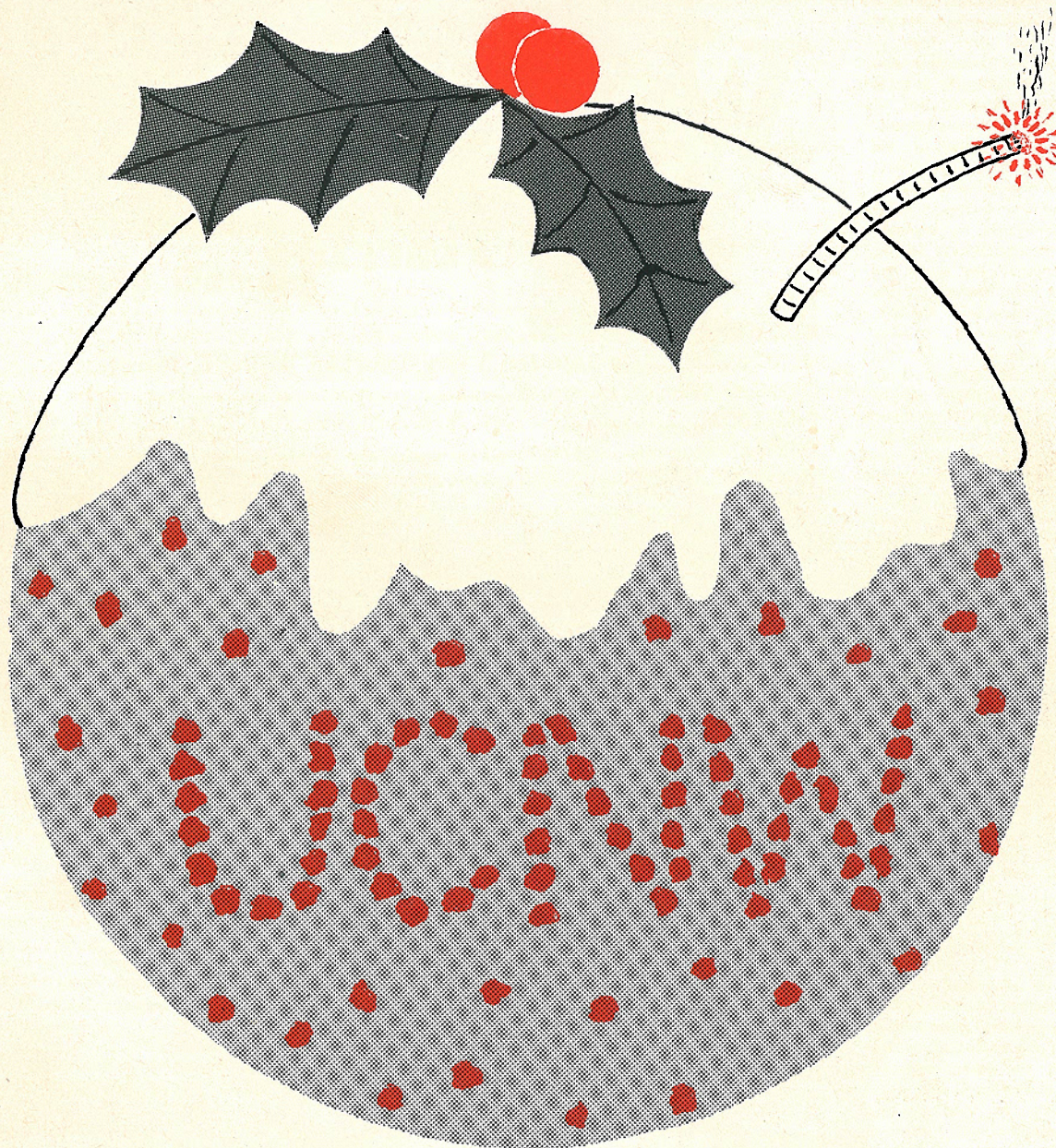
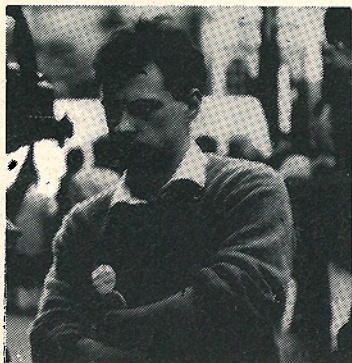


# Y Seren



**inside**



Sean gets tough -  
The Cuts Rally p4,5



Dinosaurs in Bangor? -  
Children in Need p8,9



"The Thinking Man's Sique  
Sique Sputnik" -  
Christmas Ball Details p14



# EDITORIAL

As you may have noticed, this week is our Christmas issue. It is, you might say, a little early but the Christmas Ball demands a preview and this, alas, is the last 'Y Seren' of the term. While on this festive note, I must apologise to all of our readers who are 'keeping an eye out for posters and enthusiastic ticket sellers' as there will be no 'Y Seren' pre-Christmas disco. Unfortunately enthusiasm counts for nothing when the only available night is a Sunday or Monday, so we felt a disco next term would be more successful (so keep an eye out in the New Year!)

The 'Children in Need' Appeal was a success in Bangor and details of the student's contribution and of Bangor as a whole are given in a special feature in this issue. Sales of the newspaper have already raised well over £50 and when money is collected from other sales points we should reach the big hundred. Donations for messages on 'The Wall' were poor but if we had ten pence for everybody who asked how to get a message on 'The Wall' the amount raised might have been doubled. So for all the frustrated students eager to get the message in print, here's what to do: It's quite simple, first come to the newspaper office at the end of the Executive Corridor (2nd floor of the Students' Union building) and ask whoever is there to let you write your message. Alternatively, if you are the shy type or just can't face meeting a of the 'Y Seren' staff (not a pleasant prospect) just put your message in the 'Y Seren' pigeon-hole in the foyer or outside the General Office and one of us will try to disguise our handwriting.

In a similar vein, if you want to work for the newspaper or submit an article come and see me in the newspaper office.

This week, following elections at the General and Editorial Board meetings, we welcome two new staff members: Huw Williams is our new (excuse the pun) News Editor and Joe Creed takes over as Science Editor.

Damian Worsley moves from the Science page to my old job as Advertising Manager and I get the job that goes with this column (see credits)

MERRY CHRISTMAS

The opinions expressed in this issue are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of 'Y Seren', or the policy of the Students' Union as a whole.

## Apology

On behalf of the Bangor Lesbian and Gay Group, I would like to apologise for the offensive nature of part of the Lesbian and Gay page in 'Y Seren'. The intention was not to attack heterosexuals, but to question attitudes held by certain members of society. We understand that this has caused great upset to many people. We are sorry that this article implies that we are prejudiced against heterosexuals: This is not the case, and we will ensure that this type of offensive writing will not occur again.

Head of L and G group

## The Y SEREN Pantomime Company Presents:

# ALICE in Wonderland

Starring

ALICE.....Claire Laver  
MAD HATTER.....Joe Creed  
WHITE RABBIT..(I'm late for a very important Editorial Board).....Toni Wild  
CHESHIRE CAT.....Aled Jones  
TWEEDLEDUM.....Nick Jones  
TWEEDLEDEE.....Damian Worsley  
MAD MARCH HARE.....Julia Damassa  
DOORMOUSE.....Huw Williams  
QUEEN OF HEARTS.....Melanie Stokes  
HER TARTS.....Sarah Dunnington  
.....Andy Ffrench  
CATERPILLAR.....Bob Stone  
PACK OF CARDS.....David Hughes  
.....Pete Townsend  
.....Helen Davies

EXTRAS.....Anne Hadcroft  
.....Brother James  
.....Sean McArdle  
.....Barry Kaye  
.....J.M.Lawton  
.....Dennis Perry  
.....Rick Peterson  
.....Jo Housley  
.....Catherine Fry  
.....Copycat

### ATTENTION!

Bookbanc is now open at the following times:

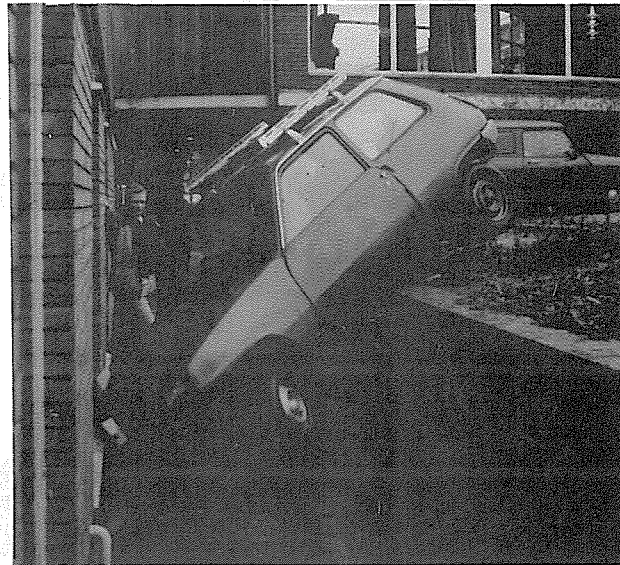
THURSDAYS.....1.00 to 2.00 pm

FRIDAY.....1.00 to 2.00 pm

Bookbanc can be opened on request at other times by asking Hugh Oxburgh (Deputy President and Bookbanc Co-ordinator).

# NEWSEREN

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S  
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## Humpty Dumpty

A rare sight greeted Bangor students on Monday November 24 as they walked hungrily towards the Students' Union for their lunch - for there, before their disbelieving eyes, was a red Renault 5 which had apparently jumped the Theatr Gwynedd car-park wall and rammed itself against the Union building at a very precarious angle.

Students stopped and gaped, and then guffawed as they saw the notice 'Mike Dunn's School of Motoring' which had been stuck on the side of the aforementioned vehicle.

This unhappy incident occurred as Michael Dunn, the car's owner and former General Secretary, was kindly giving a driving lesson to a friend who unfortunately when told to reverse did the reverse! On finding himself

about to enter the table-tennis room from the outside Mike, always in command of the situation, turned to his friend and said: "Well, it looks like it's into the Union for a cup of tea, then!"

The extent of the damage is not yet known, but according to the learner driver involved (See Photo), if the car is a write-off it will be due to the violent nature in which it was hauled back onto terra firma before a crowd of supportive well-wishers. Fortunately neither Michael nor his friend were hurt, and Michael took it all in his manly stride with commendable good grace.

Michael's only comment on the matter was, "Oops!"

Anne Hadcroft

## Jobs on the Executive up for Grabs

If you didn't already know, the Executive is the controlling committee of the Students Union, with regard to day to day matters. Decisions are made regarding all areas of the Students Union. The posts for which anyone can stand, regardless of experience, age, sex, nationality or year are:

**Executive without portfolio** - This person has no specific responsibilities, but will find an area delegated to him or her by the Executive.

**Overseas Officer** - This person has responsibilities for representing approximately 300 overseas students in the College on the Executive, and being head of the Overseas standing committee.

**Vice President External Affairs** - This post is, as it suggests, responsible for External Affairs, regarding campaigns within the Students Union, and how external affairs affect student interests.

**Academic Affairs Officer** - This person is responsible for the Academic Affairs of the Union. He or she convenes the Academic Affairs Committee, which has all the course representatives on it, and discusses and solves any problems.

The positions within the Executive are all important in their own right. They all offer the chance to day to day matters. Decisions are made regarding all areas of the Students Union and College.

If you are elected to a position on the Executive you will be made very welcome. You will meet a variety of people, each with different beliefs; not only will this be interesting, but it will help you form your own ideas.

What commitment? You will need to come to all Executive meetings and SRC meetings on Tuesday evenings at 5.00p.m. and 7.30p.m. respectively. Plus a few hours a week to work on any projects you or the Executive are currently exploring. This is not as bad as it sounds, considering the benefits.

