

# STUDENT

Edinburgh University Student Newspaper

EUCA elections scourge wets • Radical right policies from FCS

## Tory students shift right

By Alan Young

The Edinburgh University Conservative Association (EUCA) has fallen into line with other student Tory groups by electing several supporters of the Scottish Federation of Conservative Students to its leading posts, and by expressing support for loans to replace student grants.

These developments have raised concern in some quarters that EUCA might begin to follow the tactics and policies of the SFCS, which include "Hang Mandela" badges, and the maintenance of a high profile with policies such as the dismantling of the Health Service.

After its recent AGM, EUCA claim to have buried internal

differences, and to have united as an organisation. According to new Vice-President (Internal) Mike Conway, EUCA office-bearers are of the same political complexion as before, and that "there has been no marked shift to the right".

Among the SFCS sympathisers who have obtained major posts in EUCA are new chairman George Sheppard, Neil Ireland, and Conway. One concerned EUCA member told *Student* that the SFCS, and its supporters, "are to the right of Genghis Khan". According to George Sheppard, "EUCA is no longer a social club for upper-class students from England. It is now a political society for political discussion." One of the first results of this change of emphasis has been EUCA's expression of support for student loans.

The apparent change within EUCA is illustrated by the fact that former President Andrew Ryland told *Student* in November that EUCA wished to see the current system of financing students and

education "continue and improve".

A number of EUCA members, including George Sheppard, attended the SFCS Conference in Edinburgh at the weekend. There it was clear that opposition to student grants is now widespread within the Conservative student movement.

Other policies supported by the SFCS include a belief that "attempts to legislate against the practice of surrogate motherhood would be a gross denial of civil liberties".

Edinburgh graduate Madsen Pirie, president of the Adam Smith Institute, went down well, according to George Sheppard, when he suggested cuts in public expenditure of £33 billion, rather than the £2.5 billion favoured by Nigel Lawson.

Stirling MP Michael Forsyth was also warmly applauded when he argued for the abolition of measures ranging from fire regulations to rates which, he said, hindered business expansion.

George Sheppard said that EUCA had not yet been able to discuss many of the issues debated by the SFCS, but that the changes within EUCA would facilitate wider debate on issues in the future.

Reports that moderate members of EUCA are about to attempt to establish a branch of the "wet" Tory Reform Group were described by Mike Conway as absolute nonsense.

Conway and Sheppard both confirmed that EUCA would not be following the FCS's policy of flooding student elections. The FCS has put up ten candidates for each of the five sabbatical jobs in the NUS. EUCA does not want a Tory Group on the SRC, since it believes the SRC should not be political.

Conservative Party chairman Mr John Selwyn Gummer was unavailable for comment on the SFCS, but he is known to have expressed concern about Conservative students' "excesses" in the past.

## Amnesty auction rivals Sotheby's



Owen Dudley Edwards, auctioneer extraordinary, presiding over Amnesty's auction on Saturday.

by Devin Scobie.

Edinburgh University Amnesty International raised over £250 for their funds on Saturday with a lunch and an auction of items donated by famous people.

Event organiser Susan McLaren explained that the event was being held to encourage support for the Society's currently adopted case, Shaban Isufi. He is a student imprisoned by the authorities in Yugoslavia for non-violent political activities.

Catering for the lunch had been done by Amnesty members, and Owen Dudley Edwards had been invited to act as guest auctioneer for the 25 or so items on sale. Opening the auction, he stated that Amnesty's event had "nothing whatsoever to do with any

rectorial campaign", and in thanking those who had come along, continued "we all have the pleasure of enjoying ourselves today whilst doing good for humanity. The people we will help today have all been imprisoned because they dared to think of freedom."

The auction aroused a surprising amount of interest, and the star item raised 155. This was a limited edition collection of poems donated and inscribed by the author, Seamus Heaney. Politicians featured strongly, but reflected Amnesty's non-political status in their diversity. SDP leader Dr David Owen had donated a signed copy of his book *Human Rights* which raised £8, as did a presentation signed

continued on page 2, col. 1.

## No moves so far on Hill-Samuel

by Anne McNaught

Honorary Treasurer Callum Calder appears to be faced with a dilemma as he considers which of two banking groups — Hill Samuel or National Westminster — he should recommend the Finance Committee to lodge Students' Association funds with.

The Association has an anti-apartheid policy and has been concerned in recent years with ensuring that no support of any sort is given to South Africa.

In 1982, a GM decision led to all funds being withdrawn from the Hill Samuel group, which has links with South Africa, and being transferred to the National Westminster. Last year's Honorary Treasurer, however, transferred all the money back to Hill Samuel when it became evident that the two groups' involvement in SA were virtually identical.

The issue has been reopened

this session following a question from a Finance Committee member at last November's AGM and Mr Calder has been corresponding with the two banking groups in the hope that facts might emerge to positively differentiate one bank from the other. Instead of this happening, the banks have provided very similar responses to Mr Calder's enquiries. "If the replies had been less similar, the choice would have been easier," he says, "but so far, there is really no quantifiable difference."

Both banks stress that they are not supporting apartheid by dealing with South Africa, and both are of the belief that should South Africa cease to be economically prosperous, it would be the blacks who would suffer most. In addition, they argue that they cannot bend to every political/social/economic issue worldwide and at the same time

continued on page 2, col. 1.

## Briefly...

### "Here we go" with Archie

Archie MacPherson, the sports commentator, is now ready to be nominated as a rectorial candidate and was to be seen in the Ref Bar at Pollock Halls discussing his campaign on Tuesday. Full story—p.2

### Radical education policy

GILES Radice, Labour spokesman on education, was speaking for the opposition in an education debate in Teviot Row on Tuesday evening. Also opposing the motion, "The House believes that the Government has no obligation to pay for a university education," was Alex Currie, Secretary to the University, and among the proposers was Lloyd Beat, chairman of the Scottish FCS. Full story—p.3

This week  
in

STUDENT

Boomtown for Bob



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Sharp sprinting!  
— Page 15

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### Oxford devolution show

MR George Younger, and SNP MP Gordon Wilson, met at the Oxford Union last week to debate whether Westminster should continue to govern Scotland. In front of a sparse audience, largely composed of ex-patriate Scots, Mr Wilson said, "George Younger is a man for whom I have considerable sympathy. He had had to act the part of Scotland's colonial governor." Mr Younger replied, "I think I rather prefer the idea of being a colonial governor to being General Januzelski."

# NEWS

## Archie's on the ball

The BBC Scotland sports commentator, Archie MacPherson, has confirmed that he will be accepting nomination for the post of Rector, making him the fourth candidate to join the campaign.

Although he will almost inevitably be regarded as the "joke" candidate in the grand student tradition (but he'll perhaps be taken more seriously than Roland Rat), Mr MacPherson has turned out to have better qualifications for the rectorial role than was previously suspected. *The Thing* commented last week on his lack of connection with the

city, but his supporters point out that he has at least as much contact with Edinburgh as certain other candidates.

What was not reported was Mr MacPherson's other assets. He has strong connections with the world of education, having a degree in education, and being a former head teacher. His opposition to the grant cuts is based not only in his politics (he is a socialist) but also in his concern for student welfare.

He also appears to be a rising star within the BBC. Since his broadcasting exploits during last summer's Olympics, he has become a regular feature on network television. Last week he presented *Breakfast Time's* sports section.

Jenny Dunn

## Demarco pledges flight to South Africa

Rectorial candidate Richard Demarco gave a firm pledge this week that one of his first acts if elected Rector next month would be to fly to South Africa in an attempt to secure the release of jailed African nationalist leader Nelson Mandela.

"Supposing I had to pay my own fare to go to South Africa," he said this week, "I know that I could do much more for Mandela and for Edinburgh University than Mandela could do himself, and his just and important cause. Like Mother Theresa of Calcutta, Nelson Mandela is one true symbol of heroic virtue."

In his first campaign statement,

Mr Demarco stressed the importance of Mandela's cause but said the jailed African leader could never possibly be a working Rector. "I know the students of Edinburgh University support his cause, and that is exactly why I know I would have the right to go and see him in South Africa — to tell him personally, if I could, just how much support he does have. I would see myself in a conciliatory role representing a major institution."

Mr Demarco's statement came shortly after campaign organiser James Weir stated that the formal campaign launch will take place on 21st February at Richard

Demarco's gallery in Jeffrey Street.

As stated last week in *Student*, Mr Demarco has already secured the support of some well-known Scottish celebrities for his campaign, and a telegram of support was received from Sean Connery. Mr Connery now lives in Spain, and was himself approached with a view to contesting the rectorship. He has been a personal friend of Richard Demarco for many years and it is hoped that he will be able to come over specially from Spain later this month to help his campaign.

Devin Scobie

## Banking dilemma

continued from page 1, col. 4. remain commercially viable.

Mr Calder himself draws attention to the fact that although "apartheid may be the most glaring example of exploitation, there are lots of others, and in fact I doubt whether there's any bank in the country not involved in 'muddy water' of some sort."

Before the meeting in March, informal consultation will take place between Mr Calder and the Finance Committee members to investigate whether there are any other options which might be available in placing the Association funds.

## Auction International

continued from page 1, col. 2. photograph from Labour Leader Neil Kinnock. A scarf-like silk tie was donated by former Prime Minister Edward Heath, and although it was agreed to be in dubious taste it raised £15. Dr Germaine Greer's handmade belt fetched £12, and competition was keen for five signed photographs of Scots actor Tom Conti. These raised £28 in total. But the fiercest bargaining of all was for an autographed boater from Senior President John Mannix. This eventually sold for £25 as a birthday present for a student.

Amnesty organisers said later that they were "delighted" with the success of their event, and the total which had been raised.

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## Mandela release unlikely

A South African Embassy official has said that it is unlikely that there will be any developments in the foreseeable future regarding the possible release of Nelson Mandela—whether or not he wins Edinburgh University's rectorial election.

The official told *Student* that since Mandela has declined to accept the recent offer of release from President Botha, the matter is closed for the time being.

Meanwhile, Strathclyde University is to award Mandela the honorary degree of Doctor of Law. The announcement came shortly after strong support was given by Strathclyde's SRC for Mandela's nomination for the Edinburgh University rectorship. Initial moves to give him the Strathclyde honour came from the university Students' Association, which put forward the idea to a sub-committee of the Senate. The last meeting of the Senate voted in favour of the proposal.

However, a Strathclyde University spokesman has said that no decision had been taken on when the honorary doctorate would be conferred on Mandela. Since he is still in prison in South Africa, where he has served 22 years of a life sentence imposed for sabotage, it is almost certain that the award will have to be made in his absence.

Alan Young

As the campaign to elect Nelson Mandela as Rector intensifies, Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office and MP for Edinburgh Pentlands, discussed the changes that have recently occurred in South Africa.

Speaking at the University's Conservative lunch on Tuesday, Mr Rifkind concluded: "If one is honest and objective it is evident that there have been changes and they have to be welcomed. But any welcome is in direct proportion to the changes and minimal changes result in minimal changes."

The most important development in the constitution of South Africa came last year when the "coloured" and Asian populations were allowed to be represented in Parliament. This change has been described as "cosmetic" as whites still retain all the power and blacks — who represent 80 per cent of the total population — still have no power.

Mr Rifkind agreed with these criticisms but added: "The tri-cameral system is of supreme psychological importance as a watershed has been crossed which is impossible to sever. For the first time since apartheid was set up in South Africa during the 1940s, coloured people have some kind of representation."

He cited other changes — the disappearance of job reservation for the white which the development of the South African economy required, and also the rarity of petty apartheid.

When asked to comment on worldwide attitudes to South Africa Mr Rifkind said that



Malcolm Rifkind, with soup.

photo by Dave Yarrow

changes could only result within the country. He dismissed ideas of economic sanctions which "would have no effect unless they were 100 per cent implemented worldwide". Mr Rifkind went to defend the Conservatives' attitude to South Africa and the controversial visit of President P. W. Botha to Britain last year. "Although we disagree with apartheid in South Africa it is still important that we continue talks with her leader — we have talks with the Soviet Union although we disagree with

their society." When asked whether he felt that Mandela's nomination for the rectorship was "a futile gesture", Mr Rifkind said: "As an Edinburgh graduate I believe in the necessity of a working Rector and therefore would not support this campaign. On the other hand, Mandela is still considered to be the spokesman and leader of blacks in South Africa so his success in the rectorship campaign would be effective."

Jacqueline Brown

## MacDonald refuses to be Mandela's assessor

Margo MacDonald will not step down from the Rectorial election, despite the suggestion that she does so by the *Mandela for Rector* campaign, made in an open letter to Ms. MacDonald in last week's *Student*.

She will therefore be unable to accept the Mandela Campaign's offer that she should be their nomination for Rector's Assessor, should Mandela win the election.

Ms. MacDonald told *Student* that she does not equate Mandela's right to freedom with the rights of Edinburgh University's staff and student bodies to full representation on

the University Court and outside the University.

While the Mandela campaign believes she could best express support for Mandela and his cause by standing down and agreeing to be his assessor, Ms. MacDonald argues that support for Mandela, freedom of speech, and other human rights throughout the world "can most effectively be pursued by the Rector's chairing of the University's ruling body, the Court."

Expressing a belief that the needs of the staff and students can best be fought for by a Rector with the credibility by election, Margo

MacDonald said that over the next few years, Edinburgh University will face major problems. As the nominee of the *Campaign for a Working Rector*, she believes she is best equipped to tackle those problems.

"The Dental School and Hospital are threatened with closure, and that may only be the first area to come under attack. The Efficiency Study recently carried out at six Universities will shortly be published, and may require very strong responses from the people elected to represent staff and student interests — such as the Rector."

Alan Young

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## Education rift widens

"This House believes that the Government has an obligation to pay for a University education." So decided a somewhat empty house in the Teviot Debating Hall on Tuesday night.

Mr Lloyd Beat, Chairman of the Scottish FCS, opened the debate to hissing from the audience. He stated at the onset that the present level of state funding to Universities was too high, and that "education is not a right." He stressed, "Education is a privilege, and I support the long-term introduction of student loans. Universities must be encouraged to raise more of their own finance, to reduce government funding of Universities and to move towards gradual privatisation." Mr Beat singled out Stirling University, and Imperial College London, as likely first candidates for privatisation.

Giles Radice, MP, Labour's front-bench spokesman on Education, spoke with clarity as he denounced the motion as "a ludicrous proposal. More than ever before Britain will need a sustained supply of highly education graduates." Mr Radice proceeded to condemn the present government's entire education strategy, and he stressed how important University graduates were to the community and society as a whole.

"As a community, society, and nation we need a vigorous, dynamic and innovating University

system," Mr Radice went on, "and for something which is of benefit to the community and the nation, then it follows that the community should be part of this. We believe that every man and woman with the ability to benefit should have the chance to benefit as a right. The institutions of higher education need the security of state funding."

Mr Radice concluded by suggesting that, "as a country, we cannot afford to cut back on investment in education if we are to survive into the future as an advanced, democratic country."

Talbot Svendsen, an American Minister supported the motion with a brief speech based on his own student experience in America.

Mr Alex Currie, Secretary to the University, spoke from a non-political position in support to Mr Radice's attack on the motion. In a swift demolition of the proposition's case, he did concede that "they had made the very best of a bad job."

"We should not release ourselves from a desire to expand," he concluded. "The gradual withdrawal of state funding to Universities is idiotic and impractical. I would like to be untrammelled by government finance and dictat, but I am not sure that I want the University to be dictated to, in research and teaching, by private sponsors."

