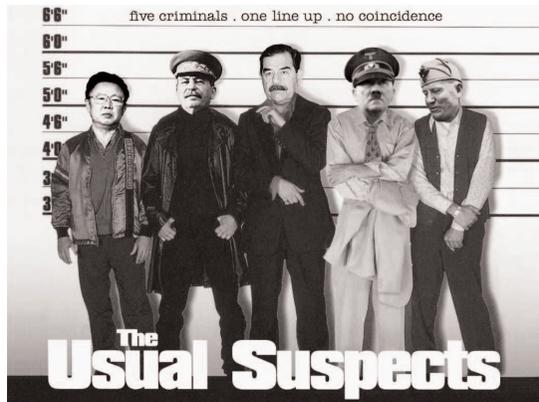




# Borat does Durham - p8

MH Top Trumps  
*back page*



# mostlyharmless

durham's latest satire and comment  
issue 3, epiphany 2007

## STOCKTON EXCLUSIVE: LADY DIANA DEAD



1961-1997-2007?

### Nick Collins

Students in Stockton were in shock last night as news arrived that Lady Diana Spencer, former wife to Prince Charles and mother to sons William and Harry, had been killed in a car crash in Paris in 1997.

The story is believed to have filtered through in the late hours of

the evening, as a brave pigeon messenger arrived at the Stockton library front desk some ten years after being dispatched from Durham Cathedral. Stockton, a small hamlet of Durham, has been reliably provided with news via pigeon post by the bishop of Durham for centuries...

Continued on Page 4...

## The Sex Play

Rob Sykes

*Male student enters Old Elvet student health practice.*

**Nurse:** Did you use a condom?

**Male:** (Surprised) What? No, I've got a sore throat and a headache.

**Nurse:** That doesn't sound like Chlamydia.

**Male:** Well that's 'cos it's not. It's a sore throat.

**Nurse:** Gonorrhoea?

**Male:** (Getting irate) No, a sore throat.

**Nurse:** (Ignoring him) Mandy, come in here.

(Mandy, another nurse, enters)

**Nurse:** Mandy, this lad says he's got a sore throat.

**Mandy:** Could be Herpes. How many times have you had sex in the last week?

**Male:** (Looking embarrassed) Well I've been going through a bit of a dry patch recently.

**Mandy:** You students, eh! What's that then, five, six?

**Male:** Well, none really.

**Mandy:** (Incredulously) None?!

**Male:** (Sheepishly) Yeah, none.

**Mandy:** Bloody hell, well there's a first for everything I suppose. Does it hurt when you urinate?

**Male:** (Now very angry) Of course it does! It's a frigging sore throat; it hurts all the time, regardless of whether I'm pissing or not! Look, is there anything you can do for my throat?

**Nurse:** Do you think a condom would help?

**Male:** (Patronisingly) Well, no, not really.

**Nurse:** Sorry, can't help you then.

(Rugby player enters, being held up two team-mates and bleeding profusely from the leg)

**Mandy:** (Indignantly) Crabs; Room Four.

## Iraq Troops to be brought out 'bit by bit'

Matt Hindle

Tony Blair has announced plans for a step-by-step withdrawal of troops from Iraq.

He revealed that the operation was in fact already underway, having started almost as soon as Saddam was removed.

Speaking to Parliament, Blair said: "Troops are coming out of Iraq bit by bit. This morning 500 arms were flown back to Britain, and later today we're expecting almost as many legs."

He refused to be pushed over a schedule for the removal of major organs,

but emphasised the importance of hearts and minds. Parts of the army will remain in the Basra region, but only those which are "physically stuck" to buildings.



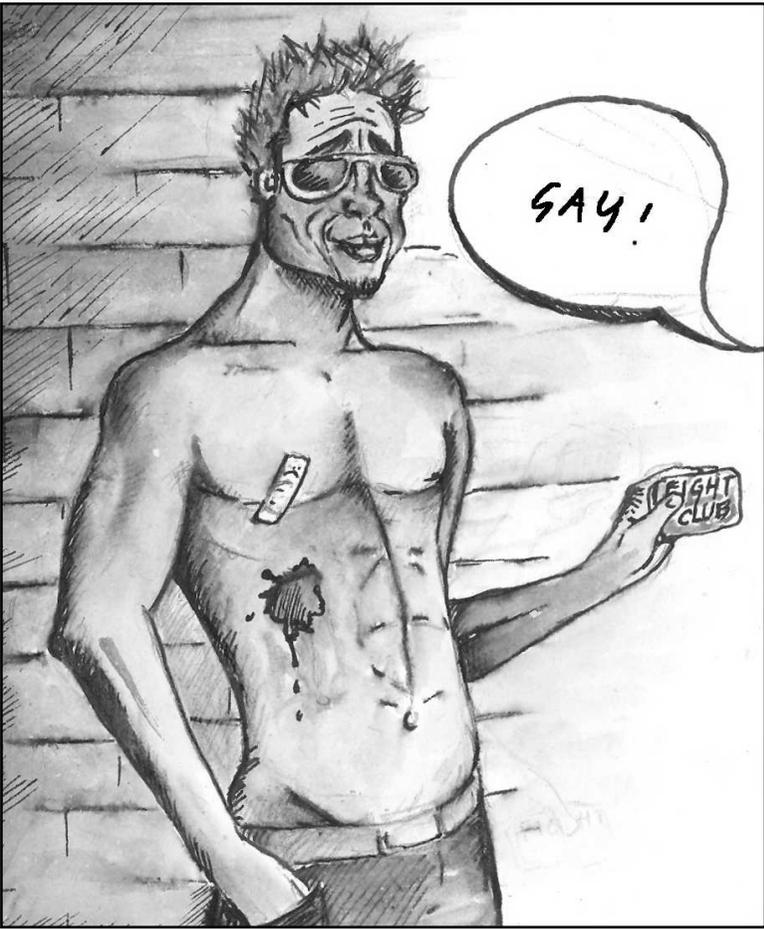
"They're coming home," Blair in denial? Iraq leg-acy hunting?

# Local News for Local People

## Banterweight Boxing

David Lloyd

News has reached MH that the higher echelons of the Durham elite have begun to supplement their already freakish daytime obsessions with activities of an altogether darker origin. Upturned collars and black pashminas have been sighted surreptitiously sneaking into darkened alleys and congregating in abandoned warehouses. The precise purpose of these gatherings remains shrouded in mystery, but inside sources have linked the events to the return of the illegal and highly dangerous category of boxing known in Durham patois as 'banterweight'. A perversion of the noble sport of CHAT (Conceiving of Homosexual Allegations Towards others), illicit networks of 'banterweight' organisations have been causing problems in several other universities including St. Andrews, Exeter and Edinburgh. Our source declined to comment upon details of the practice, but one thing became clear to this reporter – the first rule of banterweight is not to talk about banterweight.



## GCSE Rebranding

Alaric Green

GCSEs have received a complete re-branding after an official announcement from Downing Street this week. "The Government has become aware that a significant proportion of those who sit national tests these days are actually unable to spell the acronym GCSE without two or three mistakes," said a spokesperson for the Ministry of Education, with an accent.

"It has therefore been suggested that the tests are henceforth simply referred to as 'Es.' Our research tells us that young people will at least want to get hold of them then. They'll mainly involve altogether more straightforward and uneducated questions."

He went on to add (a concept which had to be explained to two listening 'E' maths students): "We are in no way widening the goalposts for the underachievers. Education standards are as high as ever they have been. We are simply

modernising the learning umbrella and allowing those less bright to shelter under it too; widening the goalposts for the underachievers if you will."

Further developments to the scheme have recently been outlined in a scratch-and-sniff government document. Flagship initiatives, including diplomas in 'life skills' for any girl not pregnant by her 15th birthday and a quota of easier 'open-access' subjects in all major universities such as football trivia, interpretive hairstyles, and geography, are due to be implemented by 2008.

