

www.varsity.co.uk

No. 639
Friday June 23rd, 2006



VARSITY

The Independent Cambridge Student Newspaper since 1947

May Week
2006



Parker's Football

Thousands of fans returned to Parker's Piece, the birth-place of football, to watch England's match against Sweden on Thursday evening. Despite the cold weather, around 8,000 attended the event, which was described by police as being "remarkably trouble free". Other screens around the country had to be turned off during the game to enable police to break up fighting, but only three arrests were made in Cambridge. The most serious injury that the St. John Ambulance crew had to deal with was a man hit by a flying beer can.

Cyclist attacked

A cyclist was beaten and thrown into the river in a violent attack on Midsummer Common in Cambridge on Thursday night. Witnesses observed the man crawl out of the river only to be punched again. The assailants, who had kicked the cyclist's bike into the river, fled into the fair before the police arrived. The victim was treated for cuts and bruises. The attack has raised wider concerns about the presence of the fair on Midsummer Common.

Estate Shooting

A man has been charged with attempted murder after a shooting on a Cambridge housing estate. A 49 year-old man was shot in the chest with a handgun in Thorpe Way, Abbey, after residents reported hearing eight gun shots at around 6.20pm last Sunday. Eyewitnesses described a fight breaking out between two men and the suspect, Ken Kew. Covered in blood, Kew tried to escape before being tackled by a passer-by and held until police arrived. Resident Rosemary Piper, who was one of the first on the scene, said, "it was mayhem. A man was lying on the ground bleeding badly and my neighbour was using a cloth to stem the flow. The man was obviously going into shock." Kew has been charged with seven offences, including possession of a fire-arm and attempted murder. The victim is recovering in Papworth Hospital, and his condition is said to be stable.

Listen

You can hear Varsity on the radio, on Mondays at 7pm
CUR 1350

our policy

VARSLITY IS DEDICATED TO BRINGING YOU THE MOST RELEVANT AND INTRIGUING NEWS AS AND WHEN IT HAPPENS.

THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN OUR CONTENT ARE THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS, AND NOT NECESSARILY OF VARSITY PUBLICATIONS LIMITED.

The Backs' Backside



Revellers celebrating the beginning of May Week on the Backs last Saturday evening were treated to more than just a view of King's Chapel and the Wren Library. Charlie Cavey, the ARU student more commonly known for busking in his bin on Bridge Street, was photographed by picnicker Mivy James, from Surrey on King's Backs at about 7pm. Cavey, who has been punting in the nude since 1998, would only be liable for police investigation if a complaint were lodged against him. On this occasion though, the sight did not seem to have offended anyone.

Applicants deterred by tuition fees rise

Target 10,000, a new campaign to improve disadvantaged students' access to higher education, revealed yesterday that the rise in fees – to £3,000 a year – has taken its toll. A survey of more than 7,000 sixth-formers showed that ninety-five percent of them were ignorant about the financial support arrangements available to them. Twenty-seven percent of the students surveyed, all of whom are predicted to get the equivalent of BBB or higher grades at A-level, said tuition fees made it less likely they would go to university.

Zebra distress at Blanchett film set

Emily Stokes

THE RSPCA are carrying out an animal welfare investigation following claims that a zebra was abused during the filming of *The Golden Age*, the follow-up to *Elizabeth* (1998). Scenes for the film were shot in St John's College last month, but the allegations focus on more recent filming at Ely Cathedral. The zebra was brought in for a section in which Sir Walter Raleigh, played by Clive Owen, is shown bringing back exotic animals from his travels for the Queen, played by Cate Blanchett.

A spokesperson from the RSPCA told Varsity that there had been two complaints during the filming of *The Golden Age* concerning the treatment of the zebra. The first complaint, concerning the living conditions of the zebra, was investigated and later dismissed after an RSPCA inspector found that "everything was fine. There was plenty of bedding and water and the zebra was very happy and comfortable."

Soon afterwards, however, the RSPCA received a phone call in which a member of the public reported that the zebra had been punched in the head during filming. By the time the RSPCA returned to the scene of the filming, however, the owner and trainers had moved the animals back to Oxfordshire.

The RSPCA spokeswoman told Varsity yesterday that she suspected both complaints had come from the same person. She also told Varsity

that there was only one witness statement for the punching incident. But shortly after the RSPCA were called in on the weekend of June 3, a 34 year old woman from Cambridge, who is believed to have been an extra on the film, told the *Cambridge Evening News* that several people had witnessed the maltreatment of the zebra. She said that the zebra "had to walk past a line of people and we all had to clap, and the scene was shot over and over again about 20 times. The zebra was very distressed, it was breathing heavily and its feet were clattering all over the place."

The witness then claimed that she saw the zebra punched in the head several times. "It was horrible. There

were quite a few of us who couldn't believe what we were seeing, so someone called the RSPCA then the police . . . I was told it was a female and quite old, and it was punched in the head quite hard a number of times. It was just unnecessary."

A police officer and a vet went to visit the zebra and its owner yesterday morning in Oxfordshire. If they suspect the living conditions of the zebra and the other animals under the owner's care to be inadequate, the investigation will continue.

The RSPCA were satisfied that the other exotic animals used in the film, including a marmoset, a cobra and several parrots, were treated well.



Cate Blanchett, who stars as Elizabeth in *The Golden Age*

Pressured students turn to plagiarism

The Plagiarism Advisory Service has warned students who plagiarise their work from the internet that new software will be much more successful at identifying copied material. This follows a recent survey showing that nine percent of students have plagiarised other people's work on one occasion, and sixteen percent have copied work straight from the internet more than once. The problem is primarily blamed on students not having enough time to complete work. The survey also found that male students are more likely to plagiarise than females.

Drug dealer jailed

A 34 year-old heroin addict, Runu Miah, has been jailed for over three years after being found in possession of 9.3 grams of heroin and more than £500 in cash on Cherry Hinton Road. Miah denied being involved in a commercial drug set-up.

The voice of the Cambridge Drinking Society

Ian Ellard, Secretary of the Queens' Cherubs, speaks out for exclusivity

Slash your gown! Trample on the lawn! Mispronounce Latin Grace! Knock every single one of those bizarre little knobbls off of King's! For to be rid of drinking societies would be to do exactly these things! Drinking societies are an absolutely vital and integral part of Cambridge University. They represent a vital organ of the writhing, beautiful student body. But why? Why have drinking societies become such an important, nay essential, aspect of Cambridge life? What makes them not an appendix, but a lung, or some skin?

It is best here, I think, to offer no more than personal experience. No sweeping, rapid generalisations; no

avoiding the issue; no delaying the nub; no empty rhetoric. When I, on Suicide Sunday 2005, drank the Cherubs' pint, knotted my tie and was thereby initiated into Ye Cherubs, the Queens' Gentlemen's Drinking Society, it was a beautiful day. I refer not, of course, to the weather, but rather to that intangible, ethereal sense of quiet pride of a human being allowed to join a group. But the modern world is, with one hand, terrified of exclusivity, and with the other we stroke and welcome it! 'Elitism' is a dirty word, while at home we trawl the Facebook, literally lip-licking at an 'appreciation society' for a band of whom no-one has heard, and whom fewer

people enjoy, not so that we can ally ourselves with other appreciators, but so that we can distance ourselves with a sneer from the ignorant!

Exclusivity is only dangerous when it becomes intimidating, but the majority of drinking societies, out to dinner with another society, are not there to intimidate, but to enjoy themselves, to meet people, make friends and conversation. When Ye Cherubs flew out to Barcelona during Lent Term this year, the twelve American girls with whom we sat down to dinner, in the shadow of the Sagrada Familia, were not intimidated by identically-coloured ties, disgusted by loutish behaviour, or embar-

rassed by noise and vomit! They were instead delighted that such a bizarre, wonderful, time-honoured tradition as a Cambridge drinking society had brought people together, people who might otherwise never have met, to entertain them, and to entertain themselves.

That is the joy of the Drinking Society – food, fine wine, and finer friends. Contrary to popular belief, drinking societies are more than just booze and birds. In the words of chef Charlie Trotter, "all four elements happen in equal measure - the cuisine, the wine, the service, and the overall ambience. It taught me that dining could happen at a spiritual level."

>>page 14
Jude Townend
On
'Crazy'
Cambridge



The Week in Weather

						
FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR

Drunken 'examiner' seen with Tripos scripts

• Students meet man apparently falsely posing as external examiner

Gabriel Byng

A DRUNK man falsely claiming to be an external examiner for Physiology showed two New Hall students in a Cambridge bar genuine exam scripts he had just been marking on Wednesday June 15.

They were able to note down the paper titles and some candidate numbers from the papers while the man told them how he was "fiddling" grades on "abysmal" answers to give everyone a 2.i.

But the Secretary of the Board of Examiners, Diane Rainsbury, told *Varsity* it is unlikely that the incident will be investigated by the university's Registry Timothy Mead as the details are "too vague". Michael Dixon, the Examinations Officer, also commented that the accusations "sound bizarre" and "unlikely".

The man was in Ta Bouche in the early afternoon when he started talking to the two students, despite never having met them before. One of the students remembered how "he repeatedly told us that he achieved the

highest first in Cambridge ten years ago."

"He then asked us if we wanted to look at some papers," she continued. "We immediately said no, and I reminded him that he was acting irresponsibly and could get into serious trouble for doing what he was doing. He ignored me and thrust two exam scripts under our noses."

The external examiner, Richard Naftalin, was in London on the day of the incident, and assured *Varsity* "it certainly wasn't me". The Physiology Department refused to comment.

Cambridge University exam papers are all blind double marked by two examiners including at least one "internal" academic working at Cambridge. Any discrepancies in the marks given are then reconciled to prevent inaccuracy and the Chair of Examiners selects a sample of borderline or disputed essays and all failures to send to "external" examiners, at universities outside Cambridge.

Although only 29 students sat Part II Physiology the New Hall students estimated that he had "over 45" scripts

rather than a small sample of borderline papers.

Rainsbury commented that as "in the unlikely event of an errant examiner there are sufficient mechanisms to ensure appropriate and consistent standards" it is unlikely that any papers will need to be remarked.

There were problems with exams elsewhere in the University.

Lottie Oppenheim, a second year English student, was not given important information about her exam because she was sitting it separately from the rest of the year group. In a question about Chaucer requiring a comparison between two different works she assumed that she was not able to use two *Canterbury Tales* while students in the main exam hall were told they could.

She told *Varsity* "this was really upsetting and has put me at a big disadvantage in comparison to the other candidates." In response to an official complaint, the exam board informed her that the failure to notify her might be taken into account when marking her paper, otherwise she will be issued with a formal apology.



Ta Bouche, the town centre bar where the encounter with the 'examiner' took place

BEN JONES

Drinking society disgraced



Some members of the Robinson Rentals in the River Cam's Mill Pond on the day of the incident

Rachel Cooper

POLICE ARE looking into an allegation that members of the Robinson College men's drinking society, the Rentals, upturned a canoe carrying three children in the Mill Pond on Suicide Sunday.

A police spokesperson stressed that no formal investigation is in place but that WPC Carol Langton, the University Liaison Officer, is conducting inquiries into the incident.

In an email to students on Wednesday, Senior Tutor Liz Guild said she had received a report that "a group of forty or so students, male and female were partying on the banks of the Mill Pond. Some of them stripped off and jumped in." At the same time, there were three children in a canoe on the water. Guild continued, "despite one of the children screaming that they couldn't swim, these students upset the canoe, the children fell in."

According to the report, the children's parents remonstrated with the students but were met with abuse. The parents have since made a complaint to the police. Guild warned students that the regional press have photographs of the incident and that soon "the identities of the individuals involved will be clear enough". Guild stressed that she would rather hear from those involved or who know anything about this before she has the photographs and urged students not to be "squeamish" about coming to see her.

The Rentals were identified by their yellow ties - the society's emblem. Guild added, "I do not presume that the Rentals are responsible, but I must act on the information that I have been given." A member of the Robinson women's drinking society, Girl Fridays, confirmed that they and the Rentals, had been present at the Mill Pond but she

thought that the incident with the canoe was an accident.

The Girl Fridays were quick to disassociate themselves from the incident and an email from the group's president warned members against talking to *Varsity*. Another member of the society sent an email to the group saying that she "didn't have a clue it had happened and thought most of the girls were the same", adding that Guild was not "too chuffed with the girls at the moment".

Email exchanges between the Rentals indicated a level of bemusement at the incident, one asked "did we do anything like that?" The same member added "If we did, it's probably better to get Liz Guild onside, we don't want to get banned from formal and the Party room."

Perhaps some sort of apologetic gift would be in order (swimming lessons perhaps). The Rentals' President was unavailable for comment.

Dismissal at Sidney Sussex

Eleanor Good

SPECULATION IS RIFE at Sidney Sussex College after a member of staff was dismissed in unusual circumstances. Cambridgeshire Police have launched an investigation after the College authorities passed information to them about the dismissal.

In an email sent to students at the end of May the Master, Professor Sandra Dawson, said a "deeply regrettable situation" had emerged within the last three weeks, leading to the dismissal of a member of College staff and confirming that information had been given to the police.

On Wednesday, a police spokesperson told *Varsity* that they are "investigating an allegation of theft", but that "inquiries are in their very early stages and as such we are unable to comment further on the investigation." No arrests have been made.

Professor Dawson said that the "existence of this internal investigation limits our ability to divulge details of the matter" and she regretted that speculation within the College might have caused "alarm and feelings of exclusion amongst some students".

She went on to describe the situation as "difficult", adding that the "college intends to be as open as it can be about the causes and consequences of this unfortunate episode but cannot do so before due legal process has taken its course".

Colin Britton, Domestic Bursar at Sidney Sussex said "it is always very sad when you have any cases like this" but added, "we're now co-operating fully with the police".

He stressed that the student body could not be informed of any further details while the investigation is ongoing.



Sidney Sussex, Porters' Lodge

BEN JONES

On Campus

DCBC ex-Captain in Disgrace

Former Downing College Captain of Boats, Matt Smith, became the first captain to have bumped his own college on Saturday, having absconded from his duties at Downing to row for the high-flying Addenbrookes' 1st VIII. The hospital boat caught the Downing 4th VIII on the Saturday of bumps, ensuring that the ex-captain was present to see his former charges awarded their spoons. Sources close to Smith described him as "utterly distraught".

Dinosaurs of the Revolution

A metre and a half long Tyrannosaurus Rex skull is now on display at the Sedgwick Museum. "Of all the dinosaurs, T. rex most captures people's imaginations," said Dr David Norman, Director of the Museum, "I look forward to many people coming to enjoy the beauty of our new beast." The animal has been nicknamed STAN after Stan Sacrison, the amateur palaeontologist who originally discovered the skeleton.

Emma left exposed

The traditional ritual of skinny-dipping in the Emmanuel College Fellows' Swimming Pool after dinner on the final day of bumps was compromised this year by a mysterious clothing thief. Bathers from assorted boat

clubs emerging from the freezing waters were enraged to find their clothes vanished or redistributed around the grounds of the college. Eyewitnesses provided accounts too graphic to print of lycra strap-marked bodies seen careering down Regent Street in search of shelter and modesty. The families of the survivors have called for a full public enquiry.

Less than Sainly John's Security

The St John's May Ball security guards were reported to have been particularly overzealous in their attempts to stop gate crashers this year. Astonished onlookers described how one guard "threw himself on a girl emerging from the river like he was trying to stop an assassination," knocking her to the ground and leaving her with substantial bruising. Other reports remain unconfirmed.

Art about town

Resident artist at Christ's College, Vanessa Hodgkinson, has opened a threefold exhibition, *This being human*, to provide an inspiration for spiritual reflection for all. As well as a display at the Fitzwilliam Museum, she welcomes visitors into her studio in the Visual Arts Centre at Christ's College, and has put on an exhibit in the window of 9 Portugal Place for all to view.

Cross Campus

Charitable punts help out in Oxford

Three students from Jesus College, Oxford, embarked upon a twenty-four hour punting trip to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Resource Centre. The students were not allowed to moor, with one person punting at all times, whilst wearing police helmets and singing 'Every Breath I Take'.

NUS not surprised to discover students get into debt

A survey by Lloyds TSB, found that 22 percent of students planning to attend university this year intend to live at home in an attempt to keep their debts down. The NUS has expressed its "serious concern" over this with NUS President Kat Fletcher said: "It is extremely worrying that such a high proportion of students are choosing to live at home as a result of fears about debt. Sadly, however, as debt levels soar, this comes as little surprise."

Imperial exams

Dozens of Maths and Computer Science finalists at Imperial College, London, were forced to sit a rescheduled exam at the weekend after opening their papers to find that both pages of the script were identical, with the same set of questions. Director

of Applied Mathematics Dr Frank Berkshire described it as "an error they had not thought possible".

Facebook being cyber-mean?

A student at Oxford has been threatened with legal action after registering the domain name www.facebookquizzes.com. Facebook accused the computer sciences student of 'cyber squatting' and stated that the domain name could confuse visitors to the site. The precise rights of legal rights of cyber-squatters were still unclear at the time of going to press.

Aberdeen students climb closer to God

Two members of Aberdeen University decided to demonstrate their climbing prowess by scaling a church tower in the city centre and leaving a traffic cone on top. Enraged local residents began a door to door campaign to track down the culprits, prompting the two into mounting an attempt to re-climb the tower two days later and add a banner reading "calm down dear, its only a cone". Whilst doing so, they were spotted by a passing police car, and after being surrounded, they were eventually removed after a stand-off lasting several hours.

Brain food for brainy students at Queens'

Jamie Munk

QUEENS' COLLEGE has sought to tackle the inevitable stress of exam term with the help of their own Michelin Star Chef. Hans Schweitzer, who started as the college's Executive Chef in 2004, has hoped to improve students' concentration by overhauling the Buttery menu.

New dishes have been introduced to tempt students away from unhealthy junk food. In place of pizzas and chips, Hans has served up Steamed Scottish Salmon and a range of salads. Where burgers were once the hall staple, Tabouleh with Moroccan Vegetables and Grilled Lemon Pepper Chicken have been on offer as part of the new Exam Diet.

Schweitzer, who opened Midsummer House Restaurant in 1988, is confident about the difference made by the new dietary regime. He argues, "poor diet choices can lead to increased stress levels, reduced concentration, tiredness and lowering the absorption of essential vitamins and minerals which can affect the ability



Queens' Executive Chef Hans Schweitzer, who masterminded the exam term diet

to study and perform well in exams".

"I love fresh beautiful, healthy food", Schweitzer told *Varsity* enthusiastically. Healthier food, Schweitzer argues, boosts the immune system and provides an ample supply of energy, ultimately ensuring that his students feel good and work more effectively. His "top tips" for exam term eating include replacing salt with soy sauce, swapping a 'Full English' for a 'Half English'

breakfast, and replacing meat with fish twice a week.

The reception of Hans's diet at Queens' has been mixed. While Wendy, a PhD Orientalist, noticed "there have been nicer things on offer", others such as second year engineer Nick Toves were surprised when questioned about the diet. "Has he changed the menu?" he asked *Varsity*. "I haven't noticed any change."

Although some students sceptically noted that chicken nuggets and other greasy dishes

have continued to be served regularly, Hans' innovations have been appreciated. "The salads and the vegetarian options have been really good", enthused third year philosopher Andrew Grenfell. "I haven't eaten much outside meals and it's served me pretty well".

Schweitzer hopes that the Queens' Tripos results will yield positive feedback from his diet. "We'll see how the exam results work out", he told *Varsity*. "It would be great if we did see a change though."

English results delayed by lecturers' strikes

Amelia Worsley

ENGLISH FINALISTS will not find out their degree classification until July 28, but will graduate on time and with their class marks, dispelling earlier fears that they would leave

university without knowing their result. It remains to be seen whether union members will accept the latest University and Colleges Employers' Association's pay deal in the upcoming ballot.

The assessment boycott was suspended on June 7, following an offer made by the UCEA to increase pay by 13.1 percent over three years, which members are about to vote on. A previous offer of 6 percent per year had been rejected. The examining process has resumed, but because it was at least four weeks behind schedule, the results date was pushed back.

The English Faculty is the only department significantly affected by the industrial action, with eighteen lecturers supporting the boycott. After negotiations at the TUC in London in early June, the University and College Union (UCU), which was formed when the AUT and NATFHE unions recently merged, agreed a new

three-year deal with the employers' group UCEA on pay for academics.

The UCU's joint presidents, Dennis Hayes and Dr Steve Wharton, said: "It is our members' magnificent solidarity during this dispute that has got us to this point, and universities must return monies docked from those members' salaries who took part in the action."

But there is still unease amongst lecturers that the deal does not offer enough. Ron Haynes, Honorary Secretary of the Cambridge branch of AUT said that "no one has jumped for joy" amongst Cambridge members and they are treating the deal with "caution". He added that if there is a national rejection of the deal, serious action could be taken.

The AUT says that vice chancellors promised that at least a third of the £3.5bn coming into the sector over the next three years from top-up fees revenue would be spent on pay increas-

es for academics, and accuses employers of going back on their pledge.

AUT deputy general secretary Malcolm Keight said: "Members' acceptance of this year's deal should not be taken to imply that the current pay levels are regarded as satisfactory. The effect of years of neglect have not been resolved."

The union's joint general secretaries, Sally Hunt and Paul Mackney said: "No settlement ever provides everything that you want for members, but we believe that this is the best that can be achieved within the current national negotiating environment. Members will see significant increases in their salaries over the next two years, but we are acutely aware that this will still not make up the ground lost over the past decades."

Dr Lyne added, "The result of the ballot won't be known for a few weeks. I haven't even had my ballot paper yet."



Cambridge's English Faculty

Hildabeast habitat soon to be invaded by men

Joe Gosden

ON WEDNESDAY June 7 the Governing Body of St Hilda's College, Oxford voted to end the college's female-only status. The move leaves Cambridge as the only university in the country to offer female-only colleges.

