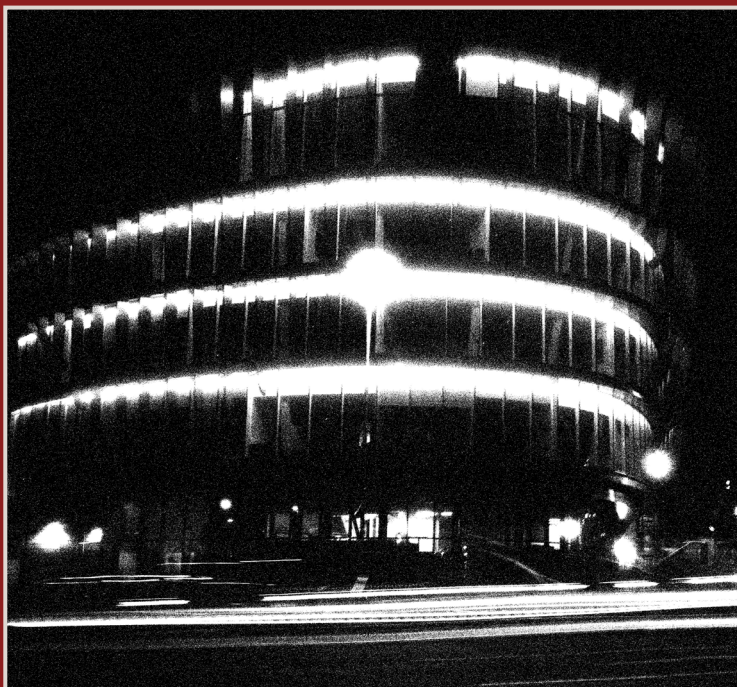


# T'HUD

YOUR STUDENT MAGAZINE



BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS

## EDITION THREE

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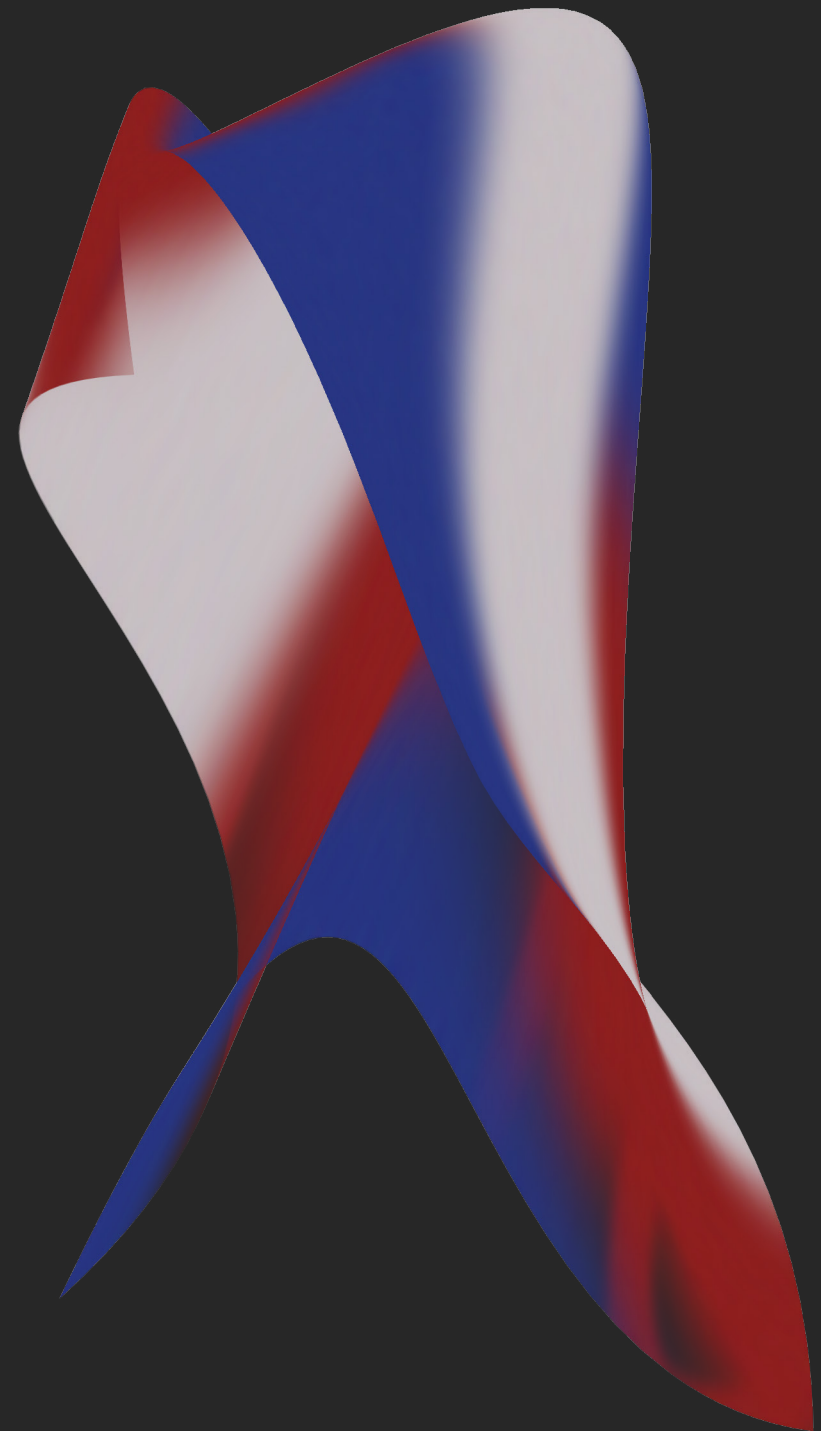
# MEET THE TEAM!