A healthy question session, which included a point from Rectorial candidate Margo MacDonald, was followed by a decisive vote against the motion.

Devin Scobie

## Watershed lecture by David Steel

The Rector, David Steel MP, outlined the Alliance's general philosophical strategy as he saw it at a public lecture last Friday.

Given that the title of the lecture, organised by Edinburgh University Extra-Mural Association and the Martha Hamilton Trust, was *Reflections on 20 Years in Parliament*, the audience may have anticipated an evening of anecdote. However, Mr Steel was in a businesslike mood and began to outline three areas of interest: the machinery of government; the economy; and the shape of British politics.

Steel said he had seen few improvements in the apparatus of government. On the credit side, MPs now have private telephones, secretaries and higher wages. Select Committee procedures are more incisive and more time is available to question Ministers. On the debit side, radio has made celebrities out of 'parliamentary pests', while the chance to decentralise government functions had been squandered by successive executives. These years, said Steel, were 'decades of lost opportunity'.

Steel said he was now looking to the future and outlined, as best he could, Liberal policy as regards the British economy. His experience of the Lib-Lab pact of 1977-78 had convinced him that incomes policies were unworkable. However, experience of monetarism had convinced him that some control of the economy was necessary. His solution was to deny the adversarial nature of the British system; he proposed 'national unity of purpose and industrial concord'. This would be achieved by profit-sharing for employees and a national economic forum of unions, employers and government. He tried to make a fine distinction between an incomes policy and an 'incomes strategy', with reference to Professors Whitesman and Meade. Yet Steel refused to be tied down by doctrine: 'Politicians,' he



Top People's paper!

photo by Dave Yarr...

said, 'should not be the slaves of economists.' Perhaps, he opined, the next 20 years would see the growth of workers' co-operatives and the inception of 'an anti-inflation tax' if the Alliance wins power.

Steel admitted that the Alliance had not broken the mould of British politics but the mould 'is cracked beyond repair'. PR will change the shape of our politics because the Labour Party was already finished while the Alliance forged ahead in the polls. It was the duty of the Alliance, according to Steel, to warn the public of the danger of 'a Tory landslide in

1985'.

Questions from the floor followed. Professor Anderson asked if the Alliance preferred a particular party as a coalition ally. Steel replied that no party was ruled out of a future coalition. Peter Wassell asked Steel to distinguish Liberal policy on devolution from Callaghan's formula in 1978. Steel plumped for a federalist approach. He refused to be drawn on matters economic, however, and his answers to questions concerning his incomes strategy were evasive.

Iain Ferguson



(right, Neil?); (2) Mr Dalgleish will miss the 21st birthday part of David "I'll handle the press" Petherick thereby avoiding all sorts of embarrassing situations. This party, hotly tipped as the social (disease) event of the year took place too late for this week's column, so check out next week's *Thing* for the juicy celebrity indiscretions.

### Tory goes to the country

Former vice-president of the Tory Club, Mark "Gosh I'm Tired" Rowley, who recently resigned due to "pressure of study", disappeared last weekend "to the country" (not Andorra, surely?) Perhaps the ever-turbid Tory Club is attempting to cover up political manoeuvrings. Did Mr Rowley really leave through his own choice? Does anyone this side of Mike Conway care? Who can say?

### Donnie goes to bed

Further to last week's feature on Donald "Surflin" (EJUSA) Pollock, rumours have reached *The Thing* of even more disgustingly vile activity by the *Student* Manager. "Slick" Pollock may be using his over-generous allowance for the "work" he does to spend a dirty 12 hours in the George Hotel with his lovely female friend Jane. How can he do this to the poor girl? This sort of thing has got to stop! It makes *The Thing* want to puke.

### Rectums go

In the absence of a "*Thing* for Rector" campaign, this column is right behind attempts to talk Roland "Vomir" Rat into running. Not to mention Robin "Skkccch" Day. Or even Teddie "I couldn't have been a contender" Taylor (currently MP for Southend East — good Scottish connection). Who cares?

## Campaign for handicapped

A campaign to improve access for disabled students at Edinburgh University was launched last week at a public meeting held by the SRC's Welfare Committee.

The committee had been approached by Nick Clark who complained about the low standard of amenities for disabled students. Mr Clark, who is himself partially sighted, started a successful and continuing campaign while at Leeds University. Now working at the King's Buildings, he wishes to implement similar improvements within Edinburgh University — including setting up a sign language course to improve communications with deaf

students and making access to all university buildings easier for disabled students.

Mr Clark described the success of such action at Leeds University and also described his own problems and sense of exclusion as a disabled person. He asserted that his proposals were fulfilling the rights of all disabled students to minimise their disadvantages. More than this, he considers it crucial that disabled students should head the campaign and decide what they need.

The importance of this stipulation was emphasised by George Montgomery, lecturer in psychology and the co-ordinator of an honours course into the

effects of deafness, who has arranged a sign language course for everybody interested which will begin later on in February.

A motion condemning Lothian Regional Council's proposal to ban sign language in all its schools has been put down for the GM and a petition is currently being circulated around the University which will be sent to the Regional Council.

Mr Montgomery expressed his shock at the possibility of such an archaic decision: "There would be no justification for this as sign language ensures that the deaf have some kind of communication."

Jacqueline Brown

### Neilly goes to Andorra

Neil "Playboy" Dalgleish has vanished from the hustle-bustle of his attractively decorated office for a "well-deserved" week's holiday in the tiny province of Andorra in the Pyrennes, supposedly to brush up on his "Franz Klammer" image. The truth is both horrific and obvious to *The Thing*: (1) Andorra has probably the cheapest alcohol in Europe



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## NEWS

# Burnett attacks Bellamy calls for more government environmental education

Dr John Burnett, the Principal, has questioned the Government's policy of reducing public expenditure indiscriminately which could possibly close Edinburgh University's Dental Hospital and School.

Dr Burnett was presenting the University's annual report to the half-yearly meeting of the General Council — which includes all Edinburgh graduates and staff — on Saturday in the Old College.

He asked whether the policy of squeezing public expenditure was "really intended to result — as it well may — in the closure of the Dental Hospital and the disbandment of a first-class Dental School in order to reduce — possibly — the basic rate of taxation by a small amount? He added that that was a possible outcome "of the indiscriminate application of a policy of reducing public expenditure regardless of specific considerations of its effect on the overall quality of life".

The Principal was referring to the closure of the Dental School by 1991 which was one of the options put forward by the University Grants Commission, Lothian Health Board and the Scottish Home and Health Department last year.

In December of last year, said Dr Burnett, the UGC sent a professional working party to examine the work of the school. It was deeply impressed by the high

academic standards achieved in teaching, research and practice, but was appalled by the inadequate clinical facilities.

It had been recognised as long ago as 1971, he said, that the school's facilities were obsolete and "it was decided to replace it. There was, and I quote, a statement made then by the Scottish Home and Health Department, 'to be no dragging of feet.'" In fact, planning site and cost were not settled until 1981. At that point a halt was called because of the uncertainty concerning whether or not too many dentists were being trained in the UK.

That had been resolved by decided that there should be a 10% cut in intake. (Dr Burnett mentioned, incidentally, that Edinburgh had taken the full 10% cut on behalf of the total Scottish intake) but then public spending cuts began to take effect.

"The UGC's capital allocation has been reduced to £15 million per annum for the whole university system", and the Principal continued, "the Lothian Health Board's resources are already over-committed to the mid-90s even to the extent that it cannot afford to open and run new completed hospital accommodation".

Dr Burnett said that we would "continue to promote in every way possible to me the priceless opportunities which a well-founded vigorous university can and ought to provide" but he also warned that the tempo of academic progress in the University was tending to be restricted by the funding available.

Robin Henry

David Bellamy was in Edinburgh on Monday to launch an education trust and to deliver a lecture at a new branch of Friends of the Earth set up for Edinburgh colleges.

Dr Bellamy gave a lecture on "Threatened Woodlands" at Stevenson College in Sighthill to inaugurate the Edinburgh Colleges Friends of the Earth, which includes all the colleges apart from Edinburgh University which already has its own Friends of the Earth group.

Earlier in the day, he spoke at a press conference in the University's Staff Club, launching the Friends of the Earth (Scotland) Environmental Education Trust and outlined the need for the Trust and some of the environmental dangers facing the world.

He said that environmental education was needed because "at the moment there are in power in local and national government and most large industrial concerns people who come through life with no training in environmental studies".

"They have gone on to run this country with one particular idea that the world is an enormous bag of resources, which you can just go on reaching into forever." But he said that it was only now being recognised that "if we go on destroying the countryside and wildlife, the world will no longer be able to support us".



Dr David Bellamy peering out of the wilderness of the Edinburgh University Staff Club. photo by Dave Yarrow.

Although Scottish schools had been pioneering in environmental education, he said that Scotland had its own environmental problems. There was evidence that much of the damage that was attributed to acid rain was actually due to the successive cropping of monoculture coniferous forests without lining the soil. This

eventually resulted in the total acidification of the soil and threatened fish in Scotland's lochs and rivers.

The aim of the educational trust is to provide balanced material on the environment for all educational establishments.

Robin Henry

## Briefly...

### Hungry for change

THE FIRST meeting of Oxfam's Hungry For Change campaign will take place in the Queen's Hall on Monday at 7.30. It is the start of a campaign to foster a public understanding of the magnitude and real causes of world hunger, and to make hunger a politically live issue. In the words of the organisers, "Hunger is a long-term problem, and is a natural horror which need not happen." Hungry For Change is an attempt to respond to this.

### For sale

A SCHOOL that owes its origins to a pioneer of education for all in Scotland has been put on the market at offers above £400,000. Dr Guthrie's in Lasswade, Edinburgh, owes its existence to the Rev. Dr Thomas Guthrie, one of the founding fathers of the Free Church of Scotland, who set up his first school for Ragged Children in Edinburgh some 25 years before the Act of Parliament on compulsory education in 1872.

### Hang 'em

A MOTION brought before the SFCS conference at the weekend by Glasgow College of Technology's Conservative students called for the reintroduction of the death penalty, the sale of the condemned to the highest bidder, who would then be free to carry out the execution, and would be permitted to sell video tapes of the macabre event. Half the proceeds would go towards charities founded to help victims or their relatives. The conference ran out of time, so the motion was not debated.

### Have a heart

A PETITION in the shape of a Valentine card bearing the names of 12,000 people opposed to the closure of Bruntsfield Hospital, Edinburgh, was handed yesterday by a delegation from the committee opposed to the closure to the Scottish Health Minister Mr John Mackay.

### Profs at Napier

The introduction of professorships for junior staff at Napier College of Commerce and Technology may well be one of the major administrative changes the college will undergo when it moves up to the status of a Central Institution in September.

Having recently received its first Reader, in Biology, and already possessing Deans of Faculty, the move would be in line with the trend towards the same infrastructure as universities. When the college is revised it will come under the financial control of the Scottish Education Department, not Lothian Regional Council who are present in control.

### More, more, more

According to the annual UCCA report, the number of both applicants and acceptances at British Universities rose in 1984. More than 77,000 candidates were accepted, an increase of 2,500 on the previous year. However this was still below the 1980 total of 84,000.

The proportion of female applicants continued to grow. Women now make up over 40 per cent of accepted candidates each year.



100 YEARS OLD AND STILL BREWING.



## STUDENT

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## The Rector we need

Three years ago David Steel sailed to victory in the last rectorial election. Despite strong campaigns on the behalf of other candidates the issue was never really in doubt; Mr Steel was a national figure and a charismatic one, and always likely to appeal to the mass of students and staff alike. His candidature was also enhanced by the fact that his campaign offered a clear conception of what he could offer Edinburgh University.

In 1985, however, the attractions of the candidates who have so far made clear their nominations are many and varied. Commitments to vigorous efforts within the University, to international issues, and to the archetypal 'personality' ticket, have already been voiced by various campaigns. All these different concepts of the rectorship must now be clearly discussed and evaluated, along with the suitability of the various nominees to carry out their aims.

Ever since the sixties protests first ushered in two consecutive student Rectors, followed quickly by a ban on such office-bearers, the office of Rector has been a murky and all too whimsically considered post. As the University's official ombudsman the Rector is one of the most important figures within this institution, yet in recent years it has perhaps lapsed into a far too ill-defined post.

What is needed now more than ever is a clear critique of what the rectorship is all about. We must ask what this University needs, and who can best meet that need. The much vaunted cry for a 'working Rector' is not enough in itself — we must ask, too, what a 'working Rector' actually entails. In the next few weeks *Student* will attempt to provide a forum for that discussion. Only when the University electorate and the candidates themselves understand the whole issue will the rectorship once again take on a defined and thus forceful meaning.

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## Silly season letters start in 'Student'

Dear Student,  
Having been a dedicated reader of your hitherto excellent and unbiased magazine, I feel I must explain my recent grievance. The problem concerns your coverage of the various candidate rectors and their respective campaigns. Essentially, you are just not giving equal time or criticism to each candidate. It seems you have decided the battle is between MacDonald and Mandela. A third power has been totally ignored: the campaign for Rodent Rector selected Roland Rat over three weeks ago. Apathy and prejudice is rampant at Edinburgh University and people are almost certain to write off Roland as a loony candidate unless we get some coverage soon to set matters straight.

Leaflets were distributed several weeks ago but were illegible due to a printing fault. Funds are low and

only a few corrected leaflets have been produced.

If anybody is interested in the Rodent Rector campaign, then come to our meetings or phone 226 4122 after 7 pm and ask for Kevin.

Yours,  
Kevin G.

Sir,  
While passing The Pear Tree one afternoon before luncheon during the recent unseasonably mild weather, I chanced to spy what I believe to be the first Swallows (studentus horrendus) of spring. That this migratory species should have returned to our shores as early as February 2nd must surely be a record.

Yours in anticipation,  
The Earl of Marchmont  
(President of the Meadows Nature Society).

## Henley-Miller gets harassed

Dear Student,

During the past few months there has been much altercation in your letters page over the moral aspects of homosexuals in general, and of the Edinburgh University Lesbian and Gay Society (Analsex Soc to the narrow-minded) in particular. Since there is such dissent among the opponents of the gay community, there seems little point in putting our case — at least until the likes of Mr Murray McLeod have decided who's side they're on.

However, I feel I must comment on Crispin Henley-Miller's epistle as printed in your issue for the week ending 9th February.

While I must admit that his comments on JMM's stance do strike a chord of sympathy, I was horrified to read such a statement of the kind of bigotry once reserved for German Jews or Christians in Rome.

I am, to say the least, surprised that someone using the title of "Doctor" — albeit in parenthesis — has the intellectual dishonesty to make statements such as "a logical intolerance of unsavoury human behaviour", and, further, to equate LAGS (or GaySoc) with an imaginary "RapeSoc".

I wonder whence comes (Dr) Henley-Miller's definition of the word "logical". Perhaps from his own inflated ego? Certainly not from any English dictionary. Try asking a logician, (Dr) Henley-Miller; unless, of course, you claim to be one.

It is, of course, more correct to substitute for "logical", "irrational", "ill-considered" or "bigoted"; certainly, it is not true

that whatever (Dr) Henley-Miller (or anyone else) may think or feel by "instinct" is a logical necessity. Similarly, the "savour" or otherwise, of behaviour is a relative thing which cannot be defined absolutely.

With regard to the "RapeSoc" reference, I would join with (Dr) Henley-Miller in condemning the very small minority of homosexuals who are wont to force their attentions on others. I would also point out that the incidence of this is actually smaller, on a population percentage basis, than the incidence of heterosexual rape.