The decision was announced by the college's Principal, Lady English. She said: "This will be an exciting time for all of us; men will have the chance to be admitted to every part of the college, from JCR to Principal's Office."

Reactions from the student body have been mixed; there had been sustained campaigns by members of the JCR both for and against allowing male fellows and students. JCR President Aibhe Menton told *Varsity* "The JCR was strongly in favour of the move. We are very

happy to have this result." Finalist Emily Wilkes said "I'm so glad. It's so old-fashioned at the moment and bad preparation for the real world where you have to interact with men. Being a Hildabest is also a terrible chat-up line."

But some girls were less impressed with the announcement. MCR President Claire Lynch was damning in her criticism of the decision, highlighting the fact that the MCR had voted against male membership of the JCR and SCR in April by 81 percent and 66 percent respectively. She added "Lady English is leaving us next year and hopes to secure her legacy by putting this through. Her successor as principal will have to deal with the implementation of this. She has hit and run on all of us."

Finance had been one of the main driving forces behind the

change. The regulations stating that all staff must be female had resulted in a number of posts being funded without any contribution from the University, placing a heavy financial burden on the college. It was predicted that the college would have to be spending £400,000 more than otherwise necessary on salaries every year if the fellowship remained solely female.

Lynch condemned the University and the Principal for having "pushed the governing body into a corner", explaining "three colleges in Cambridge have managed to survive despite laws on sex discrimination that prohibit funding single sex institutions".

Cambridge declined to comment on the implications of decision of St Hilda's for Newnham, New Hall and Lucy Cavendish.



St Hilda's College, Oxford

Rub-a-dub dub, Ten Men in the Cam

Joe Gosden

THE FIRST division of the May Bumps was delayed on Saturday evening by the gentlemen of the Ten Men, a St John's College drinking society, conducting their annual swim across the river Cam.

The Ten Men, largely clad in bright red speedos and swimming hats, posed for a photograph before diving into the murky waters. They then produced their own, inflatable rowing boat for a brief paddle before eventually being removed from the river by stewards. The start of the race had to be delayed whilst the swimmers were removed from the water. Police were called to help remove the Ten Men, but no arrests were made and the officers of the law appeared to be more amused than concerned by the display of sporting prowess before them.

The Ten Men told *Varsity* that they wished to "apologise profusely" for the disruption that they had caused and wanted to highlight the fact that delaying the bumps had not been the object of their swim. One of the Ten Men, who did not want to be named, explained that "it's just a swim that normally happens after the boats have gone past, we've done it for 40 years". He said that they had "just got the timing of the swim wrong" so that they had entered the river in front of the boats rather than after they had gone past. Another member added that they had spent most of the time since the incident writing letters of apology, including ones to CUCBC and the Master of St John's College. He said that several of the Ten Men were themselves oarsmen, including one who had trained with the national squad and a former winner of the

annual "Queen's Ergs" novice rowing competition, and so understood how seriously the bumps were taken. The Ten Men had apparently gone down to the river the next day to apologise to the owner of the piece of land on First Post Corner where they had finished their swim, but found that he wouldn't dream of accepting the apology having found the entire display particularly amusing.

The Dean of St John's College, Dr Peter Linehan, confirmed that the "incident was due to an error of judgement on the part of the exhibitionists" and that to the best of his knowledge hadn't been conducted with any malicious intent. CUCBC declined to comment on the incident, Honorary Secretary Jude Lawson explaining that she had "been far too busy celebrating taking the headship" with the Pembroke 1st Ladies VIII to have had any involvement in removing the Ten Men from the river.

Despite the disruption, some of the ever-stressed CUCBC marshals managed to maintain a sense of humour, cycling up and down the bank to instruct waiting crews to "quicken up their catches a bit and head straight for them" if they saw the Ten Men entering the river ahead of them during the race. The first division had been delayed the night before as well after the St Catherine's VIII broke a stretcher in the boat and fifteen minutes extra time was given to allow for repairs to be carried out; time that was also used by the Jesus crew to plug a hole that they had found in the bottom of their boat.

The bumps had also been disrupted earlier in the week when the captain of the pleasure cruiser the Georgina had ploughed on down the Long Reach into an incoming division.



The St John's Ten Men larking around in the Cam last Saturday during the last day of the May Bumps

Caius drilling drowns out protest



Gonville and Caius' Harvey Court accommodation West Road

Gabriel Byng

DRILLING RESTARTED this week in Gonville and Caius' first years accommodation block after a five-week respite, causing anger amongst students. Building works beneath Harvey Court began in February as builders bored a tunnel through to Caius' latest construction next door on West Road, but ended after the Student Union took the issue to College Council. On Wednesday, the water

supply was temporarily cut off when builders drilled through a water pipe preventing toilets from flushing for several hours during the day.

Last week college authorities agreed a rebate giving a 75 percent reduction to the worst affected students on the days of the drilling and 50 percent to others affected by it. Tor Garnett, the GCSU president, reported that the members of College Council looked "shocked and furious" when the situation was presented to them. Students

living close to the drilling complained on numerous occasions to the domestic bursar and tutors but until the second week of this term had succeeded only in limiting drilling times.

Ian Heames, a Harvey Court resident commented, "the way in which the rent situation has been handled, and finally decided, is appalling." His neighbour, Mark Jobson, told *Varsity* "I've got a crane swinging above my head, JCBs digging below my room, and when the drilling started below, it felt like being surrounded on all sides by a building site."

Difficulties in finishing on time have led the college to cancel some of the conferences booked for the summer vacation in the new freshers' block, originally due for completion next month. Ian Herd, the domestic bursar, asked students to understand "the need for the college to complete this work in time for its commitments during the vacation".

The building is being used for next year's freshers alongside the 45 year-old Harvey Court, so many current first years will remain in their present accommodation rather than the new development. One student who has been particularly badly affected by the drilling, Stephen Kosmin, said "we've had our work disrupted all year but we don't get to enjoy the benefits."

Student speared in river

Rachel Cooper

A LATE-NIGHT swim in the Cam last month left Clare College graduand, Amy Riach, in intensive care. Entering the water, she was impaled on what she believes to be an old pump.

The accident took place on May 19 after a Music Society dinner in the College. She and her friends decided to go down to the river and jumped off the bank on the Clare backs. When Riach jumped in, she was speared by what was an either an old pump or a

wooden post, submerged under the water.

Riach was rushed to Addenbrooke's after the post went through her stomach. She underwent emergency surgery throughout the night and had a further operation the following night. She was then taken to the intensive care unit and spent a further two weeks in hospital.

Surgeons treated the injuries to Riach's internal organs, but she will have to undergo another operation over the summer. She told *Varsity* that although the surgeons had described her

injuries as "severe and unusual", she should not have any lasting damage.

The Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic student missed her finals due to the accident. But she will be able to graduate as normal; her mark will be based on coursework. She is now recovering well and looking forward to going travelling later in the year.

Riach, who has been swimming in the Cam many times, warned students against the danger of jumping into the river. She believes that the object has now been removed from the water.



The Cambridge students of 'Team Flaps' celebrating on their triumphant return from the Red Bull Paper Wings International Tournament in Salzburg Austria. They finished in tenth place in the paper aeroplanes competition out of a field of 9,500 entries.

Varsity 2005/6: news revisited

Alethea Foster not guilty of attempted murder



ALETHEA FOSTER of Bromley, a 61 year-old mother of two, was charged with the attempted murder of a Lucy Cavendish mature History student, Julie Simpson, 44, on October 3 last year at Lucy Cavendish college. Foster, an award-winning podiatrist, stabbed Simpson, her husband's ex-lover, seventeen times when she learnt of their fifteen-year affair but denied attempted murder. At Parkside police station,

Alethea Foster told officers that she had never meant to harm her husband's mistress and that she could not remember what had happened.

In May, she was jailed for causing grievous bodily harm, but cleared of attempted murder and of causing grievous bodily harm with intent. The judge sentenced Foster to 30 months and said she would serve half the sentence before being released.

Papworth Hospital relocation



IN NOVEMBER, *Varsity* reported that Papworth Hospital was to relocate to a site near Addenbrooke's. Replacing the old hospital will be a new 70-acre facility next to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. It has recently been reported that doctors at the same hospital have performed the UK's first successful beating heart transplant on a 58 year-old recipient. The new technique involves keeping a donated heart warm and beating throughout the procedure, rather than packing it in ice for

transport. The heart is hooked up to a machine which keeps it beating with warm oxygenated blood flowing through it. The heart can be kept outside of the body longer, giving doctors more time to examine the heart for damage and to match the organ with a recipient.

Professor Bruce Rosengard, who led the team carrying out the transplant, said that "the next step will look at hearts that are not good enough for transport currently – we hope we can render more hearts usable".

Fitzwilliam vase smasher off the hook



ON JANUARY 25, a visitor to the Fitzwilliam Museum, local resident Nicholas Flynn, 42, broke three priceless Chinese vases after tripping on his untied shoelaces. The man crashed into the Qing dynasty vases, which were displayed on a windowsill at the foot of a staircase. Onlookers said the man lay among the vases' fragments for several minutes, before sitting up and pointing to the loose shoelace exclaiming, "There it is! That's the culprit!" The enamelled and gilded artworks from the late

17th century had been in the collection since 1948 and were among the Fitzwilliam's most recognisable exhibits. Although the museum refuses to value the shattered pieces, several estimates, including that of the *Independent*, place the total damage at around £100,000.

Following the accident, Flynn recounted his story on media outlets including *Richard and Judy* and *Toronto State Radio*.

He told *Varsity* that he had immediately apologised to the museum for his costly slip,

but maintained it had been "a tragic accident".

However, he was arrested in June on suspicion of criminal damage. Flynn appeared before Cambridge magistrates last month in relation to a separate incident. He is charged with assaulting Timothy Stallard, and using threatening and abusive behaviour towards staff at Campkins Future Vision, in King's Parade, Cambridge. On Tuesday, Cambridgeshire police declared that his bail was cancelled and no further action would be taken.

Which floor of the UL has been the venue for some rather extra-curricular activities this exam term? Concerned librarians were forced to take action after several revisers were disturbed by some distinctly non-studious sounds from the stacks. Work hard, play hard, as they say.

Waiting in line for a May Ball can be exciting at the best of times. But which student went a step too far when he accidentally bared all to shocked revelers

waiting patiently at Robinson? We did consider printing an exclusive 'ball review' but frankly thought better of it. Put it away. Meanwhile, at another ball, which unfortunate crasher met his comeuppance whilst scaling a particularly high wall, leaping triumphantly to the hallowed ball-ground only to notice an exceedingly obvious tear in the crotch region of his expensive tux, exposing his gleaming white underwear below? Suffice to say, his dress (or

Brief Encounter with a Pretty Woman



IN MARCH, a love-struck PhD Pharmacology student from Wolfson college, Ben Carrington, found a novel way of expressing his amorous feelings for an unknown Emma heartthrob. After spotting the belle sitting a few seats from him at a showing of *Good Night, and Good Luck* at the Arts Picturehouse, he attempted to seek her out by blanket pigeon-holing students at Emmanuel college, which he saw her entering after the film. In the 752 flyers delivered, the Wolfson student wrote, "What I might have said that night was something

silly like "fancy going to the cinema together on our own's, again?" If you would, you can reach me at yes_it_was_me_at_the_cinema_on_thursday@hotmail.com and even if you don't email, I wanted you to know... you made me smile."

Varsity tracked down the girl in question, an American Beauty, Stephanie Safdi, who soon appeared on the RAG 'Web of Love' in Emma bar. One week on from their first meeting, *Varsity* arranged for the couple to reunite in the same setting that originally sparked the affair: the Arts Picturehouse cinema. Steph

was impressed by Ben's grand gesture, saying, "it takes a lot of courage and a certain poetic sensibility". She added, "I love the story itself – my reservation is that it involves me".

Yesterday, *Varsity* asked Ben whether their love story had met with a happy ending. He replied, "Nothing to report, unfortunately. Steph went on a long holiday after our meeting (there would be a story in that for you if it wasn't all pre-booked, of course), and we've not managed to arrange anything else. Being a caring and sensitive soul I don't think she wanted to get involved in anything before she had to go back to the US. I guess my mass-mailing gesture gave off the wrong signals and has probably been interpreted as a bit overblown for someone who genuinely was happy to settle for just a drink and a chat." Despite this tragic parting, Ben proved that romance lives on, telling *Varsity* that he doesn't regret his courtly whim.

Emmanuel Dean supports civil partnerships



IN FEBRUARY, *Varsity* reported the Dean of Emmanuel College's decision to consider offering his blessing to same sex couples' civil partnerships. In defiance of the Church of England's ban on clergy offering such services, Rev Jeremy Caddick wrote to the Bishop of Ely telling him, "we would not wish to close the door to

having services for members of the College community who requested them".

His announcement generated a mixture of reactions within the student community. Many people welcomed the Dean's decision as "a testament to the fact that Emma is a truly welcoming and inclusive community" and the director of the Christian network Fusion, Gabriel Smy, issued a statement emphasizing tolerance and acceptance. "Rather than judging the actions of others, we hope that people experience God's love for them."

However, others on the forum regarded his position more critically. 'Bethany R' declared, "I think it's really sad that Jeremy has so publicly contradicted the truths of a

faith he claims to profess. The Bible teaches clearly that sexual relations outside of a heterosexual marriage are against God's perfect plan for human relationships."

Stephen Burgess, a Christian student at Emma, commended Caddick's willingness to reach out to the gay community, but argued that "the Church should not bless what God opposes". He said, "to do otherwise would be betraying Jesus, who went out and associated with prostitutes, but still said to them 'Go now and leave your life of sin'".

Reverend Caddick recently told *Varsity* that he has not yet received any requests for such a blessing but that the reaction has been "overwhelmingly positive" and has received only one letter of objection.

Threat to youth mental service



IN FEBRUARY, cash-strapped Cambridge health chiefs announced their decision to slash youth mental health services. The Therapeutic Community, a two-year programme for young people with mental health problems will close. The decision to close the service was referred to the local NHS Scrutiny Committee who were unhap-

py with the decision. It was then referred to the Secretary of State for Health and a decision is pending. A Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trust spokesperson told *Varsity* that the PCT can continue to make plans but cannot implement anything permanent until the Secretary of State's decision is known.



A final sermon before our man's summer sabbatical

lack of) did not might the strict standards of the committee. Adding insult to injury, a lack of funds meant the only available trousers for another ball (paid for, this time) were purchased from that ultra-classy formal-wear outlet, Oxfam, and were several sizes too small. Ouch.

Picture the scene: the relaxing waters of the Cam, a soon-to-graduate group of friends enjoying a relaxing evening punt, birds chirping quietly in the

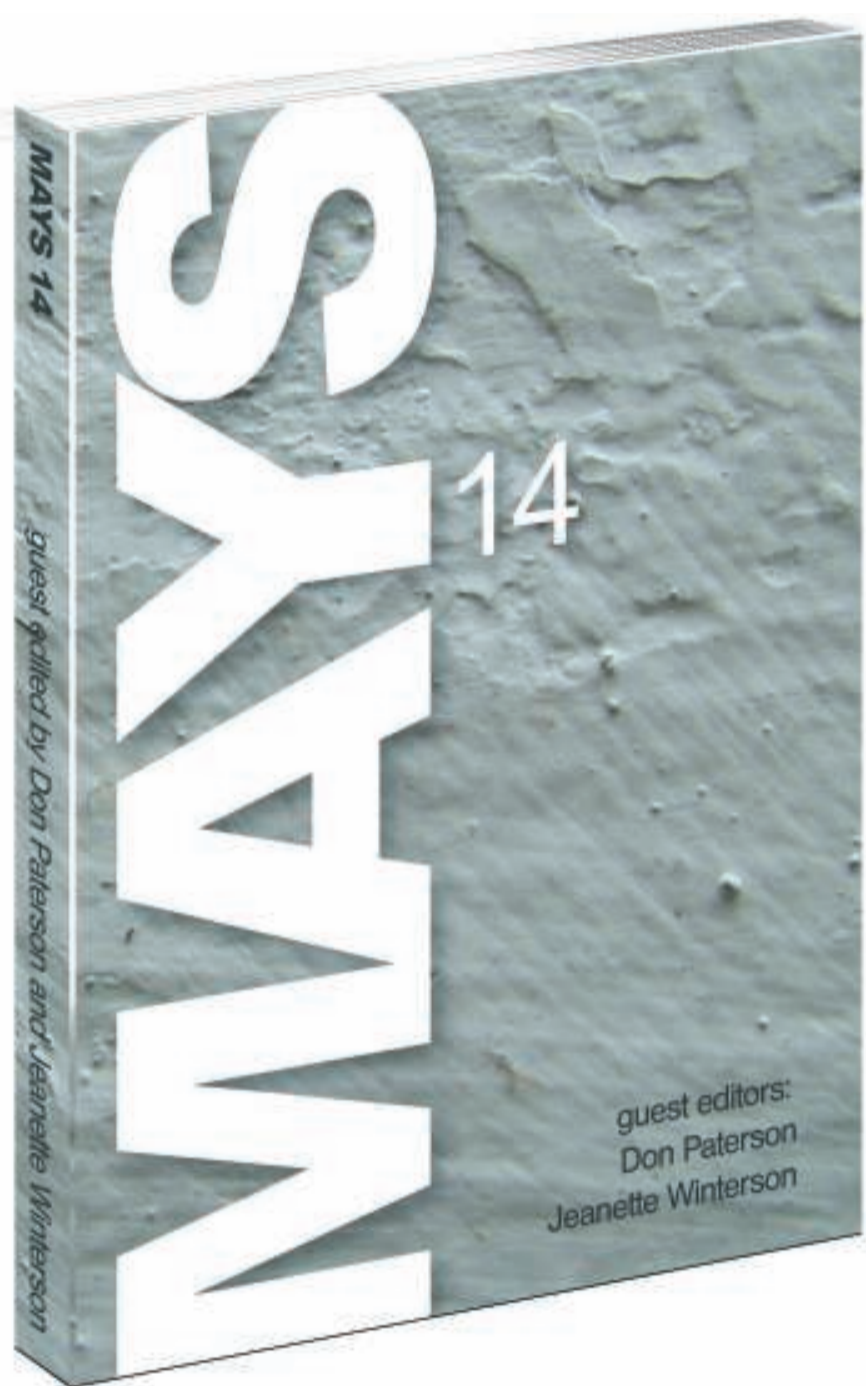
trees. And a somewhat exhibitionist couple getting a little bit too friendly on the banks of King's lawn. The perturbed punters averted their eyes and sailed on by.

Lastly, which Cambridge alumnus was overheard at a recent launch party discussing one particularly nasty incident, which occurred when he was a science student? 'One time,' he informed our bemused undercover reporter, 'I discovered my

gonads had been irradiated.' Our newshound made her excuses and left.

Well, it's been another year of shocking exposes, scurrilous gossip, and titillating tidbits from everyone here at the Bishop. We have to go undercover for a few months now for reasons of national security, but we'll be keeping our eyes peeled over the summer months for more shocking stories of filth and wonder. Will we be back next term? Who knows. Bless you all.

MAYS 14 is out now



“ simply one of the most impressive collections of student writing it’s ever been my pleasure to read ”

- Don Paterson

“ a place of opportunity, ambition, possibility and challenge ”

- Jeanette Winterson

available from Borders, Heffer's & Waterstones or direct from *Varsity*:

Send a cheque for £6.99 per copy payable to 'Varsity Publications Ltd' to:
Mays 14, Varsity, 11-12 Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1QA

BORDERS.
BOOKS MUSIC RECORDS GIFTS

heffers:

W
WATERSTONE'S

VARSLTY

Let's strike up a relationship.

Graduate Careers Summer/Autumn 2006

Hot dates start with warm introductions. So if you've a burning ambition to use your intellect in an environment that encourages the brightest thinkers in business you may just have met your match.

This Summer and Autumn we're looking for more exceptional graduates (including those of you who want to defer entry) to join us in all of our key practice areas - Audit, Tax, Consulting and Corporate Finance - across the UK.

To find out more about your nearest campus and local office events and to apply, visit us at:

www.deloitte.co.uk/graduates

Deloitte recruits graduates with a minimum of 300 UCAS tariff points and a predicted or obtained 2:1 degree in any discipline.

Feed your mind



Deloitte.

Audit • Tax • Consulting • Corporate Finance •

Deloitte is an equal opportunities employer.

TEXT-TASTIC



Q. Which company answers 100,000 questions a month? A. The Cambridge-based '82ASK'. The founders talk to RACHEL DIVALL and answer all the questions she can throw at them

82ASK is the brainchild of former city slickers Sarah McVittie and Thomas Roberts. The two gave up their city jobs three years ago to found the service, which aims to provide "immediate access to any information, at any time from any place". Users can text in any question from anywhere in the world and, if all goes to plan, will receive an answer within minutes.

I texted the service to ask the best way was to set up an interview with founders Sarah and Thomas, and an hour later got a reply apologising for the delay and giving me an email address. The next day I found myself in 82ASK's Cambridge offices, learning about 'textperts', how many dimples there are in a golf ball, and why the company has been forced to change its policy about questions with sexual undertones.

Thomas describes coming up with the idea as "one of

those pub moments". He and Sarah were both financial analysts at UBS and had noticed that they were often asked by bosses to come up with answers to demanding questions at the last minute. They say the service is not designed to rival search engines like Google, but rather to provide "information on the move". Thomas says a notable recent success was the businessman who texted from China after his flight to Beijing was unexpectedly diverted, asking for the numbers of the three best hotels in the city he had landed in. 82ASK were able to reply in a matter of minutes and he wrote to thank them on his return.

Broadly speaking, the questions 82ASK receive fall into three categories: questions from people wanting answers that will settle arguments or help with pub quizzes, people using the service as an alternative Yellow Pages, and

people at work who want answers to business queries. Originally the company refused to answer any questions with a sexual undertone, however they received an unexpectedly high number of questions from teenagers who used the service as a source of anonymous advice. It was decided it would be wrong not to provide advice on subjects such as sexual health, but Thomas says "it is very difficult because obviously from a text we've got no way of telling how old the person is." Questions where the subject matter is illegal or inappropriate are not given answers, and in these cases neither are the questioners charged.

