

THE MITRE



PILGRIM WALK PLANNED FOR FEAST DAY

*Christians Will Walk
from Guardbridge to
Cathedral Grounds*

Given the general irreligious nature of the official plans for this year's St Andrews Week, Christians are planning to mark the feast day of Scotland's patron saint with a pilgrimage of sorts. The prayer walk will commence from the old pilgrim station of Guardbridge and end with a religious service at the ruins of the once-great Cathedral of St Andrew.

The walk is the idea of the arts impresario, Professor Richard Demarco. Demarco announced the pilgrimage walk to a gathering of students at a lecture on the subject 'Does Meaningful Art Aspire to the Condition of Prayer?' The lecture was given at the invitation of the University Catholic Society, and was hosted by Canmore, the Catholic Chaplaincy.

Professor Demarco commented that the complete aversion to religion of the officially planned St Andrews Week committee was 'shameful' and ignored the very reason for the celebrations: the Apostle Andrew whose feast it is. Demarco was last in the headlines for his ambitious plan to rebuild the desecrated Cathedral of St Andrew, the town's focal point which still lies in ruins. St. Andrew's Day is November 30.

UNIVERSITY PLOTS EXCESSIVE GROWTH

**INEBRIATED BY FEES,
COURT SAYS 'MORE!'**

*Strategic Plan Ignores
Accommodations Crisis*

The Strategic Plan approved by the University Court intends to increase the student population of the University without making any arrangements to alleviate the overstretched housing situation.

This comes on the tails of the accommodation crisis that the University denies exists. Some halls have reportedly been forced to stash beds in former maintenance closets in order to make room for the massive intake the University has accepted this year.

A number of students have complained that there simply is not adequate room at present for the current student population, and that any increase would be maddening without taking care of the problem at hand.

Last year, the *Mitre* suggested that if the University wants to expand, which it seems hell-bent on doing, then



PHOTO: UNIVERSITY

In Bishop Kennedy's time the university had ample accommodation for its students, not so in Dr. Lang's?

the only way to do so whilst maintaining a quality learning environment was to inaugurate a residential college system, like at some southern universities.

By building a series of residential colleges, students would be part of a tight-knit community instead of mere numbers on a matric card as in the vast

amorphous institutions which the University Court is seemingly seeking to emulate. At the very least, the ruling body should commission a report into the prudence of setting up a residential college system.

*For more information on residential colleges see:
<http://collegiate-way.org>*

AMAZING BURKE STILL AMAZES

*Once Convenor,
Now Pastor, Unites
Faith and Reason*

Former debates convenor Father Patrick Burke returned to St Andrews on October 8, 2003 at the invitation of the Catholic Society. Burke, whom the history of the Union Debating Society describes as 'the man most likely to be the first English pope since Adrian IV', spoke on the topic of 'Faith and Reason.'

Burke proved his oratorical skills were still with him by keeping the audience in the packed Common Room of the Catholic Chaplaincy attentive and displaying considerable wit, all in the midst of gloriously expounding the new synthesis of Faith and Reason. He vigorously attacked Cartesian thinking, pointed out advances in the scientific world which contradict the athiestic/agnostic worldview, and proposed that if these discoveries were true, they could do nothing but argue that the Universe was designed.

Private Clubs & Societies

The Stratford Club met and dined at the Argowan on Sunday, October 26, 2003.

The Kensington Club held its inaugural meeting and lunched at the St Andrews Golf Hotel on Saturday, October 25, 2003.

The L.O.S.A.B. will hold its first general meeting of the term at Queens Gardens on a date to be announced to members.

The Evelyn Waugh Society, a new formal club dedicated to good times à la the 'Roaring Twenties', has been formed. Its first event will be held after Reading Week.

CHINA ARRESTS PRIESTS, DEMOLISHES NEW CHURCH

**TWELVE MORE PRIESTS
HELD AS POLICE RAID
SEMINARY RETREAT**

*Officials Demolish
Local Church as
Oppression Continues*

China's Communist authorities have arrested twelve priests and seminarians attending a religious retreat in the Hebei province. The police raid took place on October 20 in Shijiazhuang city in Gaocheng County. At least seven of those arrested are known to be held in a Gaocheng county prison, but the whereabouts of the others remains unknown. Those arrested include: Fr. Li Wenfung, 31; Fr. Liu Heng, 29; Fr. Dou Shengxia, 37; Seminarian Chen Rongfu, 21; Seminarian Han Jianlu, 24; and Seminarian Zhang Chongyou.

Earlier on the same day, the authorities demolished a church in Liu Gou village, also in Hebei province. The newly-built church had 150



Chinese Christians such as Catholic Bishops Joseph Fan (L) and Jia Zhiguo (R) face persecution, kidnapping, arrest, and death threats.

parishioners, the vast majority of whom were converts.

