

The London College

UCK



THE GATE

February 2013

FASHION FOR LESS?

Karina shows us how to be stylish on a student budget

GAMES AND PIRACY

The first of a two-piece feature on the threats of gaming

GOODBYE GERMANY

Read Haticë's personal story of how she came to study at the UCK



WE ARE PINK CIGAR

Rachel met the guys behind the music - read all about it here

STUDENT DISCOUNTS

Find out where to get the best discounts with your student tag

COMMENT

THANK YOU AND WELL DONE DONE!

I am delighted to see the production of this third edition of 'The Gate' which has improved and developed. It is more significant as it is written designed and produced by College students from a range of programmes, journalism, graphics and business management. Thank you and well done!

The end of a successful and very busy term: The most significant item has been the approval by the University of Derby as a partner centre to deliver a range of top-up degrees leading on from our HND courses. We will have all programmes validated by March 2013 and they will be available to students from September 2013. This will mean that for a highly competitive fee rate students could leave with a full honours degree at half the loan debt, as compared to any other University in the UK.

A further option for graduates is to study for BSc (Hons) Business & Enterprise validated by Royal Holloway University in association with Pearsons. The top-up degree is highly innovative and enterprise based using the fantastic on-line publishing facilities of the Pearsons group who run Edexcel, the Financial Times newspaper group and Penguin to name but three!

The on-line submission of assignments via the virtual learning environment Moodle went relatively 'blip-free'! Feedback should be rapid and ensure higher student success and grades watch this space!

We are launching a range of our programmes on a part-time basis running on two Saturdays each month over three semesters meaning that students can complete an HND part-time in just over two years saving costs and time; further information is available on the web site or admissions office.

Kind Regards,

Mark Mabey Principal

Editorial Team

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The views expressed in this magazine are the work of individual workers and not the college. The contents of the publication are not intended to cause offence to any individual or groups of individuals or members of college staff or the student body. Any comments should be addressed to a member of the editorial board.

COLLEGE NEWS



AROUND THE COLLEGE

With Keith Hayes

Students' Union

The Student's Union is now well underway and already student reps have met with the Faculty at a joint Student/Faculty session to discuss various issues.

Views were exchanged about facilities and other student requirements and this has been taken on board by the management and results will become obvious in the new semester. The London College UCK runs top up degrees.

Painting the Town Red

Art and Design students were quick to grab an opportunity to show off their talents to other students and the public by using the fence surrounding the building works next to College, as a vehicle for photo collages of Notting Hill, their paintings and graphic designs. The innovative event brightened up a dreary winter for a while and gave the neighbours a chance to see what we are made of.

The main event in the semester was the approval by the University of Derby to partner the College in offering Derby top up honours degrees from September 2013.

This is an exciting and great opportunity for students now to complete a full honours degree at the College without the stress of having to move to other institutions, leave friends they have come to know and staff, whom they trust to deliver high quality education.

Courses on Offer

BA (Hons) Health and Social Care (top-up)

BA (Hons) Business Management (top-up)

BSc (Hons) Civil Engineering (top-up)

BEng (Hons) Electrical and Electronic Engineering (top-up)

BA (Hons) Graphic Design (top-up)

BA (Hons) Journalism (top-up)

BA (Hons) Tourism Management (Top-up)

BA (Hons) International Hospitality Management (Top up)

The University of Derby:

- * 50% of students achieve a First Class honours degree or a 2:1
- * Ranked 1st for student support and faith provision
- * 20,000 students studying there
- * 1700 international students from over 120 countries

Total students

UK undergraduates: 13,012 (including 3,384 part time)
Overseas undergraduates: 949 (including 260 part time)
Taught postgraduate: 2,744 (including 410 overseas)
Postgraduate research: 150 (including 36 overseas)
Further education: 3,139
Overseas collaborations: 2,038

Recent successes

- * Ranked 1st for student support and faith provision, and 3rd for lecture quality, learning technology and employability, out of all the UK's modern universities
- * Rated in the top 10% of UK universities for management and quality procedures, by Government Inspectors
- * Winners of the 2011 Times Higher Education awards in the Outstanding Contribution To The Local Community category
- * Winners of the 2011 Times Higher Education awards in the Outstanding Employer Engagement Initiative category
- * Short listed in the category of 'Midlands Enterprising University of the Year'
- * Moved up 24 places from last year in The Guardian University Guide 2013
- * Jumped 18 places in The Times' Good University Guide 2012
- * Winners of the Outstanding Leadership and Management Team category at the 2010 THE Leadership and Management Awards.

Contact Dr B Morris for applications and UCAS procedures

Limited places don't miss out!!

Need to publicise an activity. E mail Editor@lcuck.ac.uk

MY STORY

GOODBYE GERMANY

By Hatice CinKilinc

Hatice CinKilinc is one of the hundred or so overseas students who inhabit the college.

Here she gives a poignant description of how she arrived in Britain and how she has fared since her arrival.

The letters in front of me were all from various universities in Germany and the Netherlands. All the universities I had applied to had rejected me and it didn't feel good.

During the time I was sending out my applications, my father was on a business trip in Turkey – which happens to be the country where I was born. Because of my father's travel, my mother was the one who witnessed how hard I had worked on my applications and exactly how much this meant to me. I now know how much influence my mother has had on the following few years of my life. She's the one who first told me how important the English language is – a factor that meant that I not only wanted to be a journalist but also that I wanted to be able to speak English fluently.

