

## NEW SPECIES OF LEMUR



## VARSITY 2016



## COACHELLA FASHION



# Bangor University Accommodation Best In UK

by EMILY RIMMER

The 14th of April saw the 'Whatuni Student Choice Awards' come round for another year. The awards were hosted in London with special guest presenter and comedian Jimmy Carr announcing the results on the night.

The awards are special because they are voted for by students and only students. This year over 25,000 votes from 125 universities were verified, making that 5,000 more votes than last year.

Overall, 39 universities were officially nominated into categories that reflect the aspects of student experience including: city life, student support, clubs and societies, accommodation, international, student union, university facilities, course and lectures, job prospects and finally university of the year. Bangor was nominated in seven out of the ten categories with each category consisting of 10 nominees.

Bangor University swept up winning a total of three awards on the night. Bangor won bronze for student sub-

port, silver for courses and lectures, which was up from seventh last year. The biggest award of the night was winning gold in the accommodation category.

Ken Griffith, Head of Residences, said: "It has been a tremendous team effort over the last few years as we have also opened our new St Mary's student village, increasing our portfolio to nearly 3000 rooms. What is important is that our high quality and service standards have been maintained throughout and that our students have acknowledge this with their voting. We are well placed to give next year's intake the best student experience in their halls."

Bangor also placed forth for clubs and societies, seventh in the international category and tenth for university facilities.

One of the highlights of the awards has to be reaching the number four spot for university of the year. We have risen three places from last years results when we finished as seventh best university in the UK.

Professor John G Hughes, the University's Vice-Chancellor, welcomed the news saying: "This is the second year in a row that Bangor University has won a national Whatuni Award. I'm delighted that the University has again won a category award, and achieved top five placings in a number of other categories. This win reflects our focus on providing an excellent education and all-round student-centred university experience. I'm grateful to our students for their support, and very pleased that they appreciate their time in Bangor. I would also like to thank all our staff for their fantastic efforts."

The Whatuni awards follow on from another successful year for Bangor University with the university retaining it's title of 'best in Wales' and one of the top ten universities for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey.

Simon Emmett, Managing Director Whatuni.com, added:

"Bangor University has had a strong endorsement from their students in

this year's Whatuni Student Choice Awards. Student experience is such an important aspect of university life, we are really proud to play a significant role in it for both current and future students."

If you would like to get involved and keep Bangor University on it's winning streak visit the Whatuni website below:

<http://www.whatuni.com/awards>



Prof. Carol Tully (Pro Vice-Chancellor -Students) & Jeanette Wilson (Accommodation Manager)



Nos Wener 29 Ebrill, 8pm  
Friday 29 April, 8pm

Off The Kerb Productions yn cyflwyno  
Off The Kerb Productions presents

## Russell Kane – Right Man, Wrong Age

Theatr Bryn Terfel

£16  
Canllaw oedran 15+  
Age guidance 15+



Nos Sadwrn 7 Mai, 7.30pm  
Saturday 7 May, 7.30pm

## Cerddorfa Symffoni a Chorws Prifysgol Bangor

Bangor University  
Symphony Orchestra  
& Chorus

Neuadd Prichard-Jones  
Prichard-Jones Hall

£12/£10/£5  
dan 18 oed a myfyrwyr  
under 18s and students



Nos Fawrth 10 Mai, 8pm  
Tuesday 10 May, 8pm

Comedy Central Live yn cyflwyno  
Comedy Central Live presents

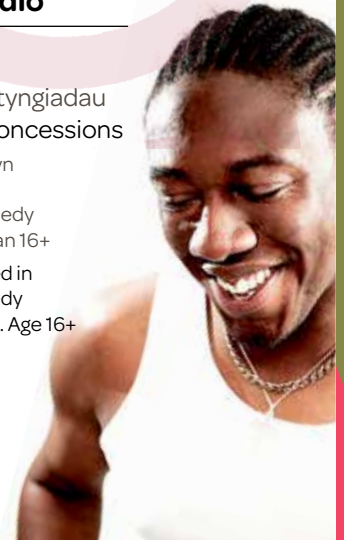
## Danny McLoughlin George Lewis Nathan Caton

Stiwdio/Studio

£10/£8  
myfyrwyr a gostyngiadau  
students and concessions

Caniateir diodydd yn  
y stiwdio yn  
nigwyddiadau Comedy  
Central Live. Oedran 16+

Drinks are permitted in  
the studio at Comedy  
Central Live events. Age 16+



Nos Fercher 11 Mai, 7.30pm  
Wednesday 11 May, 7.30pm

Pedwarawd Llinynnol

## Allegri String Quartet

Theatr Bryn Terfel

£14/£10/£5  
myfyrwyr a gostyngiadau  
students and concessions



Nos Wener 13 Mai, 8pm  
Friday 13 May, 8pm

Cabaret Pontio yn cyflwyno  
Cabaret Pontio presents

## Bella Hardy

Theatr Bryn Terfel

£14/£12  
myfyrwyr a gostyngiadau  
students and concessions



Nos Wener 20 Mai, 8pm  
Friday 20 May, 8pm

Off the Kerb Productions yn cyflwyno  
Off the Kerb Productions presents

## Jeremy Hardy

Theatr Bryn Terfel

£14/£5  
di-waith  
for the unemployed

Canllaw oedran 15+  
Age guidance 15+





# CONTENTS



**EMILY RIMMER**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
editor@seren.bangor.ac.uk

This month we saw Bangor University win in a landslide victory, 25-13 against Aberystwyth in Varsity 2016. I can honestly say I am so proud to be a part of Bangor on such a monumental day for the university and for the students who put in so much effort throughout the day to make it a win for the university. We saw a huge turn out in students this year to cheer on all the sport teams.

Seren was there again this year covering all things Varsity, keeping you up to date on scores and the latest action from all the games. We had a great day running around Bangor and experiencing all the different sports (as most of us had no idea of the rules to some of the sports). We had 18 reporters covering for Seren who were live tweeting and updating the scores as they happened. Of those reporters we also had a team of photographers who took a massive 5,600 photos on the day. The day was rounded off with sunshine and a cider at the Bangor University football stadium to rally on the men's football team, who did us proud by beating Aberystwyth 2-1.

It is fair to say it has been a chaotic couple of weeks leading up to this issue as dissertation deadline are looming ever closer. I can officially rub it in all the other third years faces and say mine to finally out of my hair and I couldn't be happier. But I wish all of you the best of luck with yours and hope you get the results you want.

Seren still has one more issue in May which will be filled with events like the Seren Business Awards, AU dinner, SU dinner and the anticipated Summer Ball. As the academic year is coming to a close we will soon be holding our annual AGM in which we elect our members for next year's team. If you want to be a part of Seren next year the AGM will be on the 5th May in PL2 at 6:30pm. We are also holding a recruitment day on the 27th April to get people familiar with Seren and what we do, so if you are thinking of joining Seren please come along and talk to us :)

I would like to wish everyone the best of luck on their revision for the exam period approaching!!

-----  
The views presented hereinafter do not represent the views of Seren Bangor, Bangor Students' Union or Bangor University.  
-----

News	4-6
Comment	7
Politics	8-9
Science	10
Environment	12-13
Union	14-15
Societies	16-17
Breaktime	19
Feature	20-21
Lifestyle	22-23
Fashion	24-25
TV	26-27
Film	28-29
Music	30-31
Gadgets	32-33
Travel	34-35
Sport	36-40



## THE SEREN TEAM

Editor-in-Chief Emily Rimmer  
Deputy Content Editor Kayla Jones  
News Editor Marine Dessaux  
Deputy News Editor Morgane Viala  
Politics Editor Adam Barnes  
Comment Editor J.P. Bebbington  
Science Editor Jack Greenhalgh  
Environment Editor Azat Kalybay  
Books Editor Jordan Glendenning  
Gadgets Editor Jamie Tompsett

Gadgets Editor Christian James-Watkins  
TV Editor Annie Patel  
Film Editor Seb Ellis  
Music Editor Fionnian Shardlow  
Fashion Editor Hannah Youd  
Lifestyle Editor Emma Jewkes  
Food & Drink Editor Heddwen Bethan Creaney  
Travel Editor Bethan May  
Sport Editor Joe Caine

## CONTRIBUTORS

Dan Turner  
L.J. Turner  
Morgane Viala  
Emma Debney  
Tiarna Armstrong  
Joe Heaford  
Claire Duncan  
Archery Committee  
People and Plants Society  
Charlie Wilson  
Sian Taylor  
Jess Ramanouwski  
Rebecca Steele  
Charlotte Howe-McCartin  
Ana Khan  
Sash Deacon  
Kirrie Moore  
Lewis Angel  
Connor Teeling

# #254



# “This Bangor Girl Can”



by MORGANE VIALA

On Wednesday 27th April at 12.00, to celebrate ‘This Girl Can’, Canolfan Brailsford will be offering a day of free sport for all female Bangor, students and staff. A selection of ‘This Girl Can’ posters featuring Bangor students have been created and will be released between now and the day.

This Girl Can is a national campaign

which celebrates active women up and down the country who are doing their thing no matter how well they do it, how they look, how red their face gets, or even how sweaty they get.

Catching slogans such as ‘Don’t be afraid to be a beginner’ or ‘I swim because I love my body. Not because I hate it.’ Or even ‘Don’t let anyone tell you’re not trying hard enough’.

Sport England realised that typical role models for women in sport,

such as Olympic athletes Jessica Ennis or Victoria Pendleton, might not be the best way to encourage normal women because their fitness levels and physiques are seen as completely unachievable.

Instead, they took to the ground to ‘streetcast’ ordinary women to front the campaign. The seven chosen are aged between 14 and 51, and will become a new type of ambassador for women in sport as well as the faces of

This Girl Can.

Sport England looked into various pieces of research by universities and other sports foundations. They found that 2 million fewer women are regularly participating in sport or exercise than men, despite 75 per cent of women aged 14 to 40 saying they’d like to do more.

After a lot of research with focus groups and having talked to many ordinary women on the street, Sport

England identified that it is fear of judgment that prevents many women from doing exercise.

“Any woman will tell you about the internal dialogue that goes on in her head, particularly when she thinks about sport, exercise and getting fit”, said Sport England CEO Jennie Price at the launch of This Girl Can.

## Pontio being checked after safety fears emerge



by MARINE DESSAUX

Bangor’s new art center, Pontio is the subject of checks after Scottish schools constructed from the same builder partially collapsed.

Miller Constructions, later acquired by Galliford Try, is Pontio’s builder. It is also responsible for previous water damage and the late opening of the building. And it happens to be the building company that caused 17 Scottish schools to close for safety reasons. Indeed, in January of this year, a wall collapsed at the Oxfords Primary School in Edinburgh. The City of Edinburgh Council said there were “uncovered new issues relating to the school’s construction.” As a consequence, Edinburgh Council ordered the closure of 17 schools constructed

by Miller, one week ago.

Council Leader Cllr Andrew Burns said: “Edinburgh Schools Partnership have today been unable to give the Council sufficient guarantee that the schools and other premises are safe to open on Monday.

Clearly we have every right to expect these schools to have been built to a good standard and in accordance with industry practice. We now know this isn’t the case.”

However, Galliford Try explains that Pontio and these schools are completely different projects with no connection. A Bangor University spokesman insisted that every effort is being made in order to secure the building. He insisted that Pontio is a high quality standard building and is submitted to proportionately high levels of inspection. He said :

“We do not anticipate problems similar to those experienced in Edinburgh but appropriate checks are being undertaken.”

Local politicians also shared their opinion. Arfon MP Hywel Williams said : “Were there to be any problems, it would be a matter for the construction company to put it right immediately.”

Local county councillor for Deiniol, Gwynfor Edwards, added: “ When there were delays, I had major concerns about the project.

“If anything does go wrong then it will be up to the developer to put it right.”

Galliford Try was already responsible for close to £1m extra cost for Bangor University due to water damages and a late opening.

## North Wales Police Crime Commissioner Elections

by JOE HEAFORD

On May 5th you’ll be asked to vote for the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner who will represent you by scrutinising the work of North Wales Police and making decisions about how the police will be funded over the next four years.

This is the second PCC election held in England and Wales the first was held in 2011 when current North Wales PCC Winston Roddick who is

choosing not to run for a second term was elected. On April 19th Bangor University’s School of Social Sciences hosted a debate open to all students as an opportunity for the candidates to speak to students about how they will represent the people of North Wales. Not all candidates were able to attend but Julian Sandham (Independent), David Taylor (Labour) and Arfon Jones (Plaid Cymru) were able to address students and staff, taking their questions on the issues important to them.

Other Candidates running in the election but unable to attend are Matt Wright (Conservative) and Simon Wall (UKIP).

Policing issues covered by the candidates at the debate included creating Safer Communities so that the people feel safe outside of their home, tackling anti-social behaviour so that minor offending does not spread into a wider problem, highlighting the widespread issue of child abuse and domestic violence by ensuring that victims are given the support that they need, and

restorative justice approaches to punishment which prioritise rehabilitating offenders and giving the victim a say in justice.

Another important issue brought up at the debate is the voter turnout at the 2011 election where 17% of voters actually cast a vote for a candidate. Similar figures were seen throughout England and Wales, bring into question how much the candidates elected truly represent the views and wishes of those they represent.

Contention around the purpose of

the Police and Crime Commissioner has surrounded the role since its creation in 2011. The law is vague on who should do what, but candidates at the debate went along ready with their own ideas about what they hope to achieve.

More information can be found on the candidates at [choosemyppcc.org.uk](http://choosemyppcc.org.uk) where the pledges and manifestos for all the candidates standing in police forces across England and Wales are available.





## Bangor Internaional Students set to Double University forms ‘Bangor International College’ with Oxford International

**B**angor University has recently signed a ten year partnership deal with Oxford International Education Group. The partnership will be known as ‘Bangor International College’ and based in Oswalds Building Bryn Haul on Victoria Drive. The Oswalds Building used to hold the Bangor University Students’ Union before it moved its offices to the Pontio building on Deniol Road. The Bangor International College’ will stand as an

embedded college within the Bangor University campus and will teach the first stages of a range of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees for the intrnational students at Bangor University. The partnership is expected to double the amount of current international studets here at Bangor University within the next four to five years, starting with an intial intake of fifty interational students in September 2016.

Vice Chancellor of the university, John Hughes said: “as a university with a strong international focus, we look forward to working with Oxford International. The partnership to create an International college at Bangor will bring the University’s excellent degrees to wider audienecs of studnets. The University provides an excellent standard of teaching and student care. With research informaing our teaching annd ver three-quatres of our

research rated as either ‘world-leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’, students can be assurrd that studying at Bangor Univerisiy through this partnership will have access to the best of the UK higher education.” The partnership represents the third such collaboration agreement within UK universities. Along with with De Mountford University in 2014 and Canturbary Christ Church University in 2015.

## In Brief

### Love Bangor’s Food Bank Donation Scheme

LOVE Bangor’s latest project is the food bank donation scheme. With the support of NUS we have been able to place donation baskets in 10 locations throughout the University. The food collected from the University will go to those currently experiencing food poverty in the local area. All goods are donated to the Bangor Cathedral Food Bank which donate food packs to those who have been assessed and in turn, received food vouchers. If you would like to donate, we have a list of much needed items below. Leave the products in the basket and we’ll do the rest! Have you seen the baskets in your department? If you haven’t and would like one, then please let us know and we’ll see what we can do! For details on what you can include in the baskets and the location of the baskets, please refer to our webpage.

### Walker attacked by dog on Glanrafon Hill

A man has been arrested and bailed after a dog walker was assaulted in Bangor. DC Gwyn Williams at Caernarfon CID said “At about 12.30am during the early hours of Sunday 10th April, a 29 year old local man was walking his dog in the Glanrafon Hill area of Bangor when he was attacked by a man with whom he had just engaged in conversation. His injuries were serious but not life-threatening. The assailant is described as a white male in his early 40’s with dark hair and wearing grey tracksuit bottoms with a blue stripe down the leg and a white top. Police revealed a man has been arrested and bailed pending further inquiries. Officers are still keen to track down a group of students who had been playing with the man’s dog moments before the attack. DC Arwel Hughes said: “Our investigation is very much still ongoing, and we are particularly keen to speak to a group of students who were on Glanrafon Hill at the time. They would have seen or heard something and we urge them to come forward and assist with our investigation. “We are also appealing to anyone else who was in the area at the time or who knows anything about the assault to contact Police and help us piece together exactly what took place.”

## Arson fires on Bangor Mountain



by **MARINE DESSAUX**  
**P**olice appeals were launched after two fires were set on Bangor mountain in the night of March, 22nd. About 80sq meters of gorse was torched, creating huge flames that could be seen from Bangor high street. The fires happened between 6.30 pm and 9.20 pm and required the intervention of two crews from North

Wales Fire and Rescue service. The cause was found by the police to be deliberate ignition. Insp Andy McGregor said: “A joint investigation has been launched into the cause of the fires and we are appealing to members of the public who may have information as to how the fires started or who might have witnessed any suspicious activity relating to the incidents.”

“We will not tolerate deliberate grass and mountain fires that not only lead to the destruction of the mountainside and wildlife, but which can also put lives at risk whilst fire crews are dealing with needlessly set fires.” Kevin Jones, Arson Reduction Manager, added: “Deliberate fires place tremendous pressure on resources, with our crews being committed for a considerable length of time trying to

bring them under control, which in turn delays firefighters from attending life threatening incidents. Anyone with information relating to these fires should contact Bangor Police Station on 101, quoting reference RC16041246. Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.



# Chess for Charity



by MARINE DESSAUX

The Bangor University Chess Society ran a 24-hour chess-marathon event to fundraise money for charity. This meant an opportunity of playing chess from 12 pm on Saturday the 16th to 12 pm Sunday the 17th. Everyone was invited to just come along and play a few games and to donate.

"The main reason we did a 24 hour event is because it is very difficult but very rewarding," says Chess Society President Andrew Smith.

"Chess is incredibly hard to keep

doing for 24 hours. This is because it requires a lot of mental concentration which, even after three hours of playing, was fading considerably. Quite often at times some of us would need to take extended breaks for an hour just so we could recover mentally. Despite all the challenges of doing a 24 hour event, we knew that the end result would be that we would raise a lot of money for charity. With this in mind, we knew that we had to keep playing!"

Around 30 people followed this invitation, and a few even stayed for the entire event, continuing the tradition established three years ago by Robin

Gilham, the former society's president. "At the time we thought he was crazy, but it was actually a very fun event and a highlight for the society that year," recalls Andrew Smith.

"What I particularly liked about doing the 24 hour event, three years ago, was that it was a chance for the current members to come together and enjoy the game of chess. I have a particularly fond memory of a small handful of us playing chess at 4am in the morning. Despite being sleep deprived and exhausted we were still having a good time playing chess. I wanted to relive those experiences but, more

importantly, raise some money for worthy causes."

The event was a success for the tired but very satisfied chess club members. Indeed, the amount raised by this year's event reached £220. An amount which will be split between two local organisations: 'Hospice at Home', the community in Gwynedd and Anglesey, and the North Wales Junior Chess Association.

"It was exhausting but worth it," says Andrew Smith. "I must say at 3am in the morning moral was pretty low. All of us were simply too tired to function properly. However, we pulled through

and we raised the most money we ever had for charity! We had nearly all our club members attending the event, a few new faces, and even a few people from the local North Wales Chess Leagues who wanted to show their support. I would like to personally thank everyone who came along and showed their support and I hope we can raise even more money next year!"

For those interested in joining the chess society, weekly meeting are from 7pm on Thursday and 6.30 pm in G1. Further information on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bangoruniversitychessclub/>.

## Syrian Refugees to find home in Anglesey



by LJ TAYLOR

Anglesey is likely to become home to around ten Syrian refugee families over the next three years.

Councillors from the island are set to meet on Monday (25th April) to discuss taking part in the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme (SVPRS) and it is expected that they will give the proposal the green light.

Should Monday's talks go favourably, then around 10 refugees would be expected to arrive on the island in the next 4-6 weeks, with a further 20

over the next few years. According to Home Office reports, priority would be given to those families with children of primary school age and the UK government is expected to fund the cost of housing the families. This would include covering any education and health costs for the first year.

Both Menai Bridge and the Llanfairpwll area have been identified as the best locations to accommodate the families, due to their proximity to the multi-cultural area of Bangor.

"The support already shown by local county councillors and both Menai Bridge Town Council and Llanfairpwll

Community Council has been extremely positive and bodes well as we look forward to welcoming these families into our communities" said Anwen Morgan, assistant chief executive at Anglesey council.

"We will, of course, continue to work with our partners to ensure a co-ordinated and effective approach and joint commissioning of support services for these families where necessary" she continued.

In September the Prime Minister, David Cameron, announced that the UK will commit to welcoming 20,000 refugees by 2020.

## Bangor University win 'Employer of the Year' award



by LJ TAYLOR

Bangor University won the 'Employer of the Year' (Public Sector) award, this week at the Chwarae Teg 'Womenspire' awards.

The award comes after the university increased efforts to commit to gender equality which has led to more women in senior positions across the institution.

"We're delighted to win Employer of the Year, as we've worked hard at the University to review women's development across our activities, from the promotion of senior staff through to providing encouragement to girls to study STEM subjects" said Lyn Meadows, Director of Human Resources at Bangor University.

