

### MEET THE TEAM



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### Foreword from the Head

More so than ever, this Committee Edition of The Phantom has been a collaborative effort and without the hard work and dedication of its members, the Phantom Paper wouldn't be in the strong position that it's in. I want to start by thanking both Vanessa and Josh at the Union of Students for the hours they've worked in setting up Phantom for success. Without their administrative skills to schedule interviews, setup training sessions and keep the committee in contact with our amazing network of students, it's likely we wouldn't have much of a committee in the first place.

Of course, a huge thank you and congratulations to my incredible committee who have tackled the challenges of digital meetings and virtual training to make this magazine rich in content and something we can truly be proud of. All for a November deadline too which simply couldn't have happened if not for your dedication.

I would also like to thank the lecturers I emailed and those working in the university's digital marketing team for their support in recruiting our hardworking team of editors and a Phantom first, our incredibly talented content designer, Emily McIlroy. With a large portion of last year's committee either graduating or electing not to reprise due to the global situation, their help has ensured I still have a team I am confident in.

Finally, I want to take a moment to be selfish and thank my wonderful girlfriend Hollie who gave me the initial push to revive the Phantom Paper when I discovered the committee was likely to be vacant. You're my everything and your support has meant the world to me, thank you.

### Navigating Life as a Commuting Student

I'm sure I won't be the only person to talk about how bizarre this year has been. From moving out of halls early last summer to the desk-bound isolation that followed, to say that this academic year started off with a dodgy wheel would be an understatement. The whole frame might as well have come off. But, now over a month into what will be my final year at the University of Derby, I can honestly say that this has been the most transformative start I've had.

As the title has undoubtedly given away, I made the decision to commute this year. This is after three years at undergrad living in student accommodation – Sir Peter Hilton Court for two years and Peak Court for my third. Before my words get twisted, this is not because of any ill-experience while living in halls. Most of my fondest memories

### Head of the Paper

of undergrad are 3am moments in our cramped first-year kitchen or leaving coloured tinsel above our doors even though Christmas ended about four months prior.

Weighing up pros and cons, I made the decision for a number of reasons which have led me to situation I'm in now. This year, my course decided to only teach one class per week on-campus and I'm sure that extends across the majority of the university. Instead of paying admittedly reasonable rent charges in halls, I am fortunate enough to pay less rent at home with my folks and I found that a single train ticket per week wouldn't break the bank. I had the opportunity to, live at home after three years of independence and embark on the toughest stage of my education yet. It's been a tough start.

The MA Publishing induction week came and went with as much speed as I anticipated. The days have definitely gotten shorter since March of last year – perhaps that's another side effect that hasn't been listed yet – and our online introductions felt brief as ever.

Something about printing my own module handbooks felt like such a big deal when in reality it really wasn't.

one highlight for me was the first socially distanced Fresher's Fair. As a new commuter, I booked two nights at a Derby Premier Inn and had the opportunity to host a stall for the Phantom Paper on both days. Although I had to rely on two hours' worth of trains to get there, the event gave me a refresher of student life that I feel a lot of students missed out on – especially those of us that had it cut short at the end of last year.



Everything seemed to bode well for this term's learning opportunities. My journeys had run surprisingly smoothly and the new ticket system for Midlands railways meant that the carriages were emptier than I had ever seen. The dreaded online lectures were upon us, but I found that my lecturers had done a lot to prepare for the new digital environment and our class feels strikingly close considering how little we physically see each other. That said, the novelty of dressing gown attire and in-bed learning soon wore off on me. Now I find myself dressing more formally now than I did at undergrad just to get into the right mindset.

Everything was going remarkably well. Then, the tier system came in.

New government guidance advised against the use of public transport through specific counties unless absolutely necessary. This included areas that I would travel through to get to my Derby destination and there were rumblings of a tier increase in the Nottingham area. As someone who works in close contact with a number of vulnerable people, each trip to my weekly class felt like I was rolling the dice at putting those people at risk – all for the sake of a discussion or live feedback. Both of those are important aspects of the course, ones I am now missing immensely, but not more so than the safety of my colleagues and my family.

