

# Humanity Hallows

.co.uk

Manchester Metropolitan University Student Magazine



Festival Round Up

Escape the City for Less

Suzi Quatro

Hannah Witton

# PINS



Manchester  
Metropolitan  
University

## JAWS

TUESDAY 25TH APRIL  
 CLUB ACADEMY

## THE HUNNA

THURSDAY 27TH APRIL  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## HAYSEED DIXIE

THURSDAY 27TH APRIL  
 CLUB ACADEMY

## CLOUDBUSTING

FRIDAY 28TH APRIL  
 ACADEMY 3

## BOBBY V.

FRIDAY 28TH APRIL  
 CLUB ACADEMY

## SHALAMAR

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## CASH

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL  
 ACADEMY 3

## BEDNAREK

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL  
 CLUB ACADEMY



## RAT BOY WITH SPRING KING

FRIDAY 5TH MAY  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## SOUL II SOUL

SATURDAY 20TH MAY  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## GIGANTIC VOL 4

SATURDAY 27TH MAY  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## SUGARHILL GANG

TUESDAY 6TH JUNE  
 GORILLA MANCHESTER



## THEE OH SEES

WEDNESDAY 14TH JUNE  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## LITTLE STEVEN

SUNDAY 18TH JUNE  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## BLUE OYSTER CULT

SUNDAY 25TH JUNE  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## CHEAP TRICK

WEDNESDAY 28TH JUNE  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY



## THE SHINS

TUESDAY 22ND AUGUST  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## TASH SULTANA

TUESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER  
 CLUB ACADEMY

## NATASHA WATTS

SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER  
 ACADEMY 3

## MAYDAY PARADE

FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## YOUNG GUNS

MONDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER  
 CLUB ACADEMY

## VEGA

THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER  
 ACADEMY 3

## NEW FOUND GLORY

FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER  
 MANCHESTER ACADEMY

## THE HYENA KILL

FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER  
 ACADEMY 3

## PINKED FLOYD

SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER  
 ACADEMY 3



## THE DRUMS

WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER  
 ACADEMY 2



Ben Macwhinnie

**W**elcome to *Humanity Hallows*, Manchester Metropolitan University's official student magazine.

Firstly, I'd like to congratulate our Issue 6 Student Photography Competition winner Ben Macwhinnie. Your photograph of St Peter's Square got a brilliant response from our readers, well done!

This issue is packed with some fantastic features, articles and interviews. Over the past few weeks, our team has caught up with Manchester band PINS, music legend Suzi Quatro, city photographer Simon Buckley and vlogger, author and feminist Hannah Witton. We have also been looking at films for the summer, and, as it's that time of year again, we turn our attention to the upcoming festival season, where there's something for everyone.

If you're a Manchester Met student looking to get involved in a new project this year, we are always looking for writers, illustrators, filmmakers, photographers and designers on an ongoing basis. We want you to help make *Humanity Hallows* an informed, inspiring, witty and opinionated collection of student voices and talents that make our city brilliant. All current students and alumni are invited to get involved. For more information turn to page 43.

Enjoy!

**Jacqueline Grima (Student Editor-in-Chief)**

*Humanity Hallows*, Manchester Metropolitan University's official student magazine, is a Student Media Make a Difference project run by the IDEA office based in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. For information on upcoming features, advertising opportunities and more, contact: N.Carragher@mmu.ac.uk

**Natalie Carragher (Student Media Officer)**

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Contact:  
 Email: [HumanityHallows.Editor@gmail.com](mailto:HumanityHallows.Editor@gmail.com)  
 Telephone: 0161 247 1951  
 Address: *Humanity Hallows*, Manchester Metropolitan University,  
 212 Geoffrey Manton Building, Manchester, M15 6LL

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Zarina Ahktar  
 Daniel J. Broadley  
 Natalie Carragher  
 Benjamin Francis  
 Cassidy  
 Pierangelly Del Rio  
 Martinez  
 Alice Denison  
 Andrew Deyes  
 Jacqueline Grima  
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 Neil Harrison  
 George Haigh  
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 Hurdsfield  
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 Simran Kaur Takhi  
 Nima Khorramrooz

#### Dylan McCallum

Pragya Singh  
 Jamie Stewart  
 Lucy Madeleine  
 Watson  
 Andrew Wilcox  
 Jeb Wildbush

#### Photography

Agota Juskaite  
 Natalie Carragher  
 Neil Harrison  
 Ben Macwhinnie

#### Illustration

Jessye Persee

#### Design

Natalie Carragher  
 Martin Robinson  
 Katie Ryan  
 Nick Stone

#### Special Thanks

Lisa Bach  
 Rachel Bruce  
 Natalie Carragher  
 Angela Cole  
 Claudia Cornerney  
 Jason Cooke  
 Kevin Danson  
 James Draper  
 Dr Jess Edwards  
 Dr Sharon Handley  
 Neil Harrison  
 David Liptrot  
 MMU Design Studio  
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 Dave Porter  
 Martin Robinson  
 Kaye Tew  
 Lisa Vincent



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By Students. For Students.



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# Manchester students fight back with a collective voice



Photograph: Joanna Shaw

**Back in February 2017, 2,500 protesters took to the streets of Manchester for the 2017 Reclaim the Night march.**

Families, students and members of the local community gathered together to show their support for women, demand safer streets and raise their voices against sexual violence.

Leader of the march and University of Manchester's Women's Officer Jenni Smyth welcomed the impressive turnout. She urged that during recent events in terms of elections, particularly in light of Donald Trump and his outspoken misogyny, it will be an event about bringing women together:

"Reclaim the Night Manchester is about bringing together communities to march against all forms of violence towards women."

She added, "Reclaim the Night is a movement throughout the year. It isn't just about one night on the street. This year we wanted to get the whole of Manchester involved. It's our city, our streets and we're taking them back."

Chair of the Manchester Metropolitan University Feminist Society Mia Shepard,

shared her experience of the night:

"I march because it is the best form of action. Lots of people prefer online activism and, sometimes, so do I. But, for an event like this, to be able to walk the streets you wouldn't feel safe walking alone, there's something empowering about what the march is able to provide."

"The march was a huge success, it was amazing to see everyone walking together in solidarity and unity in order to reclaim our streets and continue to combat sexual assault, harassment and street violence. There was an amazing atmosphere and it felt wonderful."

"Reclaim the Night gives our community the opportunity to get together and stand in unison in protest against sexual violence, sexual harassment and assault."

For too long, sexual violence has existed in student communities as an accepted consequence of walking home alone at night. Relish the opportunity to take back control of YOUR streets next year amidst the vibrancy of this annual march.

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

**"This year we wanted to get the whole of Manchester involved. It's our city, our streets and we're taking them back."**

**Words: Ruth Hudson**

# PINS

Interview: Zarina Akhtar

*Humanity Hallows* caught up with Lois MacDonald from Manchester band PINS to find out about their new EP, what they love, what they hate and future plans for this talented band.



**H**i Lois, what can your fans expect on the upcoming tour?

We'll be playing some new stuff as well as some old stuff. Some tracks off the new EP.

**Congratulations on the new EP *Bad Thing*. How does the EP differ from your last album?**

Musically we've added some other elements in, like drum-pads, and the way we recorded it was different. Instead of doing it all live, we've recorded it in layers and put a bit more effort into that side of things rather than just going with it. So I think we'll sound a little bit different - more electronic. It's been quite a gradual process for us.

**You're all from Manchester, how do you think the city has influenced your musical style?**

We take influence from everywhere and not just the North West or Manchester. I think our mentality and our style is DIY, like working with your friends or people you know to do something together independently. If there's not someone there to help you to do it, you just do it yourself anyway, the best way you can. I think the city has influenced our way of being a band rather than the sound.

**What do you think of the current Manchester music scene?**

I think there are some really interesting new bands that are starting up. There's a band called Witch Fever, who are really cool and a band called Locean. Then there's bands like Cabbage that are new and really good, but they're probably a bit better known.

**What would you say your favourite venue in Manchester is?**

There's some really good ones. I really like Gullivers as they've got some good shows on and Aatma. I really like The Eagle, The Deaf Institute and Gorilla.

**You're playing at the White Hotel for your Manchester show, have you been there before?**

I really love the White Hotel, as they do so many different kinds of shows with different styles of music and rave nights and screenings of films as well. Islington Mill is really good as well.

**On your new single 'Aggrophobe' you worked with Iggy Pop: how did that come about?**

We did this spoken word track and thought it'd be really nice to get someone else involved to do the spoken word. We started discussing who we'd want and Iggy Pop was top of the list. We'd seen him play at SXSW festival last year, we're all fans anyway so he was in the forefront of our minds. Faith wrote him a letter, which his manager said we could give to him and he said yes! We thought we might never hear from him! It's crazy that he liked it and he was like 'yeah I'll do it'. He did a few takes and sent them over to us for us to choose our favourite one. He is really cool and really easy to work with.

**"I think our mentality and our style is DIY, like working with your friends or people you know to do something together independently. If there's not someone there to help you to do it, you just do it yourself anyway."**

**Did you always want to be female only band?**

Right at the beginning when Faith started it, I think she wanted to play with other women because she didn't feel part of it when she had been playing with other people, so initially yes. It was more about hanging out together and having this friendship group and things in common, so then hopefully it would then make the music part of things a bit easier.

**You once said in an interview that you get a lot of shit for being in a girl band. What would you say it's like being in a male dominated scene?**

I think we get a lot less shit now than we did when we first started but I don't know if that's because we've just been doing it for so long and stuck it out that maybe people know us more and take it more seriously.

When we first started we did get a lot of shit and bad attitude and stuff, you just don't expect to have to deal with. We're all quite confident and outspoken so we just dealt with it and got on with it. We laugh



“ We never describe ourselves as a female band but when people start to see you play live that’s all you read about. It’s not important, it shouldn’t be important and it should be what the music is about. ”

it off and rise above it. I can't obviously speak from a male perspective, male bands might go through the same thing, I don't know. If someone's got a shitty attitude, it's their problem not ours.

**Would you say it particularly annoys you when you're described as a female band?**

I just don't think it's necessary. Earlier in this conversation I had to stop myself describing PINS as a female band because you get so used to it. We never describe ourselves as a female band but when people start to see you play live that's all you read about- female-fronted, female all-girl, female post-punk etc. You get so used to it that when you see another all female band, you feel like instantly that's the first thing you're going to say. It's not important, it shouldn't be important and it should be what the music is about. It shouldn't be necessary and one day it won't be necessary... it'll be fine!

**You have a memorable sound and image, who are your influences?**

This is probably a better question for Faith as she's way more fashionable than me! We like the old rock n roll style

from the 1950s - old leather jackets and jeans. Patti Smith, I think has great dress sense. Clothes from brands like Discount Universe, are outrageous, colourful and covered in sequins. When we're on tour we go to as many charity shops or thrift shops as we can depending on where we are. Me and Faith do quite a bit of sewing and make our own stuff. If we see something we like, we recreate it in our own way. We like to mix totally casual with flamboyant pieces, which is completely dependent on our day and what we feel like wearing.

In terms of music there's so many! King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard, Dream Wife and Black Honey are really good. Bleach have just got a new album out too.

**You've released Bad Thing on limited edition pink vinyl: Do you think vinyl is here to stay?**

I think it's stood the test of time so far; it's been around for years. Personally I only buy vinyl and I do try to get a digital version for my computer. I really love collecting vinyl and collecting different coloured records. I don't know if that makes me a bit of a hipster!

Me and Faith run Haus of Pins as well, which is a cassette label. We work with new bands on their first release. We sell runs of 100, which for a new band is quite a lot. I guess there's enough choice for you to pick and choose what you listen to and how you want to listen to.

**What are the band's plans for the future?**

We'll be doing an album, that's the next step. We want to do as much touring as possible as always. We'll be doing an album, another one and keep going - travel the world! Japan, Australia - we'd love to go to there, hopefully that will be soon.

**You mentioned that you've put out cassettes on your label. Who exactly is included?**

We started it to release our own stuff firstly, which sold out straight away. Once we signed to Bella Union, we were able to do our own music on there. We've done September Girls, a band called Objects from London, Cheri Cheri Jaguar and a few others.

**Would you say they're going to continue onto the future?**

Yeah, we are still doing the label and we self-released this EP so we've come full circle. The single Aggrophobe and Bad Thing are both of Haus of Pins. Because it's an EP, it's a short run and as we had the opportunity to do that ourselves we thought we'd go for it.