Those university rejections made me wonder how I was supposed to get on with my plans for the future. I started thinking back to the time I had spent in London in 2010. I had been on a six week work experience in a programming department for a TV channel. It had been a great experience and a great time.

That's when I decided that I had to move to London to complete my studies.

I soon found myself in a situation where several London colleges and universities had accepted my application under the condition that I pass an English exam called the International English Language Testing System (ILETS).

It took some convincing but my mother and I finally convinced my father to finance my studies as well as my living expenses in London. I was excited – a new chapter of my life was about to begin.

As soon as I could, I travelled to London where I immediately started my six week crash course with ILETS. After days and nights, poring over academic English texts and audios I took the exam and passed!

With my score from the ILETS, I applied to The London College. But by the 30th September and still no reply from the college, I started to doubt if I was going to begin my studies that year.



After a long wait I received the letter I had been hoping for all this time; I was accepted and could begin my studies in journalism.

I remember crying when I found out I was accepted – that's how happy I was.

Although it took a little longer than I would have liked, every step has been worth it.

On the 3rd October 2011 I was attending my first lecture. I was impressed! There were people from all over the world. I immediately felt welcome and although I had feared being left out for not being English I was happy to

find that my class-mates and lecturers accepted me and were helpful.

I never felt isolated or alone.

I remember crying when I found out I was accepted - that's how happy I was!

Looking back, I'm happy how everything has worked out – I haven't missed a thing in Germany.

The way I see it now, it is better to study in London. Although there are advantages to studying in Germany, the disadvantages are many. The way the system works means that a student sometimes has to wait up to four years before beginning a higher level of education. It is also less flexible with very few opportunities to study part-time and the admissions often require plenty of work-experience in advance of the studies.

I enjoy my life in this multi-cultural city. If I'd stayed in Germany I would probably have faced discrimination because of my origins and my religion – I don't get that here.

Here in London, nobody cares which religion I belong to and where I'm from originally. And it's nice to know that I don't have to constantly justify myself anymore."

LECTURER EXTRAORDINARY: AN INTERVIEW WITH AIDEN MATTHEW JAYANTH

By Zahra Pedersen



I've only just started recording but I already know that this interview is going to be pleasant and easy.

I'd had my concerns; from what I had heard from Principal Mark Mabey, I had imagined someone much older and therefore perhaps a bit of, dare I say it, boring 'back in my days' storytelling. Instead I am greeted by a young and friendly face who, with only 27 years on this earth, really hasn't got much 'back in my days' about him.

Aiden Matthew Jayanth, lecturer at the LCUCK, hasn't had a quiet student life. After completing his high school education in India at the age of 18 he spent two years working in a call centre to save up money for the next chapter in his life. Aiden had received a scholarship to study general medicine in Russia.

Despite not knowing a word of Russian, Aiden took a chance and decided to study for his five year MD and to complete a one year internship in Russia.

"Two to three times a week, I and about seven other international students would meet up for intensive Russian classes where we learned the language."

These classes were imperative for Aiden's study as, although the majority of lectures were in English, most of the case studies and medical papers were in Russian.

And as if moving to Russia for six years wasn't enough for Aiden, he decided to study in the Netherlands for one of the terms he spent there and is now in London to complete the rest of his studies, which include a three year PhD he is considering beginning this February.

"Because of the difference in educational levels in different countries, my degree in Russia is basically considered an undergraduate degree here in London. So I had to do a master's degree in molecular medicine here first, which I completed this October before I could concentrate on the PhD"

Out of the four different countries that Aiden has studied in, he prefers the Netherlands.

"I found that they have better student-teacher relations there. The study groups are smaller which means that the lecturer has more time to really help each student separately - and that of course makes it a lot easier for students to learn."

However, Aiden reassures me that London has its own advantages when it comes to student life. This, he says, is because of the cultural diversity the London colleges and universities house.

"You can sometimes, in one single class, have up to 15 different nationalities! In Russia for instance, the majority of international students were from Asia. The whole 'cultural melting-pot' makes London an interesting place to study because you get to meet people from all over the world."

Since Aiden came to London he has been teaching biology, chemistry physiology and more at the LCUCK. And although he's planning on beginning his last educational run in February, don't worry, he still plans on teaching at the LCUCK during this term, but would of course have to take on a lot less classes.



GAMING

GAMES AND PIRACY

By Umar Butt



When a game designer charges only \$0.99 for a game and it's being pirated at 75% you know something needs to be done. Miguel Sanchez-Grice, independent developer of 'Tank shooter combat' blogged that 75% of people playing his game are playing a pirated version. At such a low price, it's hard to believe that there are people who would still pirate it.

If you've been up to date with the latest news you definitely know the term SOPA. SOPA stands for the Stop Online Piracy Act and was introduced to protect movies, games and music from being copied and uploaded to foreign websites, which the industry has dubbed "rogue sites" on the internet where many users can download and enjoy them for free. It is written and structured to punish all web companies that host anything considered to be unauthorized use of copyrighted content in any format, be it video, image or audio.

