



MEET THE TEAM



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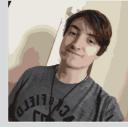
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Contents

Editor In Chief Welcome

Hi all, and welcome to the first edition of The EDIT of the 22/23 academic year! On behalf of the whole committee we would like to welcome all Freshers to GCU and we hope you will love your time here as much as us. I am so happy to be returning as Editor-in-Chief for a second year, and I am lucky to have such an incredibly talented committee by my side going forward. As you enjoy the highs and excitement of Freshers Week and the start of a new year at Caledonian, we hope you enjoy this edition of our magazine as you wind down and get ready for classes to begin.

Rachel-Lou Gibson Editor in Chief

News and Features

- 1 Ditch the plane for the train: how to interrail with your dad
- 5 Why first aid should be part of the curriculum
- 7 Maggie's Culture Crawl to take place in Glasgow

Arts and Culture

- 9 Culture Shock in The Hebrides
- 10 The best nerd culture movies of the 2020s (so far)
- 12 Batgirl: the latest DC disappointment

Fashion

- 13 A Guide To Glasgow's Charity Shops
- 15 Kate Moss Makes Diet Coke Fashionable
- 17 Five of the Best Outfits From Harry Styles: Love On Tour

Music

- 19 The Force of Frontwomen in Rock
- 20 Death of a Bachelor: The downfall of Brendon Urie
- 22 Arctic Monkeys return with a midnight release of 'There'd Better Be A Mirrorball' The band's new album, The Car is out 21 October.

Entertainment and Technology

- 23 Are Marvel Movies Real Cinema?
- 25 We Should Talk About Bruno
- 27 Look Both Ways Film Review
- 29 Pinterest Shuffles Is the App That Keeps on Giving

Sports

- 31 Is this the end for the Monaco GP?
- 33 Rangers to Thistle Loanees
- 35 Celtic and Rangers Best Champions League Nights

Ditch The Plane for the Train: How to Interrail with your Dad

Harris Clark

Stirling to Brussels is not your average train journey, but backpack at the ready I swapped the departure lounge for the platform. In the age of climate emergency and carbon-footprint consciousness, what better time to ditch the plane for the train and do what every lost 20-something-year-old does and go interrailing. My journey would take me through some lesser-known cities, featuring stinky cheese in Olomouc and goths in Leipzig. There was also another key difference – my companion for this alcohol-fuelled European party trip was not a mate, but my dad.

Stirling-Brussels

Travellers arriving in continental Europe via the Eurostar have two main options, Paris or Brussels. As visiting the City of Love with your dad probably isn't the best look, I decided on the latter. Brussels is a city of contradictions, with a rich past and a reputation as one of Europe's historic and wealthier capitals, it is also multicultural and surprisingly cool. If you have limited time your best bet is to head into the beautiful main square and grab some food at the Aux Armes de Bruxelles. Wash down your meal at Poechenellekelder with a selection from the beer menu so large it would take a week to get through.

Brussels-Munich

Brass and beer; what's not to love? The capital of Bavaria has a very different feel to the rest of Germany, with Lederhosen and steins the size of your head guaranteed. A trip to Munich is incomplete without a visit to the Hofbrauhaus, the city's most famous beer hall. Here the oompah music plays and the beer flows, expect table slamming and enthusiastic singing. For those wanting a less touristy experience, it's worth going slightly out of town to the Chinesischer Turm beer garden centred round a giant pagoda, located in the city's Summer Gardens.

Munich-Prague

This is not a standard interrail route and the journey is slightly arduous, but if there is time it's worth checking out Nuremburg and the eerie site of the former Nazi Party rally grounds. Gone are the days when Prague was a cheap backpacker's destination, however, it retains some of its cheeky charm, particularly in its nightlife. Despite the throngs of tourists, the old town and Charles Bridge are still something special. After a day's sightseeing, drink up at Hany Bany, a great little pub in the centre, then descend to Dog Bar occupied by a smorgasbord of different nationalities drinking beer and catching some live music.



Prague-Olomouc

For travellers wanting an alternative to the mass tourism of Prague, just a two-hour train ride away lies Olomouc (pronounced ollamouts), a majestic former Moravian capital, featuring UNESCO-protected heritage sites, vibrant nightlife, great museums and a stinky cheese, known as olomoucky syr or tvaruzky. A university town with a simply stunning main square, Olomouc's many bars and microbreweries means the city has the perfect blend of student buzz and postcard locations. Czechia is one of the only places where beer is cheaper than water (expect to pay roughly £1.50 for a beer in Olomouc) and it's worth getting a pint at the oldest brewery in town, St Wenceslas.

Olomouc-Leipzig

Bach, the DDR and the defeat of Napoleon: Leipzig certainly has historic grounds for visiting. Today graffiti-ridden streets, hipster cafes and great bars lure an alternative crowd, gaining Leipzig the title of Saxony's coolest city. Home to vegans, ANTIFA and late-night bars, nowhere is quite as unconventional as Leipzig's southside of Connewitz. Browse the great collection of jazz vinyls at Strawberry fields records, then head to Zest, one of the best vegan joints in town with an ever-changing menu.