The Edinburgh University LAGS is not in any way a "cattle-market" or sex "shop". The group provides extremely valuable support for those unfortunate people — in my experience, almost all homosexuals would rather be "straight" — who, by an accident of birth, upbringing or environment, are the brunt of unsettling, overstated, and in most cases untrue slander and bigotry of the kind seen in (Dr) Henley-Miller's letter.

What "clear and decisive" action should we be taking, (Dr) Henley-Miller? The paid-up membership of LAGS is thirty and more, and is still growing. All of the people involved are perfectly ordinary, moral, decent members of the community; except that they are physically and, more importantly, emotionally attracted to members of the same sex.

Do you intend, and do you have the right, to deny these people the basic human privilege of loving and being loved?

Yours sincerely,  
Geraint A. Wiggins.

## Amending amendments

Dear Student,

So the University Court has thrown out the SRC's constitutional amendments. This decision was clearly based on ignorance about how the SRC conducts its business. The result is that the SRC now has to go back and think again. This offers two useful possibilities.

Firstly, there is a chance to revise the new proposals. The proposals that went to the Court were a botched-together structure for the SRC: an initial good idea weighed down by accretions from vested interests. That good idea was to replace the two vice-presidents and numerous small committees with a few, high-powered committees. But since then the number of these committees has proliferated: they are now virtually identical to the

existing committees. Some reform! These committees are so numerous that they need co-ordination, at present provided by the vice-presidents. But the vice-presidents are still to be abolished. As a result we get the worst of both worlds. Since the SRC will have to be rethinking anyway, why not rethink this too?

Secondly, the constitutional amendments need to be better presented to the students. Last time there was no explanation in *Midweek*, and John Mannix specifically refused to explain them to the AGM. This time we need some public consultation before the proposals go to a General Meeting. We're all members of EUSA; and we're the ones who are going to be asked to vote on these proposals. Let's start by finding out what they are.

Yours sincerely,  
Julian Goodare

Dear Sir,

Whether or not homosexuality "is no less natural or established than murder, child-abuse or rape" it "bears the seal of approval" because homosexual acts may occur between consenting adults, with both partners willing. This is not the case with murder, child-abuse and rape, all of which necessarily imply a victim. The concept of homosexuality does not imply any such unwillingness. If (Dr) Crispin Henley-Miller cannot comprehend this basic, logical reason for a difference of attitudes towards homosexuality and his other examples of "unsavoury human behaviour" I wonder how he ever acquired his bracketed title in the first place.

Yours faithfully,  
Tanya Woolf.

## Thanks an Amnesty bunch

Dear Student,

The organisers are delighted to announce that the Amnesty auction on Saturday 9th February raised £257, plus takings on the door and some generous donations. As with any such event there is a long list of people to whom we are indebted: hopeless to try naming them all, but there are a few who particularly deserve (in large, friendly letters) our public thanks.

We can't thank enough Owen Dudley Edwards, who after his speech took on the job of auctioneer, and whose zestful sales techniques earned astonishing prices while providing constant entertainment. Anyone who wants to can hear the sagas of Germaine Greer's bet, the Mannix boaster or the Crick (as in Bernard) Kinnock correspondence, immortalised on tape. Thanks also to the dedicated buyers, who parted with large amounts of money to reach that final figure, and bought, in some cases, rather more than they intended!

All those who turned up to help with dishes and donkey-work have our gratitude, but principal thanks go to Lorraine, Babs and Susan, who wrote the original letters to our donors, provided edibles — including the famous Blue Cake — and pairs of hands on the day itself. Thank you to Mike, the chief pizza-chef, who sacrificed five hours of his time and two parties to produce delicious and much commented-upon results. And, of course, an enormous thank you to the people whose generosity with their possessions made the auction possible in the first place.

Human Rights need make no apology for thus obtruding upon our lives. We are conscious that, no matter how large our sacrifices, they are always dwarfed by those of Prisoners of Conscience, imprisoned either by choice or by force, these people defend by their very existence the principles of human rights in the USSR, in South Africa, in Chile — throughout the world. It is for them that the money raised will be spent, gaining, at most, as Seamus Heaney wrote to us, "a mouthful of breath".

With this in mind, thanks to everyone who fought for human rights in the Chaplaincy Centre on Saturday, 9th February 1985.

Yours faithfully,  
Janet Forbes  
(for EU Amnesty International).

*Student* regrets that occasionally some letters have to be slightly edited, solely for reasons of space. We will endeavour to keep such editing to a minimum.



## ARTS

## Film

## Chasing through an LA hinterland

## Repo Man

Dir. Alex Cox  
Filmhouse, until 20th Feb

A repo man is someone who works for a finance company repossessing cars when assorted schmucks are along with their payments. These fine gentlemen come in for a plateful of hassle, with the occasional side order of violence, when the said schmucks are often understandably unenthusiastic about the idea. The two pillars of the community in question here, the veteran Bud (Harry Dean Stanton) and greenhorn Otto, an LA punk (Emilio Estevez), are dealt a particularly generous helping of aggravation when the '64 Chevy Malibu on their wanted list draws the attention of flying saucer cultists, the unscrupulous Rodriguez brothers (vicious car thieves) and assorted CIA agents. As the action trundles along, all parties become involved in a

frenzied chase through the underbelly of the city to a searing finale when the mysterious contents of the Malibu's trunk are revealed.

**Repo Man** is the debut feature of Liverpudlian expatriate Alex Cox. Shot on a low budget by Wim Wender's regular cameraman Robby Muller for ex-Monkee producer Mike Nesmith (the one with the little woolly hat), it has already attracted a large cult following Stateside and could well do the same over here, with its enjoyable combination of mad scientist sci-fi, sly offbeat humour, and hardcore soundtrack.

The most striking thing about **Repo Man** is the way in which all the seemingly improvised scenes and characters somehow actually manage to fit together. The movie seems to be going off in a myriad of different directions — satire on modern urban living, typical violent teenpic, or even sci-fi mystery (just what is in the boot of the car?) — yet all is resolved in a bravura, original, all-inclusive climax. For the most part, though,

the pleasure in **Repo Man** is to be found in a flood of the most weirdly engaging group of strange characters to hit the screen in ages — Miller, the acid-victim philosopher ("You'll be thinking about a plate of shrimp and suddenly someone'll say 'plate' or 'shrimp' or 'plate of shrimp'... it's all part of the cosmic unconscious"); the two punks who want to get married and have children; the lobotomized driver of the mysterious Malibu; or Otto's pot-smoking parents.

On top of this, Cox spreads elements of satire (the various cans labelled beer, drink or food, money-grabbing television evangelism), infused with a number of movie references — the Pandora's box trunk and reversed credits from Aldrich's *Kiss Me Deadly*, the tried-up river bed chase from Boorman's *Point Blank*, and the boiling coffee in the face from Lang's *The Big Heat*. Mention too should be made of the excellent hardcore score — listen out for Pablo Picasso by The



Whaddaya mean stick 'em up! Burning Sensations, and the Iggy Pop title theme.

**Repo Man** is an unexpected little gem of a movie. Emilio Estevez (son of Martin Sheen) looks suitably dewy-eyed throughout. Harry Dean Stanton (son of God) turns in yet another typical, gloriously bleary performance,

and director Alex Cox wraps it all up with great assurance. "Everything is intense for the repo man," Harry Dean tells wet-behind-the-ears Emilio on their first day together — he's right. **Repo Man** is one intense movie.

Trevor Johnston

## Paul's wings are clipped



Paul hears of box office takings.

## Give My Regards To Broad Street

Dir. Peter Webb  
Odeon, from 15th Feb

At my girlfriend's school (Graham High, Falkirk) anybody who ended their creative writing compositions with "and then I woke up" was liable to be subject to a severe dose of verbal mauling, and if they were unlucky, a clip round the ear. Things were

obviously different at Liverpool Institute, because at the end of **Give My Regards to Broad Street** the incredible magical surprise, the real sting in the tale, was the Paul McCartney dreamt the whole thing.

More of a nightmare than a dream really; scientists have just discovered that the cause of the earthquake which hit Britain just after Christmas was the sound of falling box office sales for the ex-Beatle's home movie. Speaking of the MopTop days reminds me that

in 1967 the world was swept by rumour that McCartney was dead; this film offers absolute proof that in acting terms at least, the rumour was correct.

And as for the screenplay... well, need one say more than that this Scouse megalomaniac actually chucked out scripts by Willy Russell and Tom Stoppard before deciding to write one himself. Rosencrantz and Linda this ain't. Obviously Paul taxed all of his creative powers to come up for the plot to this one: Paul plays himself (so badly), Linda must wonder if she's living with a schizophrenic, Ringo plays himself, George Martin plays himself and Linda plays — guess who? — you got it. Paul records an LP; somebody steals the tapes; eventually they get the tapes back (I hope that didn't spoil the ending for anybody) just in time to stop the record company being swallowed up by a multinational company of dubious origins and even more dubious sunglasses.

As for the music. Well, it's almost worth the admission while Paul sings *Yesterday* along with an acoustic guitar and a horn section, and for a moment the song means something other than just another Pebble Mill at One standard. But the rest are plain awful, particularly the production number for *Ballroom Dancing*, where the only spot of excitement is watching Pat from "Brookside" dance with Sharon Gaskell from "Coronation Street"; and the embarrassing sci-fi set for *Silly Love Songs*. I think the sight of Linda looking like an extra from *Dune* will haunt me for the rest of my life.

Maybe McCartney was brave to try something like this. The fact is that he failed. Mind you, it could get worse. He's thinking of taking up painting next!

The Executioner

tightly constructed, brilliantly acted filmed play. All the action takes place in one barrack room where four young soldiers waiting to go to Vietnam, and of varying background, colour and sexual preference, reminisce about the past, debate the present, and come to some shattering revelations.

**Streamers** can now be seen as part of a trilogy, along with *Five and Dime* and the just-released *Secret Honour* (a monologue), which explores cinema not as representation of but a progression from theatre. Altman

said of *Five and Dime* that he wanted to capture the subtleties of performance an audience would miss, and it is much the same with *Streamers* where the unrelentingly close examination of the characters as his camera prowls intricately round the one set makes for an overwhelmingly intense experience.

One of the most consistently interesting directors around Altman always seems to be trying to extend himself. *Streamers* is a demanding film, but it is another chance to see a master at work.

Trevor Johnston



## Third Cinema

Despite recurrent problems with publicity **Third Cinema** — Edinburgh's only regular outlet for independent and workshop's production — is now entering its third year in a relatively healthy condition. Happily the financial problems which have long threatened its existence have been eased somewhat by a grant from Edinburgh District Council.

Without a further sizeable increase in grant support the development of production facilities remains unlikely, but the group is to continue with its successful screening and discussion programme. Forthcoming events include a look at recent British avant-garde production — featuring the best from the 1984 Bracknell independent's festival) on Feb. 20, and an appearance by an Arts-Council film-maker on tour (tentatively) Derek 'Jubilee Jarman on March 20.

In the longer term after Easter

the group will be running a series of 6 night classes at the WEA, examining the much neglected history of the British independent film movement from John Grierson to the Workshop's Declaration.

If you're fed up with the monotony of the mainstream and art-house cinema there is an alternative. Britain is the scene of a lively democratic film movement which incorporates avant-garde, agit-prop feminist, community and workers' cinema. Sadly, with the exception of Channel 4's occasional screenings such cinema is largely hidden from wider audiences. Third Cinema's screenings and wide-ranging discussions thus represent an unusual opportunity to catch up with the independent and workshops' sector and participate in the debates which surrounds its work.

(All events are held at 7.30 pm at Theatre Workshop. For further details contact Bill Williamson Tel: 556 8600).

Bill Williamson

## Beautiful Streamers

## Streamers

Dir. Robert Altman  
Filmhouse, 18th-21st Feb

Following on from his earlier *Come Back To The Five And Dime* Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean, Robert Altman's **Streamers** is another



## Joe Cool

**JOE COOL**  
129a ROSE ST. EDINBURGH  
031 226 5857  
**STOLEN JEWELLERY**  
3 GREYFRIARS PL. EDINBURGH  
031 225 4881



# THÉÂTRE

## The Merry Mac Funshow

Bedlam  
Thurs 7th And Sat 9th Feb

Quite simply one of the best shows to have struggled out of the Bedlam this year, the *Merry Mac Funshow* on Thursday and Saturday last week was a treat and atonic, potent enough to banish the chills of winter. Organic talent in tartan trows — and cheap at the price.

Duncan Maclean, John Mackay, and Jeremy Benstock have put together a show that is sharp, smooth, acid and very funny, amongst an impressive range of mainly tartan targets there is very little weak material, although as this is going to SSDF I question the appeal of the sob piece devoted to a small ex-sabbatical who should do his own PR work. But the good bits are very good indeed — as Scottish Cheddar, the *Sunday Post* and the three perfect ministers revealed so clearly, the Scots can condemn themselves best when they're allowed simply to speak for themselves.

Their timing is excellent, their talent, it seemed, hardly ever stretched by the show's range and pace. I loved it. What more can I say? If you've missed them three times now, it's well worth a trip to St Andrews next week specially to see them.

Fay Mowse

## Thumbs Up to the Merry Mac Funshow!



# Böök

## The Dear Green Place

Douglas Gifford

The *Third Eye Centre*, an arts centre in Glasgow, has introduced a new essay/pamphlet series, the first of which is "The Dear Green Place? The Novel in the West of Scotland" by Douglas Gifford, senior lecturer in English Studies at Strathclyde University.

The first pamphlet is a good and bad work at the same time. Gifford is observant, realistic and handles the area he covers very well; but there are patches in it which soil the overall coherence.

He explores the whole metaphor of certain novels sensibly but then comes up with the phrase "... this sense of the life blood of Glasgow flowing in the river of reality and in the flow of memory and tradition in men's minds". These sort of phrases tend to pop up now and then and while sounding nice to the ear, convey only the sense of jumbled-together words; which is exactly what they are.

Simplicity would have helped. He also tends to generalise too much, taking what many be true for the majority of novels to be true for absolutely every novel.

These are relatively minor points however, and are more irritating than misleading. Overall he is penetrating, taking the reader through the development of the novel in the West of Scotland and exploding the myth of a dear, green place on the way. This idea appeared in a few early novels but in reality the green place is grey and limits the writer emerging from it. The Scottish writer was isolated, and so common was this that the isolated tradition created a paradox of a tradition of no tradition.

Gifford sees any new hope coming through Alasdair Gray's *Lanark*. Although unable to fully resolve the ambiguities of this perplexing novel, Gifford sees Gray as perhaps the first of a new line of Scottish writers, able to break from their stifling environment. It remains to be seen if this will come to pass.

Keith Dinnie

Martin McHugh

## Viva! Nicaragua

### November in Nicaragua

Theatre Workshop  
Until 28th February

Nicaragua is a country increasingly in the news and in Edinburgh there is a growing awareness of the country's plight in the face of efforts by US-funded guerrillas (the 'Contras') to destabilise its democratically elected government. Edinburgh photographer Robin MacPherson's current exhibition at the Theatre Workshop is a pertinent and revealing contribution to keeping this in people's minds.

*November in Nicaragua* is a collection of black and white and colour photographs depicting ordinary life in this small and very poor country. The result of a two-week tour last November at the time of the country's first free elections for years. The pictures tell of the Nicaraguan people's determination to rebuild their shattered, war-torn country: they show both the young and old striving to maintain their livelihoods, such as coffee production and tobacco manufacture, while the CIA conducts its 'secret war' against the evasive spectre of Communism.

