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## NO MELT DOWN IN DEMAND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

A BBC/ComRes survey of A-level students in England has found that higher university fees are putting off one in ten would-be applicants, but that over half will probably still go to university.

UCAS has reported a nine per cent drop in applications.

Gill Wyness, a higher education researcher at the think tank CentreForum, commented:

“Actions speak louder than words. We cannot accurately predict the future behaviour of A-level students, which is why the survey should be treated with caution.

“Similarly, today UCAS figures do not indicate a meltdown in demand for higher education, as some newspapers have suggested.”

CentreForum believes it is too early to link the increase in tuition fees to a drop in university applications.

There were a record number of applications for university last year. Applications were up by five per cent in 2011, as students who would normally have deferred entry for a year or more, decided to apply early to avoid the fee increase in 2012.

This means the pool of students able to apply is far smaller this year.

Applications have followed the same pattern during previous fee increases in 1998 and 2006. They tend to increase sharply the year before the fee increase, and then drop by a similar magnitude in the year of the fee increase.

In both cases, applications recovered to previous levels a year later.

The UCAS figures are highly preliminary, with only 26 out of 131 universities in England releasing data. In addition, the figures include applications for the 15 October deadline which only applies to those wishing to study at Oxford and Cambridge or for any medicine, dentistry and veterinary degree. While some applications for other universities were also submitted to UCAS, the figures cover only a small proportion of the total pool of applications.

Students may be thinking more carefully about which course and subject are best for them, in the light of the new fee regime.

Fee loan repayments are wholly dependent on the future earnings of graduates. Students may want to research more carefully future earnings and employment prospects of different courses before they submit their application.

## TRENT DOES MOVEMBER!

That time of the year again is coming around when the clean shaven boys turn to rough and ready hairy men...Its Movember!

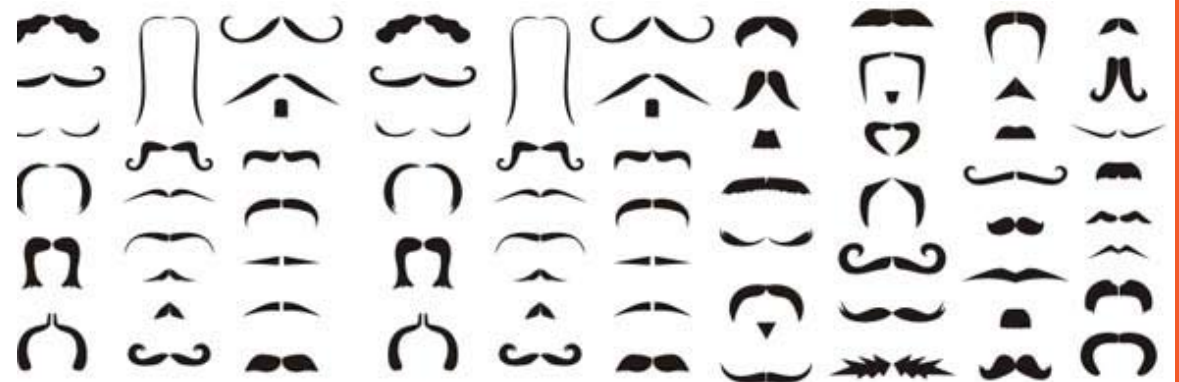
Movember is the annual event that occurs every year during the month of November. In 2004, the Movember Foundation was founded, starting off in Australia and spreading across the globe, it now has campaigns running in Australia, New Zealand, the US, Canada, the UK, Finland, the Netherlands, Spain, South Africa and Ireland. The rules are simple, start the 1st of November with a clean shave, then for the rest of the 30 day month let that tash grow! Grooming and trimming is allowed to shape and craft the moustache.

The purpose for “Mo bro’s” is to grow their moustaches is to raise awareness and funds for male cancer, specifically for prostate and testicular cancer. Both The Prostate Cancer Charity and The Institute of Cancer Research are the people who help to raise awareness, education and to carry out further research for the male cancers. Last year £11.7 million

was raised in the UK by 112,000 Mo Bro’s and supporting Mo Sister’s.

Trent this year is taking part in Movember again...that includes you! To take part, boys you will need to register with Movember.com, start getting friends and family to sponsor you and get all your male friends and family to join in! Girls you need to support the boys and encourage your Dads, boyfriend, friends and even lectures to get involved and sponsor them! Also maybe some fashion advice in tash style wouldn’t go a miss.

To get involved with Trent Movember and keep up to date with updates and the progress from the rest of the Trent army boys, like the facebook page of “Trent does Movember”. Also if you have any photos send them to us at Platform lifestyle@platform-online.net to let the whole of Trent see your Mo! Good luck and get raising the money!



## FRESHERS FAQs

Congratulations on getting into NTU - a brilliant University in a great vibrant city with plenty of shops for you to spend those student loans in, lots of cool bars and clubs to enjoy with your mates and an amazing education which produces the best calibre of individuals; of course that's true, you wouldn't have picked it otherwise.

There are a few things that you are probably wondering about when starting at NTU, so here is a little bit of advice for you.

Okay, the biggest question I have heard... Will I make friends?

It's really scary when you go to Uni on your own, not knowing anyone, but don't worry, in the first few weeks you'll make plenty of friends.

At the start when you enrol, you'll get given a wrist band which fully pledges you a NTU fresher. This means entry to nights out and of course, recognition, so if you see someone who is just like

you, just introduce yourself. Get on to the Fresher's Fair, the more societies you join, the more people you'll get to know. This is a big recommendation because doing this whilst you're at Uni not only helps you to meet new people it also makes your CV look good.

This question is one which gives us students a bad reputation... How should I spend my money?

You have just got a good wodge of money in your bank account, remember this is to last you until your next payment! So don't spend it all at once. If it covers your accommodation and your food, remember you need food and shelter to survive, one of the must haves. Budget yourself, if you go out, take enough to cover you, but not enough so you spend more than you have to. Remember, it's your responsibility.

A couple more... Will studying be hard?

Studying at Uni is independent and therefore a far cry away from the

classrooms in our old schools/colleges. If you have any issues, just arrange a tutorial and the tutors will point you in the right direction. Don't hesitate to ask for help and don't be ashamed to go to the Wednesday learning support sessions to help you improve, that's what they are there for.