The spokesman concluded: "In the modern era, we realise that it is a very unjust society which refuses to allow thick people the chance to pass tests. As the Lib Dems have shown us, it's the taking part that really counts – deliberately setting questions knowing that certain proportions of the candidates won't be able to answer them is unfairly discriminating against idiots."

## Environmental 'mentalism'

Siddharth Khajuria

Durham University bigwigs have advised students to be alert when their parents come to collect them at term-end. Reports of Environmentalist mentalist chatter have been picked up by intelligence services.

It is believed that 'mentalist plans to offset Carbon

emissions have expanded following recent reports of obese Carbon footprinting. As such, 'mentalists are reportedly slashing 4x4 tyres at Durham, Edinburgh and Bristol Universities at the end of term.

Moreover, leading 'mentalist organisation GreenWar are advising activists to run into airports screaming 'Jihad', in

order to ground carbonating aeroplanes. Said leading 'mentalist chief, Madison Adams, 'the world is getting hotter and holidays to hot places are making the world hotter and I don't like heat. It makes duvet companies redundant, and my daddy makes duvets for a living.'



Green politics.

### EDITORIAL WARNING

A warning to all those considering joining the ranks of the renowned sceptics at MostlyHarmless: each satirical sentence you send in could be your last. A US study published yesterday has shown that 'cynical distrust' dramatically increases the risks of heart disease.

Apparently, a cynical mentality is responsible for increasing inflammation to potentially fatal levels. We're not told where this inflammation occurs. I, for one, find myself becoming inflamed with apoplexy at the sight of Mitchell and Webb doing the Mac adverts, but I'm not sure if that counts. One thing is clear, though – becoming a full-time doubting Thomas is a risky business.

Think carefully before sinking to the misanthropic depths to which we lower ourselves in every issue of MH,

for student journalism really does have the capacity to change lives. It shortens them.

Still, if you can handle it, write for us, please?

#### Editors:

Siddharth Khajuria  
Magnus Taylor

#### Deputy Editor:

Tom Walker

#### Subeditorial:

Nick Collins  
Ben Grafton  
Rich Hadden  
Anton Lazarus  
Tom Rosenthal  
Jules Shipway  
Rob Sykes

#### Graphics

Clarice Holt (cartoons)  
Jack Logue (images)

#### Copy:

Lucy Davies, Alan Kerr

#### Marketing:

Ian Chapman

Produced by:

www.quotemprint.com

0845 1300 667

# Bird Flu's coming to get you



Don't let him near your children...

Matthew Doran

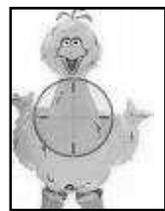
Bird flu's here at last. Finally DEFRA can reap the rewards of its alarmist propaganda. The avian plague-of-death is upon us: repent, sinners! Else meet thy doom in a pit of rotting swans and rabbits. (To be completely honest, the rabbits had nothing to do with the whole fiasco, but we killed them all just in case.) Hide in your bomb shelters and stock up your food, because this is the real thing. This is the pandemic that surely spells the end for humanity as we know it.

Well sure; the human death-count in Britain is zero, and the 50,000 turkeys died because we gassed them, but these are just thoughtless statistics! They're designed to make you 'act sensibly'. The sensible bastards won't be laughing so hard when they've all mutated into chickens at the hands of the H5N1 virus,

and then been promptly gassed by the heroes of DEFRA.

Remember foot-and-mouth? It wiped out nearly half of the United Kingdom's rural population [based on the findings of a questionnaire we handed out a primary school]? If we at DEFRA hadn't taken it upon ourselves to drink sambuca, and then drive around the farms in a land rover, arbitrarily machine-gunning flocks of sheep, you poor sods would all be dead by now. And sure, we may have hit a few farmers along the way, but if it's a crime to love one's country so much that one is willing to shoot country-folk in the pursuit of a successful culling, then I'll march to jail with a song in my heart.

According to our predictions, only about one in fourteen people will



survive the first wave of bird flu. The unfortunate thirteen will go experience a series of symptoms, which we like to call "The Three Steps to a Miserable Death" (available as a leaflet and wall-poster from your local Post Office, and as a PDF file accessible on our website [www.the-end-is-nigh.co.uk](http://www.the-end-is-nigh.co.uk)):

1) Organ cannibalisation. This is when your liver attacks and eats your pancreas. In response, your stomach performs a kamikaze suicide; spilling hydrochloric acid into your lower intestines.

2) Avian transmutation. This is when your hair falls out, and you start to grow feathers. Your nose will harden to form a beak, and your arms will bend to form primitive wings. In other words, you'll look like a complete idiot, and if you'll most likely be mocked by small children wherever you go.

3) Dignity nullification. This is where you become socially retarded. You may start to take an interest in local politics, and begin wearing cagoules and hiking boots. If you had any friends left after the effects of Step 2, you'll lose them during Step 3. Homeless people won't accept your spare change, and your own mother will begin to resent you. Also, your head might fall off.

There you go, folks! It's going to be a long and painful few years ahead. Now that you know the facts, it's time to kick start the whole affair. If you see a dead bird, try to lick it, or if this isn't possible, trick a small child into doing so.

Bird flu is coming whether you like it or not, and you won't survive without DEFRA

# Rom-antics

Andrew Tickell

Academy award-winning director Roman Polanski is to deliver a series of motivational speeches to convicted paedophiles and sex offenders as part of the 2007 L'École Pédérastique tour of France. The programme seeks to identify talented child offenders and help them escape the "the supine state of perpetual apology dominating Western sex offender communities."

Drawing on his own experience of raping a 13-year old girl, then fleeing for Paris, the prominent film director of *The Pianist* and *Rosemary's Baby* argues that it is time to give "intelligent paedophiles" less flack, and recognise their achievements in society. "We live in a meritocracy. If you're good at your job, if you've got talent, you succeed, right? But, if you happen to dip your wick outside society's comfort zone, this is

completely overridden. How can this be right?"

"I know none of the actors I've worked with have ever asked me about it. Why should they? They're not hypocrites, they're just meritocrats. Good on them, I say."

The director shares the stage with Professor Paul Francis Gadd, who will address the Annual NAMBLA conference of the L'Ecole on the "Paedophiles' Aesthetic in History", strongly arguing for a distinct and valuable sex offenders' identity, which has enriched and embroidered artistic, teaching and religious movements across the world. "It's fair to say that they (sic) haven't had the historical recognition they deserve."

If any readers would be interested in attending the 2007 scheme, please send an e-mail to [John.Reid@Home-Office.gov.uk](mailto:John.Reid@Home-Office.gov.uk) listing your name, age, address and IP number.

# Durham Library in Superbrothel neogotiations

Siddharth Khajuria

In an expansion of the Government's policy of spreading vice through the country's most deprived areas, Durham Library has succeeded in its bid to become the UK's first super-brothel.

Following the failed bid to have the library open 24 hours, University Staff chose to utilise the building when closed. It is believed that the bid's success hinged on the unique nature of the Library's short-loan section and the

efficiency gains such a service would provide brothel managers.

Vice Chancellor Kenneth Calman is also believed to see the venture as the perfect opportunity to pluck remaining University departments out of the centre of Durham and place them upon the Hill. Durham's Historians are reportedly delighted at the prospect of working besides a cutting-edge New Labour warehouse. That, and being closer to the library.

[studentsindurham.co.uk](http://studentsindurham.co.uk)

[mostlyharmless06@gmail.com](mailto:mostlyharmless06@gmail.com)

# Cameron Bashing

Because someone's got to...