To stand for a post, come to the second floor and talk to me, the President, or Colin Campbell, the Chairman of the Executive. (All you need is a form, a proposer and seconder, and then bring your friends to the next General Meeting).

Good Luck - hope to see you soon.

Sean McArdle

## UCMC Conference Report

This year's November Conference of the UCMC (Union of Communist Marxist) was held in the 'Imperial Hotel' in Tenby on the south coast of Wales. About seventy delegates attended the weekend which began on Friday evening. Bangor sent two delegates who attended each session voting on the two policy motions which all seemed fairly uncontroversial: AIDS; Women and Violence; Women's Reproductive Rights; and Jews in the Soviet Union to name but a few. We also took down with us two Emergency Motions which, sadly, were not put to the vote due to lack of time etc.

There were some interesting Work-shops on Anti-racism and Women, and a closed Women's Caucus which met one evening. There were also some visiting speakers from NUT ODDYSI (an organisation of Democratic students in Iran) and we were expecting a speaker from SOGAT but she/he never turned up!

Brother James  
Bangor Delegation Leader

## News in Brief

By W.H.Williams

Over the last weekend there was an outbreak of vandalism and burglary in Bangor. A device which uses the back window heating element in cars as a radio-receiving aerial developed by the Electronics Department won the International award at the Techmart exhibition in Birmingham.

Two cars parked at Bro Infryn, on College Road and Ffiddoedd Road were vandalised; a brick was thrown through the window of the Railway Hotel, and windows were broken in Rathbone Hall, the Technical College Hostel and the Fishing Shop in the High Street. A handbag was stolen from the Students' Union, a bicycle from Glanrafon Hill, items to the value of £100 from a house in Mesgerichen, and cash from a solicitor's office in the High Street.

The 'Seventh Wave' of damage was at Glan Cegin School. Vandal smashed double glazed windows to enter the school, and proceeded to wreck further windows, the kitchen and nine classrooms. The headmaster Mr.G.Roberts-Jones said: "It was a sheer case of wanton vandalism. As far as we can see, nothing has been stolen, they just wanted to wreck the place." The school was reopened later in the week.

Glynis Barber (alias 'Makepeace') recently helped launch the Help the Aged Carol Appeal at Trafalgar Square, London.

The appeal is to become national, and asks for people to raise funds for minibuses through carol singing. These minibuses are to ensure that the elderly are not isolated from the facilities available in the community, due to lack of adequate transport. To date, 265 minibuses have been co-funded by voluntary organisations.

If anyone would like to raise funds locally for 'Help the Aged's Christmas Carol Appeal', carol sheets, badges and collecting tins are available from: Help the Aged, St.James' Walk, London EC1R 0BE (Tel 01-235 0253).

The change over to their rivals, Associated Leisure, was defended by the new General Secretary Toni Wyld, who disclosed frequent breaches of contract on the part of Leisure Games, such as not maintaining their equipment there.

Police searched the entire area, and changing defunct machines. Some but no bomb was found. A spokesman for the police said that no other hoaxes had occurred and that they were investigating the matter very seriously.



NEW SEREN

# THERE IS A UNION



The University College of North Wales is one of the five universities worst hit by cuts. This year alone has seen the closure of the Classics and Italian departments, a merger of the Forestry and Agriculture departments and plans for further money-saving cut-backs could mean the loss of the Philosophy and Physics departments. On Wednesday 19th November, around four hundred students and UCNW staff gathered in the Top College Car Park to show their united opposition to these cuts. The crowd was addressed by a number of local politicians and union representatives and the event was opened at 2pm by the Union President Sean McArdle who put forward the students' argument against the cuts. He then introduced the first speaker, Mr. Rhodri Davis.

Prospective Plaid Cymru parliamentary candidate, Mr. Davis unsurprisingly focussed his displeasure on local MP Wyn Roberts, a name which recurred throughout the day's speeches with equal antipathy. The atmosphere was such that Mr. Roberts may well feel relieved that parliamentary business kept him from the rally. The first mention of his name brought a reaction from the crowd which would have been more at home with the entrance of the villain in a pantomime. The Undersecretary of State for Wales was reminded by Mr. Davis that students in Bangor will have an important say in who will be elected for the Conwy seat in the next general election. In an excellent speech, Mr. Davis described the Government's short-term policy for education "moronic, ignorant and ill-conceived", and called upon the Minister of Education to give Welsh University funding powers to a Welsh Senate in Cardiff.

Mayor Keith Marshall could not attend the rally because, as a lecturer in the French department, he has a vested interest in the college. However, he and the entire Bangor City Council sent best wishes and an offer of full support with their representative, Councillor Frank Woodcock. Mr. Woodcock made the interesting observation that a Government supposedly trying to create jobs should inflict such damage on the most important single employer in Bangor. Yet, barring a new election,

NEW SEREN

# POWER IN

no positive plan of action was suggested. While Rhodri Davis had advised students and college staff to write to Wyn Roberts in protest, Mr. Woodcock felt that expecting 'Maggie Thatcher's poodle' to make waves in the House over this issue was naively optimistic.

At this point in the afternoon one felt pleasantly surprised at the distinctly apolitical nature of proceedings. It may seem strange to hope for and expect a rally protesting against government cuts to be anything but political; but one should, and indeed most of the speakers did remember that we were gathered as a students' union not a political group, and to save our college, not a political cause. Therefore, as a socialist, I could only cringe as prospective Labour candidate Ms. Betty Williams drifted into the wider realms of Conservative government policy. Admittedly, Ms. Williams did occasionally return to the matter at hand and managed to find some link between university funding and the broader issues she raised. Nevertheless there was less 'We shall overcome' spirit to this speech than a feeling of, 'That was a party political broadcast on behalf....'

Sian Esmore, the UNCB representative, rightly pointed out that the closure of the Italian and Classics departments drastically reduced the number of courses taught in the Welsh language. This, she said, was just another example of this government's

damaging acts against the Welsh culture and language.

Press officer for the Bangor branch of the Association of University Teachers, Mr. John Borland provided perhaps the best and most optimistic speech of the afternoon. Mr. Borland summed up many peoples views when he strongly objected to the government using the College and Universities as a whole as 'think tanks' without control over their own actions or finances. What, he asked, were the Welsh Office doing about saving Wales' only national institution? The answer: nothing. In a 'never say die' ending to an uplifting speech Mr. Borland promised the students of Bangor that he would haunt Wyn Roberts' meetings and do everything in his power to bring about change.

The grand finale of the rally was symbolic: the rear doors of a large van were flung open and, since nobody held onto them, a few hundred helium-filled balloons just floated away. Now you know what will happen to your University if we let the government get away with this.

Write and complain about UGC cuts NOW to:

Wyn Roberts MP  
Houses of Parliament  
London.

It's as simple as that.  
Nick Jones.

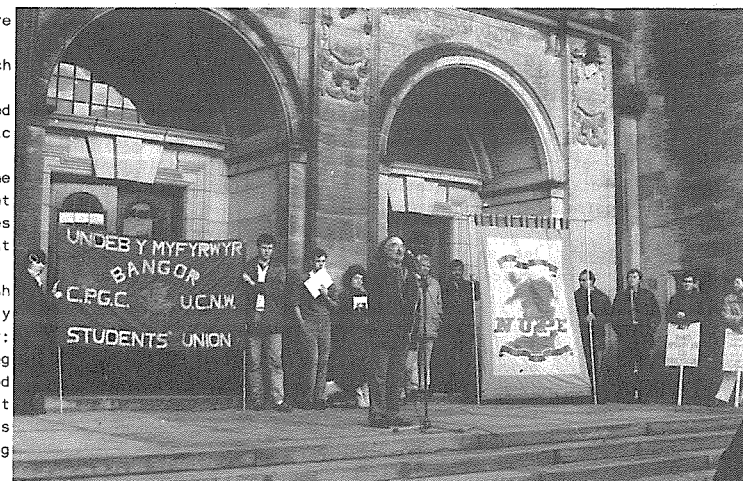
A RETURN TO VICTORIAN VALUES

For 'John Bull Gets Generous'



"Here Mr. University, give your family a hearty Christmas dinner."

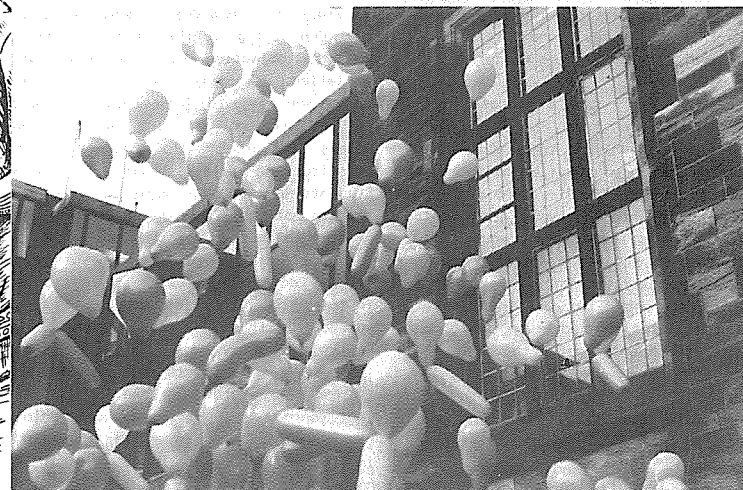
NEW SEREN



Mr John Borland (AUT Press Officer) addresses the crowd



More than three hundred students and college staff attended the rally



A symbolic gesture



## FEATURES

# SEREN

## Summer Jobs Abroad

### ( An Ex-Courier's Handy Hints )

Are you a likeable, friendly sort of person with a little bit of common sense and the ability to communicate (however basically) in a major European language? If so, you could have great fun paying off your overdraft this coming summer by working as a camp site representative for one of the leading names in camping holidays. The summer season is usually split into two halves, April - June and July - September, and couriers are employed for a half-season period, the second stint being ideal for students. Holiday firms are advertising now for summer staff in the national newspapers, so write off immediately for application forms - or inquire at the Student Careers Office.

First, though, let me help you make a more informed choice of company by passing on a few of the tips I picked up this summer working for Canvas Holidays. Canvas is a family firm run by the Cuthberts, which accounts for its very friendly and informal nature (a Sun-sites colleague termed it 'highly disorganised', but we'll ignore that). Eurocamp and Sun-sites, on the other hand, have a carefully-structured hierarchy, and Eurocamp are especially tough on the 'No visitors' ruling.

As for the customers themselves - Canvas clients tend to be much more bourgeois (half of them claiming to be the Cuthberts' best buddies), but this doesn't stop them from waking you up at midnight, screaming hysterically that the tent has collapsed, when in fact only a single inner-tent clip has come undone.

If the word 'practical' in the advertisements scares the living daylight out of you, stop worrying. The courier hand-book has all the advice you'll need from mending your clapped-out moped to dealing with lost passports. For instance, the best way to mend a Canvas fridge is to turn it up-side down for half an hour - now what's so difficult about that?

If you're interested in this job for the money (and who isn't?), it will help you to know that Canvas and Sun-Sites couriers are allowed to charge a fee for the weekly barbecues and cheese-and-wine parties which they organise. Admirable profits can be gained from these, enabling the courier to save his hard-earned wages. Eurocamp couriers, however, are given a budget of 300 francs and their clients have to provide the rest.

The best advice I can give is to avoid being on a single-courier site at all costs. Two friends of mine found themselves in this position last summer and hated every minute of it. Canvas does have a large number of single sites, whereas Eurocamp and Sun-sites usually have several couriers per site, so do make your feelings on this matter very clear in an interview.