If you're ever in trouble, where do you go if you need help?

Financial support, health care, career and moral support is always available as part of the Student Union. You have free access to any support you may need. Just pop in or book an appointment and our guys will do their best to sort you out. Don't ever feel you can't talk to anyone, this is what they do.

**Victoria Hart**



## BOMBAY BICYCLE CLUB: TINIE TEMPAAH STOOD US UP

Wow, where do I start? What an incredible night Monday night was, from start to finish, a dream of a couple of years finally came true.

For a very long time, since before I can even remember, there have been two bands that I've wanted to see headlining a gig - *Two Door Cinema Club* and *Bombay Bicycle Club*. The latter packed out Nottingham's Rock City a week ago, and they certainly did not disappoint.

As soon as lead-man, Jack Steadman, appeared side of stage, the crowd packed in tightly for this sell-out gig, went absolutely mental. The gig couldn't have started in any better fashion than Bombay's first single of their most recent album, *A Different Kind Of Fix*, *Shuffle* - and that's exactly what everyone did, you know, that awkward kind of 'indie-bob/shuffle'.

Finally seeing Bombay headline a gig, it was so easy to hear the incredible variety of moods and ambiances that the band have managed to pack into their three albums so far. From dark to light with such ease, and seamlessly mixing album track with 'the big singles' - which down equally well with the audience.

There was no better way to sum up the gig than the way the way that Jack summed it up himself before their last song, "We've played a lot of gigs on this tour and over the festival period, but this has been one of the most fun and enjoyable ones."

But not only did I have the absolute pleasure of witnessing

an incredible set from Bombay; I was lucky enough to join Fly FM's Daisy Jarrett before the gig to interview Jack and Ed.

The band is famous for being a little awkward during interviews, they even said it themselves, "usually we're really bad at interviews, but Jamie just turned the charm on [in reference to their earlier live lounge interview with Fearne Cotton] and she was loving it." They're not awkward in a pretentious way at all, in fact it comes across as quite endearing.

Whilst reminiscing over one of the busiest festival periods for any band this year, Ed said his favourite gig was at Latitude festival but Jack preferred Benicassim, simply because of the weather - you can't really blame him to be honest.

Their main influence on the new album, *A Different Kind Of Fix*, for one reason or another was tacos from Atlanta in the US. Having eaten so many tacos, they just wanted to chill out, which lead to some really relaxed riffs and beats. But then a tornado struck the area which added a completely different dimension to the album.

Ed picked out local boys, *Dog Is Dead*, as being a band to look out for. They supported Bombay on the first week of their tour and apparently, we should expect some really good stuff from them in the future.

We reflected, for a while, on the band's rise to fame against the fall from grace for the chain of Indian restaurants from which the band's name comes directly from. Jack cited that, "once we'd overtaken

them on google, that was pretty much it for them unfortunately."

And to round off, we wanted to find out if there was any truth in the rumours that Bombay Bicycle Club were going to be working with British rapper, Tinie Tempah, in the not so distant future. "He came into the studio, and he suggested the collaboration, none of us

were that into it. And then we texted him the next day, but he never got back to us. Soren was heartbroken, and is still heartbroken. Tinie Tempah stood us up."

*A Different Kind Of Fix* is out now. To hear Daisy's interview with Jack and Ed, go to [www.flyfm.co.uk](http://www.flyfm.co.uk)

**Tom Watts**



## SAM DUCKWORTH @ BODEGA

Sam Duckworth had the world at his feet a few years ago but after struggling album sales and little commercial success following his first album, he's decided to drop the Get Cape, Wear Cape, Fly moniker and go by his real name.

Playing a set which had virtually no material from the work that made him one to look out for, he provided a gig with little energy or enthusiasm from himself or the 30 or so people that were there.

Back in 2007, he was playing packed out gigs at much larger venues to huge critical acclaim, but judging by his set this evening it's hard to see how he managed to attract such big crowds.

Even songs from his back catalogue seemed to have lost their character and power, whereas four years ago, he'd be screaming the lyrics with such passion, believing every word and everyone there joining him; but last night we were treated to vocals that were limp and lifeless.

We should have known really, to expect something a bit different from the gig, as he was performing under a different name and was in the crowd beforehand. His on-stage banter at times seemed pointless and pretentious, with him describing a clementine as being pure and symbol of cleanliness.

We both really hope that he returns to old self because gigs as Get Cape. Wear Cape. Fly were unbelievable.

**2/10**  
**Platform Rating**

*Pete Linney & Tom Watts*



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## YOU CONTROL THE MARKET!

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## FRESHERS: WHY SHOULD YOU GO CLASSICAL?

Nottingham is a city well known for its music scene, including dubstep, indie and rock – but what about classical music? You may not be aware, but Nottingham is also home to some unmatched classical music venues which hold incredible performances by artists and orchestras from around the world. Neil Bennison, the Music Programme Manager for Nottingham's Royal Concert Hall, answers some questions for students who may not yet have experienced classical music.

### Platform: Why should I go to a classical concert?

Neil: I guess for the same reasons that you'd go and see any live music performance – to be thrilled by hearing some fantastic musicians playing at the top of their game. I'd also say that hearing a live orchestra is a pretty amazing experience. We hear orchestras a lot more than we might think – in film soundtracks, episodes of Doctor Who, even computer games – but hearing a big orchestra in full cry can be genuinely hair-raising. The range of sound is breathtaking and, believe it or not, the volume you can experience can rival a rock concert. Sometimes the sound is so powerful you can feel it hitting you – and that's without any amplification.

### P: What can I expect? Is there a dress code?

N: These days' orchestral concerts are pretty informal events. You can wear what you like and you don't have to be some kind of expert on the music. In fact, I always think the atmosphere is livelier when there are lots of newcomers because the experience can be so powerful if you haven't been before. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned concert-goer, you can always look forward to really exciting sounds, particularly in a hall with a great acoustic like the Royal Concert Hall. It's a massive venue – the biggest capacity outside London – yet the sound is so immediate, even if you're sat at the back of the second tier – it's that good.