Here we are! The creative minds, writers, designers, and editors who brought our 1st edition to life this year. We're a group of students from different walks of life, united by our passion to create a magazine for all students. Every article you see here is the result of our collective energy, hard work, and let's be honest, way too much coffee!

We're excited to bring you three editions this academic year, packed with fresh, engaging content that speaks to you! Whether you're a loyal reader or an aspiring contributor, we'd love for you to be part of the team.

Got an idea, piece of work, or just want to say hi? Reach out!  
Stay tuned for further updates!



# WHAT'S ON?

BY HELEN ALLISON

Huddersfield is constantly buzzing with opportunities for students looking to make the most of their time outside lectures and assignments. Whether you're new to the town or a seasoned local, Huddersfield has lots to offer, from live gigs to affordable food markets.

There's always something for you to unwind and meet new people. Recently, Huddersfield has been host to many events and opportunities:

Thread Republic is a textiles, reuse, and skills hub based on the Piazza in Huddersfield town centre. In September 2024, they hosted numerous workshops, including a fashion show, a clothes swap and a print workshop, with activities such as screen printing DIY tote bags and creating your own Postcards

The popular International Market returned to Huddersfield once again, bringing consumers a unique range of goods from different countries. Over 25 stalls were offering attendees a diverse selection of flavours and handmade goods.

Oktoberfest Night Market, run by Huddersfield BID, was a sell out successful event, with an amazing atmosphere of bands and bars. The live music by the Kase Chiefs and Flat Cap Brass Band kept attendees jigging, with a wide selection of lagers, ciders, cocktails and mocktails keeping everyone refreshed.

The Sportsman pub hosted Huddersfield's first ever International Crisp Festival, with over 50 varieties of crisps, including British favourites and a more exotic range. A crisp-themed quiz allowed attendees to have a taste, with each crisp having its own wine and beer to complement.

# FANCY A CHRISTMAS MARKET?

If you're looking to soak up the festive spirit this season, there are plenty of Christmas markets in and around Yorkshire, that are easily accessible from Huddersfield and a cosy, budget friendly way to enjoy the holidays. With twinkling lights and seasonal food, these markets are the perfect spot to pick up unique gifts and indulge in festive treats. Here's a list of the top markets to check out this year!

Leeds Christmas Market  
(22nd November – 22nd December 2024):

Located across the city centre, this market offers festive foods, local crafts and an ice-skating rink. It is accessible from Huddersfield by a short train ride.

York Christmas Market  
(14th November – 22nd December 2024):

This market is a larger event, including a carousel and various festive stalls. It's around 1 hr train journey from Huddersfield, so it is easily reachable.

Harrogate Christmas Fayre (29th November – 15th December 2024):  
Featuring local traders, handmade presents and festive food, this market offers live entertainment and a delightful road train for the special holiday experience. This market can be accessed by a 1 hr 30 train from Huddersfield station.

Hebden Bridge Christmas Market (30th November – 1st December 2024): This market is a closer option, offering a picturesque setting with over 60 stalls, including artisan foods and crafts, plus international street food. It's a 50 minute journey from Huddersfield, making this the perfect scenic option.

# SOCIETY PROMOS

## K-WAVE SOCIETY

Discover K-Wave: The Ultimate Korean Culture Hub!

For fans of K-Pop, Korean films, food, or fashion, K-Wave Society is the perfect place to connect and celebrate all things Korean.

The society hosts weekly hangouts and exciting events, including film nights, K-Pop parties, and more! With plans for language lessons, cultural celebrations, mukbang events, and DJ collaborations, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Don't miss the chance to join this vibrant and welcoming community—sign up today and become part of the K-Wave experience!



## HISTORIA NORMANNIS SOCIETY

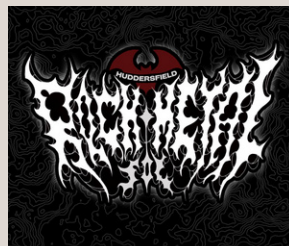
Historia Normannis is a 12th-century re-enactment society with groups across the UK. The group specialises in depicting camp life from 1140 to 1215—between the reigns of Henry I and King John—including combat displays, woodworking, metalworking, and courtly music.

The Huddersfield Regiment trains for combat every Sunday at Greenhead Park (or at the university in inclement weather) and is planning crafting sessions in the future. The regiment also collaborates with the Leeds group for training and participates in larger events involving groups from across England.

## ROCK & METAL SOCIETY

The Rock & Metal Society is the ideal community for alternative music enthusiasts. Known for its popular weekly Wednesday socials at Parish, the society provides a welcoming space to discover local bands and build friendships.

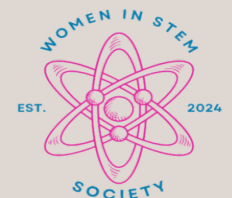
In addition, the society has successfully secured nearly 50% off tickets for Live at Leeds in the City 2024 on 16 November, a renowned music festival showcasing both emerging and established bands. Joining the Rock & Metal Society is a fantastic way for students to connect with fellow rock fans and enhance their university experience.



## WISH SOCIETY

WISH is dedicated to empowering women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by providing a platform where they can excel. The society's mission is to support and represent women in STEM while fostering a collaborative and inclusive community that promotes growth and opportunity.

Through a variety of events, networking opportunities, and educational workshops, WISH actively works to address the challenges women often face in traditionally male-dominated fields. The society aims to create an environment where every voice is valued, and members feel inspired and supported. WISH invites all to join in reshaping the narrative and celebrating the achievements of women in STEM.