Bangor University beat South Wales

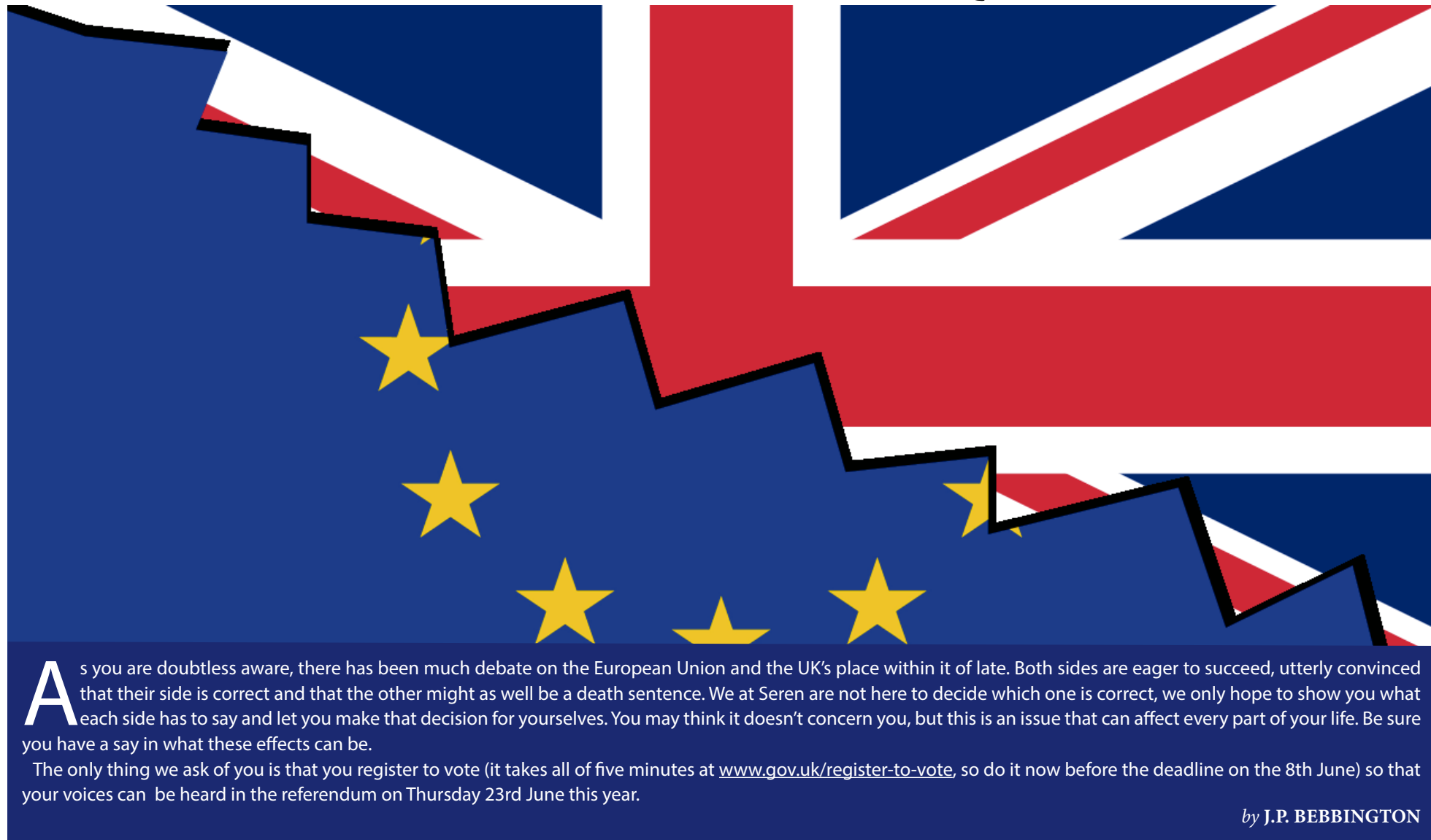
Police, DVLA and Traveline Cymru to win the award.

The 'Womenspire Awards' are a new initiative which aims to recognise the contribution made by women across Welsh society and to inspire future generations of women to achieve and prosper.

"We are so pleased with the first Womenspire awards and it's been great to hear from people on the night and afterwards that everyone really wants it to become an annual event. If Wales is really going to make the most of women's contribution to the workplace we need to highlight the challenges women face and celebrate those organisations and people who are doing great work to overcome them" said Joy Kent, Chief Executive of Chwarae Teg.

# IN OR OUT?

## SEREN ON THE EUROPEAN QUESTION



**A**s you are doubtless aware, there has been much debate on the European Union and the UK's place within it of late. Both sides are eager to succeed, utterly convinced that their side is correct and that the other might as well be a death sentence. We at Seren are not here to decide which one is correct, we only hope to show you what each side has to say and let you make that decision for yourselves. You may think it doesn't concern you, but this is an issue that can affect every part of your life. Be sure you have a say in what these effects can be.

The only thing we ask of you is that you register to vote (it takes all of five minutes at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote), so do it now before the deadline on the 8th June) so that your voices can be heard in the referendum on Thursday 23rd June this year.

by J.P. BEBBINGTON

### “Stay”

by ANNIE PATEL

**N**ever did I ever think that in my adult life (though I've not been one for long) I would agree with David Cameron and want to stay in the European Union.

As a student studying Spanish, the first argument that comes to mind about Brexit is the mobility of the people. How hard would it be for me to move around Europe as a citizen of a non-EU member state? Well first of all, leaving Europe would make it more expensive in terms of currency exchange, flights...etc. Also Spain, being the home of one of the biggest British expat communities, would suffer. An exit would mean that British expats living in EU member states would be thus considered 'illegal immigrants' as Dominic Grieve has previously stated. It would take too long to apply for visas, and upon entry of an EU country, one would have to prove the right to live in said country.

One of the benefits of being a member of the European Union is its mobility of labour. I fear that the Vote Leave campaign are targeting those who are uneducated about the EU situation and playing out the race card, saying that all these [inert European community] are taking all our jobs to impose fear. Essentially the UK version

of 'Make America Great Again', the 'Let's take back control' slogan suggests its EU overlords are prohibiting us from functioning at maximum efficiency. The truth is these "scary foreign people" aid to our economy as we do to their country in the EU budget. Although our contribution is a big number (£13 billion last year), leaving the EU would cause a nightmare for trade relations, one that could take years to negotiate. And what do we do in the meantime? Should British business relying on exports just sit patiently and twiddle their thumbs whilst losing money? Of course not. Why ruin a good thing that we already have with the EU? Why stir the pot?

The attractiveness of the UK economy to foreign investors and the Financial sector, which relies heavily on the existing legislations in the EU market, would suffer greatly as a result of leaving the EU. For students, your future depends on staying in the EU, whether you stay in the UK or not. Please make sure you vote to stay in the EU in June's referendum.

Can we all collectively agree though that spending millions of pounds on leaflets for both campaigns is ridiculous?

### “Leave”

by FINNIAN SHARDLOW

**T**he European Union, debunked in 400 words. With NO opinion, just facts.

The Democratic deficit is the most unknown and yet directly corrosive element of the EU. The way in which it operates is in direct opposition to national democracy. The European Commission, the executive body of the EU, implements and formulates new legislation for member states. Not one of its 43,000 commissioners are elected, they are appointed. Essentially, that's 43,000 people – who no ordinary citizen voted for – responsible for an estimated 50% of UK legislation that comes from Brussels. And if we don't like the laws? Tough. Despite British MEP's opposing more EU legislation than any other nation, our influence is minute. We possess less than 13% of votes within the EU Parliament. Upon leaving the EU, we would be solely responsible for the laws that govern Britain. Resultantly, placing more importance on General Elections. Your vote would be worth double its current value.

In 2015, the UK government contributed £13-billion into the EU budget. Our return from that investment was only £4.5-billion. So, actually, Britain makes a net loss of £8.5-billion. That's £23-million a day. That £13-billion is included in

the EU budget, containing all the contribution from member states. In 2014, spending was €142 billion. However, a small proportion was unaccounted for. Failing to give the budget a clean bill of health, the European Court of Auditors (ECA) found that 4.4% was 'mis-spent'. It is suggested portion of this is a result of fraud.

On jobs, the remain camp tend to say that Brexit would leave 3-million people instantly jobless. Not true. These jobs are not linked to EU membership, they're linked to trade, and leaving would not immediately decline trade. So concerning unemployment, it's relatively impossible to propose any concrete number.

Trade will NOT end with EU states if we leave. (a) Article 50 dictates that, upon withdrawal, conditions of the EU can remain the same for up to two years. (b) Countries such as Norway and Iceland – who are not member states – have Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with the EU. An FTA would have a distinct likelihood considering we are the EU's largest single export market, larger than China, Russia and the US. This would open up the possibility of arranging trade agreements with emerging world economies such as India or UAE. The deals would have been previously unattainable as all 28 member states must agree on its benefit to the Union.



# The Panama Papers 2016



Early April saw the release of the Panama papers, millions of documents that showed the wealth of celebrities, world leaders and politicians around the globe. An estimated 11.5 million files, totalling 2.6 Terabytes, were leaked with information from over 80 different countries all from the database of the world's fourth biggest off-shore law firm, Mossack Fonseca. The Leak is the biggest in world history with its 2.6 Terabytes of data dwarfing previous leaks such as WikiLeaks 1.7GB in 2010, the Luxembourg tax files 4.4GB in 2014 and the HSBC files 3.3GBs in 2015. An anonymous source from the German newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung obtained the records before they were shared by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists to the BBC and the Guardian. Whilst the papers haven't released any unlawful information, as there is nothing unlawful about using off-shore companies, they have raised the question about whether off-shore tax havens are ethical and if more restrictions should be placed on them to restrict

the abuses that have been revealed.

Some of the information revealed by the Panama papers included a \$2bn trail that led to Russian president Vladimir Putin. Alongside Putin other national leaders included Nawaz Sharif, Pakistan's Prime Minister, Ayad Alawi, ex-interim Prime Minister of Iraq, Alaa Mubrak, Egypt's former president's son, Petro Poroshenko, Ukraine's President and Sigmundur Davíð Gunnlaugsson, former Prime Minister of Iceland who stepped aside on April 5th due to widespread protests over the revelations revealed in the Panama papers. One Finnish protester, Steingrímur Óli Einarsson, whilst expressing delight over the stepping aside of Gunnlaugsson also expressed disappointment over the Finnish parliament not dissolving due to the leak; "Of course we're happy the Prime Minister had stepped down. But we are not satisfied with who is taking over from him, and with the fact that the government itself is still there." A spokesperson for Gunnlaugsson stated that the Prime Minister was not resigning but "Handing over the office

of Prime Minister for an unspecified time."

Our own Prime Minister David Cameron has also come under scrutiny after he admitted that he had profited from his father's Panama off-shore trust. The Prime Minister admitted to owning shares in the tax haven fund with wife Samantha Cameron from January 1997 but were sold in January 2010, several months before becoming Prime Minister, for a profit of £19,000. When asked why he sold his shares Cameron claimed he; "because I didn't want anyone to say you have other agendas of vested interests". Our Prime Minister also admitted to not knowing whether or not the £300,000 he inherited directly from his father had benefitted from the tax haven status. John Mann, Labour MP and member of the Treasury select committee, called for the resignation of Mr Cameron stating he had "Covered up and misled."

Twenty three individuals who have been linked to supporting regimes in Russia, Iran, Syria, Zimbabwe and North Korea have also been revealed

as having been clients of Mossack Fonseca. The families of around eight current and former members of China's supreme ruling body have also been found out as hoarding hidden wealth off-shore. Closer to home in the UK, six members of the House of Lords, three ex Conservative MPs and several dozen British political party donors have been revealed to be hiding mass amounts of wealth off-shore. One key figure released from a partner of Mossack Fonseca claimed; "Ninety-five per cent of our work coincidentally consists in selling vehicles to avoid taxes." A claim that is sure to fuel the fires of the campaign calling for stricter regulations over a lack of ethics.

The reaction towards the leaks has been overwhelmingly negative and as such tax investigators from 28 different countries met in Paris on Wednesday 21st April in order to launch an international inquiry on the papers. Involved tax authorities have stated that they will "Work together to analyse information revealed by the documents," as reported by the

Guardian. Whilst investigations have been taking place within a number of linked countries the Paris meeting is seen as a way to develop a global strategy to crack down on previous and future offenders. Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, the UN's independent expert on foreign debt and human rights, has stressed the need to end tax secrecy in the wake of the leaks he said "Tax evasion destroys trust in public institutions and the rule of law, and shrinks the fiscal space for investing in public healthcare, education, social security and other goods and services. Public funds that are essential to guarantee economic, social and cultural right to all are robbed from the people." When interviewed by the Guardian.

In response to the leaks Mossack Fonseca has "denied any wrongdoing" and claimed that as a company that have acted "beyond reproach for 40 years and that it has had robust due diligence procedures."

## Osbourne's March 2016 Budget highlights

### Health and Education

A sugar tax on the soft drinks industry will be introduced in two years, raising an estimated £520m to be spent on funding to promote sport in primary schools.

Secondary schools in England will have an extra £285m to bid for to promote after school activities.

Plans have been set in motion to turn all schools in England into academies by the year 2022.

£500m will be put forward in a bid to ensure "fair funding" formula for English Schools.

Compulsory maths lessons up to 18.

### Personal Taxation

Capital Gains Tax to be cut from 28% to 20%, basic-rate tax payers will also see a reduction from 18% to 10%.

Tax-free personal allowance will rise from £11,000 to £11,500 by April 2017.

The threshold that people pay 40% income tax will increase from the current £42,385 to £45,000 by April 2017.

Class 2 National Insurance contributions to be abolished, with government officials claiming that this has led to more than three million self-employed workers receiving a tax break.

### Economy

Growth forecasts have been revised down markedly over the next five years.

The growth forecast for 2016 is expected to be 2%, down from the 2.4% predicted in the autumn budget.

GDP is expected to grow with 2.2% and 2.1% forecasted for 2017 and 2018 respectively. This is however down from the 2.4% and 2.5% predicted back in November.

Despite these setbacks the UK economy is still predicted to grow faster than any other big western economies.

### Spending, borrowing and deficit

A further £3.5bn in cuts by the year 2020, with spending as a share of GDP expected to fall to 36.9%.

Debt to be £9bn lower in the 2015-16 report, in cash terms.

Annual borrowing in 2015-16 is expected to be £1.3bn lower than was predicted in November with it being forecast at £72.2bn.

Public finances are expected to hit a £10.4bn surplus in 2019-20.

The Deficit as a share of GDP is expected to fall to 2.9%, 1.9% and 1% in 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively.

### Housing Transport and Culture

A total of £115m is to be spent in an attempt to tackle rough sleeping and homelessness, with funding expected to take place in over 2,000 places.

£230m will be set aside to be spent on improvements to roads in the north of England, including the M62.

The toll price on the Severn River crossings between England and Wales will be halved by 2018.

New rail lines, the HS3 link between Manchester and Leeds, to be green lit.

Tax relief for museums in an attempt to boost temporary and touring exhibitions.





## Johnson attacks on Cameron continue

The London mayor has continued his attacks on Prime Minister David Cameron over his decision to spend £9m, of taxpayer's money, on a brochure aimed at helping persuade people vote to remain within the European Union as well as continued to promote the campaign to leave the Union. The leaflet, to be sent to every household within the UK, was criticised by Johnson for "being full of factual errors," and "Not

sufficiently absorbent for the purposes to which someone might wish to put it." Speaking in Newcastle as part of his northern tour, the London mayor was critical of those wishing to remain in the EU claiming that their brochure is just propaganda aiming to scare people into staying in the European Union.

Johnson continued his criticisms of those in the remain campaign claiming that those wishing to remain

in Europe are also those who "Claimed Britain had no choice but to join the euro when the single currency was introduced and that it would mean economic disaster if we failed to do so. How ludicrous they look now. Why on earth should we listen to them today?" asked the London mayor. Johnson continued by criticising the Union labelling it as "borderline corrupt" and "anti-democratic" as well that Britain would be at risk were it to

remain with the union. Boris Johnson was also critical of US President Barack Obama who is expected to back the remain campaign during his visit to the UK; "We are being lectured by the Americans about giving up our sovereignty and giving up control when the Americans won't even sign up to the international convention on the law of the seas, let alone the international criminal court."

Mr Johnson's attacks on Cameron

continued after labelling the Prime Minister and his 'colleagues' of "Pretending to be eurosceptics despite loving the idea of a federal Europe and they do not have a shred of idealism." Boris also boisterously added that the day after the referendum will be known as "independence day" and that a vote to leave the EU is a "vote for freedom."



## Corbyn's European Union speech

Thursday 14th April brought about Jeremy Corbyn's attempt to combat the view that he and his party were not doing all they could to fight for Britain to remain within the European Union. Whilst Corbyn's speech was not broadcast live it was delivered to an audience of Labour supporting students and trade unionists in London. In the speech the Labour leader talked on various points including climate change, workers' rights, and the shortcomings of the European Union in its current state as well as stressing the importance of tackling corruption. Labour's leader

was also keen to urge young voters to participate in the upcoming referendum stating; "You can't build a better world unless you engage with the world, make sure to register to vote, and vote to keep the UK in Europe in June." Before moving onto his main point "Leaving the EU would lead to 'bonfire of rights.'"

Mr Corbyn moved to criticise the Conservative party suggesting that they would dump not only equal pay but maternity pay rights and annual leave. Corbyn also received loud cheers by continuing his attack on the Conservatives "For refusing to crack

down on tax evasion, privatising the railways, and failing to stand up for the steel industry." Prime Minister David Cameron responded to Corbyn's claims by saying that both he and the Labour leader disagreed on many things about the European Union but was supportive of Corbyn's pro EU stance.

In response to questions asking about his previous anti-European stance, having voted against Britain's membership of the European Economic Community back in 1975, Corbyn simply said; "This is a decision about whether to stay in and

argue for the kind of socially just EU that I want, and that my party wants, or to walk away." Before continuing with "That's the decision that's been reached, does it mean I recant on everything I've ever said or done? No," when discussing that Labour had decided, as a party, to remain within the European Union.

Former shadow business secretary Chuka Ummuna was very happy with Corbyn's speech saying; "I'm delighted with Jeremy Corbyn's speech making a powerful progressive case for the UK's membership of the European Union. There is no middle way - you're

either in or out". The overall reception from the Labour party towards their Leaders stance has been positive with the view being that Corbyn is putting his own grievances towards the EU aside in favour of his party's support for the European Union. But as is the case in politics Corbyn had his critics with Ian Davidson claiming; "Jeremy Corbyn believes every word of his speech, but not necessarily in that order." The EU referendum takes place on June 23rd later this year.



## INTERVIEW: DR. PAUL CROSS

DR. PAUL CROSS IS A SENIOR LECTURER AT BANGOR UNIVERSITY AND HAS STUDIED A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS FROM ILLEGAL DRUG USE TO ZOOLOGICAL DISEASE. A FEW DAYS AGO I MET WITH PAUL TO DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF BRITISH BEES AND HOW BEEKEEPING MIGHT BE BEGINNING TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY IN SUB-SAHARAN COUNTRIES.

### WHY ARE BRITISH BEES IMPORTANT?

"Historically the british bee (*apis mellifera mellifera*), was well adapted to conditions particularly in the uk (high winds, lots of rainfall, short summer, low temperatures etc) and over millennia had adapted to the environmental conditions. However, beekeepers have been importing other races of european bees from italy, eastern european ect... if you import italian bees they are really gentle to start with - i don't want to stereotype italians, lounging on the rivera - but they were pretty laid back. They have a comparatively long season in italy to collect their honey, so there is no real rush. So beekeepers in the uk thought that was great, 'let's have those bees, they don't even sting!' But when italian bees mate with the british bees the following year you get a bee that is relatively lazy, a highly 'stingy'."

### SO IT'S THE HYBRIDS THAT ARE THE PROBLEM?

"Yes. Some bees actually become uncontrollable, they just become absolutely wild, they seem to have the worst mixture of all the genes. It also makes it impossible to artificially select for a desired characteristic. So, if you wanted a highly adapted bee suitable to these conditions, you're never going to be able to do it if your starting point is a source population of mongrelised bees. So there's been a campaign for 50 years or so now, but it's really come to prominence in the last 10-15 years, about trying to breed back in the british bee, a bee that's locally adapted to its environment (ecotype). The beekeepers that have done it have said that those bees are relatively docile, certainly compared to anything we've experienced with mongrelised versions. It's not about patriotism, it's about 'racial casts' if you like, and bees that are best adapted to the conditions they find themselves in. Similarly I

wouldn't want to export a british bee to the italian rivera because they'd have the same problem."

### WHY IS IT THAT THEY HYBRIDS BECOME AGGRESSIVE?

"That i'm not too sure about, and i'm not too good on genetics, but it certainly seems that the most aggravated form appears two years after initial breeding.

Queens, when they go out to mate, mate with about 15 different drones, and they store all the collected sperm, which is all mixed up, and over the course of the following year, or even up to 5 years, the queen lays eggs with this admixture of random genes. That is really hard to control. You can control the queen, and to an extent what she does, but you don't have much control as a beekeeper with whom she mates. That's the main problem we have. There are things beekeepers are doing around north wales particularly, whereby you can measure how purebred your bee is by measuring the veins on the wing. If you come across a colony in your apiary that has a high proportion of british bee genes, the best thing for you to do is to take them to an out-apiary, which is hidden at the back of a valley where there are very few other colonies and get them to breed with drones.

Is north wales a particularly good place for this?

South clwyd beekeepers association have been working on this for about 15 years. They can't control all the beekeepers in their area, but they've got just about every beekeeper to sign up to the programme. And then they go around and drop new queens (with strong british characteristics) into any colonies that are heavily mongrelised."

### WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE MAJOR PROBLEMS THAT FACE BRITISH BEES?



"Mainly habitat loss, in part due to urbanisation, but mostly due to agricultural practices. The wild patches and strips within the arable environment are hedgerows, comprising of few tree species (hawthorn and blackthorn), and no underlying wildflower growth, a situation that is replicated across britain. So we've got all of these insects and lots of other species trying to eek out an existence on tiny, tiny thin and almost redundant strips of habitat."

### SO THERE'S LOTS OF RESOURCE OVERLAP BETWEEN INSECT SPECIES?

"Yeah. Anglesey is terrible, if you look at that place, which is forever on facebook producing images of what a great place it is to go on holiday - it's just a bloody insect desert!"

### HOW IS BEEKEEPING HELPING TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY?

"There are a lot of bee charities

that raise funds to provide hives and equipment to the rural poor in sub-saharan africa. And the reason why they think bees and beekeeping is a good item to promote is that you need small amounts of land for it and it can provide another string to the bow of income generation for impoverished people. Also the bees are very resilient to any economic change. It begins with cheapish start-up costs, and comes with the potential of exporting african honey; it's all a bed of roses. The problem is: it hasn't been rigorously tested as to whether or not it produces tangible benefits."

### IS THIS A NEW IDEA?

"Beekeeping isn't, but the western approach that's being exported, a more formal way of beekeeping, is. Traditionally africans collected honey from wild nests in the forest, this new approach would allow them to manage the bees in a controlled way and allow them to predict what

they're going to have as a yield. They can expand as well. That in essence is why it's seen as a good idea. There isn't a lot of evidence to prove it one way or the other that it is beneficial. By measuring the incomes of beekeepers and non-beekeepers, my two phd students, one in uganda, and one who's collecting data at the moment in tanzania, hope to find out whether it is nor not.