Posing a question costs the price of a normal text message and the answer is £1, reverse-billed to your phone. The company is protected by its terms and conditions, which ensure they won't be liable if advice they send proves to be

incorrect. Apparently even the most difficult questions rarely take longer than a couple of hours, and most questions are answered in a matter of minutes, making the service an ideal aid to pub quizzes - research carried out for the company revealed that at one point, 83 per cent of questions were arriving between 8 and 10 pm on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Rid Hollands, 82ASK's Business Development Manager, said one of the most difficult questions he can remember was an enquiry about the number of bricks there were in the average detached house. 82ASK sent a reply immediately saying they were working on an answer, contacted some brick experts, and two days later replied with the figure.

When a question arrives it is dealt with by a computer, which categorises it and tries to match it to a previously

answered query. The majority of messages, however, can't be answered in this way and are passed on to a group of 'textperts'. There are currently 150 trained 'textperts' who work from home via the Internet. Some have very broad general knowledge, but others have more specific areas of expertise. Each 'textpert' has an assigned mentor who reviews their performance every month - those who have done well are given the first choice for the next month's shifts. The company currently has the British Quiz Champion on their books.

Last month the top categories for questions were Arts & Entertainment, Science & Nature, and Sport. Football is currently the most popular individual subject, accounting for five per cent of all enquiries. 82ASK have recently finalised a deal giving them access to the entire back cata-

logue of the Guinness Book of Records. The company have increased by more than 25% each month over the past three years and are currently trialling a subscription service where members pay £3 a week for an unlimited number of questions.

Whilst finishing off this article at some ungodly hour at Varsity HQ, I texted the service to inquire what flavour of pizza they thought I was eating (pepperoni, Italian base). Scarily quickly the correct reply arrived in my inbox, but sadly nobody seemed to know why I was eating it. It was completely disgusting.

82ASK are currently receiving more than 20 applications a day to be a textpert, but Thomas says Cambridge students are in with a good shot, and that the working hours seem to really suit the PhD timetable. Email jobs@re5ult.com to apply.

Shame exams are finished: Varsity trials the service, posing Tripos questions

LAW

Q: Legal positivists claim that the rule of law does not partake of any inheent moral significance. Are they correct in so claiming?

A: This is contentious. 1 branch argues distinction between principles and rules. Others argue every legal rule is ethically relevant, since they affect freedom. Response Time: 4 minutes

PHILOSOPHY

Q: Will my acting morally make my life better for me?

A: If you have morals then your life will probably be more comfortable if you live by them. If you have no morals you could find yourself in trouble. Response Time: 4 minutes

HISTORY

Q: Why were there so many rebellions against the French Crown in the 17th century?

A: Causes of French revolution: a poor economic situation, a resentment of royal absolutism, an aspiration for liberty and republicanism and other reasons. Response Time: 4 minutes

ENGLISH

Q: In Shakespeare's Rome, women are symbolically central but socially peripheral. Do you agree?

A: This is one valid interpretation: Shakespeare read Livy, Plutarch and Ovid and recreated a Rome (and Elizabeth England) in which women were key ciphers but socially restricted. Response Time: 6 minutes

HPS

Q: What is the difference, if any, between the history of technology and the history of science?

A: Science is the reasoned investigation or study of nature aimed at making discoveries. Technology is the use of knowledge so comes after science. Response Time: 4 minutes

Great ways to spend a quid: The most bizarre questions 82ASK received

Q. Who is the loveliest of them all?

A. According to askmen.com Adriana Lima (Brazilian supermodel) is most desirable woman in the world. According to FHM sexiest woman in world is Kelly Brook.

Q. When will I next know the love of a woman?

A. National av. is sex 110 times a year. So statistically, you are fairly likely to have sex within the next few days. (obv. doesn't work like that in prac)

Q. Which game starts with a squidge off?

Tiddlywinks starts with a Squidge off. All players shoot one wink from their baseline towards the pot. The player landing closest to the pot wins

Q. How many golf balls are on the moon?

A. Apollo 14 (1971): Shepard, the first golfer on the Moon, took 3 balls. He left a ball behind for future golfers

Q. If u tied buttered toast to the back of a cat and dropped it from a height, what would happen?

A. The cat would land on its feet. Cats can twist in midair to ensure that they land feet down. Toast only has mythical power to land butter-side down.

Q. How many maltesers can u fit in the albert hall?

A. Vol. of space occ. by 1 malteser approx. 0.12 cubic in. A-Hall, oval, 200ft length, 160ft breadth, 140ft high, cubic ft = 3,518,584 so about 50.6bn m's

Q. What is the funniest joke?

A. 2 hunters in wood, 1 collapses. 999 call: 'My friend is dead! What can I do?' Reply: 'Let's make sure he's dead'. A gun is heard. Guy says 'OK, now what?'

The heroic hi-jinks of Henry Hampshire

This week, our dashing hero, Henry Hampshire, tries to get into a highly prestigious May Ball by venturing up the river with dark clothes and a snorkel. Emerging from the river at a point he had long known to be the Ball's vulnerable spot, he makes his way forward to decadence and laughter. But alack! Here comes beefy security rookie, Mike Plum, looking red-faced. How will Hampshire get out of this one?

Mike: Oi!
Henry: Erm...alright?
Mike: Put your hands behind your back, and hold up your wristband.
Henry: I can't really do that, can I?
Mike: Ok, put your wristband behind your back, and turn around.
Henry: No I meant I can't because I'm afraid I don't have a wristband.
Mike: No wristband?
Henry: No.
Mike: How on earth did you manage to get into the ball without a wristband?
Henry: I haven't got into it yet, I was just emerging victorious from the river as you turned up. I'm going to get changed into the tuxedo inside this waterproof bag, and go and get a wristband now.
Mike: Oh right. Well, on your way, then. Can't be walking around a ball without a wristband. That's just zany.
Henry: Thanks, have a good night.
Mike: Cheers, mate. And you. Wait a minute, oi, come back 'ere. Why didn't you go through the front gate like everyone else?
Henry: Ah. Right. Well, um, I wanted to come through the river because the ball looks so much nicer from this angle, and I do hate all that queue banter and picture-taking.
Mike: Yeah so do I. Most tiresome.
Henry: I bet you have to put up with that shit all the time being a security man!
Mike: Yes! Ha, ha, ha! Hangabout, it's because you don't have a ticket!
Henry: I do, I'm just going to go and give it in now, having come from a slightly different but perfectly legitimate route that you're just unused to. Bye, now.
Mike: Just a second. Can I see the ticket, please?
Henry: Right, yes. I'll just get it out of my back pocket ... or is it the other one ... no wait it's in my shoe, hold on. I always keep my valuables in my shoe when I go swimming - isn't that strange? I mean what a funny place to keep things in!
Mike: No I used to do that all the time, but then I wore sandals a lot back in the day and I used to lose so much money walking around the changing rooms that I had to stop going swimming in the end. Just got too expensive. Strangers would alert me to the precious coins rolling inexorably towards the drain,

always just too late.
Henry: Why didn't you just wear shoes?
Mike: That doesn't matter now. What were we just doing?
Henry: You were just about to direct me to some oyster cocktails served upside-down by fire-breathing clowns.
Mike: Oh, yes. Turn right at the top of the bank, over the bridge, carry on and it's on the left there. Alright? Have a good ball, son.
Henry: Cheers.
Mike: Laterz chief. Hold on, it says here noone is allowed to enter the ball except via the front gate, which I suppose means you probably can't enter the ball from the river. Which means you've broken the rules, and you're going to have to come with me.
Henry: Damn. Where are we going?
Mike: To the top of the bank and then out of the main gate where I will toss you nonchalantly into the gutter, followed, with a small hiatus, by your collection of personal things.
Henry: But then you'll be entering into the ball from the river yourself, breaking the same security rules. You also have no ticket or tuxedo, which isn't going to look good is it? You would have to throw yourself out, and you'd never get paid. Looks like we're pretty much in the same boat, so to speak.
Mike: Shit. Man, this is so annoying. All I wanted was a nice quiet time tonight, take the cash and go back home to Worcester. And now something like this happens.
Henry: Well look, neither of us have a wristband, but you have a radio and I have a tux, so if you could get one of your friends to leave me a wristband somewhere in the ball, I could then make a mad dash to that place, get the wristband and start dancing convincingly, and all would be well.
Mike: Ok, but what about me! I don't want to get thrown out! Please don't let them throw me out! I'm sorry for everything!
Henry: Get a hold of yourself, you fat fool! You'll have to swim down the river to leave the ball, go and find a tuxedo somewhere. I promise I will then come and let you in at the front. It's not going to be easy, but you've got yourself into this mess, after all. Here, put on these already wet clothes while I change into my tuxedo, leave your security uniform here and collect it later. You're going to have to crash the ball to get it back and have any chance of a normal life again.
Mike: Ok. Look, I'm shaking! Right, lets do it. Mike to Dan, do you read me? Dan? Hello mate, look I need a wristband, right? Leave it in the corner next to the commission-free Bureau de Change. ... Never mind what for!

SEEN

Illustration Abi Millar
 Words James Allnutt

Garden Party Tuesday 4.00pm



We're all going on a summer holiday...

So, in the immortal words of stereotypical hairdressers everywhere, "Going anywhere nice this summer?" Three months of freedom loom before us, so why not do something amazing, inspiring and truly memorable, whatever your budget? CATHERINE HALL suggests ways to escape the UL and make this summer the one you'll always remember!

1 Go to Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Support fellow Cambridge students, and experience the best of theatre, comedy and music at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, running August 6-28.

2 Go interrailing. With ticket prices starting from £145, exploring Europe has never been cheaper! Explore Eastern Europe before it becomes totally touristified, hop over to Morocco, sample some fine cuisine and see Europe on a shoestring budget! Don't fancy the train? Take the bus instead with Eurolines.



3 Do a conservation placement. From raising and releasing wild orang-utans in Malaysia to helping protect Brazilian rainforest, give something back to nature whilst discovering a new place. Forget your local Oxfam, for real charity work head to Kenya to raise lion cubs, to Australia for some bat conservation or Sri Lanka to save elephants.

4 Go on Tall Ships. Work on a tall ship, learn all about sailing and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first Tall Ships race from Torbay to Lisbon. Enjoy the thrill of the race, but don't forget your seasickness tablets!



5 Go around the world. Get a RTW plane ticket and the world is your oyster! In 60 days, experience Canada, and Hawaii, New Zealand and Australia, Singapore and Thailand. For the best taster of what the world has to offer, it's possible to go around the world this summer for under £3000 in total. Phileas Fogg eat your heart out!



6 Do some work experience abroad. Practise your tea-making, pad out your CV and try out a new career for a week. From working on a fashion magazine in Shanghai to doing PR in Peru, work experience will give you the chance to immerse yourself in another culture, whilst being able to look pityingly at the 'tourists'.

7 Head to Cornwall. For breath-taking views, surfing and waterskiing in Newquay, midnight strolls on the beach, hiking on Bodmin Moor, partying in Penzance and getting away on a tiny budget, Cornwall is the place to be this summer. Think tiny fishing harbours, vast acres of moorland and hundreds of local pubs. Discover the best that England has to offer.

8 Travel around North America. See the Grand Canyon before they build a shopping mall on it, gamble in Las Vegas, and count the plastic surgery mistakes in LA. Hire a car and drive around with friends or take an organised trek.

9 Have an unplanned Easyjet trip. Fancy an unplanned, inexpensive way to discover Europe? Head to the airport armed with passport and backpack and pick a flight. Travelling has never been cheaper, so take advantage of those last minute deals and take an unplanned trip to anywhere that takes your fancy!

10 Visit the Vatican. Why not take a trip to the smallest country in the world, with a population of only 932? Say hi to the Pope, marvel at the Sistine Chapel, immerse yourself in culture.



12 Do a language course. Study at the Sorbonne, become fluent in French and live in Paris. Alternatively, take a TEFL course and head somewhere further afield. Your supervisor will love you, your parents will be impressed and it can only help your studies!

11 Do the biggest bungee jump in the world. Head to South America and experience 216 metres of free fall. Put your faith in a glorified rubber band and reach speeds of 120mph whilst you plunge towards the ground. Then bounce.

14 Do the Sucata Run. Got a rubbish car worth less than £250? Sucata means 'rubbish' in Portuguese, so grab your old banger and be part of a rally driving to Portugal, leaving from Calais on August 25, and ending in the most Western part of Europe. Do some fundraising and pray that the car will make it!

15 Go to Benicassim. Forget Glastonbury and V, for sunshine, great bands and a festival atmosphere head to the Spanish Festival, running July 20-23. Pitch your tent, wash in the sea and dance all day on the five stages.

13 Be a tourist in London. Arm yourself with a camera, a guidebook and experience the sights of London. Take a double-decker bus, picnic in Hyde Park, catch a musical and enjoy being a tourist. The Millennium Wheel is a must, and don't forget the obligatory photo in front of Buckingham Palace, before heading off to beat the queue at Madame Tussauds.

Your quick checklist for the most important things to remember before you jet off. Advice is from Tom Griffiths, founder of www.gapyear.com and author of two books, *Before You Go* and *The Virgin Traveller's Handbook*.

1. Buy insurance. 25% of young travellers travel uninsured or underinsured, putting both their health and their assets (and those of their parents) at risk. Insurance costs on average 50 pence to £1 per day and could make the difference between bankruptcy or not. Imagine breaking your leg abroad. Without insurance that could mean a bill of £10,000. Could you pay that on your average student loan?
2. Take a proper travel first aid kit, complete with clean needles. If you get into a situation where medical assistance is necessary, you need to be sure that the needles being used are sterilised. Also, if you are in a country where supplies are low, it's not fair to be using up their meagre supplies. Bring your own.
3. Take a good backpack. Avoid serious back problems, by getting a comfortable, well-fitted backpack and practise packing it before you go. If you can't pack it quickly when at home, you're not going to have a hope when trying to cram everything before running to catch a bus whilst on the road.
4. Arrange how you're going to keep in touch with people at home. Set up an online travel diary or blog, buy a SIM card for your mobile for the country you are travelling in, change your telephone company at home so calls to foreign countries are cheaper, and make sure you read all the small print if you buy a call card abroad!
5. Organise your money. Set up a bank account which doesn't charge withdrawal fees and take travellers cheques in dollars for emergencies.

Apply now. Start later.

It makes you think.

Graduate careers in consulting

For all kinds of reasons, more and more students are putting off career choices until after they graduate. Accenture is sympathetic to the finalist's lot. We were one of the first employers to accept applications all year round. We also offer deferred entry for graduates who want to take some time off before starting work.

We're one of the world's leading management consulting, technology

services and outsourcing companies - one that helps clients become high-performance businesses by delivering innovation. Join us, and you'll work with the very best people, the most prestigious clients and the latest technology. You'll tackle complex projects with access to superb training and support. And you'll be rewarded well, with a salary of £28,500 and an additional £10,000 over your first 13 months.

We are hiring now. But you can apply when you are ready.

All of which makes ours a proposition that's well worth thinking about. Find out more by visiting our website.

Accenture is committed to being an equal opportunities employer.

accenture.com/ukgraduates

• Consulting • Technology • Outsourcing

**accenture**
High performance. Delivered.



The undomestic goddess

Reflections on life, lust and laundry

Tess Riley

The end of Easter Term is very significant. For those graduating, I imagine the primary feeling is panic. For everyone else, this can be a time to reflect on how much you have learnt over the past year. A significant realisation for me at the end of my first year was how (un)domesticated I had become.

I had not learnt to be successful at domestic tasks but to compensate for domesticity with clever tricks. By my third term I owned enough socks to last me a month and had found a purpose for my huge tome of Chaucer – a fabulous clothes press. Luckily ripped jeans were ‘in’ so I had no need to learn how to sew and I was told that that it’s good for your immune system not to wash up too much. Excellent.

Now at the end of my second year I think I am becoming a bit of an expert at the art of knowing about washing. I remain thwarted by the fact that however much washing is done, however much Persil is used, the clothes are destined to stay dirty but I now possess a valuable insight into the process. Like everyone else, my ‘first time’ was memorable. The washing machines – of which there are five for an entire college – are four flights down, in the basement, all the way across the other side of college. Loaded with my black bin-bag full of clothes, I set off.

First lesson: never do washing on Saturdays – there is a scary aura of science lingering in the washroom that intimidates those who cling to the hope that they are pursuing ‘The Arts’. This is related to the deluge of poor NatScis who have no time to do washing during the week due to a



heavy lecture schedule. Lectures?

Secondly, do not worry about separating colours from whites. Everything comes out the same colour as it went in anyway, including those tooth-paste dribbles down your PJs. (Don't tell me it's just me). Thirdly, do not try and use left-over Euros and pretend it is a

pound – the machine knows better and the maintenance men now hate me. Fourthly, having removed items from the machine you will end up in the odd position of still having dirty clothes but they are now wet and smell faintly of flowers. Like Glastonbury. But not.

And the final and most important lesson: never remove

your washing while the fit football captain is in there washing his team's kit. You will inevitably strike up that conversation you've been waiting for, only to extract bright pink granny-pants from the machine, wave them around inadvertently as you try to make expressive gestures translating as “you are so

interesting. Shall we go for a drink?”, then realise, turn as pink as said pants, and have to make a rapid exit, ungraciously lugging washing behind you.

The trip back to the bedroom is a bit more of an effort; four floors up this time and now that the clothes are damp, the black bin bag is ripping under the weight, your bras are spilling out onto the stairway just outside hall, and you realise when you get back to your room that you have accumulated three socks (not your own) and lost your favourite vest-top.

Second years are much more in the know about washing politics. Having spent a year trying to avoid it, I now look forward to it. The tricks? Embrace the crumpled look and get your parents to bring clean sheets and underwear when they come to visit.

Then, reassess your aims and objectives. Why are you doing your washing? If your purpose is to get clean clothes you are inevitably in for disappointment and will be left feeling a failure. Instead, see washing as the opportunity to find your armchair again after weeks of garment-burial. Have fun experimenting with different brands of softeners and rename yourself the Domestic Goddess. Also, do not forget the exercise you are doing as you trundle to the washroom.

Doing regular washing is a great excuse to chat to that lovely footballer you met. Just keep granny pants out of the way and ensure you put on some clean socks before you go – you never know how much clothing you might be handling in the basement after all.

WHAM BAM, THANK YOU SPAM

Varsity has words with ‘Mrs Ama Ahmed’

V: Many thanks for your email, I am very excited about the opportunity to receive \$25 million, and am quite keen to get moving on this. I am a little wary though, as I have just watched a really good episode of *Watchdog* in which someone was conned into giving their bank details to someone who then went on to spend all their savings. Some people are just unbelievable, aren't they?!

AA: Thank you for your response to my email. I am very happy hearing from you. This transaction is very simple so long as you follow my instructions. Immediately you receive this mail, I want you to contact our bank director here in the Cote d'Ivoire and discuss with him. With my position as the foreign remittance manager with the bank, I will be giving you all guidelines to follow it is 100% risk free.

V: I must say the Cote d'Ivoire sounds amazing and beautiful. Instead of you coming to collect your share of the money from me, perhaps I could come and stay with you and your family for a couple of weeks? I will have plenty of money to buy a flight once I get my hands on this \$12.5million (shared)!

AA: Remember we have to team up and pay the lawyer who is going to get the paperwork ready on your behalf for the authorising of the released of this funds directly to your account. please do contact the bank then get back to me.

V: I have just tried calling the bank but there was no answer. The phone rang and rang but nobody picked up. How unusual! Have I made a mistake? The tragedy is that I spent all of my loose change on the phone call and am now literally penniless. I couldn't even afford a sandwich on my lunch break today and had to eat some cold pizza that was leftover. Also, peculiarly, I searched for the bank using the popular search engine Google but it says the bank doesn't exist! This seems very perturbing. Is this a real bank?

AA: As you can see my picture can tell you that I am no more a kid for playing games. Let us be serious in this business why you want the bank website to call the wrong number and the person what? ARE YOU TRYING TO IMPLICATE ME OR FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS?

V: I thought I'd get in touch as I hadn't heard from you for a while. I emailed my bank details but so far haven't received any news. When should I book my flights to come and meet you?

V: I am living on the street and had to sell my belongings and family. I am sending this from one of those new internet phones using 20p that an ice-cream man gave me in exchange for song. When will I get my money? Let me know as soon as possible.

Gosh! Hasn't time flown?

Emotional ramblings of a soon-to-be graduate

Rachel Willcock



Am I heart-broken to leave Cambridge? Like other finalists, I repeatedly hear this question from well-meaning concerned family and friends. I have simply had to murmur in agreement to sympathetic clichés about how quickly time has passed. I agree to an extent, but this degree has seemed like an eternity. A mere two years separates my first-year from my graduating self; the former now seems entirely foreign to me. Nine eight-week terms have transported me into an introspective world, so engrossing and personality-shaping that it is hard to imagine my life outside Cambridge. So consumed by the present, I have had little chance to reflect on the world post-next Thursday and so continue to smile and shrug, unaffected by the fact that my university career is ending.

Luckily the pace of Cambridge is so fast that it gives little opportunity to reflect on the significance of the passing time. Utterly alien for me to plan anything more than a few days in advance during full term, I find myself

puzzled when I notice in my diary that it is already week six, leading me to question ‘what exactly have I been doing?’ I have been so wrapped up in preparing for May Week that I cannot possibly comprehend the following week. Beyond this indifference, I have found myself taking on the tone of a philosophical sage, imparting gems of wisdom that ‘the time is right to be leaving’ and that ‘I am emotionally ready’ having ‘grown cynical about Cambridge.’