This war has touched every part of Nicaraguan life — hardly anyone hasn't lost a relative or friend. One of the pictures shows the monument at Ocotol, commemorating over 7,000 people who have been killed by the 'Contras'. Others show some of the positive achievements of the revolution, such as the Literary Crusade of 1980, which reduced

## Exhibs



Two faces of Nicaragua — one welcoming, one ready to defend its territory.

illiteracy dramatically in just one year.

Robin MacPherson's black and white photographs are evocative, often stark images of a struggling but defiant people. In addition, his colour prints show rarely seen views of Nicaragua, like the beautiful scenery of lakes, volcanoes and Pacific beaches that form a vast untapped tourist potential.

The exhibition is unfortunately positioned on the walls of the cafe, with tables and chairs as obstacles in places, and the photographs are mounted rather close together. But despite this Robin MacPherson's work is yet more first-hand evidence that the real Nicaragua is a very different country from that seen from the White House.

Alastair Dalton

• This exhibition is available for use by groups and meetings, from March. For details, contact Robin MacPherson at the 1st of May Bookshop on 225 2612.

## 20-Year Intellectual Bonanza

### Saint-Germain-des-Près

Paul Webster and Nicholas Powell  
Constable, 1984

Jean Paul Sartre, Albert Camus, Boris Vian, Francois Mitterand, Brigitte Bardot — these are just a handful of the cultural and political figures who contributed to the 20-year intellectual bonanza that was Saint-Germain-des-Près. In this 250-page book two Paris-based British journalists attempt to look beyond the legends surrounding the area, going back to the early 1940s when the cultural centre of Paris shifted from Montparnasse to Saint-Germain.



It must be taken into account that this book is the historical account of a quartier in Paris, and not an intellectual discussion of the views held by its illustrious inhabitants.

The philosopher, writer and political activist Jean-Paul Sartre is perhaps the most famous and most controversial figure of the Saint-Germain era. Bitterly resented and criticised by the French bourgeoisie for the moral liberation he brought about in middle-class youth by his atheistic Existentialism, he also faced physical danger when extreme right-wingers tried to murder him with a bomb during the crisis period of the Algerian War. Webster and Powell regard Sartre as the father figure of the Saint-Germain generation and treat him quite deferentially.

The same cannot be said of Louis Aragon. This major novelist and poet emerges as a sad, pathetic figure who sold his soul to the Communist Party, concealing his inside knowledge of Stalinist crimes from his contemporaries.

If one criticism could be made of the book's treatment of Sartre and Camus, it is that Camus's role is somewhat underplayed. The members of Sartre's entourage are named, and anecdotes given about them, but nothing is said about the people who surrounded Camus. "Political commitment and hedonistic detachment", such was the spirit of Saint-Germain in its golden period from 1940 to 1962. This theme illustrated with descriptions of the "scandalous" lifestyles of Juliette Greco and Catherine Sauvage, who broke all the old middle-class moral strictures by demanding sexual freedom. They lived the life advocated by Simone de Beauvoir in *Le Deuxieme Sexe* and paved the way for Brigitte Bardot's film career. There are also bizarre tales about *Le Tabou*, a Saint-Germain nightclub run by Greco and Sauvage where in order to be allowed in you had to prove that you were "interesting". It is worth buying the book just to see what Jacques Loustalot did to prove that he was "interesting".

As a historical document, *Saint-Germain, des-Près* is very comprehensive, tying together the authors, playwrights, singers, actors and film directors in a very concise fashion. What is lacking is a broad, objective look at the whole scene, which would beg the question: does the intellectual have a role in society? Overall, though, the book does capture the excitement, naivety and vitality of the period, and is destined to become essential reading for anyone interested in post-war France.

## Painter in Progress

Over the next few weeks, the artist *Alisdair MacCleod* will be working on a giant mural in the Traverse restaurant commissioned by the Traverse to coincide with the launch of the new-style catering. 12 ft. x 8 ft., the mural is a surreal interpretation of a classical landscape with featured personalities in the surroundings which will change with the changings of fashion.

## Coward at the Citizen

The Citizens company's spring 1985 season continues with a production of Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* which the playwright called an "improbable farce". This production promises to be an interesting continuation of the Citizens company's exploration of Coward's work which so far includes *Semi-Monde*, *Sirocco* and *Private Lives*. The production runs from Friday 8th February 5 Saturday 2nd March at 7.30 pm.

## Visions of Perfection

*Architecture and Utopia* is the title of the coming exhibition at the Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. The exhibition explores by means of photographs, models, drawings, books and original documents, the utopian and visionary building and city projects from the Middle Ages to 1984. The exhibition runs from 9th Feb.-8th March, but there is also a Symposium on Sat. 16th Feb. 1985. Booking Information can be obtained from the Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. (Tel: 041-332 7521). Closing date is 9th February.

## ÄRTNÈWS

### Programme change

*Station House Opera* will now be presenting *Sex and Death* at Theatre Workshop on Friday 16th February at 8 pm and *not Ultra-mundane* as previously advertised. *Sex and Death* is a madman's bedroom farce which involves the furniture as well as the performers in a game questioning the relationship between people quite different to those which the target of traditional farce.

Described as "remarkable... extremely funny... highly original" (*Time Out*) — what more could you ask for?



## Edinburgh Quartet on TV

The Edinburgh Quartet were the subject of the arts programme on STV on Monday (11th Feb) at 11.25 pm.

There will also be seven programmes by the Quartet on each of the evenings of the Holy Week on BBC 1.

# FILMS



The cast, upon reading the script.

## ODEON (667 7331)

### Ghostbusters

2.00, 5.00, 8.00  
The San Andreas Fault comes to New York in this brilliant study of American Road Works. Includes, at no extra cost, tips on coping with a 500-ton marshmallow on a one-way street.

### Water

2.15, 5.30, 8.15  
Wet yourself laughing at rather than with this sodden tale of life in a Caribbean septic tank. The British Government's usual indecision provides the basis for a squabble on a remote Caribbean island. Can it be pure coincidence that Leonard "Rising Damp" Rossiter stars in this dripping tale?

### Give My Regards To Broad Street

2.30, 5.30, 8.10  
Don't do it! — Ring Nightline instead! It can't be all that bad... can it? An Oscar-winning performance from Ringo Starr completes the thrills-and-spills atmosphere of this, uh, "outstanding" piece of celluloid(!).

## DOMINION (447 2660)

### Ghostbusters

2.20, 5.20, 8.20  
Set in the picturesque surroundings of Pollock Halls, this film documents the moving story of a Bedbug's struggle for survival under the threat of Rentokil.

### Reuben, Reuben

1.50, 4.50, 7.50  
Tom Conti jumps from one bed to the next in this film of dental triumph. So tiresome you'll wish for one of the beds for yourself.

# FILMHOUSE

PATRON: BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY 88 LOTHIAN ROAD

**Cinema 1**  
Until Wed 20 6.15/8.30 (Also 4.00 pm Sat 16, Not 6.15 Sun 17)  
Harry Dean Stanton and Emilio Estevez in  
**REPO MAN (18)**  
"Entertains from start to finish — ambitious, original and funny" — Time Out.

**Cinema 2**  
Thur 14-Sun 17 5.45/8.15 (Also 2.30 Sat 16)  
The FANNY AND ALEXANDER OF 1985!  
**THE SWING (PG)**  
An energetic, playful treatment for this movie tracing the changing fortunes of a French-German family in 19th-century Munich.

**Cinema 2**  
Mon 18-Thur 21 6.00 pm (also 8.15 Mon 18 and Thur 21)  
Robert Altman's award-winning  
**STREAMERS (18)**  
Four boys from very different backgrounds are thrown together while waiting to be sent to Vietnam.

**Cinema 1**  
From Thur 21 6.15/8.30 (Also 3.00 pm Wed 20)  
Eric Rohmer's elegant and incisive comedy of manners  
**FULL MOON IN PARIS (15)**  
Starring Pascale Ogier, who won Best Actress Award, Venice 1984 for her performance.

Coming soon:  
**CARRY GREENHAM HOME**, guest lectures from Dave Pirie (RAINY DAY WOMEN), David Hare (WETHERBY) and David Robinson (film critic of The Times and author of the first authorised biography of Charlie Chaplin), **METROPOLIS**, with Giorgio Moroder's rock soundtrack.

**BOX OFFICE INFORMATION 228-2688**  
CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR FULL TIME STUDENTS (REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR STUDENT CARD)

## FILM SOCIETY

(557 0436)  
Fri 15th, Pleasance  
6.45 **The Lavender Hill Mob**  
Another Ealing comedy — this one's probably the best. A shy and retiring bank clerk reveals true klepto tendencies when he pulls off a massive bullion robbery. Alec "Draught" Guinness stars — just for a change.

8.15 **Brimstone and Treacle**  
Sting stars as a ghoulish youth with a penchant for raping cripples. Banned by the BBC this film of a Dennis Potter play promises to be a miracle cure for insomnia. . . . Bring your own crutches.

Sun 17th, Pleasance  
6.45 **Roma**  
What a jolly exciting evening's entertainment! Filmed entirely on an enormous set in the Cinecittà Studios, it charts Rome from vaudeville to brothel over three traumatic decades.

9.00 **The Conformist**  
1938! Fascism sweeps through Italy. A shy youth, desperate to "conform", turns informer. Stunning period costumes.

Wed 20th, Pleasance  
6.45 **Ceddo**  
Banned in Senegal, despite the fact that Sting is not in it, this film deals with the kidnapping of Princess "Christian" Dior Yacine by the Ceddo ("Outsiders") and her own violent escape plans.

8.55 **Black and White in Colour**  
Amusing (occasionally) but not too engaging war movie of French West Africa at the outbreak of World War One. Claims to have won an Academy Award for best foreign film.



I just can't get the hang of this cat's cradle.

# THEATRE

## Traverse Theatre (226 2633)

**Hancock's Last Half Hour**  
Jim McManus stars in Heathcote Williams play about "the essence of the very human predicament". Whatever that is.  
12th-16th February 8 pm and Sunday 17th at 3 pm.  
Tickets available from the box office £2.25 members £3.25 non-members.

## Young Playwrights' Festival

New plays presented on tour by the Scottish Youth Theatre including *Pass the Parcel* by Angela Mullen, *Without a Doubt* by George Forrest, and Kenny Grant's *Doon the Water*. Tickets as above.

## Edinburgh Playwrights' Workshop

*Agamemnon's Law* by Richard Livermore presented in a Workshop performance followed by an audience discussion.  
7.30 pm 19th February  
Tickets £1.25 (concessions 75p)

## The Playhouse

*Iolanthe*  
The Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Edinburgh (Amateur)  
Tuesday 12th-Saturday 16th Feb:  
7.30 pm  
Tickets £2.00-£4.00 available from the box office.

## Thurs. 14th Feb.

**Jazz at the Pleasance**  
The Festival City Jazz Band play free Valentines Night Gig.  
9-12. Happy Hour 9-10.

**"The Lessons of Chile"**  
Talk by Lynn Turner, DHT, Room 8.18 Socialist Worker Student Society. All welcome. 1 pm.

## International Week: "Last Grave at Dimbaza"

Video showing the horror of life under the South African regime. DHT Faculty Room South, FREE. 1 pm.

## International Week: "Zionism and Racism"

Talk by speaker from Palestine Action. DHT Faculty Foom South, FREE 6 pm.

## "Gaelic Love Poetry"

KB Luchtime talk by Dr John MacInnes, Senior Lecturer at School of Scottish Studies. Sixth Level Common Room, JCMB. 1.10 pm.

## Worship Workshop

John Bell of the Iona Community visits this week. Chaplaincy Centre. 7.30 pm.

## Chambers Street

Happy Hour 8-9.

## Valentine's Day Party

Don't forget your heart pills — it's all fun and games down at the PLEASANCE tonight (ha ha... can't you just see how hard I'm laughing already?). Music by Festival City Jazz Band. 50p.

## Nelson Mandela for Rector Campaign

Forget Roland Rat, vote somebody worthwhile in as Rector. Meeting in Chaplaincy Centre — all welcome. Seminar Room 1, 5 pm.

# WHAT GUIL UNIVE

**EU Miner's Support Group**  
Meets every Thursday at 5 pm in the Bistro Bar, Chambers St.

## Fri. 15th Feb.

### International Week: Apartheid — our problem

A student at the University in exile from South Africa, argues that we have a moral obligation to help the oppressed peoples there. DHT Faculty Room South, FREE. 1 pm.

### An Evangelistic Evening

Included in the evening's fun and games is a talk — "Bought for a price" Chaplaincy Centre, 8 pm.

### EU Labour Club Public Meeting

Margaret Mortimer will speak on *The Closure of Bruntsfield Hospital* 1 pm, Balcony Room, Teviot.

### Potterrow

Disco till 1. Happy Hour 8.30-9.30

### Teviot

Live Dance, 2 discos till 2 am. Happy Hour 9-10.

### A St. Valentine's Massacre

Presented by David Horn House of KB Union, featuring Mr President and The Horsemen, 8.30-11.30. admittance after 10.30.

## Sat. 16th Feb.

### Saturday Night on the Upper!

At Chambers Street, featuring "Dance Cage" and two discos till 11 am. Happy Hour in Library Bar 9-10.

### Cocktail Disco

In Park Room, Teviot Row House till midnight. Happy Hour 7.30-8.30.

## Theatre Workshop (226 5425)

### Sex and Death

Station House Opera present a madman's bedroom farce which involves furniture as well as the performers. The piece is based on the logic of paranoia... Make your own mind up.  
15th and 16th February 8 pm  
Tickets £1.50 (75p concessions) from the box office.

## Royal Lyceum Theatre (229 9677)

### The Homecoming

Harold Pinta, the milkman of human unkindness comes to town in a drama about family life.  
14th February to 9th March, 7.45 pm  
Tickets £1.40-£3.80 from the box office.

## Adam House Theatre

### Pathelin

French medieval farce about a deceitful lawyer's attempt to trick the unsuspecting inhabitants of a small town. I shall expect the entire Law Faculty to attend and take notes!  
• Tickets £1.25

Mon 25th and Tues 26th Feb, 8 pm.

## Scottish Gallery

Dazzling and colourful patterns

from **John Mooney**

Paintings of the Leven Valley by

**Malcolm Hoad**

94 George Street

Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30

Sat 9.00-1.00

## Theatre Workshop

### November in Nicaragua

Photographs taken during November's elections in Nicaragua, showing vivid scenes of daily life.

Until 28 February.

Hamilton Place, Stockbridge.

Daily 10.00-5.00.

## Stills Gallery

### Pictures from No Man's Land

Pictures from St Margaret's Girls School by Dave Williams

105 High Street

Tues-Sat 12.30-6.00

## Talbot Rice Art Centre

### Antina Verboom in exhibition

strongly Dutch

Old College

South Bridge

Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00

## Fruitmarket Gallery

Steven Campbell, the Scottish bred artist continues with dramatic and powerful images.

29 Market Street

Mon-Sat 10.00-6.00

Sun 2.00-5.00



# S ON DE! TS

## Sun. 17th Feb.

**Secularism vs. Humanism**  
It is out in this heated debate  
among members of the Secular  
Society. 1.30 pm Teviot Music  
Room.

**Teviot Row House**  
Very open 12 noon-6 pm.

## Mon. 18th Feb.

**A Sri Lankan Experience**  
Michael Carrithers describes how  
his experiences of forest dwelling  
in Sri Lanka enabled him to  
understand the origin and  
significance of the Buddha's  
teachings. 7.30 pm DHT Lecture  
Hall A.

**Project for Animal Welfare Society**  
Meeting for animal lovers with  
the promise of a Greenpeace film.  
8.15 pm Sommerville Room, The  
Pleasance.