### Are there different styles of classical music?

Neil Bennison, Royal Concert Hall  
N: Definitely, 'Classical Music' is a bit of a misleading label because it actually refers to a particular period in musical history when composers like Mozart and Haydn were writing. There's actually more than 600 years of music covered by the general term, 'Classical Music' so you'd expect a vast range of styles as music developed during that time.



These days' orchestras are working more closely with bands and contemporary ensembles. The Hallé (Britain's oldest professional symphony orchestra) recently performed with Elbow in Manchester, for instance, and this year indie band James will be performing with the Orchestra of the Swan here in Nottingham.

### What would be the best act for a beginner to see?

N: I'd always recommend going to see something really loud and lively! As it happens we've got one of those on Thursday 24 November, when the Hallé Orchestra are playing an evening of orchestral spectaculars. The programme includes Dukas' The Sorcerer's Apprentice (made famous in the Disney film Fantasia) and Respighi's Pines of Rome – one of the greatest orchestral showpieces ever written.

We also have a programme of late night performances – After Hours – after the main orchestra concerts which feature contemporary music and these are free if you've attended the main concert. They're just £3 if you want to come to the late night performances only.

### Where can I go in Nottingham?

N: If you want to hear the

big orchestral works then the Royal Concert Hall is the place to go. If you're after smaller scale classical music then the Djanogly Recital Hall at Lakeside Arts Centre has a superb programme of solo performers, trios and string quartets, plus some more cutting-edge ensembles specialising in contemporary music. If Opera's your thing then you can see brilliant productions by Opera North at the Theatre Royal in the autumn and spring.

The other thing is jazz – Nottingham has a terrific jazz programme, which takes place at the Bonington Theatre in Arnold, on the north side of Nottingham. It's a bit of trek across town but some of the best jazz artists in the world take part.

I play an instrument, is there a way for students to get involved?

N: There are plenty of ensembles in the city that are looking for new recruits. There are two orchestras in the city – Nottingham Philharmonic and Nottingham Symphony Orchestra – that perform regularly in Nottingham's Albert Hall and Royal Concert Hall. There are also several choirs that perform at a really high standard. The entry requirements are different for each ensemble and they're always pleased to hear from potential

players.

### Neil's Top 5 Recommendations for this season:

24th November – The Hallé

9th November – City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

12th October – Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra

20th February 2012 – BBC Philharmonic

4th June 2012 – Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Nigel Kennedy (the violinist with attitude)

For a full listing of events and performances at Nottingham's Royal Concert Hall you can visit the website at [www.trch.co.uk](http://www.trch.co.uk)

**Louise Dickens**

## LIVING WITH THE AWKWARD AND ANNOYING

Other people are annoying. It's true. Living with other people, can be a complete nightmare, everyone has their irritating little habits, and sometimes you will want to kill them. But as long as you can keep your cool it isn't too hard to avoid the murder charges and get along in peace. Here are my top tips for living with these common types of annoying people:

### Amateur DJ's

Sometimes at university, we actually have to do some work, only occasionally, but it happens. It seems to me, that every time I shut down Facebook and get my thinking cap on, someone decides it's party time. For the first few minutes you think you can ignore the walls vibrating, but it gets more and more distracting until you realise your attempts at work are completely futile and you might as well just give up. This is a very common problem in halls, every second person seems to think they 'can't concentrate without music on' or that 'you need it turned right up to appreciate the bass' but don't let them get away with it. It's okay to play your music, it's okay to play it loud, but you have to remind people that there are more appropriate times for it. Asking someone to turn their music down when you're trying to study or sleep is a reasonable request, and they shouldn't have a problem with it. Trying to reach a compromise is the responsible and grown up way to sort the issue, and will always bring the best results. Turning your own music up full blast and thumping on the walls is only going to make the rest of the flat hate you both, and give

you an even worse headache. Anyway, if you're trying to work and someone's being really unreasonable, there's always the library. You know that's where you should have gone in the first place!

### Let's get Messy

How much do you miss home? Home where the surfaces are magically wiped clean, the floors mopped, the toilets bleached and where lives that amazing machine, the dishwasher. Students are notoriously messy and dirty, but there are a select few who make it an art form. Every meal seems to involve something orange and sticky being splattered over the floor and at least 5 pots being left to fester by the sink. Even though it can be hard, you do need to be fairly lenient, mess is going to happen, you just have to trust it will get cleaned eventually and try and work round it. It's a good idea to establish some rules on what is acceptable. Leaving washing up till after your lecture is fine; leaving it half-submerged in the sink for five hours is gross. If you aren't lucky enough to live in halls with a cleaner, it's always good to have some kind of system or rota for cleaning. It might make you feel like your parents, and everyone will probably look at you as if you're a crazy person, but it will avoid arguments down the line. Assign two people to each task every week as well as encouraging (not nagging) everyone to clean up after themselves. Tidying together makes tasks go quicker and seem less grueling. And it'll feel great sitting in a nice clean kitchen,

drinking tea out of nice clean mugs after all that hard work!

### That Annoying Thing

You're well into university life now, all the fresher's madness and settling in is over. It's now that you can really get to know the people your living with, and probably now that you start to realise you might be living with the most annoying person since that guy that made the crazy frog song. There are some people out there that just rub you up the wrong way, or seem to be out to wind everyone up. They may try and label their irritating behavior as 'banter'

but it's not banter when there's only one person partaking in it, and it's not banter when it's constant and unrelenting. Ideally the best thing to do is to join in or try to rise above it, but that's not always possible. I have always found that the only reason people act like this is to get a reaction from you, Kicking off, shouting at or arguing with annoying people unfortunately only seems to encourage them. So practice tuning out what they say, and pulling the perfect 'I'm so unimpressed by your immaturity' face. And if you get really annoyed, or really aren't in the mood to deal with their

behavior, walk away. Go to your room and jump your anger out to something loud, or chill out in front of internet TV until you feel capable of not physically attacking them every time they talk. Just remember, you're going to have to live with this person for a year at least (unless you snap one day and they suffer an unfortunate 'accident') so you've got to find some way of dealing with them that doesn't involve you becoming a complete recluse every time they're around.