### Head of the Paper

As of writing this, I am relying on course resources and the lecture recordings to keep on track of my assignments. Luckily, I am someone well versed in technology so meeting with my lecturers on Teams and exchanging emails hasn't been too daunting a task – but I fear that may not be the case for everyone. We're all making do with what we have; it's important to make sure we all have the same chance at success.

### Written by Owen Corkin





he beginning of university is always a daunting task for any budding young (or not so young) fresher, even more so this year than ever before. But there are some classic examples of fresher ignorance that come into play during the first weeks that could have possibly been avoided. Annoying your neighbours, drinking that entire bottle of Jager, ruining your sleep schedule, or having THE WORST diet anyone in England has



ever had. I was once like you, dear fresher. A slave to my own laziness, but then I was freed by my own need to consume better, more satisfying food! My fresher food of choice was pot noodles on toast... a travesty by any regard. And although you will produce some hangover curing mega meals there are a few tips I'd like to pass down onto you that'll speed up your progression to becoming a real human that can cook... and... err... clean dishes and stuff.

### 1. Show Me The Moneeeeeey!

I was a lazy fresher. I went to the closest shop I could find when buying my foods and I rarely expanded my range outside of fish, chicken, and a potato-



based addon.
Sainsburys was
my go -o shop
(if you live at
Sir Peter Hilton
then you know

what I mean) and each week it cost me roughly £25 - £45 on food. Now in third year, I haven't gotten any less lazy, but my incredibly cheap and rusty car does allow me the luxury of travelling a little bit further for my food, to Aldi in particular. There I can get a two-week shop for roughly the same price. That

means over the past two years I have lost at least £2400 to laziness and lack of

"That means over the past two years I have lost at least £2400 to laziness"

# Freshers Food Done Right

exploration with my food options (and that is a very low estimate, I likely have lost much more than this). I could have bought a holiday in Spain or satisfied my drinking habits for a couple of weeks with that sort of money. You should really consider whether walking an extra 15 - 20 minutes each week is worth £2400.

### 2. Herbs and Spices

What do you think KFC's delicious combination of herbs and spices are? Salt. Whatever you're cooking everything can be improved with salt – and probably pepper. Granted, don't dollop it on like it's going out

of fashion, but just gracefully adding a sprinkle can give an extra zing to any meal. I only recently got my first spice,

"My go-to was breaded chicken with two waffles and a mixed bag of microwavable vegetables"

chilli flakes, I was scared that I couldn't handle the extra task of sprinkling an extra ingredient in but when I did, I realised how much better all my food tasted. There is such a wide range of choices you can go for, personally I love chilli or garlic, but you can mix and match to suit you. Sage, oregano, rosemary, even mint if you are feeling particularly wild. Good choices also include chicken seasoning; rub your skinless chicken with it and pop it in the oven and you've found very quickly that you've made your



dull piece of meat into a pleasure of the senses. Paprika, garlic powder, maybe even a touch of

cinnamon. Granted, a lot of these ingredients are mainly used when you are creating a non-stick pan-based dish like noodles – a classic. However, rice, spaghetti or fusilli are also very good choices, and you can get proper big bags of fusilli at Tesco's for dirt cheap. There's no reason why you can't add these features to your oven cooked chips or microwavable meal.

### 3. Tip for the Lazy

Two big options you will have is the oven or the hob. The oven is a relatively painless way of cooking semi-decent food if you are tired or too lazy to stand in the kitchen literally waiting for things to cook, but the difference is both the satisfaction of the food and the good it can do to your body. For the basics, cooking either breaded fish, chicken, a meat pie or something a bit fancier such as scampi or squid can be a great and efficient way of cooking when you are run down from all the grinding academic work. My go-to was

breaded chicken with two waffles and a mixed bag of microwavable vegetables. I chose waffles because I

"Another little tip would be to experiment particularly with fruit."

liked how I could plan that there were twelve in a pack so I had enough for six meals, with that I could have two breaded chickens, two breaded fish, and some left over to have with sausages, eggs, and beans



and when you have such little freezer space in those student halls you'll appreciate not having to go out every

few days to buy supplies. Of course, that wasn't exactly super healthy, nor was it very creative, but in first year I didn't care much about food, and if you feel similar then you might want to start with this simple sequence. Admittedly, this probably doesn't work great if you are vegetarian or vegan but it could be mimicked using relevant substitutes in the

supermarkets' 'Free-From' aisles.