Many members of the public were shocked by the revelation of the bill. It meant that even those who bought the game legally and uploaded videos of their game play to video hosting site youtube.com were considered offenders as they didn't get direct permission from the copyright owners. It has been seen in many quarters as dictatorial, as it gives corporations complete control to block anything they're not happy with.

If for example Sony were to stumble across a website where they felt their products were being distributed without authorization or there was a post by a user encouraging piracy, they can file a complaint with the Department of Justice and the website's domain will be blocked. The registrar will be required to take the site's domain down so the URL (the web address) would no longer work. Anyone who conducts business with the website will be required to stop and search-engines will be barred from linking to the website.

Basically, the majority of websites on the internet are on death row and waiting to be executed.

The good news for people who are opposing the bill is that it is yet to be passed and only applies in the US, but as time goes by more companies are showing their support. Although the bill is intended to protect copyrighted content, it doesn't signify the end of all piracy as people even use Bluetooth to transfer files from their mobile phones to others. It targets piracy on the internet but what about piracy that doesn't involve the internet?

Piracy doesn't just mean distributing unauthorized copyrighted content, it's also the act of obtaining it through illegitimate methods such as downloading it from the internet or buying a copied version of the game.

Owners of websites which contribute to piracy are becoming very crafty; they host no actual copyrighted content on their own servers. Instead they split the file into many pieces and upload it to file hosting websites like megaupload.com. Others use servers in areas that escape the grasp of copyright laws.

No matter how many consoles are released, the way that pirated games are played on them is the same.

We are now in the 7th generation of consoles and the most dominant names are in almost every home. Sony PS3, Microsoft XBOX 360 and the Nintendo Wii; all 3 consoles fell victim to piracy in their lifecycle and were hacked to run emulators of previous consoles and play games downloaded from the internet and stored on hard drives. All consoles have their own architecture and codes programmed into them to make it harder for anyone to hack into and play backups but obviously, nothing lasts forever and the security fell.



Last year hacker George 'Geohot' Hotz hacked the Playstation 3 system which led to others using it to play backups. Sony retaliated by taking him to court. Hackers took this as a slap in the face and armed themselves for what was the most embarrassing moment of Sony's life. Within a few months Sony saw the destruction of its empire crumble as all of their online services were crippled and shut down while hackers revealed that all customer information stored wasn't even encrypted and kept safe. The information included bank card numbers, passwords and other personal information.

The hackers are yet to be identified but Sony claims it was hacker group Anonymous who have denied any and all involvement in the attack.

So the battle between the two sides rages on. In the next edition, I take up a different pirate story, that of the PC.

JUST SO YOU KNOW

WEST LONDON; THE SILICON VALLEY OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

By Tom Frank



So you text a lot do you? Pretty modern way of sending a message eh? Pretty cool stuff.

Well if a chap called Francis Roland hadn't fiddled around with electricity in his back garden just down the road from the College in Hammersmith about 200 years ago, we'd all still be sending hand written notes to one another. Francis Roland was a visionary pioneer who saw clearly the great potential of electrically powered communication systems as early as 1816, when he demonstrated the first electrically powered communication system in the world.

The system consisted of a large frame on which was arranged 150 yards of iron wire. At each end of the wire there were discs with letters on them, continuously turned by two clockwork motors which arranged rotation of the discs at exactly the same rate. Suspended on silk thread at either side of the receiving and transmitting discs were two pith balls (a very small, round lightweight object that picks up an electric charge quite well) held apart because they were both charged electrostatically with the same charge as the disc. (Like charges repel and thus the pith balls would be pushed away from each other and from the disc)

When a particular letter in the message was to be sent, the person on the transmitting end had to wait until the appropriate letter was opposite the pith balls at their end of the wire, then the wire would be immediately earthed and the pith balls would fall together indicating which letter was to be transmitted.

Today this would seem to be a painfully slow method of transmitting letters and indeed was probably no faster than the semaphore system, which was a series of signal arms and which needed line of sight. But Roland's invention didn't need and did not depend on daylight and fine weather to operate.

Semaphore in the early 1800s was the only method of rapid transmission over large distances and could only transmit one letter at a time.

Roland tried to persuade the British Admiralty to adopt his system, but they seemed to be happy with the mechanical semaphore telegraph of the time, despite its obvious limitations. John Sparrow the Secretary to the Admiralty told Roland "Telegraphs of any kind are now wholly unnecessary; (because the long Napoleonic War had just finished) and no other than the one now in use will be adopted."

Undeterred, he published a pamphlet in 1823 in which he argued:

Why should not government govern at Portsmouth almost as promptly as in Downing Street? Why should our defaulters escape by default of our foggy climate? Let us have Electrical Conversazione offices communicating with each other all over the kingdom if we can."

The Wheatstone telegraph used five wires to each of five needles set in a diamond as shown. To send a letter two needles would be activated and where they both pointed identified a letter. The problem was that it could only cover 20 letters so messages had to be sent using only the most commonly used 20 letters. The system was put into immediate use with the newly evolving railway system. It was later superseded by the two wire telegraph and the Morse code. It was used when a cable was laid across the English Channel in 1851 by Paul Julius Reuter who moved his now famous news agency from Aachen to London.



However some people were listening. Living near by in Hammersmith was a pioneering electrical engineer, Charles Wheatstone who had a number of successful inventions to his name.