Big charities go out to africa to promote beekeeping, because for them it's quite easy, all they have to do is buy a load of beehives, basically dump them on a targeted group of people. And then they can tick all their boxes and go away, there's no follow-up and training. I've been on a trip around rwanda recently and all you see are these clusters of empty beehives that no one's using, there are no bees in them.





<p>Bangor University Students' Union English Language Newspaper FREE @SerenBangor</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">SEREN</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">April 2015 Issue No. 247 Newspaper FREE seren.bangor.ac.uk</p>	<p>Bangor University Students' Union English Language Newspaper FREE @SerenBangor</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">SEREN</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">May 2015 Issue No. 248 Newspaper FREE seren.bangor.ac.uk</p>	<p>Bangor University Students' Union English Language Newspaper FREE @SerenBangor</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">SEREN</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">Community Edition August 2015 Issue No. 249 Newspaper FREE seren.bangor.ac.uk</p>	<p>Bangor University Students' Union English Language Newspaper FREE @SerenBangor</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">SEREN</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">October 2016 Issue No. 250 Newspaper FREE seren.bangor.ac.uk</p>
---	--	---	--	---	---	---	--

WE ARE HOLDING A RECRUITMENT DAY FOR ANYONE THAT  
WANTS TO GET INVOLVED NEXT YEAR. COME AND GET TO KNOW  
US AND WHAT WE GET UP TO. THE SESSION WILL BE:  
WEDNESDAY 27TH APRIL @ 6PM  
BRIANT COMMON ROOM, FFRIDDOEDD SITE (NEXT TO THE STU-  
DENT SHOP)

SEREN NEEDS YOU!!



# TOP ENVIRONMENT NEWS DIGEST

## Three new species of lemurs discovered in Madagascar

Lemurs gained a substantial increase in popularity since the first film of a well-known DreamWorks computer-animated franchise – Madagascar was released in 2005. The franchise famously featured two lemurs: King Julien XIII (ring-tailed lemur) voiced by Sacha Baron Cohen and Maurice (Aye Aye) voiced by Cedric the Entertainer.

Despite an upbeat tone of the movie, the reality for lemurs is not too bright. About seventeen species of lemurs became extinct in the recent past and practically all were larger than remaining types, the largest weighing as much as 200kg. Today, approximately hundred species of lemurs are described and according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature

(IUCN), lemurs are world's most endangered mammals with nearly ninety per cent of all lemurs facing extinction within the next two decades.

Quarter of those hundred species of lemur are mouse lemurs. Prior to 1992, we knew of only two species of mouse lemurs, but the new genetic analysis techniques and expeditions to more inaccessible parts of the island allowed scientists from the German Primate Center (DPZ), the University of Kentucky, the American Duke Lemur Center and the Université d'Antananarivo in Madagascar to identify three new species of mouse lemurs. This is happening three years after the same team of scientists described two lemurs of the same species.

Mouse lemurs are the smallest primates on the planet. They are predominantly active during the night, which is probably the reason why it proved so hard to distinguish between different mouse lemurs up until genetic tests were applied. Thus, without the need to develop different morphological features mouse lemurs speciated through evolving various vocal and auditory systems.

Madagascar is a hot spot of intriguing research due to its diverse and distinct environment. The new findings such as these is aimed at bringing us closer to understanding the origins of life on this curious island.



## World can go fossil free in a decade

Transitions are unexpected and often happen in a blink of an eye. In two years time, millennials will be enrolling into universities not only marking the passage of a century, but also being a generation that grew up on the gadget planet. Things have changed dramatically since our childhoods. Not so long ago, Nokia 3310, more famously called a 'brick', was a big deal and a source of jealousy among classmates. Internet was available in only few places and Wi-Fi was unquestionable witchcraft. But then smartphones, laptops, wireless internet and so many other tech-tools

started to rapidly infiltrate into our lives and now we can't imagine a day without them.

Presently, there is an unavoidable transition from fossils to renewables. The shift seems so challenging and time-consuming to reverse that experts expect it to take decades, perhaps a good chunk of this century. But is it possible they are wrong and the shift is much closer? Authors of a paper from the *Energy Research & Social Science* report that the global energy sector can go 'green' in ten years' time. Professor Benjamin Sovacool, Director of the Sussex Energy Group

at the University of Sussex says: "The mainstream view of energy transitions as long, protracted affairs, often taking decades or centuries to occur, is not always supported by the evidence."

There are couple of examples in history which shows that transitions in the source of energy are faster time after time. For instance, Europe turned to coal from wood in about ninety-six to hundred and sixty years, while electricity was widely adopted in forty-seven to sixty-nine. In these cases, the shift was stimulated primarily from convenience, efficiency and

cost reasons. This time around, there are additional factors such as resource depletion and climate change which is combined with advancements in technology.

Among other examples from the study are Ontario's swift transition away from coal between 2003 and 2014; growth in share of electricity from nuclear energy in France from four per cent in 1970 to 40 per cent by 1982; Indonesia's switch to LPG stoves from kerosene accomplished in just three years involving two-thirds of the population. The common thread between these cases was active

governmental support together with change in consumer behavior.

"Moving to a new, cleaner energy system would require significant shifts in technology, political regulations, tariffs and pricing regimes, and the behaviour of users and adopters."

"Left to evolve by itself -- as it has largely been in the past -- this can indeed take many decades. A lot of stars have to align all at once."

"But we have learnt a sufficient amount from previous transitions that I believe future transformations can happen much more rapidly."





## Pee-power

There are many types of renewables: solar, wind, geothermal, tidal - but could you ever imagine urinal energy as being one? It turns out pee is a viable source of energy and some researchers have been developing a miniature microbial fuel cell that can generate electricity using urine. What makes pee a reasonable option is that such fuel cells are incredibly cheap to make - only 1 to 2 quid each. The reason why they are so inexpensive is the carbon catalyst at its

cathode, which comes from a protein in egg white rather than alternatively used platinum.

This one inch squared fuel cell utilizes the 'electric' bacteria that can turn organic matter into electricity through its natural biological processes and as a result can power say your mobile phone. The advantages of the device are efficiency and cost combined with almost no waste. To achieve such results, researchers from Bath, Queen Mary University

of London and the Bristol Bioenergy Centre made some design alterations such as doubling the size of four mm cell electrodes to gain a tenfold increase in power output and then stacking multiple cells in a row. As a result, each fuel cell can generate 2 Watts per cubic metre.

According to researchers, this innovative technology could be particularly useful in the remote areas of the world where there is no access to electricity or where people cannot afford

it. Anyhow, the very idea seems quite amusing and is exactly the case when the world would not be concerned

with resource depletion as long as we exist.



## Soil science -mucking around in nature conservation

by CLAIRE DUNCAN

What would your thoughts be if someone told you that a few meters away from you there's an ecosystem with billions of wild and wacky living things in it? Some may be found nowhere else in the world, some might only have evolved since you sat your GCSEs, some might have been around before the dinosaurs and some might have to potential to kill you. It's one of our key defences in the fight against climate change, the source of much of our food and water and is a whole new world of physical and chemical reactions. Would you be interested? Such is the world of soil. Pedology, to give

it its scientific term, is the study of a perhaps largely overlooked habitat. A handful of soil is supposed to contain more organisms than people on the planet, the majority as yet unknown to science - so why do so few people take any interest?

For the 7 (and counting) Kingdoms of living organisms, soil provides a pretty impressive habitat. It's thought that over a quarter of known animal species are soil or litter dwellers. Only 1% of soil bacteria have so far been named by science, and plants that grow without soil are rare indeed. The fungal kingdom, 'Mycorrhizal', are thought to have been the reason that plants colonised the land in the first place. Divided into 7 types, these fungi live in the roots of plants,

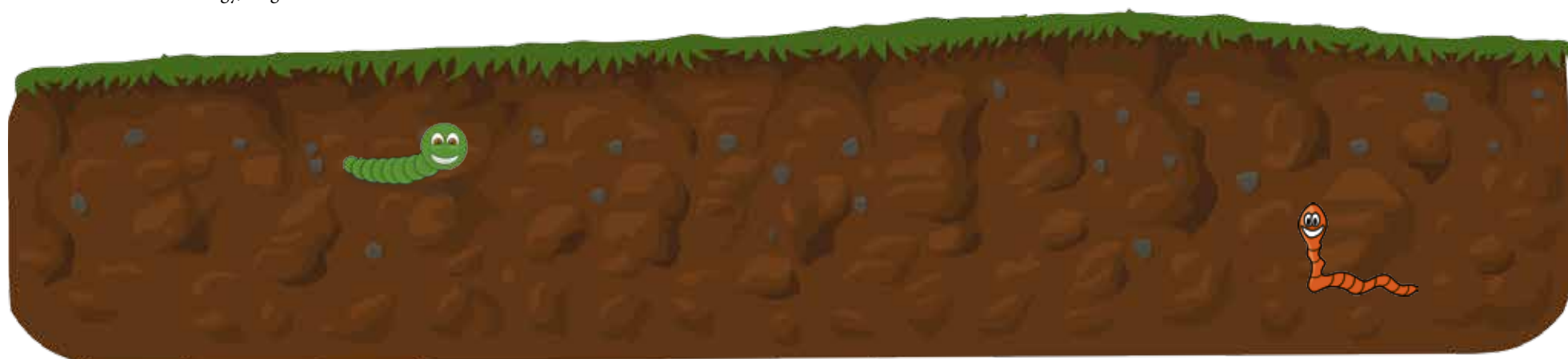
exchanging micronutrients for carbohydrate and a place to call home. Hence the fact trees grow best in established woodland soils - the stuff's already there for them. Some tree nurseries are now using this knowledge to improve the health of their saplings, inoculating their roots with the appropriate spores in much the same way as commercial truffle production. Plants simply grow better with the organisms that they've evolved alongside - plants and fungi have been living together like this for 400 million years. Admittedly, the trees are a lot easier to see, but as with a film or movie a lot goes on behind the scenes to allow the stars of the show to shine.

So - healthy, biodiverse soil means

trees grow better. Great for combating climate change? Well, yes. But this is a little bit less impressive when you consider that all living organisms on Earth are thought to store a mere 600 gigatonnes of carbon, weighed against the 2,700 gigatonnes of the world's soils. Draining or harvesting peat, over ploughing, desertification and erosion all release carbon locked in soils into the atmosphere, as soil organism respiration rockets beyond what gets stored. So what can be done about this? Answers range from breeding crops with larger root systems and re-wetting historic peat bogs, to burying specially produced charcoal ('biochar') and even scrap-ploughing in arable farming all together. Finding ways of doing this

is a hot topic at the moment, although many studies highlight how much we simply don't know.

Well - there you go - a brief overview of soil science. Good clean fun and something for which Bangor University has been a renowned centre of research for decades (some of the most accurate soil maps in the country are the North Welsh ones - go and check them out!). Conserving soils is vital to protect life both on and in Earth, from the tiny wibbly unknowns to the larger polar bears, sea turtles and even ourselves. So that's something to brood upon next time you're out and about. Because soil underlies everything.





# High Sheriff Awards



On Friday April 15th the High Sheriff Awards were presented to Bangor University students who had demonstrated outstanding commitments to volunteering whilst at university. The prestigious ceremony took place in the presence of the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and University Council and was delivered by Peter Harlech Jones, High Sheriff for Anglesey and Gwynedd.

The award was initiated in 2007 when the then High Sheriff and University Council Member, Dr. Dewi Roberts and his wife, Dr. Sheila Roberts wished to formally recognise the contribution that Bangor University students make to the local community through voluntary work.

Current Bangor students are able to nominate fellow students for an individual award or a volunteering project group award and the winners are agreed upon by a panel made up of current and previous High Sheriffs and senior university staff. This year, three individual awards were presented along with two group awards.

Street Law, part of Bangor University Law Society was awarded £750 to support their volunteering work. As a student-run project, Street Law provides advice on law and consumer rights. Following recent cuts to the legal aid budget, this valuable service is much needed in the community and it is their future aim is to create pop-up legal clinics throughout Gwynedd and Anglesey.

Sbectrwm is an SVB project providing a weekly activity club for children affected by Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and their siblings. A group of highly dedicated student volunteers lead and manage the project which provides the children with a safe and well managed environment in which to grow and thrive.

Keira Hand was awarded an individual award in recognition of her commitment to Street Law as its director. Keira has been credited with the current success that the group has been experiencing this year following difficulties which almost led to its closure. Keira's team members nominated her as they believe her to be amazingly organised, enthusiastic and committed to the group and

credit her responsible for the group's growth over the past 12 months.

Aimee Boyd received an individual award for her dedication to volunteering with SVB over 5 years. She attends the Hergest Unit at Ysbyty Gwynedd, Bangor once a week to offer activity sessions for patients, volunteers as a First Aider at Bangor University sports fixtures, coaches the Bangor University Judo Club and teaches Belly Dancing through the Bangor University Dance Society. Aimee's was also recognised for her hard work developing the Duke of Edinburgh Award at the university.

A joint award was made to Ruth Plant and Amelia Boddison, the current co-ordinators of Bangor University RAG (Raise and Give). Ruth and

Amelia have organised several large scale events this year, raising money for four charities chosen by the student body. This year they are on target to raise over £4000, which will be split equally between, the Child Brain Trust, the Newlife Foundation, Tiny Tickers and the Children's Air Ambulance.

The afternoon was a fantastic opportunity to thank all the student volunteers for their very hard work and dedication to their causes. The High Sheriff Awards will be back next year with nominations being accepted in March.

## Canine calming room is back!

Following the huge success of the first Canine Calming Room, we've decided to bring you Canine Calming Room 2!!

Canine Calming Room will be back on the 18th of May between 13.00 and 17.00 and will be held in JP Hall (just off College Road).

The format of the day will be the same. Students interested in the Canine Calming Room can queue and will be invited in on a one in one out basis. In exchange for a small donation, the students can stroke the guide dogs and learn more about them from their owners. The money raised on the day will go towards the previous total with the hope of

reaching the target of £1,500 needed to name and sponsor our own guide dog puppy. The total for the Canine Calming Room last time was a staggering £889.28! All the money raised, and the money that will be raised would not be possible without RAG Bangor, who work tirelessly to raise money for all kinds of charities!

We would like to thank Guide Dogs Cymru for their co-operation and for allowing such a wonderful event to happen once again. We certainly can't wait to see student being able to relax around the dogs in the month of May which can be a stressful month for those with exams and deadlines.

## HE Union of the year



The Disabled Students Conference took place between the 22nd and 24th of March in Manchester. Bangor Students' Union were recognised in the awards ceremony for their dedication to accessibility in Pontio and in halls as well as around the campus, the Union and academic rooms with a HE Union of the year award. Our Disabled Student Representative, Piers Wilkinson, went along to the ceremony where he had the opportunity to debate social and political issues with other Disabled Student Officers from Universities across the UK. Undeb Bangor cannot be any prouder of the work carried out by Piers and our VP Education and Welfare, Lydia Richardson, and being recognised with this admirable award.



# What do we want? Safe streets!



For the first time in over 5 years, 'Reclaim the Night' has come back to Bangor. On Friday the 15th of April, people took to the streets of Bangor and marched against sexual violence and for gender equality.

Rosie Inman the Women's officer for NUS Wales spoke to the crowd that gathered around Bangor's clock tower on Friday night. Rosie's speech was powerful and from the heart "We are marching for all those who never received justice from a system that has failed them. We are marching tonight because we still have to; to say we are never to blame for rape and sexual violence and that sexual assault is al-

ways the fault of the perpetrator. To demand the right to live without the fear or reality of sexual violence and stand with them."

The chanting 'Who's street? Our streets!' could be heard loud and clear across the high street, and spectators were coming out into the pouring rain to see what the march was about.

Reclaim the night started in the UK in the 1970's around the time the prolific serial killer, Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper sexually attacked and murdered thirteen women. The Leeds Revolutionary Feminist Group started the night in response to the

police's slow action and the newspapers barely reporting the crimes; mainly because they were prostitutes being sexually assaulted and killed. Only when a young student was sexually attacked and murdered did the Police start to take more notice. Their response was to tell women to stay at home and not walk the street at night, effectively giving women a curfew!

According to the British Crime Survey (2001) there are an estimated 47,000 rapes every year, around 40,000 attempted rapes and over 300,000 sexual assaults. The conviction rate for these crimes are at an all-time low at 5.3%!

The message that Reclaim the Night want to shout out loud and clear is that it's not the victim's fault. It is always the perpetrator's fault. People are marching to demand the right to walk the streets without fear of rape!

VP Education and Welfare, Lydia Richardson thought "The evening was fabulous and I'm so proud that even the rain didn't dampen the spirits of the night and everyone's message got heard loud and clear"

Reclaim will be back in Bangor next year, hopefully the night will grow year by year, ensuring that the message does not fade.

## Students' Union lockers

THE students have spoken and we have listened; most students have stated there is nowhere to store items throughout the day, particularly for commuting students who can't go back home to grab something.

We now have 12 bookable lockers for student to use from 09:00 till 17:00, weekdays in the Union space.

The lockers are free to use, with the option of donating to RAG for using them. They can be booked for daily use by any Bangor Student from the Student Centre.

Depending on demand, we will look at getting more but for now use them to your hearts content!

## SU AGM

YOUR elected student officers (the Sabbs) will be reporting on their work and you'll have an opportunity to question them about things that affect you and the work that they have done and are planning to make your student experience better.

A member of the University's management team will also be speaking at the meeting and students will have an opportunity to ask questions on the progress of the University.

The AGM will take place in MALT AT 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 26th April.

## Student volunteers wanted

THIS will be great experience for the students who are interested in event organisation and Behaviour Change as there will be some unique things going on during the Behaviour Change Festival.

If any students are interested; the event will be held in Pontio 9th-20th May (not including weekends). The organisers will also be looking for students to help with prep the week before the event.

Contact [stacey.hunter@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:stacey.hunter@bangor.ac.uk) if you are interested.

**Dydd Iau Mai 19fed**  
7yh  
Storiell, Ffordd Gwynedd,  
Bangor

**Achub y Plant**  **Save the Children**

**Thursday May 19th**  
7pm  
Storiell, Ffordd Gwynedd,  
Bangor

**Canol y Frwydr**  
**Cyfarfod cyhoeddus**

**Life on the Front Line**  
**A public meeting**

Siaradwr  
**Dan Stewart**  
Tîm Argyfwng Achub y Plant  
(newydd yn ôl o ffîn Macedonia)  
a  
Siaradwr Gwadd  
**Dr Raquel Quinta**, o Cymorth Ffoaduriaid Môn

Speaker  
**Dan Stewart**  
Save the Children Emergencies Team  
(recently back from the Macedonian Border)  
and  
Guest Speaker  
**Dr Raquel Quinta**, of Refugee Relief Môn

Cadeirydd/Chair  
**Hywel Williams AS / MP**

Bydd Storiell ar agor o 6 yh i chwi ei fwynhau  
Lluniaeth ar gael  
**Cesglir dillad cynnes ac esgidiau**

Storiell will be open from 6pm for you to explore.  
Refreshments available  
**We will collect warm clothing and shoes**

## SU Heroes

BANGOR Students' Union will soon be recruiting SU Heroes for Welcome Week 2016. SU Heroes are asked to help out with the running of Students' Union events during Welcome Week. These include the stewarding of Serendipity, assisting with SU events held at the Union, Pontio, Academi, Bar UNO and across the University Campus and generally offering practical support during Welcome Week. If you are interested in becoming an SU Hero please register, you can find the registration form on the SU website!



## SOCIETIES



# Bangor University Archery

**B**angor University Archery Club (BUAC) is looking for archers! Whether you've done archery before or not, or if it is something you have always wanted to try. You are more than welcome to come down and join us free of charge, at any time of the year, for as little or as long as you would like. We can teach you the basics of how to shoot, or help you hone your already brilliant archery skills. You are not required to have great strength as no particular level of fitness or strength is required to pick up archery.

Our club offers a stress-free environ-

ment that allows students the freedom to practice at their leisure with the aid of more experienced archers as well as a wide variety of bows to choose from so regardless of your strength we'll have a bow suitable for you. There is a selection of different types of bow available at the club, free for students to use, allowing them the chance to specialise with longbows, horse bows, recurve bows or compound bows.

Our sessions run every Wednesday 7pm-10pm and Sunday 12pm-3pm in the normal site sports hall. You can contact the committee via the Facebook page at any time and we are happy

to give directions or arrange a meet-up to walk potential new members to the sports hall. In addition to our regular shoots, we also host occasional fun-shoots. These shoots involve archery games, novelty targets, balloons, piñatas and everything needed to celebrate annual holidays Archery-style.

Competitions such as BUCS and Varsity offer our more competitive members the chance to show their skills and the opportunity to win medals and trophies.

There will be 4 outdoor shooting events on Sunday's from the 24th April to 15th May. The elements and long

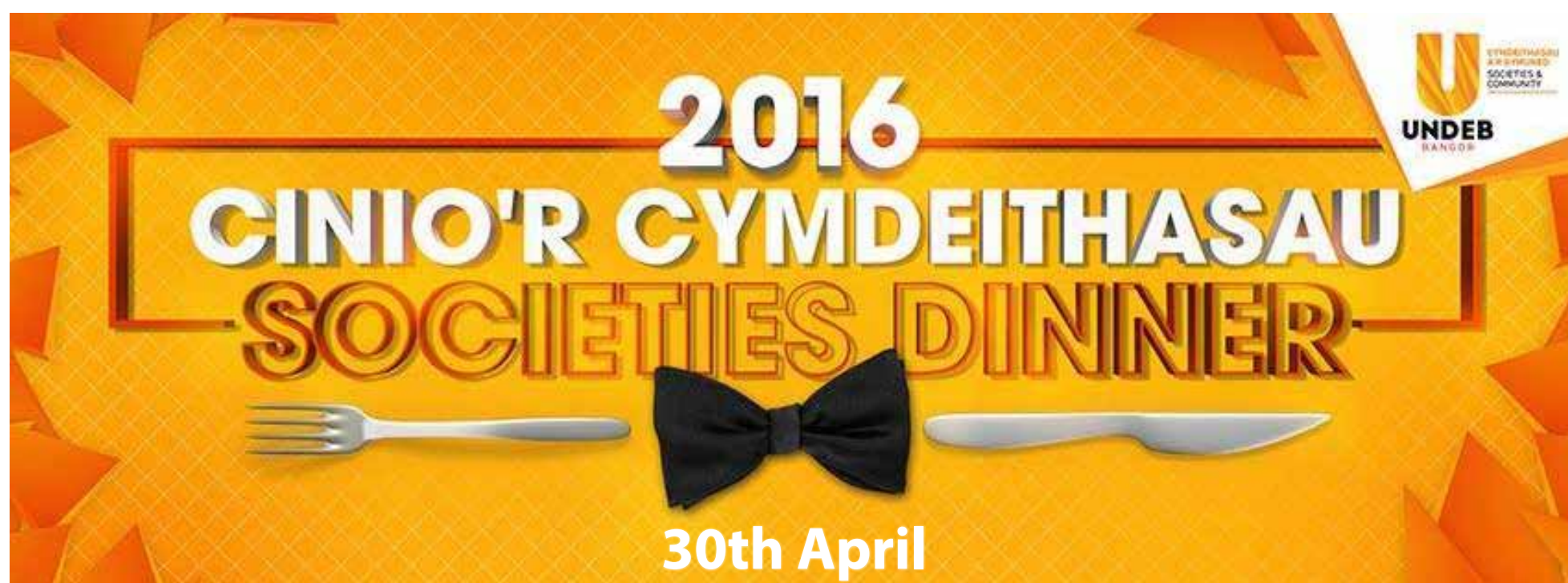
ranges of shooting outdoors offer a unique challenge to archers. Members from clubs as far as Manchester are coming to Bangor University's outdoor shoots.