**Hungry for Change**  
A very worthy Oxfam meeting at  
the Queen's Hall. Everyone must  
attend! 7.30 pm.

**Destination Iceland**  
A film showing, as part of  
Greenpeace promotion week, by  
Project for Animal Welfare  
Society. The purchase, conversion  
and use of "The Rainbow  
Warrior" Sommerville Room,  
Pleasance. 9.15 FREE.

## Tues. 19th Feb.

**Lunchtime Talk**  
"Living Questions — Christianity  
— so what?" Quite. Who needs to  
eat when you can come and talk at  
one of these zowy animated  
sessions. Starring the Rev. N. J.  
Shanks, Associate Chaplain to the  
University. 1.10 pm Chaplaincy  
Centre.

**"Give my regards to Broad Street"**  
At last — it's here — the flop of the  
century! Courtesy of Edinburgh  
Beatles Appreciation Society, this  
film is to be shown at *Discount  
prices!* (Just as well, if you ask me)  
meet 7.30 pm Sinclair Room,  
Pleasance. Do you know which  
direction to run in?

**EU Labour Club**  
Meet at the Chaplaincy Centre,  
Seminar Room 2 5.15 pm.

**EU Religious Studies Society**  
Of special interest to students of  
comparative religion, is this visit  
from Dr Kabir Khan of the  
Edinburgh Interfaith Society,  
Chaplaincy Centre Room 2,  
7.30.

**Pub Evening** — Playgroup  
Support Group hit the Southsider  
pub 8 pm onwards.

**Chambers Street**  
Happy Hour 8-9.

## Wed. 20th Feb.

**Midweek Service**  
"The Lord's Prayer — and forgive  
us our trespasses, as we forgive  
them that trespass against us" with  
Pastor Thomas Fuchs, German  
Speaking Congregation. 1.10 pm  
Chaplaincy Centre.

**Lesbian and Gay Soc:** Discussion  
Group "Gays and the media —  
who is paranoid?" Gays, straights,  
abstainers, gremlins, robots, b's  
... all welcome. The Pleasance, 7.45  
pm.

**EU Ecological Society**  
A stunning selection of conserva-  
tionist films in the Athol Room,  
Darwin Building, KB.

**Green Banana Club**  
Potterrow Happy Hour 8.30-9.30.

**EU Liberal Club**  
Club AGM. Don't forget to go now!  
Balcony Room, Teviot 1 pm.

## Thurs. 21st Feb.

**Richard Demarco for Rector?**  
He will be launching his campaign  
at his gallery, 10 Jeffrey Street. All  
interested in supporting this "arty"  
man please attend. 5.30 pm.

**Travel and Expeditionary Society**  
The aim of the above is to enable  
people to meet, plan and partake  
in travel, whether for educational,  
enjoyment or practical purposes.  
Interested in joining? Then phone  
John Fleetwood 667 5120 or leave  
your name, address and phone  
number at the Student Offices,  
Potterrow.

**EU Friends of the Earth**  
Everyone is invited to this very  
special showing of a Greenpeace  
video. 7.30 pm, Sinclair Room, The  
Pleasance.

## Thurs 14th Feb

**Art College (Lauriston Place)**  
**Float Up CP**  
La Sorbonne (Cowgate)  
**Crucial Xylophone**  
Preservation Hall (Victoria St)  
**Avalon**  
Waterloo Bar (Waterloo Place)  
**The Real Secrets**

## Friday 15th Feb

**Queen Margaret College**  
(Clerwood Ter., Corstrophine)  
**Talking Drums**  
Chambers Street  
**Architects' Ball**  
including **Blues 'n' Trouble**  
**New York Pig Funkers**  
La Sorbonne  
**Good Friday**



**James King & the Lone Wolves**

## Queen's Hall

(666 2117)  
Thursday 14th February 7.45  
**Scottish Chamber Orchestra**  
Jaime Laredo violin/director  
**Beethoven** — *Randino for wind*  
**Mendelssohn** — *String Symphony*  
No. 9 in C major  
**Hallgrímsson** — *Poemi (first*  
*performance)*  
**Beethoven** — *Violin Concerto*  
Tickets £1.80 student con-  
cessions from Usher Hall.

Friday 15th February 10 pm

**Late Night Jazz — Pepper Adams**  
A rare British visit from one of  
the most important bop baritone sax  
players in the history of the  
instrument.  
Tickets £2.50 members £3.50 non-  
members.

Sunday 17th February 7.45 pm  
**Scottish Sinfonia**  
Richard Chester — flute  
Neil Mantle — conductor  
**Janacek** — *Sinfonietta*  
**Mozart** — *Flute Concerto No. 1*  
**Brahms** — *Symphony No. 2*  
Tickets £2.20 from Usher Hall

## Saturday 16th Feb

**Pleasance**  
**Stamp Out Repression** bop:  
**Wee Yellow Rip**  
**Volunteer Slavery**  
**We Free Kings**  
Preservation Hall  
**George Roy Jazzmen**  
(2-4 pm)  
La Sorbonne  
**Fast Breeder**  
Chambers Street  
**Dance Cage**  
Moray House (Holyrood Rd)  
**Pop Wallpaper**

# MUSIC

## Sunday 17th Feb

**Playhouse**  
**The Stranglers** (sold out)  
**Hoochie Coochie Club**  
(West Tollcross)  
**James King and the**  
**Lone Wolves**  
Preservation Hall  
**Tam White and the Dexters**

## Monday 18th Feb

**Preservation Hall**  
**AM Band**  
La Sorbonne  
**Kitsch and the Nightset**

## Tuesday 19th Feb

**Preservation Hall**  
**Rana Canteen**  
La Sorbonne  
**Longer at the Front**

## Wednesday 20th Feb

**Playhouse**  
**Joan Armatrading** (sold out)  
La Sorbonne  
**Leaps and Bounds**  
Preservation Hall  
**Charlie McNair** (afternoon)  
**University Music**  
**Reid Concert Hall**

Tuesday 19th February 1.10 pm  
**Fiametta Schofield** — harpsichord  
*J. S. Bach—Prelude and Fugue in*  
*C major.*  
*J. S. Bach — Prelude and Fugue in*  
*A flat major*  
*Couperin — Suite in F major*  
*Kenneth Leighton — De*  
*Profundis: Improvisations*  
Admission Free

## Thursday 21st February 7.30 pm

**Naxos Piano Quartet**  
Edwin Paling — violin  
James Durrant — viola  
Elizabeth Macdonald — cello  
Lawrence Glover — piano  
**Mozart** — *Piano Quartet in G*  
*minor*  
**A. C. Mackenzie** — *Piano Quartet*  
*in E flat major*  
Tickets £2, £1 concession.

## McEwan Hall

Friday 15th February 1.10 pm  
Herrick Bunney — organ  
*J. S. Bach — Fantasia in C minor*  
*Liszt — Fantasia & Fugue*  
*on 'Ad nos, ad salutarem undam.'*  
Admission free.

## Wednesday 20th February 7.30 pm

**Edinburgh University Musical**  
Society dir. Christopher Bell  
William Schofield — cello  
Aisdair Nicolson — *New Work*  
Elgar — *Cello Concerto*  
Walton — *Belshazzar's Feast*  
also at Reid Concert Hall

# EXHIBITIONS

## Open Eye Gallery

**Carlo Rossi** with a selection of his  
paintings  
And ceramics by **Richard Bell**  
15 Cumberland Street  
Fri 10.00-6.00  
Sat. 10.00-4.00



**A Catholic Church in Nicaragua**

## Royal Scottish Academy

**The British Arts Show**  
Allegiances & New  
Directions 1979-1984  
Feb. "Old Wine Into New  
Wine"; lecture by Lynne Cooke  
on figurative and object sculpture.  
16th Feb: Theatre  
shop, 34 Hamilton Place —  
**Overmundane**: a metaphysical  
vision of the world, an opera  
with music, at 8 pm  
Mound  
Mon-Sat 10.00-6.00  
10.00-8.00  
Sun 2.00-5.00

## City Art Centre

**Working for Britain**  
**Blue John** — An exhibition of  
pottery from Lauriston Castle.  
**Adolphe Appia** (1862-1928). A  
collection of works under the  
dubious heading. Actor, space &  
night.  
Market Street  
Mon-Sat 10.00-6.00

## Collective Gallery

Exhibition of paintings by **Peter**  
**Russell**.  
A selection of photo collage by  
**Colin McArthur**.  
A sample collection of photo-  
graphs by **Callum McRae**.  
52/54 High Street  
Tue, Wed, Fri 12.30-5.30  
Thurs 12.30-7.00 Sat 10.30-5.00

## Printmakers Workshop

The variety continues with prints  
by **Reinhard Behrens**  
Union Street

## Richard Demarco Gallery

**Anna Constantinou Wilson** —  
pleasing paintings smacking of  
the Mediterranean with colour and  
religious imagery.  
10 Jeffrey Street  
Mon-Sat. 10.00-6.00

## Mercury Gallery

Selection of Carpets from Tibet,  
**Nepal & Turkey** where colour  
combines with pattern emanating  
warmth.  
The Mound

## National Gallery of Scotland

**The Face of Nature** Drawings &  
Prints from the permanent  
collection showing regional &  
continental variations in the  
depiction of the landscape.  
The Mound  
Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00  
Sun 10.00-2.00

## The National Library of Scotland

**Stone on Stone** The engraver and  
designer Reynolds Stone (1909-  
1979) keeps chipping away.

**Handel's Messiah** Another winner  
of the NL of S with an exhibition on  
the history of the oratoria.

## Netherbow Arts Centre

**The Fixed & The fleeing** —  
paintings and woodcuts by Koert  
Trude.  
Exhibition of photographs by **Amy**  
**Whorf**  
43 High Street  
Tues-Sat 10.00-4.00

## THE PLAYHOUSE

April 26th	£7.50, £6.50, £5.50
<b>MILLIE JACKSON</b>	
February 27 and 28	
<b>ERIC CLAPTON</b> —£7.50, £6.50	
March 1	
<b>MAX BOYCE</b> —£6.50, £5.50, £5	
March 12-16	
<b>SCOTTISH OPERA</b> —£2 to £3	
March 29	
<b>THE TEMPTATIONS</b> —£7, £6, £5	
April 3-13	
<b>GUYS AND DOLLS</b> (National Theatre)—£4.50 to £8.50	
April 14	
<b>JIMMY TARBUCK</b> —£5, £4	
April 15-16	
<b>THE GEORGIAN STATE DANCE COMPANY</b> —£6, £5, £5	
(Half-price for Senior Citizens and Children)	
April 18-19	
<b>CANNON AND BALL</b> —£6.50, £5.50, £4.50	
May 23	
<b>RICKY SKAGGS</b> —£6, £5	

Get your tickets now from: Edinburgh Playhouse,  
18-22 Greenside Place, Edinburgh EH1 3AA.  
Access telephone bookings welcome on 031-557 2590.

## MUSIC



Photo: John Lindsay

## Korn For Corn

## The Boomtown Rats

Caley Palais

The Rats are more of a curiosity to me than anything else. I have never been a fan.

When they found fame in *Mary of the Fourth Form*, I was in the sixth and suffering from those purist punk notions that excluded anything not in vogue in that glorious summer of '77. Remember?

Anyway, I'll be fair to the Rats, they certainly present a good, honest, professional show which went down well with the converted hordes. Sir Bob Himself, more

Oxfam than Top Man, flirts with his audience and dances around in a manner much akin to Jagger. What he lacks in vocal quality he makes up in his extrovert antics. The rest of the Rats are a fairly anonymous crew. There's the one who used to wear his pyjamas, a scruffy bass man more notable for his Steinberger than anything else, a drummer (you know, the clean one) and a guitar player. They are augmented on this occasion by a two-man brass section and a chap who looks like he dropped in from the pub next door to play a few keyboards.

As I said, the material was well presented. A mix of newer material, Dave and others from the new album *In the Long Grass* and some old chestnuts like *Rat Trap* and *Someone Looking At You*.

## New Order

Caley Palais

Last week New Order came to the Caley, bringing half their PA with them. In terms of a pandering "I'm a lad" soccer allusion it was a victory on away goals after a nerve wracking first leg. Well, over to you Saint

A while back the Factory black humour was much in evidence with their "solo Artist" Kevin Hewick, a man with the dress sense of a football commentator and the charisma of John Motson. The joke was to have our Kevin on the compilation videos or to send him out as support to Factory support bands. He could be guaranteed to embarrass and unsettle the audience. Of course Kev was blissfully unaware of any prank and sang his heart out. Nowadays it would seem they're having another dig at their audience with *The Wake*. This band has meticulously tried to incorporate all of New Order into their act: the girl on keyboards; that haircut; the precise minimal

guitar picking (but never whilst singing); the mouthie and that extremely uncommon six-string Shergold bass. Having said that and to complete the confusion, *The Wake* weren't at all bad. Nice One Tony.

Next came The Royal Family and the Poor. They consisted almost entirely of one bloke with backing tapes. He was occasionally augmented by some friends who came on and played in various Keys and times none of them the same as the backing tapes.

And New Order. Well they were ehumm... New Order. Starting with a wafer thin Confusion they then played no fewer than seven new songs in a row, a move hardly calculated to send the crowd into a frenzy. But such is the willfulness they thrive on; treating the concert as an academic exercise to test out their new tunes they drove the crowd towards frustration but in the end only had to let loose with *Age Of Consent* to make amends.

If ever a band were made by what they leave out then New Order are it. They have a sixth sense that tells them what not to do, allowing them to overcome their apparently limited imagination, lack of anything approaching a sense of humour and of course complete absence of any sort of effort to perversely produce some of the most inspiring and sensitive music around.

The new songs are very much in their recent mould, relying heavily on sequencer and being rammed home by Hookey's unique round the ankles "I used to be a docker, See" bass playing. Yet songs such as the one that goes "Oh, I cannot stand the very thought of you" have such beautifully jittery melodies and graft fragility to an awkward aggressiveness so naturally that they are almost lifted out of the sphere of the pop song. Almost but of course not quite, after all this is New Order.

All the habits that have made them so endearing are in evidence tonight: Barney is as ever the worried conscience of the band giving the impression that he personally is holding the set together with some supreme act of will, Gillian is nervous and needs reassuring, Mr Morris the only one who can really play pounds away on his drums whilst Hookey sporting a new non-macho hair style is as unnecessarily aggressive as ever but unfortunately didn't make any of his jokes which usually go something like "fuck off" or "I couldn't give a toss". In the end they even gave an encore, *It's Temptation* and was brilliant.

Marks out of 10: Effort: 1 Content: 8 Humability: 9 "Fun Factor": 10.

Roy Wilkinson

What got me about this show was Geldof's banter with the crowd. When introducing Dave he said, "This is a brilliant song. They're ALL brilliant songs." I hoped he was tongue in cheek.

For me, Geldof soured an enjoyable evening when on the last encore (unbelievably *Do They Know It's Christmas?*) he shrieked at the crowd, "What's the matter with you? Sing the fucking song!" I felt guilty for not caring as much as Sir Bob Himself and gladly cast my 50p into the box provided for the cause.

I was not in league with the multitude. I couldn't sympathise with those who wanted to shake his hand. Tonight I thought the good ship Caley, though perhaps not sinking, was certainly letting in.

Alan Munro

one agree with him. His medicine will prove to be more revitalizing than a crate of Lucozade any day.

However, The Blow Monkeys nearly blew it, for the audience was still recovering from a severe dose of *Ege Bam Yasi* earlier on that evening.