The Communist government in China maintains a tight grip on public religious activity, and actively persecutes Christians who refuse to join the government-controlled religious denominations. (The Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association for Catholics and the Three-Self

Movement for Protestants). Many Catholic priests, Protestant clergy, and laity of all denominations are in prison or labour camps. Despite this persecution, the underground Catholic church in China is believed to number 8-12 million believers, with underground evangelical churches adding another 10 million.

NEW FLUFFY COMPLINE SERVICE

*Service is 'Inclusive',
'Compline Has Been
Raped' Say Others*

The traditional weekly candlelight compline service in St. Leonard's Chapel has been revised by the University Chaplain to contain politically correct 'inclusive' language. The change has irked a number of students, who complain that the Christian service of closing the day is supposed to be about worshipping God, and that we ought not to worry about offending those who may not have the same conception of the Supreme Being as Christians.

"Compline has been raped," claims Zacharias Pieri, president of the Kensington Club, one of the university's formal dining clubs.

"It's ridiculous that we are living in the year 2003 and our chaplain is stuck in the 1960's," declared another student on condition of anonymity. Continuing, she said, "I know older people are nostalgic for the past, but the Sixties are over and our Chaplain should move on."

So-called 'inclusive' language was introduced to Christianity in the 1960's and was once widely

influential. In recent years, however, its influence has steadily deteriorated as believers have preferred a more authentic faith to the politicised one introduced during the turbulent decade of the West's cultural revolution.

One student has proposed continuing traditional compline by starting a service to be held on Tuesday evenings, with the possibility of music being provided by the new student-run psalmody choir. It is unknown whether the Chapel of St. Leonard would be available for use at that time.

YOUR UNION LIES TO YOU

STUDENTS ASSOC.
LIVES IN FAIRYTALE
DREAM WORLD

*Despite Warnings,
Persists in Promoting
Myths of 'Safe' Sex
Ignores the Scientific
Truth: Condoms Aid
Spread of Disease*

by ANDREW K.B. CUSACK

The Students' Union of the University of St Andrews continues to knowingly spread untruths regarding condoms and sexual intercourse. Despite polite warnings from a number of students pointing out the error, the Union continues to refer to sexual intercourse using condoms as 'safe' and claims that it offers 'protection.' Science would beg to differ.

A report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services showed condoms offer no discernable protection at all against widespread sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs) such as chlamydia, syphilis, and genital herpes. Nor do they protect against human papilloma virus (HPV), the cause of over 99% of cervical cancer cases amongst women in that country.

A recent article in the *Lancet*, Britain's leading medical journal, has brought attention to the fact that a condom-based approach to fighting AIDS has not only failed to stop that syndrome's expansion, but indeed has aided in spreading it.

Proponents of condoms, our Union included, often use phrases such as 'safe sex' which lead to a presumption that one is immune to STDs if one uses condoms. This often results in more promiscuous sexual behavior, spreading the diseases that condoms assuredly offer no



GOOD PEOPLE BUT SHADY PRACTICES: The Student Union sabbatical officers, L-R, Will Macfarlane, Pres. Derek Macleod, Nichola Heaney, Ben Spiers Photo: University Press Office

protection against.

Journalist Mark Shea relays a personal anecdote: "An acquaintance of mine is a microbiologist and attended a conference on AIDS. Once scientist at the conference stood up and asked, 'If you knew for certain your partner had AIDS, would you go ahead and have

Population Fund, U.S. Agency for International Development and U.K. Overseas Development Agency have been shipping condoms to Africa. USAID itself has delivered over 5 billion condoms worldwide. The effect on Africa in particular has been nothing short of devastating.

against Africa's new pandemic: Uganda. There the government sponsored a massive campaign promoting abstinence, despite protests of our enlightened Western governments. So far it is the only nation on the continent with consistently falling rates of infection.

This information is freely available to the public, and was easily discovered by the *Mitre*. A number of students have brought these facts to the attention of Student Union officials. Though treating the concerns with kind politeness, the Union team seems to have relegated them to the dustbin and continued business as usual.

Safe sex does exist. It is sex within a lifelong monogamous relationship; this much is certain. The so-called 'safe sex' our

"The Students Union has become our enemy. It now acts neither in our interests nor in response to our requests."

ROBERT O'BRIEN

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intercourse with them (sic) using a condom?" Not one person raised their (sic) hand."

It should be noted that condoms have a failure rate in preventing pregnancy, and this while conception is only possible for a few days each month. AIDS can be contracted very day of the month, and last until death.

For years, the U.N.