Possibly the biggest drawback of working for Canvas is the DREADED PORTA POTTY (chemical toilet), an added 'luxury' which the other companies do not provide. The poor Canvas courier has the task of cleaning this for each new arrival, and even has to empty it - AAARGH! - if the customer does the dirty(!) on you and escapes without carrying out this much-dreaded task himself. Fortunately I only had to do this once.

Although there exists a great deal of rivalry between these companies, the couriers from rival firms do tend to get on very well. After all, the vast majority are fun-loving students who probably applied to all three companies anyway.

There are lots of little anecdotes I could tell, but there just isn't room. All in all, it's a great way of life for a few months - but if you work for Canvas don't expect to get your excess wages and travelling expenses for some time - I received mine this morning!

Anne Hadcroft

## President's Column

Since the last edition of 'Y Seren' debate was high, with good reasoned argument on both sides of most debates. One thing I did find disturbing was the objection to some clubs' and societies' constitutions. There is no reason why a club or society should not be allowed to form or continue unless it breaks the Student Union constitution. It is our duty as a Students Union to promote all the interests of our members and help to provide the medium for them to do this.

The meeting did demonstrate that if you don't watch what is going on in the Students Union you could find yourself without a club, or with a policy which objects to your club. The only way that it can be stopped is for you to turn up and defend it. What you take out of the Students Union you must put back in by participating in it and not just leaving it to a hard-core of hacks, who know how to manipulate the system - you have been warned.

At the meeting the previous four year old out-of-date policy was sorted out, at long last. The standard of

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## The Interview

The year 2000, the prospective graduates of 2003 are going through the applications procedure. One important part of the UCCA system would not be recognised today. At least not in its new form. The connotations of the Bank Manager's Interview are very different in the year 2000:-

Ah, Miss Royston, do sit down. Now, you have been accepted for degree courses at two institutions is that not so?

Yes, Yes; The London Institute of Theatre Studies and the Scottish School of Drama. Now, let me see... Single Honours BA at both Universities. Hmm. You must of course bear in mind, Miss Royston, that our primary object at these interviews is to assess post graduation career prospects. With that in mind we must also, naturally, make an informed assessment of your probable degree classification. Now let me see, nine GCSE's, including an A at Drama; A good start at least, eh? A levels in English, British Government and Politics, Theatre Studies and General Studies; three A's and a B. What went wrong with the British Government and Politics then, Unlucky with revision topics? Or exam nerves?

Oh, unlucky you say; yes, we would have to think seriously about those prone to exam nerves. Now from your exam results and academic references I think we would be looking at a good second class degree or possibly a first, don't you?

Well starting from that assumption then, let's consider possible job avenues. Ideally, what would you like to do with your degree?

Yes, of course, although you must bear in mind that the actual acting profession is very difficult to break into. However, we are still dealing hypothetically at the minute. Which particular aspects of the theatre interest you most?

A wise choice, if I may say so. Two of the steadiest areas of theatrical employment, and television, of course, has its production and technical side and can also lead to work on commercials. For all this of course you will need some experience. Have you any experience of working, for instance with National Companies?

Ah no, of course, you got your Equity card with the Newcastle Playhouse. You must see, Miss Royston, that my company is looking for a reasonable chance that you will have regular, professionally salaried employment upon graduation. There will, naturally, be other career avenues open to you with a 1st or 2:1 in Drama. Television production and research I have already mentioned, and there is teaching of course. Have you considered doing a B.Ed., that would give the bank, and yourself incidentally, a much securer idea of your future. Possibly even a commercial career, I myself joined the company as a junior clerk after completing my History M.A. Or even sales and marketing, there will always be careers for outgoing people in those fields. Although perhaps a more

vocational degree would be appropriate to those careers... Have you considered an Economics course, for instance?

Ah yes, I see; well you are obviously decided upon a Drama course then, Good afternoon Miss Royston. As they say in your future profession; 'We'll let you know darling.'

-I don't think so, do you Bill, not the qualifications and experience we need to back her for a Single Honours Drama Course. If she can find an institution to take her on a B.Ed. we could probably go half the way. What do you think?

Come in Mr Addison, do sit down. Now you have places at four institutions, is that not so? The North Wales College of Marine and Electrical Sciences, Birmingham University, Imperial College of Science and Jobs in Saudi and Durham University. All to do B.Eng. degrees in Electronics, except for the place to do B.Sc. Physics at Durham.

To be totally honest Mr Addison, I don't think, with you exam results, you will be looking at more than an average second class degree. That is not the sort of risk my company is in the habit of taking with a non-vocational course like a pure science.

I don't think that the Durham course would be a sensible business decision for either you or my company. With your Electronics courses, however, we have a much more sensible option. I really think only formalities need be considered there.

I am afraid I must ask you some personal questions. You are not contemplating matrimony within the next six years are you?

Good, otherwise our calculations become complicated by dependent variables. No homosexual tendencies, I hope?

Of course, sorry but we have to ask, there is so much prejudice and whatever they say it does affect job prospects, even in London. No physical or mental disabilities?

No religious objections of any form?

Right, your first cheque should arrive once you notify us of your choice of course, excepting Durham of course as we agreed. Good luck with your degree Mr Addison.

-definitely a full loan there Bill, don't you think?

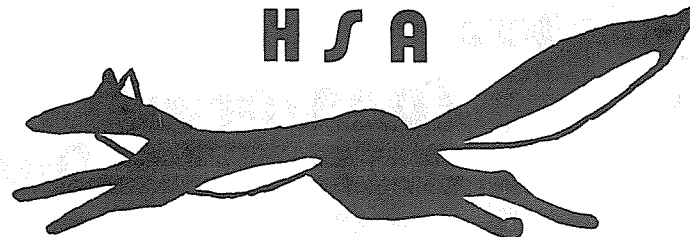
Rick Peterson

### THE ENGLISH SOCIETY present an "Old Time Music Hall Party"

Castle Hotel Ballroom  
Thursday 11 December  
Doors open 7:30  
Performance begins 8:00  
Tickets (including buffet):  
£3.00 adults  
£2.00 unwaged  
from English Department office.

## FEATURES

## H S A



## Save the Boxing Day Foxes

On Boxing Day the Hunt Saboteurs and keep control of the hounds.

Association (HSA) has announced there will be a national day of action against foxhunting. Well over one hundred hunts will find themselves the targets of already been, non-violent sabotage this nationally co-ordinated campaign is the only chance for the thirty thousand which will use non-violent direct action and foxes slaughtered annually, most to sabotage the killing. Large scale of whom are chased to exhaustion and leafleting and banner demonstrations then ripped to pieces by the hounds."

The HSA has been saving lives hunt' but 'pro' wildlife and against in the hunting field for over twenty cruelty. This is why we encourage riders three years. During this time we have and supporters to follow the growing refined our tactics from the early number of drag hunts where the hounds days of throwing meat or cheese to follow an artificially laid scent trail. the hounds, to using hunting horns, A list of these is available to the voice calls, whips, scent dullers and general public from HSA, PO Box 87, false drag trails which enable even Exeter EX4 3TX.

a small group of saboteurs to take Graham Clarke (HSA Press Officer)

## An Adult's Christmas in Wales

Wouldn't it be nice if the DHSS gave you And It Doesn't Matter. Just for the a Christmas Box?

Of course it is raining in Bangor till tomorrow, we all think and the this Christmas. I wouldn't be surprised students of Bangor indulge in their if it snowed (or snow, depending whe-annual re-discovery of the lost art ther or not you believe A.A. Milne's of Enjoying Oneself.

There is this shadow over Top theories of the English language).There is that particular electricity in the College. There's a whole band of sixth air which you only get at Christmas, formers out there in Academialand who which may or may not have something want to study Philosophy and Physics to do with the vast amount of the stuff and maybe drama and who-knows-what-which they use to power the, fairy lights else in years to come who won't be in the streets and the displays in leaping up and down at our Student shop windows. There has been tinsel Union Christmas Ball next year. Think all over the place since early Novem- on that, Mr. Baker, you overgrown turkey .ber. The most original Christmas message you might think. Think on that and I got last year was a letter from the go and get stuffed.

bank manager telling me the size of I am occasionally given to thinking my overdraught and taking the oppor- that it would be a nice gesture if, just tunity to wish me the compliments of because it's Christmas and we get such the season. It's all very well, but I foul weather here, Arfon Borough Council wasn't in any position to enjoy them, got rid of the hills for us. When the

Every store you go in has a Santa. Glanrafon starts to resemble the Cresta How can any child fail to believe that Run, you wonder if the rumours of a ski-Father Christmas is a magical man if lift a few years ago were not, in fact, he's in so many places at once? More a wicked conspiracy by the local taxi accurately, though, how many kids even drivers who find that when the hills are wonder if there is such a thing as icy, they can not play their favourite Santa Claus? We all live in the Real games of Miss-the-Students-but-Only-Just World too much these days - who has with such gay abandon.

time for imagination? If you can't Christmas was once a religious believe in magic just a little bit festival. I just thought I'd mention at Christmas, God help you the rest that for everyone who thought it had of the year.

You can always tell when it's now. Every Heaven has a Hell and it's nearly Christmas because Roy Wood and getting to the stage where for every Slade rerelease their various records person who can go into a shop and leave again and everyone suddenly forgets it with armfuls of presents for their they hate them for a little while. loved ones, there's another person who Meanwhile, back at the Union, stands outside with their nose pressed the place is oozing bonhomie. You wish against the glass, hating the advert-a Merry Christmas to people you secretly isers for making them want things they wish won't make it to New Year and can't possibly afford and wondering if whatever the band and however much the thought really does count for much. everyone bitches about Ents the rest Wouldn't it be nice if the DHSS gave you of the year you still enjoy a good a Christmas Box?

leap up and down on your friends or preferably a good-looking stranger. Bob Stone

## Animal Rights

Bangor University Animal Rights place in the Animal Biology department. Group is presently active in several different fields; staging their protests for his PhD there, said that there was not only on cub and fox hunting ground, an excessive number of demonstration but also in a more suburban context specimens used in practicals, and that - at Dewhursts, the High Street butcher, there was too great an emphasis on On Saturday 15th November they held comparative anatomy. He felt that more a sit-in at the butcher's to heighten time should be spent studying ecology local awareness to the build-up for and animal behaviour. This would serve Christmas. Mike Hall - ex-chairman of Bangor Animal Rights Group - said taking place. However, because work should consider the 20 million animals teach, lecturers are unlikely to want to slaughtered at this time of year to re-direct the course. At a recent staff-celebrate someone's birthday."

The group also travels to a hunt came to light that 50% of second year every Saturday to participate in non-violent direct action with similar students object to dissection work, and an objection to dissection will groups from other universities. At be on the agenda of the next Board present they are concentrating on Welsh hunts, and often find that the hunters' of Studies meeting of the School.

Despite these encouraging signs from within the Department that there is a desire to cut down the amount of dissection occurring, it does not seem likely that the old-fashioned course will be restructured. One or two lecturers push the physiological side of the course and are of the opinion that if you don't want to cut something up you shouldn't be doing zoology. Other lecturers, though, are sympathetic towards the students' wishes. Now that a substantial number of students have voiced their dissent, it is surely time that something is done to reduce the amount of dissection in the Animal Biology department.

Concern was also expressed over the large amount of dissection which takes Andrew Ffrrench

## Fan Support - Where is it?

As an athlete, I speak from experience when I say that there is no greater feeling than the cheering of the crowd. I used to love to play just so I could hear someone scream 'Beat the shit out of him, Denny!' It would make me play so much better than usual, and I believe every athlete will agree with me!

As a sports writer, I have the great opportunity to go out and watch our sports teams here at U.C.N.W. As an avid sportsman I enjoy just watching the sports and supporting my team. However, it seems that I am one of only a very few who go out and cheer Bangor on! Where are all of you to help out? Our teams need you!