These purveyors of sex, sadism and sacrilege from Stirling made a shock 20-minute appearance, and stunned the unsuspecting audience with their outrageous brands of visual/aural overstatement, and baby-oil. All is quiet until

THRILL! Who are these strange masked men and beautiful girl? Why do they plaster themselves in baby-oil?

GASPI! — as the executioner assumes the very spirit of animalistic lust and hangs his phallus for love!

TREMBLE! — as the girl casts off her mantle of cool eroticism and literally thrashes to death the sickly ghost of Olivia Newton John's *Physical* on a giant crucifix!

MULTIPLE ORGASMS!!!



Phew. All *Ege Bam Yasi* need is more exposure, a Trevor Horn to produce them, and they will be huge. Find out more about them in Paul Quinn's forthcoming feature.

Peter Carroll



Capital Stuff Lads

Photo: Hugh Godsal

## FULL MARX

## The Three Johns

Hoochie Coochie Club

I do not think I was the only person there wondering why everyone was gathering with the usual anticipatory buzz around the stage, when all that I could see was a roadie tuning up the guitars. Of course it soon turned out not to be a roadie but a pop star called John — and it was this kind of low profile that was characteristic of the gig as a whole.

This mistake is not an insult either to The Three Johns or to roadies — indeed the band's complete lack of pretention was one of their strongest points. Neither did they play so loud as to leave you in the corner with your ears bleeding afterwards. But I'm not quite sure whether the band was good or just plain deafening, as is often the case at the Hoochie Coochie. They simply came on stage and played their best music to the best of their ability without frills — a most refreshing approach.

They started off with strong versions of *Teenage Nightingales* and *Do Not Cross The Line* off the excellent new LP *Atom Drum Bop*. All the new songs were punchy and well performed, with John Hyatt on good form with his punk-Bolan vocals — however the band seemed more comfortable with their older material which was

noticeably slicker and more confident. *AWOL* and *English White Boy Engineer* were particularly good, making better use of the vocal support of Johns Langford and Brennan.

They provided good danceable rock 'n' roll — yet, on record at least, they are more than that. In their strongly leftist 'support the miners' standpoint they have made themselves a distinctly political band, strongly allied to and inviting comparisons with The Redskins. However, it was here that I was disappointed — the fact that they seemed so much to be three of the lads out for a good night out, playing silly versions of *Like A Virgin* and singing nasty songs about Norman Tebbit made them seem much more sympathetic and human than so many other bands, but this also took the sting out of their message. Somehow their half-pissed, slightly tongue-in-cheek attitude took much of the edge off the strength and venom they have on record. It is not so much that they would have kept more credibility playing with some conviction — I think they would actually have been better low atch.

However, The Three Johns were clearly a cut above the average club band and most present enjoyed the gig. It was just frustrating that a band that dearly has so much talent both for writing and performance should not properly fulfil it.

Charles Le Quesne



Doc's diagnosis is...

photo by Chas. Hoss.

## Rhesus Positive

Blow Monkeys/  
Ege Bam Yasi

Hoochie Coochie Club

Dr Robert, chief surgeon of The Blow Monkeys and the latest in a long line of musical healers, performed an emergency operation late on Sunday night in an attempt to resuscitate a moribund Hoochie Coochie audience.

Having made the first incision with *I Nearly Died Laughing*, he pressed on relentlessly with the life-saving operation, keeping a steady hand and admirably

showing few signs of distress at the patient's stubborn refusal to come round.

Just when his efforts seemed to have failed, tangible signs of life were spotted, and the patient lived to fight another day thanks to dextrous manipulation of the old Tom Jones cut. *It's Not Unusual*.

So only partial success for Dr Robert's patent panacea. Is it the real thing or just another quack remedy? The Doc, sounding like a cross between Marc Bolan and Edwin Collins, is quietly confident. In his professional opinion, he is convinced that repeated doses of top quality songs based on a slick pop-jazz beat will prove to be ultimately efficacious, and I for





**Mitsuko Uchida and the SNO**

Usher Hall

*Six German Dances: Schubert Piano Concerto No. 2: Beethoven Symphony No. 2: Schumann*

Taking *Student's* advice in What's On I went along to the Usher Hall last Friday to hear the SNO's performance of Mozart's 21st Piano concerto. However, they played something completely different. Although the performance was enjoyable I did feel that it lacked a depth of feeling, it was not uplifting, which, given the programme, it perhaps should have been. As the SNO should be one of the best performing orchestras in Britain my expectations of them had been high.

The audience was warmed by the first piece, *Six German Dances* by Schubert. These finely orchestrated melodies were pleasant, balanced, played gently and with sensitivity. It was difficult not to enjoy

Beethoven's 2nd Symphony, especially given the excellence of the soloist, Mitsuko Uchida. The attractive Miss Uchida played exceptionally well, yet I got the impression that the conductor got rather less than he hoped for! Perhaps the orchestra was under-rehearsed; certainly they were reticent. During the solemn slow movement they were too self-indulgent and did not fully complement the soloist; although they came together in the vigorous last movement.

Schumann wrote his 2nd Symphony during a time of mental disturbance, which is reflected in the erratic but exciting nature of the music. The SNO's performance came across well, but despite its power I felt that they failed to fully express the strength of the underlying emotions of the work.

I should not allow criticism to obscure the fact that it was an enjoyable evening, and good value at £1.80—but what happened to the wine supposed to be served in the interval?

Jonathan Reid



## Dolphins with a Purpose

### The Rubber Dolfinarium The Staycase

Waterloo Bar

Having been through the creative explosion of the punk era, popular music now appears to be stabilising again.

In this context, the music of the period ten years prior to that, during the immediate pre-psychedelic period, with its naive simplicity in tune, lyric and instrumentation is highly attractive. This accounts for the development of the *Kaleidoscope Club*; a celebration of the time at which 'the underground' was but another name for tube trains and 'Batman' and liquid 'light-shows' were all the rage. Seeking to relive the innocence of those days, the Waterloo Bar was full of two decades worth of hairstyle and trouser width variations, to see whether the psychedelic poster design would fit with the music to be presented.

The Staycase, resplendent in their black polo-necked uniforms, looked rather more sinister than The Sid Presley Experience achieved the other week. Musically they sounded like a combination of 1960s rhythm and blues combined with elements of Love, Kim Fowley, The Cramps and punk generally. From this they generate an enthusiastic noise that ends with covers of *Psychotic Reaction* and *The Sex Pistols' I Wanna Be Me*.

Interestingly the

encore they gave comprised of several dramatically presented poems as equally well received as their music.

If The Staycase approach psychedelia at points, then despite the Rubber Dolfinarium's name, they are closer to any 'groovy' pop group that we've seen in episodes of *The Man From UNCLE*. This is further accentuated by their Dee Dee Ramone/Brian Jones style mop haircuts and out of focus projected lightshow backdrop. Musically it was difficult to distinguish tracks by The Thirteenth Floor Elevators, The Safari's and Them, amongst others. The groups' love of obscure American and Dutch(!) garage bands of the sixties is quite distinct in their sound, indicating their feel for the music they play.

There are two critical observations one could make about 'The Dolfinarium', firstly that their lead singer lacked a strong stage presence, unlike the rest of the band, and secondly, they should accentuate some of the dynamics in their songs to suit 1980s ears.

Thus we have two small local 'pop-groups' (and I'm sure they'd love that title) bringing naive enthusiasm and creative energy to the cynical, precious 1985 music scene. This is being done by reassessing the popular culture that has become part of the heritage we have from the mid 1960s. Certainly I much prefer the simplicity, tunes, style and distinct humour of these groups rather than yet another pompous 'manifesto' from people who think that getting up late, being 'bored' or dressing in black is the ultimate in rebellion.

Vincent Egan

### La Dame Blanche

University Opera

Raymond Monelle's witty translation of the French libretto, combined with Isabel Ewen's smooth production of this early 19th century French opera undoubtedly contributed to the high standard of this University performance.

It must be said though that it was not really a student production as, sadly, all the members of the cast had to be professionals from outside the University — either because the technical standard of the opera was too high or because of the usual pathetic low interest among students for opera or any type of singing.

In particular, Adele Paxton, as the aged servant, and Colin Heggie, as the ambitious, relentless steward of the estate, both gave humorous portrayals of the characters, showing promising talent in their acting as well as singing. Anne Burnette as wife of the Highland farmer failed to live up to her demanding collaborator singing part. Also David Meek, who played the highland farmer, was unconvincing and his voice, well-matched by his name (Meek) was drowned by the orchestra.

Alan Borthwick sounded wonderfully controlled and refined on his top notes, yet frequently slid up to them, which is a sign of a bad professional singer. Also he failed to communicate with the audience at all, as presumably, he was too heavily involved in the white lady Heather Coates deserves praise for her considerable, though slightly weak, singing performance of her difficult coloratura part. The chorus sang with gusto and displayed a positive interaction with the cast.

The orchestra showed musical competence, yet failed somehow to express Boildieu's comic and lighthearted music. However, many of the aspects that seemed weak in this performance were due to the notorious unsuitability of the stage and acoustics of George Square Theatre.

Vivien Hargreaves

### The Locrian Quartet

Reid Concert Hall

The programme began with a definitive demonstration of how four undoubtedly talented players could yet destroy a delightful string quartet, in this case Mozart's K.387.

The ensemble was virtually non-existent, the clarity of expression limited and what feeling there was in the performance was more implied than actually perceived.

The Shostakovich Quartet No. 10 was only a little better, despite rather wayward dynamics. Violist Timothy Grant held the opening Andante together but the explosive *Allegretto Furioso* stuttered a little and the adagio, another great Shostakovich passacaglia, lacked any real understanding. The closing allegretto, however, was reasonably coherently interpreted.

The second-half provided a complete contrast, with Beethoven's Quartet opus 59, No. 3, being interpreted with both cohesion and insight. The opening *Andante con moto* flowed beautifully and imperceptibly into the stately energy of the allegro vivace. The tranquil second movement was carried off with both style and panache and the *Menuetto Grazioso* evinced a cohesion and understanding considerably in excess of that achieved when this reviewer last demolished it.

Rod Manson

# ♥ LATEST!

• James King and the Lone Wolves  
Coming to the Hoochie Coochie, Sunday, 17th February

James King and the Lone Wolves are further proof that Glasgow is blessed with fertile soil for producing fine rock bands. On Sunday, they travel across to this fair city to entertain the masses at the Hoochie Coochie Club.

With musical reference points consisting of the Velvet Underground and The Stooges, the Lone Wolves sound like a punked-up country and western outfit which give them quite a comfortable niche in ex-Postcard Records supreme Alan Horne's new *Swamplands* set-up. Their current single, *The Angels Know*, has guitars twanging and thrashing very nicely indeed whilst leader of the pack James King himself pours out his anguished Glaswegian soul (man).

King's long hard toil on the Glasgow music scene has earned him a somewhat hard-bitten, 'bad-guy' reputation, which seems basically unfounded although such foolishness as pulling a knife



on everyone's favourite revolutionary Marxist Edwyn Collins hardly helps dispel the myth. His earlier incarnation as Jimmy Loser in *The Backstabbers*, an anarchic pop group of 1977, gave him the scent of fate in his nostrils which led to the Lone Wolves' fine two singles on the *Cuba Libre* label getting nowhere fast and their losing guitarist James Masor (honest!) to a six-month spell in prison. Maybe he has a right to be bitter.

Anyhow, the word on the grapevine is that their spasmodic recorded work merely hints at the manic power of their live performances. Only one way to find out, I suppose.

Keith Cameron

### • Television Latest

The Tube tomorrow (Ch 4, 5.30) features live music from Bronski Beat and Phil Collins, and The Bangles. Watch out for some Music Pages staff there too...

ORS 85 also on Friday (BBC 2, 7.15) gives us a week's respite from the awful Timmy Mallett, as the programme is given over to a Nick Kershaw gig in Belfast.

The Other Side of the Tracks on Saturday (Ch 4, 6.00) features new band The Roaring Boys, and veteran record producer John Hammond, whose involvement with artists has ranged from Billie Holiday to Bruce Springsteen. Mention of the new Richard Gere film, *The Cotton Club*, about Harlem clubland in the 1920s, is likely to be included somewhere.

The Ever-Popular Tortured Artist Effect, later on Saturday (Ch 4, 11.15), is a profile of Todd Rudgren.

### • Radio Latest

Radio Forth features local music on Colin Somerville's programmes — *Scottish Waveband* (Mondays, 11 pm-2 am) and *Forth Street* (Tuesdays, 10-11 pm).

Next Tuesday, Colin will be speaking to Bob Geldof, who was in Edinburgh last weekend with his band, *The Boomtown Rats*. 96.8 FM and 194m MW.

Radio Free City, Edinburgh's community neighbourhood radio station, has recently changed its schedule. Broadcasting on 95.6 FM from the west of the city, it can now be heard Monday-Thursday, 6-7 pm.



### • New Look for the SNO

The Scottish National Orchestra are to have a new principal guest Conductor. He is Matthias Bamert, a young Swiss conductor, whose previous appearances with the SNO have been highly acclaimed by critics. He appeared in Edinburgh to conduct the SNO with Mitsuko Uchida, who made her SNO debut on Friday 8th February. Matthias Bamert is a conductor of high repute, who has had extensive engagements abroad, and who launched European Music Year in Germany with a concert with the European Community Youth Orchestra. Let's hope that the improvements achieved by Naeme Jarvi can be further enhanced by Matthias Bamert. His engagement will take effect from the 1st August 1985.



Volunteer Slavery, one of three local bands who took part in a Miners' Benefit at Moray House last Saturday. 270 people turned up, and over £300 was raised for Miners at Loanhead.

## FEATURES

# Labour's new deal for Edinburgh

On May 3rd, 1984, Edinburgh, for the first time in its history, elected a Labour majority onto the District Council. Pat McFadden, chairperson of Edinburgh University Labour Club, writes on the problems it faced, how it is dealing with them, and its hopes for the future.

The new administration had a different set of priorities, different policies and fundamentally different values from the previous one. Over the past nine months it has been working hard to improve the city and to begin to rectify the huge legacy of problems built up over decades of Tory misrule and mismanagement.

## The Legacy of Neglect

When Labour took over last year they were left with a legacy of poor housing, deteriorating facilities and services badly in need of improvement.

There were 12,000 people on the council house waiting list, over 800 of whom had top medical priority. Council house rents themselves were £2.50 per week above the Scottish average and well above the levels of the other three major Scottish cities.

On top of this about a quarter of the housing stock had severe dampness and was thus affecting the health of thousands of the city's inhabitants.

The problems extended beyond housing and into other areas such as recreation and leisure. Between the years 1973 and 1983, ten putting greens, 20 public tennis courts and 20 bowling greens were closed. In leisure, as in housing, the people of Edinburgh were forced to accept an inferior service compared to that of every other Scottish city.

As students we should, at least in theory, believe in the value of education and knowledge, much of which for ordinary people comes through the provision of public libraries. Over the previous ten years Edinburgh has been spending well below the Scottish



Alex Wood, leader of the Labour Group.

average on library books — in 1984/85 the figure was only £1.26 per person compared to an average of £1.62. In this field too, then, the legacy left by the former Tory administration was one of inferiority and neglect.

In short, every major service provided by the former administration was substandard, deficient

and inferior to that of every other Scottish city. The real face of Festival City outside the tourist areas at the centre of town was often one of inadequacy and degradation. To make matters

worse, this situation was presided over by an administration content not only to maintain low levels of provision, but to actively cut these levels, sending the city into a downward spiral of damp housing, poor recreational facilities and job losses.