## ADULT NURSING SOCIETY

The Adult Nursing Society provides a supportive environment for students to deepen their understanding of adult nursing while connecting with like-minded peers. The society offers networking opportunities, knowledge-sharing, and a chance to build lasting friendships. With exciting events, fun outings, and opportunities for personal and professional growth, there is something for everyone.

Whether you are a new or returning adult nursing student, the society invites you to join and make the most of your university experience. Best of all, membership is free!



## PENSA SOCIETY

The Christian Society on campus is dedicated to maximising the university experience through prayer, Bible study, worship, building lasting friendships, and sharing the love of Christ. The society has created a culture of family, offering a supportive and nurturing community where members encourage one another to grow spiritually in their walk with Jesus.

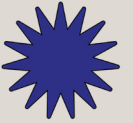
Members also can develop their God-given skills, talents, and abilities through power-packed weekly sessions every Wednesday at JC1/10.



# BEST NEW releases you should be listening to

Songs of a lost world  
The new Sound  
Chromakopia

## BEST OF MUSIC : NEW RELEASES YOU NEED TO LISTEN TO



BY HOLLY JENKINS

October and November have been nothing short of chilly and somewhat cathartic. To soothe this soreness, there are a lot of new albums to discover in the modern music scene. Here are some of my favourite recent releases everybody should be listening to post spooky season.

### GEORDIE GREEP – THE NEW SOUND

Following the sad news of black midi's split, ex-frontman Gleep welcomes October with his solo debut, The New Sound. Taking valuable experience from the forward-thinking artistry of black midi, Gleep explores a blend of samba, jazz-fusion, and avant-prog rock. Brazilian stylings and a jazz-rock sophistication create a captivating yet challenging listen at times. The disjointed flow of the album and the heavy syncopation through time signatures creates a chaotic listen in a quirky and fresh way. His lyrics are often bizarre and bring characters to life in a dark, humouring fashion, whilst touching on themes of desperation, insecurity and sex. With the cohesion of the album presenting a grey area, Gleep sparks debate among fans yet a notion of optimism for his musical future.

Favourite track: Terra

### THE CURE – SONGS OF A LOST WORLD

The Cure's new album, Songs of a Lost World, creates a regal, melancholic, reflective soundscape, not dissimilar from the band's style decades ago. Beloved gothic pioneer Robert Smith channels anger, loss, and grief into this

powerhouse album. The album pays homage to the longing emotional catharsis of Disintegration (my personal favourite of theirs). The similar emotional intensity of Disintegration, paired with Smith's collaboration with producer Paul Corkett, creates a fresh spin on a beloved classic, a technique which not many bands can achieve successfully. For old Cure fans, this is the perfect listen to scratch the nostalgic itch in the brain.

Favourite Track: I Can Never Say Goodbye

### TYLER THE CREATOR – CHROMAKOPIA

Chromakopia, Tyler's seventh album, trumps his previous work in levels of maturity. He taps into self-reflection and becomes inquisitive and introspective, contemplating relationships, goals, and success. He dives into the anxieties of personal decisions and self-assessment, whilst other times showcasing his fun-loving cheeky personality with several big-name collaborations. Those featured on the album include Daniel Caesar, Teezo Touchdown, Sexyy Red, Lil Wayne, Schhoolboy Q and more. Chromakopia combines both deep lyrical content and Zambian and soul sampling, to portray Tyler's fear and uncertainty with his identity beyond fame.

Favourite Track: Darling, I

# PSA : BRING BACK GIGS TO LEEDS AND MANCHESTER

BY THOMAS MELIA

Whether it's videos from Sabrina Carpenter's 'Short 'n' Sweet Tour' or fan interactions between R&B staple Kehlani and their crowd at 'The Crash Tour' going viral online, people are still desperate for live music.

Although most are listening to music through streaming platforms, fans and casual listeners alike want to break the digital barrier by attending gigs and concerts, experiencing these songs they've only heard through headphones in a completely different dynamic. Some super fans will even go as far as Wembley Stadium to get their live music fix to watch UK household name Coldplay, as they've just announced ten nights at the huge landmark venue in 2025.

Autumn and Winter bring joy to concertgoers' ears and a not-so-pleasant surprise to their bank accounts as artists start announcing tour dates for the following summer. Off the back of an electric Glastonbury set, Dua Lipa released the dates of her upcoming 'Radical Optimism Tour' with the closest date being Anfield Stadium. It was only this summer that a certain blonde-haired pop great better known as Taylor Swift left her mark on the UK concert scene. She played three back-to-back dates also at Anfield Stadium and brought crowds of 60,000 every night to Liverpool's home ground. Both these musical events are missing two very crucial cities.



The Northern cities are no stranger to pivotal music events as back in the 80s Queen of Pop Madonna had over 70,000 fans packing out Roundhay Park in Leeds, and the following year Michael Jackson, the King of Pop, followed in her footsteps also gracing the outdoor venue. In the mid-2010's pop icons Beyoncé and Rihanna headlined Old Trafford Cricket Ground both in 2016 to a respectable 50,000 each.

Both cities have some remarkable performance spaces that can hold some of the biggest and definitely loudest crowds. Elland Road, home to Leeds United Football Club, is confirming plans to raise its capacity to 53,000, this will surely put itself on the map as a hotspot for future concerts. Over in Manchester, Old

Trafford boasts almost 75,000 and the rival Etihad Stadium can hold just over 50,000, making these a perfect destination for the next stadium tour.