### 4. Clean/Fruit It Up

I accept that the last thing you want to do when eating a meal is start some grueling dish washing but as you sit there watching episode 129 of Friends "The One with Ross's Teeth" those stains on those dishes are slowly becoming thicker and stickier. Straight after a meal is the best time to clean the surface, clear away your dishes and make sure that your already uneasy relationship with your new student friends isn't further intensified by dirty dishes piling up on

the counter top. Another little tip would be to experiment particularly with fruit. It was surprising to me that gammon and pineapple work exceptionally well together –



also try curry with bananas, or melon with chicken. Fruit is a great way of livening up a dish whilst also boosting your immune system. Although some fruits go off very quickly, it is a good idea to have a constant supply of healthy snacks and additions to strengthen your body and give you a boost when you need it the most.

### 5. Freedom!

Be like Gordon Ramsay with your meals, granted, you are nothing like Gordan Ramsay but you can pretend, like you're five years old. Experiment! Sure, sometimes you'll ruin what could have been quite a decent dish, but that risk comes at the chance

of making something truly mouthwateringly good. At this point in your life you need to take risks and find out



your real niches. Find your signature dish, try out recipes online; change, twist, twirl, and spin your foods into whatever shapes you want because at what other stage in your life will you have the opportunity to do all these things?

### **Written by Tom Berrington**

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## Generation of Gaming Retrospective: The Good, the Bad and the Gimmicky

In the world of video games, there are such things known as generations. Eras spanning from the birth of one console to the arrival of the next. This month is no different, bring the PlayStation 5 and Xbox Series X in less than a few weeks. However, while the next generation is just around the corner, the last generation deserves a send-off for the good it did (mostly). This is a retrospective of the eighth generation of gaming.



### The Nintendo 3DS

Company: Nintendo Release: Spring 2011 Variants: 3DS,3DS XL, 2DS, new 3DS, new 3DS XL, new 2DS Notable Games: Pokémon Sun/Moon, Animal

Crossing: New Leaf, Super Mario 3D Land

Speaking of the gimmicky. Ladies, gentlemen and non-binary folk, I present the 3DS. Following the success of the regular DS, you would think that Nintendo would expand on everything that made it great. "However," thought the geniuses at Nintendo headquarters, "what if we do that while also coupling it with the current Imax 3D craze!" This sentiment aged like milk in a desert.

The 3DS was an alright console. It had fun games and was good for what it was: a portable, stronger

**Features Editor** DS. However, the push of such a gimmicky feature, coupled with the lacklustre hardware, is why the only notable games for the system were made by Nintendo themselves. No other studio wanted anything to do it. However, Nintendo's games alone paid off as it still sold over 75 million copies. The 3DS did well, but it could have been so much better.

### The PlayStation Vita

Company: Sony Release: Winter 2011 Notable Games: Persona 4: Golden, Tearaway, Wipeout 2048



The PlayStation Vita launched

to critical acclaim. People were praising it for its, amazing graphics, for a handheld, fun games, and great hardware. It looked to be a success and a legitimate competitor to the Nintendo 3DS. However, that is where the problem lied—the 3DS.

At the time of the PlayStation Vita's launch, the Nintendo 3DS had been out, worldwide, for nine months. That was enough time for Nintendo to port, both, one of the highest-rated games of all time (The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time) to the system and bring a Mario Kart to the console. Who needs a new handheld when you can have Mario Kart?

Sales for the Vita dropped off almost immediately. Its flagship game, Tearaway, was later ported to PlayStation 4; and, aside from fans of anime-esque games, nobody cared about the PlayStation Vita. A tragic end for, what could have been, an amazing handheld.

### <u>The Wii U</u>

Company: Nintendo Release: Winter 2012 Notable Games: Super Smash Brothers' for Wii U, Mario Kart 8, The Legend of Zelda: The Wind Waker HD



The Wii was a big deal. As you know, everyone and their grandmother bought a Wii. So, when Nintendo was looking to create their next console, they did the smart thing and decided to make a better Wii. Thinking "if the Wii sold well, imagine the Wii 2!", led to the creation of the Wii U. It released November 2012. Nobody bought it.