It is clear, even from the few examples outlined above, that a major programme was and is needed, to restore Edinburgh's services and to create a decent quality of life for the city's inhabitants.

Labour's victory was the culmination of a widespread desire for a more positive attitude and for more creative and open local government. The new ruling group were determined to fundamentally change the policies, priorities and values of the council and to have it work for the benefit of the majority of the citizens of Edinburgh.

As the day approaches when the council will produce its first budget the issue of local government will become more and more prominent in both local and national news. To understand the reasons for Edinburgh's budget and the measures it contains, we must look at the extent of the problems the city faces and at what Labour has done since taking over.

## What has Labour done?

The new administration inherited a Tory budget designed to maintain grossly inadequate services and were thus unable to tackle many of the problems they would have wished to during their first year of office. They were helped, however, by some £4.5 million extra in the bank which the Tories had accumulated over the years. (It would seem that they did not consider a quarter of the housing stock suffering from severe dampness a serious enough problem to spend money on.)

Labour has managed to take many positive measures which have already reversed the trend towards decay and have already benefitted the council.

Housing, as an area of particular need, will have an increase in its budget of over £7 million. £4.5 million of this will be spent on improving maintenance of council stock. Other areas tackled will be the renovation of empty houses, upgrading multi-storey blocks and improving gardening services for the elderly and disabled.

Recreation and leisure will also be greatly improved. £1 million will be spent on upgrading public baths, £150,000 on developing public parks and more money will be spent maintaining open spaces in housing area, resurfacing sports facilities such as tennis courts and bowling greens and also about £1 million extra will be spent on the city's libraries. In addition, summer play-schemes for children will be introduced.

The cleansing budget will be increased by some £2 million, creating some 200 jobs which will help improve street cleaning, refuse collection and special uplifting services. The council is also looking into the whole question of recycling viable substances such as paper and glass in an attempt to save energy and generally improve the environment in which we live.

The budget is too detailed to outline in full but broadly speaking



City Chambers - headquarters of the Council.

it seeks to enable the city to carry on improving services and creating jobs.

## The Budget

The budget proposals aim to create 900 jobs in all to be concentrated in the areas of housing, cleansing, recreation and leisure.

100 full-time and 50 temporary jobs have been created, with special emphasis on cleaning up neglected housing estates.

Additional staff have been taken on to clear the backlog of housing benefit claims.

Charges for many recreational facilities have been reduced including a reduction in bath charges of 20%, a reduction in gold course fees of 20% and a 40% drop in charges for football, rugby and hockey pitches.

Fines for overdue children's library books have been abolished and an extra £95,000 has been spent on new library books.

Pay for those on the Youth Training Scheme was raised from £26.50 to £33.95 and trade union rights have been guaranteed.

The council has started a programme of cancer screening for its women employees.

This is only a fraction of what the new council with new positive ideas has been able to do. The city has also been declared a Nuclear Free Zone and an Apartheid Free Zone and the council has withdrawn all its investments from South Africa. A women's committee has been set up which so far has looked into better street lighting in the more dangerous areas of the city and into the question of creches in council workplaces so women can bring their children to work if necessary.

We have the opportunity to help break down the discrimination against women which exists in all walks of life, to work with progressive groups such as Anti-

Apartheid, making clear our position on racial equality and to improve the lives of young people.

The aims of the council are thus clear — to create a better city and to help provide the means whereby the citizens themselves can create a better quality of life for themselves. This does not only affect the less fortunate but every single one of us. This is the aim enshrined in the council budget due out on March 5th and it will be that aim which will be put under attack by central government in its opposition to the budget.

## The Cost

The measures included in the budget will of course mean increasing revenue and it is on the question of cost that opposition both within the city and central government will be based. The government, through the Scottish Secretary of State George Younger, will try to prevent the improvements going ahead, despite the fact that they were included in the manifesto on which Labour was elected.

Council house rents which are way above the Scottish average, and therefore already far too expensive, will be frozen. In the main the money needed will come from a rate rise, which for 65% of

households will be about £1 a week. Edinburgh's rates at the moment are very low because for years council tenants have been forced to subsidise ratepayers. At present Edinburgh only receives £40.17 per house in rates compared to a Scottish average of £140.07. The difficulty is enhanced by the fact that Edinburgh receives no Rate Support Grant whatsoever (Glasgow for instance receives a grant of £152.92 per house). In view of this the council feels perfectly justified in increasing rates by £1 per week.

The alternatives to this rise are stark indeed. The government guidelines would mean a rate increase of 15p a week and a rent increase for council tenants of £1.20. The result of this would be the loss of 400 jobs, cuts in services and increased charges. The Tory group budget, which also exceeds government guidelines, would mean a combined rent and rate increase of £1.55 and would lead to the loss of 50 jobs and again, cuts in services and increased charges.

The choice is thus simple. To raise rates by £1 and make massive improvements or raise rent and rates by more than £1 and make wholesale cuts. The Labour budget is neither extreme nor revolutionary but plain common sense. It is this common sense, and the desire to improve, develop and progress which goes with it, that will need the support of the whole city over the coming months, including the students of Edinburgh University.

The question of the sanctity of the law will be brought up time and time again over the next few months. The fact is that in creating new ratecapping laws, central government has compelled local authorities to break health and safety laws, to have people living in substandard housing, to delay wiring repairs and so on. It is a choice of which law to break — that concerning spending limits or that concerning people's lives.

Labour wants to do more though than just change policies and budgets. We are about changing the structures, values and nature of local government. For too long council decisions have been debated behind the closed doors of the City Chambers. We now have an opportunity to take our politics out into the city, to listen to the complaints and needs of the people and to work together to create the sort of future Edinburgh deserves.

The choice before us is clear. We can let the government impose cuts on our elected council which will take us backwards into more deprivation, inadequacy and despair or we can go forward, working with Edinburgh District Council to create jobs, equality, and a better way of life for the people of this city.

## EDITOR REQUIRED

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# That's entertaining

Shona Finlayson talks to Alison MacRae and Margaret Buchanan, founder members of Edinburgh University Alternative Entertainments Company, about the trials and tribulations of starting up a new society.

It was one of those Sunday nights in Pollock, back in the summer term of 1984 — there was nothing to do and anything worth doing was liable to fall foul of the warden's wrath. However, somewhere in the depths of a tower block two minds were working on the idea of a new society.

Margaret and Alison had both been along to the Bedlam Theatre Company, but although they found it smooth working and an excellent group it wasn't the "thing" for them. They felt there was a gap in theatre facilities. Both girls had been involved in drama before coming to university but by the time the summer term of their first year arrived they had started to suffer "withdrawal" symptoms from lack of drama. The idea of starting a new theatre group sprung up which now, nine months later, takes the form of a flourishing society.

Their first move after the initial idea was to ask people they knew what they thought of their plans and what these people thought it could involve. They urge anyone thinking of starting up a new society to talk to as many fellow students as they can — after all, the societies are for students and friends often have a tendency to be in favour of your ideas. Pollock was an initial advantage as it provided a huge body of people on whom they could try out their ideas but they stress that this is not a necessity: people in classes, tutorials, or other societies are just as good for "testers". At this point the girls were met with great enthusiasm apart from one thing which they had felt themselves: they wouldn't want to be in competition with the Bedlam but would be an "alternative".

With these basic themes in mind, only a week later they trotted happily off to the Societies' Council full of enthusiasm. Alison and Margaret felt that this was one of the "toughest" parts of putting the pieces of a new society together. At the Societies' Council they were interviewed by a panel headed by John Mannix, then Societies President. Neither of them felt particularly uplifted by this experience as they were met by a mixed reception. Two or three committee members thought it was a good idea but they felt that certain members were not at all encouraging and thought they were just first years with a fly-by-night idea. Therefore they were advised to think more seriously about their scheme. However, they do not feel that the Societies' Council were unjustified in this approach because if they welcomed everyone with open arms, then there would be more societies than there are students. Alison stresses that by this time, in spite of their mixed reception, they became even more determined and that it is determination that helps to get something like this off the ground.

The next step on their road to discovery was filling in forms about why they felt their society should be recognised, its aims and its constitution. This was harder to them than it seems on the surface because they wanted to stress that they were not in competition with the Bedlam. However, they were given some help with filling in forms and then consulted people who wanted to join about what

they thought their aims and constitution should be. There was a general consensus, even then, that a new society couldn't be "ruled" from the top and that it was the members' views that counted.

Firstly, the name of the society, "Edinburgh University Alternative Entertainments Company," emerged after much wrangling and was one of the trials of the whole affair, as Alison and Margaret with the little band who had already joined ranks felt that a lot could be said in a name. Again, the committee of AEC, as it is known, stress that the name of the society expresses its views and is often what attracts students to it. The aims of this society were to fill a gap for non-serious drama (especially with varied entertainment including revue items; one-act plays and comedy in an "undaunting, informal and social atmosphere"). They also wanted to be heavily involved with Charities Week.

The girls found the drawing-up of a constitution fairly difficult and several drafts went through their

influence that the Societies' Handbook and the Societies' Fair in Freshers' Week was the best way of finding members.

The next steps were as important to this society as they would be to any other new one except that they included things like finding theatres. Alison, now the treasurer, urges anyone thinking of doing what they did to find an accounting student to fill in the Societies' Grant form as they found the SRC guidelines, although helpful, hard to follow. Their expenditure list for the first year was particularly difficult as they didn't really know what they were going to spend money on and how much it would cost.

The AEC has now had one very successful night of three short comedies with most of the original members staying on and becoming very involved in the society. As one member points out it is now possible to go into a union at lunchtime and see groups of friends who met through the AEC.

The society tried to cater for everyone's taste in the three short comedies they performed in November, only eight months after the original idea, but they are changing their format slightly to let members have some freedom of choice in their summer term performances. Flexibility in view of members' wishes is stressed here — for example, publicity staff were not needed from start to finish so people who couldn't spare much time could do publicity.



Alternative Entertainers

"testers" before a final copy was painfully typed out by a sacrificial "tester" while they went out and celebrated this step. They had also, during this time, opened a bank account which proved that they would be able to run themselves financially and filled a clause in the constitution, which they feel every society should have, concerning the joint signing of cheques.

There then ensued the long wait with nail-biting and a pretence of studying for degree exams whilst they awaited the word on recognition. Finally, towards the end of May, the SRC mole burrowed his way into a Pollock Tower block and spread the happy news that the AEC was officially born.

They then landed slap bang in the middle of a long vacation with a lot of organisation to do and Margaret says they then began to wonder if what they had done was right. Contact was important in spite of summer jobs and commitments to men. They had already started reading over material and had membership tickets printed. They feel that apart from friends and the Pollock

Meetings of the AEC are held at 7 pm on Tuesdays in the Pleasance Theatre — anyone with any skill from backstage to music to acting or just wanting a good laugh is especially welcome; or for more details phone Margaret on 447 7505.



## A Musical Feast

Who knows what or where Allison House is? Who goes to the concerts on Friday lunchtimes in McEwan Hall. Who has heard of the Music Society concert to be held on Wednesday 20th?

The answer is, more than you think. I went to talk to three of the main participants in the coming concert: Chris Bell, the conductor; William Schofield, the cello soloist; and Alisdair Nicolson, the composer whose world premiere of *Ordo Nocturnus* is to be performed at the concert.

There is some excitement in the faculty about the programme: it is extremely ambitious in the large number of people taking part and their youth. In *Belshazzar's Feast* Chris will be conducting roughly two hundred performers, with ninety in the choir, sixty-nine in the orchestra, and two brass bands. He himself is the youngest conductor of the Music Society since 1969, having finished his postgraduate degree at Edinburgh last year.

William Schofield is also a young performer, a fourth year undergraduate who has been playing the cello since the age of ten and was the joint winner of the University's Tavey Memorial Prize in 1982. Alisdair Nicolson is also a graduate of Edinburgh University from two years ago who currently holds a fellowship working in composition, electronics and music-theatre.

This emphasis on youth with International Youth Year and European Music Year in mind, is particularly important, and the three were eager to stress the participation of so many students. But what do they feel about the apathy of many students with regard to classical musical events in the University? Alisdair Nicolson did not hesitate in his reply, "musical education is inadequate in that it fails to encourage people to listen to, let alone appreciate modern music in particular. Edinburgh, especially is a conservative city, where even the 'avant garde' Traverse Theatre is becoming less and less inclined to stage new and controversial works." Chris Bell demurred at this; "That may be so, but it's also true that the Music Society is on the up and up. Six years ago there were only 20 members of the Music Society choir who attended rehearsals sporadically; last year there were over a hundred singers in the Durufle Requiem who had on the whole attended rehearsals regularly. This time I'm conducting two hundred performers, that must indicate an increase of interest."

"But of course, there are problems in dealing with an amateur group. The main one is keeping people interested in Music Society. The danger is that the Music Faculty can tend to take over any musical organisation but I think we're getting over that. We concentrate on maintaining people's enjoyment of what they're doing as well as producing a performance of reasonable quality. With members of varying standards, it is quite a challenge! Given sixty performers, twenty of them will be unable to read music, but have good voices; twenty will be able to read music but lack self-confidence, the other twenty will be so good they'll blast all the others into silence — although

they do tend to induce a better performance after the initial shock! For me this is a big thing, and a rare opportunity to work with a large number of performers."

"We really are making an effort and with luck will be having spotlights and staging — provided it's permitted in McEwan Hall."

But what is it like to conduct a modern piece with an orchestra of students — a notoriously conservative breed with regard to classical music?

Chris, "Again, it's not easy. I have to sell the piece to the orchestra and get them to feel enthusiasm and feel how it works. The tendency is for them to play two bars at first attempt and then give up and one I've succeeded in selling it to them, they've got to sell it to the audience!"

And what does the composer think of attempts to perform his composition? Is there a basic idea behind the piece that should be expressed? Alisdair, "There is behind any piece an idea or thought in the mind of the composer — you don't create a piece of music in a box with rubber gloves. It's very difficult to analyse influences or ideas in one's own work. I've never had the chance of working with such a large orchestra before, and so to a large extent am experimenting with it. The conductor of modern music doesn't have the freedom of interpretation that he does of classical music — musical notation has become far more detailed, and I'm not afraid of not recognising the piece when it's performed."

And the opinion of William and Chris? William, "Well when I play the Elgar Cello Concerto I'm not necessarily playing it as Elgar intended it; there are changes in fashions in the playing of music, just as there are changes in fashions of clothes. Earlier this century the fashion was for slides and vibrato, now the sound is more precise with much less vibrato. There is always a latitude of interpretation. (Chris) "Yes, and each orchestra of each country, will have its own methods. If you see a programme advertising a particular piece, you'll say 'I've heard that before' — but you haven't heard it before; it's probably something you've never heard in your life."

"But what direction do you think music is moving in, in view of the recent return in fine art to the classical?" (There was a universal groan!) "Not the story of music lagging behind all the rest of the arts again!" Alisdair, "It's impossible to say where music is going because it's so diverse. Actually I'm not sure it's right to say that art is returning to the classical. I believe it's a sign of the current trend for individuality. If you look at fashion (excluding the cult of the Princess of Wales), there is no true model to conform to; people want to be themselves. This is more obvious in the arts culture; society requires a norm; the art-world does not put on the same pressure."

Chris, "That's really what this is all about — here we've got a huge group of young people eager to perform a difficult and demanding programme of music because they enjoy it for themselves — and their enthusiasm deserves support."

And what do they want the concert to show students?

William, "That music is about playing it because you enjoy it."