Three years prepares one for leaving and can perhaps be viewed as microcosm of mortality. First years are bewildered and optimistic children; amazed by the novelty of the place and open-minded about the alliances formed, yet simultaneously experiencing the adolescent trauma of image-shaping. Second year is a more stable middle age, as we have college children and feel ready to pass on advice about the Cambridge world; still in touch with the younger generation but safely distant from the third year when work ‘counts’. Then, before we

know it we are in the stately third year, pulling too-young Freshers feels slightly sinister and stable friendships have turned into a self-defining tribe. Work is so unbearable that thought of graduation seems pleasant rather than dreadful, information from the outside world about careers and houses gradually filters into our lives; the oyster shell gradually prized open to let in the broad daylight. Whether the three years of incubation have produced a pearl or a stinking piece of shellfish is up for all to see on a board outside Senate House.

Accepting myself as a bitter and twisted old third year whose ironic dancing in Cindies is a mile away from the sheer unadulterated glee of a fresher; I didn't realize quite how false these platitudes were until I found myself in the Cheese tent at John's ball on Tuesday night sobbing violently whilst dancing with my roommate to Robbie's ‘Let me entertain you’.

Perhaps I have not grown up as much as I thought. However, the tears were those of an awareness that the

party is over, rather than a will for it to continue. I was not crying because I wanted to stay but because leaving, no matter how ready you are, is very sad. Being handed the piece of paper at Senate house could never be a satisfactory conclusion to everything that these three wonderful, exciting, anxious and magical three years have meant to me. Endings are never satisfying. I have been leaving Cambridge in my mind for the last few months and will continue to do so long after next Thursday, as my new life filters into this one. The microcosm of mortality is only a temporary one, for it is not our ‘real’ selves but our Cambridge selves that die, and often these elderly third year ruins are ready to go. As George Eliot commented in *Middlemarch*; ‘Every limit is a beginning as well as an ending.’ The beginning may be terrifying and the ending may be tragic but there is something affirming about once more becoming the bawling baby, wide-eyed with wonder at all the world holds for us.

When I was

21

Cherie Booth QC



Cherie is a leading Silk specialising in public law, human rights and European Community law.

What were you doing in the year that you were 21? I was only 20 when I graduated so I was doing my Bar Final and teaching Law part-time at the Polytechnic of Central London (now Westminster University).

How did you celebrate your 21st birthday? My dad took me out for dinner at a fancy French restaurant where I tasted snails for the first (and last) time and was promptly sick!

What were you afraid of? I don't think it crossed my mind to be afraid of anything although had I realised at the time how few women there were at the Bar in 1975 I might have been put off.

What made you angry? Injustice.

Where had you travelled to? As my mum was in the travel business I had been to France, Spain, Italy and Romania.

Which artists and/or musicians did you like? As a Liverpool girl I loved the Beatles. I also enjoyed Joni Mitchell and artists like James Taylor and Simon and Garfunkel.

How did you spend most of your free time? Reading.

Who were your heroes? Dame Rose Heilbron the first woman QC and second ever woman High Court judge (who like me was a Liverpool girl), Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King and all those involved in the American Civil rights movement.

What did you treasure (eg. most prized possession)? Nothing that I can remember.

What did you regret? Not being able to drive. I only passed my test at 29.

What made you cry? Sappy movies and books still do.

What do you know now which you wish you had known then? That you are not young for ever and so you should grasp all your opportunities as they come.

Cally Squires

When the neurotic get drunk...

They carry out a risk assessment

Jude Townend

I started May Week with one main theory about Cambridge: that not a day goes by without seeing a wheelie suitcase, or a person talking to themselves. I challenge you to disprove this. The victor receives all of the early-edition cheese-and-ham pastry stained copies of *The Independent* littering our house.

Ashamedly I'm among the many Cambridge students who simply love reflecting on Cambridge and its quirks; May Week provides perfect material for plenty of self-absorbed and affected rambling about Cambridge's 'crazy' eccentricity - I mean, even its name is suitably misleading. When the opportunity for numerous garden parties and four balls came my way - all free of course - I saw the potential picking ground for succulently pretentious eavesdroppings and observations. Admittedly, the whole not-paying-thing did mean I found myself at one am Monday night on cloakroom duty reading 'A Musical History of the Wesley Brothers' - the only amusement Clare Choir common room could offer me, other than the stream of sensible girls coming into change their shoes while well-trained boyfriends looked devotedly on. One lovelorn ballgoer even asked for a needle and thread to sew up his other half's dress, and for a spare zip and sewing machine if possible. That's almost as outrageous a request as your average little-known carefully



hair-straightened May Ball indie headliner's stipulated rider (one this year allegedly included four pairs of clean grey socks with 5mm elasticated tops). My stint gave me time to formulate some new theories.

1. Cambridge student 'craziness' is contrived. Spontaneity is not necessary; in fact the more pre-planned the better. For example, the 'craziness' of the students who turned an equally 'crazy' friend's bedroom into a beach overnight, decorated with sun parasols and sand, rested on the fact that it had been planned for three months, with three risk assessments and an organising committee complete with social secretary. This week, an annual Downing birthday pub crawl,

organised by a fluorescent jacket clad non-drinking comp-sci who in his role as 'safety officer', I kid you not, motivates the crocodile of students around a pub every half an hour from 11am to 11pm. Safety guidelines include recommended female and male alcohol unit consumption levels and an Excel spreadsheet plan of action - with grid references of each pub, no doubt. Contrived craziness is why we love May Balls. And why drinking societies love socials and Suicide Sunday - an entire year to pre-plan the 'spontaneity' of bikini-clad girls wrestling in paddling pools of jelly...crazy!

2. It is not fun if there is not a queue. That way, even a girly synchronised trip to the loo can be fun. Most out-

rageous queue of the week = Jazz at John's Garden Party. Demand for olives and paté led to a line which actually encircled the entire garden, blocking anyone from seeing the bands of course. And can someone explain exactly why it is necessary to queue five hours early for a ball when all the guests hold a ticket? Last year at Trinity, I witnessed VIP guests, on entry, break into a run for the champagne; I remain convinced that this was in desperation for kudos to form the first queue of the night, rather than lay their hands on real champagne (admittedly a rarity in the May Ball circuit).

3. Our intelligence is defined by the stupidity of the

tourists. If the tourists did not pay for opportunity to take pictures of us riding a bike (is there something I'm missing here? Do we have a particular unusual way of pushing the pedals, or maybe it's the novelty of the standard one trouser leg tucked into a sock - as sensible as changing your shoes at a ball), our purpose in life would be lost. Favourite tourist quote of the week, American of course, as she looked up admiringly at Jim Garrahy's Fudge Kitchen, "The history... it just looks... so...so... good!" That almost outrivals hearing an American at the Accropolis one summer, "omygod it's so amazing how it [the Parthenon] got here... (reflective pause)... like... the pyramids... who did that?!"

May Week, as formulaic as the last and admittedly in June, but we love it. Yes, balls are over-priced and as ridiculous as the lone white-feathered Ascot-style hat at New Hall Garden Party last Sunday, but that we're willing to pay out, participate, and above all organise them, is part of Cambridge's beauty. And without self-indulgent reflection on our absurdities, Cambridge's uniqueness wouldn't exist at all. In fact, this week I didn't even have to leave the house to prove my original theory: my sister came to visit, wheelie suitcase in tow, and we have my least-decisive, and most dithery Cambridge friend currently staying with us, who can't even make toast without a running monologue.

The charming madness of youth

Love in a time of pseudo-intellectualism

Rupert Myers



Life is about gleaning satisfaction from our inevitable failures, not about finding failure in our satisfaction. As another 'year' ends, we stagger off into the blissful obscurity of the real world and for many a little part of us dies, because University is about love; love of ideas, of situations, of buildings, of drinks, of friends, and that special sort of love we will look back upon and call the charming madness of youth. My grandmother once told me that we were all most open about ourselves at university - perhaps the big wide world instills in us all defences and barriers to honesty which prevent the magnanimous approach we have to strangers we meet at May Balls, parties, even in the street. Perhaps as we become more serious we hide away our private lives, and create a duality of existence which is difficult to over-

come. We ought to remain as heady, as greedy for the pursuits of spurious happiness, but we know that growing up can often get in the way.

For this reason I say that University is about love, for what is love if not the meeting of two minds without the impediments that we will soon cultivate as we adopt 'professional' personae? Many will leave this University joyful and content, for others there have been tragedies, but for all there has been that overwhelming feeling of being in love with a place, a time, a person, a song, a fleeting moment of perfection. These are the things which give birth to the smiles which will form the wrinkles of our old age.

Passion has driven us through these three years. Not always passion for work, but passion for the extraordinary way of life that

we have somehow sustained. We leave exhausted, hungry for new challenges, and a little heartbroken - a part of us will forever be at University, forever thinking that Sainsburys is just too far to walk at the moment, forever eager to continue the conversation until dawn.

It is this love that will remind us of Cambridge, be it the bumps or survivors photos, be it in the people we spend our lives with. It is the love of numbers, shapes, organisms, rules, and dreams which we will spend our lives forever indebted to.

Just as the bright side of failing is what you did when you weren't in the library, the joy of leaving is that you were ever here. That you ever could walk confidently through the gate at King's without being stopped, that you were ever offered a *Big Issue* in poetic form, that you know

so many brilliant and extraordinary people is the reason this is all worthwhile, and the reason it will be difficult to pack up and go.

The point of *Varsity* articles as I have always seen them is that they give a platform upon which ordinary people may strive to say extraordinary things. I can't really do the latter half of that. I can ask you all to stop and think about just how much you love the people you know, and how much your lives have been changed by that amazing and mysterious facet of human nature. For my part, I have loved and adored it all, even the bits I really wouldn't have said I did at the time. Live boldly, escape the shadow of your Cambridge days with even greater heights, try valiantly to be as honest and open as you are now, and remember all the love in this time of pseudo-intellectualism.

Editors Raj Bavishi & Rachel Divall editor@varsity.co.uk Chief News Editor Rachel Cooper news@varsity.co.uk Features Editor Catherine Hall features@varsity.co.uk Lifestyle Editor Benj Ohad Seidler lifestyle@varsity.co.uk Arts Editors Jon Swaine & Was Yaqoob arts@varsity.co.uk Web Editor Jon Hewer online@varsity.co.uk

Associate Editor Jude Townend Front Page Design Tom Windley Photo Editor Ben Jones photos@varsity.co.uk

Business Manager Chris Adams business@varsity.co.uk Production Manager Michael Deminger production@varsity.co.uk Company Secretary Patricia Dalby pd264@cam.ac.uk

News Editors Gabriel Byng, Joe Gosden, Emily Stokes, Jamie Munk Interviews Editor Cally Squires Satire Editor James Allnutt Fashion Editors Claire Jamieson & Kaz Leslie Lifestyle Columnist Jenny Stocks Theatre Editors Hermione Buckland-Hoby & Matilda James

Sub-editors Catherine Hall, Tom Parry-Jones, Rashid Jarvis Graphics Tom Kingsley, Tom Windley

Varsity has been Cambridge's independent student newspaper since 1947, and distributes 10,000 free copies to every Cambridge college and ARU weekly. *Varsity* is proud to be the holder of numerous student media awards and a vast number of alumni now working in international media. *Varsity* also publishes *BlueSci* magazine, *The Mays*, and an online edition at www.varsity.co.uk, and broadcasts weekly on CUR1350.

Board of Directors: Dr. Michael Franklin (Chair), Prof. Peter Robinson, Mr Tim Harris, Ms Katy Long, Mr Tim Moreton, Mr Tom Wilkie, Mr Ifi Qurashi, Mr James Dacre (*Varsoc* President), Mr Tom Walters, Ms Amy Goodwin, Mr Jon Swaine, Mr Jon Hewer, Mr Michael Deminger and Mr Christopher Wright

Varsity is published by Varsity Publications Ltd. and printed by Cambridge Evening News. All copyright is the exclusive property of Varsity Publications Ltd.

No part of this publication is to be reproduced, stored on a retrieval system or submitted in any form or by any means, without prior permission of the publisher.

© Varsity Publications Ltd, 2006.
11-12 Trumpington St., Cambridge CB2 1QA
Tel: (01223) 353422 Fax: (01223) 352913

VARSLITY

VARSITY

May Week Mayhem

There have been fun and frolics in abundance this week, but it seems that on a few occasions things have gone too far. May Week is certainly the time to let your hair down and do all the things you've been denying yourself during this hellish term. But antics shouldn't include tipping small children out of canoes, or getting so drunk you start showing strangers other people's exam scripts.

Opinion about drinking societies is generally polarised; they are either loved or reviled. But whilst a personal choice about whether or not to drink yourself into oblivion, when your actions start endangering others, it's hard to say why they could or should be justified, and easy to see why the stereotypical 'Cambridge' image of drunken rich kids prevails outside our own insulated environment.

The Board of Examinations' reaction to the allegations by two undergraduates that they were shown scripts in Ta Bouche has been unsatisfactory to say the least. In one of the few institutions where degrees are still almost entirely exam-based, being able to feel certain your papers are marked fairly is of paramount importance. Many students already feel that Cambridge's assessment system leaves much to be desired and would like to see the introduction of more modular assessment and coursework. If the University wishes to defend itself against these calls for change, it is going to need to work hard to facilitate greater transparency and thus faith in the current system.

Worryingly, this incident is by no means the first time the adequacy of Cambridge's exam system has been called into question - as reported by this paper earlier this year, there has been disquiet amongst the student body about the differing policies various faculties have with regards to exam feedback. *Varsity* believes that for the current system to remain legitimate it is absolutely imperative students are given adequate feedback on their exam performance and that they can have complete faith in the standard of marking.

A lack of openness is characteristic of many of the University's actions. Last term four of CUSU's Officers raised concerns about the sufficiency of Cambridge's student complaints procedure. At Cambridge we are blessed with unrivalled academic resources and opportunities, however it is a shame that on more basic issues of trust and honesty the University still falls short. Meaningful dialogue between students and the University is to be welcomed rather than feared.

In the chaos of exam term many may not have noticed Oxford losing their last single-sex college. Students in our rival city have been divided by the announcement that St. Hilda's is to go mixed, and the move certainly has implications for the future of Cambridge's three all-female colleges. There are compelling arguments on both sides of the dispute, and certainly no decisions should be rushed - if we lose our all-female colleges they will almost certainly never reappear - but it is to be hoped that Oxford's bold move will pave the way for an intelligent and thorough debate on this complex subject.

And lastly, we would like to say a huge thank you to all the section editors and writers who have given up countless hours of their May Week to produce this issue. Your contribution has been greatly appreciated.



RACHEL HARDING

Correspondence

email us: letters@varsity.co.uk

or write to: Varsity, 11-12 Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1QA



Letter of the Week

May Ball Waste

Dear Sir,

I attended both Clare and Caius May Balls this week and was impressed by the elegant décor, vibrant ents and indulgent food that abounded at both. However,

such luxuries come at a price - a large amount of waste. I was appalled by the fact that at both these balls, all rubbish was destined for landfill despite the fact that much of it could have been either recycled (i.e. glass and cans) or sent for composting (food, cardboard etc.).

I am the founder of the College Ball Sustainability Project (CBSP). This year, we offered both Clare and Caius, along with all other May Balls, the opportunity to work with us to improve their environmental and ethical track record. This included a service where we offered to provide a waste management team that would deal with all aspects of a ball's rubbish, focussing particularly on recycling. Given that both balls were evidently unable to carry this out themselves it surprises me that they had the impudence to ignore our suggestions.

Over the past five days, we have sent our teams to

Hughes Hall, Jesus and Sidney Sussex May Balls and Pembroke June Event, and have been mostly successful in maximising the amount of waste recycled or sent for composting.

Given Cambridgeshire's lack of landfill space, future ball committees have a duty to minimise the amount of waste that they send to such sites. They would do well to take our project seriously.

Matt Sims
Robinson College

Them and U.S.

Dear Sir,

If, as I assume, Ed Blain ("What We Don't Know Can't Hurt U.S.", April 23) refers to the 'war on terror' debate that also featured George Galloway and Tony Benn (I don't recall any other at which a U.S. official spoke; correct me if I'm wrong), the American speaker was not "mocked

and heckled" before he opened his mouth and was no more so than any other speaker on a controversial subject, and decidedly less so than some I can recall, after he did so.

In the end his side won the debate.

Laurie Marks,
Queens' College

Mistaken Identities

Hi,

I am curious if you are still looking for waiting staff for the Restaurant. I have some customer service experience. I was working as a waitress before.

If a position for waitress is available, please contact me.

I'll respond you, give my personal details and I could come for an interview.

Aneta
Poland

Letters may be edited for space and clarity

VARSITY

returns on September 29th.

Thanks to all our 2005-6 section editors, contributors, designers, sub-editors, proof-readers, photographers, web team, the Board, Pat, our advertisers and supporters and everyone else. Best of luck to Emily, Adam and next year's teams.

From Chris, James, Jon, Amy, Rachel & Raj

Opportunities at Varsity

The fireworks of May Week may still be ringing in your ears, but here at *Varsity* HQ we're already preparing for our shiny new term of issues. We're still on the lookout for people to be involved in our brand new editorial team - so if you have a passion for journalism in any form, get in touch - and remember experience is not necessary. We're particularly looking for sub-editors, news, arts and features writers, production managers, graphic designers, illustrators & cartoonists, photographers and a satire section editor. We're also looking for a new team to work on and develop our website in time for its tenth anniversary in 2007. Get in touch and tell us how you want to get involved...

Contact editor@varsity.co.uk to apply or for further information



May Ball

St John's May Ball

The forecasts had been checked, so it came as little surprise. More remarkable, perhaps, was how little the rain at St. John's actually mattered, and - as the extent of their Ball's quality became clear - that its ingenious committee hadn't come up with some way of changing the weather. But, in handing out hundreds of free umbrellas, they probably came as close as could reasonably have been expected of them in this respect.

Meteorological misfortune aside, their labour of love was an absolute triumph. Between a champagne greeting after a walk-through entry before 9.30pm, to still-bountiful supplies by 6am's Survivors' Photo, there could be few substantial complaints. There was luxury at every turn, and smiling guests were never allowed to feel less than special. Which, surely, is what a May Ball is for.

Probably the Ball's major success, and the one from which all others seemed to flow, was its achievement of intimacy and coherence in one of Cambridge's most sprawling colleges. Through brilliant use of decoration and consistency of quality in each court and across the Backs, all distances between features seemed to evaporate.

The theme of Victorian innovation and expansion was a masterstroke, from the 20-foot banner of Queen Vic herself, through the fairy-lit miniature Crystal Palace to Joanne Moore's astonishing, graphic novel of a programme.

The musical Entertainments alone were so exciting and numerous as to leave a Glastonbury-like tinge of frustration at the impossibility of seeing everything. A heaving main stage

marquee confirmed Hot Chip as perfect May Ball headliners. But this was only the surface of a true depth of so many things to see and do, from a funfair to Fish hairstyling, punt rides to perfumery.

A full description of the food and drink on offer could fill this review on its own. Highlights included ostrich burgers and game sausages with mash, while delicious River Bar cocktails and White Russians worth £5 each in most bars in town were a clear, deserved success. Ice-lined punts were still brimming with beers and Smirnoff Ices by closing time.

Talk this week has compounded last year's whispers of a clear gap developing

between the Big Two. Certainly, in comparing that most emblematic of guilty ostentatious pleasures, tonight's marathon, Ride of the Valkyries-backed fireworks display stunningly eclipsed Trinity's more modest, pan-pipe soundtracked affair from the night before.

John's might lack the dubious Russian oligarch to really confirm a Chelsea-like peerlessness; still, there is a distinct whiff of the Man United about a Trinity coasting on former glories that seems to have been outstripped. One wonders how long the latter can maintain its status as the most sought-after ticket in town.

Michael Derringer & Jon Swaine



Pembroke Event - Excelsior

We're gonna make this a knight to remember... To the extent that title is late you may have been excused for worrying about this year's Pembroke Event. Excelsior, we mused on our way, sounded more like a consultancy firm than the providers of fun we sought. Fortunately, however, it transpired that this most mysterious of themes was really rather black and white: chess. Chess? It worked better than you might imagine, with the exception of truly terrible puns including a 'Knight to remember'. The ball's opening moves consisted of a well-presented Old Court with champagne and a giant chess set creating a suitable sense of disproportion.

The garden areas of the College were particularly noteworthy in this regard with some clever lighting and setting out of pieces underlining the fact that Pembroke is particularly well endowed in the physical sense.

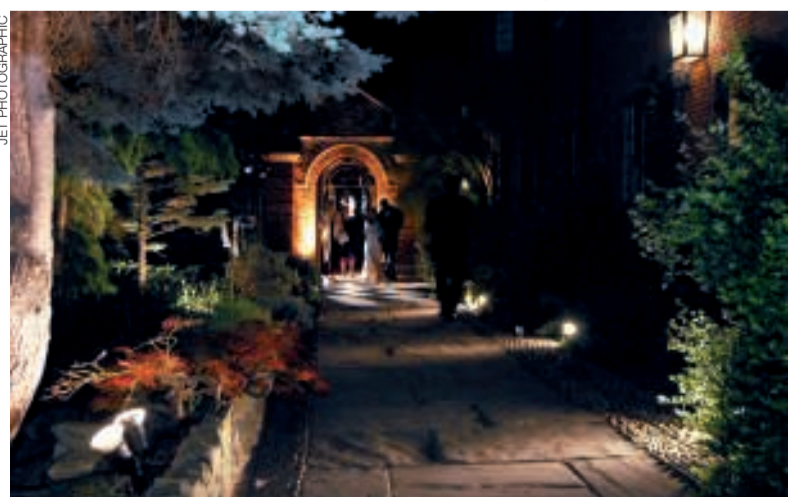
The food and drink was also excellently organised with the various pawns of the Committee serving up a welcome range of nibbles and more

substantial bites that would have graced, say, a Bishop's palace.

An early lead then to the thematic underdog, and further gains were to follow with some straight-down-the-line fun in the shape of bouncy castles and jousts. The Casino was overcrowded but very pleasant. A seat at one of the tables being unattainable, we donated our chips to a stressed-looking gambler and listened instead to the undeniable funk of a band playing the room.