Many people will say that, first of all, they don't know when any of the events are! Well, I'm going to try and help out by posting games and times. If not, the Athletic Union will be more than happy to assist you. I other words, if you look around, it is easy to find out when we're playing.

Others will insist they have no time. This is a sad excuse. Out on the playing field we have many ladies and gents who are balancing their time to play. Many of these athletes are studying for P.h.D.'s and other degrees. All they are asking is for one hour of your time to help support. As one basketball player puts it, 'It's a shame that nobody comes out to cheer. On the court, we're not representing ourselves, we are representing our university.' He's right, you know. The athletes are representing all of us here at Bangor.

Still others will argue that athletics are altogether boring. Well, that is another poor attitude. Here we have a wide variety of sports, and I am sure that there is one that will interest you. Look around and get off your lazy butts, there is plenty of action going on.

I know most of you out there are saying, 'I don't care, I'm here to study. Well, I, for a fact, know that you need a balance - you can't just sit in and study. Coming out to the games is a great way to meet people, and to find out about, among other things, parties, which I'm sure everyone likes to do. Also, cheering is a great way to get out your aggression. Say you failed a test, your mother won't send you extra money, or your boyfriend/girlfriend is finding other ways to spend their time, go out to a game and go out to a game and scream bad things at the other team. You'll feel so much better in the end.

So cheering not only benefits our athletes, it helps you out too. Fan support - where is it? I think it's still inside our rooms. Get your coat, go out the door, and scream for U.C.N.W. - it makes the world a better place! Take care, and see you in the stands!

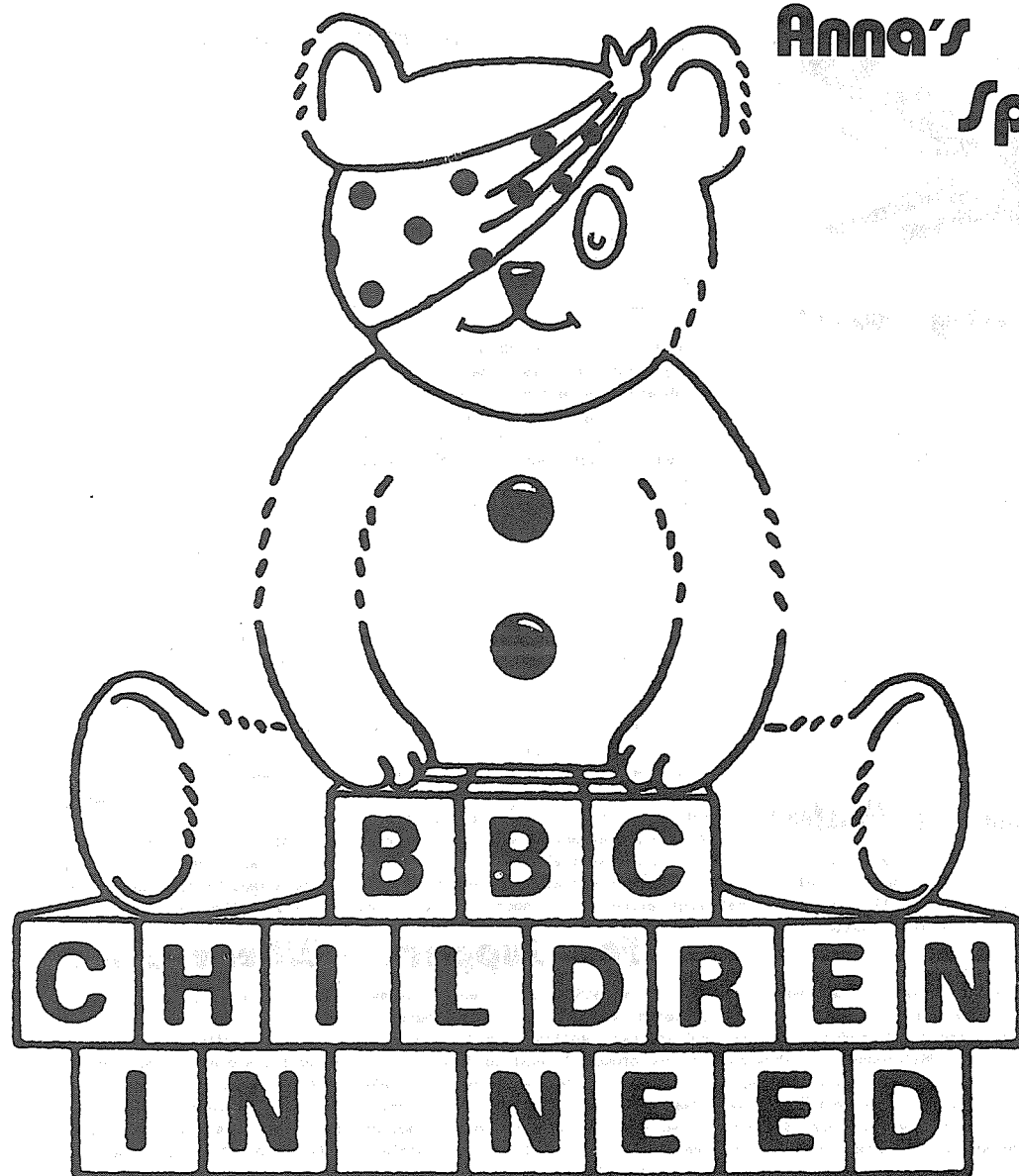
Dennis Perry.

P.S. Will anyone interested in a sports table please leave a message in the Basketball pigeon-hole (Union Foyer).



## FEATURE/SEREN

# Anna's Sponsored Sing



Community Action Organiser, Pete Townshend (behind Smiler) gets involved the Mini-fill stunt

On hearing of the Children In Need Appeal, only ten days before the event I decided to raise some money.... quickly! I discussed it with the CA officer, Pete, to see if he had any suggestions.

After telling him of my singing experience he recommended me busking in the town centre. However, I thought that if I was going to make a fool of myself I might as well be sponsored for it. So, round Rathbone and Reichel dinner queues and an Ents Disco I trekked, armed with sponsor forms and pens! The majority of poor students were thankfully very generous (I was probably lucky that many knew me - I'm Ratbin Boss!)

So on Saturday morning, 15th November at 10.45a.m. I apprehensively strolled down to Woollies with my guitar, three chief supporters, and a cold that was just brewing!

The first hour dragged on, although many shoppers seemed quite entertained (not necessarily by my singing, but probably by Ann's red clown nose and dark glasses, Jenny's cap with a seagull on top, and by Frances, who was either propping up the music stand or protesting about meat at the butcher's.)

The second hour was rudely interrupted by Rastra trying to advertise their latest production. The fact that they stood two feet away was bad enough, but their screaming competition was purely inconsiderate. To retaliate I just sang even louder and stood on the bench behind me - just to make me even more outstanding!!

Several people joined us and sang along, and two newspaper reporters came to record the act for posterity! Even some tough little lads came to sing "If you're happy and you know it clap your hands". They then tried to run off with my music and one of my "fans" nearly hit one of the boys until reminded that we were raising money for Children In Need. The response was "Yes - Children In Need of a good hiding!!"

The three hours were soon over and I even gave a final rendition of "Sailing" (for the tenth time!) after the time was up.

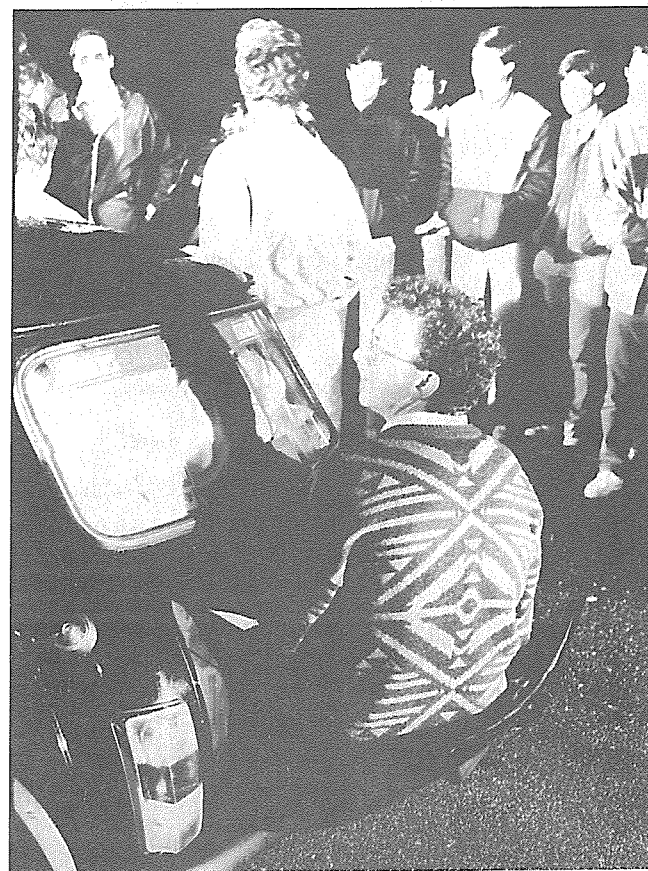
So, thanks to all those who sponsored me or gave donations, to those who joined me, to those who cheered each time they walked past (Phil and Tiny) and even to those who dashed past with their fingers in their ears! Finally, a special thankyou to my chief supporters (Ann, Jenny and Frances), to those who treated me to lunch, to my manager, make-up lady...!

By the way, I've raised more than £500 so far, and donations are still welcome. If you owe me some pennies (or pounds) and I haven't dug you out yet, you can always bring it to me in G25 Rathbone (you can even have a free cuppa!)

Thanks very much once again.

Anna E. Littler

## FEATURE/SEREN



"We can get at least another six in here", says Head of Reg, Tim Mitchell



'Someone' puts their foot in it, the Mini that is, with David Hughes' help



Children helping Children in Need



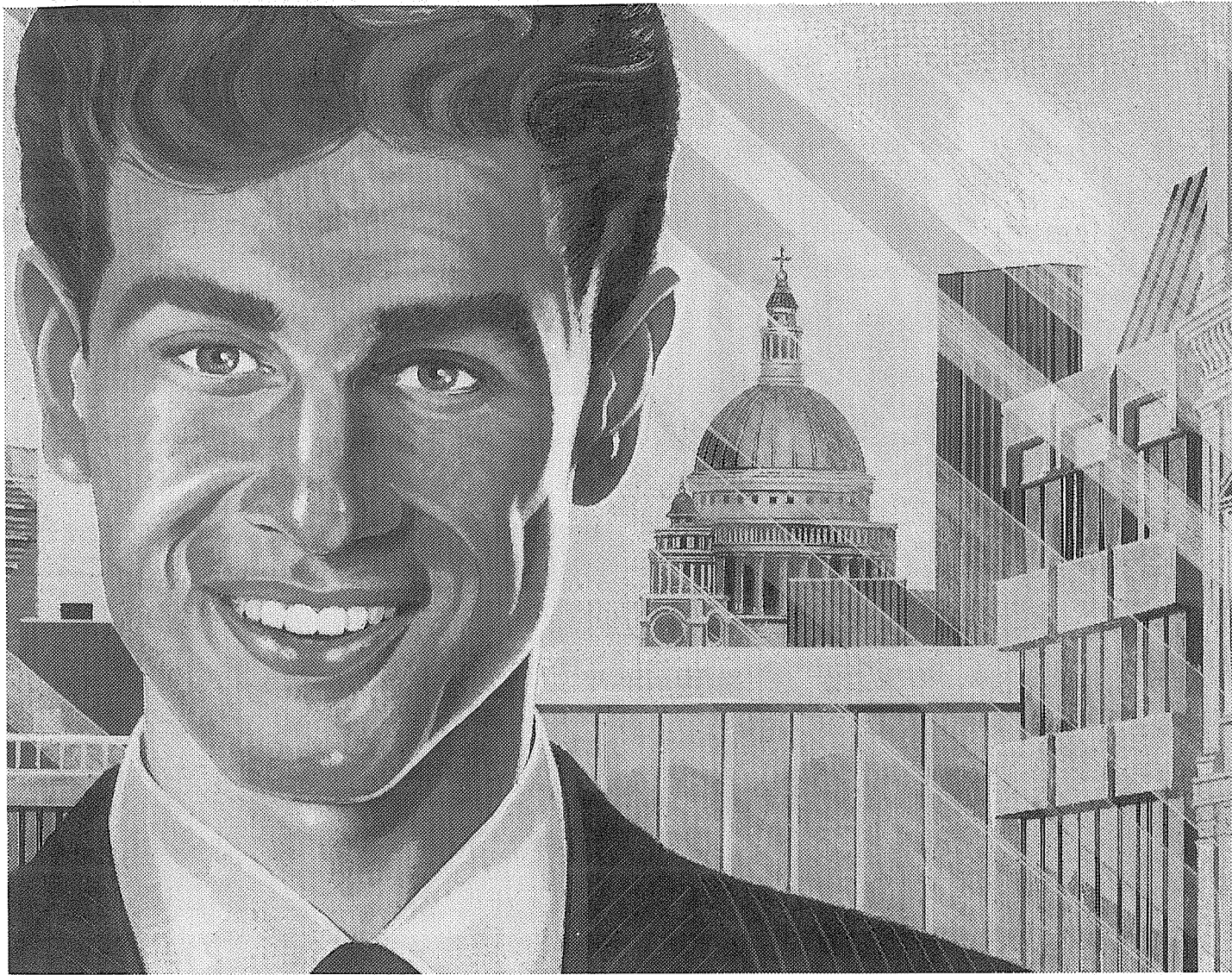
Just some of the ridiculous outfits worn by fund raisers