**Richard Hadden**

Leading Conservatives called on the government last night to enforce last year's ban on blood sports, following an outbreak of the particular vile practice of 'Cameron Bashing' by left-leaning satirical magazines such

is, quite frankly, just as disgusting"

Originating last year about the time of the Conservative Party leadership election, 'Cameron Bashing', say critics, is a vile and ignoble practice, which leads to the grim destruction and possible

dogs onto the Cameron. The Paxman species (*Howardem Interrogansis*) is specially-bred for hunting, and can stalk its prey for hours before unleashing vicious attacks, normally brutal interrogations over taxation policies, which disable the Cameron long enough for the 'Bashers' to batter it to death with heavy clubs (typically the Saturday edition of the *The Guardian*).

Supporters of Cameron Bashing, including the moderately shady Labour Party organisation, have hit back, citing an undercover BBC report (filmed by Andrew Marr wearing a 'hat') which shows leading Tories engaged in the sport of 'Brown Baiting'. Whilst not actually illegal, and actively encouraged in the back streets of Kircaldy, Brown Baiting involves tying Gordon Brown to a wooden stake driven into the ground and taunting him with comments like, "What colour is the lampshade in the master bedroom of Number 10? Wouldn't you like to know?". Having enraged the Brown, participants normally retreat to avoid being 'clunked' (hit with vicious lumps of rhetoric such as "Och", "You young whippersnappers" and "Look at the size of my economic growth").

Brown baiting has recently been outlawed by newly created bye-laws in the constituency of Sedgefield.

## MostlyHarmless personified?

as Mostly Harmless.

Said the Shadow Defence Secretary, Liam Fox MP: "The government went out of its way to ban Fox Hunting last year, despite huge uprisings amongst minority groups such as the landed gentry. But now it appears they are reneging on their promise to outlaw the innocent massacre of small furry animals. If my tweed-donning constituents in the notably sane district of North Somerset aren't allowed to hunt foxes, it would be completely hypocritical to let these filthy liberal satirists go about 'Cameron Bashing', which

extinction of the cuddly Cameron species (*Voidus politiquensis*). The 'sport' allegedly involves traditions such as 'harrying' (the following of the Cameron round parliament whilst giggling), 'lampooning' (the throwing of sharpened 'lampoons' – bits of unused wind turbines) and 'asking questions about policy' (the asking of questions concerning Conservative Party policy).

Particularly bloodthirsty Cameron Bashers have been known to set specially trained and sharp-toothed 'Paxman'

# The Gospel according to Jonny Wilkinson

**Tom Walker**

If at first you don't succee...oh, bollocks.

(Editor's note: Jonny's triumphant return to journalism was tragically cut short by a broken fingernail. He hopes to resume writing in 2008)



keep on keepin' on...

# Diana

**Nick Collins** (from front page)

...but it seems that this particular bird, or 'Ernie', as he was fondly known by monks at Durham Cathedral, was delayed by an unfortunate combination of unusually inclement weather, and a hyper-sensitive migrational instinct. Biologists at Durham University department believe that any extended period of rainfall may have caused Ernie to fly south immediately, and estimate that, since being dispatched by the bishop in 1997, he could have migrated back to Togo up to 72 times.

Students at Stephenson and John Snow colleges are launching a protest today, demanding an extended police inquiry into Lady Diana's death. Incensed at the press's role in the incident, protest organiser Wayne Thomas said: "This can be no coincidence. This is part of a press conspiracy to generate a sensational story. Or it's that evil Prince Philip trying to get his son's meddlesome ex-wife out of the way. Or some kind of CIA plot about something. It's as clear as daylight."

This incident of delayed news has added weight to demands for the internet to be introduced to Stockton, in the absence of any reliable form of contact with the surrounding world. Stockton lies too far away from civilisation to receive television or radio signals, and national newspapers refuse to deliver to the small rural community due to its treacherous hill passes and laughably low entry requirements. "It's sort of like letting yourself down," commented one delivery driver. "You just think...it's not worth the effort, or the embarrassment of saying you went to Stockton."

However, it seems that the pigeons won't be out of a job just yet. "Most of our students can't tell their arse from their elbow," commented one member of staff. "What's the point of giving them computers? It'll take them a term to get past the basics of minesweeper. Far too much hassle."

Meanwhile, Ernie won't be delivering any more messages for a while. On his arrival in Stockton, he was greeted as a hero, and immediately given an honorary degree and fellowship in philosophy. He now resides in private rooms in John Snow,

# Internshit

**Siddharth Khajuria**

They're offering you chocolate money and exclaiming 'Profitunity!' They'll be thrusting cookies into your hands outside the Students' Union and telling you their summer internship is just the place to be.

Through charm, wit, and chocolate-chip cookie fuelled guile, they're securing your futures and blunting your minds.

Apply, go on, there might still be a spot at Deloitte's Scunthorpe office. All the London spots will already have been taken by the sly buggers who spent their Novembers applying away.

Those online questionnaires, brilliant stuff. No need for your C.V. anymore, they find out what they want to know. Very clever folk, these.

Why, Miss Huntington, do you want to work for Accenture? "Because you gave me a cookie."

Who knows? These things are pretence-filled charades.

They know you're doing an Arts degree your parents are scared of and all you want to do is earn a bit of money so that you can go save Africa with the few spare weeks left in September, when the Sudan is hot, but not too sticky.

Why do you want to work for any of these companies? I dunno, maybe because they pay more than the local Spar, you've got time to fill and are vaguely curious?

If this firm or that firm really, really care about whether or not you want to dedicate your soul to their 18 hour days already, surely you've got to wonder whether they're worth working for?

Well, at least until you're 25 and have figured out that idealistic naiveté lands you under Elvet Bridge with cardboard and soggy, dodgy student newspapers for a pillow.

It's not that people care about money more than anything else; it's that they don't care about anything else more than money...

# Interview with a Student Communist

Magnus Taylor

*This week, MH talks to Graeme Andrews. Graeme likes computer games, hanging out with his mates and the organisation of global communist revolution.*

**Hi Graeme, what originally got you interested in communism?**

I can't really remember. I think it was probably because I kept seeing loads of poor people where I live in Hartlepool and just really wanting to do something to help them. I also saw this film once about a guy called Che Guevara who was a sort of motorbike communist. I thought that it would be really cool if I could be a bit like him.

**Right. Couldn't you have just given some money to Children in Need or something?**

I tried that, but I just didn't feel that I was translating my true disgust at global poverty into a strong public image for myself. You see, being a Communist isn't just something you do once a week - it's a complete lifestyle and clothing choice.

**Is clothing choice an integral part of the Marxist philosophy?**

I think that, in this modern age, you can't underestimate the

importance of image. When people see me around campus wearing my Che Guevara t-shirt, hammer and sickle hat and 'Make Poverty History' wrist band, they'll know that I'm a fully paid up member of the party. Then they can come to me with all their Communism-related questions. I think it's very important to communicate the fact that we are thoroughly modern Marxists who know about things like Big Brother and McDonalds, and aren't just concerned with what some boring old German guy wrote about economics.

**But don't you think an intimate knowledge of communist ideology is fundamental to what it is to be 'a Communist'?**

Well, yes and no. Of course, I've read Marx. Well, just 'The Communist Manifesto' - it's actually quite short and you can skip out the boring bits, no problem. But you can't expect everyone to have done. There just isn't time, what with Jeremy Kyle, Hollyoaks and Neighbours filling up your day.

**How many of your friends are Communists?**

All of them, really. I'm not sure I could hang out with someone who wasn't. They just wouldn't understand me in the same way as

Patsy and Nigel do. We always have these amazing discussions about Africa and stuff and which Communist country we'd most like to visit. It normally comes out as Cuba or China.