It's not that music has come to a halt in these places as Manchester is being blessed with some glorious summer nights of Britpop next year with legendary duo Oasis scheduled to play three headlining dates at Heaton Park. Leeds is receiving some love too as 2000's indie rock triumphs Kaiser Chiefs are celebrating 20 years of their album 'Employment' by hosting a one-night-only event at Temple Newsam Park. Besides events like these, there seems to be a slight pullaway from music events in these two cities.



# NETFLIX'S TOO HOT TO HANDLE : SENSUAL DRAMA WORTH WATCHING

BY SABIH NADEEM

Packed with action and sensual drama, Too Hot to Handle is a top-10 must-see show that explores how much temptation a group of singles can handle when left alone in a beach hut.

Too Hot to Handle first disguises as another show to lure contestants in. A whole group of attractive, high-energy singles set out for the holiday of a lifetime, only to find out that they're on Too Hot to Handle and must refrain from any sexual action, gratification, or physical intimacy. Contestants are challenged to build deeper, non-physical connections, while any prohibited actions under Lana's watchful eye cost them a chunk of the prize money. In the end, one couple takes the remaining prize and is crowned the season's winner.

Rule-Breaking Fun! Rules are there to be broken, right? At least, that's what many contestants seem to think. From kissing to self-gratification and even heavy petting, it seems these singles can't help themselves. And honestly, that's the best part—watching them learn (or not learn) as they keep breaking the rules. Testing the waters to find the right match seems to be what each contestant does season after season, making rule-breaking one of the show's biggest elements.

Each season's diverse cast adds intrigue, bringing together people from the U.S., UK, Australia, Brazil, and beyond to try to form connections on a deeper level. It's interesting to see that, no matter where you're from, love is a language everyone can speak.

However, some viewers may notice a bit of repetition across seasons. Each season offers new contestants, but they face the same scenarios: sexual desires versus cash. The winners are often the rule-breakers, which may feel unfair to those who resisted temptation. This might leave viewers feeling like the show favours rule-breakers over rule-followers.

Overall, Too Hot to Handle is a great show to lighten your mood. While some might call it a 'dumb' reality show, it's worth a watch. It's perfect for anyone who wants to relax, take their mind off things, or enjoy a good laugh. So, are you ready to see who can resist the temptation for cash?



TOO HOT

netflix

sensual drama worth watching

TO HANDLE

# 10 ALBUMS TO SET THE TONE FOR AUTUMN AND WINTER

BY RITCHEY CHESTERS

The weather is getting colder, Halloween has come and gone, and Christmas is just around the corner. What we all need right now is some new albums to set the mood for the Autumn and Winter seasons.

“The Freewheelin” – Bob Dylan

An autumn classic for colder days, with top songs like “Don’t Think Twice It’s All Right” and “Oxford Town.”

“Among My Swan” – Mazzy Star

This is perfect for dark, gloomy winter days, with songs like “Flowers in December” and “Disappear.”

“Louder Than Bombs” – The Smiths

This album has a wonderful hazy feel to it. Songs like “Back to the Old House” and “Heaven Knows I’m Miserable Now” have autumn written all over them.

“Pink Moon” – Nick Drake

Possibly one of the most fitting albums for the colder seasons, with a feel-good yet drowsy vibe. Songs such as “Things Behind the Sun” and “Harvest Breed” set the perfect tone.

“Electro-Shock Blues” – Eels

With songs like “Dead of Winter” and “Ant Farm,” this album is filled with nostalgia and childhood whimsy, perfectly suited for dark, frosty winter evenings.

“Hail to the Thief” – Radiohead

A bit of Radiohead is just what you need to get through tough autumn days, and songs like “Where I End and You Begin” or “A Wolf at the Door” do just that.

“Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness” – The Smashing Pumpkins

Ranging from beautiful and hazy to upbeat and heavy, with songs like “1979” and “To Forgive.”

“Loaded” – The Velvet Underground

With songs such as “Oh! Sweet Nuthin” and “New Age,” this album is essential for a cosy autumn with its slow, drowsy instrumentals and lyrics.

“The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars” – David Bowie

Warming tunes for the coldest days, featuring songs such as “Soul Love” and “Five Years.”

“Electric Warrior” – T. Rex

A perfect pick-me-up for autumn days, with top songs like “Cosmic Dancer” and “Get It On.

# STUDENT BAR RECCOMENDATION - SMILE BAR.

BY RITCHEY CHESTERS

The Smile Bar is a live music venue situated right on the campus of the University of Huddersfield. Open Wednesday through Sunday at varying times, this venue is a hit in the local area, with a 4.5-star rating on TripAdvisor.

This bar is highly recommended for students studying at the university. Being on campus, it is easily accessible to all, no matter where you are staying. The bar itself is fairly small, with a feel-good vibe; the warm lighting overhead makes it immediately comfortable, adding to the rustic feel of the place. The live music is undoubtedly the main selling point of this quaint bar. Over the next month, the bar will be hosting live acts almost every night, featuring tribute bands and solo performances such as Pink Floydian, Livewire – The AC/DC Show, and INXS, Crowded House & Split Endz – Tributes. If you’re looking for a fun and exciting night out with live music from artists you love, this bar is a must-visit.

The bar staff are friendly, and the drinks are affordable—essential for a quick and easy night out. Not to mention, there’s a Crazy Pizza just down the road for a tasty bite after a night of drinking and excitement. I would highly recommend visiting for a drink or two and to listen to some fantastic music, whether with friends, family, or even on your own. The Smile Bar is the perfect place for everyone.

Overall, I would rate this bar 8/10. It’s the ideal student bar with an incredible interior, cosy and comfortable, with affordable drinks. It’s perfect for a quick and easy night out with friends.