The crowd gathers, and all hope to get in the car!

## UCNW Students' Union Contribution: Over £1½ Thousand





**I used to try to find a cure for the common cold. Now I make sure NatWest doesn't catch one.**

Andrew had never imagined that his bacteriology degree would lead to a career in banking. But when he abandoned research into the common cold, NatWest had a use for his talents.

Now Andrew is working in the City of London, helping advise on loans. Already he has helped to put forward a proposal for a £1 million property deal, which involved a lot of research. He also has to work with other people, something he'd missed in the lab.

NatWest is one of the world's biggest financial organisations. With active interests in areas as diverse as mining and mineral exploration, travel and communications. Large international projects are important to us. But so are the needs of small businesses and individuals at home. Our banking professionals spend a lot of time dealing directly with the public and with their colleagues. Andrew enjoys his present job. Lending is only one part of it. Another important

part is keeping in touch with his customers, which gets him out and about. There's no such thing as a 'typical' day, for his tasks can vary widely.

The face of banking has changed. And so have the opportunities it holds for energetic and determined graduates. Whether you are male or female, black or white we offer a highly defined career path, and rapid promotion on merit. Above all, we'll treat you as an individual, recognising your needs and helping you develop your talents.

So if, like Andrew, you're looking for responsibility and the rewards that go with it, get in touch with us. Write now and see how NatWest can give you a new perspective on banking.

Robert Cawthorne, Graduate  
Appointments Officer, National Westminster  
Bank PLC, Recruitment Department, National House,  
14 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BS.

**NatWest** THE ACTION BANK · WHERE EVERY JOB IS OPEN TO BOTH MEN AND WOMEN



**When Mr. Jones came to see me about a car loan, he hadn't expected to leave with a school fee plan as well.**

When Julie left university, she was looking for a challenging career. One that would allow her to learn while working and help her develop her abilities to the full.

So she approached NatWest. But even then she'd never imagined how interesting banking could be. Less than two years after joining she has a very responsible job, assisting her manager by dealing with personal customers. Soon she hopes to transfer to Marketing, for as Julie says, "That's one of the ways forward in modern banking."

NatWest is one of the world's biggest financial organisations. With active interests in areas as diverse as mining and mineral exploration, travel and communications. Large international projects are important to us. But so are the needs of small businesses and individuals at home. Our banking professionals still spend a lot of time dealing directly with the public and with their colleagues.

Julie enjoys her job. It takes her out and about, meeting customers. And she never knows what each new day will bring. One man came to see her about a car loan, and she ended up helping to arrange his pension, and a plan for his children's school fees as well.

The face of banking has changed. And so have the opportunities it holds for energetic and determined graduates. Whether you're male or female, black or white we offer a highly defined career path, and rapid promotion on merit. Above all, we'll treat you as an individual, recognising your needs and helping you develop your talents. So if, like Julie, you're looking for responsibility and the rewards that go with it, get in touch with us. Write now, and see how NatWest can give you a new perspective on banking.

Robert Cawthorne, Graduate Appointments  
Officer, National Westminster Bank PLC, Recruitment  
Department, National House, 14 Moorgate, London  
EC2R 6BS.

**NatWest** THE ACTION BANK • WHERE EVERY JOB IS OPEN TO BOTH MEN AND WOMEN



# ARTS/EREN

## DRAMA

### Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead

I should have suspected something was amiss when I saw that promotional leaflets for this play showed Hamlet saying, "I've snuffed it, Horatio"

All these cheap jokes pailed into and Claudius dying with the words, "Tell Laura I love her." Director Debbie Shawell had quite obviously decided to dispense with the more tragic aspect of this play and instead launch a no-holds-barred attack upon Shakespeare's "Hamlet" around which this play is based. Admittedly 'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead' presents those problems in production so particular to the tragicomedy and it is very rarely that a company manages to combine these two contrasting elements. There can be no such excuse for this company to the stage directions in the pieces though, as the standard of acting was of "Hamlet" text. Despite this diff-first-rate. In the first act Michael Garner (Rosencrantz) and Simon Shepherd (Guildenstern) handled the the comic performance and it is the highest and philosophic aspects of the central complement one can pay to a theatre roles with consummate ease, but already company when I say that no single actor one felt that jokes would win the day, stole the show, but that mastered his

All of the characters were in or her own part and supported each Elizabethan dress (a rarity these days even in Elizabethan plays), except for 'the Players' who wore dapper matching suits and tribes. This was a valuable and original addition to Stoppard's attempts to remove the audience's expectations, and to the theme of the difference between actors and 'real people'. The final insult though was added to Chris Whittingham's camp interpretation of the Player is rather old hat these days but still added a great deal to the entertainment that this production stage (barring pantomimes!). Horatio's undoubtedly provided. However it is not enough that this play made us laugh because all too often the audience missed Stoppard's more subtle humour because we were waiting for Rosencrantz to make another funny noise or pull a funny face.

insignificance though when Hamlet made his entrance, looking like Rowan Atkinson as 'The Black Adder' and wearing tights deliberately chosen to make the most of actor Matthew Line's hilariously thin legs, Hamlet made an utterly ridiculous figure. One does surely not have to be a literary snob to want more respect to be paid to probably the greatest tragedy ever written. Even Stoppard's satiric mind can hardly have wanted this kind of treatment of the Bard when he made no changes to the stage directions in the pieces of "Hamlet" text. Despite this difference of opinion over interpretation, I did in fact thoroughly enjoy this performance and it is the highest complement one can pay to a theatre company when I say that no single actor stole the show, but that mastered his or her own part and supported each other brilliantly.

Ah, but what a difference thirty seconds can make on the stage, and I left the theatre this much before curtains-down I would have been satisfied by this entirely comic interpretation of Stoppard's tragicomedy. The final insult though was added to injury when the last scene in "Hamlet" was demolished by the cheapest joke this reviewer has ever witnessed on stage (barring pantomimes!). Horatio's closing speech, the perfect poignant ending to "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead", collapsed into farce as Fortinbras, upstage, lit a cigar to the 'Hamlet Cigar' advert theme tune.

Nick Jones

## Edward II

Fancying the prospect of a day shopping in a city that actually has a decent Marks and Spencer, I thought I would pop down to Manchester to see Edward II' with the English Society. (I mean, it was only £5!)

Arriving at the Royal Exchange Theatre laden with sufficient Marks and Spencer groceries to last until Christmas, I was amazed by the modern design of the stage in contrast to the actual building.

The stage, situated in the centre of the auditorium, was employed extremely effectively by the Royal Exchange Theatre Company, all spectators being catered for. The special effects were successful and the changes of scenery were achieved with imagination and fluidity; all adding to what was an extremely convincing contemporary performance of Marlowe's play.

Edward's wife, played by Karen Drury, was an effective replacement for Brid Brennan, who was unable to take part in this performance. Although Karen Drury found it necessary to use

a script increasingly as the play progressed, her acting was excellent and her presence did not in any way detract from the enjoyment of the audience.

Fourteen year old Alexander Haig gave an initially convincing portrayal of Prince Edward. However, on becoming King Edward III his performance became too forced and his voice unnecessarily loud. But, this was his first professional performance which, on the whole, was carried off very well.

The other major characters, played by Ian McDiamid and Michael Grandage, gave excellent performances, making the play another great success for the Royal Exchange Theatre, now celebrating its tenth anniversary.

For a day which was intended to be dedicated to early Christmas Shopping, the play became the highlight for many people on the trip, and we wait in anticipation for our next theatre trip - possibly during the January sales!!

Jane Megan Lewis

## Sweeney Todd

Who am I to criticize this feast of cut-throats, blood and pies? I have been given the un-enviable task of reviewing this melodrama by my Editor, and run the risk of offending the people who gave months of hard graft to this play. I implore them to recognise that I am only doing my job, just as they did theirs.

Enter the audience into a lamp-lit, foggy night in Fleet Street, the sound of the docks parading the studio. Sweeney Todd, admirably played by Dermot O'Brien, lovingly caressed one of his silver razor blades. It was to serve him well in the course of the drama. Sweeney Todd's partner in crime, Mrs. Lovett, the owner of the pie shop, displayed both at once an incurably romantic heart and a practical and amoral nature. Helen Mason's Mrs. Lovett established a good relationship with the audience in the early part of the play and provided the brash and bustling foil to Dermot's menacing and often hypnotic Sweeney Todd.

The play was full of strong, individual performances. John Webb very confidently played Alfredo Pirelli who at one stage haughtily inquired: "Who said my miracle elixir is chicken sheet?" But his pomposity was not allowed to undermine the status quo of the barber shop/pie-maker's corporation, and it was not long before Sweeney Todd reverently caressed his neck with a swishing blade and the stage became bathed in a pool of red.

Siobhan Burgess kept the audience's interest in the mouth-watering pies alive long enough for the play to take on a new and macabre turn. The bodies from Sweeney Todd's barber shop would be used for Mrs. Lovett's pie filling. "Every customer that comes up here shall serve the one below."

Judge Turpin was made sufficiently humorous and melodramatic by Dave Clarke for the small amount of social satire to be recognised. A corrupt legal system

was illustrated in his attempt to marry his ward Johanna, although the scene contained his self-flagellation bordered to much on a realistic plane for the audience to laugh in anything more than a nervous fashion.

Mark Bentley's bald-headed man entertained the audience as he shuffled and jittered his way across the stage, but he was not allowed to amuse them with the tale of his bare chest for a long enough period to upstage Sweeney Todd. Once he sat down in the swivel chair he could not prolong his death-handle jerked and his fate as a pie-filling was sealed.

Glowing red lighting swathed the stage after the numerous murder scenes and startling masks heightened a disturbing dumb-show sequence illustrating the judge's rape of Sweeney Todd's wife. The scene changing in the play was slick and unobtrusive, and the different doors and various exits in the set opened the mind to alleyways and cellars. An oven provided another disposal unit to rival that of the barber shop chair device.