A man called William Fothergill Cooke, just retired from the British India Company's army had been inspired by a prototype electrical transmission system which he saw demonstrated in Heidelberg University and which drew on the knowledge that electricity could travel many miles through a metal wire.

He approached Wheatstone to construct a practical device and in the same month that the young Queen Victoria was crowned, Cooke and Wheatstone were granted a patent on the electric telegraph.

So when you next text a pal on your mobile phone, remember it all started just down the road from the College in Notting Hill Gate.

REVIEW

LITTLE MIX - DNA: THE DELUXE EDITION (SYCO MUSIC)

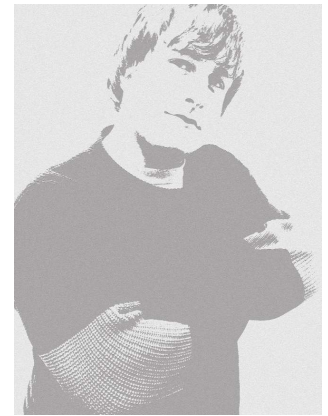
By Charlie Dowd



The group's chart topping album opens with the infectious hooky Wings which went to number one back in the summer. It's catchy chant of "Mama told me not to waste my life, she said spread your wings my little butterfly" is the perfect opening to the album and a sign of what the album has up its sleeve; hooks, hooks and more hooks. Following Wings is second single DNA which recently reached the top five. It's a whole different ball game to Wings; it's deliciously dark with lyrics such as "It's in his DNA, and he just takes my breath away" and an eerie bridge shows Little Mix are more than just a spunky one trick pony.

Change Your Life & Always Be Together serve as a breather from the up-tempo glory of the opening tracks; Change Your Life is a little too trite for my liking but the touching Always Be Together will strike a chord with anyone who listens. The tempo is ramped back up with stand out Stereo Soldier which features frenetic military drums and a frankly awesome chorus of "You're my stereo soldier" with a heap of "ooh's" and "aah's" to boot. Xenomania (Girls Aloud masterminds) produced the next track "Pretend It's Ok" a pop by numbers affair but Xeno's genius production saves it from being standard filler.

Haunting ballad Turn Your Face sounds like something Christina Aguilera could have recorded back in her heyday, which isn't exactly what Little Mix should be doing but it serves as a nice change of pace as the album enters its second act. It's the second half where the infectious sound begins to falter, We Are Who We Are is pure filler, a cheap electronic beat over some quite grating vocals from Perrie Edwards in the chorus, make it challenging to listen to the whole way through; but you can't fault the message.



En Vogue-esque How Ya Doin? samples De La Soul and is one of the top tracks on the album, it's 90's girl group pop at it's best, with just enough 2012 polish to make it sound current. T-Boz of TLC fame collaborates on Red Planet a soaring mid-tempo featuring killer vocals in it's closing moments. Nicola Roberts penned Going Nowhere could do with speeding up a bit but it's still good enough to keep the DNA-machine going.

Madhouse is a little too out there for a debut, especially from a pop group like Little Mix. It's Florence Welch reaches levels of crazy in the worst way. Although TMS were at the helm of production (they produced Wings & DNA) it sounds a little cheap compared to other tracks.

Now we're onto the deluxe tracks, Love Drunk is a Wings-lite affair. It's catchy enough but falls a little flat after the bombast (however poorly executed it was) of Madhouse. Make You Believe is En Vogue in 2012 with lush harmonies and a thick rock beat that opens up a whole new fan base for Little Mix. Final new track Case Closed is reminiscent of DC3 in it's gentle approach to mid-tempo. Small guitar-lead chords and an enchanting chorus will make you wonder why it was shafted to the deluxe version of the album. Final tracks DNA (Unplugged) and We Are Young (Acoustic - a fun. cover) are little extras that make a nice difference, but they aren't really necessary.

Overall, DNA is a confident and bubbly offering from the girls. Whether it will be enough to stop the X-factor winner's curse from striking again remains to be seen. Regardless Little Mix are finding their feet and finding their sound, but is success in their DNA?

**** (FOUR STARS)



STAR COOKIES

By Hinnah Nagshband

Cookies, biscuits, crisps, chips: Winston Churchill said that America and Britain were two great nations separated by a common language.

But as she wanted to give hungry students a cheap recipe, Hinnah Nagshband decided to be international about the whole thing and chose 'cookies'.

HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- 1 cup of butter
- 2 cup of powdered sugar
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 3 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla flavour
- 4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cream of tartar



DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 240 degrees. Beat butter and sugars until smooth.
2. Slowly add the eggs and start stirring
3. Add vanilla.
4. Add flour, 1 cup at a time
5. Add baking soda and cream of tartar.
6. Leave it for at least one or two hours covered in a kitchen towel
7. Roll dough out on a generously sugared surface (to about a 1/3" thickness).
8. Using cookie cutters or a clean round drinking glass cut out into desired shapes and put any kind of design you want. If you want, you can decorate them with jam
9. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until edges are lightly golden brown
10. Eat them!



THE FOLLOWING ARE SURE FIRE TIPS FOR THE PERFECT SUGAR COOKIES:

- * The thinner you roll your dough, the crispier the cookie will be
- * The eggs should also be room temperature. Cold eggs can cause the batter to curdle.
- * Halfway through the baking process, take a minute to rotate the baking sheets from back to front for even baking. This step is worth it to prevent unevenly baked batches of cookies.
- * If you are making more than one batch, do not put the dough on hot cookie sheets. It will spread as you're placing the dough on the sheet, and baking will be uneven.