In addition to our sessions we have regular socials on Friday evenings at 8pm in the Harp, our new sponsor, that offer a friendly and inclusive environment. As well as Friday evening socials, we are planning to host a wider variety of social events including games nights, days out and other sober events over the next academic year.

The club has plenty to provide for all members, with equipment ready-

to-use for those who do not have any. For those wishing to really get into the sport there is an annual bow shop trip to Custom Built Archery. There you can get a personalized handcrafted bow and arrows on the day.

If you believe that Archery is something you would like to try then do not hesitate in contacting any of our committee members via our Facebook page with any queries you may have. We hope to see you soon.







# People and Plants Society

Where do our tuition fees go? Can we sit by and let Bangor University invest our money (and our futures) in fossil fuels?

Bangor University currently has over £5 million invested in two separate fund managers; HSBC and BlackRock. Crucially, we know that HSBC and BlackRock do not provide fossil free investment portfolios. Fossil fuel

companies' current reserves of oil, coal and gas hold five times more carbon than the world's atmosphere can safely handle. Bangor University is therefore profiting from wrecking the climate.

Scarier still is that the University, under a freedom of information request, was unable to provide us details of the individual companies it invests in stating that they were "not known" or "not practicable" to obtain. Bangor

University has an Ethical Investment Policy which states it will "screen investments on ethical grounds". So far the Vice Chancellor and Head of Operational Finance at

Bangor University have declined to comment on how the screening process works when the companies are not known. It begs the question- why do they bother having an ethical investment policy at all?

Universities are supposed to be a bastion of forward thinking. To invest in fossil fuels goes completely against this. We want to be proud of our University, one which doesn't finance the fossil fuel sector but keeps its money in clean, less risky investments. We want it to support local enterprises that are paving the way to a low-carbon economy. Our institution can and must help avert a climate crisis.

The People and Planet Society, Bangor University, have started a new campaign to divest from fossil fuels. Join them in making a difference. The group will also be holding film screenings, a grow wild campaign (planting wild-flower seeds in the city) and other social events during the year. Find them on Facebook and twitter (@Bangor\_PnP) or email them at [peopleandplanet@bangorstudents.com](mailto:peopleandplanet@bangorstudents.com)

## SEREN AGM 2016

### Fancy yourself as a journalist? Get involved!

PL2, Pontio, 2nd Floor (lecture theatre next to restaurant)

Wednesday May 5th 2016, 6:30pm

#### Positions Available:

Editor • Deputy Editor: Content • Deputy Editor: Design • Secretary  
Treasurer • Social Secretary • News • Deputy News • Politics • Lifestyle • Food & Drink  
Comment • Science • Environment • TV • Film • Music • Fashion • International  
Books • Games & Gadgets • Arts & Culture • Travel • Deputy Sport • Sport



# SEREN PRESENTS



WHICH LOCAL BUSINESS HAS THE BEST STUDENT DEALS?

WHERE'S THE BEST PLACE FOR A PINT AFTER LECTURES?

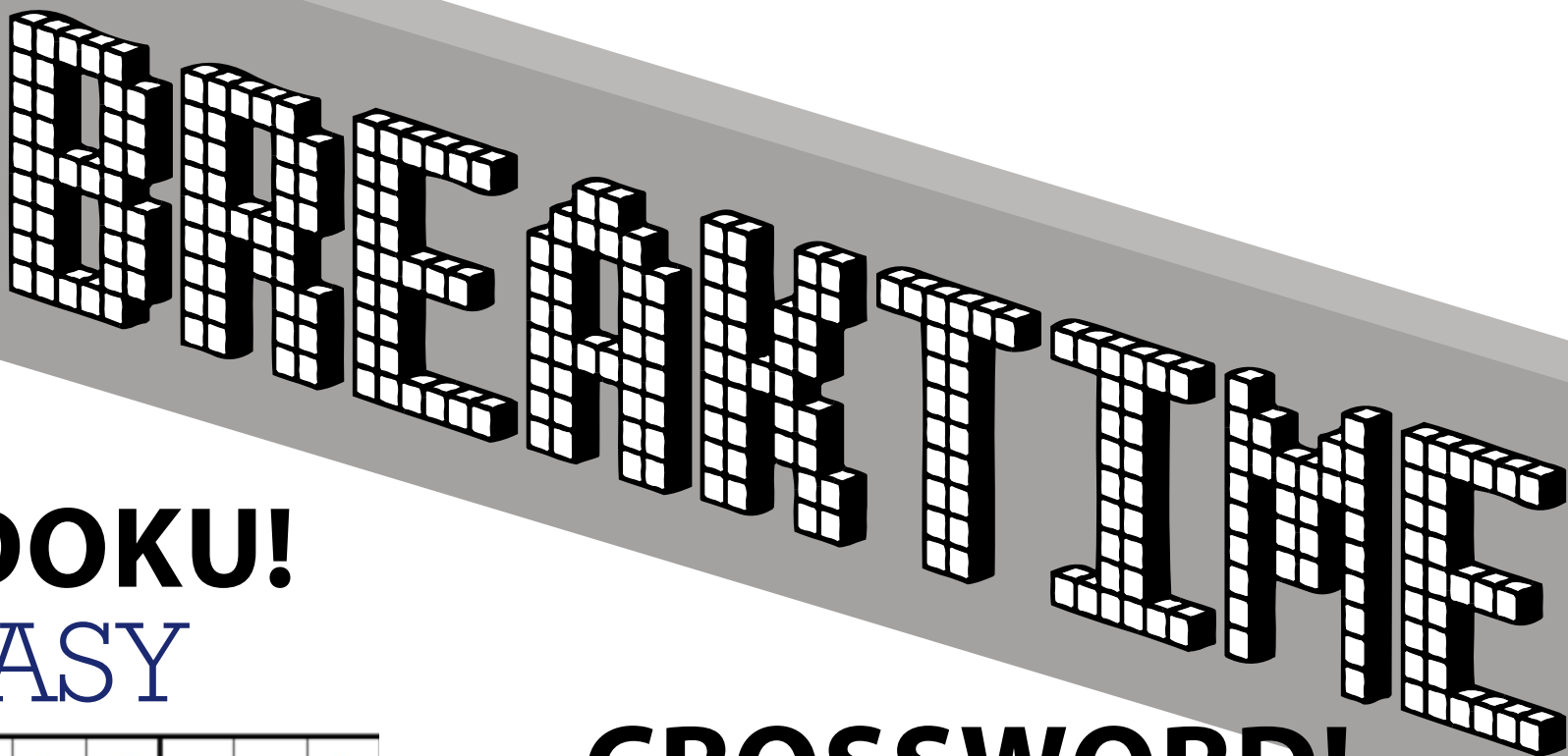
WHERE'S THE FRIENDLIEST LOCAL PLACE TO SHOP?

TELL US WHY YOU LOVE YOUR FAVOURITE LOCAL BUSINESS!

---

NOMINATE YOUR FAVOURITE VIA OUR  
WEBSITE: [SEREN.BANGOR.AC.UK/AWARDS2016](http://SEREN.BANGOR.AC.UK/AWARDS2016)  
AND THEY COULD WIN A TOTALLY COOL AWARD.





SUDOKU!  
EASY

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

HARD

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

CROSSWORD!

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
A	1		2		3				4		5		6
B							7						
C	8						9						
D													
E	10									11			
F							12		13				
G		14							15		16		
H	17				18		19					20	
I	21		22				23						
J					24								
K	25								26				
L													
M	27							28					

Across

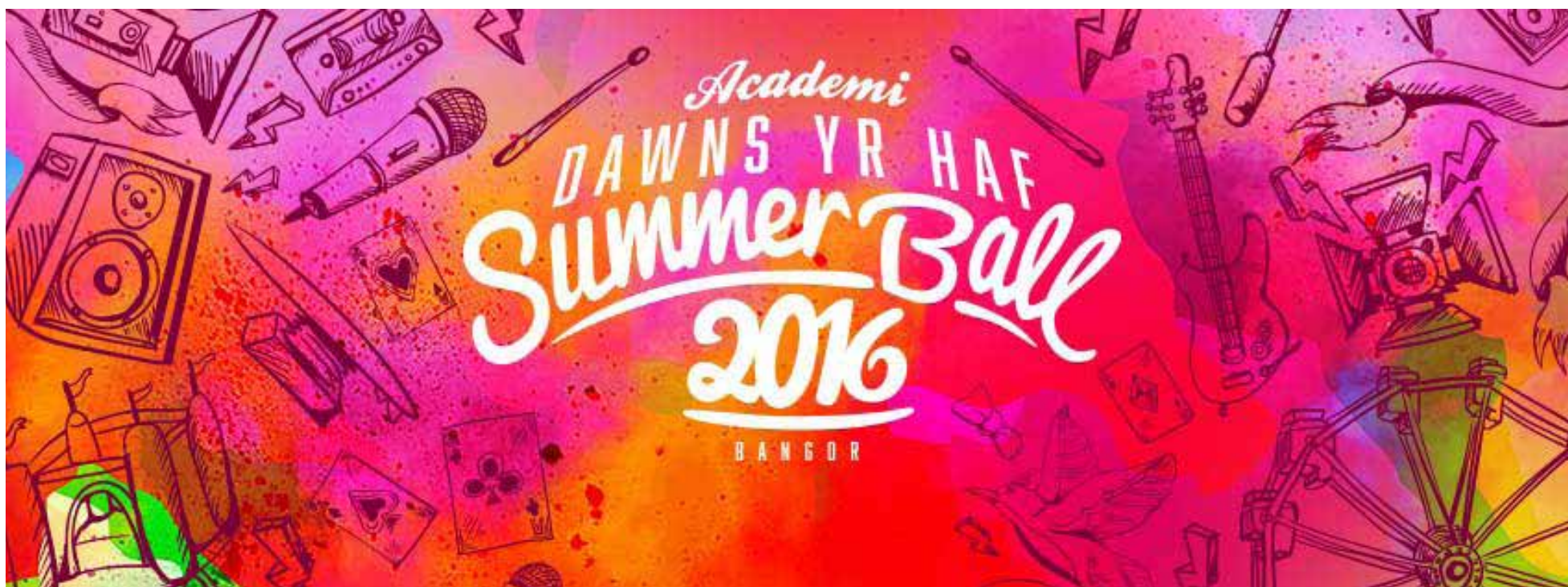
- 1. Describe the nature of (6)
- 4. Computer/telephone interface (5)
- 8. Mistake (5)
- 9. Prove you found it (4,3)
- 10. Fastened e.g. gate (7)
- 11. Loud cry (4)
- 12. Adam's mate (3)
- 14. Trackable, currency (4)
- 15. Electro-magnetic wave (4)
- 18. Array of satellites used for navigation (3)
- 21. Type of event (4)
- 23. Old navigational aid (7)
- 25. Of the head (7)
- 26. Hours of darkness (5)
- 27. Heaped (5)

Down

- 1. Profoundly (6)
- 2. & 24. Signing an empty log (5,2,4)
- 3. Measure of latitude (7)
- 4. Big, huge (4)
- 5. Mouth of river (5)
- 6. Non-player (6)
- 7. Off the cuff remark (5)
- 13. One who tests the proficiency of others (8)
- 16. Mixture or blend (7)
- 17. Frozen pole (3,3)
- 19. Graduated range of values (5)
- 20. Babylonian goddess of love and war (6)
- 22. Path, follow (5)



# SUMMER BALL



## This year's acts...



by FINNIAN SHARDLOW

**B**angor's very own festival season is rapidly approaching. Well, when I say festival season, I mean a condensed surge of music, movement, merriment and those flower chain things that someone decided were fine to put on your head in around 2011. Correct. The Summer Ball is back.

Let's not draw attention away from the superstar stature of the actual acts that will be appearing; acts whose only likely ties to North Wales include a childhood camping trip to Rhyl.

Without a doubt, it'd be the sentimentally easier option to get your school uniform back on in eager anticipation for the living, breathing nostalgia-fest that will be **Example**.

Example – otherwise known as Eliot Gleave – will be heading up the array of acts at this year's Summer Ball, armed with a barrage of UK Top 10 singles such as 'Changed The Way You Kissed Me'.

Undoubtedly, most fans will be looking forward to hearing tracks from his second studio album, 'Won't Go Quietly', an album with production from Chase & Status, Sub Focus and Calvin Harris. Not to mention a handful of official Dance Chart hits.

At 33 years-old – and surrounded by an industry obsessed with new music – you could call him somewhat of a veteran. Although, I doubt it matters much to him. Gleave is still in and out of the studio, releasing the enigmatic, guitar-drenched dance hit 'Whisky Story' in July last year.

It'd be relatively routine for me to shrug off the likes of Example. But, really, my attitude to pop is this – a banger is a banger. And the melody to 'Kickstarts' is, well, simply infectious. Merely hearing the bassline brings about a gale of 2010 renaissance and all the debris of teenage optimism that goes with it.

Next in the list is **Blonde**, a deep house production duo who've most notably teamed up with a recently resurfaced Craig David for jiving dance track 'Nothing Like This'.

Jacob Manson and Adam Englefield have already received acclaim from Radio 1 DJ Greg James and will most definitely be the reliable root of most boogie's that emerge in the crowd this year. You just wait until they play 'All Cried Out'.

What can you say? House music is king at the moment. Just when critics are raring to start digging its grave, another act spring up and heartily maintain the resurrection of

the entire genre. Looks like Blonde are one of those artists.

Before that, it's **SClub** featuring Bradley and Jo. Expect cheese, figuratively speaking.

Essentially, this will be a live rendition of a school disco. I seriously doubt you'll be able to place yourself in a better position on that very same day... even if you tried (which you won't because you'll be there).

'Reach', 'Don't Stop Moving', 'You're My Number One', 'Bring It All Back' – the list is endless. Maybe they'll perform a cover of 'Cha-Cha Slide' if we're lucky?

Lastly, it's **Rave Of Thrones**. A DJ project conceived by the casts very own **Kristian Nairn, who plays Hodor**.

Formerly a seasoned DJ, Nairn will be well associated with getting crowds into gear. The actor will be warming up the start of this year's Summer Ball with, hopefully, a selection of musical references to HBO series. Let's hope there's no decapitation.

Ticket sales are expected to break 2015's sell-out time record, and there's only approximately 500 remaining. So if you want to go to this year's Summer Ball, I'd hurry up about it.

## Win a Pair of Ball Tickets!

To enter, all you have to do is go to our website:  
[seren.bangor.ac.uk/balltickets16](http://seren.bangor.ac.uk/balltickets16)





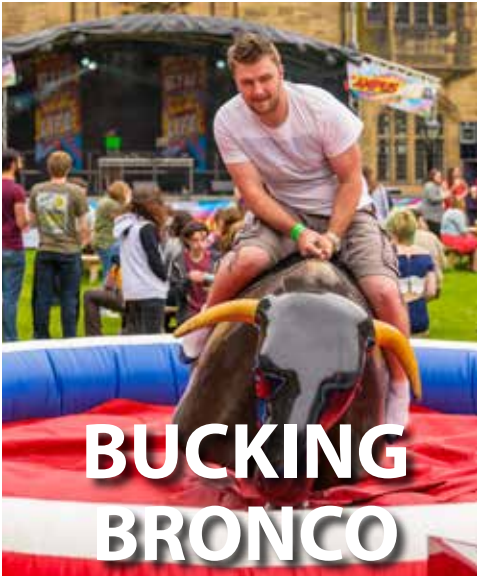


# What to expect at the Summer Ball?

## FERRIS WHEEL AT DAY...



DODGEMS



BUCKING  
BRONCO

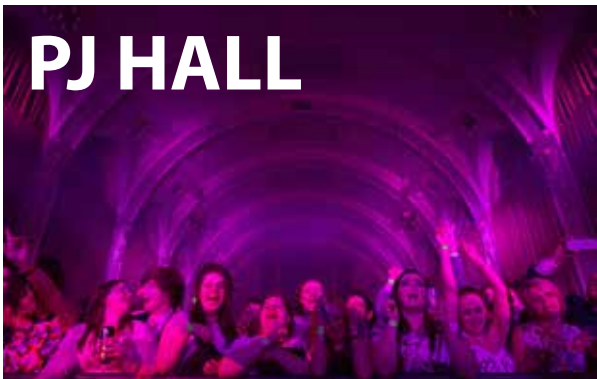


SUMO WRESTLING

## & NIGHT...



BANDS



PJ HALL



OUTDOOR  
STAGE



CASINO  
TABLES



# Revision: Alternatively, Netflix is not your friend

It's the dreaded exam period which means that we can all look forward to a month of revision and stress. Thankfully, there is help at hand. It's well worth checking out Student Services and The Study Skills centre as they run frequent workshops to help with revision and study skills. They also offer an advice service to help students deal with exam stress.

The Students' Union also offers help at this time of the semester. The recent Canine Calming room at Acadami was a huge success and another one will be happening on the 18th May. Slap bang in the middle of exam season, it's likely to be extremely popular once again Study Aid is also upcoming so keep an eye out on the SU website for more information.



## Tips For effective revision

by CHARLIE WILSON

Procrastination is my worst issue when it comes to exam time. It's less an issue of 'oh I have plenty of time' and more of 'there's time, but even if I had a year I still wouldn't do it until the night before'. Honestly, it's more of a 'this is going to be hard and so I don't want to do it'. Maybe you have the same problem. If you do, the after-Easter period is probably causing you some dread. So here are my views on some traditional revision techniques.

### Lists

For some people, lists really work. I thought it was stupid until I tried (well into my second year of A-Levels, once I'd discovered that they were hard and not revising for exams wasn't going to get me to pass). There's something about seeing all the things I have to do written down and staring me in the face that makes me actually want to work. However, this seems pretty anxiety-inducing for some people: instead, you could try writing a list of daily tasks to focus on.

### Colour-coding

I have this idea in my head about colour-coding: it's teenage girls on American TV shows with glittery gelpens and hair with inhuman volume. As much as I hate to say it, they're onto something. For me, part of it

is the process – like I said, writing things out helps you remember things and actually spending time choosing colours and stationery to make your notes look good makes the whole process, if not more fun, at least more bearable. However, there is also a little science to it (or at the least, my GCSE sociology class taught me this so it's definitely valid... right?). Colour-coding helps visual learners. Associating colours with a certain subject helps me visualise the pages of my notes when I'm in an exam. So yes, it is cliché, but it also works (for me).

### Revision Notes

I'm a humanities student. For sciences students, I imagine that revision notes might be an obvious option, but they're surprisingly useful for arts and humanities students too. Writing out quotes, essay plans and mind maps actually helps me revise a lot – largely because writing things out is a great way of memorising information.

### Chewing gum and listening to music

I haven't tried the chewing gum thing. This is mainly because I don't really think that taking a whole bunch of different flavours into an exam is a viable option. If you have

tried this, do let me know – I'm always out for more techniques. As for listening to music, make sure that you either know the music so well that you can tune it out, or find some music without lyrics. There's nothing worse than being mid-sentence and having to stop to scream out the lyrics of your favourite song.

No matter what technique you use, in the end the best advice is trademarked: Just do it.

## Upcoming Exam Support Events

Student services are running an Essay writing workshop for last minute revision on Wednesday May 4th 2016 14:00-16:00. The venue is Alun A1.06, Alun Building. Contact Student Services for more info.

The Student Union are running another Canine Calming room on Wednesday May 18th 2016. It's due to be held in JP Hall which is situated in the John Phillips building located just past the Management Centre. This will be accessible via booking online which will give you a 10 minute session. Check the SU website (accessible via MyBangor) for more details



## Vegan? Why Not?

by EMMA DEBNEY

A concern for animal welfare may be the first thing people think of when they consider veganism, but it shouldn't be the last. Eating meat and everything that is involved with it has a huge impact not just on animals but on the environment and on us as individuals. Did you know that 15-20% of all global emissions come from the meat industry? Add that to the 40% of global grain and the 70% of freshwater required to required by all those animals, and pound for pound, calorie for calorie, animals are a much more costly food source than any alternative. Part of

to gain veganism's benefits, and the protein most often gotten from meat has to be found in other foods. There's no vegan cheatsheet – apparent 'superfoods' are just regular foods with more expensive marketing – and being a vegan is difficult for many people, even impossible. Many allergies and conditions prevent some people from staying healthy while vegan. It can also be a challenge if someone is food insecure, if they don't have access to appropriate substitutes, or if dishes with animal products are involved in cultural or religious traditions.

### Pros

- Concern for animals
- The environment
- Reduces the CO2 impact
- Reduces deforestation
- Less grain goes to animals, more to people
- Health
- Less fat
- Has to involve a balance diet though, just cutting out animals product won't make you automatically healthy
- Cardiovascular disease. Eating nuts and whole grains, while eliminating dairy products and meat, will improve your cardiovascular health. A British study indicates that a vegan diet reduces the risk for heart disease and Type 2 diabetes.

### Cons

- Superfoods are not a thing
- Taking staple grains away because of fads
- Some people can't do it, or won't
- Dietary reasons
- Their food environment doesn't provide substitutes
- They're food insecure
- Cultural dishes, leave POC alone
- BEES. Some foods are not more ethical.
- If people are going vegan for the sake of animals, they should make sure to be aware of the human cost of their food too.



why many people become vegan is to help counteract those costs to our planet. As far as personal cost goes, a vegan diet can improve cardiovascular health – the risk of heart disease, strokes, heart attacks and Type 2 diabetes reduces.