Hilary Cooper's production of "Sweeney Todd" provided a colourful evening's entertainment, although at some stages in the play naturalistic aspects of character tended to clash with heightened melodrama in other areas. At the end of the evening people in the foyer talked about how hungry they were. "I hope you put that pie in the oven before we came out", one young card said to a friend, which seemed proof enough to me that despite naturalistic elements of character coming to the fore on some occasions, "Sweeney Todd" worked as a melodrama and people retired to the local having enjoyed the play on a frivolous level rather than a serious one.

Andrew Ffrench

## RECORDS

ABBA  
"Arrival"

Remember the halcyon days of 'Gimme Gimme Gimme', 'A Man After Midnight' and 'The Day Before You Came'? - Well, I can, so there!

Well, ten years ago, the hottest thing in the music charts was dear old Abba's 'Arrival'. From the opening bars the avid listener will know they're in for a real nordic treat as dear old Anni-frid and Agnetha - both grandmothers, now living in semi-retirement in Rhos-on-Sea - investigate the possibilities of student revolt in the classroom, predating the present hassle by a whole decade with 'When I Kissed The Teacher'.

Then, bop along with certain members of the Y Seren staff to 'Dancing Queen' and you're in tears before you know it with 'My love, My life'. What student can't identify

with the deeply felt lyrics of 'Money, Money, Money', and as for their analysis of Sartre's theories of Existentialism in 'Dum, Dum, Diddle' - well, it speaks for itself. Alright, they're a bit sibilant now and then, but they're singing in a foreign language, poor dears, and I bet you'd be a bit sibilant if you tried to sing 'Why Did It Have To Be Me?' in Swedish.

Their devotion to political causes is really heartfelt and, let's face it, they're not as bloody miserable as The Smiths. There are few albums which truly last, and this is one of them, along with the 1812 Overture, and the soon to be released 'Now that's what I Call Eastenders Music 2' this is a classic. Buy it, or at least get it out of the closet and give it another listen.

Leif Garrett

# ARTS/EREN

## LIVE



## Bloodfire Posse

'Bloodfire Posse' played at the refectory on 22 November. This band was hired because of increased (but unsatisfied) demand for Reggae in Bangor, and made a welcome change.

Support band 'The Regulators' also played with 'Black Roots' last year and have developed and matured since then. Their stage presence is augmented, if not made, by a young dancing girl - Well skanky! The band was appreciated by a small audience, but did not produce the crowd response stirred by 'Bloodfire Posse' later that evening.

'Bloodfire Posse' had the refectory throbbing with skanky roots music within seconds. A large crowd reacted well and was pulsing rhythmically throughout the gig. Dancing reached a peak with the band's single "Get Black" and a dub version of the "Pink Panther" theme.

The finale, a compilation of the Right Honourable Robert Nestor Marley's later work (including "No Woman No Cry", "Get up, Stand up" and "Survivors") perfectly rounded off an all too rare Reggae night.

After this concert, the general feeling must be: "Please, Sir, can we have some more?"

J. Hanak

## SCANNER 1

This week, I am going to write of viewers will know some of the content about a curious TV phenomenon, one estants and want to see them make idiots which reduces normal, sane human beings of themselves. All the other viewers, to gibbering wrecks and encourages then, must actually enjoy being party mature adults to make complete fools to mass hysteria. Quiz shows I can of themselves in the interest of material gain. Yes, folks, I'm talking about satisfying about being able to answer questions contestants can't. On a good

Way back, when TV was still in short trousers, the game show was a rather more sedate affair. In fact, Mind, but then, Magnus Magnusson isn't it was so sedate it was virtually stationary. Can you imagine Animal, Vegetable, Mineral Kicking off with There are quiz shows and there are quiz shows. Then there are quiz shows whose main purpose in life is to give huge prizes away. Then there are shows whose main purpose in life is to give huge prizes away and masquerade as quiz shows by asking the occasional der question. I must confess a liking for Blockbusters, though I do feel strongly that the show would benefit from the death or at the very least sacking of Bob Holness. But then, every show must have its charismatic frontperson. I have heard vague rumours that there is a small community of people who leave on the most remote point of Sark who actually like Paul Daniels and who watch Every Second Counts. Then again, it does take all sorts to make a world.

Game shows have taken on a new lease of life in recent years due, mainly, to the influence of American hysteria over these matters. You may find it hard to believe, but The Price Is Right is an American format. Leslie Crowther was quoted in the national press (in fact in such a reliable publication as 'The News of the World' magazine) as saying that even though they give away the stock of most shops in Britain, the show isn't that much of a pushover. So what? Actually, when you think about it, this show must give away more than other shows. After all, someone has to win the showcase final. Other shows, most notably Play Your Cards Right, on which I have never seen anyone win the star prize, rely much more on skill/luck. If only one person/couple get through to the final week's show: "Mrs. Thatcher is the boss of London. President Reagan is the second boss of London." This strikes me as being far more intelligent or original than anything you could hear on The Price Is Right. Or indeed The Nine O'Clock News.

One of the most astute shows on TV is a game show. It is called Child's Play and allows cute, small kiddies to say things adult think but wouldn't dare say. I will close with the comment made by one nine-year old on last week's show: "Mrs. Thatcher is the boss of London. President Reagan is the second boss of London." This strikes me as being far more intelligent or original than anything you could hear on The Price Is Right. Or indeed The Nine O'Clock News.

Why do people watch game shows in copious numbers? Critics slag them off and everyone else pretends not to watch them, yet they still get high viewing figures. A very small quantity

Bob Stone

# ARTS/EREN

## LIVE

## SCANNER 2

Popular myth would have us believe that one of the most insidious forms of American "Imperialism" is the banal sitcom, and that for years British comedy has had to share air space with commercially orientated dross from the States. But now, whilst the British sitcom has polarised into either largely offensive postcard humour, or the smug self-congratulation of middle-class values, there seems to be lasting humour value in current American imports. Admittedly, there are still commercial constraints on any television producer in America, and script-writers are still obliged to write in a noticeably pro-constitutional fashion, but these disciplines seem not to hinder what are essentially humanist comedy themes are not derivative of authority

there are few stereotypic features in the members of the Huxtable family. The Huxtables are a black middle-class family, visibly aware of their own culture and history. There is no struggle for authority as both parents are professional, and there are no domestic "battle of the sexes" scenarios. Of the children, it is the middle daughter who is portrayed as radical, and assertive, and the son of the aspiring model (to quote recent examples), both without hilarity for its own sake. It's success as comedy depends on exploiting the idiosyncrasies of the individual, rather than on cop-out stereotypes, which, sadly, seems to be a hallmark of British comedy generally.

There are plenty more examples of this current distinction. In Britain we no equivalent to "The Golden Girls" (Fri. 5.40), or "Brothers" currently off air, dealing, respectively with old age and homosexuality. Neither deal with these specifically as "problems", at a time when British television stereotypes are still dependant on deaf old battleaxes and camp hair-dressers. In Britain we have never been able to deal with racial humour in the same way as the Americans. For every "Rhoda", (BBC, most late evenings) which works highly successfully in the field of Jewish humour (which is mostly self-defined), we produce a "Mind Your Language" which helps perpetuate something akin to British Colonial Mentality.

All one can hope for ultimately is that someone burns Benny Hill, or his mounds of videoed-for-posterity tit-humour in the interests of real comedy dependant upon human characteristics rather than bust measurement. One of the BBC's (currently) most successful sitcoms. Parallel in success in America, and - on face-value - in structure, is "The Cosby Show". The principle difference being that the

"No Place Like Home" presents Archetypes as both characters and situations in a negative fashion: we have a nuclear family scenario, where the main theme is the undermining of the fathers authority. These threats to "authority" have included one of the sons having a Chinese girlfriend, and more recently a wife who wanted to go to work. When a persons colour, and a womans ambition became "a threat to authority", then the BBC, and those involved are acting highly irresponsibly.

J.M.Lawton



the men they couldn't hang



## XMAS 86 BALL

all night

**Mandela Bar:** Disco til very late.

**Jazz Bar:** Traditional Jazz Band and piped music (Jazz sessions: 8-9pm, 11-12pm)

**Curved Lounge:** Piped music

8.30-9.30pm

**Refectory:** PAULINE BLACK AND THE SUPERNATURALS

Anyone who remembers the Ska boom of several years back will remember Pauline Black's band, Selector, who had hits with songs like "On My Radio". Ms. Black's back with her new band the Supernaturals, and they are the support band tonight.

9-10pm

**Mandela Bar:** SKINT VIDEO

Stablemates of Simon Fanshaw and Jenny Lecoat, who delighted the masses in Welcome Week, Skint Video look like thugs and are merciless to pop songs and politicians. Their publicity calls them "a collision between George Formby, the Buzzcocks and the Red Army Choir", while Sounds has this to say: "Skint Video's battlestick is the art of mugging famous pop songs, hitting the tune with their own lyrics, and then having the guts to be good at it". Sounds like a hilarious start to the evening's festivities.

10-11pm

**Refectory:** THE MEN THEY COULDN'T HANG

Probably the best band Ents have booked for years. For those who don't know about the Men They Couldn't Hang, they have similar origins to the Pogues who have been known to reduce the odd Mandela Bar disco to a beserk frenzy. The Men have been the darlings of the music press since the release of their debut album "Night of a Thousand Candles", the Men are now riding high on the acclaim of their second album "How Green is the Valley" and have arrived at Bangor. A band to listen to, get drunk to or jump around to, the Men They Couldn't Hang are the ideal band for the Christmas Ball.

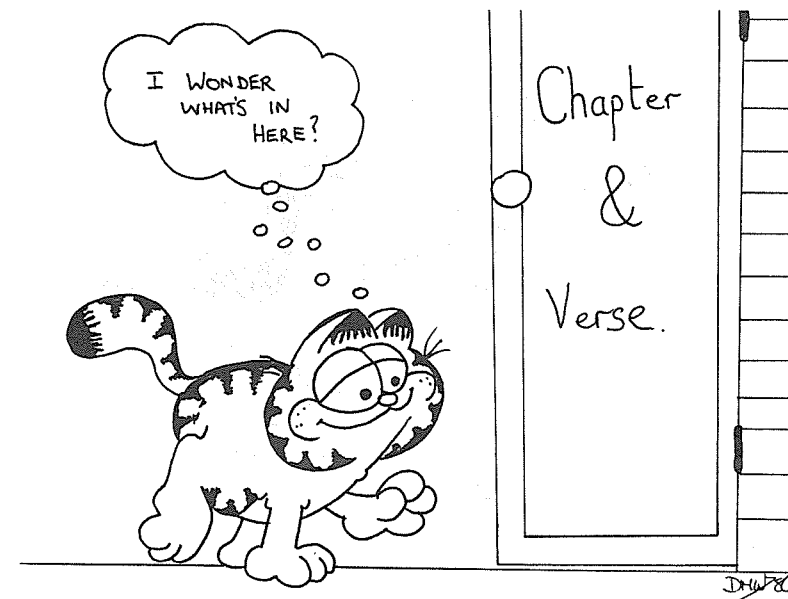
## tickets

Tickets are £5.50 in advance, or £6 on the door, though in previous years overwhelming demand for tickets have meant that tickets have only been available in advance, so snap them up quickly.

skint video



# Chapter & Verse



With only fourteen shopping days to Christmas, and just over a week until the end of term, the rush is on for last-minute Christmas shopping, whether it's for Christmas cards for all the people who gave them to you, or gift ideas for family and friends.

Chapter and Verse offers a comprehensive range of cards. Christmas is well catered for with comic and traditional cards for every relative and friend, though Christmas is only a part of Chapter and Verse's extensive selection of cards for every occasion. At Christmas, Chapter and Verse also stocks a range of decorations to make any party complete, and a variety of gift wrappings for perfect parcel presentation.