Over the past ten years, the UN, US, and UK increased condom shipments to Africa in hopes of eradicating the disease. The undesired effect was a massive epidemic. In 1990, there were barely 40,000 cases of HIV/AIDS infection in Africa. In 2000, ten years later, there were well over 40,000,000.

Only one country has had any success in the fight

union actively promotes is not that, but serious risk to students' health and lives. One would imagine that if something were discovered to spread disease, 'our' union would put in their utmost effort to make sure we knew about it. In this case, however, they have knowingly spread untruths which can be considered little more than myths.

Sex and the Pontiff

What could a celibate octogenarian have to say about sex? Apparently a lot. Our own Sofie von Hauch gets down to basics with what's on the Pope's mind.

'Sex is the very meaning and purpose of life; 'Get the Church right back into the bedroom; 'In the sexual union we discover true chastity and purity; 'Jesus was crucified naked -- strip the crucifix of the loincloth and don't cover up what Christ came to reveal; 'Heaven is eternal climax.'

Throughout my listening to Christopher West's tape series on Pope John Paul's theology of the body, so many catching, and rather silly, headline phrases stood out for the purpose of composing the present article. Allow me to explain the reason for choosing the one I ended up with.

Firstly, I believe most males and females in St Andrews can nod in recognition of a certain male obsession with sex, and we females are not far behind. (Our dear town of learning is not known as 'St. Randy's' for nothing.) So, the Pope being a man, albeit one consecrated for lifelong service to God in his particular office of Vicar of Christ and head of the universal Catholic Communion of Churches, naturally has his holy head full of thoughts about ... you guessed it, sex.

A curious fact attesting to this is that in the run of the Church throughout two thousand years of history, what approximates 6000 pages have been published by the Church on the subject of human sexuality.

4000 of these were written during the 25-year long pontificate of John Paul II. (Think essays of 4000 words; we are talking pages here, which amounts to a considerable authorial activity.)

Another matter of evidence; during the last thorough restoration of the artwork in the Vatican Sistine Chapel, the craftsmen had washed down Michelangelo's frescos to their original, unclothed, state. To the astonishment and outrage of several Vatican officers, Pope John Paul was the one to oppose the painting of the later added loincloths back on the naked bodies in the artwork. He wanted people to see the truth of the human body, not cover it up in shame and obscurity. This man has sex on his mind. Thank God, what a relief to the rest of us, and what a blessing to have someone able to explain the meaning of it.

Secondly, a headline serves as a means of attracting the reader's attention, so something catchy seemed called for. The apparent paradox of the Pope and sex might do the trick, and here you are. The eight tapes contain a series of seminar lectures given by Christopher West who has spent years researching and advocating knowledge of the Pope's vast work on the topic of human sexuality. Why is this important? Well, for one thing, because,



whatever some 'puritans' or 'chaste' Christians might say, sex is on our minds, and secondly, our whole society is sexed-up, to use a contemporary phrase. The Holy Father therefore, in his wise recognition of this, has centred much of his ministry on this, thus preparing the way for the new evangelisation of the world in terms of a true understanding and appreciation of sexuality and the purpose and enjoyment of the human body. Big words for a big vision.

Ok, one might ask, where is the hook concealed in this delightful chunk of flesh presented for our consumption? Pope John Paul is a scholar through and through, so for the not so-minded the tape series is a good introduction to reading the Holy Father's own works. Being presented to an American lay seminar workshop makes it even more down-to-earth and approachable which is not a bad thing; this is dense matter. I congratulate Christopher West on his sensitive presentation of an



issue that is easily the most private area of our lives, and as such one that easily can offend the faint of heart. (But they would have fled St Andrews months ago in any case.) What I am trying to say is that the *Naked without Shame* tape series is an introduction to an immensely profound treatment of the meaning of our bodies, of God's purpose in creating a male and a female sex, and to go

with them, sexual desire in human beings. The answer, according to the Pope, is that by our creation in the image and likeness of God and inbreathed with His Spirit, we are called to be like God. God the Holy Trinity is a loving communion of persons. So we are called to become a loving communion of persons in the image and likeness of God, as put forth in Scripture and the

consistent teaching of the Church since its very founding by Christ.