PHOTOS

BY

CONNOR

ALAN.



PARISH,  
HUDDERSFIELD.



Huddersfield has a vibrant music scene, with two popular venues being Parish Dive Bar and the northern quarter.

Each week showing free live music, it's nights like these that I believe to be special and worth capturing. In these three photos I tried to capture the essence of the alternative local talent Polevaulter, Turnip and Heavy Lungs.



# FILMS YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING

BY FREYA CAHILL

As a pretentious Film student, I pride myself on finding and pretending to enjoy lesser well-known films. Admittedly, this is sometimes to my detriment as; after swearing that x film is going to be like nothing anyone's ever seen before and transcend cinema, I often realise I've wasted my time with a film that should've stayed on the watchlist. Other times, however, I'll come upon a film and need people to talk with about it. So with that, welcome to my film recommendations! As an obvious disclaimer, all opinions are my own and are just that: opinions. Who am I to tell you what to watch or enjoy? I wanted to keep these recommendations spoiler-free and contain as little information about the films' plots as possible. Have a film you think I'd enjoy? Nice one, let me know and I'll be sure to squeeze it onto my ever-growing watchlist! If you happen to watch any of these and love or hate them passionately, cool, let me know – I always love to hear other opinions!

For any trigger warnings, please see [DoesTheDogDie.com](https://www.dogdie.com) (but be warned, this may contain spoilers).

**Suspiria (1977) – Horror/Mystery (18) – Amazon Prime (currently)**

"An American newcomer to a prestigious German ballet academy comes to realise that the school is a front for something sinister amid a series of grisly murders."



Despite being jarringly realistic at times, *Suspiria* is a fun piece of experimental, campy horror which I found to be a really interesting watch. The film's score was mostly composed by the Italian Prog-Rock band Goblin, and with the audio mixing being all over the place in terms of volume, I found that this (despite being annoying to keep adjusting the volume) made for intense musical tension in a way I'd never seen (or heard) from a film before. Another aspect of this film that stuck with me was the use of colour. *Suspiria* has such a strong, bright primary colour palette, which makes for some really beautiful and meaningful composition within scenes, as well as reinforcing the nightmarish setting of the school (just as a fun piece of trivia, *Suspiria* was one of the final feature films to be processed in Technicolor, using the last remaining machine in Rome). As mentioned previously, this film is CAMP. There are certain scenes, grotesque in nature, but I found these to

have a more dreamy feeling as they felt more like melodramatic choreographed dance routines. As well as this, I found that as you begin to piece together what's going on, certain scenes feel increasingly heart-wrenching and genuinely hopeless for Suzy. The use of sound, colour, and atmosphere is what makes *Suspiria* so much fun to pick apart and it's one I will revisit in future.

**Waiting for Guffman (1996) – Mockumentary/Comedy (15)**



"Aspiring director Corky St. Clair and the marginally-talented amateur cast of his hokey small-town musical production go overboard when they learn that Broadway theatre agent Mort Guffman will be in attendance."

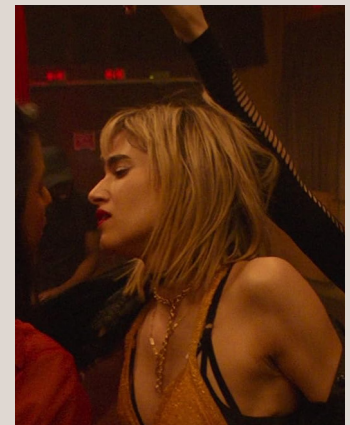
I WISH I could experience this film for the first time again. *Waiting for Guffman* is honestly one of the best comedies I've seen in a while that had me laughing out loud. As recommended by Kristen Schaal and Katya Zamolodchikova, this film certainly did not disappoint. It might not be for everyone but stick with it, as it's so well done, so smart, and so funny. While this film doesn't take itself too seriously, I did find certain elements of it to be rather (perhaps intentionally) uncomfortable.

Maybe this is just part of the humour and shouldn't be given a second thought, or maybe it just happens to evoke a different reaction from audiences today rather than audiences nearly 30 years ago, or maybe I'm just a wet lettuce who reads into things too much. Either way, I loved this extra layer and find that it provides the film even more depth. I went into *Waiting for Guffman* completely blind to the plot and I think that's a perfect way to experience what the characters of this small town have to offer, and this film keeps you on the edge of your seat as it builds to the final production of the musical celebrating 150 years of the town of Blaine, Missouri. If you want a film that's incredibly self-aware and perfectly off-beat, this is a definite must-see.

**Climax (2018) – Horror/Drama (18)**

"A group of French dancers gather in an empty school to rehearse and party. However, their celebration soon turns into a nightmare when they realise that their drinks are spiked with LSD."

*Climax* is a film that I feel like I SHOULDN'T be recommending but it's just SO GOOD. Sticking with the Horror/dance theme, it feels only right to give this film the praise I feel it deserves and upon researching the film's production, I love it even more. I'm not usually massively fussed about a lot of dance, but *Climax* has given me such an appreciation for what is presented onscreen. The cast consists of real dancers, only 2 of whom had previous acting experience. Most of the cast had no experience in dancing as a group or in synchronisation either, which makes the dance sequences in the film all the more impressive. There was no script and most of the character interactions, plus how each character reacts to the drug, were improvised. This film is beautiful while also packing such a pit-in-the-stomach punch (if you'll pardon the pun). *Climax* is a perfect watch for anyone who wants to be disturbed without watching a Horror or Splatter film. The cinematography is gorgeous, the colours are vivid, and anything goes. I think if I had to choose between spending the night at this party for a billion Great British Pounds or ending my life, tell my family and friends I love them. That school is the LAST place you'd want to be while involuntarily tripping on acid.