Of course, just eliminating meat, dairy and eggs doesn't make someone healthy. Maintaining a nutritional diet is key: nuts and grains are integral



# Vegan for a Week



Once upon a time, when I was a chef, the ‘vegan’ was someone I despised. I would curse them and question why they couldn’t be ‘normal’ and eat meat. After all, if a cow could eat us then it surely would. Somehow, that logic ensured that my meat heavy meals remained guilt free. It is perhaps worth noting that for a chef, there is a kind of danger zone of diner. Lactose intolerant and gluten free diners inhabit this zone alongside vegans. It’s the awkward aspect of it that annoys most chefs and nothing against the actual person. When you’re trying to send out a wedding breakfast for a hundred and fifty people, the last thing you want to hear is that such and such on table five wants separate gravy because they can’t have flour.

Recently, in a bid to empathise with vegans, I decided to become one. I needed to know what it was actually like to go animal-free. I knew that the biggest obstacle by far would be dairy. I love cheese and ice-cream and eggs; I absolutely adore eggs. Of course going vegan also meant that meat and fish were firmly off the table too. For someone

who doesn’t like ‘rabbit food’, giving up meat and fish left a big hole to fill on my dinner plate.

One of my primary reasons for going vegan was that I wanted to diversify my eating habits. I wanted to force myself to eat foods I’d previously not given a chance. Obviously, I was aware of the health benefits associated with veganism too and there was also a moral standpoint.

So, how did it go? Well I lasted a week and you know what, I’m happy with that. I learned that black coffee isn’t actually that bad, that I can live without Ben n’ Jerrys and that I don’t actually need to eat meat. That last point is the most important one, because now I know that it is ultimately a choice. I eat meat because I want to and you know what, I’m okay with that. Although I’m back eating animal products, I’m not consuming as much as I was. I’m also looking where my meat and dairy comes from, spending an extra few pence to go free-range. I also have a lot more respect for vegans in general and considering my early opinion of them, that is a huge thing in itself.

# Editors Essential



I struggle with hair care but I’ve recently discovered this amazing product, Argan Oil of Morocco: Extra Penetrating Oil for Dry and Coarse Hair. I had heard of Argan Oil products before but this is the first time I’ve actually used one and I don’t think I’ll ever use anything else. You simply apply a small amount to damp (towel dried) hair, making sure to work through to the ends. It restores a natural health and shine to my hair and I love it! It’s not the cheapest, at £7.00 for a 100ml bottle but because you only need a small amount it last for ages. Well worth a purchase.

# Get the look this summer



### For the Day

by **SIAN TAYLOR**

Looking for that summer glow without the fake tan? Looking to add the colour to your summer look? Then try Rimmel London’s Match perfect foundation collection. It’s my holy grail of my make-up and I wouldn’t be without it. It gives a lovely natural coverage, which feels weightless, while adding colour to your face as well as added SPF protection. Invisible, mistake-proof foundation for visibly perfected & healthier looking skin. I use it daily and even in the summer it stays and covers all day. It is also very cheap, usually between five and seven pounds.

To add to your summer look I have also recently tried Eyes Uncovered Eye Shadow from Collection Cosmetics. My favourite has to be the Nude Bronze palette; I love the warmer shimmery shades! I cannot fault the shimmer shades at all – the Nude Bronze palette is perfection, as the shimmers shades are on point. Again this is so cheap, in Superdrug merely a few quid and so worth the money.



### For the Night

by **JESS RAMANOUSKI**

Makeup allows us to be comfortable and confident. Whether it is for a meal, a night out or a meeting, it is important to look and feel glamorous. There are plenty of affordable products that can be used to look ‘natural’ or to be a contoured goddess. You will need products that are full coverage and long lasting. Theatre makeup does all of the above.

**Kryolan TV Paint Stick**  
£13.50 [screenface.co.uk](http://screenface.co.uk)

This can be used for a foundation base and for contour. I use the colour ‘Ivory’ as a base, it acts as a concealer and foundation at the same time. I got this idea from the Drag community, if you are looking for makeup tips, Drag Queens are the real professionals.

**Ben Nye Loose Powder**  
£6-£8 [screenface.co.uk](http://screenface.co.uk)

Any makeup should be set with powder, whether it is foundation alone, or contour also. This is the perfect loose powder; it allows you to finish off your makeup knowing that it will stay on for a long time.

**Freedom Makeup Eyebrow Pomade**  
£5 [freedommakeuplondon.co.uk](http://freedommakeuplondon.co.uk)

This does the same job as the expensive products and more than a third of the prices of the huge brands.

Sometimes the best makeup is not advertised, do your research and do not be afraid to use the cheap products. Be creative and try new things.

### For the Budget

by **REBECCA STEELE**

Being a female can be VERY expensive, especially when it comes to the very products that gives us a boost of confidence, and for some of us that’s worth every penny. Following the latest brands can easily put you out of pocket so here’s a few products that could help you stock up and still leave you with a bit of cash for a cheeky night out whilst still looking like (you’ve spent) a million dollars.

**Rimmel London Stay Matte Foundation**  
£5.99 at Boots

A full coverage foundation where primer is not needed due to the instant matte finish.

**Rimmel Stay Matte Pressed Powder**  
£3.99 at Boots

It does what it says on the tin. Set your foundation with powder for a long lasting finish.

**Makeup Revolution Blush & Contour palette All about Bronze**  
£6.00 at Superdrug

Contour and Blush palette in one? I’ll take that.

**Miss Sporty Studio Lash Instant Volume Mascara**  
£2.99 at Superdrug

I’m a huge fan of this cheap mascara and will always stand by them like a true fan should

**Pure Colour Mink Lipstick**  
£3.99 at New Look

Follow the trend and make a statement in a nude matte lip.



## DESIGNER VS HIGH STREET: ***SKIRTS AND SHORTS***

Every month we will be finding affordable high street alternatives to designer trends. Summer is on the way so take a look at these shorts and skirts – perfect for lounging in the sun!

### LACE

Reiss,  
£120



New Look,  
£24.99



Oscar de  
la Renta,  
£1399



Topshop,  
£39



### FLORAL

### MONOCHROME

Reiss,  
£110



New Look,  
£17.99



Chloe,  
£625



River  
Island,  
£25



### LACE TRIME SHORTS

### SWIM SHORTS

Vilebrequin,  
£195



River Island,  
£20



Saint Laurent,  
£550



New Look,  
£17.99



### DENIM SHORTS

### CHINO SHORTS

Burberry,  
£135



Topman,  
£35



Armani,  
£140



New Look,  
£19.99



### DENIM SHORTS



# FITNESS IN FASHION



It's nearly summer and I'm sure that I'm not the only person frantically stressing over the fact that I've left it too late to get that 'summer bod'. Instead of doing ten million sit-ups a day, all I seem to do is eat (a lot I must add) during the impending doom of exams. However, it seems that over the past year being 'fit' has become a sort of a fashion statement. The tummy rolls have been replaced with phrases such as 'sun's out guns out', double vodka and cokes have been replaced with healthy green juices. It seems that 2016 has morphed into a health obsessed universe.

Scrolling through my Instagram, it's filled with pictures of protein pancakes or women doing yoga positions with the beach in the background. Being healthy seems to be the new 'chic' trend. Despite only trying yoga on a handful of occasions, seeing these pictures on 'insta' made me want to drop out of uni and become a fully qualified yoga teacher in Bali - just so I could put post cool pictures onto my account. As embarrassing as this sounds, it's the truth. Social media has captivated people to be healthier, as well as celebrities documenting their success. For example, Charlotte Crosby and Vicky Pattinson are my body inspirations, their incredible weight loss makes being healthy look easy. Therefore, it is no surprise that brands such as Nike, Puma and Adidas have made a conscious effort to make their sportswear more fashionable. For instance, Puma have just signed Kylie Jenner as their new spokeswoman. Her unique style and individuality allows her to express her fashion sense in sportswear, allowing eve-

ryone to feel comfortable in what they wear. Therefore, it is no surprise that you can't flick through most lifestyle magazines such as Elle, Grazia and GQ without being faced with the latest running clubs, marathons, personal trainers, celebrity endorsement or the latest fashion trends to look good in any weather.

The idea of being healthy is being broadcasted into our lives in a number of ways: through apps, fashion, as well as the cliché insta pictures. It was only yesterday that I realized you could track the amount of steps you do in a day on your iPhone. All I can say is genius! I knew all that dancing on nights out had paid off in some way or another. Drinking green juices is seen as more acceptable than chilling with your friends with a glass of wine in your hand. Therefore, despite being a self-confessed 'foodie', it seems rather appealing to jump on the bandwagon and see what all the fuss is about. Gone are the days of the Bridget Jones appeal of the gym, where it almost seemed impossible to stay healthy or be able to walk the next day after one of those gruelling spinning sessions. Instead, that has been replaced with fancy new leggings that look like they should be part of a WHAM! video. However odd the new athletic fashion may be the message is important, being healthy is good. Therefore, put down your Bella Bella, put on the wackiest outfit you can find and embrace your inner yoga guru. Perhaps you could even upload your funniest yoga poses on Instagram with #healthyisgood. (Despite Bangor not being Bali).

# COSTA LEAVES CALVIN KLEIN

Francisco Costa is departing Calvin Klein, the label confirmed today, adding yet more weight to speculation that Raf Simons is set to be appointed.

Costa, the women's creative director of Calvin Klein Collection, and Italo Zucchelli, who serves as men's creative director of Calvin Klein Collection, will both leave as part of a "global evolution" for the brand.

"This creative strategy marks the beginning of another significant chapter in Calvin Klein's brand legacy since Mr Klein's retirement," Steve Shiffman, CEO of Calvin Klein, Inc. said today. "I would like to thank Francisco and Italo for their unwavering commitment to the Calvin Klein brand and their accomplishments over the past

decade. They have both contributed immensely to making Calvin Klein a global leader in the fashion industry, and they have done so with dedication, focus and creativity."

The move comes as the American company seeks to find a designer to "unify all Calvin Klein brands under one creative vision". The announcement makes Simons - with his experience in both men's and womenswear, and everything from sportswear to couture - even more of a favourite to have the skill to tackle all areas of the brand's offering.

Costa took the womenswear helm in 2004 and is the only designer to have led the brand other than the founder.

# COACHELLA: BEST & WORST

by EMILY RIMMER

For anyone that hasn't heard of it before, The Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival is an annual music and arts festival held at the Empire Polo Club in Indio, California, located in the Inland Empire's Coachella Valley in the Colorado Desert. It is an annual event every year around April time, where flower crowns are acceptable and you can rub shoulders with a celebrity. The festival is a hub of fashion and music with such acts as Calvin Harris, The 1975, and Churches who graced the Coachella stage this year. But forget the music, Coachella is mostly associated with the fashion from bohoo chic, to glamorous grunge, Coachella is your go-to festival fashion guide. To give you some inspiration for the upcoming festivals season, I will give you the run down of the best and worst of Coachella.

## BEST



## WORST





# The Walking Dead Season 6



by EMMA JEWKES

**T**he *Walking Dead* recently wrapped up its sixth season to a few mixed opinions, despite the finale receiving record viewing figures. The reason; that humdinger of a cliff-hanger. For a show that delights in shocking and messing with its loyal fan base, should we really have expected anything less? Before the cliff-hanger drove the world crazy though, we got a glimpse at the most eagerly awaited villain since season 3's The Governor.

Negan made his long awaited entrance with just ten minutes of the season to spare and boy, did he make his presence felt. Jeffrey Dean Morgan is a welcome addition to *The Walking Dead* universe and next season should be very interesting and ultimately better for that.

Although the show has been running for six years, it certainly shows no sign of slowing down anytime soon. That is in part because the show is forever reinventing itself. Although the central premise is very

simple (people try and survive in a zombie apocalypse), the themes of the series run much deeper than that. Family is a big part of the show. Not just those members of your family who you are related to but those who you come into contact with and end up calling your family. With his 'family' at the risk of danger this season, main character Rick Grimes has gone to extreme measures to ensure their safety. He has even retracted one of his early rules of 'we don't kill the living' in order to keep

his 'family' safe.

While the zombies (or walkers as our characters refer to them) are a clear and constant danger, the main danger is still the living. Those people who see what you have and seek to take it for themselves. While earlier seasons have seen our survivors come up against threats like the unhinged Governor, the rabid Wolves and even a hungry band of cannibal's, season six has seen the emergence of the highly organised and extremely dangerous

Saviours. For eight episodes we were teased about them until their leader, Negan, made his presence felt in a single act that will affect the show going forward. Literally forcing main character Rick to his knees, Negan was scarily charismatic as he swung his barbed wire coated baseball bat (he calls Lucille) in devastating fashion. One thing's for sure, with Morgan on the cast list, the show will never be the same again.



## Murdered By My Father



by ANNIE PATEL

**F**ollowing the overwhelming success of BAFTA award-winning *Murdered by My Boyfriend*, it was inevitable that another harrowing tale was on the horizon. Online exclusive feature length drama *Murdered by My Father* tells the story of Salma (Kiran Sonia Sawar), a young Muslim girl that has been arranged to marry family-approved Haroon but doesn't want to because she has fallen for another. From the onset it's evident that Salma's father Shahzad (Adeel Akhtar), is a controlling father but not a monster. A humanising element is rather

uncommon in honour-based violence dramas that writer Vinay Patel stated in *Vice* that: "I wanted the father to be almost the softer figure to start with, because you know where this show's going." As the title already states, one doesn't have to guess the outcome. The guessing comes from when and how it's going to happen, which is arguably more terrifying.

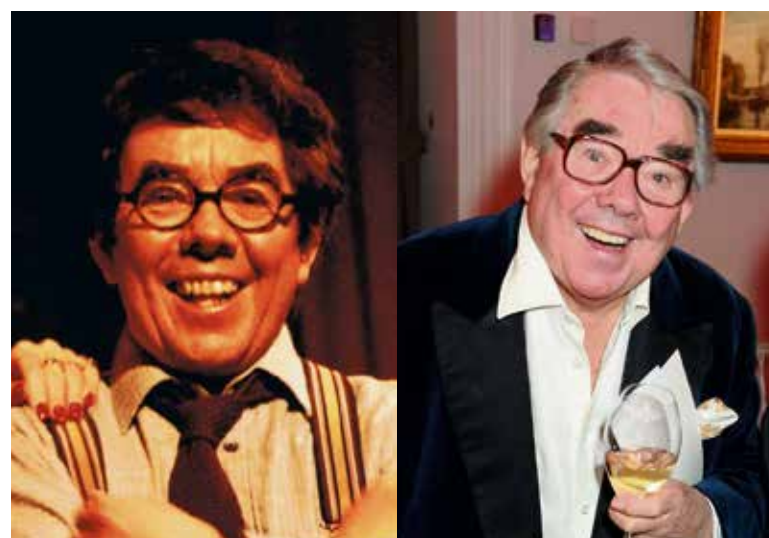
The platform that this programme has given to shed more light on such a serious issue is commendable. The true number of honour killings in the UK is unknown but it is estimated that 12,000 cases of honour-based

violence have been reported since 2010. The most high-profile UK case was the 2003 honour killing of Shafiea Ahmed, whose parents killed her after she rejected their marriage arrangement and thus brought dishonour to the family. They were both sentenced to life imprisonment in 2012.

Such a sensitive topic can be hard to get right but, by God, they managed it. I expect it to follow the same BAFTA route as its predecessor.

*Murdered by My Father* is available through BBC iPlayer.

## A Final Farewell: Ronnie Corbett



by SASH DEACON

**I**t has been a desperately sad beginning to the year. We are only in April and already Britain has lost some of its most beloved national treasures including *Sweeney Todd* actor Alan Rickman; *Children In Need* legend Sir Terry Wogan and *Space Oddity* singer 'David Bowie'. Alas, the time has come for the nation to say a tearful final farewell to comedic idol Ronnie Corbett.

Ronald Balfour "Ronnie" Corbett was born in Edinburgh Scotland on the 4th of December 1930. He lived with his parents (William and Annie) and his younger brother and sister. Corbett served his compulsory time in the Royal Air Service before beginning his glittering show business career in the 50's. Best known for being one half of *The Two Ronnies* - the other

half of the duo being Ronnie Barker who sadly passed away in 2005 due to heart failure - Corbett dazzled from decade to decade providing us with shows such as *The Two Ronnies* and *No, That's Me Over Here*, as well as the comedic film, *No Sex Please, We're British*. His contributions to the world of television and comedy meant that Corbett was honored with a CBE at the age of 81 years old.

Ronnie Corbett tragically passed away on the 31st of March 2016, aged 85 after being diagnosed with motor neuron disease last year. Corbett's funeral was held on Monday 18th April 2016. This is not only a tragic loss to the nation, but also (and most importantly) his wife Anne and their two daughters Emma and Sophie. For lack of a better saying, we hope you rest in peace Ronnie Corbett, thank you for all that you gave us.



# A Steer Away From the Classi(c)st Thomas the Tank Engine?



(Ashima from India, Yong Bao from China and Etienne from France)

by ANNIE PATEL



All aboard *Thomas and Friends* and welcome to the 21st century, where it's not just Thomas and his other white male friends chugging along in their perfect traditionalist world. Never did I think I would be writing about diversity in terms of a beloved locomotive from my childhood, but alas, the world continues to surprise me.

It wasn't long ago that the Thomas debate was covered by the media, of its criticism on the lack of female trains. Now I'm not Sheldon from *The Big Bang Theory*, I don't know my diesel train from my steam locomotive, but I'm not blind that I can't see Thomas' female friends onscreen much. They do exist though but perpetuating stereotypes are painful: from Rosie, the fun purple train; to Annie and Clarabel, the twin coach carriages, of whom Thomas literally pulls along all day. Female trains are always the bridesmaid but never the bride!

As it's 2016, naturally a new debate has arisen in Sodor. In an effort to become more relatable for children, this August Mattel will release a straight-to-DVD TV movie *The Great Race* about Thomas and his voyage to compete in an Olympic-style games against other trains from around the world.

First we have Ashima, a brightly

coloured female train from India, Yong Bao from China, Raul (right), a Brazilian train and Frieda, a blue streamlined engine from Germany, just to name a few. You know who would hate this film, especially Carlos, the Mexican train (right)? His likeness to the fat controller if you put a top hat on him is uncanny, but it's only a matter of time before Donald Trump announces his policy for the future eradication of *Thomas the Tank Engine* from television screens to stop the brainwashing of America's future.

It's applaudable that Mattel is trying to veer away from its classist and traditionalist history, I'm just worried that it might propagate even more stereotypes, just from an ethnic point of view.



# Bake Off: Crème de la Crème

What do you get when you mix a bunch of mean judges, a confusing scoring system and hundreds of salivating desserts? A *Great British Bake-Off* spin-off obviously! Chef Tom Kerridge hosts *Bake Off: Crème de la Crème* in a battle between teams of professional patissiers. Kerridge is obviously not as entertaining as Mel and Sue; his double-entendre game is so weak, it's almost not worth the watch. However, the entertainment comes from the edible magic that teams create, so make sure that your stomach is full before watching *Crème de la Crème*.

The judges are pretty unknown: Benoit Blin, Claire Clark, Cherish Finden are all respected patissier connoisseurs in their fields, but are harsh in their marking and not entirely likeable. The scoring system is also something that has confused viewers (and contestants alike). The show is split up into 2 rounds: the first, 3 hours to make 3 sets of miniatures; and the final showstopper. There's already been drama in what Twitter was calling #swangate, involving an intricate swan constructed entirely out of sugar. I'll leave it to your imagination to guess what happened.

*Crème de la Crème* takes itself too seriously and there definitely aren't enough innuendos to make it worth the tears from contestants and delectably pretentious desserts. Nevertheless *Bake Off: Crème de la Crème* airs on Tuesdays at 8pm on BBC Two.

# Broadchurch Back For Third and Final Series



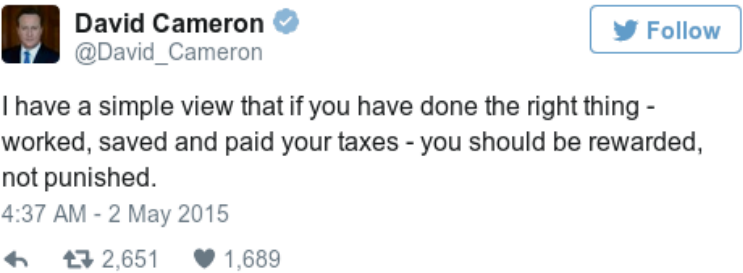
The most unfortunate fictional village in TV land is back for more pain and heartache for its third and final series which is due to start filming this May. It was confirmed via showrunner Chris Chibnall, who is leaving for pastures new. 2017 is set to be an exciting year for Chibnall as he starts his new job as showrunner for *Doctor Who*.

So what do we know about the new series so far? It is expected to air early next year and many characters we know and love are back. The moody duo Hardy and Miller (David Tennant and Olivia Coleman) return to investigate a sexual assault in Broadchurch. Danny's parents Beth and Mark Latimer (Jodie Whittaker

and Andrew Buchan) and vicar Paul Coates, played by Arthur Darvill, are also expected to return, with the addition of new characters, whose roles in the new series are currently unknown.

*Broadchurch* is set to return on ITV in early 2017.

# Best Twitter Exchange in TV land?



In light of the recent Panama Papers leak (see the politics section accordingly), the engines of Twitter have been in overdrive, with users and celebrities alike calling Cameron every name under the sun, giving their two cents on the issue.

On the 2nd May 2015, David Cameron tweeted: 'I have a simple view that if you have done the right thing - worked, saved and paid your taxes - you should be rewarded, not punished.'

To which, the official *House of*

*Cards* Twitter account unexpectedly threw arguably the greatest shade seen in all 10 years of Twitter's existence. On the 7th April, when the news broke, the account replied to Cameron's old tweet with a gif of Frank Underwood looking at the camera and then his phone. Maybe the fictional president could teach our Prime Minister a thing or two about thinking before you publicly state something.

Hats off to whoever runs the *House of Cards* Twitter account, you deserve a raise.





## REVIEW

# Deadpool

by SEB ELLIS

Comedy and Horror are genres that every so often come together with mixed results, and that's exactly what *Deadpool* is, a comedy with some horrific themes. But boy does it work well in this instance. Ryan Reynolds proves to be an absolute triumph in this film as he makes up for past mistakes in his previous iteration of the foul-mouthed anti hero in *X-Men Origins* and provides success in abundance in *Deadpool*.

*Deadpool* is a comic book spoof.