**It sounds a bit like your organisation is just you and a couple of friends talking about communism in the pub; do you have any formal structure to your meetings or any real programme of action?**

We all firmly believe that communism shouldn't be something that you just take part in once a week at a meeting. It should be like a hobby that you can do all the time. I'm a Communist and everyone around here knows me as 'Graeme the Communist.' I see Communism as being within everyone. We obviously do ultimately aim for a complete and total world revolution where everyone will live happily in peace and harmony. However, at the moment we'll just be happy if people notice that we are serious Communists and not, as Comrade Patsy once said, 'just bloody young socialists...those guys have no fucking idea.'

**Thanks Graeme. Next week we'll be talking to Henry Williams, a neo-Nazi with a passion for horticulture.**



Clarice Holt

Meet Graeme...

## Tragic confusion in Lebanon

Andrew Tickell

Two years after the tragic assassination of Rafiq Hariri in Beirut, Lebanon in 2005, Mostly Harmless has acquired documents disputing the alleged Syrian involvement which has cast a shadow over relations between the two Middle Eastern

States. In an exclusive anonymous article we noticed in the Comment section of the Independent, it has been revealed that the true target of the explosive killing was not the popular ex-PM, but fat journalist, Joham Hari, who was holidaying around the corner.

Due to a series of mistakes and mismanagements, the assassins placed the explosives in the Rue Minet al Hosn instead of Rue de la Grosse Tapet where Hari was staying. This mistake was compounded by a tragically unforeseen stutter of the cochlea, causing the assassin incorrectly to identify the car of "Hariri" rather than Hari. Former Prime Minister Hariri

perished, alongside 21 bodyguards and civilians while the journalistic blimp escaped unscathed.

"It's really was a terrible mix up," said Miranda Hari, mother of the failed victim. "I know Joham won't mind me



Independent Journalist Joham Hari

saying this, but it is always difficult to love a fat child."

Joham Hari inclined to comment.

## AL-GNER in terrorist strike



Seb de Lemos

A Virgin train was derailed last week in what is suspected to be an attack by the terrorist group AL-GNER. This comes in the

Middle-East coast warfare midst of a war between the West and Middle-East coast main lines. So far, Virgin have had the upper hand, with successful strikes at Potters Bar, Copsmanthorpe, and Selby.



The late Rafiq Hariri

# Duncan demands bigger pie

Justin Leslie

DSU President Alex Duncan is spearheading a new campaign to ensure he can get a "Bigger Pie". Explaining the 'Unity Campaign', Duncan told MH: "I like pie – simple as that. That's why I'm so passionate about this issue – any pie that comes into DSU always gets split unevenly so I get the smallest bit. This is just unfair on someone addicted to pastry products".

This problem has provoked rifts within the Student Union. Quentin Sloper, DUAU President, is reputed to be a notorious pie-fiend while, as usual, the JCR Presidents are hell-bent on getting their slice of the action. Duncan continued: "When you're dealing with someone like Sloper, it's not a question of negotiation – you either distract him by showing Pi on your calculator or you engage

him in hand-to-hand combat. And don't even get me started on the Presidents. There are too many fingers in this pie, when it should be my face."

However, progress is being made. Duncan has been in communication with pie-industry heavy-weight Bernard Manning, who is said to be "equally passionate on the issue." In addition, the celebrity patrons of the Pie Consumer League (PCL), Vanessa Feltz, Clarissa Dickson-Wright, Fern Britton and Jonny Vegas, have all pledged to throw their formidable collective bulk behind the campaign.

Duncan's attempts to pimp his pie seem a trifle ambitious to this reporter. Still, with his history of devotion to Greggs and Peter's Bakery, and his single-minded dedication to the cause, there's no telling where his pastry exploits may take him.

# 'DO NOTHING' - NEW DSU Campaign revealed!

do nothing...  
ever.

Do Nothing. It's not something you hear often.  
There is no need to rush into finding a life.

DSU find a life month:  
TBC. Maybe 2010?

Choose your future. Choose a life.  
Choose DSU

DSU do not charge you for  
help finding a life



**DSU** lifestyles  
<http://lifestyles.dsu.org.uk>

**DSU** find a life  
...eventually

## 10 Reasons for Students to shop at...

1. **Toni & Guy**  
10% off cuts Monday – Wednesday
2. **GAME**  
10% off all software purchases with the GAME loyalty card available for £3 from our store
3. **Vision Express**  
15% off glasses frames and lenses – ask for details
4. **New Look**  
10% off with NUS card
5. **JJB**  
10% off everything with NUS card
6. **Officers Club**  
10% off full priced items
7. **3 Store**  
Free MSN and mobile mail with the latest deal with NUS or any student ID
8. **Stationery Box**  
10% off everything in store.
9. **The Craze**  
20% off full priced items
10. **HMV**  
10% off selected products

Don't forget all the other stores at Prince Bishops, including Fatface - newly opened at the end of 2006 for the latest young fashion, plus banks, cafés, phone shops, gift shops and travel agents.

**PRINCE BISHOPS**

[www.princebishops.co.uk](http://www.princebishops.co.uk)

Durham City Shopping

## Durham Business Chatter

Tom Walker

Durham's struggling businesses condemned the city's recent corporate development at a protest yesterday. A group of plucky independent outfits - consisting of Varsity, Hide, Café Nero and Chase – expressed their concerns at the loss of

Durham's unique character. A spokesman for the little-known underground nightspot, 'Walkabout', told MH: "It'd be terrible if we allowed soulless and faceless chain establishments like Wetherspoons' to take over Durham – we've certainly never tolerated them before."



Durham's independent soul?

# The MostlyHarmless Team of the Week

**JFK**  
Great shot stopper

**David Blunkett**  
Excellent vision

**Lazarus**  
Has never say die attitude

**The Pentagon**  
An immovable object at the heart of defence

**Stephen Hawking**  
Uses space (and time) effectively

**Hitler**  
Enthusiastic attacker from the right

**God**  
Can always create something from nothing

**Shakespeare**  
Great playmaker

**Pontius Pilate**  
Not afraid to stick in the odd cross

**Arthur Scargill**  
Great striker

**Ronseal varnish**  
Always provides an excellent finish

Magnus Taylor  
Jack Logue (image)

## The MH *Easy*Essay

In the first of a number of *Easy*...s MH walks you through an essay. Next time, *EasyCV*...

To what extent did the \_\_\_\_\_? Discuss. Anton Lazarus

\_\_\_\_\_ -ians/-ists/-phers (please delete) have been debating the issue of \_\_\_\_\_ since the creation of the discipline in \_\_\_\_\_. As Victor Hugo once remarked: "There is nothing more powerful than an idea whose time has come". Ever since, this issue has been at the forefront of public debate.

This essay will discuss the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, including the influential writings of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and Karl Marx as well as the post-modern and feminist critiques of the question. The classic example of \_\_\_\_\_ as well as the contemporary case of \_\_\_\_\_ will play a central role in determining the outcome of this debate.

\_\_\_\_\_ believed that the \_\_\_\_\_ was/were/is \_\_\_\_\_. In \_\_\_\_\_ (18\_\_) s/he contended: "we are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars." However, this argument is countered by the more recent claims of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (19\_\_), who argues that the "repressively patriarchal nature of society" prevented this issue from making its full impact.

The Marxist approach radically changed the nature of the discipline. Prominent names such as: \_\_\_\_\_ (19\_\_), \_\_\_\_\_ (19\_\_) and \_\_\_\_\_ (19\_\_), all commented on the issue of class, agreeing that "religion is the opium of the people".

The advent of globalization/postmodernism/feminism has irrevocably altered the way this issue is now approached. Contemporary scholars of \_\_\_\_\_ ory/aphy/ogy all suggest that a new approach to this question is required in light of the inter-dependence of the globalized world/the uncertainty of modern existence/women.