CHRISTMAS AT CHURCHILL ARMS



MUSIC

WE ARE PINK CIGAR AND SO ARE YOU

By Rachel Almeida

There's nothing new about four London glamsters trying to start a band; the glittery heels, fur coats and leather pants might sway you to judgement, but Pink Cigar are about as talented as they don't look. Since their formation in 2010, Sharkie Cottrell (singer) Edd Whyte (guitarist) Sam Rutland (bassist) and Sid Mayall (drummer) have thundered through the London circuit earning a reputation for one of the fiercest live shows in town.

Pink Cigar play high-energy music with youthful enthusiasm and sleazy gutter rock that mirrors the efforts of Iggy Pop & The Stooges and New York Dolls – Sharkie is known to captivate even the most arrogant of crowds with his unique, and at times alarming, interaction with the audience. Originally from Ladbroke Grove, just down the road from Notting Hill Gate and The London College, the 4 piece left a very swanky postcode to jump head first into the grit of Camden...

Rachel Almeida came face to face with Sharkie, asking some searching questions;

So, what's the story on why you left Ladbroke Grove?

Sharkie: We met in Ladbroke Grove because I was living in Notting Hill Gate at the time. I saw the boys forming a band and we got to know each other as well as play together. Later, I moved to East London because my life in the west was going down the pan although everyone lived in Notting Hill. Sid moved even further west and we all agreed that leaving was the right move. My brother and his friends lived in Camden and I didn't have enough money to get a flat so me and my friend moved.

If you left Ladbroke Grove, why did you decide to record the album on All Saints Road?

Sharkie: I'm originally from Bristol, where people sit under trees and drink cider, so recording in a place that had become my second home helped with the process.

How is the process going?

Sharkie: Good, yeah! We've recorded it all and it's in the mixing stage now. It should be finished by the end of the year for an early 2013 release along with singles and a new follow up video for 'Blues to Bed'.



I can't wait to hear it live! What was it that attracted you to Camden over any other area?

Sharkie: Camden is just a rock'n'roll area. Musical area, rather. It's a shame Camden is mainly clothing shops – all these retro shops that you get in East London which is wasteful as Camden has great venues and should have more of a musical scene rather than social scene. People should be able to walk around and just pop into a venue and see a cool band. East London has a bit more of a party scene, kids listening to synth and electro which is fine, but keep it away from true rock'n'roll.

I sense a bit of resent towards East London? You know I live in East London, what does that say about me, aye?

Sharkie: You're different, you've got the right spirit. The blind lead the blind in East London, people have become older than their years in what they think is 'being cool' to East London's standards. Nothing wrong with dressing like a grandpa, but I think people do it to keep up to this image. We're young, we can get away with wearing what we want. We're here for a good time, not a long time.

That's damn right. What were you hoping to achieve when you went north?

Sharkie: We want to throw rock'n'roll in everyone's faces. Like spit to the eye. We used to play gigs where a woman would be playing the harp, followed by a synth-piano electro pop joint, then an acoustic set, then we'd come on and people would be left with one big question mark as a face. It just didn't tie in – it's not a flowing evening, it's just weird.



Did you think Camden would be the one-way ticket to rock'n'roll heaven? People tend to think that.

Sharkie: We wanted to push the scene forward that eventually pushes Camden into the eyeline of the music industry. We want to make it less rock and more roll. The industry is pushing everything to one side and marketing the same sound, and we're here to try to stop the spreading of the virus. Our live shows can do this.

Everyone who has seen you live, including me, can agree that your live shows are an extravaganza to say the least. I've even heard some say you've got the crazy eye. Where's the inspiration behind your madness?

Sharkie: I admire the Gallows frontman, when he comes onstage he's an animal, you think to yourself, 'man, this guy's got balls.' I'm a big fan of Iggy Pop and Mick Jagger as frontmen. When you're starting in a band, you're up on stage doing it how you think they do it until you've got it and you're proud. Pure adrenaline is the best drug in the world – the music's in you and you're part of it.



It seems you've definitely found your balls. I'm guessing you don't listen to much modern music then?

Sharkie: Not really at all. The Connectors, fellow localers, are a fantastic band. You know them, the drummer was that guy you met at our gig who was dancing to Iggy Pop on the chairs.

The Midnight Heavy has a great lyricist, they're a bit older, they have this gloomy 70s vibe to them. Alien Tango Music which is made by mental hipsters. The La's have a way of being a real proper band. Black Sabbath are four working class dudes. The Strokes put a real message across and started a movement to hang in there... Not playing your instruments isn't music, it's bull.

I think bands nowadays are trying to hard to appeal to everyone whereas bands back then had a 'stuff you' attitude towards everything, which is always more attractive. Any last words, Sharks?

Sharkie: Rock'n'roll is like pizza. Everyone likes pizza.



FASHION

GET THE LOOK FOR LESS

By Karina Kislo

Albeit West London has a reputation for being pricey, having Portobello Market down the road has its perks. I went around Notting Hill on a hunt for hidden gems,

and much to common misconception, you can always find an alternative to the expensive style that looks just as good (or even better!). Take a look at what I found...