**Sarah Jackson**

## THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Homesickness... symptoms, signs and cure!

Moving away from home for the first time creates a whirlwind of emotions from feeling excited, overwhelmed, worried and most often than not homesick. Homesickness is a very normal and common feeling among students but more so to fresher's due to the whole change and need for adaptation to your environment, friends and daily routine. Furthermore you lose your whole support system and have to make yourself a new one. Even those who didn't expect to experience it, most often than not, will do. Your dog no longer comes running to greet you, your favourite home cooked meal isn't waiting on the table and that comfy bed with the electric blanket has been replaced with a tiny, rock solid one and a room the size of a closet, why wouldn't you feel homesick!

However, homesickness isn't permanent and more often than not is over come. Here are the causes, symptoms and the cures we have to beat those blues and help make university your second "home sweet home".

Are you homesick? It's typical to miss home, even them parents that usually drive you crazy; however homesickness can be a more serious and start

to affect health. Here are some common symptoms and signs of homesickness:

- » Being extremely emotional and teary
- » Feeling isolation and loneliness
- » Anxiety about being apart from everyone at home to is affecting your sleeping and eating
- » Low motivation to study or make friends
- » An anticlimax of what you thought university would be can contribute to missing home more

While homesickness is an emotionally painful experience, it does have its advantages. When trying to overcome it, personal development, growth in self esteem and independence is gained. If you do think your experiencing homesickness, here are some cures and advice that can help you overcome it:

- » Change your negative thoughts to positive ones! Try seeing where you could be in a month time and knowing the homesickness will eventually pass.
- » Accept your feelings of homesickness and realise time is one of the cures. After a while being here you will gain friends, get into a routine, become familiar with you surroundings and have built a new support system.
- » Talk! Talk! Talk! The benefits of a simple chat to someone on how your

feeling is incredible. Also if you talk to a fellow student, they will be or have most likely experienced the same.

- » Limiting your time alone can help, so try get out as much as possible and make plans. Make friends on your course, your halls or when you're out and about. Don't forget everyone is in the same boat and your friendship is probably what they want.

- » Get involved! Trent has a huge number of great stuff to get involved with, whether it's joining a sports club, committee or volunteering, all will keep you busy and get your mind off missing home.

If all does fail, time passes and you do feel unable to cope with being away from home, don't panic. Support is all around you. Nottingham Trent Student Advice Centre is a great place to start and can point you in the right direction, you can contact them by phone 0115 8486200, email [sac@su.ntu.ac.uk](mailto:sac@su.ntu.ac.uk) or call in at their new location on Goldsmith Street inside the SU Express.

## STEPS TO SURVIVING NEW SURROUNDINGS

Have you ever found that you miss things that you never used to pay any attention to back home? Just the other day, I found a brand of quick cook noodles that I thought was a novelty item; I was so excited that I had to post it to Facebook! Looking back can be fun, but here's the issue; we can't let homesickness get in the way of having a great time where we are now. So, here are some tips to help keep you from getting too nostalgic!

### Cry

If you're at Clifton Campus and you hear a wailing sound through the breeze and in the hallways of the school, it's not a ghost; it's me crying my eyes out from homesickness. You should try it! There shouldn't be any shame in it, just cry. After a night of crying and a really long sleep, the next day doesn't seem quite as depressing! You are undergoing a huge change in your life, so let it out and don't be afraid to.

### Laugh

Now, if you are still at Clifton campus, 30 minutes later, you will hear hysterical laughter. That laughter is again, me. I probably am watching a hilarious sit com or reading something particularly amusing. Laughing after crying is absolutely essential. Look up videos of a favorite comedian or watch a favored comedy or whatever suits your fancy. (Being in journalism, I love "Mock the Week" on the BBC Iplayer. It also helps in catching up on the news!) You are almost guaranteed to feel

less lonely, less homesick, and less sad once you are laughing.

### Keep Busy

As a student you're going to have a lot of work to get done, so do it. After you've cried your eyes out and listened to as many sad songs as there are on Youtube, do your homework. You have papers to write and exams to study for. That's the main reason why you're here, right?

### Make Friends

If you've studied as much as humanly and robotically possible, go out and socialize. Join a society or do sports. Surround yourself with people, lots and lots of people. Now that doesn't mean go up to every new person you see and start a random conversation. (I've done that, it doesn't work.) Ask classmates if they want to go out and do something at the end of the day. Just be friendly and social. Invite friends to go to a club and dance. If too many people aren't your cup of tea, invite friends to coffee and have a grand intellectual discussion on epistemology and all of its aspects! If you're really missing home, try meeting people from your home town or home country. Bonding over what you miss where you used to live is a great way to make new friends. Besides, they might be just as homesick as you are. (Hey, you'll make even more friends on Facebook!)

### Have an Open Mind

You're in a new place, around new people, go out and learn

something different! There's a whole world to explore, so experience everything you can while you can! Try not to be too judgmental and definitely try to stay clear of overly comparing your home to what you have at Uni. Every new place you go is different; there will be similarities and differences. Neither is good or bad or better than the other, it's just different. Just don't get too caught up complaining your favorite type of chocolate is not at Tesco.

### Don't Forget Who You Are

When I started university awhile back, I made the mistake of completely separating myself from my family and friends back at home. Don't do it. I ended up crying even more. Keep in touch with family and friends, through Facebook, Skype, or even just email. If you have extra cash, try to post them a letter or send them something interesting that they might like. Your past is part of who you are, don't forget about it.

### Get over it!

At a certain point in your head you have to tell yourself, "I can do this, I am here now, I have been planning to be here and I want to have the greatest time of my life." Print this out, or Copy and Paste the words and hang it on your mirror. Keep it in your head as a reminder of what your goals are for the coming years. You wanted to be here, so you might as well enjoy it as much as you possibly can.

**Karina Bartz**

## MISFITS SEASON 3



As a recent fan of this popular TV series, I have not had as long as some people to wait for the release of the third series. Misfits follows a group of teenage offenders, who are banded together as a result of community service. After a peculiar flash storm, they gain unexpected powers. It is this group of young offenders that fans of the series have come to both admire and relate to.

The essence of Misfits' success lies upon the fact that the characters appear normal, yet at the same time unique in their own way. For me, the back-story is similar to that in Heroes (in that many characters discover sudden powers), yet, in addition; has a British, teenage cast and can also be viewed as a comedy. The third series will see the main cast return, with a set of new abilities to boot.