In conclusion, the arguments of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are too strong to ignore, and yet the counter-arguments or alternative discourses provided by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are equally persuasive. It remains to be seen which school of thought will prevail in the long term, and for now the issue seems set to remain entirely subjective. Or, as Oscar Wilde/Winston Churchill/Seb Coe/Alex Duncan/George Alagiah once put it: "\_\_\_\_\_".

PLEASE CUT OUT THIS VOUCHER AND KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE

## Cathedral Lock & Safe Services



LOST KEYS, BROKEN KEYS, STOLEN KEYS, NEW KEYS, REPLACEMENT LOCKS

24 HOUR EMERGENCY LOCKSMITH  
**STUDENT DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE**

Telephone 01388 746 000



## PERFECT FOR BINGE SHOPPING

Books and prints to musical instruments  
Homebrew to Home Cooking  
Party Jokes to Party Foods  
Shellfish to Shoes



You'll be amazed at the variety, quality and value for money on a vast range of foods and non-food items in the indoor market.  
**Ask at our stalls for any extra student discounts.**

## DURHAM INDOOR MARKET



Open Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm  
Market Place, Durham  
Tel: 0191 384 6153  
[www.durhammarkets.co.uk](http://www.durhammarkets.co.uk)

ADVERTISE IN MOSTLYHARMLESS. ANY QUERIES OR QUESTIONS? EMAIL MOSTLYHARMLESS06@GMAIL.COM

# Borat Does Durham

Ben Grafton

Borat Sagdiev talks to Mostly Harmless about his recent visit to Durham, university life in his native Kazakhstan, and everything he has learnt along the way...

**MH:** Firstly, congratulations on the recent success of your feature film. You have now been in England for just over a week. What are your impressions of Durham?

Wa-wa-wee-wa! Durham is certainly very beautiful city. I like particularly your famous 'North Road' with its one chip shop, Blockbuster video store, and laundry facilities. In Kazakhstan, we must do our own washing in local river, but in Durham I see only people in rowing-boats and sometimes naked homosexuals swimming there, when they have had too much to drink. I was also very excited to meet famous anti-Jew writer, Bill Brysons, who is fourth most famous person in Kazakhstan after Cliff Richard, Samantha Janus and international superstar, Natalya the prostitute, who is also my sister.

**MH:** So what can you tell us about university life in your country, and how does it compare to life in Durham?

In Kazakhstan, it is only rich men who go to university. This means every man who can afford two cows or more. In my hometown of Kuçzek, which is capital city of Kazakhstan, only fifteen people go to local university. Normally they study to become for example, doctors or nuclear scientists, but I chose to study English, Journalism, and

Plague research. I am very sad to find that here in Durham, the Plague research department is closed for many years due to a lack of funding.

I am also very happy to see so many beautiful girls in the city, who all have very interesting fashion. In my country, it is illegal to wear any kind of fur of animal that does not bear Kazakstan seal of approval. I am also very surprised to see that in Durham, there are not so many of other races. After searching for many days, I have not managed to find a single man with geunine chocolate-face, which I find very strange, because in the US and A, I saw very many.

**MH:** What kind of things have you done in your time in Durham, and how have you coped with being famous?

It is true that thanks to my moviefilm, many people in this city will smile and wave at me, and sometimes try to kiss me and touch my khram. I have even seen my own face on front cover of popular British magazine, The Big Issue, which I was forced to buy from gypsy woman in city centre because I was scared she would put terrible curse on me and my family.

In my short time in this city, I have seen many interesting people and done many interesting things, for example disco dancing in Loveshack, and visiting worst brothel in Europe, Klute, which I found to be most enjoyable, but also very sweaty. I was also invited to special Christian Union evening, to celebrate death of famous Jew on cross, many years ago. To me, the people are all very friendly and many things make

me laugh, for example your new student president is a woman! In my country, we say to let woman be president is like letting monkey fly a plane...very dangerous! I am also very amused by national sport where many dirty men try to steal oval ball from other dirty men, before they are pushed to the ground and raped.

**MH:** Finally, what do you think you have learnt from your time in Durham, and what plans do you have for the future?

First I think I have learnt that to fit in with British students, I must drink like a horse. The price of your beer is very cheap, and tastes very nice when I compare it to traditional wine of my country, which is made from goat's urine. Second, I notice that in England not every girl you meet in nightclub wants to make a sexy-time with you in the toilets, but only some of them.

I do not know how much longer I will stay in your country, but hopefully a lot longer because I have had very nice time. I have already been offered employment here in Durham with your radio station Purple FM, which with over 16 listeners, is more popular than Kazakhstan and Uzbek radio put together.

Before we finish, let me just say that if there are any ladies with nice physiques who are able to read this interview, and are interested in making romantic explosions, they can visit me in my hotel, which is Marriott room 55.

Thank you, and Dzienkuje!

# Conspiracy Theories

Tom Rosenthal

\* Diana was murdered by Prince Philip, who was driving the elusive Fiat.

\* 11/9 – work it out, remember which country we're from – was an inside job, probably masterminded by Enya.

\* Ant out of Ant and Dec has a secret room in his forehead that stores secret government files.

\* Prince Harry's real father is none other than Mr. Motivator (first name unknown).

You will, of course, recognise that these are some of the most popular Conspiracy Theories circulating today. They are all the rage now, these 'CTs'. They're the new Pogs: every kid has one.

The theory-less MostlyHarmless team, feeling like the no-hoper kid that always got teased by their mates, decided it needed a CT all of its own. When we phoned up MI5 (077956 72356) for one, however, we were promptly put on hold. When gagging for a quality CT this, to be honest, is highly frustrating. We eventually got through and asked to be redirected to the Durham branch. MI5 claimed that they couldn't tell us anything because Louis Theroux was busy making a documentary about it. We responded with a curt: "Do you know who we are?" Using our provocative cutting-edge edginess, we eventually forced the information out of them. What

we heard shocked/stunned/horrified/bewildered/endangered us:

"Alex 'biggest hair in the business' Duncan, in a desperate attempt to prolong his current reign of terror, is intending to clone himself multiple times to form an army of Duncans. He and his army were responsible for overseeing the recent DSU sabbatical elections."

The campaigns might seem to a non-CT expert to have been part of a healthy election process, with some candidates even appearing to be women. However, this was just a cunning attempt to hide the shocking truth. Flo Herbert, the new DSU President. is none other than a clone of Alex Duncan himself. If you look closely, you can see the evidence.

Flo Herbert is an anagram of Alex Duncan.

Flo Herbert may be a giveaway regarding Duncan's dodgy past, when he used to act as a referee in brothels. 'Flo Herbert' = 'brothel ref'.

You thought you could fool us with your word trickery, Mr Duncan, but pretty much nothing gets past the iron mitt of MostlyHarmless. Duncan has failed to respond to the allegations, but he did say: "Yep, it's all pretty much true; I plan to be in Bryson's chair within the year".

# Bulgarian disintegration

Tom Walker

The Bulgarian Prime Minister Sergei Stanishev has expressed concerns over unchecked British immigration into the new EU member state. "This European Union stuff was looking pretty good until the Brits turned up," he said in an interview last night.

"They just won't integrate. Even our campaign to enforce 'Bulgarian-ness' hasn't helped. They can't speak the language, they'll only live in ski-resort enclaves, and they're taking all the jobs in our rapidly-expanding equine studies management and hairdressing sectors."