# CALL FOR CONTENT

We are always looking for contributors.

Are you passionate about writing, photography, design, or any form of creative expression? We're looking for talented contributors to help shape the next issue of our magazine!

Whether you're into sharing stories, crafting insightful articles, snapping striking photos, or designing eye-catching layouts, there's a place for you on our team.

By joining us, you'll have the chance to develop your skills, collaborate with a dynamic group of people, and see your work published.

We welcome fresh perspectives and unique voices—no prior experience needed!

Interested? Reach out to us and be part of our creative journey. Let's make something amazing together!

Feel free to contact us over social media, or contact a committee member, you can also join the society through the SU website.

## THANK YOU !

# NETFLIX'S SCI-FI BLOCKBUSTER SPACE SWEEPERS EXHILARATES AUDIENCES WORLDWIDE

BY SABIH NADEEM

Heralded as South Korea's first space blockbuster, Jo Sung-hee's *Space Sweepers* quickly captivates audiences around the globe. Its physics-defying spaceship chases and explosive combat sequences offer a visually stunning experience right from the start. The impressive CGI truly elevates the film, with detailed spacescapes and thrilling effects that immerse viewers in a vibrant, futuristic world.

Now, don't get me wrong, this movie isn't exactly re-writing the sci-fi rulebook. But for a thrilling ride filled with lasers, explosions, and an adorable 7-year-old girl who's somehow at the heart of it all, *Space Sweepers* is like popcorn for your eyes. You won't be breaking new intellectual ground, but you'll be entertained.

It is a sci-fi film that follows the crew of a spaceship who are desperate for money but instead find a 7-year-old girl called Dorothy. In trying to ransom her off to UTS guards, they grow fond of her and soon realise she's a lot more than what meets the eye. Racing against time, they fight, run, and unite to keep Dorothy away from any harm.

Unlike most *Star Wars* films, which could eventually be a worthy substitute for, this intergalactic adventure opens by introducing people of all races. The cast is a mix of Korean, French, American, Brazilian...if you're looking for an international adventure, this movie has it all. This diversity, highlighted by the film's use of translation devices, emphasises a future where cultural differences are both common and respected, bringing a refreshing inclusivity to the sci-fi genre.

While there are parts in English, the film doesn't default to English as a universal language, which is something I particularly liked.

From the opening scenes, the electrifying chase of bounty-hunting spaceships after a piece of space debris and then uniting to save a young girl sets an exhilarating tone for the film. The character development arc is also interesting to watch. The crew starts as money-hungry space scavengers, but as the story unfolds, they get a little more... well, human. Who knew a small girl could teach a crew of weathered space pirates to care about anything other than cash?

However, while the film's core message is compelling, certain aspects fall short. The discussion of race, for instance, is underdeveloped. Citizenship in UTS hinges on DNA, resulting in a predominantly white and English-speaking populace, contrasting with the diverse backgrounds of the *Space Sweepers* crew. It's a huge deal, but instead of diving deep into this complex issue, the movie mostly glosses over it in favour of getting back to the action. Missed opportunity, right?

Overall, *Space Sweepers* manages to rise high above the familiarity of its concepts. This sci-fi adventure does a very strong job of keeping what fans love but presenting it differently. With its diverse cast and unique cultural touchpoints, it brings a fresh and fun perspective to sci-fi that's rarely seen in the genre. Plus, who doesn't love a movie where the characters go from greedy to noble over the course of a few spaceship battles? It's like *Guardians of the Galaxy*, but with more Korean flair.

# THE LIFE-CHANGING BENEFITS OF READING

BY AMILIA GARSIDE

Literature has an image problem. Many people believe that reading is boring, that literature is dull, and that, simply, reading isn't for them. I'm here to challenge this idea.

Let's start with why people might feel this way. Most of us were forced to study English Literature at GCSE, to analyse the texts set for us, and to read them how we were expected to. There was little room for freedom or creativity, yet literature is all about discovering a story in your own way and forming your interpretation.

In my opinion, the education system makes literature boring. By making it a core subject everyone must take, it often becomes something to resent rather than enjoy.

All I'm asking is that you please try to separate literature from the image school gave you—it brings so much more than that, and I'm here to share some of these benefits.

For me, the best thing about reading is the escape from reality. I am an avid fiction reader. I love being transported to worlds of all kinds, whether these are fantasy kingdoms, dystopian societies, or magical forests (my personal favourite is The Hunger Games trilogy). Reading isn't just entertainment; it's a way to escape the stresses of everyday life. After a draining day, reading a novel is the best way to reduce the tension I have felt throughout the day.

Books also bring people together. Sharing a love for a book can spark friendships and act as an invisible string

that ties people together. Literature also fosters empathy by letting us see life through a character's perspective. This teaches us to relate to others, both inside and outside the pages.

Reading brings added knowledge, whether it's fiction or non-fiction. Books can be a resource for learning, introducing us to things we might never have encountered before, such as cultures that school curriculums don't cover. I also believe reading certain books can change our outlook on life, giving us new ways of thinking. Many people even turn to books as a form of therapy. Reading helps mental health by reducing stress and making people feel seen.

Maybe reading isn't something you currently enjoy, and that's fine. But I believe that there is a book for everyone out there. There are countless books with unique characters and intriguing plots—there will be something that will relate to you or pique your interest. Even your favourite film might have started as a book, and trust me, the book is almost always better!