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





# Legend Suzi Quatro celebrating 53 years on stage and screen

American rock singer and bassist Suzi Quatro boasts a career that spans more than half a century. To date, she has sold over 55 million records worldwide. She's an author, a radio DJ and has recently collaborated with The Sweet guitarist Andy Scott and Slade drummer Don Powell to form the band, QSP.

## Interview: Lucy Madeleine Watson

**H**umanity Hallows meets Suzi in Salford's MediaCityUK and the first thing she does is ask us to identify a piece of film dialogue. She is a self-proclaimed movie girl and she says her reward at night is to pick out a film and enjoy a glass of red wine.

"I buy into it; I totally go into the film and I forget where I am. I'm the one that screams in the movie theater. I did it when I took my kids to see Titanic. I started shouting 'jump...jump' and the usher came down and asked me to be quiet. I turned to my kids and they were at the back of the cinema."

Born in Detroit, USA, in 1950, Suzi was a member of an American band when a record company came to see them play, offering her the chance to go solo.

"The very same week, Mickie Most came over from England and he offered me a solo contract. So I had two offers in the same week. They wanted to turn me into the next Janis Joplin and Mickie Most wanted to turn me into the first Suzi Quatro. I wanted to be the first me, so I went with Mickie."

Suzi Quatro hails from a musical family whom, she says, all played several instruments. She is classically trained in piano and percussion and is a self-taught bassist. But what was it that drew her to the bass guitar?

"When I picked it up and put it on, I can't explain it any better, it was an epiphany. It just felt right and I'm a really good bass player. I don't play with a pick. I love the sound of the skin on the string. Bass players that play with picks are frustrated guitar players."

She joined her father's jazz band, the Art Quatro Trio, at a young age and went on to form an all-girl group with her sister Patti, called The Pleasure Seekers. In 1971, Quatro moved to England to begin her solo career. Leaving her family behind, she explains why the move was so difficult.

"It took a long time for it to settle down. My God, it was awful; it was awful for me because I felt guilty and it was awful for them because they felt hurt. But it is what it is, and I wasn't going to miss my shot. We

**"I did the shitty gigs with the drunk in the corner. I did the five sets a night with fifteen minutes off. If you are going to be a performer, you have to be able to get up and entertain anybody, anytime, anywhere..."**

all love each other very much but it wasn't easy."

Her next project is a collaborative tour with The Osmonds, Hot Chocolate and David Essex. The Legends Live Tour starts in October, so what should fans expect?

"It'll be like going through the hit parade of your life. All of us have had our series of hits so you're going to get your favourite songs. Usually I'm on stage for up to three hours doing my own agenda but when you're doing a tour like this you have to be respectful to the other performers. Yes, I'm headlining, but I'm not going to milk it; it's not all me. There are four acts and I will respect that."

As of this year, Quatro has celebrated 53 years in the music business. What is her secret to such a successful and varied career?

"I'm real. I'm not manufactured. I'm an old school performer who loves what they do. I learned my craft by performing. I did the shitty gigs with the drunk in the corner. I did the five sets a night with fifteen minutes off. If you are going to be a performer, you have to be able to get up and entertain anybody, anytime, anywhere... manufactured doesn't last long."

The singer explains why she isn't a fan of music based reality shows.

"It makes you famous in five seconds, that's not how it works. Even if you do get famous in five seconds, you haven't got any of the tools to deal with it. I love getting up on that stage and entertaining people. It's in me...the love of entertaining and the love of music. Not to be famous. It's such a wrong attitude."

Suzi Quatro has since inspired many female musicians, however, she admits her gender wasn't important when she was starting out.

"I am a 'me-ist'. I don't do gender, I never have. I didn't think it was weird to be up there playing a bass. Somebody had to kick the door down and it had to be somebody like me, who didn't do gender, because otherwise you were a cliché. I'm not a cliché. Then, all of a sudden women had permission to be serious rock and rollers. It elevated women from the groupie status, thank God."

She elaborates:

"It's not about gender, it's about you. Everybody has a little light, and it's our job to find the light, switch it on and nobody can extinguish it. It doesn't matter what it

is, just be who you are. I've stuck by that my whole life. To this day, at 66, I will not let anybody change me. Never.

"It takes a long time to like yourself... it takes time but it's the biggest gift you can give – like and accept who you are and don't let anybody change you. All any of us have is who we are. What else do you have? That's why I've lasted so long, because I'm real."

One of her greatest achievements, says Quatro, was the moment she received an honorary doctorate of music from Anglia Ruskin University in 2016. Two years earlier, she released her book of poetry, *Through My Eyes*, which she describes as 'very exposed, very raw and very real'. We ask her why it seemed like the right time to publish her poetry.

"I've been doing it [poetry] for years and years. Everything has a time that it should happen. I decided to assemble it and it's really good. Everybody that reads it thinks I wrote it about them, which is a big compliment."

*Through My Eyes* was distributed worldwide and Quatro likens the publicity of poetry to 'showing your dirty laundry'.

"My book is exposed. I don't pull any punches. There are so many of them that are deep. I like to communicate and I like to be understood, and I like to give you the chance to communicate with me. I'm a two way street. Typical Gemini really, isn't it?"

In her poem 'A Mother', Suzi details observations of her own mother, Helen Sanislay, who passed away in 1991.

"Would you say that's a nice poem or a negative one?" she asks us. "I think my mother would've taken that as a bit of a criticism, but it wasn't. It was saying you had your hands full with five kids; you had no life."

How did her father feel about her career?

"He's gone now, but they were both proud. My dad wasn't one for giving compliments. I went my whole life waiting for one and then when I finally got it, I didn't need it anymore."

Quatro collaborated with renowned songwriters and producers Mike Chapman

and Nicky Chinn on her hit singles Can The Can and Devil Gate Drive; she is a skilled songwriter in her own right, who isn't afraid to turn to her poetry for inspiration.

"I'll usually go to the piano and one of the lines leaps out as a title, and it just kind of writes itself. But it doesn't happen all the time. Sometimes I start a song and it's not a song, it's a poem."

With an autobiography and a book of poetry behind her, Suzi tells us she is half way through writing her debut novel and is



using her experiences in the business as the basis for her main character.

"I used a rock 'n' roll chick that plays guitar because I wanted to start at a familiar place. Now, the character is so real, she's telling me what she's doing. I'm having fun with it. There are quite a few twists and turns."

Although the singer draws inspiration from her own life, she says she and her 'rock chick' character are very different.

"I'm a Catholic girl, so I'm letting this girl do whatever she likes. All my fantasies are being played out in the book. If they say,

'did you do that?' I can say, 'no, she did it'. She's a character in a book. She's not me."

Suzi Quatro has several acting credits on stage and screen, including an episode of *Midsomer Murders*, a cameo appearance in *Absolutely Fabulous* and a storyline on American sitcom *Happy Days*, as musician Leather Tuscadero. She tells us what it was like working on the set of *Ab Fab*.

"I got there and Jennifer Saunders was lying on the hospital bed. I had these lines and I asked if I could have fun with it, and Jennifer said, 'you can do whatever you like'. So I wrote my own lines and she just went with me. She let me do what I wanted to do."

Quatro made her West End debut in 1986 in *Annie Get Your Gun* and in 1991 she co-wrote and starred as the title role in *Tallulah Who?* – a musical based on the life of American actress Tallulah Bankhead. Suzi says she is almost as passionate about acting as she is about rock 'n' roll and would love to do more if the right part came along.

"My last one was *Midsomer Murders*. I got electrocuted in that episode. I enjoyed that. Someday I want to do a movie of my life."

Who would she choose to play Suzi Quatro?

"It would have to be the androgynous type. Mickie Most always said to me that I appealed to all the genders, gay and straight men, and gay and straight women. So it would have to be somebody that has that."

What does she enjoy when she's not working?

"When I'm down timing I listen to anything from Tony Bennett to Bob Dylan to Adele, who I love. I tend not to listen to rock 'n' roll because it's what I do for my living. If I'm doing housework – which I rarely do – I'll put Motown on because I like to dance around."

After five decades in the business, Suzi Quatro doesn't show any signs of slowing down: "I don't care where I'm going. I love touring everywhere. I love working."

Tickets for the Legends Live tour are available now.

# Time to celebrate

When it comes to special occasions you may feel like breaking free from the cheap 'n' cheerful student nights and fancy exploring the more civilised options on offer in your adopted city...

Whether you've got your parents or friends from home joining you for a birthday weekend or you just want to make your graduation a celebration to remember, you may have landed yourself the job of looking for a venue.

We plan to uncover the best that the city has to offer. In each issue we will highlight our favourite hotel, bar or restaurant that's definitely worth a look and will make your preparations a little bit easier.

Marriott Hotels' Jack East reveals what they have on offer to mark that special occasion in style:

"The Renaissance Manchester City Centre Hotel is located in the heart of the city, benefiting from an 80 space private car park and minutes' walk from national public transport links. Home to 203 of the biggest bedrooms in the city and function space for up to 350 for a dinner with access



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seasonally, and our bartenders love to experiment with new cocktail recipes making sure you discover something new each time you visit."

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# Vlogger and author Hannah Witton talks sex, relationships and tackling online bullying

**Words: Jacqueline Grima**

**M**anchester born Hannah Witton has been talking about relationships and sexual health on social media since she was nineteen years old. Her work in championing the rights of young women was recently recognised by the BBC's 100 Women campaign. *Humanity Hallows* caught up with the YouTube star to ask her about her how she started vlogging and her journey to becoming a feminist.

"I initially made videos in my kitchen, while learning how to cook and then it moved into general vlogging to sex and relationships! My journey to becoming a feminist probably started much younger. My parents are feminists but I don't remember actually learning about that word from them, I think I probably learnt about what feminism was in a historical context in school when learning about the suffragettes and women's liberation in the '60s and '70s.

"I don't remember a time when I ever 'decided' I was a feminist but reading Caitlin Moran's *How To Be A Woman* in my first year of uni definitely broadened my understanding."

Many people's perception of feminists is that they are simply man-haters. Hannah disagrees.

"It simply isn't true. Feminism acknowledges that so far the world has been skewed in favour of men and so it's important to focus efforts on women. But it isn't about taking power away from men; it's about balancing it out.

"For me feminism is about equality for all genders and I try to make my feminism as intersectional as possible."

The prolific vlogger believes that her work in giving young women a voice on social media is crucial if the issues and challenges they face are ever to be taken seriously.

"Other than not getting paid as much as men, sexual violence, not being politically represented, not being culturally represented,

I think one of the biggest things we face is not being taken seriously. We need to be taken seriously and our experiences believed and validated."

Hannah's recently released book *Doing It* further explores the challenges faced by young women. Why does she think it's important to give them an accessible source of information about sex and relationships?

"The misinformation that we receive from different areas of our lives can lead to feelings of shame and embarrassment around sex, relationships and our bodies. Accurate information is crucial because it gives people the confidence, power and ability to feel comfortable in their skin and identity, to not pass judgement on others and to make their own choices when it comes to sex.

"Most of the responses are really positive from teenagers and young adults saying that my videos have helped them in some way, educated them or that they use my videos to educate their friends. I also get some lovely comments from parents and teachers too. Some teachers use my videos in classrooms and parents use my videos to start hard conversations with their kids, which I think is really cool!"

There have been a lot of controversial comments recently about so-called 'slut-shaming' and victim blaming, particularly surrounding cases of sexual assault and rape. How big a role does the media play?

"I think the media plays a huge role in this. The headlines you see during high profile rape and sexual assault cases often focus on the victim (usually female) and in one way or another say that she was 'asking for it' - because of what she was wearing, if she was drinking, because she was flirting, because of previous sexual behaviour. The list goes on."

Not only has Hannah's vlogging and writing helped the young women who follow her, it has also helped her come to terms with some of her own experiences of online bullying.

"I experience online bullying in the form of harassment, most often in video comments and tweets. To be honest, I've built up a very thick skin and I don't see most of them but, if I do, then I try not to let it bother me too much. What people write says more about them than it does about me.

"I'm definitely not immune to the negative effects of online bullying. Some days I just want to avoid the internet entirely. It gets particularly bad if one of these anti-feminist YouTube channels decides to make a video responding to a video I've made with bits of my video edited in. They are mostly hateful, misogynistic and patronising. And then all their followers come over to my original video and continue to comment horrible things on that. This doesn't happen often though and 99% of my viewers/comments are lovely.