For me, there are two key differences with the show that will determine the outcome of its success compared to the first two series. Firstly, will the new powers fit the character's that adopt them? Their previous abilities seemed fit for purpose, taking obvious traits and/or problems of their personality, and as a result of the storm, being resolved via the use of a newfound power. For example, Simon's urge to be invisible in social occasions or when ignored was initially addressed by his ability to go invisible, plus Curtis' desire to go back

in time to before he got caught with the drugs had driven him to stop and rewind time.

However, it can be argued that in actual fact, every main character as a person have changed, therefore it seems right that they attain new powers. For example, Lauren appears to no longer care what people think of her and Alisha no longer wants to be a sexual object for men. The option for the protagonists to buy new powers has certainly enabled the producers and writers of the show to be creative, but will it be successful? As the old saying goes, why attempt to fix something that isn't broken?

Secondly, an obvious point to bring up is the absence of Nathan – who many fans deem to be the life and soul of the show – in the third series. Robert Sheehan's character was portrayed as the funny guy of the group; at times coming out with unbelievable, quirky one-liners.

The third series, however, sees Nathan replaced by Joseph Gilgun's Rudy. Certainly for me, Nathan has been at the centre of Misfits' most memorable moments to date. Will the new character fit in with the returning cast? Furthermore, will he be able to fill some very crude, yet fantastically funny shoes in that of Nathan's?

**Dale Murray**

## REVIEW: CRAIG CAMPBELL AT THE GLEE CLUB

"Ever been to Mexico? No? Okay, ever had diarrhoea? It's like that". After a somewhat apprehensive opening 20 minutes, this was the moment Craig Campbell cracked his audience.

You'd be forgiven for never having heard of the Canadian-Scottish comic Craig Campbell, having had some limited screen time on various UK comedy shows. On meeting him though, you would struggle to forget the man.

The six-foot-something stand-up, in board shorts and hiking boots, literally bounded onto Nottingham's Glee Club stage, with a wrist full of festival bangles and a hair-beard combination last sported by the invading Saxons – he even refers to his own look as that of the 'Crazy Jesus'. It's possible that the audience spent those first 20 minutes working out if this was really it for their evening's entertainment – an impossibly vivacious tree-of-a-man telling us tales of his extensive tours around the globe. But once we shed a giggle, there was no looking back.

The core of Campbell's material is that of "A funny thing that once happened when I was in...", but rather than ploughing the same predictable furrow with each joke, a tangible warmth radiates from each and every one of Campbell's anecdotes. From his run in with an Icelandic psychopath who punctured his own lung laughing at Mr Bean, to his experience of the 'Schnell' train of Holland, every story feels genuine, and pervades a sense of Campbell's obvious passion for meeting people. And getting drunk with them.

Just as with his appearance, the performing style of Campbell is far from subtle, and there were moments when he lost his audience. An over enthusiastic impression, or an inexplicable increase in volume resulted in the crowd of 70 feeling a touch bewildered, such was the irregularity of his timing. This seemed largely resolved by the second half of his act, and it was a credit to the comic that he had more than regained the audience's favour by the close of the evening.

Whilst his two hour set contained only a smattering of tear inducing punch lines, the true skill of Campbell lies in his ability to keep his material fresh. Campbell is without doubt one of the hardest working comedians you are likely to witness. 2010 saw him support Frankie Boyle across a staggering 120 date nationwide tour, and his current road trip started way back in February 2011. Nine months on and he's finally turned up in Nottingham – having spent the whole day on the cold saddle of his motor bike driving down from Edinburgh. Every single night of October will see Craig Campbell in a different UK city, continuing in similar fashion throughout November, before rounding off his tour at the back end of December. Travelling is certainly his 'thing'.

I hope we get to hear more from Craig Campbell. He is thoroughly entertaining and a joy to behold in full swing, yet you can't help but wonder if those long days on the road result in the odd stutter on stage. See him when you can. It's not like he's shy.

**David Cornish**

## PLATFORM TALKS TO DANNII MINOGUE



Style icon Danni Minogue is a role model to women everywhere. Appearing on many best-dressed lists for Heat, Marie Claire and The Guardian amongst others, she sure is one you can take advice from when you're wondering what to wear. You can now find out all her fashion secrets as she has penned her very own style bible, titled Danni Minogue: My Style.

Attending her book launch in Birmingham, Danni dazzled us by wearing a dress from her very own label, Project D. After the photographers snapped away, I got a chance to have a chat with her. Here is what she had to say.

**Lucia: You must feel great to be able to bring out this book full of all your style tips. What is the most important piece of advice you have written in your book?**

Danni: The most important piece of advice is you must feel comfortable with how you are

dressed. No matter who you are or what you look like, if you don't feel comfortable you won't pull the look off. It's all about the comfort and that brings confidence.

**L: Which part of your book did you enjoy writing the most?**

D: In my book, I have gone right into the past of all the fashions and styles I have come across in my time. That was really fun and brought back a lot of memories seeing some of the things I used to wear when particular fashions were out. I could say some of my looks were a little embarrassing but I must of felt good in it at the time as I never wear something I don't feel comfortable in.

**L: Many people see you as a style icon. Who is your style icon?**

D: I have many people that inspire me and have mentioned them all in my book. I love Grace Kelly, Audrey Hepburn, Kate Moss,

Elizabeth Taylor. I hope to inspire people like they inspired me.

**L: I love the dress you are wearing tonight which is from your Project D label. What is next for Project D?**

D: We are hoping to expand the brand and bring out perfumes, shoes and bags as well as clothes. I am so happy with how our label has turned out and want our label to appeal to every woman. I am very excited about the future of Project D.

**L: You have attended many red carpet events and celeb parties. What is your advice to somebody if they turned up at a party and was wearing the same dress as you?**

D: I strongly believe that

everybody should have their own individual style. Even if you were wearing the same dress as somebody else, you should make it your own by styling it differently. Style is a personal thing. To make sure you don't look the same as somebody else at a party, whether or not you have the same outfit, you need to put your own twist on to the outfit, then it wouldn't look the same. I also don't think fashion should be competitive. I grow very tired of constantly having my outfit compared to others. I just wear what I feel good in and that is what I believe everybody should do.