Levi's original jacket £89.99
Found in Portobello Stalls £35.00



Green Parka Coat original Topshop £69.99
Found in Portobello £40.00



Wide brim felt hat original Urban Outfitters £29.99
Found in Portobello £9.99



Burberry Scarf original £295
Found in Portobello Vintage Shop £45



Black Biker Jacket original Zara £79.99
Found in Portobello £29.99

High-waist shorts original Topshop £39.99
Found in Portobello £20.00



BEAUTY ON A BUDGET

By Bekki Pearson

As a student the word 'budget' will have become a rather annoying normality by now...

But put three little magic words in front of it and suddenly it becomes music to your ears... Beauty On A Budget.

We all know that student life often leaves you with little or no cash left over for make up and other products.

But that's no reason to have nowhere to turn to in the case of a beauty emergency!

I'm going to help you feel a million dollars by only spending a couple of quid with some helpful beauty hints and tricks.

Did you know just a table spoon of cooking oil combed through your hair, and left on for twenty minutes under a wrapped towel makes a fabulous dry hair treatment. (Don't forget to wash off and condition after)



Whenever you pop in department stores, always pop to the beauty section and stock up on samples and freebies. (easiest way to test a £70 face mask for absolutely zilch).

TWICE AS NICE AT HALF THE PRICE!



Vaseline 99p – The number one multi-tasker, No one should ever be without it. It cures chapped lips, dry patches, dry cuticles, and will keep stray eyebrows in place. Pop on eyelashes at night to keep them healthy and nourished.

Sudocrem £1 (30g) – Gone are the days Sudocream was only used on babies bottoms. It is now a staple celebrity beauty product, with even Girls Aloud's Kimberley Walsh swearing by it! All you need to do is pop a thin layer sparingly on your face before you go to bed, and it will keep any pesky spots away!

Create your own softening face scrub- Simply mix oatmeal, a tablespoon of honey and one teaspoon of sugar. Hey presto, cheap and natural face products!

Ebay- Again three magic words- BUY IN BULK. If you wear false eyelashes Ebay has hundreds of different styles in packs of ten some as cheap as £3.00!

Johnsons baby oil £1 (300ml)- Perfect to pop a small amount in your bath water as it works perfectly as a bath soak and will make your skin super soft; it also can be used to remove most make ups.



No extra cash to replace your dried out nail varnish? No problem – add a drop of nail varnish remover to it. It will make it as good as new. (Keep nail varnishes in the fridge to prevent them drying out)



Dry mascara? Well get out your hair dryer and heat it up for a few seconds- it will last that little bit longer. (Also dust a little loose powder on your lashes before applying for added length)



Julies Nails is a nail bar just round the corner from The London College opposite Starbucks; they offer a 10% discount to all students.



Blunt tweezers? Make their life expectancy a lot longer by scratching the ends on to a nail file - it will instantly sharpen them.

HELPFUL LINKS

- www.cheapmakeup.co.uk
- Great website with lots of offers
- Branded cosmetics at bargain prices
- Save money on your perfume and fragrance purchases.

SPORT

WHERE'S THE FOOTBALL?

By James Keith



Nothing stirs the passion of humankind worldwide like football.

If you are passionate about 'footie' and want to be swept up in the emotion of the game in England, look no further than the Notting Hill area.

It's all here and to give an insight into the players and managers at top flight local teams, James Keith is always around to give the low-down on these clubs.

QPR

The R's are based in White City, a Championship team that has propelled into the Premiership after their take-over from current owner Tony Fernandes, a billionaire who loves the club. They have a well-known manager named Mark Hughes, but QPR are struggling so far this season and in desperate need to change this terrible form.

Key Player – Esteban Granero

Granero was a shock signing for QPR, having joined from Real Madrid, Granero is said to be too good for the West London club. Having worked under Jose Mourinho and played alongside the talented Cristiano Ronaldo, he has an eye for a pass and has the vibe of being a game changer in important matches.

Directions –

QPR's stadium is on South Africa Road, in Shepherds Bush.

The nearest station is White City, a 4 minute walk.

Price –

Adult - £50 max, Junior - £30 max

FULHAM FC

The Whites are based in Hammersmith, a team who are seen as a mid-table side. Martin Jol is the manager of the once Europa League runners-up, mostly known for their reign under Roy Hodgson. They still deliver great results and give their fans their money's worth, while the fans create a great atmosphere at Craven Cottage.

Key Player – Dimitar Berbatov

The former Manchester United player was seen as another shock signing, when the transfer went through last January. Since then the Bulgarian has left his mark as a Fulham Legend, with his cool head and deadly finishing.

Since then the Bulgarian has left his mark as a Fulham Legend, with his cool head and deadly finishing.

Directions –

Fulham's Stadium is called Craven Cottage, on Stevenage Road, in London

The nearest stations are Hammersmith and Putney Bridge

Price -

Adult - £60 max, Junior - £30 max

CHELSEA

The Blues are the most successful club in West London, having won the Champions League and FA Cup last year. They also have a substantial amount of money from owner Roman Abramovich. The current boss is Rafael Benitez and they are in contention to win the league.

Key Player – Juan Mata

The Spaniard is a World Cup winner who has turned into a fan favourite and Chelsea Legend over the last season, setting alight the league with his skill and precise passing, he is one of a few playmakers in the league who can change the game in a second.