The crucial importance of this insight is expounded in Scripture again and again. The highest mysteries are explained throughout the Bible in nuptial terms. Who is the Church? -- The Bride of Christ. The Song of Songs is an erotic poem describing God's love for His Bride, His people! In devotion, The Holy Mother Mary is praised literally for 'the womb that bore the Saviour', and 'the breasts that [he] sucked.' Who said the Catholic Church is down on sensuality? She is grounded on the fact that God created man and woman for each other to imitate His love between themselves as the fulfilment of their creation. Let this sink in for a moment. Before Christ, before Moses, the first commandment God gives to his newly created and un-fallen Adam and Eve is, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth' (*Gen. 1:28*). The First Commandment? Basically, 'Go and have sex.' But, and this is what makes all the difference between redemption and condemnation; do it *in the image and likeness of God*. Love, but as God loves. This is where we need help because we are fallen and thus misunderstand the meaning of sexuality and our bodies in a twisted way. Help can partly be found in the theological support of the *Naked without Shame* introduction to the Pope's thinking. I thoroughly recommend listening them over, even just the first tape's introductory lecture is very interesting and ... hmm, stimulating. For

thought, that is. I personally was particularly happy with the fourth lecture on *'Eschatological Man'* which gives the Pope's interpretation of Heaven, confirming a point I've always envied the Muslims; as it happens, this overlooked eschatological promise is a crucial part of our own tradition. Jesus Christ, when this gets out ... For a new evangelisation, I believe the Pope will hit spot on with this theology.

To recap; the Pope indeed has sex on his mind. And thank God that we are blessed with a Pontiff who—*shamelessly*—admits to being human and centers his teaching on a fundamental human concern, if not preoccupation. His, and Christ's, challenge to us all, whether Catholic or not, is to work toward an understanding of the truth and meaning of the revelation of God in our bodies, our respective masculinity or femininity, and the meaningfully true communion of sexuality.

What a wonderful and exciting spiritual exercise, eh? So get working at it, brothers and sisters. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

 Christopher West, MTS,
Naked without Shame: Sex and the Christian Mystery. Reflections on Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body. The GIFT Foundation, 2000.

The tape series and study booklet can be borrowed free of charge from the Canmore Catholic Chaplaincy Library, 24 The Scores.

The Chapels of the University



Above: An interior and exterior photograph of the Chapel of St. Salvator before the renovation of 1930. Since this photo, the windows in the apse have been changed, and the pews have been replaced with antiphonal choir stalls, and the Alumni Memorial has been placed in the apse.

Top Right: The neo-Romanesque 'Communion Table', despite its intricate mosaics, pales in comparison to the medieval High Altar when Latin High Masses were offered in St. Salvator's.

Bottom Right: The college 'cloister' was built in 1847, and was once glassed off to provide a reading room and lounge for the college's students.





Top: The ruins of the Chapel of St. Leonard's College in 1900. **Bottom:** The Chapel today, fully restored in 1948.

Friends of THE MITRE

PATRONS - £100+

The Regina Sable Club

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Gannon

BENEFACTORS - £20+
(none)

SUPPORTERS - £5+

Mr. Stefano Costanzo, Mr. Christopher Cruden

REQUEST FOR SUBMISSIONS

The editors of the *Quadrangle*, a new literary periodical showcasing the work of students of the University of St Andrews, request submissions of prose, poetry, fiction, reviews, and essays for publication in the premier edition of our new magazine.

Please submit work either to
mitresta@yahoo.com or in printed form to

The Quadrangle
c/o Andrew Cusack
8 Church St
St Andrews

The Quadrangle

• SIC TRANSIT GLORIA •

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

November 9

Service of Remembrance in the
University Chapel of St. Salvator
11:00 am

NOVEMBER 2003

All events are free and open to the
general public unless otherwise stated.

2, Sunday

UNIVERSITY CHAPEL, The Rev.
Dr. Chris Wright preaching. Int'l
director of the Langham
Partnership.
11:00am, University Chapel of St.
Salvator

3, Monday

**Why Democracy Needs Strong
Institutions**, Richard D. North,
Media fellow at the Institute of
Economic Affairs, connects
Democracy to its institutions.
Sponsored by the Liberty Club.
8:00pm, School I, St. Salvator's
Quad

The Future of the Middle East,
The International Politics
Association hosts Dr. Ansari, the
Director of the Centre for Iranian
Studies. Ticket required.
8:00pm, Venue TBA

5, Wednesday

**This House Believes You Are
What You Wear** is the motion
proposed by the Union Debating
Society.
8:00pm, Lower Parliament Hall

**The Latin American Church
Since 1992**, Prof. Mario Aguilar of
St. Mary's discusses contemporary
developments. Hosted by the
Catholic Society.
8:00pm, Canmore (24, the Scores)

13, Thursday

**Purposes and Principles in
Public Broadcasting**, Roger Mosey
(Head, BBC Television News). The

**PARLIAMENT HALL
NEWS OF THE UNION DEBATING SOCIETY***Miss Alexandra Jennings*

Miss Alexandra Jennings has
been a very naughty young lady
and not submitted her report on the
news from the august and venerable
University of St Andrews Union
Debating Society. And to think,
this very lady expects to be elected
next term to the Board of Ten as
Clerk of the House, when she
cannot even meet simple deadlines.