# The greatest Underdog story of all time

**Ben Grafton**

In what promises to be the final chapter to this great epic, former champion, Palatinate (Sylvester Stallone), finds himself on the scrapheap, washed up and lonely. He has grown old and weary in the years that have passed, living a meagre and unfulfilled life. Since the death of his wife, durham21, a victim of 'woman cancer,' Palatinate has followed a lonely and troublesome path. His only son, the effervescent and opinionated Mostly Harmless (Milo Ventimiglia) doesn't love him. He feels like he's living in the shadow of his older, famous father, and has adopted a cynical, anti-conformist attitude towards life. As the two drift further and further apart, we see Palatinate grinding out a living by begging for sponsorship in local Italian restaurant Fabio's or even Pizza

Express. When people come in to eat there, all they want to hear about, are the stories of how Palatinate traded blows over editorial meetings with the likes of George Alagiah, and how, come the final round of the Guardian Media Awards, he was still left standing.

Then one fateful day, the DSU holds a virtual boxing match, pairing up writers from across the eras. In the end, it definitively concludes that if there were to be a match-up between the "Young" Palatinate and current world champion The Sanctuary (Antonio Tarver), Palatinate would come out on top. Seeing this virtual fight makes Palatinate remember how much he misses being in the ring, and realises that there is still 'stuff in the basement.' Cue heart-rending speeches, training montages and enough clichés to fill a medium-sized Las Vegas

boxing gym.

After the former Paperweight Champion of the World registers for his boxing licence, new kid on the block, The Sanctuary, gets wind of it. Pay-per-view channels will not give him the luxurious contracts that he demands anymore, because they believe that he only takes on second-rate writers and that he is, in effect, merely a "paper champion". His people suggest a fight between him and crowd favourite, Palatinate to bring an end to the feud once and for all. Although initially sceptical, Palatinate agrees to take part in what will be billed as a Battle of the Ages: a true contest of Wit vs. Shit. With words of support from the dulcet-toned old-timer, Purple Radio, (Burt Young) and ultimately from the humble and apologetic son, MH, it is truly to be the showdown of 2007.

# DSU Election mired by dirty campaigning

**Richard Hadden**

A DSU election for the position of 'Balcony Commissioner' has been cancelled following activities by unauthorised campaign teams designed to influence the result of the ballot. In addition to the representatives of the two candidates, Becky Mitigating and Trevor Circumstance, e-mails sent by two undeclared groups, the so-called "Vote In This Election" and the so-called "Don't Vote In This Election" campaigns. Said Mr Simon Panda, chairperson of the DSU Meandering, Twisting and Turning Committee, which oversees elections: "After a very long meeting, in which I was flamboyantly polysyllabic in my vehemence, I decided to stop the election, as there was no one else there who knew all the rules, which are very long and very

complicated indeed.

"The purpose of these campaigns is clearly to influence the result of the election. Take the 'Vote In This Election' campaign: clearly, if someone is persuaded to vote then it unfairly



**Simon Panda**

makes it more likely that someone will be elected. On the other hand, the 'Don't Vote In This Election' campaign is clearly trying to stop people voting in the election, which means that no one might be elected, which isn't fair either. It's basically foul, corrupt, underhand nastiness,

and if I wasn't quite so liberal I'd have them all rounded up and shot before grinding their foul remains into the dust and then reading the election rules out so they understand them properly."

In an exclusive interview with MostlyHarmless, an anonymous representative of the 'Don't Vote In This Election' campaign team claimed: "The only reason we started our campaign was because of the 'Vote In This Election' campaign. If everyone started voting in DSU elections then there wouldn't be tedious student political hacks carping on continually about how the DSU is a mismanaged non-transparent cliquey organisation that is completely unrepresentative and wasteful in every way imaginable, and we'd have to find something else to fill up half of Palatinate."

# MHPlay: MurderSearch

Anton Lazarus

N	G	I	J	A	H	V	Y	E	V
S	H	I	P	M	A	N	E	M	M
T	R	O	M	R	E	D	L	O	V
Y	E	L	D	N	I	H	T	F	Y
W	E	S	T	V	E	X	N	W	D
I	J	U	T	C	O	C	U	E	A
N	O	S	A	M	F	K	H	S	R
S	U	T	C	L	I	F	F	T	B

Can you find all the serial killers?



- Hindley
- Huntley
- Shipman
- Sutcliff
- West (x2)



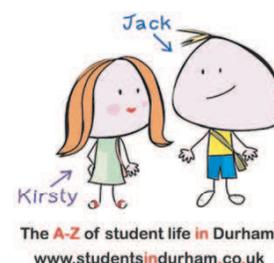
## HOUSE HUNTING? FAIR DEAL STUDENT HOMES

- REALISTIC RENTS FOR HOUSES AND APARTMENTS.
- PRIME CITY CENTRE LOCATIONS.
- ENJOY HASSLE FREE LIVING WITH J W WOOD.

"EXPERTISE BEYOND EXPECTATION"

CONTACT J W WOOD

t: 0191 3830184  
e: lettings@jww.co.uk  
w: www.studentsindurham.co.uk



The A-Z of student life in Durham  
www.studentsindurham.co.uk

# The MH Ladies' Page

## MostlyHarmless accused of sexism

Jules Shipway

Recent reports reveal that a white female, aged between 15 and eighty-two, yesterday attempted to submit an article to hugely-popular, male-dominated student newspaper, MostlyHarmless. This shocking news left members of the editorial team reeling. Said one irate copy-editor, who asked to remain anonymous, "This is outrageous. MostlyHarmless was founded by men, is edited by men and upholds male values. Furthermore, we discourage women from attempting to express their opinions via this publication in future."



Magnus Taylor  
misogynist-in-chief?

thought to have contained material of a distinctly feminine ilk, and, according to a leaked report, included references to kittens. It was seized and destroyed by an unknown party in the early hours of this morning.

When quizzed about the actions of his editorial staff, Magnus Taylor, co-Editor-In-Chief of the publication, initially declared that the only choice left to them was to track her down on Facebook: "We bombarded her with unsavoury sexual suggestions until she revoked said article." Under pressure from feminist activists and his publicist, he later withdrew these comments.

The offending article is

## The Diary of Esther Rudolph

Anna Budashevskaya

Oh lordy, it's the end of term and everybody's on the town, on the vino, on the pull, in the sack, back on the horse, off the wagon, up the duff, possibly even up shit creek, except me. I am all static and mundane and working on an essay that I didn't speed through specifically so I wouldn't have to think up a perfectly good reason to tell myself about why I'm not going out tonight. I am a sloth. I can feel myself congealing.

Bridget Jones was really quite cool. She had sexy media friends. She had a job in a publishing house. And a nice flat in Borough. And Colin Firth. And she didn't, did not, did not, have Facebook. Every now and then, successfully slowing my work on this essay ("To what extent is secondary quantitative data useful in killing off your youthful embrace of life?"), I have a little check on Facebook. Adam Grabo. No activity. Jefferson Orkney. No activity. Yes, that's right! Because they're on the piss! How can you be doing things on your Facebook if you're on the piss? But I can see that little twerp, who I'm sure is very nice in real life, Carla di Fauza, is back, putting kisses all over Jefferson's wall.

Carla di Fauza is from Venice, speaks Italian, English, Mandarin and German, and resembles a younger and more vivacious Salma Hayek. Her dad is a count or something. She wants to know if Jefferson's going out tonight. He doesn't reply. I feel weird and sort of guilty looking at their wall-to-wall conversation. This has gone beyond. It's wrong to be looking at other people's wall-to-walls. I'm sure she's a really lovely girl and a good human being, and I'm just casting

a desperate voyeuristic eye over what could be a beautiful, blossoming romance. They'll probably start dating and be really supportive of each other. Aah. Back to quantitative data. The trouble is, I quite like quantitative data. I'm worried this says something about me. Maybe I'm not a real human being.

I'm out! I'm out! I'm out in Klute! This is good! I'm not looking my best, but when I take my glasses off, I can sort of see that I'm a blurry Audrey Tautou. When the glasses are on again, I look like Nick Robinson. Jonathon and his strange friends were on their way out when I thought, fuck it and threw on a dress. And now I'm here, and half the world is here, and I'm really supposed to be with Jonathan-

Strange Friends are scouting for some girls who will block them on Facebook next week. Look, there are some people who are dancing like they're having sex. And suddenly, there they are. Jefferson and Carla.