"Vlogging has made me come face to face with a lot of these challenges and writing a book has really allowed me to take my time understanding them and tackling them."

With recent political events sparking women's marches and protests across the country, Hannah thinks it's more important than ever for young women to come together to have their voices heard.

"I went to the women's march in London recently and on top of the media coverage it gets and hopefully the attention of politicians, one of the things that I think is really important about community marches is surrounding yourself with like-minded people. Sometimes the fight for equality can feel like a very lonely uphill battle, but seeing people who feel the same way as you is so uplifting!"



Check out Hannah's blog at [hannahwitton.com](http://hannahwitton.com) and follow her @hannahwitton

Her book, *Doing It!* is out now.

**" The misinformation that we receive from different areas of our lives can lead to feelings of shame and embarrassment around sex, relationships and our bodies. "**



**TOP 5**

# SUMMER FESTIVALS

## WE ROUND UP THE BEST UK FESTIVALS

### **Glastonbury Somerset, 21-25 June**

Next year, Glastonbury Festival is set to take one of its fallow years, so it makes sense to get down to one of the world's biggest festivals this summer, before the break. With its roots in the counterculture movement of the 60s and 70s, Glastonbury is a safe bet for a good time. With Foo Fighters and Radiohead confirmed as headliners and a list of rumoured acts that includes Lady Gaga, Phil Collins, Gorillaz, Depeche Mode and Kasabian, Glastonbury 2017 is looking impossible to dismiss.

### **Boomtown Winchester, 10-13 August**

Way down in the Winchester countryside lies the home of a relatively new festival: Boomtown. In its ninth 'chapter' in 2017 with over 23 main stages, which includes a reggae Mayan temple and a nine storey 'Bang Hai Palace', Boomtown is a must see this summer. Big name acts include The Specials, Toots and the Maytals, M.I.A, Ziggy Marley and a whole host of other live bands, DJs, circus acts and freak shows.

### **Beat-Herder Ribble Valley, 14-16 July**

Nestled away in the Lancashire countryside is the humble home one of the few remaining independent UK festivals: Beat-Herder. Starting off as a small rave in a forest, it grew every year to what it is now. Organisers have capped the capacity to keep the tight-knit, grassroots feel, but this certainly has no effect on their line ups. This summer they've got Lee 'Scratch' Perry, Romare, Faithless, The Sugar Hill Gang and Sleaford Mods to name a few.

### **The Secret Garden Party Abbots Ripton, 20-23 July**

All good things must come to an end, or so the saying goes; and that appears to be the case for The Secret Garden Party, one of the UK's first ever 'boutique' festivals. After the festival being a staple of the British summer calendar for 15 years, 2017 will be SGP's final outing. Headliners at its grand finale include Toots and the Maytals, Metronomy and Crystal Fighters. Not to worry though, organisers claim an entirely new and different event 'will rise from the ashes'.

### **Latitude Suffolk, 13-16 July**

Since 2006, Latitude has been bringing a fine selection of not just music, but theatre, art, comedy, cabaret, poetry, politics, dance and literature, to Southwold, Suffolk. So, if you fancy something a little different with a little more for your summertime festival, Latitude might be the place for you. Headliners this year are Mumford and Sons, The 1975 and Fleet Foxes.

**Words: Daniel J. Broadley**

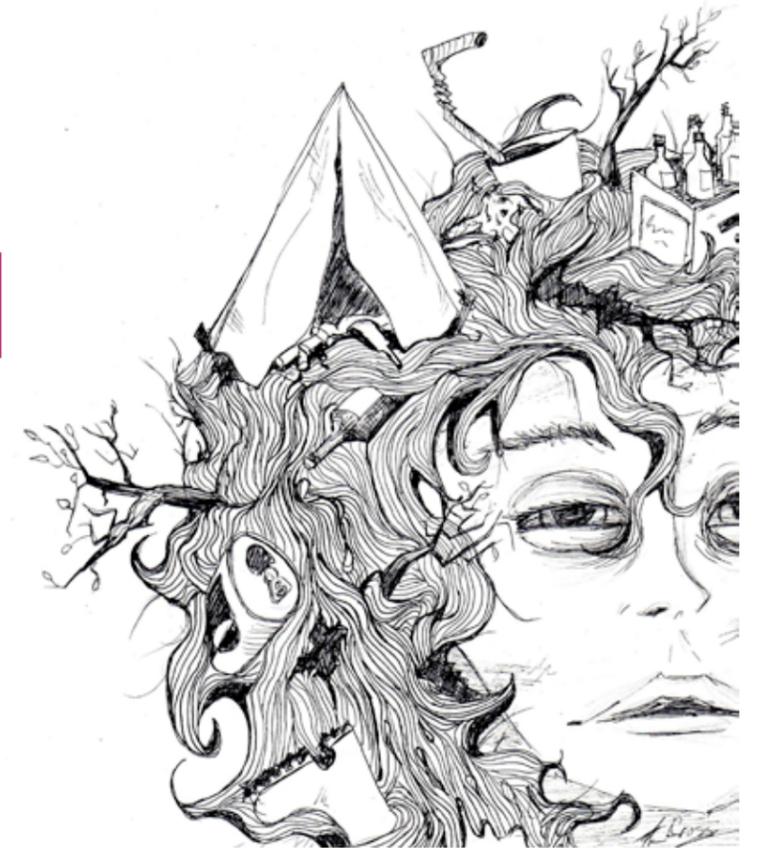




Photography: Matt Searston

# People to avoid this festival season

Words: Adam Evans / Illustration: Aimee Cross



With the festival season fast approaching, here's a not-so-exhaustive list of characters you'll likely meet, and want to avoid, this summer.

## The Hype-Expert

The Hype Expert has recently read NME. They'll search through the lower-reaches of the line-up, picking someone three-places-from-bottom and ask "Has anyone heard [enter inconspicuous artist]?" There is no right answer to this question. Say no and they'll pull a superior face that says 'Someone hasn't been flicking through their Discover Weekly this morning'. Say yes, they'll question why you've never mentioned them before (neither have they of course) and proceed to find someone more unknown. Later, they'll announce that they'll be at the Introducing Stage because all the mainstream artists are overrated. Even if this means missing their secret favourite band, Bastille or Mumford & Sons. They'll watch them online when they get home, privately weeping to Little Lion Man.

## The Unhappy Camper

The Unhappy Camper prefers boutique hotels. Their resolve dissolves instantly the second an ant wanders into their tent or a blade of grass gets inside their sleeping bag. If it rains, they go into hibernation, pulling all their stuff from the sides of the tent to mutter darkly in a cocoon of their sodden belongings. They say 'never again', but when the sun comes back and they exit their plastic cave, they tend to enjoy it. Next year they'll bring an inflatable (because the ground was too hard), a blanket (because the nights were too cold) and a new tent with double-doors (to keep out everything but air). None of this will work.

## The Tranquilised

The Tranquilised begin with a crate of something they'll be projectile vomiting in roughly two hours as they interact with everyone, appearing to be a great addition to the group. Then they disappear. By Saturday morning, someone unzips their tent gingerly to check for survivors. They respond to their name with a low grunt, face-down, unmoving. You all take turns to pay Tranquilised a visit throughout the weekend, informing them on which bands they've missed, placing cold chips next to their face. If they're lucky they emerge Sunday morning to watch someone from the back and smell a burger. They've paid £200+ and missed everything. Good news is they've saved money on food and drink.

## The Firestarter

The Firestarter snatches your discarded crate approximately 0.5 seconds after you pull your last can out. He repeatedly burns himself as he tries to ignite the usually damp kindling. Eventually he resolves to buy firewood, using your money. Once the fire starts to wane however, Firestarter grabs anything he can and chucks it in: cardboard, plastic, glass bottles and inevitably something highly flammable. Any chair even briefly unoccupied finds itself in there, producing noxious fumes. Soon after, the hot screws burst from their sockets, glass smashes and a lighter explodes. Anyone who survives the shrapnel is thoroughly sobered up and disgruntled. The oblivious owner of the chair returns to find the carcass of something he probably only bought that day.

## The Infiltrator

Coated in fluorescent camouflage and wearing a quirky bandana, a young man with a strange grin enters your camp. His name is always something like "Tyger with a Y" or "Sharq with a Q." He's awfully apologetic about being "cheeky" in asking for some of your drink but you gladly oblige. He's a master of mine-sweeping and he's taken it to the wilderness. Before you know it, "Wolphy with a PH" has spent the whole night free-loading and made off with any bottles he could whilst you slept. Any surviving chairs from your previous fire are as good as gone too. Tomorrow, you'll see him with new strangers, probably going under another edgy, misspelled moniker. He'll avoid your eyes.

TOP 5

## NON-CAMPING FESTIVALS

Words: Georgina Hurdsfield

### TRNSMT Glasgow 7-9 July

TRNSMT is a new festival in the heart of Glasgow, taking place this year instead of Scotland's popular T in the Park. However, TRNSMT festival doesn't involve camping in a muddy field for the weekend. Headlining the festival are Radiohead, Kasabian and Biffy Clyro giving Glasgow Green a thrilling three nights of live music.

### Dot to Dot Manchester, Bristol, Nottingham 26-28 May

Dot to Dot festival is a perfect way to get your summer started as it takes place at the end of May, creating a day of live performances from upcoming artists from around the globe. Returning to headline the festival this year is Sundara Karma. Joining them will be bands such as Pinegrove, Honeyblood, plus many more! You can catch this line-up in Manchester, Nottingham or Bristol for just under £15 making it ideal for students on a budget.

### Sound City Liverpool 25-28 May

Join Sound City's 10th Anniversary line-up on the unique landscape of the docks of Liverpool this late May bank holiday weekend. This year's line-up includes The Human League who are headlining the first day of the event, The Velvet Underground & Nico's only European performance. Electronic music group Metronomy and The Kooks return for the last day of the event.

### Slam Dunk Birmingham, Leeds, Hatfield 27-29 May

Grab a wristband for a line-up of alternative, rock and metal music comprising a day of outstanding talent. Slam Dunk festival takes place in the North, Midlands and South of England on the May bank holiday weekend allowing alternative music fans to catch this phenomenal line-up. The Hatfield date has already sold out, grab your tickets soon for the chance to see many bands such as Enter Shikari, Turnover, Citizen and Neck Deep.

### Parklife Manchester 10-11 June

It's time to dig out your wellies as Parklife is back at Heaton Park this year, with first-time headliners The 1975 and Frank Ocean's first confirmed UK performance since 2014. The festival comprises of 8 stages allowing fans to check out different artists over the weekend. General admission weekend tickets are flying out fast so grab yours while you can.

# Escaping the city for less



Photography: Charlotte Howson

Words: Charlotte Hawksworth

With summer on the horizon, Manchester will once again burst into life. But for students, this means coursework and exams are on their way. To make sure you don't miss out on all the fun, we have chosen a list of our favourite places to get away from it all. And here's the best bit, they won't have you reaching into your overdraft!

Close by...

## Fletcher Moss Park

This 21 acre park was acquired as a gift from Alderman Fletcher Moss in 1914. Renowned for its botanical beauty, with many antiquated and unusual plants and flowers. A great place for a stroll to get rid of exam and coursework stress.

Via Bus: 30 minutes from Oxford Road  
Via Car: 20-25 minutes from Oxford Road

## Chorlton Water Park

Manchester's first designated local nature reserve is one of the most popular spots in the Mersey Valley. Set around a central lake with meandering paths leading into woodlands and wildflower meadows, Chorlton Water Park offers fishing as well as water-sports, including dinghy sailing, canoeing and windsurfing.

Via Bus: 40-50 minutes from Oxford Road  
Via Car: 18 minutes from Oxford Road



A little bit further...

## Clifton Country Park

This local nature reserve is approximately 48 hectares of scenic urban fringe countryside in Salford, with woods, meadows, ponds and a lake to explore and remnants of the city's industrial past. As well as self-guided trails and activities, at Clifton Country Park you can explore the woodland and lakeside walks, take a picnic, go fishing or bird watching.

Via Bus: 60- 75 minutes from Oxford Road  
Via Car: 30-35 minutes from Oxford Road

## Martin Mere

A wilderness combined with family-friendly activities for all ages means there's plenty to see and do all year round at Martin Mere. With over 100 types of rare and endangered water-birds to hand feed, a family of enchanting otters in residence, an inspirational eco-garden and a rolling programme of events, walks and talks, this is the ideal place for a day out. (Entry fees apply)

Via Train: 90-100 minutes from Oxford Road  
Via Car: 60-70 minutes from Oxford Road

Furthest but worth it...