In this end-game it is worth mentioning that the night's music was a slight disappointment, with an over-reliance on DJs from Pembroke itself. Nevertheless, everyone I spoke to was full of praise for the efforts of the organising committee who should be especially proud of their efforts to make themselves visible and available to party-goers. Excelsior may not have been the Gary Kasparov of May Week, but it most certainly avoided falling (Nigel) Short.

Laura Allsop & Olaf Henricson-Bell



Downing Spring Ball - Aetheria

To proclaim that Cambridge is rather cold in March must be up there as one of the most superfluous observations there is. Yet for ticket-holders of Downing's 2006 Aetheria, there was no getting around it - the night was simply freezing. Such inhospitable conditions - seemingly at odds with the inherently alfresco concept of a Ball - pose a challenge to any Spring Ball organiser, yet Aetheria's organisers managed to put together a night whose attractions were enticing enough to make its attendees forget that their body temperature had sunk dangerously low.

For the most part, attractions and entertainment were huddled together in one large cluster on the lawn with the rest located indoors. The lights that lit up the lawns and buildings, however, ensured that the sheer sense of scale was not lost, and the indoor attractions proved pretty vast in themselves. In keeping with the Aetheria theme, attractions were grouped in different planetary zones, with 'Venus' emerging as the favourite chez Varsity. This cosy - and blissfully warm - fairy-lighted enclave boasted manicures, hairstyling, and (best of all) truly wonderful back massages.

On reflection, there seemed to have been veritable piles of everything, with food staying plentiful enough for everyone to have dined in paper-plated style at least once through the evening. Of particular note were the moreish Thai curries, decent bangers and mash, and the veritable piles of Fairtrade chocolate. The dodgems - a stroke of genius of the part of the organisers -

were as much fun as two hacks with a vindictive streak and friends in neighbouring cars could hope for.

Aetheria, while undoubtedly impressive, was by no means perfect. The main issue, unfortunately, was the frankly arse-numbing cold. Such temperatures did go some way to impeding upon our enjoyment of the outside entertainment and food queues, and often led to us actively shunning the exterior tents in favour of the indoor attractions, making for a somewhat repetitive night. The much-trumpeted LaserQuest turned out to be a non-starter; removed, apparently, due to failing safety checks. The venue with the most potential - the Great Hall - was lacklustre, with not much to offer besides some ill-thought-out fairground-style games that proved unpopular.

For us, the night's most memorable offering was the mini-Planetarium - not

merely a nice literalisation of the Aetheria theme, but a truly enjoyable experience to boot.

A Ball is never going to be a humility hotspot. For one night, it's about opulence, entertainment, and lashings of decadence - and the organisers certainly succeeded in providing a Spring Ball that will have left all but the most hard-to-please revellers more than satisfied.

Carly Farthing & Dhara Thakerar



Emma Event - Manhattan

I imagine that preparing for an event due to take place on the evening of Suicide Sunday is a daunting task: given the scenes of carnage around town, the last-minute draping of ivy and tweaking of tablecloths must seem equivalent to polishing the street lamps on the day of the Sack of Rome. (Yep, that's an anachronism. So's most of May Week.)

But as the squeals of jelly-wrestlers echoed in the Pimm's-heavy air, the 'Manhattan' Emma Event was given its moment in the disco lights and did a pretty admirable job of entertaining the troops.

There's been criticism in the past of events that are neither "proper" balls nor mash-ups along the lines of the King's Affair, but 'Manhattan' proved that they can pull it off. Those wandering into the event sheathed in taffeta via the Hogwarty underground tunnels and past boats full of clinking ice and glass could momentarily pretend they were at the most decadent of Cambridge balls.

Many guests were happy with drum'n'bass and a bouncy castle, and they almost certainly had a better time. King Kong looked benevolently over the scene in Front Court, but he was one of the only few visible nods to the theme.

DJ Hype's energetic set in the bar was what did it for me. Others raved about The Research's cute, quirky and stripped-back 'screamo-lounge-pop', which we enjoyed a lot more

than comedy in the Hall - although it was the latter that was packed to the rafters.

Outside, opportunities for castle-bouncing and foam baton gladiator fights enabled revellers to drunkenly relive their childhoods.

Complaints about food queues may be the staple fare of reviews, but this was one of the areas where "Manhattan" fell down. If you're going to rely on crepes, hot dogs and a chocolate fountain (albeit with the novelty addition of white chocolate) to sustain guests, they've got to be both good and readily available. It is kind of comedic how long it takes to fold a tepid crepe when there's a queue of fifty people waiting.

Drink, however, flowed freely. It might have been better to spread out the bars a bit more but the provision of ready-mixed drinks and beer bottles created a fast turnover at Front Court. I don't think that my memories of 'Manhattan' will stick around much longer than the bouncy castle bruises, but then I'm not sure Emma Event aimed to create anything particularly epic. It's not the event to hang your hopes on if you're after the night of your life, or indeed, the night of your May Week, but all the ingredients are there for a good time at a fair price. 'Manhattan' didn't have a much of a life of its own, but it provided an entertaining and beautiful setting to act out your own personal New York Minute.

James Dacre & Amy Goodwin

Reviews

Trinity Hall Event - Bazaar



A scantily-clad girl serving jelly beans to guests waiting in the queue was a taste of things to come at the Bazaar. Once inside, belly dancers and girls dressed in bra, knickers and sarongs moved amongst the crowd: the Bazaar was certainly sensual.

Trinity Hall is not about stunning spectacle, it's about having a good time and the packed-out tents and crowded rooms were testament to the fact that the event remains as popular as ever.

Selwyn Jazz's upbeat tunes set the tone for the evening in the appropriately-named Rhythm Room which later played host to Andy Cortes, an 18-year old singer signed up for a six album deal. There was an eclectic mix of music ranging from 'salsa Afro-Cubana' to one of Cambridge's favourite bands, Sleepwalker. The main attraction was The Automatic, making their second May Week appearance having played Christ's the previous evening.

However, Foreign Beggars, winners of 'Best Group' at the Lyric Pad Hip Hop awards 2005, were the musical highlight of the evening with a non-patronising set that got everyone moving. Shlomo, a ball favourite, stunned the crowd with beatbox drum 'n' bass.

Rachel Cooper & Ben Jones

Robinson May Ball - Premiere

Robinson isn't known for being a ball of grand size, and with ticket prices fairly low for a full-scale ball, we arrived not really knowing what to expect, pondering what would make this 'ball' differ from just an 'event'. Upon arrival the queue was entertained/scared by mobs of paparazzi reporters and photographers drafted in for the 'Premiere' theme, whilst appetites were whetted and blood sugar levels raised by bucket-loads of jelly beans - every film star's favourite snack.

The queue moved inside swiftly, where guests were greeted with jazz and champagne as they strolled along the red carpet into a brilliantly-decorated arena of entertainment.

Queues for food and drink, although long at first, swiftly shortened as guests dispersed to the various eateries positioned around the college. The range available was impressive, with the traditional hog-roast and barbecue accompanied by more unusual ball-fare including risotto and lasagne, as well as the ever-gratifying chocolate fountain. Drinks were readily available and lasted throughout the night, with spirits, beers and wines as well as smoothies and the omnipresent Shark (mysteriously only ever available at May Balls) on standby in seemingly copious amounts.

The main stage was packed all night with a busy and eclectic programme, notably up-and-coming young things Goodbooks getting the crowd going early in the night, and The Blues Experiment playing funky cover versions as the sun rose and revellers slumped on

indoors and out so it always felt like there was more to discover. Great attention to detail was paid, with no space left unfilled by a background singer, band or movie projection. We had a great night and both agreed that Robinson retained its reputation as the leader of the lower-priced balls. If you're looking for an affordable and fun way of seeing off the year with a group of friends, and you don't mind not seeing a champagne-and-truffle-bearing waitress at every corner, then Robinson could be the ball for you next year.

Chris Adams & Rachel Divall



New Hall Event - Shipwrecked Kings Affair - Cirque de la Lune

Over 700 people flocked to attend the New Hall Garden party on Suicide Sunday and the event did not disappoint. Food and drink was included in the price, though not catering for hugely differing tastes. Drink was readily available, however alcohol did run out close to the end. All in all though, the event proved to be terrific value and delivered all the essentials, perhaps the best value event of May week.

The music line up consisting of The Vapour Trail and The Vinyl Washers was impressive, giving the crowd a fully satisfying afternoon of entertainment. For those not simply wishing to sit and soak up the atmosphere there was plenty to do. Huge beach balls floated around the crowd and many groups began games on the lawns. The bouncy castle also proved source of much amusement both for those partaking and spectating.

The dress code was eclectic. Girls in formal dresses rubbed shoulders with those in jeans and T-shirts. Others made an effort and dressed up as various characters to reflect the theme. What really marked this garden party out as an unmissable event was not the food or unlimited Pimms but the atmosphere which was unmistakably New Hall. With the masses of people covering the lawns, the event could be better described as 'V festival' meets 'Party in the Park' rather than a typical Cambridge garden party. This event was unpretentious fun from start to finish. One to remember.

Ruth Parkinson

ered all the essentials, perhaps the best value event of May week.

The music line up consisting of The Vapour Trail and The Vinyl Washers was impressive, giving the crowd a fully satisfying afternoon of entertainment.

For those not simply wishing to sit and soak up the atmosphere there was plenty to do. Huge beach balls floated around the crowd and many groups began games on the lawns. The bouncy castle also proved source of much amusement both for those partaking and spectating.

The dress code was eclectic. Girls in formal dresses rubbed shoulders with those in jeans and T-shirts. Others made an effort and dressed up as various characters to reflect the theme. What really marked this garden party out as an unmissable event was not the food or unlimited Pimms but the atmosphere which was unmistakably New Hall. With the masses of people covering the lawns, the event could be better described as 'V festival' meets 'Party in the Park' rather than a typical Cambridge garden party. This event was unpretentious fun from start to finish. One to remember.

The basic format of super glorified mingle arranged as a bratty 'fuck you' to the stultifying grandeur of the majority of May Week celebrations was left pretty much unmissed with for the filthy mashup that was the King's Affair 2006. Where other balls invite you to roam around endlessly in search whatever intensely special variety of hot dog, King's plays upon the winning combination of small hot rooms and loud, loud music.

There was a gamut of excellent dub and electro, the highlight being Ladytron's frenetic space-disco that helpfully soundtrack some emotional tongue-wrestling. Meanwhile the noble King's tradition of getting wrecked and grappling with your own limbs in an attempt to reach that ever elusive higher plane through the medium of drum and bass continued, facilitated by mindblowing sets from big names Shy FX and High Contrast.

King's front lawn, Great Hall and Chetwynd Court served up an impressive array of variety performances, as well as the usual meaty treats and grudging provisions for vegetarians. If all this seems like so much pampering, maybe it's time to trot out the usual criticism levelled at the affair, that in terms of food,

guests must pay extra. In any case, most were powerfully reassured of the brutal economic realities of the world outside the college walls as they were fleeced by the smiling ostrich burger man. As he made off with his loot the entertainments continued - ranging from the rampant but always fondly received misogyny of Punch and Judy to the dazzling display of the Prometheus Fire Troupe.

The affair's theme meant that despite the ban on black tie people were ultimately able to dress up in ridiculous clothes after all, and took much advantage of this privilege. At points it was difficult to distinguish the wandering entertainers from the just incredibly fashionable but both parties looked resplendent and helped to maintain the decadent, non-committally Victorian atmosphere.

That said, it was obvious that everyone was having a fantastic time. The music was outstanding, the sheer range and volume of entertainments bewildering and impressive and despite the perennial rumours of Hoxtonite hegemony, the atmosphere was distinctly unpretentious. For sheer fun value the King's Affair is unrivalled.

Adam Welch & Was Yaqoob



Lovells

**VENTURE
MYRIAD
ADEPT
ENVY**

www.lovells.com/graduates

We are looking for the next generation of Lovells lawyers: academically bright graduates with an aptitude for lateral thinking and exceptional levels of commitment to contribute not only to the firm's future growth and development but their own as well.

We build dynamic working teams and encourage ideas and input from every member. An innovative approach and creative thinking in every area of legal work makes Lovells an exciting and challenging place to work.

The work at Lovells is varied. Our international strength across a wide range of practice areas gives us a reputation not only for corporate transactional work, banking and litigation, but a range of other specialist areas too.

Alicante	Madrid
Amsterdam	Milan
Beijing	Moscow
Berlin	Munich
Brussels	New York
Budapest	Paris
Chicago	Prague
Dusseldorf	Rome
Frankfurt	Shanghai
Hamburg	Singapore
Ho Chi Minh City	Tokyo
Hong Kong	Warsaw
London	Zagreb

To find out more about training at Lovells visit our graduate website at www.lovells.com/graduates or contact:

Clare Harris or Caroline Lindner
Lovells, Atlantic House,
Holborn Viaduct
London EC1A 2FG

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7296 2000

Wanted: Software and Hardware Engineers

Codian is a three-year-old, high-tech company where your individual contribution will be vital from day one. We are looking for outstanding final year students in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Maths or Natural Sciences to join our development team.



Starting Salary : £27,000
plus an additional loan repayment
scheme of up to £4,500 per year

We design and manufacture innovative products for the video conferencing market, including the best MCU (multipoint control unit) available today. We also make video conference recorders and streaming servers. All our products use cutting-edge voice- and video-over-IP technology, developed in-house, and we're working on many new products too!

For more information, please email recruitment@codian.com or visit www.codian.com



Do you see a
challenge
where others see
obstacles?

Enjoy finding solutions?

Have you considered working for top consulting firms such as McKinsey, Bain, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch?

All the global leaders in consulting have numerous vacancies for graduates. Mindbench is the specialist recruitment company for the consulting sector and we are constantly looking for outstanding high-achievers to join our pool of talent.

If you are interested in finding out more about how to develop a challenging, stimulating career at one of the world's top consulting or financial services firms, learn more and send your CV via the Mindbench site:

www.mindbench.com

or email us at:
graduates@mindbench.co.uk

and we will be in touch soon...



A law firm where you fit in *Opportunities for non-law graduates*

So you've done the degree and now you're looking for a career that challenges and stimulates you. You want an employer who understands you as an individual and invests in your future. You want a career that fits you and your ambitions.

At Eversheds we believe that it's not only what you know but also who you are that counts. That's why 50% of our graduate intake have a non-law degree. They're attracted by an environment where they get responsibility early on, the chance to solve problems and the ability to be themselves whilst working in a team.

As a trainee solicitor you will be supported by a sophisticated training and development programme. You will be working alongside some of the best lawyers in the business, doing challenging and stimulating work for some of the world's leading organisations. Above all, you will be part of an international law firm where you can match your talents to your career path, make a real impact and enjoy the company of like-minded people.

If you're looking for a law firm that fits in with you, try Eversheds on for size. To find out more, please visit our website www.eversheds.com



EVERSHEDS

www.eversheds.com

© EVERSHEDES LLP 2006. Eversheds LLP is a limited liability partnership.




Capital One

**who told you
you could have
an opinion?**

We did. At Capital One you will have a higher level of responsibility and a broader business exposure than you are likely to find in many other careers or companies. Unlike many 'traditional' graduate schemes, we want you to roll up your sleeves and get involved right from the very start. You'll be making a difference to the company and contributing personally to our growth pretty much from the moment you get here.

We are currently recruiting for **Business Analysts & Risk Analysts**, basic salary £27,000 (plus £2,500 signing on bonus), starting from July 2006. To find out more please visit www.gradsatcapitalone.co.uk

Graduate Opportunities – Nottingham



we did. **marketing & analysis** at Capital One

Careers Service



Summer Recruitment Event

Wednesday 28 June
2.00pm – 5.00pm

Garden House Hotel
Granta Place

Accenture
Analysys Mason Group
Autonomy Systems Ltd
Bain & Company, Inc
Baker Tilly
Barclays Bank plc
Boston Consulting Group
BSI Group
Centrica plc

Coframi Ltd
Data Connection Limited
Deloitte
Detica Limited
Diametric Ltd
Ernst & Young
IBM UK Limited
KBC Financial Products UK Ltd
KPMG

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Procter & Gamble
Red Gate Software Ltd
Saunderson House Limited
Schlumberger
Spectrum Strategy Consultants
Tesco Stores Ltd
twentysix Group
Watson Wyatt LLP

Meet these 30 top employers who still have vacancies for their Autumn 2006 intake, while enjoying a glass of wine and an ice-cream. Also take the opportunity to speak to one of our Careers Advisers, on hand for brief consultations all afternoon.



Arts



Theatre

The Marlowe's *Tales from Ovid* at Jesus

>>page 23



Music

Suicide Sunday's *The Soul Treat* reviewed

>>page 25



Visual Arts

What do our finalist Architects produce?

>>page 22



Classical

A round-up of May Week's classical happenings

>>page 24

So what happens next?

Are you staying up a little while longer? Or planning to drop in some time over the Long Vacation? **Jon Swaine** pencils in the most exciting dates to Cambridge's Summer Arts calendar

The Cambridge Film Festival



Were you bored by Cannes this year? Are you tired of tacky multi-millionaires competing over whose speedboat entrance into Venice will make the most front pages, while the festival's films take a back seat?

If you were, and are, or even if you just occasionally enjoy watching interesting films, the Cambridge Film Festival is a must for your Summer diary.

Celebrating its 26th summer this year, the festival will be unveiling 27 UK premieres, hosting (actually interesting) guests from across the film industry and screening some major retrospectives, shorts, fascinating documentaries and children's films between July 6 and July 16.

The opening night's premiere is the double Cannes-prizewinning *Volver* (above), the tale of a mother's spirit returning to her home town to resolve her life's unfinished business, directed by Pedro Almodovar and starring Penelope Cruz.

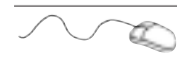
Another set to be a high-

light is the premiere of Richard Linklater's *A Scanner Darkly*, a Philip K. Dick-authored, dark comic vision of a future Californian dystopia in which Keanu Reeves is one of many residents hired to spy on his neighbours.

Other keenly anticipated premieres include the acclaimed documentaries *Paper Clips*, on a Tennessee Middle School class' learning about the Holocaust, and director Allan Sekula's *The Lottery of the Sea*, a five-year rumination on the 'transnational moment' and the implications of globalization for communities.

But these are a mere surface scratch on a vast array of fascinating pictures set to be shown.

Most of the action takes place at the Arts Picturehouse cinema, whilst other events are being held at Cineworld and the Junction on Clifton Way. Check the festival's website for announcements and listings.



www.cambridgefilmfestival.org.uk

The Hotbed Theatre Festival



The Hotbed New Writing Theatre Festival is a ten-day rejoinder to anyone who thought new theatre in Cambridge disappeared with us students during the summer.

Hotbed, like the Cambridge Film Festival, runs between July 6 and July 16. Some of the UK's best actors, directors and writers will descend on the city to create and perform over 20 pieces of new theatre at the Junction.

The festival's focal point is the set of nine short plays specially commissioned for the festival. But this is by no means its full extent: a series of one-on-one performances, guest performances, workshops, staged readings and "networking events" are also promised.

Tajinder Singh Hayer's monologue *In This House* is set to be a highlight of the festival. Following a catastrophic earthquake, a woman lies trapped under the ruins of her house. She reflects on those she has loved and wonders whether she will ever see the outside world again.

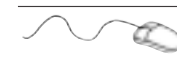
Meanwhile in the duologues, Laurence Wilson - described as "a brave new voice in British theatre" by the *Manchester Evening News* - presents *Dark Tayle*, a dark comedy about parents, old age and people losing their way.

Amongst the 'trilogues', Steve Waters, whose last play was described as "urgent and essential viewing" by the *Times*, is performing *06/07/05*, his new tale of middle-class fear and self-loathing.

But most exciting seems the series of workshops on July 15, aiming to develop the skills of young writers keen to pursue a career in the theatre.

A Writers' Roundtable is followed by a discussion of the state of UK writing today, while one-on-one writers' surgeries will be running throughout the day.

Which all sounds potentially useful for any thespians hanging around into July and looking for a career headstart on their home-bound peers.



www.hotbedfestival.co.uk

The Cambridge Fringe Festival



Promising over 350 events spread across 120 venues and 17 days, it is little surprise that the Cambridge Fringe Festival proudly claims to have become established as the "unofficial warm-up to the Edinburgh Fringe".

Running between July 21 and August 6, massive variety is clearly the Fringe's main aim. Its organisers proudly boast of operating a policy of "no artistic vetting" which, whilst obviously a risk, could make for some interesting, innovative and highly original shows.

The Festival is still inviting applications for shows to become part of its lineup, "welcoming professionals, semi-professionals and amateurs alike from across the world".

Events in comedy, dance, theatre, music and art are promised, ranging from live blues bands at the "Cambridge International Bike Fest Party Weekend" on August 5 and August 6 to acclaimed "sharp and bitchy" comedian Jo Caulfield.

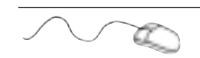
But most hotly anticipated of all is the gig by "king of rock 'n'

soul", Solomon Burke (above). Fresh from performing for Pope Benedict XVI, Grammy winner and Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame member Burke will be kicking off the festival at the Fringe Festival Gardens in Abington on Friday, July 21.

An exciting new element to the Fringe this year is its mission to involve the nearby "satellite villages and towns" in the festival, putting on shows in halls across the region.

Clearly, the festival offers the most eclectic, potentially surprising array of arts events to anyone around the town, while also presenting the opportunity of actually becoming involved.

Anyone interested in plucking up the necessary courage for one of the Fringe's Open Nights should check their website for details. If you are already putting on a show and want to make it part of the Cambridge Fringe Festival, email your details to events@camfringe.com.



www.camfringe.com

Building something out of nothing

Ever wondered what the work our architects produce actually looks like? 18 months after saving their department from closure, this year's finalists display their stunning projects at the Guildhall next week. **Meg Charnley** dicusses a year of blood, sweat and Stanley knives

Crawling bleary eyed and booze-bruised from their beds, this week Cambridge's architecture students have been exchanging ball gowns and champagne glasses for overalls and claw hammers to undertake the annual slog of exhibition preparations.