People give many reasons to why the Wii U sold poorly. Some say the games, others said the hardware. The truth, however, was the advertising. For a long time, people didn't know whether the Wii U was a new console or just a better Wii. This led to people not buying it on release, sales plummeting and all other companies running for the hills—taking their games with them.

Much like the PlayStation Vita, if you had the console, you enjoyed it. However, the lack of support from other companies meant the console struggled throughout its lifetime; Nintendo starting work on a new console just 2 years after its launch. Another sad death for an, arguably less, good console.

### **The PlayStation 4**

Company: Sony Year: Winter 2013 Variants: PlayStation 4, PlayStation 4 Slim, PlayStation 4 Pro Notable Games: God

of War, Detroit: Become Human, Spiderman

In early 2013, Sony held two spaces in the top five best-selling consoles of all time. Thanks to the PlayStation 4, Sony now holds three. What can be said about the PlayStation 4 which has not been said already? On launch, it received unanimous praise and that has just not stopped growing. The graphics are great. The games are some of the best ever made. The only complaint is that the PS4 Pro, the 4K variant, has a somewhat loud fan. However, that is all. Praise be to the PlayStation 4; may the PlayStation 5 do even better.

### The Xbox One

Company: Microsoft Release: Winter 2013

Variants: Xbox One, Xbox One S, Xbox One X Notable Games: Halo 5, Gears 5, Xbox Game Pass



For the first three years, the Xbox One felt like a joke. Following

### **Features Editor**

the strength of the Xbox 360, Microsoft, launched a console forcing players to use the worst part of the previous console (Xbox Kinect: a glorified webcam), tried marketing it as a TV alternative and it had few games. Then they released Xbox Game Pass.

Instead of buying a new game, you could pay Xbox £10 a month to get a Netflix sized catalogue of games, ranging through all genres. Suddenly, the laughing stock just got the best deal in all of gaming. Double takes were had by all. The Xbox One was not a great console. Now, it is one of the best consoles out there—nothing more to say than that.

### The Nintendo Switch

Company: Nintendo Release: Spring 2017

Variants: Switch, Switch Light

Notable Games: The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild, Super Smash Brothers Ultimate, Super Mario

Odyssey



After the Wii U, Nintendo was almost done for. Not financially but reputably. If the Xbox One was the laughingstock, the Wii U was the court jester. It would take a miracle for Nintendo to come back from this. That miracle has a name; the Nintendo Switch.

Take the fun of the previous consoles (ground-breaking games, multiplayer, solid graphics) and give it the portability of the 3DS. That is how you print money. The Switch, within 3 years, has almost managed to outsell the Xbox One and the Wii U combined. Those three notable games, upon release, were cited as some of the best ever made. The Nintendo Switch is a masterclass of a console and, if Nintendo plays their cards right, could end up as the bestselling console of all time. It is that good.

The eighth generation of gaming will go down in history as when all three of the big developers ended on a high. If the next is anywhere as good as what we have now, the future looks bright. Almost blinding.

### **Written by Harry Potton**

# Why You Are Not Responsible For CLIMATE CHANGE

know what you're thinking. "Of course humans are responsible! CO2 emissions! Greenhouse Gases!" Of course, you are right. In this article, I'm not going to try to convince you that humans are not to blame for the destruction of our planet. But I am going to try to convince you that it isn't you or I who are killing her. Because as much as we could toss out our plastic straws, recycle our cardboard, and cycle to work rather than drive, none of these things are going to make a big enough impact to preserve the Earth. Not while billionaires, the world's 1%, are out there overwhelming all the good we could do, all the changes we could make, by a factor of 50.

### The Billionaire Problem

Betsy Devos

and her family

own 10 boats, 4

aeroplanes, and

2 hélicopters.

And how eco-

friendly do you

think they are?

Te are being told time and again, by the media, by our primary school teachers, that we need to use less paper; take a shower rather than a bath (which, considering I know people who take 45 minute showers, I've never been able to see the logic behind), and all do our part to save the planet. But if you take the time to look into the biggest contributors to climate change, this all seems

ridiculous and, frankly, a bit pointless.