Mind you, I have tried to be
flexible with her, by giving her two
extensions. But no, it simply was
not good enough for the young
lady.

If Miss Jennings were to have
handed in her *Parliament Hall*
debates column on time, it would
no doubt tell of the recent co-
option held by the Society's ruling
body to fill the empty spaces on
the Board of Ten. Among those

elected were... what's this I'm
reading? Miss Alexandra Jennings
herself! Yes Miss Jennings has
been raised to the ranks of the
Board of Ten to fill the role of
Communications Officer left
empty by the resignation of Mr.
Matthew Gorrie. (We are told that
Mr. Gorrie resigned in protest over
the University's handling of the
Protestant Reformation).

Two other positions on the
Board were filled by the
Convenor's academic children,
including the position of Serjeant-
at-Arms, which many believed
would go to the illustrious Mr.
Donald Renouf, known to many as
'Donocle the Monocle' courtesy of
his archaic eyepiece.

Miss Jennings, we trust, will
be on time next month.

first of four public lectures exploring
issues facing those in public life and
service, presented by the Centre for
Ethics, Philosophy and Public
Affairs.

5:15pm, School III, St. Salvator's
Quad

16, Sunday

Choral Evensong, sung by the
Renaissance Group.
6:00pm, Church of the Holy Trinity

18, Tuesday

**Art, Society and the Case for
Public Funding**, Richard Demarco
(President, Demarco European Art

Foundation). The second of four
public lectures presented by the
Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and
Public Affairs.

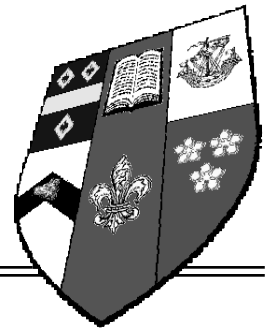
5:15pm, School III, St. Salvator's
Quad

19, Wednesday

Fr. John Keenan of the Glasgow
University Chaplaincy speaks at the
invitation of the Catholic Society.
8:00pm, Canmore (24, the Scores)

20, Thursday

**Ruling Principles: The Prince's
Philosophy and Why it Matters**,
David Lorimer (Author of Radical



Prayer Requests

A Prayer for Our Friends

Heavenly Father,
 We believe and trust in you
 Yet we live amongst those who
 do not
 They are our family, our friends,
 our neighbors, our colleagues,
 our teachers, our students,
 our allies, our enemies,
 Bless them with the grace of
 knowing You
 Let them grow in wisdom and
 faith
 Let them walk in the light of
 Truth
 Keep us from judging them,
 but give us the courage to show
 them Your way,
 that one day all Your children
 will be joined in one
 communion of Love,
 with the Virgin Mary, the
 apostles, the martyrs, and all
 Your saints,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord
 Amen.

Prince: The Practical Vision of the Prince of Wales). The third of four public lectures presented by the Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs.

5:15pm, School III, St. Salvator's Quad

Port and Policy Evening, the Tory Club hosts Murdo Fraser MSP, the Conservative spokesman for Enterprise and Lifelong Learning. Mr. Fraser will outline Tory policy on higher education, and will take students' questions. Port will be served. Email [pab8] for time and place.

DS	RW	JSS
JTM	SvH	DG
JNR	AS	AM
EP	JS	RY
KH	SM	R+LF
IB	DK	RB
RO	JT	JL
CC	ZP	EG
DW	CF	MG
NM	DG	CC
JG	RM	RH
DC	LS	JL

H.M. Queen Elizabeth II
 Mr. Antony Blair, the Prime Minister
 Mr. Michael Howard, incoming Leader of the Opposition
 Sir Clement Freud, our Lord Rector
 Dr. Brian Lang, our Principal
 The members of the University
 Keith Patrick O'Brien, the Cardinal Archbishop of St Andrews and Edin.

For these people, we humbly beg pardon for their sins, and pray that their lives might reflect the everlasting glory of God, from whom all good things come. Amen.

22, Saturday

Orthodox Divine Liturgy

10:30am, St. Leonard's Chapel

24, Monday

Amnesty International, Cecil Ballantine speaks by invitation of the International Politics Association. Ticket required. 8pm, Lower College Hall, St. Salvator's Quad

25, Tuesday

Patients Choice and the New National Health Service, Harry Cayton (Director for Patients and

the Public, Department of Health). The final of four public lectures presented by the Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs. 5:15pm, School III, St. Salvator's Quad

26, Wednesday

Choral Evensong (St.