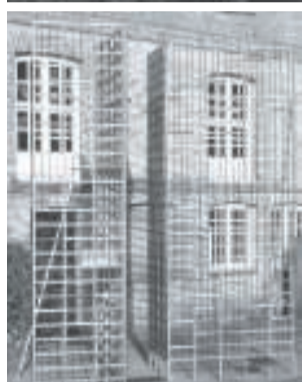
While the rest of Cambridge's undergraduate population sleeps off the Mayweek hangover, the architects, wielding electric jigsaws and automatic drills, will be setting off to design and construct ambitious displays of their year's work with the manic expression of the sleep-deprived and power tool trigger-happy.

As the Architecture and History of Art Departments prepare for major building works, the studios have been emptied and the students squeezed out. This summer the construction of a new building in the garden of Scroop Terrace to accommodate more undergraduates will begin, while the existing building will be renovated to receive the architectural research department currently housed in the Martin Centre.

Despite fears that an alternative venue would not be found in time to host the annual exhibition of student work, which is traditionally held in the Department, the event has been relocated to the Guildhall at the last minute.

Challenges of transportation and space restrictions have therefore added to the usual trauma of arranging an exhibition during the whirl of May Week social engagements and general post exam languor.

Furthermore, the scale of the exhibition is necessarily curtailed this year, as the whole department is confined to one room, yet the size restrictions, and the incredible rule that nothing is to be



(Clockwise from top left): That camping trip, work by Hikaru Nissanke, Jack Berk, various, George Rhys Jones & Mies van der Rohe

pinned to the walls, promise some interesting solutions. A massive projector, literally wallpapered with drawings, will cast images of the first year's projects onto the walls of the building, a skyscraper has been transformed into an oversized table, and there are dark rumours of sinister goings on involving helium balloons and lots of string.

“
SINISTER GOINGS-ON
INVOLVING HELIUM
BALLOONS AND
LOTS OF STRING
”

This year's work ranges from the micro to the macro, from the practical to the preposterous.

Studio briefs included tent design, built on a budget and then inhabited on an unfortunately damp camping trip (lace is not, it turns out, completely watertight), a school extension cum urban masterplan (!), and more prosaically, the conversion

of a 1960s multi-storey car park into a high density housing scheme.

The students' responses to the briefs are highly original – in some cases completely crazy – yet so well considered that even the most extreme design solutions are proved completely plausible. Drive-thru art gallery, anyone?

Last year the architecture students saved the department from closure in the most significant and successful student protest of recent years. It also featured some bloody awful chanting: 'say "ooh", say "ay", architecture's here to stay' (we are, evidently, designers, not poets).

This year, we're proud to be persevering with an exhibition that once seemed unlikely ever to materialise.

As the only creative subject in Cambridge concerned with the visual arts, architecture is essential in supporting art and design throughout the university.

This year's exhibition promises to be an interactive insight to why the discipline is so important in the Cambridge curriculum.

It will also prove why the Cambridge school of Architecture has just been voted the best in the UK in the Guardian's annual poll (again), what it is the architecture students do with their time, and perhaps most movingly of all, why they're always buying yellow spray paint.

The Architecture exhibition runs on Saturday and Sunday at the Guildhall. To download a catalogue of the work on display, visit:



<http://tinyurl.com/zkkr8>

Two days to change the world

Kirsty Dootson tells all about the Cinecam 48-hour Film Festival



So you thought your weekend was hardcore? Did you don your chinos and sip champagne in the sunshine, bathe in Jelly at a garden party or maybe just get a little sun burnt during a debauched Sunday afternoon bacchanal? That is not hardcore.

This past weekend hardcore took on a new meaning in the shape of twenty students forgoing garden parties, punts, pimmis and most painfully – sleep, in order to write, shoot and edit a five minute short film for the Cinecam 48 Hour Guerrilla Film making challenge. As in the past, the Challenge was a resounding success with five teams successfully completing their entries (but three failing to do so). The rules of the challenge stated that teams had to create a film no longer than five minutes, around the theme of 'Keys' to be completed in exactly 48 hours

(12 noon Friday June 18th – 12 noon Sunday June 16th).

While one would expect these confines to produce banal and poorly produced work, in fact past 48 hour films have gone on to win the annual Cinecam Film festival (with a place at the Brighton Film school as their reward). Certainly there is always room for improvement in the 48 hour films, but the challenge is not to create a masterpiece but simply to create something in order to learn how to (and often how not to) make a film. Many participants have never used cameras, editing equipment or written scripts before, and the time limit forces them to leave behind excuses and simply get down to actually making films.

Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Ben Nicholson among others. Was formerly home of Jim and Helen Ede

and has retained that tranquil, domestic feeling as furniture and ornaments mingle with fine art. Still makes a refreshing change from the stuffy and impersonal environment of typical museums.

The theme can be interpreted as loosely as teams wish and while every film this year predictably featured a door key, each developed the theme beyond its most obvious meaning. One team used the theme to explore our use of material objects as a means of valuing and interpreting experiences, door keys literally 'unlocking' memories of the possibilities which they once connoted. Team 'What would Nima do' played a cantabrigian pun staging a mock war between Caius and Kings College sparked by the theft of the key to the gate of honour. An impressive use of CGI and a staggering amount of extras took the film beyond a

typical student spoof into a well produced and thoroughly entertaining short.

One team truly partook of the guerrilla spirit managing to smuggle a camera and an unsavoury amount of dead meat into the University Library while two other teams oddly both used the theme as an opportunity to indulge in surreal (and comic) dance routines complete with small dogs and cowboy outfits. The films will be screened tonight at 7.30pm in [Friday 23rd June] Robinson Brickhouse theatre (entry free for Cinecam members) where the best film will be awarded prizes from our kind sponsors Vue, the Arts Picture house and Future-shorts. This year's Cinecam sponsored film - one of the most controversial and challenging of the past few years, will also be screened for the first time on Friday.

The King

★★★★★



Illegitimate or abandoned children seeking their parents is a tried and tested plot formula which is rarely successful. Despite any hopeful beginnings, these films descend into saccharine sentimentality.

But while *The King* has this basic premise, it remains dark and deeply unsettling, rooted in the classic American thriller and in theatrical tragedy.

It opens with Elvis (Gael Garcia Bernal) being discharged from the Navy. Before the opening credits have finished, he has bought a car, had sex with a prostitute and traveled to Texas. Once there he sets out to find his father, the ballast in his new aimless life.

Now a Reverend, David Sandow is the epitome of Christian righteousness. God has rewarded him with a faithful flock, a beautiful house and wife and two obedient children: Paul, destined for Bible College, and Malerie.

The return of his son makes Sandow nervous; he warns Elvis off. Driven by a desire to see his father pay for abandon-

ing his mother, Elvis sets out on a collision course with the Sandows, sleeping with Malerie and setting in motion events which pull the stability of family life from beneath their feet.

It would have been easy to simply crank up the menace, taking *The King* from engaging thriller to gory horror flick. But this temptation is avoided.

The film constantly producing questions to grapple with: is Elvis a damaged child, or a dangerous drifter, intent on destruction? Is his father concerned only with reputation, or a reformed Christian, dealing with past sins?

Bernal proves he can portray complex and challenging characters with subtlety and magnetism, whilst Pell James (Malerie) is a revelation; at once fragile and defiant, virginal yet radiating teenage desire. *The King* is an incisive film, beautifully executed, which questions religious conviction, family relationships and how far the notion of Christian forgiveness can be stretched.

Rachael Boston

Tall tales to tell & treasure

Hermione Buckland-Hoby sees the Marlowe Society's *Tales From Ovid* at Jesus College



The vast expanse of Jesus' Chapel Court as a setting, and an epic twenty-four-strong cast are fitting attributes of Jeff James' production of *Tales from Ovid*, whose overall sense was one of spectacle on a grand scale.

The size of the court was effectively exploited through both a powerful, pageant-style beginning, as the entire

cast approached from the two corners behind the audience and, later, the arrival of a furious, bellowing Juno (Tess Banham) from far behind, which saw audience members jumping to move their cava bottles out of the way.

A declamatory Jupiter (Ed Pulford) prepared us to witness "how bodies are changed into other bodies",

and the emphasis remained very much on seeing, rather than hearing; so many stories and so many metamorphosing characters is the production's strength, but also meant following plots isn't audience priority.

The main attraction comes in watching the metamorphoses in action; such a huge cast allows physical theatre to function, for once, effectively. The formation of Narcissus' pool, the flowing and cleansing of various rivers and the transformation of Philomela and Procne into flying birds are imaginatively, and sometimes spectacularly realized by using the entire cast – at times the audience almost cooed with delight.

Physical story-telling also featured literally as Arachne (Clementine Briance) and Minerva (Phoebe Dickerson) wove tapestries from the characters on stage. At this point it didn't matter that the strings became entangled: it was an easily overlooked malfunction for the pleasure of the scene's dynamism.

The picnicking audience enjoyed horror as well as humour – the rape of Philomela, compellingly acted by Amy Gwilliam, was particularly powerful.

This blend of the comic and the tragic, always spectacular (and helped by exquisite costumes by Lucy Minyo) made for a wonderfully unconventional pre-Mayweek show.

I wanna be like you-ou-ou

Jessica Holland watches *The Jungle Book*

The ADC's 2006 May Week production, a retelling of Rudyard Kipling's *The Jungle Book*, promised Lynchian sexual fantasia and dirty urban grit.

Although changes were made and certain ambiguities were hinted at, what we got was a reassuringly straightforward version, 'Bare Necessities' and all, that was visually splendid enough to be well worth the ticket price without being pulse-racing enough to disturb your afternoon hangover as you laze under the leaf-filtered June sky in Emma's pretty much Eden-like gardens.

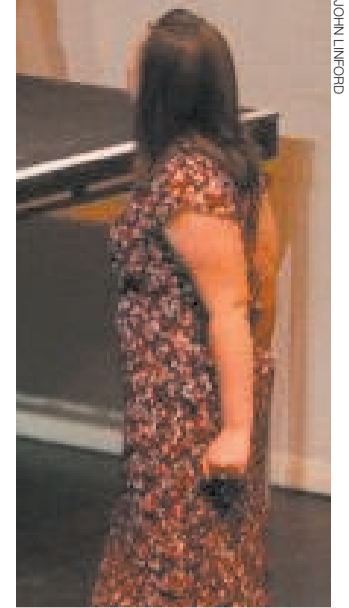
There was plenty to engage those short of attention span,

as most of the large cast spent the entire play on set and in character, draped over scaffolding, twining around poles, sleeping under benches or cawing mournfully from perches (with huge, curly wigs and panda eyes).

While a few of the main cast members were set on a 'posh and camp' default switch, props go out to Lucy Buzzoni as the writhingly lascivious snake Kaa trying to have sex with everyone (I think, although how you'd have sex with a snake beats me) and especially to Daniel Martin as a loveably rumped, raggedy, Cockney Baloo; part-Fagin, part-Jamie Oliver. Susanna Atherall made up for in

energy what she lacked in subtlety as an impish Mowgli, and Osh Jones was Keith Richards-esque as a stoned monkey turned rock-star, singing 'I want to be like you-ou-ou' in a Pete Doherty drawl.

Although at an hour long the story seemed slightly rushed, and a helicopter droning directly overhead mid-way through the production drowned out some of the dialogue (although it did add some unintended 'Nam glamour'), *The Jungle Book* is what a May Week show should be: all-singing, all-dancing, silly and fun. With lots of puns about monkeys.



Stay out of the kitchen

Ellie Simons & Chris Adams get *Too Darn Hot*

Too Darn Hot saw the CU Musical Theatre Society's regular 'Songs from the Shows' events blown up to a huge scale in the Corn Exchange for one night only, with a full orchestra accompanying twenty glammed-up performers for a concert of musical theatre show tunes spanning the last century, and featuring a mixture of solos, duets and big company numbers.

CUMTS was brave to break away from the May Week tradition of outdoor, hastily-prepared garden shows for this full-scale musical extravaganza – but the risk certainly paid off, with a packed house filled with a mixed town & gown crowd in a simply-staged but enjoyable night of entertainment.

It was the big, glitzy ensemble numbers that were most enthusiastically received, with crowd-pleasers like 'Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat', from *Guys and Dolls* - enthusiastically led by James Smoker - gaining positively thrilled gasps of excitement when they were announced.

Other impressively polished numbers included a breathtaking 'Ballad of Sweeney Todd' and a beautiful rendition of 'Sunday' from *Sunday in the Park with George*. Solos and duets were led by a small section of the cast, all of whom were extremely impressive.

It was a shame more of the cast were not given their own solos, but with plenty of ensemble pieces on show, everyone was given the

chance to shine in some way.

The orchestra was extremely impressive under the careful eyes of Musical Directors Richard Bates and Chris Mundy, whilst Sarah Brocklehurst and Simon Evans provided hyper-cheesy inter-tune banter worthy of any Eurovision host.

While the chaos and too-darn-hot heat of May Week continued outside, it was refreshing to step inside and relax with a tour of musical theatre hits played out on the big stage in a production as impressive as any visiting professional companies might offer.

The CUMTS class of 2006 is certainly a talented one, and it seems certain we will be seeing some of them soon on stages even bigger than the Corn Exchange.

Nice as (custard) pie

Matilda James reviews Footlights' *Niceties*



Simon Bird tells us that smiling is for the parlour, coronations and Easter morning before 6am. So the ADC is playing a dangerous game allowing smiling, even laughter with the Footlights' tour show this week.

But if they're going to break a rule, they may as well break it properly - and they do. There are a lot of laughs. It is very funny.

Welcome to a world where inuits write their wills as a distasteful hobby; to the

strange no-man's-land of Deep Mid Wicket; to a place where a Taste the Difference sandwich can rightly be a fitting punishment for murder.

To a Cambridge audience familiar with the actors and their styles, *Niceties* works like one of the better Smokers. One where all the sketches are funny. The best moments here are those which set up a clear story, one which we know we recognise but not how the Footlights' tell it. So the blog on a Narnia fansite rings hilar-

iously (and a little terrifyingly) true – Helen Cripps' WormGirl viciously takes down the 'casual observer' and his 'bigoted opinion' that *The Lion, The Witch & the Wardrobe* is C.S. Lewis' best work. God forbid.

Other highlights are the cameo appearance of Tom Cruise and his alter ego Sebastian the white handkerchief, who loves Katie Holmes "as a joke" only to be hexed by Angelina Jolie, or Joe Thomas as the expat Prime Minister trying to escape the cold and the rain and the whinging through rigging elections from the Costa del Sol.

The lack of narrative sometimes allows scenes to meander off, post-punchline, into vagary – the Think Tank which just can't think is a great scene, but better without blankness being blamed on alcohol as it is in the final line.

But there is a lot of strong material here, and it can only get slicker and funnier as the show slims down to fit the hour slots at the Fringe and on tour.

As it is, *Niceties* is an impressive showcase for the original wit and extraordinary imaginations of five confident performers who will, no doubt, impress in Edinburgh and beyond.

Classic Midsummer Madness

James Drinkwater sees two fine May Week concerts: CUOS's *Venus & Adonis* and *la Dirindina*

Cambridge May Week is not known for groundbreaking concerts. Perhaps it's just that humid indoor rehearsals and the marking-up of dog-eared scores are not the most sociable of summer activities. But last Saturday's offering of the Opera Society (CUOS) of semi-staged operatic interludes by John Blow and Domenico Scarlatti showed you can create a seasonable May Week musical programme, not unduly demanding of out-Tripoded performers, which is still distinctive and inventive.

For this, full credit must go to the director, Clare Pike, with her musically-sensitive and imaginative realization

“

A MUSICALLY SENSITIVE AND IMAGINATIVE REALISATION OF TWO VERY DIFFERENT PIECES

”

of the two very different pieces. The first was the Blow masque for the court of Charles II, a very loose adaptation of the Ovidian *Venus and Adonis* metamorphosis (no anemones in sight). This opened with the gently-flowing choreography of Arcadiblow_cover.jpgan shepherds and shepherdesses, representative of the way in which the audience's attention was untiringly stimulated – by dress, gesture, expression and use of space. Although the chorus singing was never pristine, every performer was dramatically engaged – the band of jiggling hunters enticing Adonis to 'follow the noblest game' particularly colourful.

The casting of the three principals was likewise excellent. As Cupid, Lila Palmer confidently commanded the breadth of the stage, with a good sense



(L to r): Cassandra Extavour, Chris Law and Lila Palmer in *Venus & Adonis* and Suzana Ograjensek and Calvin Wells in *la Dirindina*

of the physical shapeliness of the musical lines as she sported with the swains and her minor cupids. Cassandra Extavour, ever-noble in her portrayal of Venus, took best to the pathos of the chromatic disjunctions of Blow's highly-charged writing for her reactions when Adonis has entered, mortally wounded in Act Three. Chris Law's

Adonis was itself nicely judged – always gently submissive to the idealism of mythical erotic love, sidestepping the potential absurdity of mortal-goddess relations. Musically, there could have been a little more interplay between continuo and singers (often the singer playfully imitates the motifs of the spinet) – but the two-part singing

was always very clean. In short, a well-rehearsed, dynamic and visually-appealing performance.

La Dirindina, a little farce, may at first have seemed very slight as a post-interval attraction. Musically, it is no Blow, and the plot is a trifling as could be imagined for cast of three singers.

But the whole stands upon a couple



of clever paradoxes. Firstly, there is the irony of playing a character, the mendacious Dirindina herself, who in her singing lesson is barely able to complete her scales, but whose 'speaking' voice is declaimed with the most refined melodic wit.

Then there is the conflict of internal dramatic perception: the singing teacher, Don Carissimo, is unable to distinguish between acting and 'reality' as he eavesdrops upon Dirindina incompetently rehearsing the self-immolation of Dido with her partner-in-jest, Liscione, played here by a male soprano.

“

IN SHORT, A WELL-REHEARSED, DYNAMIC AND VISUALLY-APPEALING PERFORMANCE

”

In the context of a generic parody, as this was, the pseudo-castrato Calvin Wells actually worked very well – the comed enchanced by the fact that his words were rarely intelligibly articulated by his voice straining in a falsetto reaching top A.

As Carissimo, John Syfret could have been a little more hypocritically officious as a singing teacher desperately clinging to his talentless pupil only for her affections.

But it was Suzana Ograjensek as Dirindina who really flourished – shabbily-costumed, she best displayed that precise art of utterly humiliating men which farce requires.

With well-judged poetic license in the translation, this was a delight from start to finish, and we departed most thoroughly teased, squeezed and pleased!

Swotting up for a cruel summer

Ling Low suggests some holiday reading with a twist

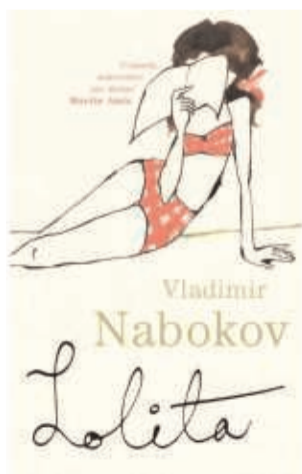
Put down the *Da Vinci Code*. Walk away from the airport WHSmith. Here is a selection of fairly obvious classics for holiday reading that will (hopefully) provide some rapid disenchantment from your surroundings this summer, whatever they are.

POOLSIDE

When Chuck Palahniuk's short story *Guts* was released, there were suggestions that it was the most disgusting piece of fiction ever written. But don't be misled. When it comes to style, at least, Palahniuk's writing is one of the cleanest around. Palahniuk, the cult favourite who penned *Fight Club*, cuts his sentences with clarity, originality and is visceral in a way which feels new. *Guts* features in his collection *Haunted*. Just how swimming pools come into this – you'll find out.

BEACH

If you're lucky enough to be on a deserted tropical beach this summer, make sure you've packed *Lord of the*



Flies. This gripping tale tells of what happens to a group of upper class British schoolboys when they are stranded on an island and left to their own devices. William Golding's classic work of fiction is a chilling page-turner with political ideas. It certainly beats trying to reenact bits of *Lost* on your own...

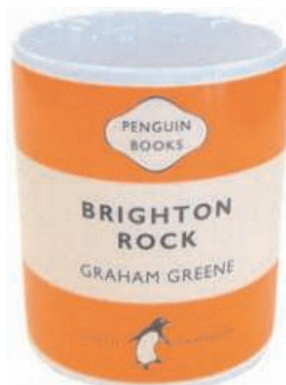
SEASIDE RESORT

Liven up conversation over ice-creams on the pier by asking the pensioners if they've read *Brighton Rock*. Graham Greene's 1930s noir fiction features mobsters, bottles of vitriol, and a sweet girl called Rose. The novel is an insight into the mind of vicious gang-leader Pinky, suspected of a murder which has him trapped in a string of seedy machinations in the underside of the resort town. You'll start seeing things in between the tourists.

ROADTRIP

Lolita, by Vladimir Nabokov, is already beloved by many-see cinematic auteur Stanley Kubrick's for one fan's particularly idiosyncratic interpretation. Nevertheless, Nabokov's classic is still worth dragging out for further adulation. In prose that reads like poetry, we follow Humbert Humbert, cultured European paedophile, and his obsession with his landlady's young daughter. When Humbert and Lolita go on the run, the drive across America

leads to sexual encounters which disenfranchise both and make the roadtrip feel like the longest ever written. Once you've appreciated Nabokov's masterful handling of ennui, you'll be able to start puzzling out the little enigmas which riddle the novel. Perfect if your own roadtrip is starting to drag.