## Lytham St Anne's

Unspoilt, elegant, tranquil and stunning. Close your eyes and picture a perfect beach with 5 miles of glimmering sands; take a deep breath of the salty sea air and listen to the laughter of family and friends. You wouldn't think that a beautiful sandy beach could be this close to the towering buildings and modernity of Manchester. This is the perfect on-a-budget beach you can enjoy all year round.

Via Train: 90-110 minutes from Oxford Road  
Via Car: 75-80 minutes from Oxford Road

How to wear

# Summer Denim

Think you can't wear denim this summer? Think again! We round up our favourite trends.

## Distressed to impress

Keep it cool and versatile with high waisted denim shorts.



## Colour pop

Break the rules and go bold!



## Wardrobe win

Keep it simple and match your denim with white sandals.



## Effortlessly cool

Casual jackets go with anything. Double up if you're brave.

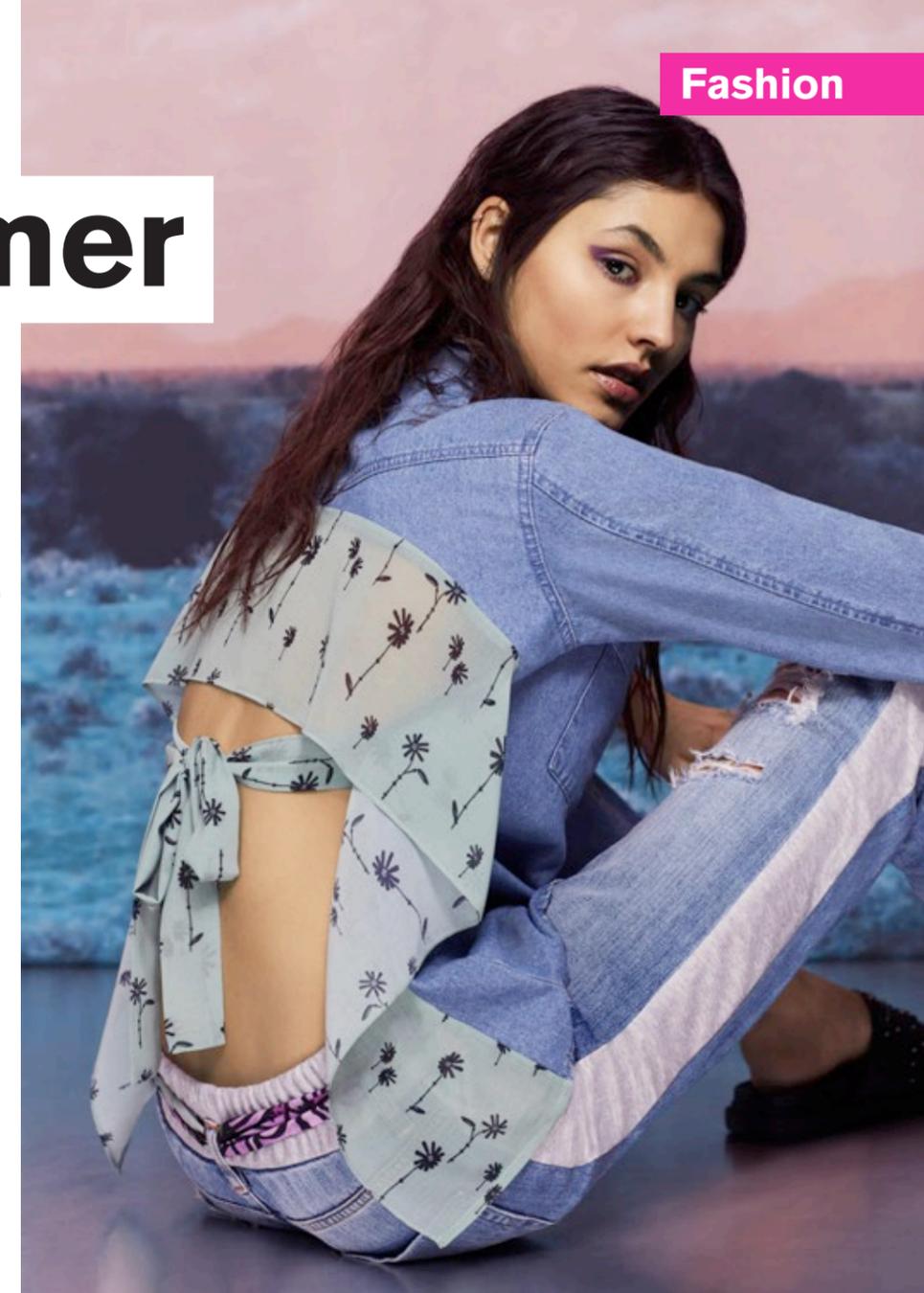


## Statement jeans

They're making a comeback, we promise!



Clockwise from top  
**High waisted skirt in pink acid wash** £28 ASOS;  
**Denim shorts** ASOS; **Chunky strappy sandals** £40 ASOS; **Super skinny bleached jeans** £35 ASOS;  
**Denim jacket in mid blue wash** £35 ASOS; **Open back detail jacket** ASOS



Fashion

“

# We can get rid of rough sleeping in Manchester by 2020

Words: Sam Gosling / Additional reporting: Daniel J. Broadley

With nearly twenty years as an MP and two runs at the Labour leadership, Andy Burnham is ready to give it all up and become the Mayor of Greater Manchester.

Many were sceptical when the Leigh MP threw his hat into the ring but one thing that Burnham exudes is confidence, as well as a real desire to bring change to our city. Will his high profile finally give Greater Manchester a voice in Westminster?

“I think it’s going to be important that, whoever is the Greater Manchester Mayor, they need to get our voice heard on the national stage. We are being drowned out by Scotland and London and that has left many people feeling unsure about politics.

“I look at the other candidates and I don’t think that they have the experience to put real weight behind Greater Manchester’s voice.”

Burnham’s campaign has been a long one. Launching his bid in May 2016, he still seems to be invigorated by the challenge ahead, vowing to “do things differently” if elected and to try to re-engage people with politics:

“It started with my manifesto. We did not just want to dump policies on people. We went all around Greater Manchester, had conversations with people, and took their ideas. We have made it a manifesto ‘by the people for the people’. I have been in politics a long time and seen how people have done manifestos in a very closed way and just dropped it on people near an election. We have tried to do things differently”.

With Manchester currently experiencing a

huge problem with homelessness, Burnham is passionate to put across his ideas about what can be done to help. He has recently pledged to donate 15% of his own salary to fight the issue and encourages others to do the same:

**“ [Spice] is quite scary actually. I think there is a lack of public information about it. I have been told people are using it like cannabis and it is clearly a different kind of substance. It is worrying that people don’t know how dangerous it is. I have heard a call that it should be a ‘Class A’ and I think that there is a good case for that. ”**

“We are going to set up a new fund. It will be a voluntary fund overseen by the Mayor’s office but the idea will be to encourage others to contribute to the fund also. It is possible we will ask the general public to contribute to this fund rather than giving directly to people on

the streets.

“We will then use that fund to put in place support in every community so that people don’t have to be on the streets at night if they don’t want to be. I think we can get rid of rough sleeping in Manchester by 2020 if people buy into this and I think that they will.”

What does he think about the current problem with the drug ‘Spice’, recently reported as being used excessively by the homeless in the city?

“[Spice] is quite scary actually. I think there is a lack of public information about it. I have been told people are using it like cannabis and it is clearly a different kind of substance. It is worrying that people don’t know how dangerous it is. I have heard a call that it should be a ‘Class A’ and I think that there is a good case for that. The best way to send people a message is through classification, so at least people know what they are dealing with”.

In an election where the turnout is expected to be low, we asked Burnham why he is the candidate that students in Manchester should be voting for and, in a time where young people are feeling like they are being ignored by politicians, what he is going to do for them?

“I have very deliberately put young people at the heart of my manifesto. I think the way politics has been done in this country is quite crude. People have said that older people vote in elections, therefore more promises for them in your manifesto and how do you pay for it? Cut something away from the people who don’t vote, young people.

”





# 5 minutes with... Positive News

Positive News Magazine was founded by Shauna Crockett-Burrows in 1993. Shauna worked in media and social enterprise when she came across positive stories overlooked by the media, such as the start of Fair Trade. She reported on these valuable stories and over time the voice of positive change grew with a journalistic philosophy known as constructive journalism. Current Editor-in-Chief Sean Dagan Wood is determined to continue her legacy.



Interview: Dylan McCallum

**“ I look at the other candidates and I don't think that they have the experience to put real weight behind Greater Manchester's voice. ”**

“Therefore, I have made a decision to put young people first. I want to introduce a graduate retention scheme in Manchester, so we can encourage people who study here to stay here. Part of that includes subsidised business start-up space. If people look at my manifesto, they will see that I have a big focus on young people.”

With Article 50 recently triggered, we were keen to hear Burnham's thoughts about how Brexit will affect Manchester's students:

“None of us really know how it's going to play out. The whole thing about 'putting young people first' is a response to Brexit. I don't see how we can attract inward investors without a skilled workforce. For example, take a specific issue that will

affect your readers: the NHS. Brexit will have a huge impact on our NHS because a large percentage of the workforce in Greater Manchester is from Europe.

We are going to have to grow our own workforce. One thing I am looking at is a new deal for health and social care students. If they graduate here, we offer them a new deal: commit to the Greater Manchester NHS for 5 years and we will commit to paying off your loans and fees. The principle of this could also perhaps be taken into other areas of shortage in public services too, but we are going to start with the NHS.”

Student safety in Manchester has been a real issue recently. With Sacha Lord-Marchionna and the 'night time industries' recently calling for a 'Night Tsar' to help support the safety of students, the Labour candidate clearly thought this was a great idea:

“Yes I do think it's a good idea. It is in our manifesto and it is based on the London model. There have been issues of safety at night in Manchester, particularly for women. There are concerns around taxi drivers and lack of regulations, lack of police presence and unacceptable behaviour. Another thing is public transport. Living in Leigh myself, I know that if I come to a gig here, as I often do, I

have to miss the encore and leave for the last train at 10.50pm. Later running trains and trams are definitely on the agenda if Manchester is going to compete with other cities such as London.”

Burnham is obviously passionate about the Manchester music scene, having grown up listening to bands such as Stone Roses and New Order:

“My perception on the scene is it went through a bit of a tough time but it's clawing its way back. Bands such as Blossoms and Cabbage have massive potential, as are other bands just below them who are coming through. For me though, The Courteeners are right up there. It is incredible what they have achieved. They have got there without the help of the London media. I think there is a northern bias when it comes to music and the London media. Elbow are also a band who consistently produce brilliant material. The latest album is fantastic. The last gig I went to was 'Bill Riley Jones' at Gorilla.”

On May 4th, the people have to make a decision. Whether you want one or not, Greater Manchester is getting a new Mayor. And, despite him being born in Liverpool, it's clear that Andy Burnham has the passion to give Manchester the voice it desperately needs.

**Sean, how would you describe constructive journalism?**

Constructive journalism maintains the same standards and ethics of what most of the industry would perceive as good journalism but has always looked for a constructive angle. It'll look at a particular problem and focus on its solution. In doing so, we hope to empower our audience. The idea is they become aware of how that problem is being tackled and what the potential way forward might be so that they feel more informed and motivated to be part of a solution.

**Why do you think mainstream news focuses mainly on the negative?**

Bad news headlines grab our attention. Although there's a good motive for this in terms of being a watchdog, it's perhaps less beneficial to society in that its driven to sell as many papers as possible. Human beings are hardwired to pay attention to alarming information. When there's a potential threat in our immediate environment, it hones our focus on that threat. Essentially this is happening when we walk past the newsstand. We want to know what that threat is. This has created a culture in journalism that associates 'good' journalism with the idea of 'if it bleeds, it leads'. We're trying to undo those

assumptions because we don't think that has to be the case.

**How do you reach out to consumers of negative news?**

The main way we're reaching out to people is social media. Often, when people find our approach they really want to shout about it, so word of mouth is massive for us, whether that's offline or online. We're also receiving a lot of press coverage. I think there is a growing need for a more constructive view on the world.

organisations such as the *Huffington Post*, *The Guardian* and the BBC trial constructive journalism. I think it'll keep growing. The industry is driven by the need for media to develop their business models to find new ways to earn income, engage readers and rebuild trust.