The audience is treated straight away to an opening credits scene filled with various references to what we have come to expect as a fan of films in this era. In an attempt to cut itself away from the rest of the pack, whilst seemingly being providing the same concoction of a film plot, we are told that we will enjoy the appearance of a "British villain" amongst others, but this British villain comes in the form of Ajax, the man who created *Deadpool* from mercenary Wade Wilson (Ryan Reynolds) and who Wilson decides to enact his revenge following his malformed but superhero enacting transformation.

The scene is set in the back of a taxi, *Deadpool* set on revenge on Ajax and those who changed him. But as the story unfolds we learn how Ajax and others came to Wilson as a terminally ill cancer patient, offering him full health in exchange for becoming "a stronger person", an offer that mercenary Wilson in the end cannot refuse. Leaving his girlfriend Vanessa (Morena Baccarin) oblivious as to where he has disappeared up until her own kidnapping. The result in the end is one of a love story as Wilson makes it his mission to save Vanessa. This superhero film is a story that isn't filled with much substance on

the face of it, but it is in the comedic value that it really wins the audience over.

The acting of Ryan Reynolds makes *Deadpool*. His delivery of some of the scripts best lines are make the entry fee of the film worth it alone. From counting down the number of bullets he has left to use on his enemies, to casually tickling his blind friend with an embryonic hand he had to previously cut off (trust me, it's exactly as weird as it sounds). From minute one this cannot be taken seriously, and Marvel are exactly aware of this. *Deadpool* is to be looked at from an experimental point of view with it

being the first truly adult superhero film and hopefully this isn't the last of them.

*Deadpool* is a breath of fresh air for comic book fans. It's precisely what we have been waiting for as older viewers. A funny, bloody comedy that doesn't listen to boundaries set by its Marvel predecessors. Like all films, it does have its problems, as it potentially in places becomes too much like the films it attempts to spoof. But what we do get from the first minute until the last is a constant laugh, with Ryan Reynolds at the centre of the project. Here's hoping for much more in this regard.

# Empire Awards 2016

by EMILY RIMMER

The Empire Awards rolled into London on the 20th March bringing with it a host of the biggest names in film over the past year. The Empire awards honour the best films of 2015 and highlight the British talent in the film industry. The ceremony was hosted by none other than the comedian David Walliams who brought the house down with his silly attitude and child-like jokes.

The night saw two big films of 2015 scoop up awards, *Mad Max* and *Star Wars*. The big individual awards of the night were awarded to the up and coming stars of the *Star Wars* Saga Daisy Ridley and John Boyega who both won awards for best female newcomer and best

male newcomer. Both were present to accept their awards with Daisy expressing in her acceptance speech what an "amazing time to be a women in film". Other woman that thrived on the night was Alicia Vikander who won best actress for her role in *The Danish Girl*.

The most successful genres of the night had to be sci-fi and action with such films as *The Revenant*, *The Martian*, *Star Wars*, *Spectre* and *Mad max* sweeping the floor with the other nominees. The big awards of the night went to went to Alan Rickman who won 'Empire Legend'. The late actor was paid tribute to by the Empire editor Terri white, in an emotional posthumous tribute. Overall, British film was represented in a great light and shown to be one of the best.







# Batman VS Superman: Super Good or Super Bad?

Despite a record breaking opening weekend, Batman vs Superman has divided opinion of not just film critics and superfans but the regular film-goer too. This issue we debate whether Zac Snyder's blockbuster is really worth the hype or whether DC ought to finally concede defeat to Marvel when it comes to the big screen.

## Super GOOD

By **CONNOR TEELING**

I LOVED it... writing this after my second viewing I truly appreciate all that's gone into making this film and what it set out to achieve. From the off the viewer is treated to the full comic stylings; you have an origin story though seen and known by many it is still required for a reboot of the franchise and here is where I feel the film doesn't get enough credit. The scene as a young Bruce is lifted out of well by bats might seem strange and frankly fascinate by the uninitiated to the paper version of the characters in DC.

But it is the slow start of trickle of scenes that open the viewer to the reality that this isn't a normal universe, this is realm of literal gods & monster, crazy Sci-fi ideas and stark imagery and are comic not all about bold unsuitable ideas. This film is indeed long and bloated with stories but I love it for that, barring superman every major character is new in this universe to us and the fact that it contains so much is a testament to the script.

Now the elephant in the room, Batman's use of force. We are treated to a future batman scene where he's all guns blazing and this I believe is on purpose to trickling in the fact. Batman kills, Batman uses guns, now since superman killed in his previous film fans have been making excuses as to why he had to. But this is DC, known for its darker and slightly more grounded approach to it's characters.

Watching batman's fights he only seems to use lethal force when necessary and to me only killing half the deadly mercenaries is still more Batman than most people would in the same situations. This film is the first in a series and you can tell nothing has been done that hasn't been thought about and will have some impact later on but it's the little things that sold me. Lex's hair at the end, the mention of character by the name farris, this is a film that knows its source material and was made with love. I cannot wait to see the next film with theses characters whether it be a solo or team effort they have my money already.

## Super BAD

by **LEWIS ANGEL**

LIKE many of you I went into BvS with high expectations due to the hype around 2 of DC's biggest icons going head to head. Trailer after trailer I found myself more eager to see the finished product. That was until the Doomsday trailer hit my screen, from there my reservations started to creep in. As a long term DC fan the reveal of one of superman's most powerful nemesis cramped into this already overly stuffed 151 minutes was a lot to take on board, with other reveals such as Darkseid, Aquaman, Wonder Woman, The Flash and Cyborg all throughout the course.

This films entire plot relies on the events of Man of Steel, asking deep philosophical questions about superman's morality, powers and responsibilities and dealing with the destruction he leaves in his wake. BvS sets out to portray superman as a villain from the off with scenes of destruction as he battles Zod over a terrified metropolis, one large irritating plot hole comes from when superman is set up early on in the film for murdering mercenaries in Africa even though they were shot with strange bullets. Moments like this which are passed

over so blasé will infuriate watchers hoping for a good story and deep plot.

Areas that suffer from a lack of depth and detail are a common occurring problem with the dream sequences/time travel moments batman experiences. However, Batman in this film was a true Dark Knight, this batman is one of the best brought to the big screen with ben Affleck portraying both batman and Bruce Wayne to an excellent standard, again though as this film jumps in at a batman in his later years we have missed out on a lot of the reasons behind why he is so tormented, and tortured that he feels the need to brand and kill. This I hope will be addressed in the standalone film coming later.

Batman Vs Superman is a messy amalgamation of several of the greatest comics DC has printed in its lifetime. Truly spectacular action scenes ripped from The Dark knight returns, Injustice and Crisis on infinite earths merely scattered throughout the films course as it runs to a questionable conclusion. Batman Vs Superman: Dawn of Justice is worth a watch for anyone who enjoys the DC universe with its excellent action scenes on a large scale, but sadly cut short by constant plot holes, over used philosophy and some poor casting choices.



## INTERVIEW



# ANDY HOPKINS FROM THE ENEMY

*On the end of The Enemy, the radio industry and the future of bands.*

by FINNIAN SHARDLOW

## How difficult was the process of everyone knowing The Enemy was going to have to be brought to an end?

Difficult, definitely. Not a nice conversation, but maybe a sensible conversation. We don't want to be one of those bands who keep going and going. It kind of gets to a point where you're back into 300 capacity venues. We'd rather finish it on a positive, and you know, this tour sold out in minutes. 2500 capacity in London, 1750 in Leeds, 3000 in Coventry. It's good to bow out at a good level and leave our legacy intact, rather than just run into the floor. We got ten years out of it and it's been an amazing journey. But we just feel now is the right time. Liam has just had a little girl. And it was getting to a point where we were going through the motions a little bit. We don't want to be that band. Radio was also a bit difficult to get traction on our last record. So we just thought: "You know what, maybe it's time." That conversation was always going to come at some point. I think it's better to do that now rather than go for another five years and start falling out of love with what we do.

## How long was the thought of stopping floating about in the band?

About three or four months. But you know, we've done well out of The Enemy. We've been lucky and had success. We've got good personal assets. When you keep going and all of a sudden you start putting your own assets at risk it begs the question: "what are we doing here?" Without the radio play it was starting to become a problem to get certain gigs and command certain fees. When it gets to that point, you start eating your own personal funds up and we can't do that. We can't risk what we've built up. So like I say, it's better to bow out at a great level rather than peter out. We have a legacy to protect. We're proud of all the records we've put out, certainly

the first record. We put that out when we were 18 or 19 and we think it's one of the best records to come out of that generation. So we want people to celebrate that.

## You've talked about your last record 'It's Automatic', how right did it feel to end on that one?

We think it's a great record. There's some great songs on it. Very different to some of the others we've done. The second record (Music For The People) is the one for us where it took the wind out of our sails, it was a very difficult record to make. It was a quick turnaround and it didn't quite work out for us. But the last record is the second best record we've made out of the four. It was a brave decision to go where we did with it, sonically. So I'm really proud of it.

## WHAT'S NOT WORKING - IF YOU LOOK ROUND THE FESTIVALS - IS THAT THERE'S NO HEADLINERS.

## What are the frustrations you have with radio play?

Let's not beat around the bush. There's other bands being played on the radio. People may look at us and think we've had our chance at radio. I can't deny, we have had our chance. Maybe we blew it and never really recovered from that. But for us to not find somewhere on radio with the last record we made - we're 28/29 years old - and there's nobody on the BBC who can play it; it's a bitter pill to swallow.

It's not down to anyone in our team. They're very well thought of in the BBC building. It just turns out we didn't have enough fans there. We had some fans in daytime Radio 1, but the problem with how Radio 1 is set up, is that if Clara (Amfo), Greg (James) or Chris (Stark) want to play the track in the daytime, then it needs to have evening play. We're too big for Phil Taggart. We're too big for Huw (Stephens) to play. So we're then down to Annie (Mac). Annie's

producers liked it, but Annie didn't. I have to respect that. So that's where we fell short. It got a couple of spins on Radio 2, it got a couple of spins on Radio X. But that's not moving the dial enough for our ambitions as a band. On that note, we came to the conclusion that it was time to bow out.

## Where do you see radio heading?

The problem with radio is that it's very stat driven. It's all well and good looking at Spotify plays, but the one stat they often seem to forget is ticket sales. We're selling tickets up and down the country as are The Courteeners. The Courteeners actually are a great example. Radio 1 didn't play them for years. But it's become such a big thing - the north-south divide - that The Courteeners

could sell 70,000 tickets on a tour and all of a sudden Radio 1 are like: "SH\*T! We've got to start playing this band."

The radio industry has grown by the biggest percentage for twenty years, so the business is working. What's not working - if you look round the festivals - is that there's no headliners. That's because we're not building bands. Everyone wants the newest thing all the time.

The bottom line is, 99.9% of people have jobs, they don't really think about music like everyone else does. They drive a van. They buy two albums a year. So what we need to work out as an industry is, how bands like us get to those people. Because since our tour went on sale and we've got all this publicity, fans have come out the woodwork and said: "Where've you been for five or six years?" They don't even know about our records because they're not getting to those people.

**Do you think that people will**

## go back and reach for an album of The Enemy years from now?

Maybe. First record I bought was by Oasis. After that I looked back. "Oh, The Jam. Oh, they like The Stone Roses. Oh, THEY like the Small Faces. Oh, The Who. The Beatles. Oh, right okay Cream. Oh, Love." You know, that's how it works. It's just a constant digging thing. We will be one of those bands, and I think there is an appetite for bands. I went to an 'all-dayer' recently and all the bands were rubbish, but there were 800-900 kids there... waiting. I just think we need that new Oasis that will come along and absolutely resurrect the lot. Don't know who it is, but it's going to happen because there's an underbelly of hunger there. At the minute, I don't think the bands are good enough. People ask me about Catfish and the Bottlemen and I think: "Yeah, they're alright." Have they got bigger songs than anything off the first Enemy record? No. And that's not me having a pop. Anyone can have a pop at our albums. Have a pop at album two, three and four. But I know I can put album one out there and go: "I know that's on a level." And I know I can stand tall and proud about that record. It did business. That's that. I will always have that card.

## I JUST THINK WE NEED THAT NEW OASIS THAT WILL COME ALONG AND ABSOLUTELY RESURRECT THE LOT.

## How will that 'game changing' big band come about?

Nobody can control it. It's a magic. I remember when the Arctic Monkeys came through. No one knew about that. It just happened. They sold 2000-3000 tickets on word of mouth. The kids decide. It's a meeting, it's a magic in the air that pings everything together. Social media makes things a bit quicker, but the problem with how quick it moves is that the kids move on quicker. So we don't have this moment where everything gels and comes together

as one. Everything is so fast; we don't let things settle.

## On selling tickets, your tour has already sold out. What does that feel like?

I'm just delighted people give a sh\*t to be honest. It's amazing. I'm proud about that. I'm proud we connect with people. I remember hearing the first records I ever bought, getting excited about bands and putting posters up on my wall. To think we're one of those bands is the biggest buzz of it all. It's amazing really that we can impact on people's lives like that.

## When this Farewell Tour ends, what achievements will you hold most fondly?

Supporting The Rolling Stones. Being asked to be on the last ever Oasis tour. Selling out 20,000 tickets in your home town. Doing all the festivals. Seeing the world with my mates and being paid for the privilege. First record selling double platinum. It's just mad! We used to spend six quid hiring out a little room knocking some sounds together.

Someone said to me, you can times every record sale by three because of people who've heard it or robbed it for free or whatever. So if we sold 600,000 that means 1.8 million

people have heard it. That's one in forty people in this country who have heard our record. That's pretty mental.

## If there's one song you'd want to be remembered by, what would it be?

'This Song Is About You'. I like the idea of the celebration about the connection with the people who like this band. 'This Song Is About You' is about the people who come to our gigs. The story of struggle. The story of the nine til five. The story of life.





## 'Living' Albums: The Future of Music or a Waste of Time?

by TIARNA ARMSTRONG

The Life of Pablo, the seventh studio album by Kanye West officially dropped on 1st April and skyrocketed to No. 1 on the Billboard charts. However, since its initial release on 13th February, the piece which West christened "a living breathing changing creative expression," has since undergone some drastic changes. Some sites have gone into immense detail to highlight the differences between the first and second releases of The Life of Pablo. Some of the tracks have vocal and lyrical changes, while

the major modifications lie on the production side.

Naturally, this issue has raised some questions. Is this right? Does it have artistic integrity? What's the point?

Firstly, I've stumbled across a track called 'Help Me Be Captain' by Scottish stadium-rock trio Biffy Clyro. It is not a new track – in fact, it was released on the album Lonely Revolutions which contains B Sides from the highly commended fifth studio album from the band, Only Revolutions. However, this particular track is of interest to me as it is an early, raw recording of 'The Captain' – the third single to be released from

Only Revolutions back in October 2009. Frontman Simon Neil even went onto explain how the band constructed various versions of the piece and that it was originally a prog-rock song.

Likewise, Canadian experimental synth-pop artist and producer Grimes, admitted that she scrapped an entire album – the follow-up to Visions, released in 2012 – because she thought it sucked. Although, 'Realiti', a demo track for the 'lost album', was released in March 2015 with an accompanying music video. This track was not meant to feature on the previously scrapped album, or presumably the album which would

replace it. However, Grimes' fourth studio album Art Angels – one of the best albums of 2015 according to several publications, including NME and Billboard – did include the amended demo track 'Realiti'.

So, with these two examples in mind – although differing slightly – is it right to criticise artists for changing their minds?

If you strip this issue to its bare bones, you have an artist who, I can only presume, isn't totally happy with the outcome of a certain song or several songs and, therefore, transforms them into something new. If it wasn't Kanye West, but perhaps the sweethearts of pop

Taylor Swift or Zayn Malik to name but a few, they would be praised for their artistry, would they not?

Admittedly, West bears a name for being a self-righteous tool – he always has. This is nothing new. But I do believe that, although an oddity, he is an absorbing character (especially live.) Because of this, I have often been called things like "the Kanye West sympathiser," but whether anyone likes it or not, Kanye West is a part of the music scene. I do believe that this idea of a 'living' or 'evolving' album is intriguing and has the potential to be a prominent motif in music in the coming years.



## Billboard Awards preview

by SASHA DEACON

The time has come once again. The time where artists that provide us with some of the world's favourite songs are to be rewarded and recognised for their work at the Billboard Awards.

The awards which will be hosted by Goodies singer Ciara and Rest of my Life singer Ludacris on the 22nd May 2016. They offer a sparkling range of pop star hopefuls the prospect of being rewarded with a prize. The front runner in terms of nominations with a whopping sixteen nominations is the R&B singer The Weeknd. Coming in a close second place with eleven nominations is Justin Bieber. Taylor Swift and England's very own, Adele, have eight nominations each this year.

Adele's album '25' was the fastest selling album of last year and Taylor Swift, after finishing her best selling tour '1989', has just announced that

she will be taking a step back and taking a break from the music scene. The 'Wildest Dreams' songstress says that she will be taking some time out and focussing on some short term goals that she has set for herself, such as learning how to make a cocktail.

Perhaps though, the most heart-warming and endearing of all the nominations during the evening, will be the one that goes to the late, great, British sensation, David Bowie with his last album before his untimely death earlier this year, 'Blackstar'. The 'Space Oddity' legend, who tragically lost a battle with cancer at the age of 69, will surely be remembered fondly on the night of this ceremony. The last ever album he graced us with, will be given the recognition it deserves.

Tune in and watch the American equivalent to the British charts, and see if you agree with the winners of the awards on the 22nd of May 2016.

## Album Reviews: April

by FINNIAN SHARDLOW



Parquet Courts - Human Performance

Littered with fuzzy hooks and irregular guitar work, Human Performance is an absorbing homage to askew rock 'n' roll. To remain hypnotic, unsettling but riveting is true testament, and is a sensation reminiscent of The Velvet Underground.

Essentially, of course, this is guitar music. But at its core – I'd argue – are a collective of pop-esque influences. It's just not instantly discernible. Most of these hooks – once endearing – have been drowned in bristly guitar work.

Suspended in the twisted lyrics of Andrew Savage and Austin Brown are strenuous vines of paranoia that intertwine with the instrumentals: "I must have lost/My train of thought/You look so nice/Chinese fried rice."

9/10: Experimental, interesting and gripping. Yet, there is an edge of accessibility.



M83 - Junk

M83's Anthony Gonzalez swaps his refined, sleek – often captivating – synth-gaze-y pop soundscape for a scrapheap of piano house tropes, eccentric 80s nostalgia, and just sheer cheese.

There's some who would make the joke that this album 'does what it says on the tin'. I wouldn't go to that extent. However, Junk is unquestionably hit and miss. The hits – euphoric. The misses – catastrophic.

'Moon Crystal' is a track that genuinely insults me as a listener. A completely vain, superfluous musical excursion of pure futility that begs the question: "What is that even doing on the album?"

On the other hand, you have tracks like 'For The Kids'. A wistful breeze of soft synth, smooth sax and all things starry-eyed.

5/10: Inconsistency throughout.



Morley - Something More Holy EP

I know it's an album segment. And yes, it would be a slight mismatch to contrast the weight of this score against the previous albums. Although, it's also a tribute to Morley as I feel Something More Holy equals the sophistication found in a full length LP.

There's a pool of elements you could complement in Something More Holy. Celestial strings, definitely. Sainly vocal performances, yes. And, simply, just good beats; something often neglected.

However, most captivating, is the minimalistic production method. For example, 'By The Polo Pond' is a track with few layers. Vocals and drums are furnished only by fleeting orchestral stabs and instances of tense silence.

7/10: A serene listen. For fans of Emmy The Great or Susanne Sundfor.





# APPLE V F.B.I. (II)



Did anyone really think the FBI needed Apples help to get into an iPhone? Our last article set out how the FBI were trying to set a precedent in order to make their lives easier in the future, but with some corner shops apparently offering to help you get into your phone when you have been locked out was it worth all the time and money.

The Mail on Sunday set about their own investigation by buying an iPhone 5C and a device known as an IP Box which they purchased online for around £120. They set a random 4 digit code and left the IP Box try to guess the passcode without tripping the 10 attempts and you're out feature. Some may be sceptical at their claims that it guessed the code 3298 after six hours but they claim that with the code they were able to access all the data on the device, as well as change its passcode to one of their choosing. There is some contention as the phone which was tested was on iOS7 whereas the one the FBI had was on iOS9 [meaning that the one the FBI has is more secure].

The device the Mail used is not something new, police have had boxes with a multitude of cables for different devices which they could plug in and extract the phone's data in the past, but these were fast outdated with companies like Apple and Google trying to patch any security flaws in order to stop criminals rather than law enforcement. A source has reported that updated versions of these boxes have been developed, which when plugged in will extract all the phones data into a single file, it is unclear whether this device will work on

encrypted devices as data is encrypted and decrypted as it is accessed on newer android devices.

The FBI can no longer peruse Apple in the courts on this occasion as the All Writs Act prevents them from continuing as their goal to unlock the phone has been met. It has also theorised that they knew they had a weak case and that is why they were taking expert witnesses to court rather than being able to continue on the facts of the case alone. The FBI have taken their new found knowledge and offered to help other law enforcement to access any phones they may have which need unlocking, but they have not told Apple how they accessed the device.

This is not the end of the story as the California Assembly Bill (AB-1681) has emerged from Section 22762 of the Business and Professions Code which required smartphones manufactured on or after July 1st 2015 to include a technological solution at the time of the sale which could consist of headwear, software or both that once initiated and successfully communicated to the smartphone would render it inoperable. This Bill has subsequently been dropped as it could not find anyone to second it.

We have gotten used to the idea that we can remote wipe and disable our smartphones for a while, but this new addition will provide a potential invasion of privacy as it requires a smartphone manufactured on or after January 1st 2017 and sold in California to be capable of being decrypted and unlocked by its manufacturer, or its operation system provider. The Bill also provides for a civil penalty of

\$2500 for each smartphone which breaches this requirement.

Although this has not been signed into law many commentators have seen this legislation coming for a long time. This may be Californian law but manufacturers are unlikely to produce a specific phone which may be sold there, also with the development of the internet it makes it likely to spread. This new legislation runs contrary to the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act which prohibits the government from making manufacturers of telecommunication devices develop backdoors into their systems. The Guardian reported that the White House is declining to offer public support for long-awaited legislation that would give federal judges clearer authority to order technology companies such as Apple to help law enforcement crack encrypted data, according to sources familiar with the discussions.