As for the presents themselves - well, everyone loves Garfield and the whole gang's here; Garfield, Odie, Nermal, Arlene, all in Chapter and Verse's wide range of Garfield products. From soft toys of all sizes for soft people of all ages, to Garfield books, calendars, diaries, stationary...in fact, if Garfield's on it, Chapter and Verse have got it. That old favourite Snoopy's there too on a range of items featuring the Peanuts gang.

Chapter and Verse also stock a range of named cards and stickers, as well as birthday and party banners. For Weddings and Anniversaries, there is also a selection of good luck gifts, such as horseshoes and keys.

Whatever your needs for Christmas, or those special occasions during the year, try Chapter and Verse first. You may well find you don't need to go anywhere else.

Unit 11,  
Wellfield Shopping Centre,  
Bangor  
Phone: 364 720





# SCIENCE

## Editorial

The future of the Science Page is looking good.

Plans for a diary of science societies lectures, scientific book reviews, more articles and features by college staff and maybe a science cartoon (any ideas/volunteers?) are all in the pipeline.

The 'page' has expanded every issue that I have worked on and I hope that it will continue to do so. In order for this to happen, I must have your views, thoughts, articles etc., so send them in at once, ready for the first issue of the spring term. After all, you can take all Christmas to think about it.

Thanks to all who have contributed (especially Barry, whoever you are) and have a \*Happy Christmas.\*

Mad Hatter.

## WDA in Talks with UCNW

Talks are at present taking place between U.C.N.W. and the Welsh Development Agency over a possible grant of £100,000 to support manufacturing in Wales.

It is thought that a further £150,000 could be generated by industry to make the total on offer £1 million.

A College spokesperson said that talks were definitely going ahead, though delays have been caused by one of the W.D.A.'s negotiating team being away in Japan. The 'rumours' about the College turning down the grant seem to be unfounded.

If the College does accept the grant, it is thought that the planned closure of the Physics Department will still go ahead, as a (relatively) small injection of capital is of little significance in the long term, especially when considering that staff, at present on short term contracts, would probably have to be given longer term contracts. This money is simply not enough.

The W.D.A.'s aim is to promote industry and job creation in Wales. It seems that this move is to create new, and to stimulate the development of, ideas in the University which local industry could then manufacture. This is a clever move by the W.D.A. as U.C.-N.W. is increasingly turning down contracts from local industry due to a lack of Government funds. It could also be viewed as the W.D.A. helping industry and education to come together; presently one of the Governments latest policy initiatives. The W.D.A. was unavailable for comment.



DEAD  
LESSER GREY SHRIKE

## The Shrike is Dead

Those of you who read my article last week about the Lesser Grey Shrike will be sad to hear that this rare visitor to Gwynedd has died. The Shrike was discovered lying dead under a bird table a week last Friday. Ornithological

opinion puts down the British winter as the cause of death since this bird normally migrates to South Africa and is not equipped to deal with such low temperatures.

Nick Jones

Well, what a hectic week, nice to be able to relax after it all, if only I could be as contented as Prince Puss (my cat), curled up in his luxury cat basket refurbished throughout with soft new woolen blankets.

Doesn't he realise that even us academic types could be in for the chop? (Visions of the Precipice opening beneath my feet). Fortunately this department is safe, but were that the case, how would I have defended all?

(The wind whistles through creaking ropes, as the basket swings, dangerously close, to the mountains' cruel teeth.

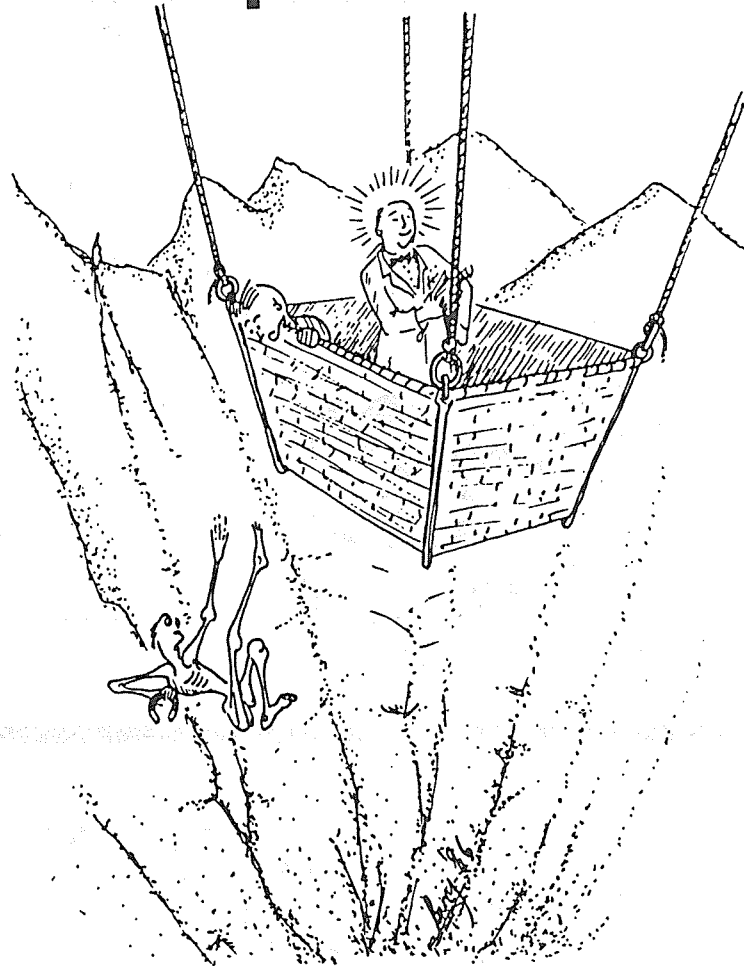
I shall be Chemistry.

I look down from this lofty perch, and perceive a world, blighted by the scars of industry, the pollution fouling the land, the seas, the very air we breathe, and know that it is me.

By these tokens, the test tube and the chimney, am I known, and realise that you could well do without my sulphurous breath. I shall cast myself from this basket in the hope that you may live your lives unfouled by my putrid excrement....

But wait! Is it not I that grant you life as well? That cures disease? That saves crops from pestilence and plague? That wrests - steel from bloody rocks? - warmth from the bones of long dead trees? My morality becomes energy, do you not also consume? I, at least make return for what I have taken. The question is not who shall leave, but which of YOU it shall be.

I shall toss a coin, heads, the one to my right, tails, my left. So taking on the mantle of chaos, Entropy adds to my energy, and my conscience is freed. I take up the sword of the Gibb's Function, unassailable, save perhaps by the evil arts of statistical mechanics (which I never understood).



Au Revoir - my right...

As I thought, all of my excesses are fully justified (as usual). I relax the White Rabbit again? it up, totally unconcerned..... Does this mean that Alice is molesting the White Rabbit again? Barry.

### YOUNG ELECTRONIC DESIGNER AWARDS

Two British companies are to fund technology awards for students to the tune of £100,000. In a major new initiative aimed at encouraging innovation and the development of technological skills at educational establishments around the country, Texas Instruments Ltd and Circuit Holdings Plc have come together to help set up the Young Electronic Designer Awards Trust.

To enter, applicants in full-time education have to complete an electronic design project, which has a useful and viable application in everyday life, for assessment by a panel of experts. The judges assess not only innovative and technical merit but the commercial potential of the projects. Preliminary judging will

take place in May and the finals in June/July.

In addition to the awards to be won, there is the potential for successful applicants to have their designs taken up for commercial manufacture through the help of the sponsoring organisations.

For further information contact The YEDA Trust 3rd Floor, Standard House 16-22 Epworth Street London EC2A 4SX

A new and exciting competition is launched today for the future of the packaging industry.

Star Aluminium, one of the leading manufacturers of aluminium foil, is sponsoring cash prizes of nearly £2,500 for students and design colleges in the UK.

Star are looking for imaginative and creative designs for the following

\*The single peel-off foil top for single pots which contain either yoghurt or cream or a dessert.

\*The multiple pack which is a similar top for an integral pack of four pots of different flavours.

A panel of six judges each drawn

# SCIENCE

## Refutations, Dissection and Analysis

Those who attended Bernard Williams' lecture on "Science and Truthfulness" were treated to an entertaining discussion. His glowing descriptions of science would have pleased many of the scientists present, of whom there were a surprisingly large number, though I suspect that they also conjured up some doubts.

Much of the discussion revolved about concepts of scientific method, characterised by two extremes: 1) INDUCTION, where observation suggests experiment, and subsequent theory (Isaac Newton - "Principia")

2) IMAGINATION, suggesting theories directly, to be subsequently tested by observation and experiment (Karl Popper - "Conjectures and Refutations")

Professor Williams' usage supported a view of scientific method as being primarily an imaginative exercise, supported by facts. Here I will detour and examine the dichotomy inherent in this definition. It arises from there being either a disagreement the definition, or that the subject in question ("scientific method") cannot in fact be characterised by a single definition, necessitating the adoption of a set of limits within which the definition must lie.

I do not think that there is, in fact, any dichotomy necessary to the definition of the scientific method, and in fact that is all that is required

fashion, (see also "cataloguing" above. The search for the "Grand Unified Theory" (of life, the universe and everything), is in fact an attempt to equate data to characterise the system of known data elements within the set. In this, a theory from an unrelated data set is applied, and this is then used as a basis for searching for other data elements, until such a point is reached that complex processes may be applied (should this be desired). Consider, for example, Drude theory, which describes the motions of electrons in metals on the basis of the kinetic theory of gasses!

It is important to realise that the process of "multiplex thought" includes implicitly "imagination" and "knight's move" processes; theories developed using them do not come out of thin air, though the process may be subconscious.

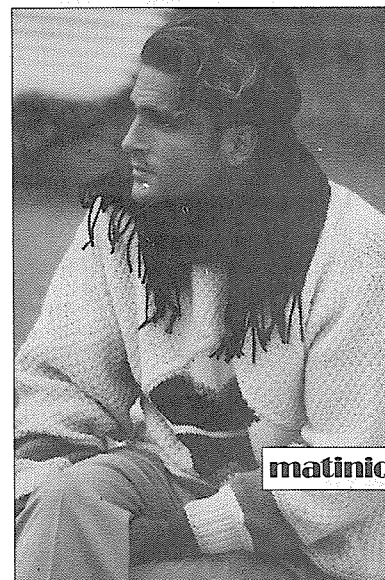
Inherent in this discussion is the concept of "science" as being a process of questioning that may use all of the "thought levels" as tools to obtain answers, but what of truthfulness or "truth" itself? Is truth the data acquired in "simplex" mode? - observable and independent verified "fact"? If this is so then we have already accepted that we cannot know the "truth" by adopting "theory" as a tool. That any theory this betrays some "hidden" or "devine" truth is not guaranteed, even though it may be conceptually useful and consistent with other theories and data sets.

Barry Kaye.

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# LETTERS

Dear Y Seren,

I am writing to express my concern over the behaviour of members of the Labour Group. Now before you all get your pens out to write back, I'm not attacking the group, its policies or ideals (most of which I believe in myself), only the definition some of its members attach to democracy. The first example occurred during the last academic year when at least one member seriously argued against the recognition of the constitution of the SDP, albeit in a rather facile way. The next, and rather more startling example occurred at the last General Meeting, where the idea of allowing the Conservative Society to lapse was put forward, again with a fairly straight face. Although in past years the upper echelons of the Union

have been left-wing dominated, and the fact that the appearance of only a Labour Group banner at official NUS demonstrations tends to give the impression that they still are, all students have a right to have their political views represented by the party of their choice (provided, of course, that those views do not exceed the constitution). The fact that the Labour Group can even entertain the notion that they should be the only party in this Union is narrow-minded, and, dare I say, totalitarian. Freedom of speech, provided it is used in a fair and constitutional way, does not just apply to you, Labour Group. It applies to everyone and you would do well to remember that.