Directions –

Stamford Bridge is on Fulham Road, based in London

The nearest stations are Fulham Road and West Brompton

Price -

Adult - £70 max, Junior - £30 max

OF LORDS AND LADIES

Notting Hill from 1200-1600

By Keith Hayes



Outside the London College in Notting Hill, pigs outnumbered people until the end of the 13th century. The landscape was scattered with manor houses, churches and Abbeys as the religious establishment continued to be a powerful force in the country's social makeup. Religion played a key role in community life. Local church St Mary Abbots was mentioned in 1242, the parish church and its land being given to the Abbots in thanks for medical assistance given to Godfrey, son of Aubrey de Vere, Lords of the Manor for more than four centuries.

The De Vere's like many other noble families had joined King Richard the Lionheart on his overseas Crusade and so children left at home were especially precious: Hence the generous gift.

Then, partially because today's Notting Hill Gate High Street had developed from a Roman road to an important 13th century thoroughfare, the area began to develop and grow.

But that development was severely curbed by three great cataclysmic events. In 1194, King Richard recruited many of the English knights and their families to join his great Crusade against the Saracens, thus denuding England of many of its young men. Because Notting Hill was part of the manor of the De Vere family, Notting Hill sent its share of soldiers.

Then in 1257 England suffered a Great Famine which also devastated the population, followed in the middle of the 14th century by the Great Plague, known as the Black Death. The Black Death wiped out an estimated 3 million people, a third of the English population.

Notting Hill itself remained relatively rural, its manor houses and lands providing much of London's population with food and drink from the fields and pastures. But because the main road from central London to Reading ran along the present High Street, horse riders, carriages and haulage carts thronged the road into London proper.

Mediaeval roads were exciting places in the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries. Jugglers, pedlars, friars and entertainers of all sorts poured along the highway with travellers, carts and wagons carrying food for London.

The King's Highways as they became known also became safer as time went by and trees and bushes within 200 feet of the road were cut back so that robbers and highwaymen found it difficult to ply their trade.

The safer roads meant the areas of Kensington, Chelsea and Notting Hill were close to the fast route for local produce to be sent to London, so market gardens and nurseries sprang up in the 16th century, growing fruit and vegetables for Londoners as well as plants and flowers. These businesses lasted well into the 19th century.

But the noble families in London were growing weary of the close confines of the city's streets and started what we would now call 'urban sprawl'.

They spread west along the banks of the Thames and into Notting Hill, slowly eating into its lush woods, building great mansions and palaces along the River Thames and its hinterland. Sir Thomas More, Lord Chancellor to King Henry VIII built a house in 1520 known as Beaufort House.



It was from here in 1535 that he was taken to the Tower of London and beheaded for his opposition to the King's break with the Catholic Church and his desire to divorce Queen Catharine of Aragon.

He was soon followed to the area by other prominent men including the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Shrewsbury and Henry VIII himself, all of whom built splendid houses so that the area became known as the 'Village of Palaces'. Several of King Henry's six wives had houses built there.

Much as today, a gathering of the rich and powerful brought with it development of the arts and an edifice called Cope's Castle, which became the centre for artists, writers and scholars of the day.

So Notting Hill was on the verge of becoming the vibrant, pulsating and exciting place it is today and just outside the College gates! But the story of Notting Hill was to have many more dramas and crises before it became the Notting Hill we now know; more in the next issue of The Gate.

AS I SEE IT

THE MULTI-TASKING SCHIZOPHRENIC BILLY NO-MATES

By Zahra Pedersen



Attend lectures, take dog for a walk, research subjects for college assignments (can I bluff my way through that?), don't forget that place where you actually get paid - I believe it's called work, call mum; tell her you love her, then there's the work experience that can't wait (it's all about networking), have a social-life and... oh yeah, be an exciting editor for the college magazine!

Easy? Don't worry, I'm a woman! Men always admire women's ability to juggle several things at once with both elegance and grace. Unfortunately, that's not me!

There's nothing elegant about a half-applied make-up project running up the college stairs, still sweating from a life-endangering bike-ride through London because the gym hasn't got priority in my busy schedule.

And grace is not the first word that comes to mind when you hear me shout censored words of, let's say endearment at the nearest person because they made me swerve them in the hallway, making me spill my boiling tea down my so-so clean shirt (who has time to do the laundry?), leaving me wondering what a third degree burn feels like.

But it's okay! Take a deep breath and count to ten... one, two, three, four, five, six minutes before my next class, seven hours till I have to be at work, eight days till the deadline for the magazine, nine times I've checked my mail in the last hour and ten ways to lose my mind! I feel much calmer already!

The reality is; the elusive multi-tasking is but a crazy dream that I probably will never achieve. And the fact that people (or the general public, whatever that entails) expect of me to have been born with this admirable factor is not making it any easier for me every time I fail to show for it. *"Booh! She can't even hold two conversations, type up an e-mail and breast-feed someone else's child in one go... shame on her!"*



At least I can count on my dear fellow students (colleagues) to do what is expected of them for the magazine.

They have been nothing but helpful, offering great ideas and ways to make this edition of The Gate, the best ever!