*Danni Minogue: My Style, can be purchased in all major bookstores now.*

**Lucia Greco**

## FRESHERS GUIDE: YOUR NEW DRESS CODE

We all know that feeling. "What on earth am I going to wear tonight?!" is a question passing our lips more often than "is eating cereal with a fork from a saucepan ok?" Using the new seasons trends and some Nottingham nightlife know-how, this guide will help you answer that crucial question.

Wear This: Jewel Tones

An array of precious tones graced the catwalks of Gucci and DVF at the A/W 2011/12 shows bringing an air of sophistication and glamour to our wardrobes. Gone is the acid bright and paint box palette and in are the Emeralds, Rubies and Sapphires. Wear head-to-toe in a dress and heels or accent with a clutch or headband.

To This: The House of Coco Tang

This underground boutique cocktail bar and club is the perfect backdrop to that sophisticated jewel cocktail dress. Marked only by a red lantern above the door, this bar creates some of the tastiest cocktails in town.

The House of Coco Tang, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham.

Wear This: Fetish

It's good girl gone bad this season with sexy lace and suggestive sheer inserts pushing the seasons risqué factor up a notch. Hot off the catwalks of Louis Vuitton and Marc Jacobs, steamy style is achievable in LLR's (little lace dresses) paired with your highest heels.

To this: Gatecrasher

One of the biggest nightclubs in Nottingham spread over 4 floors, Gatecrasher is the club of choice if you want to dance all night. Set in an old

theatre, it has been given a 21st century edge and is the place to be if you really want to let loose.

Ultra Gatecrasher Nottingham, Queen Street, Nottingham.

Wear This: Prints

This trend is fun and colourful. Polka-dots, stars and animals are the prints of choice this season, the kookier the better. It's a trend for everyone, found on everything from blouses and playsuits to shoes and socks.

To This: The Bodega Social Club

A bar renowned for its offering of live music and club events, The Bodega is the perfect place to show off your new cat printed playsuit. This is a bar all about relaxing with friends, so where better to exhibit your individual style.

The Bodega Social Club, Pelham Street, Nottingham.

Wear This: Your Best Smurf Outfit

Or an entirely neon combo. Or that bear onesie you got from your Gran for Christmas. And if you're not feeling up to fancy dress, any of the trends from this season!

To This: Climax@Ocean

The only place for Trent students to be on a Saturday night, and with a new setting, Climax is the only place where men wearing mankini's in the norm. This night is fun and often hilarious, whether your strutting your stuff in a gorgeous dress and heels or donning your best chicken suit!

Ocean, Greyfriar Gate, Nottingham.

**Fran Morris**

## A GUIDE TO SURVIVING A FASHION COURSE AT NTU

One year ago, I began my first year on the Fashion Communication and Promotion course here at Trent. I wasn't quite sure what to expect or what was expected of me. Like many of you, I had just finished my A Levels; so making the transition to a course that relied more on my own creativity was a little daunting.

Those of you reading this who have just completed Art Foundation years or college courses that focus on Fashion Communication, Fashion Design or Fashion Marketing; are probably also curious as to what exactly is expected of you throughout your first year of study.

Well, Fashion Fresher's, you're in luck. This article is your guide to surviving a Fashion course at Nottingham Trent: a guide that provides helpful hints and reassuring advice to keep in mind when you find yourselves stressing out before a deadline, or confused about a project that's been set.

Fashion, I'm sure, is an interest, love passion (insert appropriate word here) for all of you. I'm also sure that many of you purchase magazines such as Vogue, Elle, Wonderland, i-D, POP, Dazed and Confused etc. to keep yourselves up to date on the goings on of within the fashion industry. However, now that you're studying Fashion full time, it's even more important that you keep your knowledge of the latest trends, innovations and general news from the fashion industry. And if you haven't heard of the last few, don't worry, neither had I- and you're not expected to know every publication. This is where the lectures are useful. They'll provide you with all this information, and introduce you to new publications and sites where you can source inspiration and innovation. It's then up to you as to how you use the information given to you.

That's another thing about the Fashion courses here at Trent. Be prepared to put in the hours and work for independent

study. This brings me to my next piece of advice; use your time wisely. Yes, it sounds obvious; but it could be one of the most useful pieces of advice you may receive. They'll be times you'll need to print your work out, and it may take more time than you think. So remember this: set yourself individual deadlines. A deadline to finish your work and another to print it. You'll find yourself less stressed if you adopt this work ethic.

And lastly, here's something I wish someone had told me about before I started at Trent. You'll be expected to attend lectures and seminars one day a week on a subject called, "Design and Visual Culture". Much of what you'll be asked to do will require you to collect images to use as evidence to explain the point you are trying to make. I will pre-warn you that it is a large possibility that you may find yourself confused about what is asked of you. DON'T PANIC! I'm 99.9% positive that everyone else around you will be just as confused as you are. The best piece of advice I can give you is: don't be afraid to ask questions. E-mail or go to your DVC tutor and get them to explain the project in more detail. If there's a group of you that feel the same way, go together. It's always reassuring when your course mates find themselves in the same confused state.

I hope this guide has been of some use to you, and made some things clearer. All that's left to say is... Good luck Fashion First Years!

**Brogan Lipman**

## GTA V ANNOUNCED!

Yes! The rumours were true! Rockstar have FINALLY come clean about the release of the highly anticipated Grand Theft Auto V. We all knew it was going to happen, but the question was when...and they still haven't promised a release date, but with a teaser trailer in the works, due for 2nd November, one can only imagine that it will be a late 2012 release (maybe later).

Following a speculated two year development, the playable consoles for GTA V is still yet to be revealed, so are they waiting for brand spanking new systems? The news of the trailer was all that was revealed, and yet it still

feels like a gold-rush! A new GTA is coming! One can only imagine how many copies it will ship following a drought of joy-riding and shooting random people in the street because they looked disapprovingly at your pimp outfit.

And yet there are so many questions left unanswered...where will the story take place, who's the main character, will it be set in the future and can players still shoot pigeons for fun!? All we can do is speculate, but it's sure to be a hit.

What would you like to see in the new GTA?



## REVIEW: GEARS OF WAR 3

It's not over, until it's over...