This is not the only piece of legislation being proposed in the US, Senators Richard Burr and Dianne Feinstein have released their Bill of what is known as the The Compliance With Court Orders Act 2016, although it has Act in the title it has not yet been approved by congress, let alone signed into law. Tim Cook said he did not want to capitulate to something he felt was wrong, meaning that he wanted legislation rather than a judge telling Apple to unlock a phone but it is doubtful that he wanted this. The proposal does not outlaw encryption, but instead compels decryption. Anyone who encrypts any communications must provide a means to provide intelligible version of

whatever the court orders. This applies to all app stores, works on GitHub, messaging apps and more. Again the White House have refused to back the legislation.

The problem with this new proposal is that not only can law enforcement make such an order, but an official, such as a mayor is also entitled to make such an order due to the way this draft has been written. The Electronic Frontier Foundation stated that 'the senators are pushing Congress to destroy fundamental aspects of computer security.' It does not just open up a door for law enforcement to surveil criminals, it also opens a door for criminals to surveil us.

The legislation is unlikely to pass, we saw the UK government propose similar legislation with the Draft Communications Data Bill, or snoopers charter which was promptly shelved due to substantial resistance. It has been suggested that such moves are being made to make it easier for law enforcement as budgets are being cut, if they do not have to spend so much on decrypting people's phones and hard drives then the government will be able to cut, or at least defend their cuts to policing and security.

The Hungarian Government also plan to criminalise the use of applications for encrypted communication as part of a new antiterrorism legislation package put forward by the Interior Ministry. If the package is implemented in its present form, anyone caught using encrypted software can be punished by 2 years of prison. The providers would be obliged to ensure access to the content of the encrypted messages,

and they would have to provide the identification data of the users as well as the IP address used for registration. Failure to comply qualifies as misdemeanor, and is also punishable with a 2 years prison sentence.

Given that the Apple case revolved around the issue of decryption it is perhaps amusing that Facebook announced that WhatsApp is now completely encrypted. Previously encryption only covered one-to-one conversations, but this new development will also encrypt group chats and voice calls. This new means that not even Facebook will be able to see your messages or hear your calls, which could potentially cause problems for law enforcement as well as cyber-criminals and hackers.

In a statement WhatsApp said "The idea is simple: when you send a message, the only person who can read it is the person or group chat that you send that message to. No one can see inside that message. Not cybercriminals. Not hackers. Not oppressive regimes. Not even us." Although Amnesty International have dubbed this move a huge victory for free speech, FBI attorney James Baker reportedly criticised the move saying encryption threatens the work of law enforcement.

If The Compliance With Court Orders Act 2016 is to pass the WhatsApp will have to make a u-turn or shut down services such as Lavabit did due to the FBI demanding that Ladar Levison hand over all of the encryption keys of users in order to decrypt emails.

## WHAT'S NEXT FOR NEST?

Many of you may have heard of Nest home automation but its recent behaviour has been throwing up questions about the future of Google for many tech journalists. In October 2014 they acquired a manufacturer of a £210 home automation hub which could control devices such as lights, alarm and doors. The terms of the deal were not disclosed, and as Re/code reported at the time, the deal was an acqui-hire — buying a company for its talent rather than its products or users.

As you can imagine the company's technology was integrated into Nest's own smart-home platform, Works with Nest, but what many buyers did not expect was for Revolv to announce that they will no longer be supporting their hub. In fact the announcement was that the Revolv hub and app would no longer work.

Arlo Gilbert, an owner of the hub, branded the debacle as 'the time that Tony Fadell sold me a container of hummus.' This unhappy customer goes on to explain the multitude of smart devices he has connected together through the smart hub in order to create his automated home before bluntly stating that 'Google is intentionally bricking hardware that I own.'

With Google intentionally 'bricking' its devices there are concerns over

the future of connected device, and whether they may be shut down in an insignificant [by Googles terms] cost cutting exercise. It would be completely unacceptable if Dell announced that when your warranty expires that your computer will automatically power down, so why is Google allowed to make such a brash decision?

Many are now concerned over buying Internet of Things devices just in case the same is to happen to their hardware. After all the Revolv hub was sold with a 'lifetime subscription', and customers were told that their hub would be provided with updates to work seamlessly with other devices 'for the lifetime of the product'. The best which has been offered by the Nest team is to work with customers on a case-by-case basis to determine the best resolution, which could involve compensation.

This is not the only news about Nest as they are also losing two key members of staff. Shige Honjo, the director of hardware design and engineering will depart at the end of May, and Scott Mullins, a senior engineering manager will be leaving to work on the next iteration of Googles Glass wearable. These are not the first two staffers to leave as Nest co-founder Matt Rogers said he was "losing sleep" over an exodus of Googlers and Dropcam team members.

The issue with the exodus of the Dropcam team is the way in which it was handled by Tony Fadell, CEO of Nest Labs. What was going to be a quiet exodus turned into a flame war when he stated that 'a lot of the employees were not as good as we hoped,' and that Dropcam was 'a very small team and unfortunately it wasn't a very experienced team.'

The problem with this statement was that prior to acquisition Dropcam was in the middle of a record year of sales, had a 4.5-star bestselling camera on Amazon, was rolling into large brick-and-mortar retailers with huge merchandising support, had innovative new products imminently launching, still had most of its financing in the bank, and our investors and team actively didn't want to sell.

Greg Duffy, former owner of Dropcam stated 'The ~50 Dropcam employees who resigned did so because they felt their ability to build great products being totally crushed. All of us have worked at big companies before, where it is harder to move fast. But this is something different, as evidenced by the continued lack of output from the currently 1200-person team and its virtually unlimited budget. According to LinkedIn, total attrition to date at Nest amounts to nearly 500 people, which suggests that we were not alone in our frustrations.'

## MY FITNESS PAL

by EMMA JEWKES

I was first introduced to MyFitnessPal a year ago and it's an app I keep going back to time and time again. At first glance, the basic function of MyFitnessPal is as a calorie counter. The database has every food and every brand you can think of. You can either enter it into the search box or, as I prefer, you can simply scan the barcode using your smartphone camera. While this is its main selling point, under the hood it is so much more than just a way to keep track of your calorie intake.

You can input your current weight and target weight and it will give you a set amount of calories to consume each day. It will then track your weight loss on a daily,

weekly or even monthly basis. You can then share to social media such as Facebook or Twitter which is great for support and keeping you on track.

Although using a calorie counter to lose weight is all well and



good, fitness is also essential. MyFitnessPal takes care of that too and it also takes the calorie loss into account when adding up your calories for the day. There's also a cool

water counting feature so you can keep up to date with your fluid intake as well as a way for connecting the app to your FitBit.

MyFitnessPal is the ultimate all-in-one app, whether you want to lose weight or you just want to get back into shape. I lost just over a stone in four weeks by using the app last year and as I find myself attempting to get into shape for the summer, it's an app I've turned to once again.



Available on Android, iOS, and Windows Phone



# RANSOMWARE ON THE RISE

Have you received an email which knows your name, how about your address? These spam emails are often full of viruses, and the person who sent them has purchased your information from some website or service you have used, and often forgotten or not noticed a tick box. Lately some of these scams have become far more sophisticated by installing ransomware on the user's computer.

Members of the BBC Radio 4's You and Yours team were among some of the recipients of the email which claimed they owed hundreds of pounds to UK firms, but when these firms have been contacted by worried customers they confirmed that they had not sent the emails. Some individuals were silly enough to click the links in the email which linked to a ransomware known as Maktub.

Although a warning message may appear on the computer screen when you enter the link it's too late, the ransomware has already taken hold of your computer and encrypted anything of value on your hard drive. The way such a virus works is to offer you to purchase the encryption key so that you can decrypt your data, with each passing day that you do not pay the release fee increases.

It is not clear if this is the same

type of email recently hit several US hospitals. The first to come onto our radar was the Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center who has been noticing 'significant IT issues and declared an internal emergency' back on February 12th. Chaos ensued for several days as staff were forced to revert to paper documents; phone lines, computer systems, faxes and more were unusable during the incident. Eventually the hospital paid the ransom of 40 bitcoins, equivalent to around £12,000.

Subsequently Kentucky Methodist Hospital, Chino Valley Medical Center and Desert Valley Hospital, California were also victims of a ransomware attack. A message on the Kentucky Methodist Hospitals homepage read: "Methodist Hospital is currently working in an internal state of emergency due to a computer virus that has limited our use of electronic web-based services. We are currently working to resolve this issue, until then we will have limited access to web-based services and electronic communications."

The hospital claimed that patient data had not been affected, what we do know is that this strain of ransomware was called Locky. The Kentucky facility paid around £1100 in order to regain control of their systems which is a relatively low amount compared to

what could have been demanded from such critical systems. What is perhaps more worrying is that MedStar Health was also a victim, forcing them to shut down its email and vast records database.

MedStar officials said they had found "no evidence that information has been stolen." "MedStar acted quickly with a decision to take down all system interfaces to prevent the virus from spreading throughout the organization," spokeswoman Ann Nickels said in a statement. "We are working with our IT and cyber-security partners to fully assess and address the situation. Currently, all of our clinical facilities remain open and functioning."

The reason this organisation is more worrying than a single hospital is that it operates 10 hospitals and more than 250 outpatient facilities in the Washington region, serving over 30,000 people. This security breach meant that appointments and surgeries were delayed or cancelled. MedStar was also infected with Locky.

The FBI is investigating all incidents stating that in a nine-month period in 2014, the FBI investigated 1,838 complaints of such attacks, which cost those targeted more than £16.6 million. In 2015, agents investigated 2,453 complaints, costing targets £16.9

million.

A new version of ransomware has been discovered called Petya which encrypts the Master File Table; all files on the volume, including file names, timestamps, stream names, and lists of cluster numbers where data streams reside, indexes, security identifiers, and file attributes like "read only", "compressed", "encrypted", etc.

The master boot record which tells the computer to launch your operating system is also replaced, meaning that when you start up the computer you are faced with a scary red and white skull and crossbones painted in boller signs with the explanation that your entire system is now hosed.

Petya will cause a lot of issues putting data back together, but thankfully the author of the hack made a mistake leaving clues as to the key so that you do not have to pay the ransom. There is now a free tool which will help you decrypt your computer without much hassle.

It is not just emails which spread viruses, they can also be installed on USB sticks which will automatically execute when plugged in. The problem with this is that many people will try to read the documents on a drive in order to identify the owner, but as we have seen in the hit show Mr. Robot such actions can bring down an entire

network which is why some police forces have disabled the USB ports on their systems.

A recent study at the University of Illinois dropped 297 USB sticks on the school's Urbana-Champaign campus, with 135 people picking them up and opening files. 68% of people who opened the files said they were trying to identify the owner, whilst 18% admitted that they opened the files out of curiosity.

This may seem innocent, and at times the right thing to do, but is it worth risking your computer or an entire network? One person who opened files stated that they were not worried as they sacrificed a university computer, but has this contained ransomware it would have slowly encrypted the university's systems rendering it inoperable.

Adobe have also had to rush out an emergency Flash update due to a bug in their programming. 'The bug allows an attacker to send boobytrapped content to Windows 10's browser's Flash plugin in such a way that the browser will not only crash, but also hand over control to the attacker in the process.'

## FACEBOOK LIVE

Did you ever use JustinTV or think about starting your own vlog series before noticing that you don't have the equipment, can't do fancy editing, or don't think you will have a big enough audience? Well Facebook has launched a new feature that allows users to live stream in their timeline. This may not be news to some users as the company launched Facebook Live last year, initially only allowing public figures access, but it has now been launched to a much wider audience with the hopes that other users will be able to go live within groups and events.

Whilst there are some gimmicky features, such as filters and the ability to draw on your live video, it is important to bear in mind what repercussions this new move will have on the future of broadcasting with Facebook already paying news publishers to use the live feature.

YouTube is already the world's number one hub for video streaming, although their live video services have not been as productive as they may have hoped. Facebook seem to have spotted this weakness and are moving in with a newfound priority for video reflected by paying newspapers and digital publishers.

The New York Times, Huffington Post and BuzzFeed have already been identified as some of the publishers being paid, with the Guardian believing that similar arrangements may be in place with Sky. Facebook has also indicated that it was providing financial incentives to celebrities to live stream and had been pursuing sports rights, although it did pass up broadcasting American football games which was subsequently awarded to Twitter.

Facebook seem to be opening this up to professionals by opening up their API to developers in order to integrate



with pre-existing systems, this means that you will not only be able to shoot from your smart phone, but you could set up your own studio in your bedroom.

CNN used the service to stream its presidential debate in October and the Guardian has used Facebook Live to report from events such as the junior doctors' strike. It is not only the main stream news which has been affected by this new feature, my eye was caught by a local story in London concerning a lock in at a library. The ability to live stream from a mobile device allowed the reporter to hand over the camera to some of the participants in the protest to gain an insight into their living conditions and support.

Over the coming months you can expect to notice a video tab within the Facebook app which will contain a way of discovering videos categorised by topic, this will be in addition to the tab

already available on their desktop site which contains a live map of current broadcasts, and the ability to discover videos within your own stream.

This technology is bounds ahead of their main competitor in this field, Twitter's Periscope. Facebook claims that by making videos simpler to create and discover, whilst they are still live videos will generate 10x more comments. Another fundamental aspect of Facebook live is that it addresses some users concerns that they are only seeing the polished highlights of their friend's lives rather than the raw person they really are.

There is no doubt that the feature will be used for some of the most important parts of people's lives such as graduation, but there are also bound to be a few messy nights out and days where people just want to rant at the world. Being able to share these moments with select people or groups also allows them to participate in events they wouldn't otherwise be a part of, such as a sick relative and a wedding, or a child's first steps.

Unlike Periscope the videos produced through Facebook live can be prominently saved rather than disappearing after 24 hours. This being said Periscope hit 200 million broadcasts last month so Facebook still has a way to go before it catches up although it is starting with a much larger potential user base.

One possibility for rewarding people and corporations with large audiences is a revenue share from video ads viewed after a Live broadcast. If you fancy trying your hand at becoming a broadcaster Facebook has kindly provided some helpful tips for using their service, just please don't shoot in portrait...

## THE GUY WITH A CAMERA FOR AN EYE

Have you ever thought that someone was taking mental images of you? Well a filmmaker in Toronto may well be taking a video of you as part of a candid video or relaxed interview. Unfortunately for this filmmaker, he is limited to three minutes before the camera in his eye starts to overheat. We have seen this kind of technology in science-fiction for a long time, but Rob Spence has made it a reality after his eye was taken out due to a shotgun accident at age 9 (he held the gun incorrectly, against his eye, while shooting a pile of cow dung).

This technology undoubtedly raises ethical questions, much like the defunct Google Glass. Spence stated 'I've actually started wondering, do we want to have constant video of our lives? It's just another data set. And I don't know the answer, but I think no, we don't want that. But it's coming anyway.'

Although the camera can only record for up to three minutes it does not store the video locally, nor is it connected to Spence's optic nerve, instead it is transmitted to a handheld monitor. With the device also being inside his head there is no room for traditional switches or IR sensors, instead it is controlled by a magnetic switch.

The issue with the video being transmitted by radio frequency is that when the prosthetic eye is in the head, the skull will cause the frequency to change slightly. This means that the monitor must be reconfigured each time the camera is inserted in order to find the correct frequency.

So far this device has been used to film other people's bionic arms and legs for a commissioned documentary about prostheses and cybernetics, although Spence has admitted to

attempting some "cyborg comedy" at a Toronto bar's open-mike night.

Spence is confident that they will be able to film with the camera for hours at a time in a few months which will allow him to better interact with more emotional subjects "[Like] asking somebody what ... they think about love, but really look in their eyes." When being recorded it can feel awkward to be talking down the barrel of a lense, and so the prosthetic may enable a subject to maintain eye contact instead.

Although this is currently a single use case the technology behind it could have vast implications for future documentary and film making, especially with the pending release of Hardcore Henry.





# European Destinations



## Uncover Greece...

by CHARLOTTE HOWE - MCCARTIN

In my opinion Greece is a very eclectic country, so many different landscapes in a relatively modest area. However there is one major advantage to this, there are so many different things to see and do.

Firstly you have the mainland, filled with tranquil Mediterranean villages and you cannot escape some of the best greek food with family-like hospitality. The mainland has some of the most stunning natural beauty sites, you can kayak down rivers that are crystal clear, or explore deep dark caves, or even find the Vikos Canyon which is the second deepest in the world, surrounded by exotic plants

and animals, you could even cross the historic stone bridges. If you go to Macedonia you can marvel at the unique beauty of the mountains, including the mythical Mt. Olympus and if you venture in the winter you may even be able to go skiing or snowboarding... when I went to Greece in February, it was the first time I had seen snow on palm trees.

Secondly, there is city life. The three largest cities: Athens, Thessaloniki and Patras are all filled with history and some of the most ancient architecture, the Byzantine churches, and ancient temples. Especially the Acropolis of Athens, a world class

heritage site, it continues to impress whatever the weather, climb the marble steps, gaze out from the Parthenon onto Athens bustling below. When in Athens, take a wander into Plaka, it is the oldest part of the city on the slopes of the Acropolis, it is a maze of cobbled streets that has lavish cafes, sweet boutique shops and definitely an atmosphere to get lost in. However if you want lively, go to the central market, Varvakios Agora, you can get almost anything you want, but I hope you're good at haggling! This market is also one of the best ways to experience Greek cuisine. It is a very alluring capital.

Thessaloniki has an intriguing artsy culture, that is compelled by charm and chaos alike. The White Tower is probably Thessaloniki's most iconic monument, rising from the shore line, and originally constructed around 1530 during the Ottoman era, the view from the top is stunning, especially at sunset.

Finally there are the Greek Islands, I could easily spend a lifetime exploring one after the other, there are over 6,000 islands and islets under Greek sovereignty, only 227 of which are inhabited. The beaches are out of this world, with almost white sand and turquoise water, some of the coves

are just so stunning that you never want to leave. You can also find pebble beaches, and even rocky faces with coastal caves. The islands also have some of the best wildlife, you can easily see turtles and dolphins just by snorkelling, but you can also go on organised cave dives. Plus in the spring/summer the Elafonisi Beach, Crete has pink sand. On the islands, you can also visit some of the oldest European civilisations like the Minoans, which is a bronze age civilisation, they have some of the most stunning jewellery and carvings.... everywhere you go, there is something to discover in Greece!



## ...Discover Jersey

by CHARLOTTE HOWE - MCCARTIN

The one thing I can say about Jersey is that even though they have upgraded their airport from landing on the beaches, and even if you like flying, the landing is definitely still hair-raising. It seems like the aircraft is bigger than the island!

Despite it being the larger one of the Channel Islands, it is possible to drive from one side to the other in under thirty minutes, and that is not at racing car speeds. Yet any car fanatic would love Jersey, being a tax haven it would seem like most of the population have very nice cars, Aston Martin's, Ferrari's, Bentley's...

the list could go on and on. However BEWARE of tractors! Get stuck behind one of them and there is no hope of overtaking ever.

Not only are there cars, but some very expensive looking yachts in the port of St Helier, the designer capital city. The epitome of luxury, the city is filled with haute couture stores and quaint boutiques, interspersed with their famous seafood restaurants, where they serve what was caught that morning... it's a shame I don't like seafood, but I was told it was gorgeous whilst I ate my gourmet burger. Dotted throughout Jersey are structures from Nazi occupation

including over 1km of underground tunnels, which were dug deep into the hillside by enforced workers and prisoners of war.

Now you can wander round these tunnels which displays tales of the resistance, starvation, forbidden romances and eventual liberation. It houses many artefacts of German occupation as well as the German underground hospital, designed to last the one thousand years of the Reich and deal with the wounded from an allied invasion.

But there are many other things to do too. The imposing Mont Orgueil Castle, for example, has defended

Jersey from French invasions for over six hundred years. Situated right on the coast, you can climb to the highest turret and look out to France or descend into the dungeons for an exhibit on witchcraft. You can explore the maze of staircases and never know what hidden treasure you will find next.

Not far from the port town of Gorey we stumbled upon a hidden treasure of our own, a lavender farm with a gift shop and a cafe which sold the most amazing Lavender biscuits. Or you could spend an afternoon walking face to face with some of your favourite animals and some poison-

ous ones too in the Durrell Wildlife Park. One final thing, it is impossible not to talk of the beaches in Jersey. They are surrounded by rugged coasts with rocky pools where you can discover sea creatures just waiting to be found. Or beautiful sandy bays that are simply perfect to sneak away with a book, or build sandcastles. If you prefer a more fast paced time there are a few bays where you can hire jet skis to ride the waves, or you could go surfing or snorkelling... just remember to breathe out first! Jersey really is an island of relaxation and fun, perfect for a short summer break!





# Venture To Vietnam

by BETHAN MAY

Historically, Vietnam has suffered a lot from colonialism, war, poverty and communism, effects of which can still be seen on the faces and bodies of locals today. One can dwell on and revisit these at the Cu Chi tunnels near Ho Chi Minh, the Hoa Lo Prison in Hanoi or the War Remnants museum in Saigon. A particularly poignant place for me was the Agent Orange exhibit displayed in the War Remnants museum which included walls of photographs detailing the horrific effects of the carcinogen. The sheer quantity of wheelchair bound and disfigured bodies I had seen on my journey began to finally, heartbreakingly make sense to me.

Yet although it is critical to understand and remember the country's

sad past, that is not all it has to offer. Recently the tourist industry of Vietnam has begun to grow, with British nationals alone contributing to about 200,000 visits per year, and, once you visit, the reason for this becomes abundantly clear.

Vibrant, bustling, and crowded, the country offers a lifestyle so unlike the one we are used to. Life is predominantly conducted on the streets, with pavement shops full of the renowned, colourful travel pants, (which in my experience rip far too easily), bia hois (pavement pubs) and plenty of steaming pho (noodle soup) stands. Although it is recommended to research eateries, a culmination of four rumbling stomachs meant that my travel buddies and I had to follow common sense on most occasions, avoid the back alley stands that shouted 'wild dog' and

opt for the busy, not-too-dirty pavement cafes. Although a few of the meats tasted very interesting, thankfully our stomachs (for the most part) agreed with us. Due to the long, thin shape of the country, the main cities Hanoi (in the North) and Ho Chi Minh (in the South) make natural start and end points for any trip around Vietnam. We started in Ho Chi Minh and made our way to Hanoi via Dalat, Nha Trang, Hoi An, Hue and Halong Bay. The journey included every aspect of a holiday or backpacking adventure you could ask for. Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi predominantly provided the culture and history, temples infused with incense acknowledge Gods such as the Jade Emperor, whilst a tour around the 1960's architecture of the Reunification Palace tells of the bombing of the previous palace in an unsuccessful attempt to kill the

president (Ngo Dinh Diem).