Yours sincerely,  
Bob Stone

Dear 'Y Seren',

The recent article published in 'Y Seren' by the Lesbian and Gay Group has offended many people. This is very sad if it causes a rift between the gay and straight communities in Bangor. The majority of homosexuals and lesbians want to integrate into our society and have both gay and straight friends. We have seen that segregation between Protestants and Roman Catholics in Northern Ireland does not work. The same instance can be applied to a person's sexuality. If we are to become friends with homosexuals and lesbians we must be able to meet them on an equal footing. The true judge of acceptance into any society is that people are judged on their own merit.

At the risk of sounding clichéd, "some of my best friends are gay". They

have become friends of mine because I think they are genuine people regardless of their sexuality. The only time a person's sexuality should affect you is if you are going to bed with them.

I respect the fact that homosexuals and lesbians want to meet people with their own sexual and emotional needs. But why does each side create unnecessary barriers?

Heterosexuals have problems too and their relationships do not always run smoothly. People do become embittered by a prejudiced attitude towards them and this can colour their view of heterosexuals. But not everyone thinks like that. It is a shame that a few narrow minded selfish opinionated people on both side upset the balance for everyone.

Sue Thomas

Dear 'Y Seren',

We are writing in response to the article published in the October 31st issue of 'Y Seren' by the Lesbian and Gay Group.

Though they claim to be anti-discriminatory they contradict themselves by discriminating against heterosexuals. We are heterosexual and contrary to the article have never, in their words, 'screwed up' the lives of any homosexuals, nor have we acted like 'wankers' towards them.

If we were to write such an article

then no doubt there would be strong opposition to it. So why was this article not toned down?

Perhaps 'Y Seren' believes in a policy of positive discrimination towards these apparently paranoid members of our community, who themselves so strongly advocate equality.

If they do believe this then why do they, as the article implies, create one rule for homosexuals and another for heterosexuals?

Philip Brown  
David O'Connor

Dear 'Y Seren',

We are concerned about the slandering of heterosexuals in your October 31 issue by the Lesbian and Gay Group. How is it possible that such an article in that such name-calling occurs and needs defence of gay and lesbian rights is itself discriminatory?

We find it particularly offensive being labelled 'wankers' or accused of

'screwing up' the lives of homosexuals. Discrimination against homosexuals is not the fault of all heterosexuals as the article implies. It is unfortunate that such name-calling occurs and needs to be redressed.

Ross W. Smythe  
Peter Gowans  
Caroline Hartley

Dear 'Y Seren',

Reference to your article on page 5 dated 31/10/86. Many students expressed their concern about the contents of this article, the majority found it abusive and certainly discriminating. I would like to add that it obviously has increased the barrier

between many students and the Gay and Lesbian Society. I would suggest that it would be appropriate for the party concerned to include an apologetic article in the next 'Y Seren' magazine.

Yours sincerely,  
Reichel JCR Chairman

Dear 'Y Seren',

I, as a committed heterosexual, am writing to object to the recent article implying that we are wankers. This Union has a no discrimination policy. It is time certain sections of the UCNW students realise that this applies to all sections, and groupings, of Bangor

University students. It is also time that these same sections appreciate that offence can be taken by others inside the peripheral group concerned with that offensive article.

Yours faithfully,  
Pablo Prendergast

Dear 'Y Seren',

I am writing this letter as an ordinary member of this Union to answer some of the criticisms of the editorial policy of 'Y Seren' while I was Editorial Co-ordinator. Most particularly concerning the recent furore over the 'heterosexuals are wankers' article.

The system under normal conditions for the screening of material is as follows: The Editorial Co-ordinator and the Editorial Board (made up of members of the newspaper staff and ordinary members of the Union) view the articles and decide whether they break the constitution and are thus ineligible for publication. We read this article and decided that it kept within the constitution and that, as far as I was concerned, was that.

Many people thought otherwise, and said so at length, insisting that they had never 'screwed up' Gays and never 'behaved like wankers'. Oh yeah? In a society where every unknown straight person is a potential source of abuse or even violence can you really attack the Lesbian or Gay man whose dealings with a straight they don't know are hampered by this fear? Still less did I see anything wrong in encouraging Lesbians and Gay men not to give in to this fear and to try to socialise normally. (For this is what that article was about, however much you take 'if heterosexuals want to behave like wankers, let them, but don't let them screw you up' out of context and get all righteous about equal sets of rules).

The basic fact that all our instant


upholders of the constitution seem to have forgotten is the sheer refusal of most of the world to accept homosexuality as anything other than an obscene psychosis. Even our supposedly liberal student population does not exactly fall over itself to honestly face up to themselves. 'Y Seren' is the only student publication I have ever encountered to have a regular Lesbian and Gay Page, Lesbians and Gay men are 10% of the population and in this country they have no rights, just a few things they are permitted to do. (If you want more in the same vein see the article in 'Y Seren' 5:9 on 'Gay Men and the Law').

To return to the point about censorship, every issue of 'Y Seren' carries a disclaimer 'The opinions expressed in this issue are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of 'Y Seren', or the policy of the Students' Union as a whole.' If we only printed the uncontentious and appeasing what knid of paper would we offer? If your reading of that article caused you offence I am sorry, but I also hope it made you think; after all, I don't think there is any one of us who could plead 'not guilty' to using far worse language than 'wankers' about the Gay population at some time in our lives.

It is, I suppose, at least encouraging that so many of Bangor's non-oppressive straights read the Lesbian and Gay Group page.

Yours,  
Rick Peterson

DEC. 8<sup>th</sup>  
HAPPY  
HOUR  
8.till 9.



TRAX presents  
**VOIDOID**  
alt. disco

EVERY  
MONDAY  
RAILWAY HOTEL

# YESTERDAY'S MEN

by bob stone & mike smith

CAPE REAGAN:  
14<sup>th</sup> AUGUST  
1998



IT IS THEM, COMMANDORE. WE HAVE A POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION!

SO THE COLUMBIA'S COME HOME TO ROOST WELL I SUPPOSE FOUR YEARS LATE IS BETTER THAN NOT AT ALL! GET THEM LANDED BEFORE THEY RUN OUT OF FUEL!

PRECIE. WHAT IS GOING ON? WHAT IS THIS - AM - COLUMBIA?

ADMIRAL GESSICK! OH, SORRY SIR, I'D FORGOTTEN IT WAS BEFORE YOUR TIME!

IT WAS ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO - THE LAST COMMERCIAL SHUTTLE FLIGHT BEFORE THE WHOLE OPERATION WAS SCRAPPED. THE COLUMBIA VANISHED ON IT'S WAY BACK - WE GAVE THEM ALL UP FOR DEAD. NOW, IT SEEMS, THEY'RE BACK!

WHO CAPTAINED THE COLUMBIA, PRECEE?

CAPTAIN DOMINION, SIR.

AH YES. I'VE HEARD OF HIM. DO YOU KNOW HIM PERSONALLY?

YES VERY WELL.

GOOD. YOU WILL MEET THE CREW WHEN THEY DISEMBARK.

THEY WILL NEED A FRIENDLY FACE WHEN THEY LEARN THAT EARTH ISN'T HOW THEY LEFT IT!

A LITTLE WHILE LATER.

... AND YOU'RE SAYING WE'VE BEEN GONE FOUR YEARS?

WHAT'S THE STORY, PAUL? EVERYONE LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE SEEN A GHOST!

THEY THINK THEY HAVE, KEN. IF YOU WAIT A MINUTE, COMMANDORE PRECEE WILL EXPLAIN.

ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO! FROM WHAT PAUL'S BEEN SAYING, THAT ENERGY FIELD YOU RAN INTO MUST HAVE KILLED YOU IN GOD ONLY KNOWS WHAT KIND OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION FOR FOUR YEARS.

YOU NEED TO BE REORIENTATED TO THE WORLD NOW.

THAT CAN WAIT! WHAT ABOUT MY WIFE? IF SHE THOUGHT I WAS DEAD, SHE'LL -

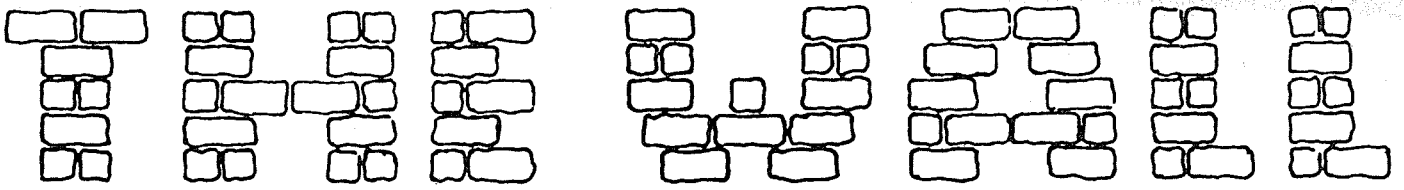
PAUL, WAIT! IT'S NOT THAT EASY!

YOU SEE, ABOUT A YEAR OR SO AFTER YOU VANISHED, EARTH WAS VISITED BY ANOTHER RACE. THE V'HAARNS WE SURRENDERED.

BUT SIMPLY - MANKIND NO LONGER RULES THE PLANET EARTH!

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!





TELL SID TO GET  
LOST - HE'S NOT GETTING  
MY BRITISH GAS SHARES!

"Great Danes are enormous!"

love Jox

"But small Swedish blondes  
are better"

Did MARKIE REALLY

Sarah -  
remember me? Jack.

Ho Ho Sarah,  
I know!!  
we all do!!!

GO OFF THE RAILS AT TRAX?

Jack and Debbie  
The photos came out well!  
START WORKING!  
Nick, we know!  
(KNOWS?)

Hi! Bob.

YES, BUT NOT AS  
HI AS TO + CARE

Tell Sid to forget British gas  
and to "come up and see  
me sometime."

I SAW  
SID FIRST!

TOMORROW  
THE GARDENER?

Deb + Wend

HELLO. Best of Luck  
Cathy + Rob

Poo

Dear SAL  
YOU LOST-HA!

I was asked to write something  
but I'm not a member of "Y Seren"  
So I didn't

The cat got the cream & is  
going to go to the  
doctors to get more!

(Sorry,  
love from me from M.)

Have you ever noticed  
that "Bob" backwards  
is "BOB" - makes you  
think, doesn't it?

...OUT ANGLE -  
DIDN'T YOU KNOW  
DOM'S HAD THE SNIP?

SPACY  
SPACED  
OUT  
LOVE  
THE TREE

don't stop  
jump  
other people  
regularly  
reach  
as  
surprised

QUOTE "NICK JONES DOES NOT  
NEED BEANS DAD"

In spun like this Kipper  
Calling all the fishes  
in the sea  
Come and spacet  
like me

JD bites SJD.

THANKS FOR  
THE HONOUR

Dominic  
Forget marriage, forget babies  
Just give me your body A/X

Dish washer wanted  
Payment in kind  
(women only)  
Apply: 74 Highst

To David:  
Illegibility - the journalist's  
worst enemy!  
love Annet + Nick

Hi! Dev.

NEXT TO AN INABILITY TO SPELL  
(OR IS THAT SPELL?)

FAT FREDDIES CHRISTMAS LUNCH -  
2.00, DEC 17TH, £4 EACH -  
3 COURSE MEAL, VEGAN AND  
MEAT - THIS IS NOT AN  
ADVERT - JUST A PIECE  
OF INFORMATION!

Hello  
Mary the Nun  
Love JJ (Nic)

reply: She comes home  
in two weeks  
time!

Matt Scott: A legend in  
his own ego!  
David: A legend in his  
own trousers!

These Gypsies Really know  
where their towels are!