**Format:** Xbox 360 **Dev:** Epic Games  
**Pub:** Microsoft Studios  
**Out:** 20/09/11  
**Players:** Up to 4 co-op, online multiplayer 2-10

You thought you'd seen the last of the locusts, and your home planet was safe...think again! The third instalment to complete the trilogy introduces a new breed of enemy named the 'Lambent'. A more twisted and blood hungry foe than the last. These are a mutated strain of the locusts and are a welcome change in fire fights, not that it matters as you'll happily tear them apart with your Lancer and its synonymous chainsaw, which has become somewhat of a trademark of the Gears series.

The story follows Markus Fenix once more and his loyal cohort of pepped up, steroid infused COG marines as they attempt to reach Markus' father who is still alive behind enemy lines, after being feared dead. This is a well crafted plot which enables players to relate more to the jock like characters, giving the story a more immersive environment for players to get their teeth into. This is then dressed in outstanding graphics and the accompanying sound effects are effective in blending with this environment, creating a thrilling atmosphere which suits the on-off pace of the game.

The campaign is everything you expect from Gears, as the Unreal Engine once again, delivers the goods. However it leaves you thinking, there's nothing actually groundbreaking about this instalment. Yes, they've included a new enemy, weapons and modes, and you may notice a few things here and there but dare I say it, the novelty of Gears may be wearing off, just as it comes to the end of its trilogy...coincidence? One feature which follows this rule is the ability to pin point foes and command your allies to target their fire on a particular enemy. As you can imagine, this changes the whole dynamic of battle situations and begs for greater tactile perseverance. The campaign can be fought solo or by 4 player co-op, and either way the game offers the chance to take control of a

variety of characters.

Fan favourite Horde returns with a more polished experience. For newbie's this is a cooperative based game where players face increasingly stronger enemies as game rounds increase. Players can ease the pressure by fortifying their command post, achieved by killing enemies to gain money to purchase barricades, decoys, automatic and manual turrets, and the Silverback mechanical suit, which is comes in handy for the later waves, or if you get the urge to go on a rampage. The new Beast mode effectively allows players to reverse these roles and defend as Locusts, from relentless waves of COG marines.

The highly praised multiplayer doesn't disappoint with two teams of five pitting against each other to be victorious in one of its enthralling modes, whether it be team death-match, warzone, and execution, capture the leader, king of the hill and the more astute wingman mode, where players must work together in teams of 2. Across the various game modes you are given the opportunity to gain XP which can then be traded to unlock player skins and weapons on the multiplayer domain, which gives an incentive to bring your 'A game'.

Gears of War 3 topped the all format chart on its opening week, and it's easy to see why, beating the likes of Formula one 2011. I'm somewhat relieved this completes the trilogy, (hear me out), as the Unreal Engine feels as though its running out of steam, as we've seen its offering before in the previous two games. Having said that, this is a true adrenaline ride with enough 'shoot em up' action to last players a whole year, and that's before any downloadable content! And I have a sneaky feeling we haven't seen the last of the Unreal Engine.

**Aaron Stevens**

## REVIEW: A NEAR MISS FOR PES 2012

Despite not having particularly high expectations, Pro Evolution Soccer 2012 managed to let me down. It's not that it's a bad game, because it's not. It's just that it doesn't live up to its potential. The PES games have always been all about the football. There were no flashy menus, no amazing graphics. There weren't even many licensed teams. What it did have was great gameplay. It was all about the beautiful game. To a point, that is still the case. It does still seem to be about the football rather than the flash. Unfortunately, this time round the football isn't that great, a fatal problem for a game all about the football.

There are a lot of little things that are really irritating about the game. For one thing, it forces you into a longwinded and over the top character creation before you can do anything. By the time you get around to actually playing some football you're already bored. Simple menus let you quickly get into the game, but that's just about the only slick thing in the game. The gameplay is slow, the passes are glitchy, shooting is erratic at best and infuriating at worst, and the dribbling is plain irritating. Most of all though, the game just feels sloppy. Passes go through players or are completely improbable, if not impossible. A shot at half power will fly over the bar on one occasion and trickle into the goalies hands on another. A player with no-one in front of him while sprinting will randomly stop, or turn.

The game is also so slow that after a couple of games you're yawning. The AI is also glitchy, often having strange opinions on who you should be controlling, and will take control of a player you are controlling on occasion. Winning the ball in the air is also strange with no set rules about who wins the ball. It's often the CPU. Konami have obviously spent some big money on animation. It's vastly improved compared to previous PES games, though a little underused. Often you won't see a substitution taking place, or the referee handing out a card and when you do, it's

just a reminder of what you're missing. They also employ animations in their "Dream Team (manager mode)" and "Become a Legend" modes, though there is no voice acting.

It's not all bad though. The commentators are excellent and realistic, and aren't half the annoyance that the FIFA commentators are. The "Become a Legend" mode is interesting too. It follows the path of a single player - controlled by the player - from being signed as a 17-year-old till his retirement, which can take place from the age of 27. The abilities of the character change as he grows older and according what actions he does. The only problem is that your character does spend a lot of time on the bench, especially early in your career,

which leaves you watching the match without having any part in it - a particularly frustrating experience. Overall though, it's quite interesting to watch a players career develop with you at the helm.

PES also have the rights from the UEFA League, which is included in the game, and several of the international domestic competitions, which means that playing as an overseas club is a far more rewarding experience than playing as the imitation English clubs. The game does have an online multiplayer and

a multiplayer mode, which is the same as the single player modes.

Overall, PES 2012 is a frustrating and disappointing experience. It's not a bad game. It's just that if I was going to spend 40 quid on a football game, I wouldn't be buying this one. It's not worth it.

**Keegan Spindler**



## NTU MEN'S 4THS 13-0 HARPER ADAMS 2NDS

A flawless display from NTU 4ths saw them romp to a hugely one-sided victory over Harper Adams 2nds.

Hat-tricks from central defender Chris Hibbert, and substitutes Jamie Cross and Josh Tewely helped NTU cruise to a thumping win in their first league game of the season.

The home side dominated from the off and never looked back once taking the lead in the fifteenth minute – courtesy of commanding centre-half Chris Hibbert's towering header from a Chris Ketford in-swinging corner.

Harper Adams dug in for the next 20 minutes despite Bongo Mlumbo and Ketford being constant threats on the wings – Mlumbo nearly doubled the score when played in one on one with the Harper Adams keeper, only for the away side's stopper to smother at his feet.