Andrewstide), sung by the Renaissance Group.

5:30pm, University Chapel of St. Salvator

Contraception: Against Life.

Lady Brigid McEwan speaks on contraception and natural family planning. Hosted by the Catholic Society.

8:00pm, Canmore (24, the Scores)

This House Prefers Burns to the Bard is the motion proposed by the Union Debating Society, in their annual literary debate.

8:00pm, Lower Parliament Hall

Tory Club Dinner, Join Donald Findlay QC, Honorary President of the Tory Club, former Rector of the University, as well as Scotland's leading criminal advocate. Email [pab8] for details.

30, Sunday, St. Andrew

UNIVERSITY CHAPEL, Professor

John Haldane preaching. Arguably one of the greatest living minds in philosophy.

11:00am, University Chapel of St. Salvator

DECEMBER 2003

3, Wednesday

The Church Since Vatican II:

Terminal Decline? Fr. John

Emerson, Regional Superior of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, speaks on the crisis in enforcement of the Second Vatican Council.

Hosted by the Catholic Society.

8:00pm, Canmore (24, the Scores)

THE MITRE

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A Plea for Tolerance

The overwhelming majority of comments I have received personally regarding our previous issue were remarks of congratulations and statements of thanks for producing what one student called "a quality publication," and another "a really great newspaper." In addition to that, I am told by no less a man than Eliot Wilson, a venerable St Andrews institution in his own right, that the Mitre "has more news than the Saint in half as many pages."

Notwithstanding, one very good friend of mine claimed Mary Clare Cardinale's article ('Is Homosexuality Healthy?' Oct. 1, 2003) was "out of line." One other good friend echoed that opinion, and told me that some in St Andrews were "baying for blood" over the article. If true, then it is rather saddening.

It is repugnant to the very idea of a university that some might be "baying for blood" over the mere presentation of alternative ideas. Opponents might claim that these ideas are 'extreme' or 'radical.' In that, they would be wrong. Cardinale's article contained no diatribes, nor outrageous cries. It presented a set of ideas that all are free to agree or disagree with. Indeed, if the article's opponents were to present their ideas outside of the insular Anglo-American sphere they would likely find themselves ridiculed and opposed by most Africans, Asians, and the other inhabitants of the Third World.

Civilised men and women disagree, and leave it at that. Civilised people quite easily maintain friendships with those with whom they disagree. To those who are prone to being overemotional about their particular ideas I say this: there are six billion people on this planet, and unless you plan on being a hermit, you'd better get used to the idea that not everyone will agree with you, especially if you plan on leaving Britain ever.

Our aim is to provoke thought, not anger. We abhor hatred and intolerance. We make no demands that you agree with anything that is printed in the Mitre. Indeed, this publication is intended to be a forum for discussion of various ideas. Because of that, we gladly invite those who took issue to Cardinale's article to submit their thoughts for publication. It will be most welcome here.

That said, this newspaper is to be read for polite discussion, and those who are unable to state their views without turning the air purple should refrain. To paraphrase Chesterton, bigotry is the anger of people who have no opinions.

If people come to this university with the expectation that their preconceived notions of existence will not be challenged, then they will be sorely disappointed. St Andrews is not Nazi Germany, nor Soviet Russia, and we will not let you turn it into such. In a university such as ours, the free exchange and development of ideas must continue if we desire freedom, democracy, and respect for the dignity of human beings to flourish.

COMMENT

Our Student Union Helps Spread Disease and Assaults Human Dignity

A wise man once said that birth control led to less birth and no control. Our Union, which proudly tells us it 'does stuff', has now taken to writing missives asking us to distribute condoms to our fellow students. In doing so, it has become our enemy. It now acts neither in our interests nor in response to our requests. The Union authorities live in a dream world. I am still to hear any student conversation along the lines of 'excuse me, do you know where I can get a condom? They're so difficult to find in St Andrews, aren't they?' Such a person could never have been to a pub toilet, chemist, doctor, or Tesco.

There are a number of assumptions which we will do well to challenge and demolish. The first is that everyone is, or wants to be, having sex. Most students if pressed would agree that casual sex has entirely taken the romance out of university dating. Many girls fear that if they don't sleep with their



ROBERT O'Brien

boyfriends, they'll be swiftly dumped. So are we really doing such girls a favour by promoting an 'everybody's doing it' culture?

The second assumption is that condoms are 'completely safe'. This is propaganda, not science. A look at the respected online Cochrane Library brings us to a 2001 report which concluded that the effectiveness of condoms in reducing HIV transmission was anywhere between 35 and 94 per cent. If used 'properly', the Weller and Davis report thought that they were 80% effective. Is this the line coming out of

our Union? Of course the answer is no, because our Union is malevolent at worst and moronic at best. Their scheme is not a philanthropic one: it is not aimed at reducing STDs or avoiding pregnancies. It is aimed at getting more students into bed with each other. That is not the job of the Union.