Each time Jeff Bezos decides to take a trip in his fancy private jet, it burns enough fossil fuel to run a small town. Betsy Devos and her family own 10 boats, 4 aeroplanes, and 2 helicopters. And how ecofriendly do you think they are? That woman is just an education secretary, and her and her husband's combined net worth is estimated at \$5.1 billion.

An article in the Guardian written by George Monbiot said it best; "...when

Google convened a meeting of the rich and famous at the Verdura resort in Sicily in July to discuss climate breakdown, its delegates arrived in 114 private jets and a fleet of mega yachts, and drove around the island in supercars. Even when they mean well, the ultra-rich cannot help trashing the living world."

Fracking

he super-rich have also brought fracking back into style. Fracking is the process of extracting oil and gas from rocks deep in the ground with water, sand, and chemicals. It is also disgustingly bad in pretty much every way conceivable.

Fracking uses chemicals that can be damaging to the air and water, such as benzene. Benzene can

also escape into the air once released from the rock, which is, as you may have guessed, quite bad for air pollution. Methane can also escape from the rock, which is a particularly potent greenhouse gas. The chemicals used in fracking can pollute people's drinking water, too. There are obviously other issues with it as well, but this isn't meant to be a lesson



in fracking, suffice to say it is not a good thing to be doing.

Now, fracking has actually been around for quite a while; the first instance was used in 1949. However, in the mid-2000s it saw a boom when – you guessed it – Americans figured out they could extract oil

from the Earth on the cheap by using drills. This has created jobs, benefitted the economy, and all those other things bad people use as an excuse to do bad things. If massive companies are going to be digging into the ground and releasing harmful gases into the air and water for fun, what's the comparison in using a paper straw for your Fanta?

**Preventing Our Demise** 

fter a quick google (another company whose CEO is a despicable monster), it seems most estimates for simply preventing mass extinction – which should really be like the absolute lowest bar to be aiming for – are around \$100 billion per year. Now, Jeff Bezos' net worth at my time of

writing is currently \$175 billion. He is not the only billionaire in the world, but he alone could take care of the cost for at least the first year.

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billion.

A lot of people insist that net worth isn't the same as how much money a person has, and they'd be right. Net worth is (roughly speaking) the amount a person would have if they sold all of their assets and possessions. So Bezos could sell, like, half of his garbage – I mean seriously, who actually needs a private jet, the man does nothing – and still be worth over \$75 billion. Which I think is probably enough for him to still

not have to skip any of his meals. Not to mention if you crunch the numbers, he's said to earn about \$321 million every day.

This man is practically a war criminal, considering his staff earn minimum wage in terrible working conditions and get told when they're allowed to take a toilet break like a toddler in nursery. And the cherry on top, he pays practically nothing in taxes! If every billionaire in the world paid the same in taxes as the general population does (proportionately



speaking), we'd have more than enough to fix the climate crisis. Instead, it was reported that Amazon paid 1.2% in taxes last year. And if that was the number that was actually reported, let's face it, it

### **Humanities Editor**

probably means the real number was lower.

As well as actively destroying the planet, billionaires such as the Koch brothers are trying to convince people that the crisis doesn't even exist, which makes sense considering Koch Industries reportedly has a carbon footprint of around 300 million tons. Of course they don't want people to think climate change is real, they alone are probably responsible for half of it.

### So What Have We Learnt?

o, instead of paying what they owe and doing their bit to save literally everything on Earth, lunatics like Elon Musk are just planning on making Mars habitable so that he and his wife "Grimes" and their child "series-of-letters-and-numbers" can take off once they've suitably obliterated Earth enough that you and I will spontaneously combust at the drop of a hat. If this doesn't make you absolutely furious, it really, really should. The same people who are single-handedly causing the breakdown of Earth are the same people – the only people – who are in a position to actually fix it, and probably the only people who will make it out of the situation alive.