I have been so proud of them – especially for handing their work in on time. I have wanted to hug them and tell them how much I appreciate their efforts! Send them 'thank you' e-mails and serenade them late at night like they do in old romantic films. I have wanted to strangle them for stressing me out and smack them for being calm about it! Yes, I have really appreciated their efforts!

Having to juggle my colleagues' articles and critiquing, admiring and offering advice at once is not a desirable position to be in to say the least.

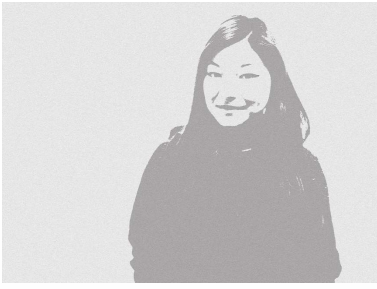
Who am I to pass judgement on their work? At best, I may have one year at college over them but that by no means make me superior. But I hold the respectable title of; *The Editor*. And with it comes responsibility. Annoying, teeth-gritting, head-banging-against-a-wall responsibility!

In order to do the title, *The Editor*, any justice I have had to take on a role of someone who knows how to be in charge and in doing so I have had to step back from the undeniably loveable character for which I am undoubtedly known... Bahahahahaha! I'm a bitch at best!

But in all fairness, being the editor of a college magazine is not necessarily the best way to make friends – friends don't want to hear that their spelling is appalling or that I use their article as a remedy to fall asleep at night (it's okay guys, it's just a joke – that never actually happened).

What I'm trying to say is simple; in any situation the "authority" will never have an easy time making friends. The authority has to play good cop/bad cop simultaneously which basically means; you have to be a schizophrenic!

So, to sum it all up; I am the stressed out multi-tasking editor without friends and you know what; it sounds far worse than it really is.



STUDENT DISCOUNT

CAN'T EARN? TRY SAVING INSTEAD!

By Tina Tamrakar

The cost of living is often a worry for students. If you cannot earn sufficient amounts of money, you can always save. You can live inexpensively by taking full benefit of your student tag.

If you are 16 or over and study at an NUS affiliated UK institution, you can acquire an NUS Extra card for just £12. You'll find student discounts on most things including; music, fashion, books and food. You can also get access to a variety of exclusive deals, competitions and rewards.

Visit the NUS Extra website to apply for your card <http://www.nus.org.uk/en/NUS-Extra/>

And in case you were wondering, you can always upgrade your card by adding the International Students Identity Card (ISIC) for only £2.99. The ISIC offer student discounts in over 140 countries worldwide! It also provides excellent savings on travel including international flights. For further information go to www.isiccard.com

THE FREQUENTLY VISITED

- **Boots and D&A Opticians** Exclusive £5 eye test
- **Bulldog** 25% off bulldog skincare online at meetthe-bulldog.com
- **Amazon** 5% discount
- **Staples** 10% in store
- **Comet** Laptop voucher code to 5% off laptops over £499, 10% off computer peripherals (excludes data storage) and 20% off all single and multi pack ink cartridges ONLY with NUS extra card online
- **Odeon** 25% off the student price Monday - Thursday (basic exclusions apply) + large combo for the price of a medium with an NUS extra card in store
- **The Independent** Rate of £1 per week for 4 weeks



THE PHONE COMPANIES

Orange offer students a free SIM and £10 extra credit the first time you top-up £10

Three offers £100 bill credit free

CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES

- **Matalan** 10%
 - **Claire's** 10%
 - **New Look** 10%
 - **Accessorize** 10%
 - **Superdrug** 10% off of all purchases with an NUS extra card
 - **TopShop** 10%
 - **Office** 10% off online & in store
 - **Miss Selfridge** 10%
 - **Missguided** 10%
 - **Urban Outfitters** 10%
 - **ASOS** 10% Online with an NUS card
 - **Dorothy Perkins** 10%
 - **Republic** 10%
 - **Warehouse** 10%
- 10% discounts are also available at Fruit of the Loom, Open, Diffusion, Henley's, Vero Moda, Jack and Jones and also at Gap when presenting a valid student card.



ENTERTAINMENT

- **Alton Towers** Special Reduced admission - up to £12 off
- **Chessington World of Adventures** Special Reduced admission - up to £9 off
- **Empire Cinemas** Student Admission
- **Madame Tussauds London** Special Reduced Admission - Save £5
- **Party Bus** 20% off party bus nights out
- **Road Trip** 5% off
- **Snow Trip** 5% off
- **Thorpe Park** Special Reduced Admission - up to £12 off
- **VUE Cinemas** Special concession rates
- **Warwick Castle** Special Reduced admission - £5 off tickets
- **Chester Zoo** Student discounts
- **Ticket Master** Exclusive discounted tickets



FOOD

- **Subway** 10% off on all menu prices
- **Dominos Pizza** 10% off regular menu prices on delivery orders
- **Little Chef** 25% off food bill
- **Perfect Pizza** 10% off discount and 20% off on collection
- **Bella Italia** 20% off your food bill
- **Planet Hollywood** 20% off food, beverages and merchandise
- **MacDonald's** Free Hamburger, Cheeseburger or McFlurry with any purchase of an Extra Value meal or Deli meal by showing a valid NUS or normal ID card when ordering



GOODBYE 2012

And so we have come to that inevitable time of the year again. It is time to say goodbye to an eventful year and welcome to next ahead. Here are some of the things we remember about 2012.