The third assumption is that sex is 'just sex'. In a world of multifarious material pleasures - and which denies both the existence of the human soul and of any Being greater than ourselves - it often needs explaining why our bodies should not be merely another source of pleasure. We students should fight this reductivism. We should insist on the intrinsic dignity of the human person - based on Man's creation in the image of God *and proven by the Incarnation* by which the Word took on flesh - a dignity which refutes the use of our bodies for meaningless carnal exercises.

MUSICAL REVIEW

£500: Music To Their Ears

The Younger Hall was filled last Friday lunchtime with an audience eager to enjoy the eclectic combination of music performed by students in aid of the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust. The recital raised £500 for the charity.

A brass quintet began the proceedings with a rendition of the Gilbert and Sullivan classic "The Wandering Minstrel". This was followed by the melodious Bach's Arioso featuring superb trombone and cornet solos. They rounded off their set with "El Capitan" a march by Souza - characteristically jovial and leaving the



KIT-KAT Longworth

audience tapping their feet and feeling in need of a pint - as brass music invariably does.

The black clad *Accidentals* seem to have undergone some major changes - new voices, new repertoire, and new choreography - but still

belting out those close harmonies with gusto. "Fever", an old favourite reworked, proved to be a hit, featuring a number of key changes, "trumpet" solo and Disney interlude. The tear-jerking "Shenandoah" showed the ladies' sentimental side. Although maybe not in keeping with the *Accidentals'* image, "Joy to the World", an upbeat gospel number rounded off their set well.

The *Alleycats* kept their audience waiting for a little while before making their entrance; perhaps they were just having a big group hug or moisturizing their hands in preparation for all

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'OK, Maybe John Knox Was A Bit Keen'

SIR -

In response to the letter in your last issue, and more specifically your own comments, I feel I must defend the Reformed church from its detractors. The Church of Scotland stands as a monument to the great faith of our nation. Maybe attendances have been decreasing, but then can the wider church (not the 'Mother Church' say any better). At least we say it in a language which the people can understand. Anyway, the Reformation happened, hate it or think it's the best thing since sliced bread. OK, maybe John Knox was a bit keen and should have stopped at the idols thing, but he was a fervent believer. I do apologise for any wanton destruction of our church and I'll leave the Church of Rome to apologise for anything . . .

Mr Peter A. Blair
St. Salvator's Hall

AKBC: 'The Church of Scotland stands as a monument to the great faith of our nation' you say? I can wholeheartedly agree that at one time, the CoS propagated the Gospel and

kept the Faith alive in Scotland, though I would still have had theological disputes with it. The sad case today, however, is that the Church of Scotland is facing a sad downfall. The latest evidence of such is the election of a self-confessed progressive liberal woman to be its Moderator. History would show that whenever progressive liberal women are put in charge of anything, it is soon condemned to death or irrelevance. Nonetheless, I appreciate the years the Church of Scotland did put in as a steward of the Christian Faith in this land.

I have not the authority nor office to apologise for the sins of the Roman communion in St Andrews, though if I did, I would most wholeheartedly. At least we are all friends and brothers now, and as our brother-student Peter Cox pointed out during a conversation of Protestants and Catholics, "you burnt some of us, we burnt some of you, and what's a few burnings amongst friends?"

SIR -

The disappearance

but Friday's recital was an exception. *Minstrel Mayhem*, the latest thing on the live music scene, gave a fabulous bluegrass performance of "Loose Change". The band, comprised of Joe Tuckett and Simon Graham, will be playing Sunday evenings at the Clubhouse Bar. If you have never heard of them they are well worth the trip.

The crowning glory came as Alice Younger and Rita Howerton performed Brahms' *Haydn Variations for Two Pianos*. Both are accomplished pianists and played the piece expertly. From chiming chords to thunderous crescendos, seeping melody to light delicate passages. The

of your prayer requests is most certainly deplorable! Prayer, as you have pointed out, is vital to an ordered, fulfilling life. Practise what thou preacheest, sinner!

Miss Elisabeth Howard
South Street

AKBC: You are quite right in bringing attention to this discrepancy, and as such, we have decided to bring back the prayer requests.

SIR -

Upon my being accepted to St Andrews I was excited to learn about the Christian Union here, desiring a place where I could be in fellowship with my brothers and sisters of all denominations. Upon arrival though, I have discovered that the Christian Union actually requires a statement of belief that scripture is the highest authority, which I disagree with. The Students Union is open to all students, ought not the Christian Union be open to all Christians?