Thank You For Smoking ★★★★★



I went along to Jason Reitman's latest expecting a Michael Moore style institution-buster: a damning indictment of something big, bad and corporate. But this is exactly the kind of preconception that *Thank You For Smoking* plays on so cleverly. As the film follows Nick Naylor, 'Big Tobacco's PR man, through his winding arguments and various promotional campaigns for cigarettes, it becomes increasingly difficult to make firm moral judgments.

Naylor, spokesman for the fictional Institute for Tobacco Studies, defends his employers' carcinogenic products against doctors, cancer patients, anti-smoking terrorists, a cheese-loving Senator, and his own son. His dialogues with his son clearly set up the film's

moral dilemma. Naylor likeably smiles his way through public abuse, assaults with nicotine patches and a trashing by an investigative journalist. And bizarrely comes out of the film as almost admirable.

Children with cancer, political corruption and baby seals (briefly) get bandied around as so many balls in the PR game. The jokes elicited as many gasps as laughs. It's good to see a celebration of unscrupulous truth-messaging, as opposed to the usual (fairly hypocritical) bashing that the media hands out to PR men.

A perverse take on the standard *Erin Brockovich*-style tale where the little guy with a cause takes down amoral big business, *Thank You For Smoking* is honest, hilarious and different.

Anna Leach

Sunday's treats for the Soul

Jon Swaine works through the rooms at Simon Calder's **The Soul Treat**, Sunday's student music extravaganza at the Soul Tree



Jeremy Warmesley headlining the Soul Treat. His new single is released on July 10

Suicide Sunday's Soul Treat marked the completion of *Varsity* cartoonist Simon Calder's extraordinary three-part celebration of student music. The sheer scale of the event was stunning - Calder presented around 50 acts across three stages for 10 hours, statistics testament to his mission statement of "proving wrong those who say there is no Cambridge music scene."

Clearly, there is. But the question is, is it any good? Tonight's answer was overwhelmingly affirmative. Early Main Stage highlights were sometime-vegan Pembroke pop-punks **Los Bandidos**, who manage that rarest of skills - combining interesting novelty with actually being good. Real success is surely theirs for the taking as they embark on a Spanish tour later this year.

Meanwhile in the Penthouse, Queens' Mary Bowers of **Her Daddy Is A Guru** cemented her reputation as one of Cambridge's best songwriters. Hers are a worthy addition to Songs In The Dark's tradition of simple tunes with a twist. The labels of her predecessors will surely be keen to snap her up her once the degree is done.

Not that **Molly Beanland** waited that long; a deal with Island was enough to lure

her away from Queens' last year. But whilst her MySpace presents a set of songs proving the interest well-founded, tonight there seemed something lacking. Beanland will probably face plenty more off nights like these along her path to stardom, but an ability to work through them combined with her obvious natural talent will see her soar.

Led by recent Pembroke graduate Joe Swarbrick, glam-tinged indie dandies **Borderville** were one of the night's most pleasant surprises, having been (perhaps surprisingly) more lacklustre in their debut gig at Calder's Cambonanza earlier this term. Having (literally) bled himself in the hugely successful band from the Edinburgh-wowing show *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, Swarbrick was one of tonight's best frontmen, casually spitting suburban laments over tight, driving instrumentation.

A quick dash to the Penthouse offered some crowd-pleasing sing-alongs from **Hamfater**, whose energetic double-bassist graduand James Traer will leave several Cambridge bands seeking replacements come October, followed by Irish troubador **Dan Terrins**, whose acoustic soul cover of the Arctic Monkeys' 'I Bet You Look Good

on the Dancefloor' went down as well as those songs from his own, delicate oeuvre.

A similar reworking of the Killers' 'Mr. Brightside' greeted those making their way down to the Main Stage for Soul Tree Urban Talent Contest winner **Arjun Coomaraswamy**. Accompanied by a terrific, beat-boxing partner and combining funk, soul and Spanish guitar as effectively as Craig David did before he started thinking he was R. Kelly, Arjun is a real talent.

Which is more than could be said for the dreadful **Free Love and the Good Plant**, by far the evening's lowest point. The nine-piece stoner hodgepodge managed to combine the horrors of the Cranberries, the Levellers and Evanescence into one long, drawn out, didgeridoo-backed set. Songs like 'Law is law' carried a distinct whiff of Glastonbury's Green Fields site, somewhere far more likely to contain enough drugs to make music like this bearable.

No such problems upstairs, though, as Matilda and Tim of **Elephant Juice** offered their usual tapestry of sweet harmony and acoustic guitar to make for perpendicular neck-hairs all-round. They have consistently shown that theirs is a chemistry that deserves to continue beyond graduation.

They should have been taking notes from **Simon Mastrantone**, founder of Songs in the Dark and another alumnus with a record contract to wield upon his return to town. Mastrantone's wiry frame shook as he barked out his intriguing, quirky pop repertoire to an enthusiastic Penthouse audience. Great things should be expected of his first full-length album.

As they can be of Churchill graduate, Transgressive Records signing and tonight's headliner **Jeremy Warmesley**, who confidently proved himself worthy of all his hype. An innovative set, including a great reworked version of single 'I Believe in the Way You Move' provided an affecting yet eminently danceable blend of overdriven guitar and effects-laden keyboards. Warmesley has something different to offer, and that's why he is doing so well.

As Monday dawned, some terrific DJ sets from tri-generational student club-night grandees **Ronojoy Dam**, **Ned Beauman** and **Jackson Boxer** gave the crowds a fitting send-off. This jubilant end was a testament to student talent in the town, and to Simon Calder's efforts in squeezing it all under one roof. A great day.



www.tentspresent.co.uk



No Bookworms

What's it like to be hotly tipped by NME, signed to Columbia Records and headline at your college's May Ball? **Was Yaqoob** asks **Leo von Bülow-Quirk** of Robinson College and **GoodBooks**

GoodBooks are: Max Cooke, vocals and guitar; Chris Porter, vocals and bass; JP Duncan, keyboards and Leo von Bülow-Quirk on drums.

What was it like to play your own ball in your last year? Well, great, but also slightly strange, being on home ground. Er, but actually not that strange.

Presumably you haven't dumped the pleasures of May Week in favour of sweaty practice rooms?

Well I've had a bit of both really, as soon as I finished last week I had to go home and rehearse, then play at Robinson ball, and now playing in London.

Has it been like a double life for the past six months, as you got some media interest?

Yeah it was a bit - doing my degree and rehearsing - both badly. The guys have been really patient, basically waiting for me to finish my degree (Leo does Classics).

But now you get to tour?

Well it's not quite a tour, we won't be straying outside the comfort zone of the South.

Presumably you're heading

out on tour straight away? Well we're playing Wireless festival on Sunday, then we'll be knocking down for July to record an album with Columbia - so a bigger tour will have to wait till the Autumn.

And what influences will you be bringing to the album?

(all shout, some angrily) LOADS - terrible question. XTC, Talking Heads, Pulp, Hot Chip, the Beatles (groans- implicit lack of cool), Pink Floyd, S-Club 7.

How would you describe your 'sound'- assuming you feel comfortable doing so? And do you want to inspire dancing, or pondering?

Well we want people to groove (groans, again) - oh god did I say that? Well we want people to sit and listen, but occasionally move - I don't feel sure about describing us as dance or prog - it's a bit rigid

Any last words for the people?

No, but edit out JP, he once called himself the 'cool one' and he's wearing his mum's sunglasses.



www.myspace.com/goodbooks

PJ Harvey
Please Leave Quietly (DVD)



way she sings (part sex panther, part mournful wraith, part dictator addressing her troops) isn't the way she talks (more Dorset milkmaid). For once, the real Polly Jean! Sigh.

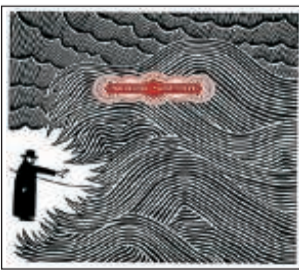
That's in the brief behind-the-scenes interludes, which capture, as PJ herself puts it, the "ramshackleness, the brokenness, the changeability" of touring. Most of the rest of it is cut together from several gigs on 2004's *Uh Huh Her* tour.

Unfortunately the footage, directed by long-time collaborator Marie Mochacz, is often murky, and the sixteen songs never stray too far from the album versions, although you do get two decent new ones.

If you want to pretend that you went to a PJ Harvey gig, this DVD is no good. But if you want to pretend to yourself that you met her backstage afterwards and made her your bride, this DVD is a start.

Ned Beauman

Thom Yorke
The Eraser



Followers of Radiohead's Thom Yorke could be forgiven for feeling déjà vu on reading some of his recent comments.

Hugely successful album is followed by sell-out world tour, is followed by "everything messing up" and nearly causing a break-up. Is this 1999 again?

The Eraser suggests a difference. Yorke has allowed himself an outlet for experimentation, a pressure valve easing tension around sessions for the band's seventh album.

Picking up the bleepy, Yorkean thread of 1999's *Kid A*

dropped somewhat by 2003's rest-of-band compromise *Hail To The Thief*, these nine tracks are 'proper songs' nonetheless.

Throughout, warm pianos mix deliciously with laptop-sliced beats and occasional noodling guitars, while vocals tend more towards obtuse refrains than developed verses.

Still, Yorke easily manages to describe how pissed off he remains. 'Harrowdown Hill' reflects on David Kelly's suicide after the government's 2003 Dodgy Dossier scandal, while the "lapdog" in 'Skip Divided' might just be PM-pointed.

But his politics stop short of rendering his music crass. This is an intriguing set of great ideas, and essential if you're frustrated by those still urging Yorke to make like it's 1994 and write another guitar solo.

If, however, you find yourself amongst this latter group, steer well clear.

Jon Swaine

Hot Chip
The Warning



Suckers for the cutely rubbish couplet, John's Ball headliners Hot Chip aptly open *The Warning* with 'Careful's clumsy "Every year, exactly this time of year". Repeated over some Squarepusher-like beats and sampled kung fu shouts, the track perfectly sets the tone for this second set of middle-class white boy squashy funk.

While the Prince enthusiasm of 2003's *Coming on Strong* hasn't quite departed them, there is less goofiness and more sophistication here. Single 'Boy From School' sounds like one

of those gorgeous crossover Balearic club hits we used to get every summer, while 'Colour' is a sweet, wistful thing, mourning "I'm everything a girl could need/there's nothing in this heart but me".

As proved on Tuesday, 'Over and Over' is their populist triumph. Its distorted bassline and nerdy sex chat do make for a near-irritating beery romp, but it does the trick. It might yet be matched by 'No Fit State,' whose New Order synth stabs combine surprisingly well with a bass that somehow can't help but recall the Spice Girls.

A downside is the sad absence of co-vocalist Joe Goddard, whose walrus-like drawl was usefully deployed against Alexis Taylor's reedy semi-raps in *Coming on Strong*. But it's good stuff, and, with luck, will rightly establish Hot Chip as one of the best, most enjoyable pop groups around.

Jon Swaine

PISTACHIO MACAROONS

The macaroon is a biscuit with a dubious reputation. Nora Hellmer deceived her husband for them in *A Doll's House*, while Bingo Little's entire reputation seems threatened by his sudden passion for them in *"Jeeves in the Springtime"*. They even killed Mrs Overall in *"Acorn Antiques"*. For it is a sweet whose pleasure is intensely private. The subtle crunch remains unheard, the silky filling untouched except by the silent feaster. They are treats for naughty children, sneaky, sweet and frivolous, hidden under library desks, enjoyed entirely alone.

That said, these pistachio macaroons have produced some of the most extraordinary noises that I've ever heard from enraptured eaters.

For the macaroons:

- 125g icing sugar
- 75g pistachios
- 2 egg whites
- 25g caster sugar

For the buttercream:

- 250g icing sugar
- 55g pistachios
- 125g very soft unsalted butter

Preheat the oven to 180°C (gas mark 4, 170°C fan oven). You will also need 2 lined baking sheets.

Grind together the pistachios and icing sugar in a food processor until they are reduced to a fine powder (don't worry if you have some small chunks). Whisk the egg whites until they form drooping peaks, then add the caster sugar and continue whisking until they are really stiff. Gently add them to the powdered nuts and sugar, then transfer the mixture to a piping bag fitted with a 1cm nozzle. I prefer to use disposable plastic piping bags which come with the point of the cone still intact, leaving you free to cut it off after you have filled the bag, as the mixture is quite runny.

Pipe one inch rounds onto the baking sheets: there should be enough to make about 40 biscuits (20 macaroons). Let them settle for around 10 minutes, and then bake for 10-12 minutes until they are set (but not too crisp). Leave them to cool on their baking sheets.

To make the filling, grind half the icing sugar and the nuts as before, and start to cream the remaining icing sugar and the butter together. Once the nutty powder is ready, add it to the mixture and continue creaming to form a smooth paste.

When they are cool, carefully remove each biscuit from the baking sheets, and sandwich them together with the buttercream. Don't eat them all at once...

HELENA CULLINEY

CRUISING THE RUNWAY

The Spring 2007 cruise collections this past month in New York presented a woman in movement. She travelled from Paris and Italy (in the cases of Chanel, Dior and Gucci), but she remained easygoing, grounded (in either wedges or flats) and confident. The point of the cruise collections (essentially the mid-season stock) is usually to make wearable clothes that bridge the gap between seasons thematically and commercially. The New York shows really reigned in some difficult high fashion trends into the arena of very 'real' clothes. Volume, utilitarian details, shorter lengths for eveningwear and the banishment of the stiletto no longer seemed like an abstract fashion trend.

Chanel Lagerfeld showed his collection in Grand Central Station (re-enforcing the idea of the woman on the go). In gladiatorial sandals, seemingly carelessly cut jeans and knee-length skirt suits, the Chanel women are not stopping for anything outside their very particular easy-chic schedule. A more sophisticated and thoughtful alternative to the flip-flop (that was deemed by so many to be appropriate footwear for balls this year – which it wasn't), the knee-high sandals looked modern and stepped on just the right side of a very harsh kind of beauty. Lighter looser evening looks were knee length and shrouded with various cardigans and shirts for the more sensible dresser.

Dior After the blood-stained French revolution inspired show for Winter, Galliano came to New York quietly but importantly, replacing the red paint with gold leaf that slithered down slinky dresses. Galliano's most important statement lay in the tougher leather coats he matched with his eveningwear. Women want to stay warm at events like May Balls and perhaps they should look to more casual jackets to enhance the delicate quality of their eveningwear and shun those damsel-in-distress-meets-granny shawls.

Gucci At Gucci, Frida Giannini was inspired by the French Riviera which meant a hint of ocean blue floral prints and floaty dresses, but employed in a much more laid-back way than Giannini's chintzier 1940s tea time efforts that are so right for this summer. Toting their lives around in large bags, the Gucci girls wore dresses that did not declare 'day' or 'night' but tried to break down dress codes with versatile dresses that wearers should feel confident enough to define for themselves.

Oscar De La Renta De La Renta anticipated the hype surrounding Sophia Coppola's upcoming film on Marie Antoinette. And whereas there were a few anachronisms, De La Renta made the most important statement of the week with his knee length ball gowns. With cardigans, pockets and sturdy wedges in almost every look, De La Renta had his mind set not on Rococo silliness, but utilitarian details that would appeal to anyone with a soft but rational sensibility. Full length gowns seem as irrelevant now as mini-dresses did in Victorian times and it's the women who embrace the present mood (as opposed to the present trend or dress code) that will seem timeless in years to come. De La Renta knows he needs a feminine edge and cleverly incorporates it into fashion's new no-frills agenda.

The cruise collections show that more fun-loving houses, such as Gucci and Oscar De La Renta, are learning to adjust to the more sombre mood with clear elegant visions. The 'dolce vita' ateliers are justifying their light spring frivolity with practical easygoing cuts and details, finding a balance between the strive for beauty and not ignoring the more solemn undertones demanded and dictated in today's warrior society.

BENJ DHAD SEIDLER



Gucci



Dior



Chanel



Oscar De La Renta



BREEZY



Marc Jacobs released three new easygoing unisex fragrances perfect for summer evenings. Grass, Rain and Cotton recall the designer's childhood memories of the hot months and the pockets of divine cool we find while discovering the world outside Cambridge.



Whether lying in with the windows open or clutching your laptop as you ride the Orient Express, DVDs will be shown this summer on a small screen near you. Catch up on the classics before they drown in cinematic history - Ken Russell's Oscar winning *Women in Love* will erupt that fiery summer Romance boiling inside you.



Stobhan wears dresses by Reiss.

Jon wears suit and shirt by Reiss.

Photographed by Miguel Santa

When traveling, be sure to pick up some china from a junk shop in Wales, and folk art is bound to add a colourful touch by tourist traps and ask to see back. And don't be too 'I'll recreate my gap

FROM CLASS



GROOM TO BOARDROOM



shoes model's own

s, umbrella by Austin Reed, sunglasses by Topshop

Clara, Modeled by Jon Lopez and Stobhan Kelly, Styled by Kaz Leslie and Claire Jamieson

ome folk art. Whether it's an antique biscuit tin or piece of chipped
ex votos diptych from Mexico or a screen printed poster from Cuba,
izing to your room when the winter months loom. Don't be fooled
rooms for treasures that may seem meaningless to their vendors.
o year' about it, try to make the art look right in its western setting.

CAMBRIDGE LIAISONS

I love May Week, and late nights, and even the self-indulgence of day-long hangovers. However, I have never made it to a Wyverns Garden Party on Suicide Sunday, which is pretty poor show for a Magdalenite. In the first year, an extreme hangover and late night kept me away. In second year, a friend's 21st and traffic on the M25 was the culprit. This year, to top it all off, I have had to celebrate my exams from the discomfort of my sickbed, after post-exam illness set in.

If you had told me that I would have been spending days in bed during May Week, I would have hoped it would have been for a different reason... However, now it strikes me that my ill-fated Suicide Sunday may have been a blessing in disguise. Watching my friends catapult from one party to another, becoming more hung-over and exhausted after each one as I am sure I would have done, has taught me some valuable Cambridge lessons to share with you all, albeit that they come too late for me.

Firstly, always be late to a party and leave early. A few hours at Trinity Ball, supported by friends, flat Coke and painkillers, were more magical and rewarding than could have been imagined. If you keep your time short, everything and everyone is still new and exciting, and you can leave on a high. Whether you spend your time dancing with friends, drinking yourself into a stupor or having an illicit liaison in some dark corner, keep it short and sweet. In the words of Kurt Cobain, "its better to burn out than fade away".

In addition, if you stay out of the limelight for a while, people notice that you are not there, and it is always nice to be missed. You should see this as an extended form of playing hard to get, without even trying, especially if you have a current romantic target in sight. If people don't know the reason for your absence, they may presume you have far better things to do, like go on an exotic holiday, or bring relief to poverty-stricken orphans in Africa, or save the world from an evil villain in the guise of your superhero alter-ego.

Lastly, always take time to chill out and watch the world go by. Cambridge is a electric place, and often life seems to be a constant eight-week cycle of sleep-eat-work-sport-alcohol (but don't knock it 'til you've tried it). Take a time-out once in a while just to centre yourself. Catch up on current events (Grace has been evicted from Big Brother and Britney is having marriage troubles), lose yourself in a classic novel (Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment is always a mood-enhancer) or catch up with friends (or 'Friends', if that fails).

Remember, all you young, beautiful things, that if you don't take care of yourself, nobody else will. Self-love is the one type of love that can never be unrequited. So next year, take a day off in May Week. Your social life will thank you in the long term. And more importantly, you will always look good in the photographs!

JENNY STOCKS

SWEATY (NOT IN A GOOD WAY)



Top hats don't even look good on a Monopoly board, let alone worn for the most elegant evening of your life. A lesser paper may promote adopting vintage styles but why not start fresh? Cambridge balls (through the ages apparently as they seemingly were unmissable in ancient Greece) should be an arena for modernity and progression.



CAMBRIDGE LEISURE PARK
Tel: (01223) 414488

Buy any large Pizza
and get a free
chocolate fudge
cake
for takeaway only

Sunday to
Thursday at any
Cambridge
Pizza Hut

Don't forget this voucher!

A Slice of the action!

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL 2006

Solve your accommodation
problems by calling Carole
Smith / Anne Goring on
01620 810 620
email address:

festflats@aol.com

or write to Festival Flats, 3
Linkylea Cottages, Gifford,
East Lothian, EH41 4PE

www.festivalflats.net

JUDITH E WILSON DRAMA STUDIO FACULTY OF ENGLISH

JUDITH E WILSON DRAMA FELLOW
Yvonne McDevitt
would like to thank all those
who attended events in the Drama Studio 2004 - 06.

Thank you to the
FACULTY OF ENGLISH,
and the JUDITH E WILSON COMMITTEE
for the opportunity and time
this fellowship has afforded me.

And, special thanks to
SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE
for 'taking me in'.

The warmth and support
there has been unsurpassed.

Enjoy life's moment
at DOJO.

DOJO Noodle Bar
1-2 Millers Yard
Mill Lane Cambridge CB2 1RQ
T: 01223 363 471
www.dojonoodlebar.co.uk



Have you got
yours yet?

See page 7 for
more details

BAT BOY THE MUSICAL

require a **guitarist, bass-guitarist &
keyboard player** to join the band
for the Edinburgh Festival
3 - 28th August

Contact Sarah (st400) to apply
www.BatBoy2006.co.uk

Experienced House/Pet-Sitter -
Available NOW and throughout
SUMMER VACATION.

References available. Proof
reading + editing work also
undertaken. Contact: Anne
Hinton - Geography
(ach73@cam.ac.uk or
anne_hinton@yahoo.co.uk).

WANTED

Wrangler, geek compsci to help code
up web 2.0 media/mash udeas this
summer for former-Cambridge
student, local entrepreneur in exchange
for beer, resume-ware, and later
possible trips to Bay Area to present
the app to Google, Apple and eBay.
07720 047402

Your Complimentary sitting
at our Cambridge Studio

JET

Remember to bring props.
Gowns, Hoods, etc are
provided at the studio.

Photographic



Free...
Free...
Free...
Free...