Reading is the healthiest option for entertainment compared with its digital competitors, bringing many physical and mental benefits. Why not pick up a book that piques your interest—whether it's a novel, graphic novel, or even a memoir—and share your experience with a friend? You might discover a whole new world of escape!

Give it a try. You might just surprise yourself!

# THE LIFE CHANGING BENEFITS



# OF READING!

# HUDDERSFIELD'S HIDDEN GEMS.

BY CHARLOTTE SHARP

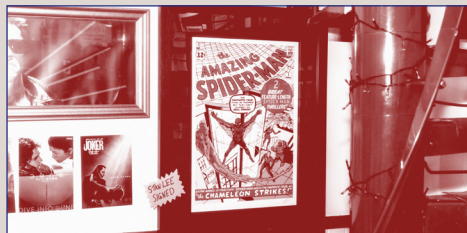
Huddersfield town centre has plenty of typical UK high-street retail shops located around town, which can cater to your needs and 'do the job'. But it's important to highlight that there are many hidden gems around Huddersfield too, local businesses that each specialise in their unique and niche areas whilst also contributing to the town's friendly atmosphere.

## JUST MOVIES

Firstly, 'Just Movies' is a great place to visit whether you're an avid film lover and want to begin or continue your journey of collecting memorabilia from your favourite films. Their shop is positioned in the centre of Huddersfield on Market Avenue which is not that far from the University campus. What makes this collector's haven stand out is its unique products that aren't something you can find on your typical UK high streets. The items within the shop include, but are not limited to Japanese laserdiscs, vinyl, posters, and even Stan Lee-signed posters which you don't see every day!

## JUST MOVIES

Situated in the Byram Arcade, Kapow Comics is Huddersfield's only local independent comic shop. Offering a subscription service to comics so that you never miss the latest issue, Kapow Comics is a great shop for those who love everything from graphic novels and manga to, of course, comic books—and much more. Even if you're just beginning your journey of collecting comics or getting into the newest Marvel show, this is a great place to visit...plus they offer a student discount which never hurts!



## JUST KAPOW VINYL

SUPPORT

YOUR

## TAP

TOWN'S

## MOVIES COMICS RECORDS

LOCAL

BUSINESSES

## VINYL TAP RECORDS

Just across from the town's train station sits Vinyl Tap, a local vinyl shop that has been trading since 1985 and also does online UK orders! They cover all genres, from punk to pop, and have participated in Record Store Day therefore making it the perfect place to get your hands on exclusive releases without having to travel outside of the town centre.

Additionally, Vinyl Tap frequently hosts in-store signings and performances. This adds a lot of energy to the local entertainment scene. It is also a great place to visit if you are interested in music and want to find some more affordable pieces – their basement which is open Monday-Friday, from 10 am to 4 pm has many things to offer with items like cassettes, which are as cheap as 50p!

## OVERVIEW

In summary, many local businesses in the town centre contribute to Huddersfield's warm atmosphere, saving you the hassle of travelling elsewhere.

Supporting local businesses is always something that should be encouraged when you have the means to do so, there are many others that weren't mentioned in this article that still deserve support.



Plus, if you're enthusiastic about any of these niche areas it's always fun to speak to others about those interests especially if you're just finding your bearings and want to feel more comfortable around the town.

Next time you happen to visit the town centre, why not visit one of these local hidden gems?

# HOW TO ELEVATE YOUR WARDROBE ON A BUDGET

BY TALIA HILL

Sustainable fashion is the ideal starting point when building a 'budget wardrobe'. Clothes that can be worn repeatedly and remain in your wardrobe for years are key – never once decreasing the value or style of your outfits. But how can students on a budget build an affordable wardrobe without overspending?

Here are my top five tips for creating a budget-friendly wardrobe:

## 1. Shop Second-Hand:

One of the best places to find affordable clothing is charity or second-hand vintage shops. These shops sell donated clothes, both new and pre-loved, at bargain prices while raising money for charity. You'll often find great pieces for under a tenner, making it an economical and eco-friendly option.

## 2. Vinted:

'Vinted' gives clothes a second or even third life. This leading online platform for buying and selling new and used clothes has skyrocketed in popularity. For sellers, there are no selling fees and no postage fees; for buyers, you are getting quality items for three-quarters of the original price. From high-street brands to designer labels, Vinted has something for everyone at a fraction of the cost

## 3. Sales and Student Discounts:

Students may have tight budgets, but they also have access to exclusive discounts across various retailers. Unidays and Student Beans are the two most popular student discount apps that are free to sign up and offer a great number of discount codes – sometimes these can be stacked up to increase the value of the discount that can be used. Always check if discounts apply to sales, as an additional 10% off sale items can lower prices even further. Retailers like New Look, River Island, and Nike frequently offer student-friendly discounts.

## 5. Avoid Overconsumption:

Finally, when investing in pieces, it is okay to have items that are affordable so you buy multiple in the same colour, but what if you bought two solid colours and put the money that you have saved into a coat or pair of shoes that will last you years? Overconsumption fuels the fast fashion crisis, with Greenpeace estimating that over 92 million tonnes of clothing end up in landfills over time. Make your fashion consumption small and long-lasting with a wardrobe that can be worn for years to come.

## 4. Create a Capsule Wardrobe:

By avoiding overbuying or accumulating multiple versions of the same or similar styles of clothing, a capsule wardrobe of well-chosen and well-made pieces can be the key to a long-standing wardrobe. Think of a capsule wardrobe as something that lasts, is timeless, and contains classic pieces that can be styled with anything to create a range of outfits – a white tee, one pair of denim jeans, a knit jumper – something that will last you but still look nice. By creating this type of wardrobe, you avoid contributing greatly to fast fashion and landfill.