Written by Jess Sharples

## The impact of Coronavirus on universities and student living

### The Current State of the Pandemic

The number of cases relating to the Coronavirus are rising every day in the UK – with the most recent number of cases averaging at 12,000 daily and following with an average of 19 new deaths daily in the last week. Since coming out of a full lockdown just a few months ago, the UK is now under a number of rules and regulations to follow in order to keep control over the Coronavirus Pandemic. This includes the rule of 6, 10pm curfew on bars and pubs, compulsory face masks and people to work from home where possible.

This includes the rule of 6, 10pm curfew on bars and pubs, compulsory face masks and people to work from home where possible.

Government rules and regulations have now been set to be implemented through a threetier system across the UK. Tier one being the lowest and tier three being the highest. A number of cities over the last few days have been since placed in the tier two sector.



### The COVID impact on Universities

Since the return of universities in the last month and students moving back to places of study there have been over 40 universities that have reported confirmed coronavirus cases since across the UK.

With the mixing of thousands of students coming in from different areas within universities, this is having a huge impact on the spread of the Coronavirus disease.

This is causing some universities to implement stricter measures such as putting their students in isolation for a number of days. This has been seen particularly over a number of universities in Scotland and in England at Manchester University.

### How is the University of Derby dealing with the current Coronavirus Pandemic?

Our university has been seen to implement strong measures across the university in their campuses and across halls of residence. Within campuses there are strong social distancing measures in place around waling areas and within classrooms to ensure the safety of university students. This including social distanced seating within classrooms, keyboard coverings, cleaning work areas and hand sanitisers/walkway stickers placed consistently around the campus buildings. Seeing the university put these measures in place

provides clarity that they are doing everything they can to ensure the safety of their students whilst studying at the University of Derby. Likewise, in student's hall of residence, measures have been implemented to ensure safety including safer walkways, no overnight visitors, the wearing of face coverings around the building and no gatherings of more than 6 in a flat. The university are taking this pandemic as serious as possible to ensure the best learning for students without the worry of catching the Coronavirus.

### The impact of the Coronavirus on students

C tudents have been seen to struggle with the adjustment of the new university lifestyle. Over a million students arrived at different universities all over the UK between September and October. However, a number of students now find themselves in isolation because of the rising number of Coronavirus cases within universities. This is having a huge impact on the mental health and wellbeing of students. Particularly, over speculation that some students won't be able to return home from their halls of residence over the Christmas period. With the number of strict rules and regulations in place by universities, this is becoming quite daunting on students. As we can see, the Coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on students returning to complete the academic year 2020-21 and could possibly affect them going into 2021-22.

Current students at the moment will complete either the full academic year or the autumn semester of their studies online with minimal on-campus classes. This new digital learning environment is likely to impact how well students tackle their assignments and their effectiveness in their studies. Some students' wellbeing may also struggle with this adjustment; particularly because they are forced to spend a large amount of time in their halls of residence.

In addition to the strict rules and regulations, particularly, those students studying their first year at university have missed events such as Freshers Fortnite. However, the closure of clubs and the strict social distancing measures required by university pale in comparison to the number of students being put into isolation quickly into the start of university. But aside from the nightlife, the coronavirus has likely had a huge impact on students academically in a particularly negative way.

To conclude with this article, it is accurate to say that the Coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on universities, students and the typical university lifestyle. Going forward, it is definitely going to be challenging for universities and students over the next academic year and possibly continuing into the academic year of 2021-22. With hopes that this pandemic will end soon and that 'normal' can return once again, nobody knows what the future holds, as of yet it is a waiting game.

### **Written by Bethany Parkes**



**Sports Editor** 

# Inat to Football club season

n an ever-changing world, which has seen the introduction of face masks and two-meter distances from one another, one regularity amongst the chaos has been sport. Not only was it a distraction from the struggles that isolation came with, but it also brought back routine to a quarantined lifestyle – something which definitely could have used a bit of structure.

However, this isn't the Premier League. Instead this is British Universities and College Sports Leagues

"Starting January 2021, BUCS will resume organised, yet non-competitive games."

(BUCS), and unfortunately, the BUCS leagues took a similar approach to the lower tiers of English football and took the decision to end all remaining fixtures of the 2019-20 season.

Despite the announcement, it was a relatively successful season across the board for all five University of Derby Men's Football teams, with four out of five teams finishing in the top three of their respective leagues.