...Proofs sent to your home address

...Group photograph with friends
when you come together for your individual portraits.



Jet Photographic
1a Boltoph Lane
Cambridge
CB5 9BA
01223 329007

A late night at Bird & Bird



join the celebration

BIRD & BIRD

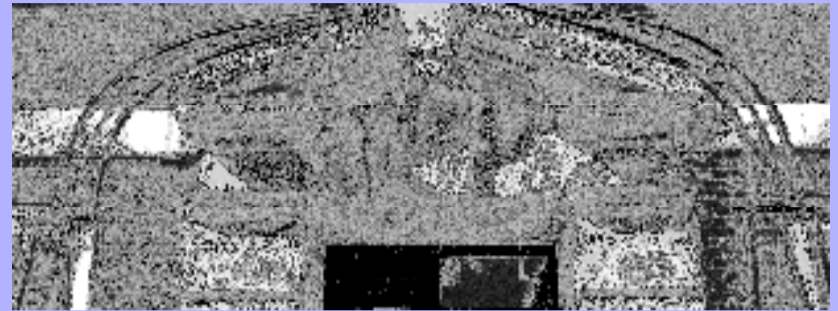
www.twobirds.com/graduates

Beijing	Brussels	Düsseldorf	Frankfurt	The Hague	Hong Kong	London
Lyon	Madrid	Milan	Munich	Paris	Rome	Stockholm

FARRER & Co

Farrer & Co is a leading modern law firm with a distinguished history

We are searching for a handful of very special people for training contracts commencing in 2008



Diverse Clients

Charity & Community
Commercial Property
Corporate
Disputes

Dynamic Teams

Employment
Estates & Private Property
Family
Financial Services

Outstanding Training

Heritage
Intellectual Property
Media
Private Client

"lawyers who are barristorially intelligent; confident yet discreet; individual yet co-operative and who offer traditional quality with a modern touch" Chambers UK 2005

Application deadline: 31 July 2006

Farrer & Co

66 Lincoln's Inn Fields London WC2A 3LH

Telephone +44 (0)20 7242 2022 Facsimile +44 (0)20 7242 9899

Website www.farrer.co.uk Email enquiries@farrer.co.uk

PRIVATE TUTORS REQUIRED

Undergraduates and graduates required during term time and University vacations on a full time and part time basis to tutor students for Common Entrance, GCSE's and A-level.

Premium rates and postings abroad are available for successful candidates who will be discrete, responsible, mature in attitude and have a genuine gift for teaching.

Applicants must be available on at least a part time basis for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Previous tutoring experience is useful, but not essential as full training is given to successful candidates.

Please email your C.V to rupert@thetutorsgroup.com or post it to Rupert Syme, Blythe Hall, 100 Blythe Road, London, W14 0HB.

Interviews will be held in London during August and September.

KENDALL FREEMAN

The best things often come
in smaller packages...

Kendall Freeman is a commercial City law firm
with a difference. To find out why visit

www.kendallfreeman.com



Kendall Freeman, Solicitors, 43 Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1JU, United Kingdom tel: +44 (0)20 7583 4055
fax: +44 (0)20 7353 7377 email: graduaterecruitment@kendallfreeman.com www.kendallfreeman.com

Aufgeht's Deutschland: The beautiful game

A tale of efficiency and expectation - Adam Bracey on The World Cup so far...

You may ask why a feature on the World Cup has any place or relevance in a Cambridge student newspaper, and you'd be quite right to do so. This year's tournament in Germany doesn't, unless I'm much mistaken, feature any of the current Blues team. Though their victory over Oxford was heroic in its way, the World Cup Finals is best left to the professionals.

Think Riquelme, think Ronaldinho, think Gerrard. Muga, Threlfall and Dankis will be enthralled onlookers, like the rest of us. Perhaps the only justification I can offer is the scene at Parker's Piece for England's opening group game against Paraguay. Thousands were there to watch the match on the big screen. It was the same in every major city up and down the country. The prospect of England's footballers (more of whom later) playing in a World Cup group fixture creates an excitement equal to, if not greater than, the 2003 Rugby World Cup Final and the final hours of the Ashes. Football is the country's sporting fixation; the World Cup the game's greatest festival. Plus, it's May week and there really isn't much sport going on at the moment.

It seems only fair to begin with the hosts, our dear friends the Germans. The

stadia all befit the magnitude of this tournament; the Germans have footballing cathedrals to the south, with Bayern Munich's new Allianz Arena in Bavaria, to the west, Borussia Dortmund's Westfalen and the Arena auf Schalke in the Ruhr region, to the east with the Olympiastadion, and in the north; Hamburg's AOL Arena. Everything has gone according to plan so far, but we didn't expect anything else. As for their football team, Klinsmann's Germany have reached the last 16 comfortably. The usual brand of teutonic power play has not been sacrificed, but the Germans owe most to players who might have played in different national colours: Miroslav Klose, who declined the chance to play for Poland, has scored four goals already; Oliver Neuville, born in Switzerland, scored the late goal against the Poles which ensured German progression to the knockout phase. Although they remain unfancied, and, inevitably unpopular, German claims on the World Cup are far more plausible now than three weeks ago. The hosts may go far.

Perhaps the most pleasing aspect of this tournament has been the safe passage of so many of the world's biggest names. In 2002,



Crowds gather on Parker's Piece to watch England's opener with Paraguay on the big screen provided by the BBC

Holland did not travel to the Far East. Portugal, France and Argentina did not make the last 16, and Spain and Italy made early exits to South Korea. The tournament and its viewers were undoubtedly the losers by their failings. This time, only the French appear in serious danger of not progressing, as their team of geriatrics labours in the tournament's easiest group. Brazil's two

performances have been ponderous and slightly flabby, rather like their centre-forward, but expect them to improve. To their pain, they have so far been eclipsed by the brilliance of their deadly rivals Argentina, whose performance against 'S & M' marked them as tournament favourites. The 24-pass move that ended in a goal by Esteban Cambiasso may go down as one of the

great examples of team play. No-one is talking about Ronaldinho and Adriano, except in tones of disappointment. Riquelme, Tevez, Saviola and Sorin, that piratical figure on the Argentinian left, have enthralled us. And England? Few in the national set-up, least of all the coach, have enhanced their reputations. Three turgid performances have not engendered much

optimism, but perhaps that is just as well. There is still time for one or two Englishmen to be elevated to sainthood.

The world's biggest tournament demands the world's most exciting players. We will all get to see more of Torres, Deco, Messi, Robben, Totti, Kaka in later rounds, with the stakes even higher. The prospect is mouth-watering.

Don't burst the bubble!

About to enter the real world?

Don't panic!

Stay in touch with Cambridge by subscribing to *Varsity*!

21 issues a year, sent direct to your door, anywhere in the country.

Varsity - helping you feel young again - every Friday!

Send a cheque for £17 to cover p&p, payable to 'Varsity Publications Ltd' to Varsity, 11-12 Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1QA

VARSLITY

Cambridge subjected to a Lashing

Tendulkar shines as Cambridge get set for the Varsity match

LASHINGS XI
342/5 (40 Overs) bt

CAMBRIDGE
238/9 (40 Overs) by 104 runs

Alex Nash

Cambridge lost to Lashings World XI by 104 runs on Wednesday, but played well and prospects for the Varsity match coming up on July 1 look good.

It is undoubtedly the most popular game in the Cambridge University cricket fixture list, and the exhibition put on by Lashings on Wednesday was an excellent indication of just why the game attracts thousands each year. The ground was buzzing several hours in advance, with cricket fans of all ages milling contentedly around a blustery but beautiful Fenner's. Much of the pre-game excitement centered around the inclusion of Sachin Tendulkar, apparently playing to regain some kind of match fitness. In keeping with tradition, Lashings batted first, and this news was received with delight by the crowd. Perhaps it is just me, but there seems to be an element of pre arranged sado-masochism to Lashings' matches - a sense of resignation almost - and despite Cambridge digging out five wickets there was never any feeling that they were in the hunt.

As a team, Lashings come across like the Harlem Globetrotters of cricket, executing outlandish strokes all around the ground, much to the near-orgasmic delight of their travelling commentators, whose persistently inane banter



Sachin Tendulkar dispatches yet another boundary for Lashings on his way to 155 runs from 199 balls

brought to mind a homoerotic incarnation of the Chuckle Brothers. Their cricketing expertise also bore comparison to the children's TV stars.

Opening the innings Tendulkar and Richardson looked solid, despite Blues captain Tom Savill getting the ball to fizz around Tendulkar's nose in his first over. Lashings progressed to fifty without alarm when Kemp got one through Richardson's aged forward defensive, shattering the captain's furniture in emphatic style.

Greg Blewett looked the least comfortable of the celestial batting contingent, making seventeen before he was bowled by Celliers, bringing Phil Simmons to the crease. He was dismissed by Celliers for two, heralding the arrival of

Chris Cairns who decided that ones and twos were a waste of time, dealing in sixes to every corner of the ground. All the while Tendulkar casually amassed a sublime 155 from a mere 119 balls, playing every shot in the book while Cambridge could only watch the little master and listen to the commentators' sycophantic, childlike drivel. When he was finally dismissed by Ben Jacklin, everyone at the ground was aware that his innings was an extremely fine one. However, doubts surrounding his match fitness will persist and Cambridge manfully chipped away at the batsman right to the death and did themselves proud, despite moments of sloppiness. Lashings were brutal towards the end of their innings,

Tatenda Taibu and Chris Cairns putting on 100 in around eight overs, with Cairns reaching his hundred of Savill who eventually dismissed Taibu caught by Jacklin. Lashings finally ended on 342 for 5 with Cairns unbeaten on 112, bringing to an end the longest fielding session in the Blues cricket calendar.

Cambridge's response was an extremely encouraging one in the run up to Varsity; Massey and Bartholemew looked composed at the crease, adding 42 against Courtney Walsh and Chris Lewis until Massey was bowled by first change Ajit Agarkar. Freddie Owen came in at three looking confident and aggressive in equal measure, dispatching the likes of Tendulkar, Hayward and

Agarkar to all parts on his way to an accomplished 80. In fact, the Cambridge batsmen batted excellently all the way down with Bartholemew getting thirty-six and Matt Austin a classy fifty. 342 was, inevitably, always going to be a tall order, but the batsmen used the game as valuable experience and were both mature and professional. The statistics will show that Lashings won by just over a hundred runs - and the crowd will talk about Cairns and Tendulkar. But those who realise that nobody is really supposed to beat Lashings, and focus on Cambridge's all-round performance, will have seen that there are signs of a good team peaking at the right time for the game that really matters.



Varsity's big Big Brother Catch-up

It's that time of year again when the TV show specifically designed to interrupt revision schedules is back. But because you've all been beaver away for the first few weeks of this televisual wonder, we thought you might appreciate a catch-up. Read in a Geordie accent for full effect.

Day 1 - and the housemates enter. There's Lea, who has Britain's biggest breast implants. Pete, who has Tourette's Syndrome ("he says 'wanker' at the end of each sentence" giggles our gurning host Davina). Dawn is an 'exercise scientist' - an occupation I didn't even know existed but am intrigued to know more about. Richard is a bald Canadian 'sexual terrorist'. George is a bit posh. Glynn is an 18-year old Welsh life-guard. Nikki and Grace are blonde girls that don't wear a lot. There are a few more. You get the idea.

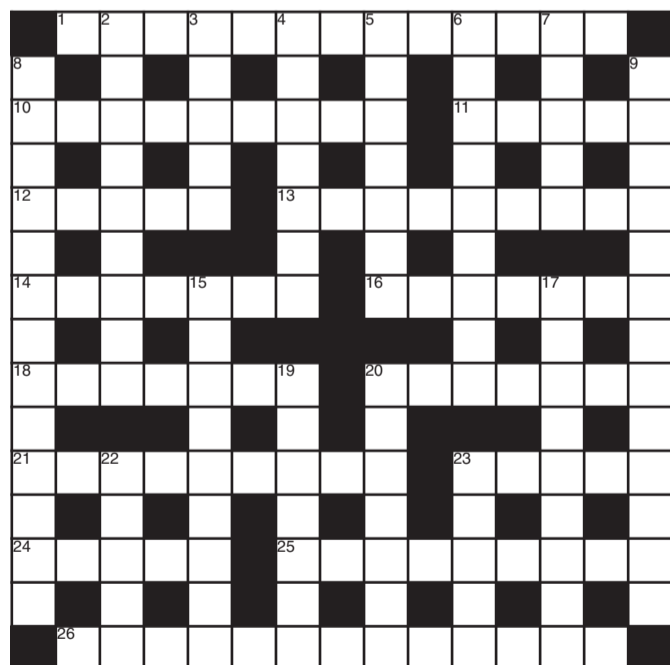
Tensions rise when Shahbaz goes a bit psychotic and hides everybody's food. Shahbaz cries a lot in the diary room. Big Brother asks Shahbaz to leave the house. *The Sun* reveals that Shahbaz is mentally unstable.

The housemates get enraged by Dawn's body odour. Much whispering and giggling. Big Brother discovers Dawn has a secret code (not involving sweat) to the outside world - frankly the most intelligent action to occur in the house since BB1's Nasty Nick smuggled in a contraband pencil. She gets kicked out. Bonnie is evicted. Oh yes - Bonnie was really dull and didn't do a lot. You didn't miss much. Posh George also leaves because he realises 'he doesn't want to be famous'. Add your own witty response to that one.

Two new housemates enter - hurrah! Meet Sam, a cross-dressing sensitive Scottish bloke and Aisleyne, who's a blonde girl who doesn't wear a lot. Someone accuses Lea of 'bullshitting' or 'backstabbing' or some such action. It might have been Lisa, but Sam gets the blame. Lea kicks off. Her distressing breasts heave worryingly in the fit of rage that follows. Lisa kicks off. Sam weeps. Sam gets evicted.

Excitement allegedly sweeps the nation as BB hides Wonka-style golden tickets in Kit Kats. The sentence: ten weeks in the house. Well, maybe. If you pass the psychological test and you're entertaining enough. And preferably blonde. The winner is Suzie, who actually bought her golden ticket off eBay for £4000. Suzie is the 'golden housemate' and has to wear gold all the time and live in a gold room. Ingenious. Housemates bitch about her a bit. I think they're jealous of the goldness. Grace is evicted. She throws water at Suzie. Much booing from the crowd, who wait outside and jeer in the style of a public hanging on a weekly basis. The show ends and Grace presumably joins previous evictees in intensive therapy.

There you go, all caught up. Go and watch. Give up your life. You know you want to.



Across

- It's tedious to make Eastern string in tune (13)
- What the dark side think of the light? (9)
- Command for headless, confused Leftie (5)
- Hatred sparked when I'm mixed with duo (5)
- Replace article with interest compounded (9)
- Was last partner Edward? (7)
- Gull in meadow, confused and unending (7)
- Compensation regarding robe (7)
- Corrosive accountants is cut out (7)
- Donkey faced queen; old king grabbed it for the pot! (9)
- Main supply-line for a golden army? (5)
- Nell looks back to the east to see her (5)
- Fools trot foolishly at pouffe (9)
- Second rites in French displayed obscurity (13)

Down

- Void I fed one into to be invalidated (9)
- He prophesied human destruction (5)
- Came in as reed net failed (7)
- Receding waters swept Debbie away with Tim's head (7)
- Bride's possessions philosopher put on tabletop (9)
- Sounds like she's a low point (5)
- Mad to no longer be a rolling stone (13)
- Unique place in blearier surroundings (13)
- Run to the East - simplifies to that (9)
- Well-known that common-sense with nothing added subdues lively riot (9)
- Ate quickly whilst mocked (7)
- Smoke of revolutionary origin (7)
- Make voles do puzzle (5)
- Sounds like our lad's fire-raising (5)

(c) Mathno

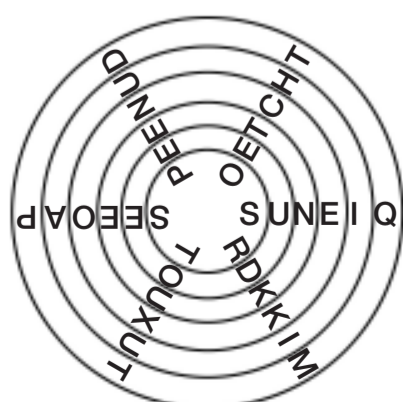
Scribble pad

Sudoku Medium

				5		4
4		6	9		7	
	9			4		1
		1			8	9
			8	1		
	2	7			1	
5	8			7		6
		3		4		7
7				6		5

The object is to insert the numbers in the boxes to satisfy only one condition: each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 through 9 exactly once.

©2006 Daily Sudoku



Re-arrange the letters by rotating the discs to create six separate six-letter words leading in to the centre.
Email your answer to: competitions@varsity.co.uk

© Adam Edelshain





Features

TRIPOS ANSWERS FOR £1

We meet the founders of 82ASK << Page 9



Travel

TOP TRAVELLING TIPS

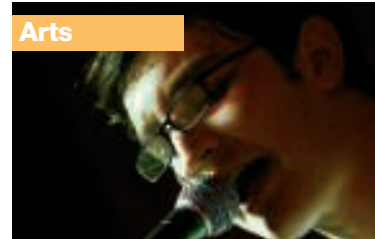
Look no further for inspiration << Page 11



May Balls

REVIEWS OF THE BALLS

Glitz, glamour and rain... << Pages 16 & 17



Arts

THE SOUL TREE TREAT

The alternative Suicide Sunday << Page 25



Lifestyle

TRANSITION FASHION

From classroom to boardroom << Pages 26 & 27



RHIAN JONES PEMBROKE WOMEN'S BOAT CLUB

IN CAMBRIDGE, the arrival of summer is inevitably accompanied by exams, revision and hours of endless procrastination in the library, but for rowers it also brings dreams of glory in May Bumps. For Pembroke Women's 1st VIII, starting second on the river, our aim of gaining the Headship was clear, but only achievable with real commitment from the whole crew. A weekly training schedule of six water outings, two ergs, circuits and weights whilst still trying to make lectures, supervisions and revision was testing, but the lure of Headship was more than enough to maintain our drive and focus throughout the term.

The first day of Bumps is always slightly surreal as you realise that the event you have worked towards all term has finally arrived. The tension and adrenaline are frankly addictive, even though I never feel that way at the time! It was essential to demonstrate our strength by a convincing bump on Jesus on the first day, but the respect demanded by the quality crews around us meant that we knew it would be by no means easy or straightforward. In the event, that bump was the most exhilarating three minutes of rowing I have ever experienced, and the relief felt afterwards was immense. The tension of the following three days due to the need for strong performances in the row-overs made the whole experience draining, but at the same time I didn't want the week to end because of the fun our crew was having in rowing so well together. However, it was inevitable that Saturday would arrive, and as we crossed the finish line and rowed our victory lap in front of the crowds, I swelled with pride. Parading the boat through town to college and then burning it in front of so many people was one of the more surreal things I have done but will no doubt remain one of my most enduring Cambridge memories.

In being able to add to and ultimately complete the work of previous crews from the past few years, this year's Headship crew feels a great sense of achievement. This term's rowing has never been anything less than fantastic fun, and to become Head of the River 2006 is something that I will always be incredibly proud of. Bring on next year!

Caius make it five in a row

Pembroke crew burn boat as Women crowned head of the river



Left: Pembroke celebrate gaining the Women's headship by burning a boat in college; Right: Caius on their way to rowing over to hold the headship

Caius men retain headship for fifth year

Olivia Day

CAIUS ONCE again proved dominant at this year's May Bumps, keeping LMBC and St Catharine's at bay to row over on all four days and finish head of the river in the Men's first division for the fifth consecutive year. They have now held the 'Double Headship', for the Lent and May bumps, for the last five years.

With their supremacy over neighbouring crews in little doubt, they never had to push too hard to keep the boats following them at bay. The only boat that had matched them for pace in the build

up to race were Jesus, but starting in tenth place, they couldn't possibly catch Caius in such a competitive division. St Catharine's, tipped to do well, did not disappoint; they moved up from fourth to second. LMBC, despite hitting Grassy Corner on two consecutive days, dropped only one place to end in third.

While the bumps charts show that no crew in the first division achieved blades, they do highlight the dramatic fall from grace of Trinity Hall, Robinson and Magdalene, all of whom received spoons for their efforts. Only Pembroke II received blades in the top three divisions, illustrating the hugely competitive nature of the races over the four days.

Other notable performances include the dramatic rise of Corpus II who managed to climb from 2nd in division 5 to 10th in Division 4,

a rise of 9 places. Caius III, Selwyn III and Jesus IV all got blades with impressive performances on each of the four days.

In the Women's first division, Jesus were caught by a blues-stacked Pembroke on the first day. They went on to successfully row over on the next three days, to finish head of the river. Jesus were more worried by Emmanuel behind them, who were overlapping them half way through day three, than about catching a Pembroke crew that created a healthy lead on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Emmanuel and Caius rowed over on all four days to remain third and fourth respectively.

Lower down in the first division, Christ's caught a nasty crab on the first day, and Downing boarded the Christ's boat, though thankfully no-one was hurt. Churchill and

Selwyn managed to squeeze past the two boats but First and Third weren't as lucky as the Downing boat drifted into their path and one of the crew was thrown backwards into the Cam. A re-row was ordered as a result which saw Selwyn bumped by First and Third, who went on to bump Christ's and Magdalene. Christ's never recovered from what was a terrible first day and will be getting spoons for their trouble, joining New Hall who also dropped out of Division 1 at the same time.

Once again no crews in the first division achieved blades, although Trinity Hall and Downing both showed form by going up three places. Jesus II bumped on each of the four days and now sit second in Division 2. LMBC II also impressed to win blades, along with Queens II, Corpus, Darwin II, Newnham III and Jesus IV.

Back in Sept Varsity will return in Michaelmas. To be involved with the issue, see page 15 <<

Hitori Easy grid with numbers and shading instructions.

Kakuro Medium grid with numbers and solving instructions.

Sudoku Medium grid with numbers and solving instructions.