Halong Bay on the other hand, a boat ride from Hanoi, is home to - as you would expect - a plenitude of sandy beaches, islands and coves. There we hired bikes to explore the island which is a much quicker way of reaching the different sights. Along the main water strip are plenty of restaurants and cafes, some fancier than others. It was here that I had to stop eating rice and noodles and get some English carbs back in my system. The highlight of the trip was unquestionably and irrevocably the Top Gear motorbike trip from Hoi An to Hue. Priced at only around 50 dollars we were provided with a motorbike and a guide who took us to beaches, floating villages, war time turrets, the Marble Mountain, back street cafes and so much more. The views were ridiculous, and the roads

were easy to manoeuvre for beginner bikers. For those too unsure or unsteady on the bike, you could share with a travel partner, or go on the back of the guide's bike. Luggage was transported separately and arrived at your (cheap but 5\*) hotel or hostel before you. The highlights of Vietnam could fill tens or more publications, but I urge that instead of reading about the natural beauties of Halong Bay and Nha Trang, or the man made delights of intricately detailed temples and Pagodas, visit and make your own memories instead. One word of warning: at rush hour, especially in the main cities, motorcyclists see the pavements as roads too in an attempt to try and bypass traffic jams. As such, please stay alert.

# Ana in Australia

The realisation has slowly started to sink in that my time over here is unfortunately coming to an end, and that in a couple of months I will be saying goodbye to not only this beautiful country that I've been calling home for the past year, but also the friends that I now see as family. It's true, it is really difficult not to admire the relaxed nature of Australians - you can always rely on them to cheer you up regardless of whatever situation you may be in. I've realised that not only am I conforming to the linguistic ways I once hated so much, but also deeply dreading coming back home.

During my travels up the East Coast, one of my favourite memories would have to be in Sydney. Although visually I was rather disappointed with the infamous Opera

House - which was more of a dirty yellow than white, and much smaller than we are shown on TV - I thought it would be silly of me to come so far and not watch a show. Thus hesitantly I talked myself into spending a hefty \$150 (which was the cheapest show), to watch an Adele tribute performance, (I'm pretty sure I could have watched the real Adele with that amount of money). It was easy to feel out of place surrounded by people largely above the age of 30 in their fancy threads sipping on expensive champagne or wine whilst I, in my big traveller's backpack, wore the same clothes I had been wearing for the past 3 days, greasy hair, and sipping on a bottle of Heineken that I had managed to sneak in my jumper (because there was no way I was paying \$15 for a beer). Nonetheless, it was an experience.

Sydney is definitely rich in history, scenery and cuisine, and home to some of the most famous beaches, including Manly and Bondi, although these, especially Bondi Beach, didn't really live up to my expectation. Yes, there was white sand and clear blue waters, but nearly every beach over here is like that. However the beach club that is located right on the entrance of Bondi - the "Bondi iceberg club" - took my breath away. An outdoor pool offering a unique swimming experience surrounded by ocean and sky, with saltwater pools that perfectly compliment the surf, ideal for lap swimmers, toddlers or those who just want to relax. Costing only \$10 for a day pass, I would recommend anyone of any age group to go visit this place. Truly worth it.



**Ana Khan, English Language with Creative Writing Undergrad, returns to talk about her study abroad Down Under.**



# Masters in Monte-Carlo



The Monte-Carlo Masters got under way in style on Saturday April 9th, with many of tennis' finest fighting it out in Roquebrune-cap-martin in France. The first day saw several players within the top 100 battle for qualification, though many of the top ranked players automatically go through qualification. Round one saw the passage of the top 10 players such as Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and Richard Gasquet to the second round in straight sets with no problems. Round two saw all the big guns enter, such as Andy Murray and Roger Federer, both making it through to the next round. The biggest shock of the competition came very early on, where in his first match world number one and current champion Novak Djokovic faced Czech Republic's Jiri Vesely. The world number 35 and 22 year old Vesely beat Djokovic comfortably to send him home early. Eight time record winner Rafael Nadal also made it through after beating Britain's Aljaz Bedene.

The third round however saw Djokovic's victor Vesely's glory end after he got knocked out in straight sets by France's Gael Monfils. There was an early scare for Britain's number one Murray who lost his first set against Benoit Paire, but Murray quickly bounced back and won the final sets easily to book his place in the quarterfinals. Despite the slight struggle in the previous round Murray found his quarterfinal match against top

ten ranked Canadian Milos Raonic a breeze as Murray beat him within 66 minutes in straight sets by a large margin. Likewise with Murray, Nadal beat his opponent, world number four Stan Wawrinka, in straight sets, making Wawrinka look like a beginner in the world of tennis.

Murray and Nadal then faced off in the semi-finals where Andy Murray looked the most comfortable he has ever been during this tournament as he took the first set 6-2, breaking Nadal's serve numerous times. This however was cut short as Nadal fought back valiantly. Though the second set was only just won by Nadal, the third and final deciding set was won with ease by Nadal and helped to send him through to the final. Underdog Gael Monfils similarly beat his opponent Tsonga with no problems in straight sets and by quite considerable margins.

The final saw both Nadal and Monfils battle it out for 1st position, in which the first set was won 7-5 by Nadal after a tie break. The second set also went to a tiebreak but was won by Monfils 7-5 proving themselves as worthy opponents. The last set however went the way that everyone had expected with Nadal winning all the games to take the set 6-0 to claim victory for yet another time, proving himself to be one of the world's current best and arguably of all time.



## Adams Through to Rio

Olympic gold medal winner Nicola Adams secured her place for the Olympics in Brazil later this year after becoming victorious during the European qualifiers in Samsun, Turkey. The 33 year old beat France's Sarah Ourahmoune before meeting with her Norwegian rival Marielle Hansen in her final match, insuring qualification. The match was a very tight affair, with Adams beginning confidently and assuredly. As the game progressed, Adams started to lose some focus and her opponent used this to her advantage as some of Adams punches weren't making the impact that they should. But, as always, Adams came back to win and

booked her place in Rio. Adams will be looking to retain her golden medal that she won at the London Olympics four years ago, and if she does so, she will become the first British boxer to win a gold medal since 1924 with Harry Mallin.

Also in boxing, Ireland's Katie Taylor suffered a damaging defeat in her qualifying match as she lost to Yana Alekseevna of Azerbaijan, despite Taylor beating Alekseevna in the last match they faced each other two years ago. It was Taylor's first loss in five years, but all is not lost, as she will be given one more chance to qualify for the Rio Olympics within the coming months.

# Bangor City FC Latest Updates and Scores



Despite a draw in their last game against Aberystwyth, Bangor have been on an impressive run of form with their performances, and this certainly carried over in their next fixture away to Rhyl.

Both sides had a decent amount of equal chances until Steve Lewis slotted the ball home, but only for the goal to be ruled out as offside.

Rhyl then capitalised on Bangor's frustration when a clearance was mis-kicked by the Bangor defence, falling to Rhyl's John Owen, whose first shot was saved by Connor Roberts, only for the second to hit the back of the net. Soon after halftime, Bangor were awarded a penalty when Chay Dysart brought down Steve Lewis in the box. Sam Hart comfortably sent the goalkeeper the wrong way to help put Bangor level.

Clever play and a long range effort from John Owen put Rhyl back in

front, which was followed by a goal from Rob Hughes after another poor Bangor clearance to put Rhyl two goals in front with only 20 minutes left on the clock. Bangor however, were not finished.

With only 10 minutes left Bangor snapped back into action. The Rhyl goalkeeper failed to catch a corner ball and so the ball fell to Michael Eaststone, left with an open net to score in, thus tightening the goal margin to 3-2. Five minutes later, Bangor's Poyra Ahmadi slotted away the ball to put his side level and minutes later put his side 3-4 in front with a simple tap in from a Steve Lewis pass. All looked impossible for Bangor but they didn't give up and so they were rewarded with the three points they deserved.

A week later, Bangor faced Haverfordwest at home in one thrilling encounter. Shaun Cavanagh was the first player on the score sheet where

he confidently made his way through the opposition defence and tucked the ball away into the bottom corner. This was soon followed by an outstanding and memorable free kick by Declan Walker. Haverfordwest kept fighting back and from 25 yards out Spencer Williams blasted the ball into the top corner, leaving Connor Roberts helpless in his goal. Just before half time Steve Lewis restored Bangor's two goal lead with a terrific chipped goal, arguably as good as or better than the previous goal by Spencer Williams. Soon after half time, Declan Carroll smartly and skilfully passed Declan Walker and stormed into the penalty area to hit the ball into Connor Roberts' net to tighten the margin on the scoreboard. Previous goal scorer Shaun Cavanagh added another goal to his tally when he ran past the opposition goalkeeper and slotted the ball home calmly into an open net. Bangor then finally ended

all hopes of a comeback from Haverfordwest when Damien Allen pushed his way through their defence and smashed the ball into the back of the net.

In their next game, Bangor found opponents Carmarthen more of a challenge compared to their last few. The first goal came from home side Bangor when a beautiful through ball was played to Michael Elstone, who shifted the ball on to his right foot and tucked the ball home to put them 1-0 up. Soon after, a clever cross from Alan Cummins was chested down by Anthony Miley who smashed it into the roof of the net, putting Bangor in a two goal lead going into halftime. At the hour mark Mark Jones' shot was deflected off fellow player Liam Thomas as unknowingly, sparking a comeback which began to rattle the frightened Bangor. Within the dying moments of the game Bangor's Michael Elstone

brought down an opposing player and Carmarthen were awarded a penalty. Liam Thomas tucked it home to make the score level and send both teams home with only one point.

In their latest game Bangor visited Port Talbot. The game was a very close encounter, reflected in the final score. However, Port Talbot certainly looked the more dominant when they were the first to go on the scoreboard with a Jamie Latham goal in the first five minutes. It took a while for Bangor to equalise but it finally came in the last 35 minutes with the foot of Sion Edwards. To add to a disappointing game, Bangor's Anthony Miley was sent off in the final minutes.

Though only drawing their last two games, Bangor have remained undefeated in last month's fixtures and so look like they will be finishing in a respectable position in the table by the end of the season.





Photos by Pippa Beston

# Dominating Six Try Victory



32-0



by KIRRIE MOORE

Bangor University Women's Rugby team boosted their confidence with a brilliant 32 - 0 victory over travelling opposition Aberystwyth in this year's Varsity match. Following a 25 - 19 defeat last year, Bangor were looking for revenge as the

visitors headed into the game ready for battle. Aberystwyth started promisingly as they dominated in attack, however a strong defence was paying off for Bangor. Unfortunately just minutes into the game Aberystwyth were struck with injury- resulting in the game being paused for almost an hour with paramedics called to the scene.

After the restart Bangor capitalised on Aberystwyth's injury concerns and opened up the scoring with a quick try to make it 5 - 0 to the home side. This was quickly followed up by quick hands and beautiful footwork to make it another try for Bangor. Aberystwyth appeared to be struggling at this stage in the game and were unable to maintain possession of the ball. Bangor utilised their chances and scored an unchallenged try under the posts taking the lead to 15 - 0. As the clock was approaching half time, Aberystwyth appeared to be on the attack until a strong tackle from Bangor resulted in another injury for the travelling team. Once again the

game was paused and medics were called back on site and the player was taken off the pitch. The game resumed 30 minutes later for the second half and Aberystwyth seemed very agitated and uncomfortable with what had occurred in the opening half of the game. With a growing crowd from both the home side and the opposition, the Bangor ladies were looking to impress. Bangor did not disappoint the home spectators with some quick nice passes and beautiful footwork to make their way up the field which resulted in a quick dash for the try line, which paid off. This was then followed by the only conversion of the game. Bangor took a 22 - 0 lead at this stage.

Although Aberystwyth were trying they did not give up and tried to deep to get some points on the board without any success. A comeback Aberystwyth was unlikely with 10 minutes to go to the final whistle and Bangor were looking dangerous. Bangor released the ball from the scrum quickly to find a spare woman who created an overload on the left hand side to score. In the final minutes of the game Bangor did not take their feet off the accelerator finishing the game off with a beautiful try, resulting in a 32 - 0 victory Aberystwyth.

# Mixed Results for Bangor Hockey

by JOE CAINE

This year's Varsity saw Bangor University's Hockey Club field four teams to face rivals Aberystwyth - Men's 1sts, Women's 1sts, Men's 2nds and Women's 2nds. Each team was looking for another successful Varsity after last year's saw them defeating Aber in every match except for Women's 2nds (who lost a closely fought battle 5-4 on penalties). Men's Hockey 2nd team had an early

start to Varsity as they took on Aber on the Synthetic Pitches of Ffridd Site in the first event of the day. The team put up a very decent and confident performance against their opponents. Though Bangor took a very early lead the match was fairly close with equal possession of the ball, but it wasn't until Bangor's second goal when Aberystwyth found themselves victim of worthy opponents with the majority of chances and possession falling to Bangor. Bangor then went on to score two

more goals and also had a fifth at one point but it was unfortunately disallowed. Bangor hit the post towards the end of the match and had numerous shots at goal throughout which were well saved by the Aber goalkeeper, who had been in good form from the start to the very end, including one attempt saved by the goalie with the following lob stopped on the line by the Aber defence. Bangor, however, remained triumphant and won the game 4-0. Unfortunately the Men's first team didn't get the result they wanted and

lost 1-3 but the Women's 2nds put up a tremendous performance as they destroyed their rivals with a 9-1 win - avenging last year's narrow defeat. The Women's 1sts game was one of the closest of the whole day. Early on in the game Aber had a great chance when their attacker was one on one with the goalkeeper who produced a great first save but was unable to save the follow up shot which was tucked away in the bottom right corner, putting Aber in the lead. After a string of chances from Bangor a shot was finally

slotted in the back of the net to put the sides level. Bangor had a chance very later on in the game to go ahead but the Aber goalie pulled off a terrific save to claw the ball off the line and so the game finished 1-1 - with Aberystwyth taking the victory in the second round of flicks.





# BUFC Round Off a Great Varsity



2-1



by LJ TAYLOR

Bangor University Men's Football Club rounded off this year's Varsity with a 2-1 win over Aberystwyth.

In a repeat of last year, the stands of

the Bangor University Stadium - home of Bangor City FC - became a wall of green as Bangor's students turned out in force for the day's main event.

Ahead of kick off, the UMCB Choir performed the Welsh national anthem, Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau. Both Bangor

and Aberystwyth students joined in, then it was foam fingers and thunder stix providing the soundtrack from then on.

A slow start to the match soon turned into end-to-end play in less than 10 minutes as Aber had the ball in the back of the net. The dream end to Varsity 2016 seemed to be in jeopardy, but thankfully the linesman's flag was up and the goal was ruled out for offside.

It seemed like the threat from Aber was enough to kickstart Bangor into the next gear as their attacking play improved. Most action coming down

the left wing with Liam Walker.

Just before the 30 minute mark Bangor took the lead with a great strike from their number 9. He immediately ran over to celebrate with the fans behind the goal to a chorus of cheers around the stadium.

The home side's confidence was up in the second half and Aber were struggling to get hold of the ball for any length of time, constantly giving away corners and throw-ins. A mistake from the Aberystwyth keeper, who dived onto the ball to make a save but couldn't keep hold of it, turned out to be costly. Walker followed up and

slotted the ball into the back of the net for 2-0. Once again the home team ran to the crowd to celebrate.

In the closing stages of the second half, Aberystwyth were able to pull goal back. Hearts were in the mouth of Bangor supporters as a repeat of last year's penalty shootout began to look likely. However, BUFC managed to hold on and record the 2-1 victory that they deserved.



# Athletics Ace Varsity Again!



142-130



by JOE HEAFORD

Last year saw a hard fought victory for Bangor University's Athletic club as they managed to see off Aberystwyth with an overall score of 138-115.

Athletics was one of the first events to kick off this year, once again taking place on and around the Athletics track on Treborrh, and Bangor's athletes knew they had a hard task ahead of them to turn all of their

events into that vital point on the Varsity scoreboard. Despite the long day ahead of them, spirits were high in the team as they all cheered each other on whilst simultaneously preparing for their own events.

Bangor were on top form in their track events, winning a number of different events including Men's and Women's 400m, Men's Relay and Men's 800m. Bangor were also able to claim Women's 200m, Women's Relay and Women's 800m to name a few.

When it came to field events, Bangor and Aber were once again quite equally matched with the homeside claiming victory in Women's Longjump, Highjump and Women's Discus amongst others. Aber, on the other hand, took Men's Discus, Men's Highjump and Men's Javelin.

It was a long day for the team but their hard work paid off in the end as they once again defeated their rivals 142-130.





Photos by LJ Taylor  
Main: BUWFC celebrate remaining undefeated.  
Inset: Jennifer Irwin scores Bangor's fifth goal.

# Women's Football Still Undefeated



5-0



by LJ TAYLOR

An inspired second half performance capped off an unbeaten season for Bangor University Women's Football as they destroyed Aberystwyth 5-0.

When the whistle was blown for the

end of the first half, the mood was a little dejected around the Bangor University Stadium. Despite some good attacking play, and a large share of the possession, Bangor's Women hadn't managed to make it count and get themselves on the scoresheet. Ten minutes into the second half and

striker, Ellie Alderson, gave the home side the lead. Less than four minutes later some great play down the wing from Anna Jones led to a cross into the box which was volleyed into the back of the net for Alderson's brace. From then on it was all Bangor, with a flurry of attacks and despite a good first half from Aberystwyth's goalkeeper, there was little she could do to keep her team in the game. Mari Gibbard's 30 yard shot dipped over the keeper's head for Bangor's third of the match just 17 minutes into the second half. Only minutes later, Gibbard was picked out perfectly in

the box but headed just over. In the 21st minute Alderson got her well deserved hat trick followed three minutes later by Jennifer Irwin making it 5-0 after another great cross from Jones. The home team kept up the pressure for the remainder of the match with Aber's forwards only managing to put Bangor keeper, Ceri Pritchard, to work a small number of times towards the end of the game - all attacks that she calmly put to a stop. It was a brilliant win, and end to the season, for the team who topped their league, Northern 3A, without recording a single loss.

"A lot of hard work put in by the girls - undefeated in the league and won Varsity for the second year running, you can't ask for much more" said proud captain, Sally-Anne Wright after the match. "It's my last Varsity, so it had to be done didn't it? You just have to get the win for the last one, and I couldn't ask anything more of the girls and it's actually amazing. To actually captain and get them to two time Varsity champions it's a great feeling" she said, to a chorus of cheers from her team.



# Landslide Victory for Netball 2nds



34-18



by BETHAN MAY

Hoping to follow in last year's winning footsteps, women's netball 2nds put their all into the game against Aber, which thankfully paid off with a winning score almost double that of Abers. The game began steadily, with scores well-matched at the first quarter in-

dicating that neither team would go down without a fight. Both teams had great sideline support, with Aber fans in possession of a loud speaker and 'noise makers', bringing a lot of excitement and energy to the Dome, although strangely they grew louder every time Bangor went to shoot. Unfortunately for them the spirit wasn't enough, and a mix of great teamwork and excellent passes meant that Ban-

gor took the lead to 28-16, and from there it was a clear victory. This follows them placing fifth in the league, but as Captain Ellen Coulson says, "Varsity is D-Day for netballers, the place in the league is irrelevant. Considering we beat Aber, I personally think that's all that matters." They had extra training sessions and put 100% in, and thankfully it all paid off. Here's to next year!





## Bangor Retain the Varsity Cup



# 25-13



by JOE CAINE

Varsity 2016 was certainly a day we will never forget, as Bangor battled it out at home against Welsh rivals Aberystwyth in numerous sport to take home the coveted Varsity cup. The day was full of all types of sports, both familiar and perhaps unfamiliar to spectators, so there was definitely something for everyone to get involved with and watch.

Sports played on the day included badminton, where both of the Bangor

men's teams won 8-0. The badminton women however lost 3-5 despite putting up a decent fight in a very close encounter.

Basketball followed, in which the Bangor men were victorious, as they didn't give the opponents a chance winning with triple figures 113-51. The women also played phenomenally as they stormed to victory with a 76-26 win.

The men's lacrosse was one of the standout scores of this year's Varsity competition. From the very first whistle Bangor were in total control

as they were scoring left, right and centre. Bangor didn't give their opposition a chance. By the time Aber finally scored Bangor were already in double figures. Bangor was more dominant in all of the halves of the match apart from the final half in which Aber did manage to claw back a few goals but it was too late as Bangor were well in front by 21-4. The women's lacrosse however weren't as lucky. Though arguably, it was a more entertaining and close game with Bangor losing 7-8.

Throughout the afternoon even more sports were played for the audience's pleasure. These included Fencing which both the women won by 155-128 and the men won though only just 135-121. Bangor also won at tennis in the men's and women's, squash, netball 2nds, sailing, athletics, triathlon and indoor rowing.

Some of the sports in which Bangor

was less successful than Aberystwyth included octopush, rugby union men, dance, cheerleading, canoeing and archery.

American football, like lacrosse, was another impressive performance both in attack and defence from Bangor where they won 20-0. Another striking performance came from the women's rugby union team who also stopped their opposition from scoring as they won 32-0.

Football was another sport dominated by Bangor, as the women won by a terrific five goals to nil, with all of the goals coming in quick succession of one another, providing much excitement for the fans.

Varsity ended in the Bangor City FC stadium where many gathered to watch the men's football firsts. There was an early scare when Aber scored after a deflection but their celebrations were short lived as it was ruled out as

offside. Bangor's first goal came after a smart low pass was driven into the box to the feet of the attacker who hit the ball over the goalie in style, leaving him helpless. Bangor were given a brief scare when Aber hit the post but they successfully cleared the ball to safety. Before half time Bangor put themselves 2-0 in front with a calmly slotted shot into an open net after the previous shot was saved. Near the end of the match Aber got a goal back from a header, making the score tighter, and straight from kick-off they won the ball back and nearly equalised but Bangor held their own throughout the rest of the match to win 2-1.

Overall it was an exciting Varsity, which was helped by Bangor winning by a considerable amount of points. Hopefully next year's Varsity will be just as exhilarating when we travel to Aber and hope to become the first away team to win Varsity.



BANGOR vs ABER  
**VARSIITY**  
**2016**



All photos from Varsity 2016 will be available on our Facebook page.  
[facebook.com/serenbangor](https://facebook.com/serenbangor)