However, the 2020/21 season is shaping up to be a very different one. BUCS will not be conducting any competitive fixtures for Men's football this season. Starting January 2021, BUCS will resume organised, yet non-competitive games. This



only applies to Derby Men's Firsts however, and not the remaining four teams.

mongst all the uncertainty, newly elected club president, Daniel Lawlor-Potton, has taken initiative and entered three teams under the University's name into the infamous Sunday League football. For the upcoming season, Derby Men's Football Club will be competing in the Midlands Regional Alliance Division One, and the Premier Division and Division Two of the Long Eaton Sunday League.

When speaking to Lawlor-Potton on the expectations for next season, he remained optimistic on the prospect of all three

teams playing Sunday League football.

"We've managed to make it work with the three leagues, so hopefully we can do well in that. We've been told that the standard is still relatively decent so we should hopefully have a good bit of competition. There's no reason to think we can't win every league," he said.

The style of football the club hopes will generate three league titles, stems from first team manager John McGrath. His direct yet patient approach almost led to two consecutive league titles. However, the team were narrowly beaten on goal difference to miss out on their second league title in a row.

"The philosophy of each team is really down to the managers that run it. I know Macca [John McGrath], he's an ex-pro and he likes possessional football, he



### **Sports Editor** interest given the current

climate and people not really bothering."

Despite the pandemic, interest is still sky high with an estimation of around 190 people attending trials this year. After close examination, that figure will be whittled down to approximately 30 to 50 players who will join the squad as soon as possible.

With a large proportion of people expected to trial, extra measures have been taken to ensure the compliance with the Governments social distancing

All trialists will have allocated a time slot in which they can arrive and depart to allow players to leave one by one. On arrival, all players will also be required to wear a face mask, whilst following the two-meter markings on the floor. These procedures will continue throughout the season.

### "Despite the pandemic, interest is still sky high with an estimation of around 190 people attending trials this year."

All three leagues that the University has been entered into are already underway, with some teams having already played six games.

erby Men's Seconds joined the party and kickstarted their Sunday League adventure in the Midlands Regional Alliance with a 1-0 win at home to Hilton Harriers Seniors Reserves. A first half goal from Tino Mtangadura sealed the three points for the University.

The third and fourth team who play in the Long Eaton Sunday League Premier Division and Division One respectively, will play their inaugural fixtures the following week on October 18th, and hope to build on the winning start set by the second team.

doesn't like direct football. He likes playing it about until you see a ball in behind or an opening in the final third. He likes keeping it. He doesn't like playing backwards, he likes going forwards, but he always likes close range short passing options until there's the potential to play in behind. With regards to the other managers, I think they try and play the same," said Lawlor-Potton on the club's style of football.

The club president was not naive to the fact that they may have to adjust their approach for Sunday

league football.

"Given we are playing on Sunday league surfaces this year, we may have to adapt those tactics a little bit because the 4G at Kedleston Road is not the same as a grass pitch on a December morning in Derby," Lawlor-Potton humorously said.

"We will try and keep it possessional because that is how we know but our players aren't always the most physical, so we are not always looking to be direct, long ball because we probably won't win those battles most of the time," he continued.

Not only has there been some major changes to the leagues, but Derby Men's Football will oversee some major changes to the squad. Due to the large number of third years and international students in the squad last season, the current squad remains light and in need of some fresh faces.

ach year the club holds trials in a bid to better ■ the squad. Although this is a yearly thing, there ■ is added emphasis on the importance these trials hold. To put this into perspective, the first team only have three returning players, meaning there is almost an entire squad to fill.

Talking about the trials Lawlor-Potton said: "So trials are coming up this week and we've still got a lot of interest, we've got the same sort of interest as we've had in the previous years which is good because we were worried we would get a lot of dropping in

# How has Covid-19 affected the music industry?

ike a lot of people, I was looking forward to spending the summer after graduating watching some of my favourite bands in a rainy field. Festival season is something that many plan for throughout the year, avid festival-goers spend months anticipating line-ups and meticulously selecting the artists that they'll see over the weekend. As the months grew closer to summer, the festival groups that had laid dormant on Facebook began to stir.