In terms of certain tabloids adopting a constructive approach when they're so embedded in triggering fear and anger, I find it difficult to imagine them changing



**Do you think constructive journalism will prevail the usual methods of journalism?**

The pace of change is encouraging. There's increasing interest in constructive journalism from other media. We're seeing

their headlines. Hopefully, over time, they'll grow more comfortable with a constructive approach.

**What advice would you give to students who want to set**

**up their own publications?**

It's a tough industry to get into. We've seen lack of resources for local papers that are bought up by corporates making cuts to maximise profit. Acquiring an NCTJ may still be valuable but students should look out for new innovations where the sector is growing and find their niche. So, from my point of view with constructive journalism, I see that as one of these new opportunities. If you've got an original angle, it will appeal to an editor.

**Why is it important that magazines are issued in print and not just published online?**

I love creating a magazine. For us, it's a great creative process that makes us think very carefully about what we're doing with that limited space. I think it's important to have something aesthetically beautiful in journalism. It connects readers with stories in the publication. In print you get a beginning, middle and end and an even more refined editorial process. This careful selection of positive stories is actually doing our readers' work for them. This is a valuable expertise that's harder to come by online as there are so many sources of information.

[www.positive.news](http://www.positive.news)

# Place Writing Festival comes to Manchester

David Cooper is a Senior Lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University, his research focuses primarily on contemporary place writing. David is also has a long-standing interest in Romantic writing and his research often brings these two interests together.

*Humanity Hallows* recently caught up with David to find out more about the brand new two-day 2017 Place Writing Festival, taking place this summer at Manchester Met.

## Tell us what led you to creating the 2017 Place Writing Festival?

For the last couple of years Jean Sprackland, James Draper and myself have run two short courses on Place Writing and have also organised a series of author events at both Number 70 Oxford Street and the International Anthony Burgess Foundation. I'm hoping that we can build on this and attract fresh interest to both this type of writing and our new MA/MFA in Place Writing. Number 70 is the home of the Manchester Writing School. It's a great location in the city, close to so many prominent landmarks, that it's the perfect space in which to celebrate writing and place.

## What can students hope to gain from this event?

An insight into modern non-fiction place writing. Through author talks and panel discussions, we'll be celebrating some great examples of contemporary place writing. Crucially, though, we also hope to encourage people to pick up the pen and to write about their 'own' places.

## What fascinates you about place writing?

The relationship between writing and place, space and landscape, and the questions that they pose. My undergraduate dissertation was on James Joyce and his fictional mapping of the city of Dublin. I've always been interested, then, in the ways writers both represent and make places.

## Where is your favourite place to write about?

Tough one! It's always changing! First and foremost, I'm a literary critic rather than a creative writer. I'm currently thinking about recent accounts - in fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction - of Morecambe Bay: that great, treacherous expanse which is only a few miles down the road from where I live.

## Tell us about urban place writing. Has it, historically, been a poor relation to nature writing?

I don't think that this is true when it comes to fiction; but, historically, I think that it is true when it comes to creative non-fictional writing about place. Over recent years, though, the exploration of previously neglected areas - particularly edgelands - has led to some great new writing about the city.

## Does place writing have a political element to it, for example, changing landscapes?

Clearly, all writing is political to some degree. The two things - writing and politics - can't be divorced.

## Are there any places you feel would not be interesting to write about?

I once heard a quote, from a writer I won't name, that said 'Some places should not be written about'. Personally, I think that fascination can be found anywhere, you just need to look.

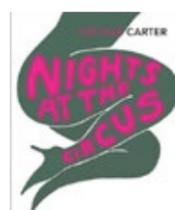
## Can you give a sneak peek of any writers' work that will be being discussed?

All being well, Amy Liptrot will be there: she is the author of *The Outrun*, which is a memoir on displacement, belonging, addiction and Orkney.

The Place Writing Festival 2017 takes place at Number 70 Oxford Street, Manchester. The event is free, but advanced booking is essential.

[www.eventbrite.com/e/place-writing-festival-at-manchester-met-2017-tickets-32091238759](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/place-writing-festival-at-manchester-met-2017-tickets-32091238759)

**Interview: Benjamin Francis Cassidy**



## Nights At The Circus

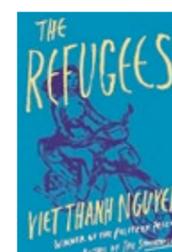
By Angela Carter



Is she fact or is she fiction? That's the question that Fewvers,

the biggest celebrity in the world implants. Part woman, part swan, she's the main attraction of Colonel Kearney's circus, attracting spectators with her beauty and acrobatics. Intrigued by Fewver's mystery, Jack Walser, an ambitious journalist, joins the circus and embarks himself on a tour through London, St Petersburg and Siberia by the turn of the nineteenth century.

The story depicts a fantastic world very similar to our own, in which the reader encounters beast tamers, depressed clowns, intelligent pigs and mystic shamans. *Nights At The Circus* features an impactful narrative whose brilliance lies in its sympathetic characters, and the exploration of topics such as gender, sexuality, and love, narrated in Carter's signature elegant and witty style. [Pierangelly Del Rio Martinez]



## The Refugees

By Viet Thanh Nguyen



Pulitzer Prize winner, Viet Thanh Nguyen, brings us *The*

*Refugees*, a collection of eight short stories depicting the transition and clash between two worlds. Making a startling allusion to contemporary issues, *The Refugees* follows the lives of a Vietnamese refugee who experiences culture shock after being adopted by a gay couple in San Francisco, a woman whose husband suffers from dementia and confuses her with a past lover and a girl whose older sisters returns from the States to Vietnam having accomplished the American Dream.

*The Refugees* is a powerful piece that opens the readers' eyes to the reality of immigration. It is a deeply human tale, which touches issues that impact almost every family, regardless of the culture. Moreover, Viet Thanh Nguyen's beautiful prose reminds us what makes fiction such a wonderful literary genre. [Pierangelly Del Rio Martinez]



## Not So Innocent

By Lynette Heywood



Following the story of Ella, Bess and Nessa, who grew up on a

tough council estate in the North of England, *Not So Innocent* beautifully serves up the trials and tribulations of working-class life.

True to life and gripping from start to finish, the book traces the hard lives of three women who will never rid themselves of the ties of home.

*Not So Innocent* is a stunning depiction of the overwhelming power of true friendship and shared experience, revealing the ways in which individuals can be bound together with a life-long hold.

When a violent attack brings the women back together in a way they could not have foreseen, we see just how far these friendships can be stretched.

[Natalie Carragher]

# ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment Magazine is a brand new, independent, online magazine and blog that focuses on: new music, film, TV, video games, comic book releases, and events.

Since our launch we've arranged interviews with the likes of Frank Turner; covered live gigs, including Catfish and the Bottlemen, Blossoms, The Courteeners and the Lakes Comic Art festival.

We already have opportunities for live gig photography, interviews with musicians, directors and artists and much more in store for 2017.

So if you're a passionate writer / photographer / videographer / graphic designer looking for opportunities to work with a team of students and recent graduates set on kick-starting a brand new independent publication get in touch.



@EntertainmentM



Entertainment Magazine

[www.entertainmentmagazine.com](http://www.entertainmentmagazine.com)

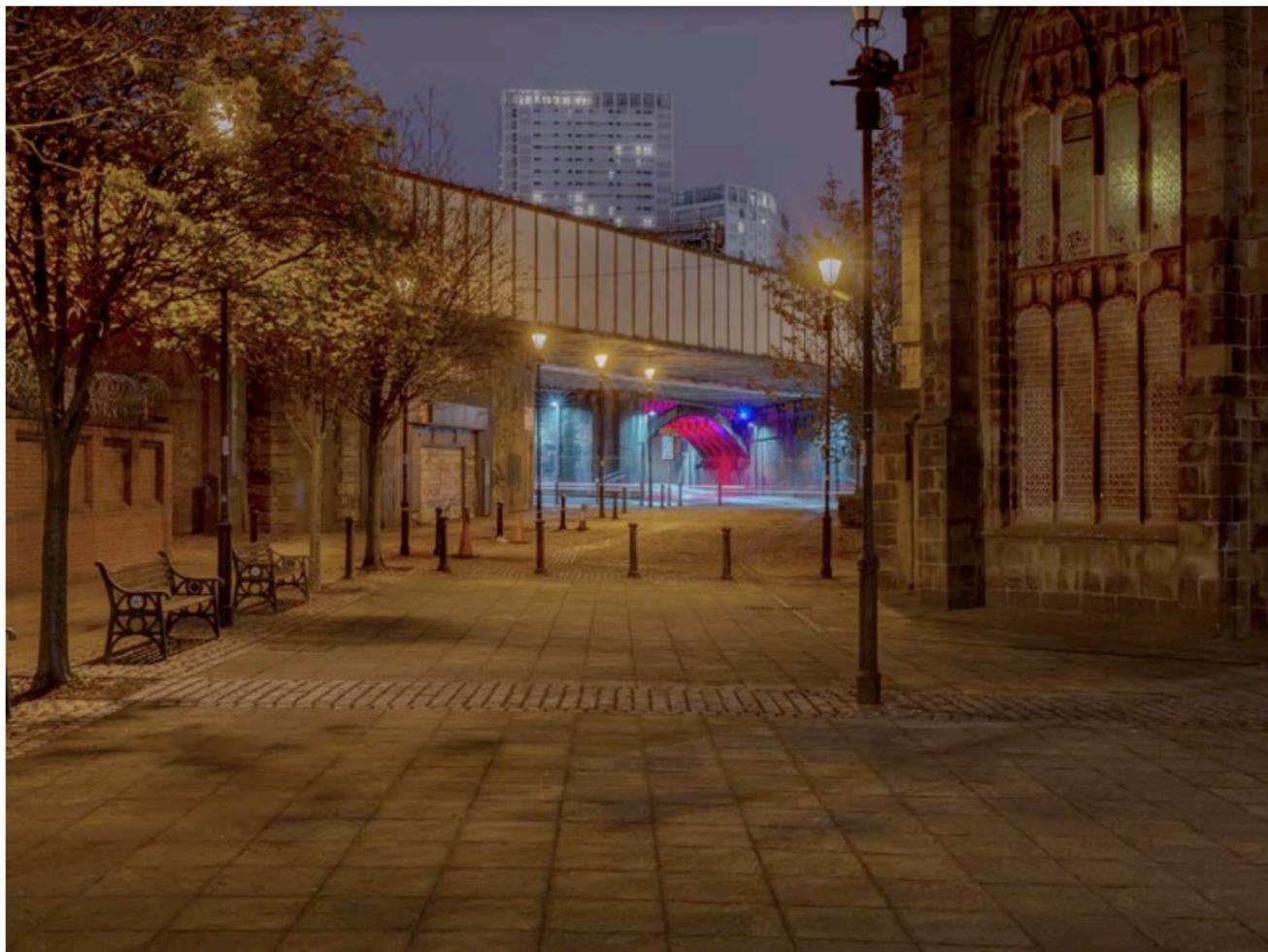
“

# Enjoy the beauty that comes with being an observer

”

*Humanity Hallows* speaks to Simon Buckley to find out all about his latest work and how he keeps up to date with an ever changing art form.

**Interview: Zarina Aktar**



Manchester photographer Simon Buckley has been capturing the city through his lens for twenty years, his work having recently been recognised with a City Life Award. His most recent project *Not Quite Light* shows Manchester as not many see it – in the dim light of the very early morning. Simon recently spoke to us about how the project came about.

"*Not Quite Light* is a project that explores themes of generation and heritage in the city using dawn as a metaphor as a transition from the old into the new. It's looking at how the city is evolving, the kind of city that we have and imposing questions of what city do we want? And what do we want it to look like?"

The idea for the project came when Simon went through some major life changes.

"A long term marriage had broken down and I was sharing a flat with a guy in the Northern Quarter and he used to walk his dog every night, so I used to go out with him for a talk and chat. One evening we were walking round Angel Meadow and we were standing at the point where 40,000 bodies are buried and there are some gravestones that have been laid there.

"They were under the glowing light of the CIS building and I was looking at them and it just came to me that, if this light magically brought them back, what would they think of the city that we've created? Would they be amazed and astonished, thinking we've done a great job? Or would they be slightly disappointed?"

Simon's relationship with his home city has sometimes been volatile.

