to his name and kicked a horrid ball straight to the Herts full back. Breslin went over for his second try not long before the final whistle, Charles Petiet slotting his fourth conversion of the game, rounding out a good kicking game for the French flyhalf.

Herts were denied any hopes of a comeback as clinical QM defence shut down all attacks, leaving the final score at 33-20 in favour of Queen Mary. After taking part in every QMRFC player's most cherished

activity, our team song, a well-earned round of pub golf and an evening out in Drapers was enjoyed by all.

Team: 1) Austin Rose 2) Ryan Mcleavy 3) Simon Craig 4) Joe Maton 5) James Davies 6) Tom Main 7) Dan Barter 8) Patrick Hatcher (C) 9) Alvaro Gomez 10) Charles Petiet 11) Axel Lange 12) George Talboys 13) Callum Breslin 14) Oye Odewunmi 15) Adam Parmenter 16) Billy Lyons 17) Fred Akinbobola 18) Olly Yip 19) Arkadij 'Aj' Pupkevich 20) Chris Hull