No, not the sex couple, at the bar! I do a little slidey-out-of-the-group thing, and unfortunately find myself sliding between the sex couple, which is something I will never do again, and I go get a drink, next to Jefferson, still feeling slightly violated.. Carla gives me the kind of smile that says she has no idea who the hell I am. Aha! But I know who you are! I know all about you! I know that my sense of triumph is resting on the vast sea of my own private knowledge that I am very pathetic!



and-strange-friends, but am really looking out for Jefferson Orkney and Carla di Fauza.

For a bunch of guys who are out in a club to drink, have a laugh and hound girls, Jonathan-and-strange-friends couldn't look less tragically uncomfortable. Maybe I'm cramping their style. Surely they don't think that people could think that all five of them are my boyfriend? They're all scouting like meercats, we're all scouting like meercats. I'm scouting for Jefferson, Jonathan is scouting for some girl of equal beauty and intellectual achievement to Carla di Fauza and who he will never get, and

Jefferson is very pleasant, buys me and Carla a drink, introduces us. I genuinely wish I could stop staring at the graphic dancing lady on the plasma screen, but I swear that she's not wearing anything. Gosh, she dances so well. And she's so svelte! Must concentrate on Jefferson and Carla. I don't want to look like a strange anti-social sexually-frustrated Sapphist. Some boys go for it, but I think Jefferson's got some sense of self-respect, and therefore probably some standards...

Read Part 2 of the diary at [www.mostly-harmless.org.uk](http://www.mostly-harmless.org.uk)

The ANTHONY NOLAN Trust  
Taking back lives from leukaemia

If you want to test your macho credentials you don't have to join the SAS. You can join our register of bone marrow donors. One day you may get to say that you actually saved someone's life from leukaemia. We promise you can't feel any better than that. You'll be a hero - especially to the recipient. And it's men we need most, simply because they produce more of the vital cells we require. As they say in action movies, 'It's a matter of life and death' but this time it's for real and you're in the starring role.

Please contact us on 020 7284 1234  
or email us [men1@anthonymolan.org.uk](mailto:men1@anthonymolan.org.uk)  
or [annabella.forbes@dur.ac.uk](mailto:annabella.forbes@dur.ac.uk)

MEASURE YOUR MANHOOD HERE\*

[www.anthonynolan.org.uk](http://www.anthonynolan.org.uk)

# The MH Arts Page...

## Colonel Theatre Stinks of Shit

Mike Millington

Rioting erupted at the Assembly Rooms in Durham last night during the opening performance of "Father Father, Sexual Predator", the new play from Durham theatre company Colonel Theatre. The incident was sparked after audience members, enraged by controversial scenes in the play, began to pelt the stage with human faeces.

Hot off the back of such critically acclaimed but quietly ridiculed 'arthouse' productions as "Woman: Womb-Man", and "Developing Red Riding Hood", Colonel Theatre had drawn comparisons from the fringe community to the avant-garde work of such theatrical nutcases as Jerzy Grotowski. However, such obscure parallels were unsurprisingly unable to sway the general public.

"This wasn't a play, it was an absolute disgrace", commented one onlooker, after police had broken up the violence. "There was 25 minutes of interpretive dance, then all the men had sex together while the women screamed and splashed each other with paint. I can understand why people were



"no-one understands my art!"

angry. In fact, I sort of wish I'd rioted too."

The incident began when a commotion occurred near the back of the audience during the third "nude santa" scene. When jeering began in the stalls, the house lights came up, and the director, Zion Whiterabbit, appeared on stage to pacify the situation. However, it seems that her appearance only angered the audience further.

"It was like trying to put out a fire with a barrel of diesel and a blowtorch," our onlooker observed. "She was the architect of this rubbish. Someone had the idea of doing a poo and chucking it at her. It seemed like a good idea, so everyone started joining in. I'd been just before the play started so I couldn't join in, but I supported what they were doing."

Nevertheless, in the wake of the riot, Whiterabbit was defiant. "This is exactly the kind of reaction I'd hoped for," she claimed. "It just proves to me that Colonel Theatre is ahead of its time. The one goal of theatre is to provoke. They didn't hate the play because it was bad; they hated it because they couldn't understand it. Don't you see? That makes it art."

## WitTank Review 3.14\*

Anton Lazarus

In a sweaty room filled to the brim by drink-fuelled plebs, entertainment was demanded and five odd-looking individuals, our jesters for the evening, were to supply it.

The opening night's setting in Mildert's soulless JCR was obviously less than ideal. I would have been disappointed to have paid £4.50 to listen to badminton practice from the sports hall. Don't worry though - I didn't pay, reviewers get in for free. As the lights dimmed and the masses ssshed and hushed, the stench of impending laughter filled the air.

There is undoubtedly much talent in the Wit-Tank brain, and 'Poker-Face' showed off some great ideas and, in some cases, perfect execution. Some of the best material came early on, with the confrontation between the 'Durham Life-Sizers' and 'Durham Full-Scalers' - the sworn enemy groups that recreate Cluedo and Monopoly in the real world - a real highlight. The idea was especially effective when placed in the context of the eclectic interests of Durham's student societies. Bizarrely setting the sketch in Tesco worked well, creating another good character in the shop-assistant. Developing the joke from "I'd like a revolver, a piece of rope, a candle stick, a piece of lead pipe..." to "I own you like I own all the stations" maintained pace throughout, and made for probably the biggest laugh of the night.

Sketches including shouts

of "Mangoes into a bar" as two examples of the tropical fruit are thrown at men holding pint glasses were both hilariously simple and effective in breaking up some of the longer scenes. The tossing around of a child's doll with the punchline: "I love working in a morgue" was also delivered perfectly, doing justice to a delightfully sickening idea.

As with all shows of this nature, some of the more extended gags suffered from their length. In one sketch, for example, an editor is seen discussing the misprinting of his magazine with his printer. Unfortunately, for me the joke of accidentally having printed Mr Hunt's name as 'Mr Twat' seemed to become lost as the dialogue trundled on.

The 'Gap-Year Song' was well received by most, although its scathing lyrics perhaps came too close to home for one young gentleman in flip-flops sitting next to me, who looked close to tears. However, I felt that the pause in the song for a two-minute rant about having 'done' a country, irritating as the phrase is, was unnecessary and broke up the momentum the song's sharp observations had created.

The grand finale, a musical number reforming the now elderly Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles, didn't work particularly well, and was a slightly disappointing end to an otherwise enjoyable show. Overall the show was effective and did what you would expect it to say on its tin. I'll give it Pi, because there's no reason why scientists shouldn't giggle.

## DST President wins lifetime achievement award for 'getting out of bed'

Magnus Taylor

Eminent thespian and general DST bigwig Quark Mortly has been given a prestigious 'lifetime achievement' award for what has been described by theatre critic M.T. Stage as, 'a beautiful and moving interpretation of a normally mundane morning occurrence.'

Said Mr Stage 'what really struck me was the way Mortley seemed to transcend post Pinterian pseudo theatrical mundanities

often associated with this sub-structuralist piece of meta-theatre. We (and by that I refer principally although not definitively to myself) connected with Mortley in a manner previously inconceivable in the arena of post ironic experimental student existence.'

It is believed that Mortley is pleased with his success but has declined to speak to all members of the press for fear of tainting himself through bodily or spiritual contact with the non-thespian

proletariat. Slightly less eminent sidekick Baidan Triggs gave us a momentary interview merely stating 'oh brave new world which has such people in it' before flouncing off in search of solace where he could commune with his enormous transcendental talent.