Again it came through the unlikely source of Hibbert that NTU did give themselves some breathing space – this time volleying home from another Ketford corner for 2-0.

Two further goals before half time effectively killed the game as a contest. Firstly midfielder

Ross Earle finished after being set up by attacking right-back Pete Tubbs, and then a brilliantly struck free-kick from Ketford which went in off the post made it 4-0 at the break.

The second period saw Harper Adams tire further and allow more space for the relentless attacks of the home side who added another nine goals.

Firstly Ketford set up Hibbert for the third time from a corner to allow him to complete a surprise hat-trick, before two substitutes stole the limelight.

Brought on at half time, Jamie Cross got an assist when he set up Earle's second, before skilfully dinking over the keeper to get his name on the score-sheet for the first time.

Then two goals in as many minutes from fellow sub Josh Tewely, showing fine first touch and finishing ability, made the score 9-0 with still over 15 minutes to go.

Two minutes later NTU had reached double-figures when Cross tapped in a Ketford centre. Tewely then completed a ten minute hat-trick when he expertly converted a free-kick from the edge of the box – bending the ball round the wall and into the top corner.

There was still time for Cross to join the hat-trick club with a classy first-time finish after running onto an Alfie Long through-ball, and impressive right-back Tubbs grabbed a deserved goal when he won, and duly scored a penalty.

After the game, Coach Alex Hathway was delighted with his side's performance and the way his team has bonded over the short period they have had for pre-season.

He said: "I'm more than happy with the squad, its positive in every area.

"The team has gelled really well, and after a win like this team spirit couldn't get any higher.

"We have one ambition for this season and that's promotion, we've clearly got a lot of really talented players in the squad."

NTU 4ths Team: Rory Blythe, Pete Tubbs (1), Sam Butterworth, Matt Game, Chris Hibbert (3), Andrew Millard (C) (Callum Slatter-80), Ross Earle (2), Alfie Long, Bongo Mlumbo (Josh Tewely-55), Chris Ketford (1), Alex Dixon (Jamie Cross-45)

Subs Unused: Alex Lowry, Ryan Lawless

**Simon Murfitt**

## MARCO SIMONCELLI 1987-2011

To say Motorsport is going through a tough spell is an understatement.

Just a week after the tragic passing of British star Dan Wheldon in America, the Motorsport community has been hit by the death of motorbike star Marco Simoncelli.

Simoncelli, racing in his second season in MotoGP with a factory-spec Honda, died after an accident at the Malaysian round of the MotoGP series at Sepang. On lap two, Simoncelli came off his bike and was hit by a rider behind, his race helmet coming off in the process. After being whisked off to hospital, it was announced at 4.56pm local time that Simoncelli had passed away from the injuries suffered, with the race having already been cancelled.

The feisty Italian always caught the eye with his eccentric character and hair style to match. Those in the know rated him as the next Valentino Rossi, a bright young talent set for great success in years to come. His aggressive, no nonsense style brought him many fans. It also proved successful, with Simoncelli being a former European 125cc champion and World 250cc champion, while his short MotoGP career had seen him pick up two podium finishes and two pole positions.

Simoncelli's death is the first in MotoGP since 2003, but the third devastating death in bike racing in the last fifteen months. Shoya Tomizawa, a gifted Japanese racer, died in a similar crash in Moto2 last year, and great British talent Ben Gautrey passed away after an incident at Lincolnshire circuit Cadwell Park earlier this year.

Simoncelli will be remembered for his entertaining style and loveable personality. Our thoughts are with his family and friends at this time.

**Simon Paice**

# NTU GRADUATE MISSES OUT ON PRESTIGIOUS PORSCHE TITLE

Former Nottingham Trent University student Michael Meadows just missed out on championship glory last weekend during the final rounds of the 2011 Porsche Carrera Cup Great Britain.



Meadows headed into the final rounds of the season at Silverstone in a three way battle for the championship, against his SAS/Redline Racing team-mate James Sutton and rival Stephen Jelley.

The Porsche Carrera Cup Great Britain sees the drivers compete in identical 450bhp Porsche 911 GT3 Cup cars, with over 25 of the German machines racing on circuits across the country in support of the British Touring Car Championship.

A strong campaign, which had seen him pick up two wins and eight other podium finishes, meant Meadows held a ten point advantage in the standings prior to the meeting.

Meadows graduated from Nottingham Trent University in 2008. He started racing in single seaters around the same time, competing in Formula BMW, International Formula Masters and British Formula 3, before stepping up to the Porsche Carrera Cup in 2010 when he won the series' Scholarship scheme.

24 year old Meadows finished third in the opening Silverstone race to remain in contention, but there was heartbreak in race two when a puncture forced him to pit, dropping him to the back of the field and giving the title to his team-mate Sutton.

*Simon Paice*

  
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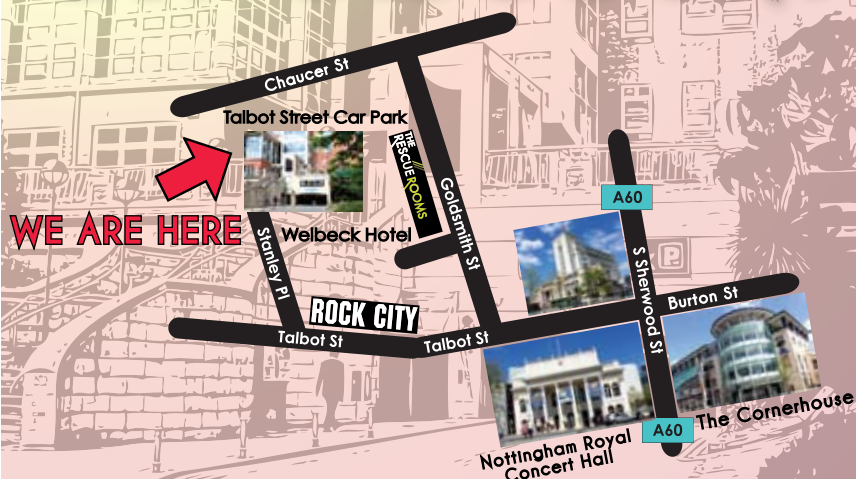
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