Mr Fred MacAleer
Largo Road

AKBC: This is not the first

piece was expressive and very well received. The pair worked so well together that at times one might not have realised that the piece was a duet.

Congratulations must go to all those who took part, especially Miss Younger, whose effort and determination made this event possible. She was delighted to hear that the concert had raised £500.

From the Editor

I am delighted to welcome Mr. Robert O'Brien and Miss Katherine Longworth to the staff of the Mitre. I trust that Rob's prescience will enlighten us all, and that Kit-Kat's reviews will be as melodious and delightful as she is.

time this issue has been raised. The Anglican Network and the Catholic Society are student fellowships which make themselves apparent by their very names. The evangelical fellowship, though they are our brothers and sisters, give themselves the rather spurious title of 'Christian Union'. As you have pointed out, becoming a member of the C.U. requires assent to a statement of the Bible as ultimate authority. Thus most Christians, the Catholics and Eastern Orthodox especially, are actually banned from the Christian Union.

As a Christian, I am grateful for the work that the evangelical fellowship does here at St Andrews. However they should either make themselves known as a purely evangelical society or broaden membership to include all orthodox Christians.

THE MITRE

OF ST ANDREWS

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that finger clicking. They launched into "The King of the Swingers", a comical piece, although perhaps Mr. George Hollis was a little too aggressive, this is obviously Disney with testosterone. Another old favourite, "Zombie Jamboree", was next; a bizarre piece about dancing Caribbean dead people (I wonder what inspired that song?). Unfortunately, in their eagerness, the gentlemen obscured the comical lyrics a little. The *Alleycats* are always impressive, especially in their hair department. How does one keep up a three-inch quiff?

It is not common that the Younger Hall is filled with the pleasant strum of guitar,



Lang Languishes through Candid Conti

FREUD FUNDS ODDBALLS Rector's Charity Starts Phone Line for 'Trans-sexuals'

SATYRICUS has read in a fortnightly student-run publication of dubious repute that our beloved Lord Rector, **Sir Clement Freud**, has devoted money from his charitable fund to start a telephone line for the university's trans-sexuals.

Despite this depraved donation, other funds went to much more worthy ventures. For example, the Clay Pigeon Shooting Club was able to purchase a new gun thanks to dear Clemmie, and the Women's Hockey Team also benefitted to the tune of an outing in Barbados. That's more like it!

An Antipope Among Us!

SATYRICUS has learnt that Mr. Eliot Wilson, the Union Debating Society's Father of the House, has been elevated to the See of St. Peter in a special conclave held at the Whey Pat Tavern some time ago. It is believed Mr. Wilson has chosen the name Hadrian VII. Mr. Wilson is first antipope to gain recognition here since Pedro de Luna.



compiled by
SATYRICUS

Principal Perceptibly Perturbed by Straightforward Sermon as Archbishop Avidly Avows Christ

The first Sunday in October brought the colourful **Archbishop Mario Conti** of Glasgow to preach at St. Salvator's. The title of His Grace's sermon, 'Marriage - Gift and Sacrament of the Creator', reflected the readings from the Revised Common Lectionary for the service. From Genesis and Matthew, they dealt with God's creation of man and woman, and Christ's instruction on the eternal indissolubility of marriage. Despite the perhaps unreceptive surrounds, the Archbishop insisted that marriage is a sacred bond that makes two of one flesh; a bond which cannot be broken.

Amongst those spied attending the service were the Catholic Society's president, **Tori Truett** (whose first chapel service it was, despite being in her fourth year at St Andrews); as well as the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, **Dr. Brian Lang**, who seemed rather flustered. One **anonymous chorister** claimed he was fidgeting with his (believed to be third) wedding ring during the whole sermon.

Nichola Heaney: Safe Sex? Students: No thank you!

An unreliable source has informed SATYRICUS that the Union's **Nichola Heaney** faced an electronic backlash after sending an email to every student in the University entitled 'Let's Talk About (Safe) Sex.' We are told that a fair number of students responded negatively to the email with a variety of responses ranging from the polite to the absurd. This in the august yet usually apathetic environs that are our University.

The email was an attempt to recruit students to volunteer for the Student Union's condom distribution effort. The Union official encourages 'safe sex' while making no mention of abstinence.

OVERHEARD

St. Salvator's Chapel, 11am, Sunday

**"I'd like you to do me a favour:
I'd like you to pose for me, not
nude, but only semi-dressed."**

anonymous
godfearing
chapel-goer

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**"We thank thee, Lord, for the diversity of
vegetables..."**

prayer of university chaplain **REV.
JAIMIE WALKER** during chapel