Your guide to a capsule wardrobe is easy once you make the initial steps to building one, and you'll soon find yourself with a wardrobe that endures without sacrificing style or contributing to the growing issue of fast fashion.

Pryor, E. P. (2024).

The dark side of fast fashion.

GREENPIECE.

<https://www.greenpeace.org/aotearoa/story/the-dark-side-of-fast-fashion/#:~:text=>

# STOP BUYING YOUR PERSONALITY!

BY KAITLIN TALBOT

According to Google, the definition of an aesthetic is, 'a set of principles underlying the work of a particular artist or artistic movement'. These principles often highlight the more attractive or pleasing qualities of an art piece or design. However, the word itself comes from the Greek meaning 'perception'. Today, the term 'aesthetics' is often used by young people to describe what they perceive as beautiful. On social media platforms, it often refers to a person's taste in fashion, interior design and personal attitude.

On TikTok alone, there are lists of varied 'aesthetics' people may take part in which include a variety of makeup looks, hairstyles, outfits and a lifestyle that TikTok users have agreed corresponds with the aesthetic. Each aesthetic consists of a variety of products that users are encouraged to purchase to 'fulfil' the lifestyle of their chosen aesthetic.

For example, the 'Clean Girl' aesthetic that took TikTok by storm in early 2022, advertised a series of products that included skincare and body care. When exploring the aesthetic, it was extremely rare to come across a video of a young person talking about their aspirations or that didn't include a product.

This begs the question – how do we repair this problem?

Consumerism will always exist alongside us now we have social media, however, the preferred way to fix the issue would be to break down the connection between aesthetics and consumerism. This would enable us to establish a connection between choosing or taking part in trends and having a unique personality and life goals. This means that young people would have a comfortable space and platform to express who they are as a person, whilst having fun with different aesthetics and trends without feeling as if they must buy new products to be included. This could be done by pushing social media creators to share their aspirations and parts of who they are whilst they experiment with new things. Ultimately, removing the idea we have to spend our life savings on products to be a part of something!

You can't buy your character.

# SOCIAL MEDIA IS MAKING US DUMBER - WHY OUR ATTENTION SPANS RESEMBLE GOLDFISH

BY DUR-E-SHEYWAAR AHMED

No, it's not normal to be physically tweaking and twitching when you reach down to your pocket and can't feel your phone or have a 6-hour plus screen time usage.

In fact, It's unhealthy.

Social media is contributing to an epidemic of mind-numbing zombies.

Research from the National Library of Medicine shows the detrimental effect social media has on our minds such as reducing working memory capacity, leading to high risks of depression and anxiety as well as sleep disorders and lowered concentration.

According to Naomi Baron, attention spans have been reduced significantly in the past 10 years. In an article detailing digital technology's effect on well-being, she explains how ADHD diagnosis has increased in the past 10 years. An article published by the Psychiatrist supports this, as constant stimulation can lead to lower attention spans, which is only made worse by the use of social media. There are Goldfish with higher attention spans.

You're not just watching videos at 1.25x speed you're living your life at it too.

Although social media was essential during COVID-19, serving as a lifeline for communication in bleak times, it's fair to argue that unrestricted social media has made us lonelier.

Social media has facilitated all of the above beyond comprehension. We live in such a fast-paced world that it seems to have slowed our mental capacity.

Constantly seeing another person's life through rose-tinted glasses makes it difficult to appreciate our own.

Young girls especially, suffer from a high level of dissatisfaction with their body image, because of living in a filtered world, where unrealistic expectations are stripped out of our phones and force-fed down their throats. We're trying to recreate something that has been airbrushed at least a thousand times.

Social media has robbed us of real-life healthy communication and expectations. Now, everyone gets a headache from looking at a screen for too long.



Medium, 2024

# December

## Check out our exciting events!

Scan me to view our events



| Date / Time                   | Activity                         | Description                                                                                                                                    |      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| <b>04/12/24</b><br>11am - 4pm | What's on Wednesday              | Join us for a day packed with exciting activities, see WOW timetable for details.                                                              | Free |
| <b>05/12/24</b><br>7pm - 9pm  | PGR Only Event-<br>Nandos Meal   | Join us, and your fellow PGRs, for a meal out as we head towards the festive season! We'll be heading to Nandos, Huddersfield                  |      |
| <b>07/12/24</b><br>12pm - 7pm | Harrogate Christmas Market Trip  | Experience the magic of the holiday season at the Harrogate Christmas Markets! Transport is included from the University.                      |      |
| <b>07/12/24</b><br>7pm - 10pm | Christmas Movie Night            | Join us for a magical evening of holiday cheer at the SU Christmas Movie Night! Free popcorn included!                                         | Free |
| <b>10/12/24</b><br>12pm - 1pm | Coffee cake and reps (Reps Only) | This week we will be having holiday related fun- come along to do some crafts (and eat cake)!                                                  | Free |
| <b>11/12/24</b><br>11am - 4pm | What's on Wednesday              | Get into the festive spirit and use your creativity to make a unusual, sustainable, desktop sized mini Christmas tree from recycled materials. | Free |
| <b>25/12/24</b><br>12pm - 3pm | Christmas Day Event              | Indulge in seasonal treats, join in joyful holiday activities and soak up the warmth of company to make your Christmas truly merry and bright. | Free |



Please note, all events are subject to change.  
For full details including event location please see website:

[www.huddersfieldsu.co.uk/events](http://www.huddersfieldsu.co.uk/events)

Huddersfield  
Students'  
Union