It is thought that Mortley's highly anticipated next show will be a post modernist interpretation of the sound of one hand clapping. We at MH simply can't wait.



Mortly's buddies give him his award

# MH Top Trumps

6'6" five criminals . one line up . no coincidence

6'0"

5'6"

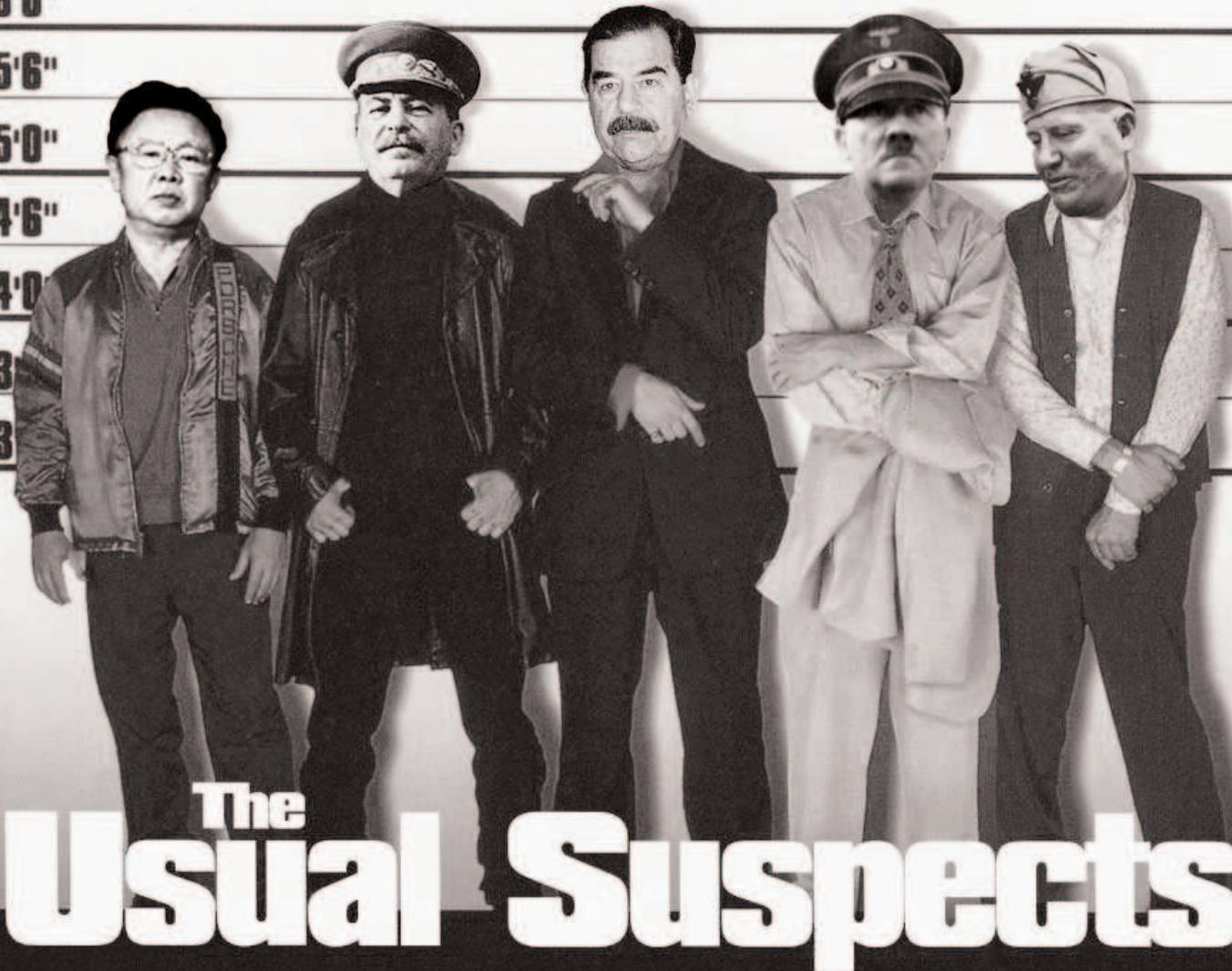
5'0"

4'6"

4'0"

3'6"

3'0"



## The Usual Suspects

**WRITE FOR MH**  
MH is always on the lookout for new writers, if you're interested, or have any questions, please email us!

**WEBSITE**  
Check out the new MH website. You can read the whole paper online as well as find access to exclusive online content. Go to: [www.mostly-harmless.org.uk](http://www.mostly-harmless.org.uk)

**mostly-harmless**

Welcome to Mostly Harmless. This is the online version of articles, and an entirely web-based article system themselves. 'Blog' comments are sorted by date order in the sidebar. You can find out more about Mostly Harmless:

print articles | blog articles

Read the latest issue. View the archives.  
Latest issue: **two**

**Vice Chancellor sells own Mother**  
Magnus Taylor  
Durham University's Vice Chancellor Sir Kenneth 'terrifyingly efficient' Calman has [\[more\]](#)

**DUS to merge with DSU, inter-society war looms...**  
Siddharth Khajuria  
Following complaints of acronymical confusion from Durham's bespectacled and dyslexic communities, the Student's Union (DSU) and Union Society (DUS) have agreed to merge in a mega-deal worth £46. [\[more\]](#)

**Poverty is Holy**

Use name:

'Obama for America' By POTUS on We [\[more\]](#)

'Obama for America' By Ben Grafton [\[more\]](#)

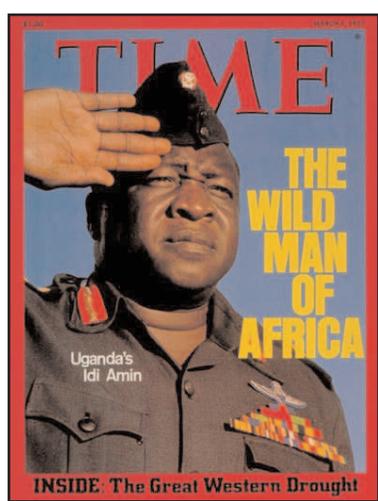
Storm in a Tea By Ben Grafton [\[more\]](#)

Brother and Brit

**Reader Promotion...**

MostlyHarmless has unveiled new plans to secure its place in the heart of youth culture with a format dear to every child. Our new range of 'Dictator Top Trumps', due to be released next month, aims to provide both educational stimulation and crude entertainment to this nation's apathetic youth. The cards, which will rank the world's ghastliest crackpots in terms of kill count, wars initiated, quality of facial hair, ideological coherence, cost per kill and sex-appeal, look set to capture the

classroom zeitgeist. Many a pitched playground battle will surely ensue. Will Robert Mugabe's pan-African



sartorial elegance? rhetoric prevail in the face of Kim-Jong-Il's Communist gibberish?

Which will scabby-kneed ragamuffins back in the 'rise to power' category: the 'democratic' election or the more old-school coup d'etat? Will Il Duce get the nod over the Fuhrer in the sex appeal stakes? More controversially, will Idi Amin's brooding demeanor and sartorial elegance be enough to trump Saddam's raw masculinity? Following a publicity campaign which will see Francos, Amins and Pol Pots popping up in kiddies' cereal packets throughout the UK, Dictator Top Trumps will, of course, be available in all good toy stores.

PLEASE CUT OUT THIS VOUCHER AND PRESENT AT ESQUIRES COFFEE HOUSES, 22 SILVER STREET, DURHAM

**ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS!**

**20% Off**  
all beverages on our beverage menu

20% OFF ???!

let's go

One voucher per customer per visit  
Valid from Monday - Friday  
Promotion valid from March 1st 2007 until April 30th 2007

On redemption of this flyer  
Valid only at Esquires Coffee Houses, 22 Silver Street, Durham DH1 3RD