"I've lived in and around Manchester for most of my life and one of the things it has done has caused me to become more intimate with its details really. There are a lot of things I didn't know and I've found a lot of corners and alleyways and bits of history, which have enriched my love for the city, as I have a bit of a love/hate relationship with it.



"It's not always a beautiful city and it can be a 'difficult child' in many ways. Sometimes I see Manchester as a stropky teenager, it's yours and you love it but it's not always easy to like it. Doing this project has caused me to love it more I think."

Simon won a City Life Award for his work in 2016. How did that feel?

"To be the recipient of an award is really beautiful. I wasn't expecting it as I was up against the City Art gallery and the Oasis exhibition and I didn't expect to stand a chance as they were good exhibitions!"

Does he have any advice for photographers just starting out in their careers?

"The main thing is to love it and enjoy it. Ask yourself the question of why you are taking this photograph and it will provide you with more purpose. Understand why it is that you're taking the photograph and enjoy the beauty that comes with being an observer. Define what it is you're trying to see and learn what's in the frame; it's the small details that make the difference."

With camera phones and digital cameras the norm now, Simon thinks we should all stop and think more about the images we are capturing.

"It's so easy to click the shutter now, so pausing for consideration is entirely necessary as the camera itself is just the mechanical device. If you begin to explore what you can creatively do with your camera and the basics of it, it means you can experiment and be in control of it. Explore things like aperture and shutter speeds because then you stay in creative control. Sometimes, when I'm on

Instagram, I sometimes see photographs that are very nearly there but, with a little more sense of their craft, the photograph would have been really great."

Is expensive equipment essential?

"I've got a Nikon D810 and a short-focal zoom lens now. Back in the day I'd have a camera bag full of lenses and stuff like. Now I work very simply. A camera, tripod and cable release for long exposures. I have an umbrella, which isn't to keep me dry, it's to shield the flare from streetlight and I have a little stool because I'm short."

What about film?

"I haven't used a roll of film for years! I think it's interesting to see the fashion of people using film again but one of the things I love about digital is that it allows me to produce a photograph that reflects how I've felt. I see photographers proudly proclaiming they've shot on film and you see it reproduced on Facebook or Twitter but I think, you've scanned it and then you're back to being digital again..

"I think this argument about the purity of photography... well where do we start with that? Do we start with a glass plate, do we start with Fox Talbot? Where does purity start in anything? It's just another version of photography. We don't need to have a debate about it, choose the medium you want and do what you want with it."

To stay up-to-date with Simon's work, visit [simonbuckleyphotographer.com](http://simonbuckleyphotographer.com) and follow him on Instagram @notquitelight

# Post graduate

Words: Kate Calvert

## dos and don'ts

A postgraduate student's world can be a strange one. Undergrads suddenly look like infants, and this time you're choosing to study because you want to actually learn, not because you want the student life.

### Do!

- Start considering your dissertation as soon as possible, even if you change your mind a million times. Postgrad students who don't do this often regret it when the deadline for their proposal looms. And try to enjoy it!
- Look after yourself! Sleep more, but lie-ins will become a distant past. 8am is now a lie in, and bedtime at 10pm is the ultimate luxury.
- Save up as much as you can before starting. Student Loans are offering non-means tested loans of up to £10,000, so that could mean you have a nifty £3,000 spare after paying for your course. But, remember, as a postgrad you're more likely to have responsibilities, such as the need to work longer hours to support yourself and you may even have a family to feed.
- Use the library. Yes, that mystical building, which you hardly ever went into for your undergraduate course will now become your best friend. You will discover it is actually quite useful and wonder why you didn't put any effort into visiting it for your degree.
- Practice your public persona. A presentation is required with some assignments. They're basically tests to demonstrate that you've actually done some work, masked as confidence building and 'you'll have to do it in the workplace so you might as well start now' exercises.
- Get things wrong. As one lecturer explained, 'If you don't get something wrong, you're not learning.' It might sound disheartening when you've poured so many hours into a project, but attaining full marks all of the time isn't realistic. Grasp this and any mistakes won't be fruitless.

### Don't!

- Expect to party like you did as an undergraduate. Some students that have headed straight into postgrad study after their undergrad degree seem to be able to carry on partying as if nothing has changed. But, for many, the need to work and support yourself becomes ever greater as you get older. That said, there's always time for a cheeky pint or three on a Tuesday.
- Just study. If it's a new university you have enrolled in, take the opportunity to discover what activities and societies it has to offer. If you've studied here before, re-discover. Universities always have plenty of activities, and lots of brand new ones too.
- Panic! Studying, handing in assignments, deciding on your dissertation topic, finding work placements, and looking for a job can be so overwhelming. And the beauty of being a postgrad is that you're looked upon as being adult enough to deal with it all. That is, of course, rubbish. Unfortunately, age doesn't necessarily equate to a calm mind.
- Finally, you'll wonder why you put yourself through this all over again: the late nights (which will be less about partying and all about deadlines), the lack of money (again), and the wonder of 'will it get me a job?' (because with all that student debt, you'll really need one to prove to yourself that its all been worth it!). But it is worth it. You'll study a course that you've always dreamed of doing, get great teaching, and be given opportunities and contacts that'll give you the confidence to succeed.

Ultimately, **DO** apply for postgraduate study.

# Telling Tales Film and Audio Festival

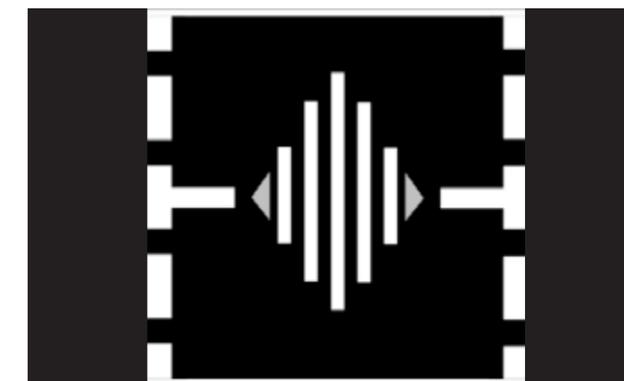
Calling students, filmmakers and lovers all things film...

A brand new film and audio festival is coming to Manchester this summer. Telling Tales is unique festival that will showcase an array of films, documentaries and audio pieces documentaries.

Set in the thriving cultural city of Manchester, Telling Tales Film and Audio Festival encourages students, filmmakers, film and audio documentarians to submit their creative pieces to a three day festival opening at Number 70 Oxford Street 23-25 June, 2017. This is a great opportunity to showcase your work and be a part of a community in one of the UK's advanced media industry city.

Sponsored by Hindenburg Audio, Torrside Brewery and Manchester Metropolitan University, the Festival is awarding prizes totalling £16,000, which includes cash awards and benefits. The prizes will be distributed to the winners across the following categories:

- Grand Jury Prize Film Professional
- Grand Jury Prize Student
- Best International Film Award Professional
- Best International Audio Award Professional
- Best International Film Award Student



- Best International Audio Award Student
- Best UK Film Award Professional
- Best UK Audio Award Professional
- Best UK Film Award Student
- Best UK Audio Award Student

For more information and to submit an entry, visit [telling-tales-festival.com](http://telling-tales-festival.com)

TELLING TALES

- \* AWARDED CEREMONY
- \* TOTAL CASH PRIZES TO BE WON TOTALLING £6K
- \* SOFTWARE TOTALLING £10K
- \* HOSTED IN MANCHESTER CITY CENTRE, UK

INTERNATIONAL FILM & AUDIO  
DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL  
JUNE 23RD - 25TH 2017

www.telling-tales-festival.com

Manchester Metropolitan University

HINDENBURG AUDIO

# Open up to global opportunities with Uniwide Languages

With more students than ever opting to study a language with Uniwide alongside their main degree, we talked to some Uniwide students to find out more...

## Jade Oakley studies a Business degree alongside Mandarin Chinese

"My relationship with Mandarin Chinese began in 2016 when I travelled to study Mandarin and Chinese culture at Beijing Normal University on the Study China programme. We experienced Chinese language, culture and family life and it was the most amazing, eye-opening experience of my life; I knew I wanted to go back so I decided to develop the language skills I had learned with Uniwide."

### What do you enjoy most about your Uniwide language classes?

Uniwide offers a fantastic opportunity to develop skills you may not otherwise have considered. As a Business student, Mandarin is a great asset to have in the developing world of business. I have also met like-minded people whom I would never have met otherwise.

### What's the most useful thing you have learnt so far?

How to say and write numbers in Chinese. Numbers are the keystone to many aspects of the language and understanding them has made learning much easier. Also, we have lots of opportunities to practice conversation in class and with native Chinese speakers in drop-in conversation classes which is incredibly helpful. Learning in such a supportive environment has encouraged me to embrace the language and learn from my mistakes without feeling awkward or embarrassed.

### What's your favourite word in your new language?



## Leah Caffrey is a first year studying Japanese for 15 credits alongside Tourism Management.

"Ever since I was young, I have been interested in Japan – my grandparents visited when I was 10 and to this day I've kept the postcard. As I got older, everything about the country interested me: the fashion, the music, the history, the language. After I got to visit Japan in 2016, I knew I needed to do anything I could to be able to return. Finding out my course let me study a language alongside was incredible; kind of like the stars aligning. There wasn't any doubt in my mind; I had to learn Japanese."

### What do you enjoy most about your Uniwide language classes?

It's not just two hours of sitting and copying from the textbook; it's a chance to meet so many people from different years and courses, and you learn about the country and the culture as well.

### What's the most useful thing you have learnt so far?

The alphabet – Japanese has 3! I thought I'd really struggle to get my head around that, but once you tackle Hiragana and Katakana everything starts to make so much sense.

tackle Hiragana and Katakana everything starts to make so much sense.

### What's your favourite word in your new language?

がんばって (ganbatte) it basically means 'let's do our best!' or 'good luck!'

### What opportunities has learning a Uniwide language given you?

Aside from the chance to learn my dream language? The chance to interact with so many people that are also interested in Japan and Japanese culture. It also helps

It's 'jiǎo zi'. I consider myself a bit of a foodie and jiǎo zi are Chinese dumplings, my favourite Chinese food, traditionally eaten to celebrate Chinese New Year.

### What opportunities has learning a Uniwide language given you?

It's given me the opportunity to apply for internships and work placements in China. I'm also considering business graduate schemes in China and would never have had the confidence to do this without learning with Uniwide.

" Finding out my course let me study a language alongside was incredible; kind of like the stars aligning. "

## Sarah Brown studies German alongside Primary Education

"I chose to study a language because I loved German at GCSE but found the thought of A Level exams too scary. With Uniwide there's the chance to progress in a relaxed environment with exams in reading and writing which you sit in a classroom, and a speaking assessment done in a group which makes it less terrifying! You get two hours of in-class time a week, plus an optional two hour drop-in session which really helps. We are set homework every week and always get prompt feedback about it."

### What do you enjoy most about your Uniwide language classes?

Through Uniwide, I've met people from a whole range of different courses: third year Business students, first year Linguistics students, Masters students.

### What's the most useful thing you have learnt so far?

that a lot of the people have taken a language voluntarily, so people are really dedicated to their studies.

The most useful thing I've learnt is probably how to explain things I like/don't like to eat - I'm a very fussy eater and can imagine finding it difficult in Germany otherwise!

### What's your favourite word in your new language?

It's 'Naschkatze'! A word we don't have in English, which refers to a someone who snacks or has a sweet tooth.

### What opportunities has learning a Uniwide language given you?

Hopefully it will increase my chances of being accepted to do Study Abroad next year. Having a reason to venture to a different part of the university was brilliant and has opened my eyes to a different side of university life. Plus, I was invited to the Languages Christmas party!

Study a Uniwide language next year as part of your course or through 'Uniwide Extra' for £205.