Helen Bell



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**SHINTY**

Edin. Univ. 1  
Mid-Argyll 4

On Saturday Edinburgh University Shinty Team played Mid-Argyll in one of their most important games of the season. Both teams, lying in the middle of the national fourth division, needed both points from this fixture to keep their promotion chances alive.

A true reflection of the dedication of the shinty lads was the fact that they were the only University team to brave the arctic conditions of Peffermill.

Mid-Argyll arrived early with a coach load of supporters hoping to reduce the home advantage of Edinburgh. Fortunately, however, the Uni's fans had men to the occasion and side lines were filled to capacity as the teams ran onto the park for the throw-up.

Playing with the sun and wind behind them Mid-Argyll soon took an early lead when their bulky full forward scraped the ball past Edinburgh's reserve goaly 'Grunter' Knox. Mid-Argyll continued their domination of the play but Edinburgh's defence was giving nothing away. An absorbing duel developed between Mid-Argyll's full forward Paul Scott and Edinburgh's international full back 'Fingers' Wood, who had by far his best game of his career so far. Signs of despair began to appear as all Mid-Argyll's good play came to a halt against the rugged Uni full backs of 'Plonker' Young, 'Fingers' Wood and 'Hughie and Ralf' MacGregor.

Gradually the Uni came more into the play and fought bravely against the elements.

At half time Edinburgh lost their experienced mid field player 'Slasher' Samuels through a suspected broken wrist. This was a blow to Edinburgh as Samuels had formed the link-pin of the Edinburgh side in the first half. However a replacement was soon found when a brave young man from Pollock Halls out for a breath of fresh air, volunteered to have a go at Scotland's national sport.

Thus Edinburgh started the second half with a full team, but not for long. A vicious, and unprovoked attack on Edinburgh's wing 'Mauler' Miller left him splayed out on the ground with blood gushing from his mouth, requiring half a dozen stitches. This attack did nothing but increase the Uni's determination to score, and it wasn't long before 'Thick Mick' Maguire floated a beautiful ball past two defenders and the Mid-Argyll goalie into the net. The crowd erupted and Maguire was hailed a hero by certain female members of the crowd.

Edinburgh had given their all and as the game came to an end it was again up to the back line to keep the score down. Thus the game ended with a 4-1 scoreline and the students can be justly proud of their performance. Their display earned them much respect not only with the home crowd but with the Mid-Argyll travelling supporters.

If you would like to meet the heroes of the Shinty Club buy a ticket for the Valentine's Cellidh featuring Spookiskerry, being held in the Pleasance 6 pm-1 am on Friday 15th. Tickets available from members or limited number available at door.  
Rhurig Mheadhion Jnr

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Although we'll be bringing with us a detailed presentation about avionics and ourselves, what we're really interested in doing is meeting people. So if you'd like to be one of the people we meet, write for an invitation to Caroline Burn, GEC Avionics Limited, Airport Works, Rochester, Kent ME1 2XX.

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# ALLEZ SCOTLAND!



## RUGBY

Scotland have never won at the dreaded Parc des Princes, and they prepare in trepidation for this year's encounter, with the staunch SRU members still somewhat bewildered by the events at Murrayfield and the likes of John Reason arrogantly gloating over the Irish victory.

But underneath the banner of pessimism which is being publicly waved with free abandon in rugby circles, there is a feeling of confidence that with the cornerstone of the Grand Slam team now looking somewhat more polished than two weeks ago, Scotland has a fair chance of victory. The half back pairing of Laidlaw and Rutherford can be a great deal more effective in Paris, with Laidlaw able to concentrate on his own game, having been relieved of the captaincy and with Rutherford becoming sharper with every game. (He was the outstanding player as Selkirk narrowly defeated Watsonians at Myreside last Saturday).

More significantly the back row has a more familiar ring to it with the return of David Leslie as captain and with Paxton on from the start. Together they may inspire a return to form of British Lion Jim Calder, and if so the back row combination may be the catalyst on an unexpected victory.



Pat Paxton's contribution in the five out could earn the Scots greater possession. Photo by Dave Yarrow

Whatever the case Paris should see a marvellous match, though it would be good to think that the 150-strong crusade from Edin-

burgh University might have something to celebrate. Allez Ecosse!

Dave Yarrow

## Edin Uni 9 Currie RFC 28

Currie RFC, in the lower reaches of Div IV, probably little expected to come away from a wintry Canal Fields as victors over the top of the table Edinburgh. Moreover the result had little to do with luck as Currie dominated all areas of play, especially in the pack and during the second half.

The match began with Hunter slotting over three penalties for the University in contrast to Currie's two failed penalty kicks within the first 20 minutes. However signs of Currie's domination in the scrum were starting to show with a number of balls won against the head. This was complemented by a series of set piece moves by the visitors, which if a little unspontaneous, showed Currie's willingness to run with the ball.

The breakthrough came for Currie near the end of the first 40 minutes with No. 8 Knott bursting through the Edinburgh defence to ground the ball near the corner. With stand-off Boyle, at last having found his touch the successful conversion brought the score to 9-6.

The strength of the Currie team began to be put to good use as powerful scrummaging swept away Edinburgh's pack leaving the backs helpless as first centre Innes touched down followed by his second try minutes later, and then Knott, his 'beer belly' sweeping all before him charged for the line. With three successful conversions the scoreline read 9-24. A turn round indeed.

Edinburgh, completely demoralised, conceded one further try to round off for them a very unhappy day with a 9-28 defeat. With only two further league fixtures, hopefully Edinburgh will bounce back to regain their winning form.

Kenneth Addly

## Sport in Brief

### Promising debut

The intra-mural rugby scene witnessed a fine performance last Wednesday from the A-team, playing their first match. In a crushing 70-4 victory over the Geophysicists the A-team showed great skill and determination, running in twelve tries.

Nevertheless improvement is expected in all areas of their game!

### Final defeat

Edinburgh men's hockey 1st XI were disappointingly beaten 1-0 by Heriot-Watt in the final of the Scottish Universities Hockey Tournament at Aberdeen last weekend.

### Sir Lester



Last week's only runner Wing and a Prayer cantered home at Newbury. The pattern can be maintained if Kingswick is backed in the Persian War Hurdle at Chepstow on Saturday. Later on the same card Very Promising should not be opposed in the Aynsley China Chase. Finally, an each way bet on Egg nog could be well rewarded in the Elder Chase at Newcastle.

## Penalty Shoot Out In Final

### FOOTBALL

Following last Sunday's successful trip to Dundee in the Scottish Universities' 5-a-side competition, the Football Club took a squad of seven to Jordanhill this Sunday to take part in the Scottish, Regional Finals of the Endsleigh National Collegiate 5-a-side tournament.

The team arrived through in Glasgow to discover that Smiler Galbraith had kept the "winning aroma" from last Sunday in the strips by not getting them washed — thanks Smiler!

In their section the Uni decided that only 3 wins out of 3 would suffice and so the squad duly came up with the goods by beating Kirkcaldy Tec, Dumfries Tec and Telford College, all by 2-1. The semi-final draw paired the Uni with Clinerly (somewhere near Aberdeen) who they quickly dispatched 2-0 and so moved onto

the final.

Aberdeen were the other finalists in a game which turned out to be very close. It was the Uni who went ahead through Adrian Martin who scored with a 20 yard effort which the keeper failed to hold only for Aberdeen to first equalise, and then take the lead. Only a 'cracker' of a left foot shot by Stuart 'don't have a left foot' Miller kept the Uni level and it remained 2-2 even after extra time had been played.

And so onto penalty kicks. Unfortunately that was as far as the Uni got, losing the trophy by 3-2 in the penalties with only Adrian Martin and Stuart Miller being able to beat the keeper from the spot.

Despite losing in the final, the squad will join Aberdeen as the Scottish representatives in the National Finals to be held down at Coventry at a later date.

Great credit must go to the seven, who played as a squad throughout the tournament and never missed the 'talents' of the club's four internationals who were down in Wales on Duty.

The squad was Doug Graham, Adrian 'but-we-still-go-down-to-Coventry' Martin, Ward Brooks, Stuart 'left-foot' Miller, Titch Mitchell, Mike Gafney and last but not least Greg Bronski Dimeck.

### ATHLETICS

## Wells' decline could be compensated by Bunnay emergence



Elliot Bunnay sees his way to another comfortable victory at Meadowbank. Photo by Dave Yarrow



Cameron Sharp — emerging from the shadow of Alan Wells. Photo by Dave Yarrow

Many a tear was shed last August when Allan Wells failed to even reach the 100m Olympic final. Some thought that Wells' exit also signalled the end of an era. But this happily is not the case with the tradition of Scottish sprinters still very much alive, as was illustrated last Sunday at the Meadowbank Indoor Championships. Cameron Sharp, for so long playing second fiddle to Wells is back to his best and defeated Ernest Obeng in winning the 60m sprint in 6.74 seconds. But the

highlight of the meeting was given by the new Scottish teenage sprint sensation Elliot Bunnay. Bunnay, still at school in Bathgate recorded the third ever fastest time for a Scot in winning the junior 60m in 6.75 seconds.

Bunnay, sponsored by Adidas, survives on an hour's training Grangemouth each day after school, but has already recorded 10.40 seconds at 100m. He is refreshingly unassuming and quickly jokes off any similarity to Allan Wells: "I'm still learning. I've

no definite goal at the moment, I'll just see how things go."

Elliot is affiliated to the Edinburgh Southern Harriers' Club and will race regularly this year culminating hopefully in the European Junior Championships in East Germany. He is certainly a tremendous prospect and with his great potential rival Ade Mafe, concentrating on the 200m the way is clear for him to head the British challenge in the blue ribbon event of athletics over the next decade.

Dave Yarrow

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# VALENTINES MESSAGES

**Tilly Mint**, Matriculation was the happiest day of my life and I have not stopped, nor will stop, loving you. **Jim Jim**

**Pete**, Now I'm old enough to know what I want, I want big boys in Black Leather. **Michelle, Pollock.**

**Panda-Face**, more beautiful than Samantha, more wonderful than a Christmas present. You can squeeze my blackheads any day.

**There is a man**, it is not me, his name is **Flat** with a silent **P**. Dear **Rally**, we all love thee.

**Dear SodiB** you know I will always love, caress, and raise you to the heights of ecstasy. **Doll.**

To my flame haired soul mate, **Joker**. "Keep the rain" - the New Town

To **Dougal** - My heart of soul, stay on the up beat - **Croaker**. PS "Tell evrybuddy I lovevur!"

**T**, my capacity for affection greatly exceeds my powers of imagination. Impressed? You will be... **A. Nother-Mole.**

**Steps**: Phillip and Drew don't love you but I do. Come and bull with my gilt-edged stocks anytime. **S.**

**Darling d'Oyly**, I wanna know what love is, and I want you to show me... but above all, I want your body. **Passion from Frigida.**

**To Ginty** - I love you more than ever. Here's to us and a happy future, together or apart - Yours, **Poppel.**

We love you **Angus West** - **J and S.**



**To K from Kirkcaldy**, if you thought Crow was mean, nasty and dirty, you should see my beside manner. From **M. From Maheart.**

**Bill Bailey**, you have spilt a yawning chasm in my heart - why do you ignore me?

**A.** "Every love relationship is based on unwritten conventions rashly agreed upon by the lovers during the first weeks of their love." **G.**

**Bismarck**, hope you feel like a fascist landlord. **Belliet** and **fact are never very far separated.**

**To Chris and Angela** (the sexy vets) from a **Couple of Randy Goats.**

**The Architects of Fear** are fab. **Love The Great Beyond.**

**For Alistair Sinclair**: Come and check my bedroom anytime. From one of your junior residents. **Guess Who?**

**J. M. Stephen** - Love ya! **XXX.**

**Jane**: Whatever happened to prawn pancakes at L'Auberge? Missing you madly. Lunch on me, Friday?

**Diane**, I'll meet you down the station. Love, **Andy.**

**Stella** - Thinking of you. **Augustus XXX.**

**To Mince and Snack**, hope you feel like a fascist landlord. **Belliet** and **fact are never very far separated.**

**To Honey-Jo, Ogbels, Love Beach** - Goodbye to **Jenny** - **Henry**

**Judith**, A careless whisper, I don't want your freedom, I only want you in your sexy interview suit. **George Michael.**

**Dearest Ding**, our love may have to reach to distant lands, but it will never break. I'll wait till the end of the earth. **Guess who (not Anne)**



**A** - Two years on, your turn to keep the bed warm. **Doll.**

**Hey, Junior Boy** - Read me some Winnie the Pooh, cos I've got **Patman Fever, Smellie.**

**Lesley S.** - "I have hope and good intentions" **B.**

**Love to the guy** in navy jogging trousers and white top at Popmobility from girl at other side of hall who watches you a lot.

I needed something to fill the hole in my sheet. **P. Bournemouth-Brighton.**

**For David Tripp**: I've kissed the Blamey Stone, so now you can kiss me. **From you Little Shamrock.**

**John Fitzgerald**, four years is too long to wait I love you. **Sally.**

All my love to my dear Welsh neighbour from your friend in **Salisbury Green.**

**For Dave Anderson**: We share your feelings about "the joy of sex". Interested in a threesome? **Guess Who?**

**Slimeshit**: You've got the balls, I've got the cue: let's make it on our usual table.

**Sandy Alex Hoare** - 8 out of 10 looking around me, not those 12 out of 10 women who expressed a preference said no.

**To the wearer of the Arran jersey**, I'm glad I was introduced to crow - and you.

**Gus**: I'm just along the passage waiting. **The Purple Lady.**

**To Alistair** - Radio forth devotee, happy fourteenth! From yet another hopelessly devoted agent fan.

**Dave** carpets carpets walls walls I hope my boyfriend got big balls. **Jane**

**Conor** We love you! From the DCB&P Soc.

**Poo's owner Jane**, I want to lick your honey! See you this weekend. **Another Bear**



**Dear Mr Hi-Tec**, let's play at motor-bikes (Part B). Love from Little Ping's **Slimy Legs**

**For Meryl Benstock**: Interested in helping me to sort out the Irish problems - specially mine? **Love, K. XX.**

**Pam "Sexy Eyes" Martin**, Long time no see. What are you up to now in **Salisbury Green?**

**For Philip Cooke**: Je l'adore chéri (Tu me connais bien). Ton amant **Zabedee**

**Whose a big boy then?** **Sheldand Shaggy.**

**Wild Animal**, can you practice the slow foxtrot? **Non-Italian Lover.**

**Susan Wilson**, my long-lost love. Come back to me. **Your friend of Freshers' Week** (remember me?).

**To Gilliam Hodge, Dorothy Pollock and Jill McLarnen** - we love you - from **Gavin, Brendan and Dave**. PS: 1 Corinthians 13 v. 4-8, 13.

**I love you Jeanie** - Spike See you on a weekday.

**To Helen**, hope you had a summer. **Wee Man.**

**To Woodrow**, I've been a long time. Maybe you've have Valentine's today. **Shortie XXX.**

**To Percy Throter**, Love is like a red, red Trotsky. From a **Big Girlie.**

**Sandy H.** I miss your short, fat hairy legs. - **K.**

**Happy 21st Sarah T!** Love from the rampant neophyte!

**Cracker cracker cracker cracker cracker**. You cracker cracker cracker cracker - I'm crackers about you!



**Fifteen minutes with you** oh, I wouldn't say no, no, no, no, no, no

**To John** (Turner JCR) - Did you know you have eyes like **Andrew Ridgeley** - that's a compliment! From the girl who bought a Student from you.

**From "Lorno Mouse" to "Shakespearean Kenneth"**: Hope to be your Valentine for 73 years - sailing on the sea of love - loving you. Yours always.