Glastonbury, one of the largest festivals hosted in the United Kingdom released the first half of their line up in the beginning of March. Huge names like Diana Ross and Paul McCartney were expected to grace the Pyramid stage as part of the Legends. Bands such as Glass Animals, Fontaines D.C and The Jesus and Mary Chain were also meant to perform

over the weekend to the thousands of customers that attend that

magical festival each year.

Unfortunately, the anticipation felt by many festival goers was short lived and, on March the 18th, Glastonbury was cancelled. A few weeks later, the familiar buzz of excitement circulated once more. The second half of the line-up was set to be released. Online forums were filled with the educated guesses of music lovers who wanted nothing more than to see their favourite bands play at Glastonbury. Unfortunately, the anticipation felt by many

festival goers was short lived and, on March the 18th, Glastonbury was cancelled.

The ever-growing Coronavirus pandemic

### **Music & Events Editor**

affected many industries during the national lockdown. Pubs and schools were shut down. Supermarkets ran out of basic necessities and could only operate on a limited capacity. Students, as well as myself, were left in the dark about whether our exams would go ahead or if we would be able to access the necessary resources to complete our assignments. The holidays people had planned to go on were all cancelled, and no one knew how long all these measures would last for.

An industry that was often forgotten about was music. The rise in cases and the growing deaths across the globes meant that hosting a music festival would be too much of a risk and slowly, each UK festival got cancelled. Some festivals, in a bid to quell the anxious minds of their customers, announced that

their festivals would be taking place in September. Shindig, a festival that normally takes place in May was one of the few that decided to take this approach but that was still a short-lived fantasy.

s the pandemic worsened and the recently promised September festivals were also postponed, customers were then offered the opportunity to roll their tickets over to next year. This meant that people had a guaranteed place at the same festival and didn't run the risk of losing their money. For the Glastonbury ticket holders, this was an offer they couldn't refuse especially since its notoriously hard to get tickets. The rollover also meant that festivals could retain some of their income.

For other festivals, the ticket rollover was not quite enough. Boardmasters had been cancelled in 2019 due to the high winds across the Cornish coasts.



This meant that the Festival Directors had already

promised a ticket rollover to 2020. Due to this, a festival that had already lost a huge chunk of its revenue from the first cancellation had now lost another chance at gaining back lost money. These festivals rely heavily on ticket purchases to build stages, hire security and pay the performing artists. Another cancellation would mean that the smaller festivals would lose the chance of hosting another year because of a lack of funds. In cases like Boardmasters,

Customers were then offered the opportunity to roll their tickets over to next year.

this is concerning as ticket holders run the risk of losing both the festival and the money they had invested in tickets.

ome other festivals, such as 2000 Trees in Gloucestershire, came up with inventive ways to gather donations from the public. They began to offer rewards based on the amount of money donated to their JustGiving page. A donation of £50 would get an A3 laminate picture of your face plastered on the door of a portaloo. This donation would also mean that you could skip to the front of said portaloo, a perk that many of us would appreciate when you think about the state some festival toilets

A donation of £50 would get an A3 laminate picture of your face plastered on the door of a portaloo.

are left in. On the upper end of the scale, a hefty donation of £10,000 would give you the opportunity to become a main stage sponsor and have your name associated with both the stage and festival programme.

During the height of the lockdown, many festivals also hosted online events. This showed to many that, whilst the public couldn't attend in person, people could still have all the festival fun from the comforts of their own homes. Boomtown put on

a weeklong event over Facebook that featured a mixture of DJ sets and circus acts, performed from the artists very own gardens. Glastonbury teamed up with BBC iPlayer to show never televised before sets and for a moment, the festival bug was satisfied.

My family and I spent the months of May and June watching these festival live streams, creating our own lockdown festival. We set up tents in the garden, my dad painted miniature concrete Glastonbury letters. Our weekends were spent drinking, listening to music and cooking vast quantities of barbecue food. Whilst none of us could attend the festivals we had spent the first half of the year pining for, we still had a good time and part of us seemed to forget all the things that Coronavirus had stopped us from doing.

### **Written by Alfie Pritchard**



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# BE FEATURED IN NEXT MONTH'S MAGAZINE



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