## Learn a Language with Uniwide

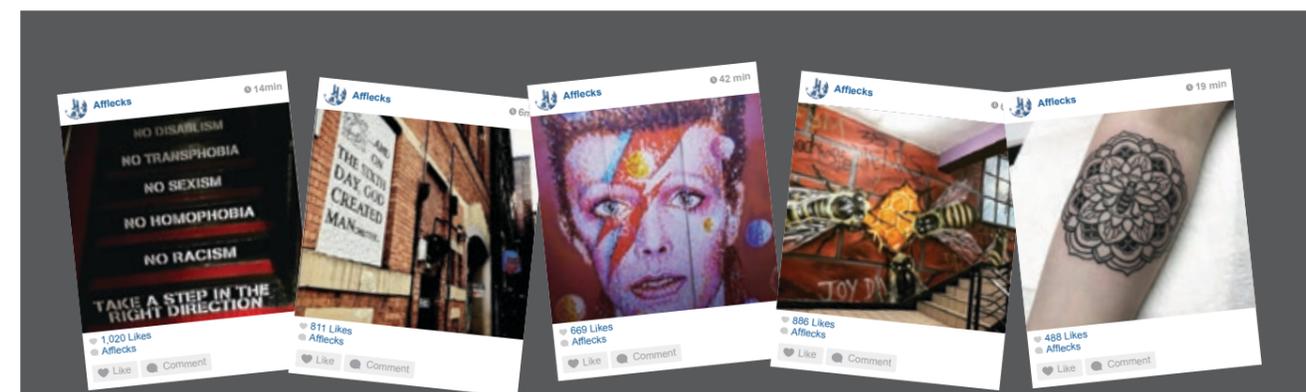
The following Languages are available to study:

Urdu, Spanish, Modern Standard Arabic, French, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, German, Italian and English as a Foreign Language

Study as part of your degree or as an extra

For more information on how to enrol, visit:

[mmu.ac.uk/uniwide](http://mmu.ac.uk/uniwide)



AN EMPORIUM OF PRODIGIOUS PROPORTIONS AWAITS YOU WHETHER THY QUEST BE FOR VINTAGE LEATHER OR SCENTED CANDLES, SPIKED BELTS OR A NEW TOP HAT, SOME COLOURFUL INK IN YOUR SKIN OR A POSTER FOR YOUR WALL, THERE SHALL BE ALL THIS AND MORE UPON YOUR ARRIVAL TO OUR WALLS

Google ★★★★★ facebook ★★★★★ tripadvisor ★★★★★

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52 CHURCH STREET, NORTHERN QUARTER, MANCHESTER, M4 1PW

# Exploring the Canary Islands

**T**he Canary Islands have long been established as one of the leading travel destinations in Europe. Located on Africa's West Coast, the seven islands are known for their warm weather, beautiful beaches and luxurious resorts. However, these islands are home to more than fantastic beaches, with natural wonders, charming villages and a legacy of cultural diversity on offer. If you're planning to visit the Canaries, here are a few things not to be missed...



## The Cities

Both Gran Canaria and Tenerife have several municipalities or 'cities', so it's important to decide where to spend most of your time. In Tenerife, St. Cruz is probably one of the most visited places being the Island's capital. Its urban area has lots of shopping malls, restaurants and historic sites worth paying a visit. While Gran Canaria, one of the most recognisable places is Las Palmas, offers great affordable accommodation. You can also check out the town of Maspalomas, just a couple of hours away by car, which is one of the most tourist-friendly zones, where great resorts and beaches can be found.

## Historical Sites

There are several places for visitors to learn about the Canary Islands' history. In Tenerife, the historical centre La Laguna is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and its pedestrianised streets offer stunning colonial architecture and emblematic buildings. In Las Palmas, the neighbourhood of Vegueta contains the House of Christopher Columbus, The Canario Museum and Santa Anna Cathedral as well as a public market nearby.

## Natural Landscapes

In both Tenerife and Gran Canaria, there are natural wonders that cannot be missed. A volcanic mountain in Tenerife known as Teide stands 3,700 metres above sea level and offers a fantastic view of the volcanic landscape. In Gran Canaria, Roque Nublo, a gigantic rock surrounded by mountains, is located near the village of Tejeda. Both wonderful places to enjoy nature and take pictures.

## Food

The Canary Islands are known for their cultural diversity. In the most tourist-friendly areas, visitors will find a variety of restaurants offering plates from the Spanish cuisine and all around the world. For those feeling homesick, you can also find British restaurants with the typical beans-on-toast and porridge for breakfast!

**Words: Pierangelly Del Rio Martinez**

# Travel tips for broke students

With summer fast approaching, the temptation to start booking holidays gets stronger and stronger. But what if you've spent the majority of your student loan? Have no fear; we have a range of tips and tricks that can make your summer holiday affordable.

**Words: Hannah Lewis**

## Compare cheap flights

It is often far cheaper to book your flights and hotels separately, particularly when it comes to city breaks. Use a site like Skyscanner to find the best deals to fly to your chosen destination. If the cheapest UK airport is London, which it undoubtedly is most of the time, weigh up if it's cheaper to get a train or coach to fly from there instead of forking out extra pounds to fly from your local airport.

## Student discounts

Take full advantage of student discounts on entrance tickets for tourist attractions. You will be surprised by just how many places offer deals for concessions and students, whether its museums, galleries or the theatre. Either have a look online before you visit or just ask when you're at the attraction. There's no harm in trying!

## Hand luggage only

Why pay for extra baggage if you can fit it all in hand luggage for free? Invest in a cabin case and take a lesson or two in how to pack efficiently and you'll save yourself some extra pennies. It also reduces the wait in the airport as you don't have to check your bags and get stuck in long queues when you arrive in your next destination. It's a win-win!

## Go by train

If you fancy conquering a couple of cities this summer, consider train or coach travel instead of flying. Getting around Europe by train has been made considerably easier with the aid of the Interrail pass, with passes ranging from a few days to unlimited travel within a month. Coaches or trains are great if you want to see more than just one city on the cheap. Also, consider booking sleeper trains so that you don't waste any valuable exploring time, whilst saving paying for a night of accommodation.

## High season

The long student summer break has its advantages. Being a uni student means that you are able to book your holidays out of high season, either before or after schools break up. By choosing to go away in June or September, travel and accommodation is often far cheaper. Plus, there will be fewer tourists and families, meaning that you can explore without having to fight through crowds or queue for hours.

## Look for free events

Most cities will have free events on, especially in summer, or have free historic sites or landmarks that you can have a look around. Ask at your hotel/hostel for advice on free or cheap places to visit, or look online if there are any free festivals on when you're there.

## Skimp on accommodation

Wherever you choose to visit, the likelihood is that you will literally only use your accommodation for sleeping. Use sites like Hostelworld to find cheap hostels in your chosen city, with many places offering dorms for bargain prices! Staying in hostels is a great way to meet new people and make friends. Don't fancy sharing? Booking.com usually has good deals for private rooms. Travelling solo? Couchsurfing.com is a website where locals offer their sofas for you to sleep on for free and is a great way to meet new people and get inside knowledge of the city you're visiting.

[skyscanner](#)  
[Hostelworld](#)  
[Couchsurfing.com](#)  
[Booking.com](#)

# Clubnight Highlights

Words: [Hannah Lewis](#)

We round up the best Manchester has to offer this summer.



## Riddim Divisions Summer Carnival

Jump right into summer with Riddim Divisions Summer Carnival on May 2 at Mint Lounge. Playing a tropical mix of dancehall, garage and grime and promises of exotic décor, whistles n' horns, inflatables and flags to fully immerse yourself into the carnival spirit. Featuring the talented Amy Becker, as well as Swing Ting w/ Fox, Marcx B2B Fallow and Riddim Division DJ's, this event will most definitely make you whine up your waist.

## YOU DIG?

Ready to boogie? YOU DIG? brings you an infectious mix of Disco, Funk and Soul brought to you by DJ's Simon Ham and Diesler on rotation. Bringing the party on the last Friday of every month at the Deaf Institute.

## Disorder

Fancy a change from side-stepping to the same club music every weekend? Pop down to The Venue on Thursday nights to boogie and sing along to upcoming indie and rock & roll hits all night long. What's more, save yourself some pennies by utilising the free bar service from 11pm-12am for just £4!

## Trippy Visions

Manchester's first diffraction party! On entry, you're given trippy glasses to take your clubbing experience to the next level. Trippy Visions features student DJ's playing house, techno and electronic music. Only on every two months, the next event is at Antwerp Mansion on May 9. Grab your tickets whilst you still can!

# What's On: Summer 2017



## House of Ghetto: Black Pride

HOME, MCR: April 7-June 15

House of Ghetto: Black Pride is comprised of portraits and a video installation of the founding female members of the House of Ghetto, a Vogue House based in Manchester. Vogue is a form of stylized dance and performance posture which arose throughout the 70s and 80s in often poor African-American communities, especially by gay men, which created a fully inclusive atmosphere. The exhibition seeks to explore the connection between Vogue and gay black culture.

## The Crucible

Opera House: 8-13 May

If witchcraft and superstition is your thing, then book yourself tickets to see the *The Crucible* this May. This play is set in a small 17th Century town where allegations of witchcraft break out and quickly create a climate of suspicion and paranoia. Starring the fantastic Charlie Condo and Victoria Yeates.

## Goddess

Theatre 53Two, May 30-June 3

Fancy a laugh this summer? Goddess is a show starring Wendy Albiston, who plays a middle-aged, plus-sized, loud-mouthed goddess. She works as the 'expert' in finding your inner deity on daytime TV, but her everyday reality is not as shiny as the media portrays it to be and journalists are starting to ask questions.

## Dirty Dancing

Palace Theatre: 18-22 July

Dirty Dancing returns to the Palace Theatre this July. Immerse yourself in the whirlwind romance story of Baby and Johnny, while dancing in your seat to the classic soundtrack featuring hits *Hungry Eyes*, *Do You Love Me?* and *(I've Had) The Time of My Life*.

# In Cinemas

Alice Denison rounds up the films hitting the big screen 2017.



## King Arthur

Director: Guy Ritchie  
Starring: Charlie Hunnam, Jude Law, Hermione Corfield, Eric Bana and Annabelle Wallis  
Released: May 12

Guy Ritchie's take on Sherlock Holmes was a raging success so there is large anticipation surrounding this film. The tale of Arthur and the Excalibur has been told many times but Ritchie's adaptation seems to draw away from previous versions. Charlie Hunnam stars as the title role after his success with *Sons of Anarchy*.

## Annabelle 2

Director: David F. Sandberg  
Starring: Mirando Otto, Lulu Wilson and Javier Botet  
Released: May 26

Sandberg has taken over the terrifying doll film franchise that is *Annabelle*. The film is based on the real doll investigated back in 1970, linking into the story of the demonologists, the Warrens, that is portrayed through *The Conjuring* film series. *Annabelle* is a china doll that is possessed and moves on its own, causing havoc for its owners. No doubt this second instalment will contain jumpy scenes and the inability to ever look at a doll in quite the same way ever again.

## Wonder Woman

Director: Patty Jenkins  
Starring: Gal Gadot, Chris Pine, Robin Wright and Connie Nielsen  
Released: June 2

After the abysmal *Batman Vs Superman*, it might be safe to say that the only achievement in that film was indeed *Wonder Woman*, so the excitement is intensely building around her standalone film. The

female hero figure is rarely portrayed well, so the idea of a high standard female cast and crew is very promising. *Wonder Woman* is the hero we need right now, not more Spidermen, or even Batman in the form of Ben Affleck, dare we say it!

## Despicable Me 3

Directors: Kyle Balda and Pierre Coffin  
Starring: Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Russell Brand, Steve Coogan and Miranda Cosgrove  
Released: June 30

Gru is back but this time he has a brother. In this third instalment, we see Gru further battle with his want-to-be-good-but-desire-to-be-evil nature. On one hand, as an agent, he has got to track down and stop the latest evil villain. On the other, his brother Dru is pushing him to be evil alongside his minions, but his new family life gets in the way of his villainous career.

## Dunkirk

Director: Christopher Nolan  
Starring: Tom Hardy, Cillian Murphy, Mark Rylance, Kenneth Branagh and Harry Styles  
Released: July 21

Nolan's latest film explores the evacuation of Allied troops from the beaches of Dunkirk during World War II. Christopher Nolan is by far one of the greatest modern film directors so *Dunkirk* is highly anticipated. On the other hand, the film has caused endless controversy due to the choice of casting former One Direction member Harry Styles. Styles has no acting experience but fans might be reassured that Nolan wouldn't cast Styles just for ratings. Other big names are starring in the film but the main plot and characters are kept secret, even in the teaser trailer there is no hint to the main stars roles.

## Atomic Blonde

Director: David Leitch  
Starring: Charlize Theron, James McAvoy, Sofia Boutella and John Goodman  
Released: August 11

The John Wick director and stunt coordinator for a mass of action films such as *X Men* origins: *Wolverine* and *Hitman*, has given life to the graphic novel *The Coldest City*. The film follows undercover MI6 agent Charlize Theron as she investigates a murder of another agent as well as tracking down the remaining living agents. Supporting Theron is James McAvoy and together they have to complete an impossible mission. Theron put herself through extreme physical training for the film's action sequences and McAvoy has, yet again, transformed himself into a new character. This film not only looks action packed but also sexy and beautifully shot.

## IT

Director: Andres Muschetti  
Starring: Bill Skarsgard, Finn Wolfhard, Javier Botet and Megan Charpentier  
Released: September 8

Many a viewer's worst nightmare: the return of Pennywise the Clown. Pennywise has changed in this version. He will be younger and more child-like, to lure in his prey. Casting Finn Wolfhard as the main child in the *Losers Club* is a clever decision as he is already causing a buzz in the wake of Netflix success *Stranger Things*. Despite the huge clown shoes that Bill Skarsgard has to fill after Tim Curry's magnificent and truly terrifying role as the evil shapeshifting clown, Stephen King fans have faith that this *IT* remake will do the horror writer's horrific tale justice.



### Revolar Instinct: Indiegogo

New places and new people are an integral part of the university experience. But dodgy situations are a hazard faced by most students at some point. The Instinct is a handy GPS wearable that lets friends and family know your location at the click of a button. One click tells your contacts you're safe, two clicks asks them to come get you and three gets the blue lights and sirens heading your way.



### ClickPack Pro: Kickstarter

Keep your stuff safe like an effing superhero with this ultrasafe, tech-laden backpack. A slash-proof outer layer, retractable cable lock and combination zip mean that your valuables, all packed away in scientifically designed compartments, have never been more secure. You can even charge your phone with it while you battle the forces of evil.



### NIFTYX: Kickstarter

Tired of your phone running out of battery while you're out and about? Tired of looking at the lack of hand-braided Italian leather around your wrist? You need some NIFTYX in your life. With this achingly stylish, wearable power bank and charging cable all in one, you can look fresh af as you scroll through memes for a precious extra few minutes.



### PUP Pocket Scanner: Indiegogo

Never take a book from the library again! In fact, throw away your bag, notebook and pen, loser. The Pup Pocket Scanner is a small and lightweight scanning wand that fires magic lasers at books and puts all the essay fodder you need into your own little bit of the internet, ready for you to retrieve the night before an assignment is due.

# 5 Crowdfunding Student Lifesavers

If there's one thing we love more than having an easy life, it's getting our hands on cool gadgets before other people. That's why we've scoured the crowdfunding world to bring you a selection of brand spanking new student life hacks to make your world a better place while your loser friends get sick with envy. Enjoy!

Words: Neil Harrison



### Cinch! Pop up Tent: Indiegogo

Ok, so not really an on-campus game changer as such, but with festival season fast approaching, this techy tent should be high on your list of must haves. With enhanced solar power, a heat regulating cover, LED tent pegs and a canopy that provides 75% more space, you can pitch up quickly and charge your gadgets in luxury.

# Limbo Live Highlights



*Humanity Hallows* speaks to Manchester's latest addition to its underground music scene: grassroots radio station Limbo Radio.

Words: Daniel J. Broadley

Based in a flat in Fallowfield, the station has grown to not only act as a platform for emerging Manchester artists but has also brought in established names. To celebrate their success, Limbo have picked five of their favourite mixes of 2017 so far.

### Bakk.Heia w/ Bitzer Maloney 27/02/2017

"Bitzer Maloney hosts a bi-weekly Monday evening show on Limbo Radio. Bitzer (AKA Jack Tomson) boasts an enormous collection of eclectic records, his shows frequently spanning a multitude of genres and styles - from obscure 20 year old Peruvian Punk records to boundary-pushing experimental Electro. This mix is potentially our favourite of his so far."

### Pelican & Limbo in-store w/ DJ Normal 4 23/02/2017

"We were lucky enough to catch Dusseldorf's DJ Normal 4 in action down at Eastern Bloc Records back in February. This fantastic mix sees him glide through two hours of Breaks and House music, on his usual top form! Big thanks to Holt and the Pelican gang for teaming up with us on this one too."

### Cult & Ossia in-store w/ Bjorn Torske & Telephones 17/02/2017

"We were pretty star-struck when streaming this one, two of Norway's finest joined us at Eastern Bloc for a two hour mix ahead of their show at Soup Kitchen with Cult and Ossia. Bjorn Torske & Telephones delivered the goods exactly as everyone expected them to, this one's pretty special!"

### Bink Time 29/01/2017

"This mix comes from one of our nearest and dearest, Praewa Bulthaweenan (known to most as Bink) who holds down a monthly residency on Limbo Radio. Bink was raised in Thailand, and moved to England in her early teens. She regularly weaves together a fantastic blend of soulful Jazz, Hip-Hop, Disco, House and World Music from across the globe. This is one of our favourites from her!"

### Neans et Le Feu 25/02/2017

"Gang Fatale frontman Neana was joined by French rising star Le Feu for two hours of their usual blend of Club Trax, Trap, Ballroom and Funky."

You can tune in to Limbo Radio every night, 19:00-23:00 on [limbo.live](http://limbo.live) for quality underground music of all genres. Follow them on Facebook [@limboradiomcr](https://www.facebook.com/limboradiomcr) to keep up-to-date with their latest resident shows and guest appearances.





**Her Dementia**

My Grandad asked why  
God made blackberries so sweet  
then put thorns on them.

Grief had come early: a tight  
bud with a single petal.

---

By Lydia Allison  
Illustration: Jessye Persse

**The week the clocks changed**

Summer beckoned us forward with a smile.  
A gentle hypnotic sway to her hips  
erased last year's jellyfish memories.  
And in stomachs that had slumbered,  
somersaults of love began to turn again.

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By Suzanne Finch  
Illustration: Jessye Persse



Gingham's out of the closet!

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By Lisa Owen-Jones

## “I’m a feminist because... I love my son.”



**B**ecoming a mother changed everything for me. Before The Boy I was a wild, free spirit type of girl, flitting here and there at will, enjoying the freedoms that the women’s rights movements of the past had brought me. Travelling alone, being politically active, living independently, working in managerial positions, being sexually liberated, these were all things I recognized as the hard-won fruits of feminism and I was, and still am, fiercely proud of the long line of incredibly strong women who raised me and came before me. Then came The Boy. And in the last four years I have come to understand, with a growing sense of maternal fear, that the toxic ideal of masculinity so perpetuated by a patriarchal society hurts our boys and men just as much as it does women, and that if we call ourselves feminists we have to recognise and combat that damage.

I love my son. He’s a happy, cheeky, smiling little soul. Flying everywhere on fast little feet like a tiny beautiful multicoloured bird, there’s something so pure and innocent in his face that the thought of him being corrupted by the darkness in the world fills me with hot, angry tears.

I bought him a doll for his second Christmas.

Another mother at playgroup told me I’d make him gay.

We buy our boys violent toys, we buy them guns and swords and monsters and tell them they’re not allowed to play with dolls, or kitchens, or cuddly toys. Even the way we dress our boys can be toxic, buying them t-shirts that say ‘heartbreaker’ or ‘trouble’ on the front. What messages are we sending?

The most recent DfE figures show that at age 11 only 50% of boys are reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics, with only 5% exceeding that standard. In fact, girls outstrip boys at every stage of the education system, culminating, according to UCAS, in there now being 58,000 more girls than boys at university in this country. The ‘boys will be boys’ mentality means that we expect boys to be naughty, we expect them to do badly at school, we let them know in a million subtle ways that studying is not a manly thing to do, and they live up to our expectations.

**“ I bought him a doll for his second Christmas. Another mother at playgroup told me I’d make him gay. ”**

It doesn’t end with education, almost every area of their lives is governed by the guiding principles of Boys Will Be Boys and Big Boys Don’t Cry.

We raise our sons in a system of gender norms which teaches them to hide their feelings in the name of a perceived ‘strength’ that men are supposed to have. The suicide rate in men is now three times higher than that of women; The Samaritans put the numbers at 16.8 per 100,000 in men and 5.2 per 100,000 in women. The Royal College of

Psychiatrists say that men suffer depression at the same rate as women, but they are far less likely to ask for help, and much more likely to self-medicate with drugs and alcohol. They go on to suggest that this is because men find it hard to communicate their feelings, particularly with their romantic partners, and that relationship breakdown is the number one cause of depression in men.

Are we really going to raise another generation of boys that don’t know how to communicate with the most important people in their lives because they’ve been told since birth that real men don’t do that? Are we still raising boys who still believe that caring and nurturing is somehow beneath them? That achievement isn’t cool? That they have to use their fists to get respect?

That’s not how I want to raise The Boy.

I’m a feminist because I want my son to achieve his full potential.

I’m a feminist because I want my son to be a warm, loving, emotionally intelligent man, and not be ashamed of that.

I’m a feminist because I want my son to be able to talk about his problems without being laughed at or perceived as weak.

I’m a feminist because I believe that toxic masculinity is destroying our boys.

I’m a feminist because I love my son.

**Words: Frankie Richardson**

## “I’m a feminist because... everyone should be.”

“Why are you a feminist?” A question I’ve become very accustomed to being asked; however, it surprised me the first time I was asked this question by a woman. To me, this highlights the widespread misconceptions surrounding the word feminism. Some believe it represents a hatred of men, and that being a feminist is usually accompanied by a lack of femininity or a general feeling of bitterness.

To many, the idea of a male feminist seems ridiculous, but quite the contrary to the distorted view some have of it, feminism is a hopeful movement of equality, solidarity and respect. Yes, there may be elements of bitterness there, but rightly so. Women have a right to be angry about this inequality, and so do men.

Feminism is nothing more than the complete equality of rights and opportunities for all genders. So why the stigma? Well, the truth is that while women’s rights have come a long way, men still hold a privileged place within society and the patriarchy is very reluctant to relinquish this power. It’s not just women who deserve

**“ Equality should be celebrated not feared. Men not only have the right to be feminists, but have an obligation to be so. ”**

to be enraged by this. A white person can feel angry about racism, a heterosexual can feel angry about homophobia, and a man absolutely has the right to feel angry about sexism, which is what gender inequality is. Equality should be celebrated not feared. Men not only have the right to be feminists, but have an obligation to be so.

Gender inequality makes life harder for men too. The world has a strangely twisted view of what a man is, and what he is expected to be. ‘Real men don’t cry’ for example, an absurd notion that can lead to emotional instability and even mental illness. The concept of ‘manliness’ has set a standard by which men are expected to adhere, those who don’t fit this concept of what man should be are seen as inferior or odd. Why should we allow stereotypes and outdated preconceptions define who we are?

To men out there, it’s very simple. If you believe in gender equality then you are a feminist too. To women, I remind you that you are not alone in this fight, there are men who will stand with you in solidarity for your right to be seen and treated as an equal.

So why am I a feminist? Well, I’m a feminist because I believe in equality, I’m a feminist because it would be ridiculous not to be. I’m a feminist because everyone should be.

**Words: Ryan Geraghty**

Join the conversation over on Twitter @HumanityHallows Got something to say? Write for us! Get in touch with the team at [www.humanityhallows.co.uk/work-with-us](http://www.humanityhallows.co.uk/work-with-us)

## Student Magazine: How to get involved

**Humanity Hallows is Manchester Metropolitan University's official online and print student magazine.**

**We are currently recruiting for a number of volunteer roles and welcome applications and contributions from all students.**

*Humanity Hallows* is a platform run entirely by student volunteers with a passion for journalism and a passion for Manchester.

Working with *Humanity Hallows* is the ideal way for students to get that all important work experience while at university. We aim to provide a safe and supportive space in which student volunteers can be creative and have their voices heard, while boosting their confidence – and their CV – with skills in journalism, editing, publishing, social media and more.

### Freelance Contributors

We are looking for writers, illustrators, filmmakers and photographers on an ongoing basis to help make *Humanity Hallows* an informed, inspiring, witty and opinionated collection of student voices and talents that make our city brilliant. If you have an idea for a contribution, register your interest and get in touch with the team via our ‘Work With Us’ page.

### Editorial Team

We have a number of exciting opportunities for Manchester Met students to become members of the *Humanity Hallows* editorial team. Joining the *Humanity Hallows* editorial team is a great opportunity for students to gain an insight into the world of journalism, to pick up genuine employability skills and contacts and meet new people.

### Apply Online

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Website: [www.humanityhallows.co.uk](http://www.humanityhallows.co.uk)

Email: [HumanityHallows.Editor@gmail.com](mailto:HumanityHallows.Editor@gmail.com)

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