Leipzig-Berlin

There is no city quite like Berlin. With pulsating techno, street art and great food, Berlin – which ran with the slogan 'poor but sexy' – draws you in and steals your heart. Eat authentic Vietnamese cuisine at Saigon Dragon, then take your pick of the many bars situated on Simon-Dach-Strasse. My choice is Hops and Barley, situated near the Boxy, this old butcher's shop has been turned into a pub and microbrewery. After sampling every type of beer imaginable, dance the night away at the Raw Gelande, an old communist industrial area that is home to some great clubs.

Having shared beers and exchanged stories with a Brummie writer in Olomouc, some Californians in Munich and a group of left-wing activists in Leipzig, my interrail experience was over. Train travel certainly is a different way of getting around. It may not be as instant as air travel, but offers the best of Europe up close and personal. It broadens horizons with the flexibility to pass through places that would never normally be on your list of must-see destinations. Forget the trauma of travel with budget airlines, nothing beats jumping on a train.

Why First Aid should be part of the Curriculum

Lucy Scarlett

A sunny 2013 day. My primary school arrives at Safe Taysiders for their annual health and safety course, everyone is excited as we have heard legendary stories about this event. The day starts off slowly, we save a woman from a burning car before watching a traumatising video of an elderly person being hit by a bus and finally, we get fake kidnapped in a white van.

The Scottish government announced a law in February requiring all homes to have interlinked fire and smoke alarms installed. The law is essential and will no doubt save many lives but made me wonder, if the government are actively trying to prevent deaths, then why is first aid not taught in secondary schools?

The point is, that during this eventful day that is all I remember from it, we had a first aid demonstration but I could not tell you one thing that was in it. 2013, that was the last year I received first aid training. Would you trust me to help you if you collapsed in the street?

The law was brought into place because of the 2017 Grenfell fire in London where 72 people tragically died. A disaster like that is crucial in changing legislation and the law has been rightly passed. We often see public pressure, resulting from tragedy, forcing the politicians back into their chamber of secrets to amend or create laws. This happened in 1997, a year after the Dunblane massacre, when the government banned handguns.

St. Andrew's First Aid is Scotland's leading first aid training provider and offers voluntary training courses as well as school programmes. I vividly remember them showing up to our primary with resusci Annie and making us sing the Bee Gees as we fought to keep her alive. This type of training needs to be reiterated at a time in our lives when we remember more than the Annie doll.

Scotland is the ideal country to kick-start this initiative as every 50 minutes someone is admitted to hospital due to a heart attack. Scotland is notorious for heart related illnesses so if the government can be seen to do something about it, it is a win for everyone.





Sourced by Pexels.com

I adopted my inner Karen persona and dropped the Scottish government an email making them aware of the situation and asking for an answer. The email I received back informed me that it is up to education authorities and individual schools to decide on lesson content. I believe that charities, like St Andrew's First Aid should work with schools to deliver basic training alongside the curriculum.

Fortunately, a heart-attack death hasn't affected me personally but for most Scots, it will have. We hear about these deaths all the time but rarely about fire related tragedies and both are preventable, but only one has a law passed for it.

If it does come to it, I will raise an army of resusci Annie's and together we will storm Holyrood to demand the basic training that should already be on offer in schools. We will enter the chamber and sing our battle cry. "Ah, ha, ha, ha, stayin' alive, stayin' alive."

Maggie's Culture Crawl to take place in Glasgow

Iain Corcoran

Cancer support charity Maggie's is inviting the public to see the city of Glasgow in a whole new light while raising vital funds to help people living with cancer. Maggie's Culture Crawl – a 10km sponsored walk taking in iconic and cultural highlights - will take place in Glasgow on the 16th of September to celebrate their 20th birthday. Starting at six o'clock at night, there will be exclusive access to buildings and cultural venues including University of Glasgow Chapel, Kelvingrove Museum and Glasgow's new Barclays Campus on the banks of the river Clyde. The night will also feature live entertainment and food on offer along the way as well as a free Maggie's t-shirt and a

"Cancer is possibly the most difficult experience of a person's life and for many people the pandemic has made living with cancer even harder, meaning our professional support is needed now more than ever before.

"I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who takes part."
The first Maggie's centre opened in Edinburgh in 1996. The charity now has 24 centres in the UK and a growing international network. • Maggie's is funded by voluntary donations making events like this critical to their continuation.
Tickets for the event available at: https://

recommended to sign up soon, costing £20 to do so. They ask that each person entering aims to raise £100 each to help support people with cancer and their families.

Maggie's Glasgow Centre Head Kerry

glass of something to celebrate at the end.

The event has limited places so it is

Maggie's Glasgow Centre Head Kerry Craig said: "We are delighted to once more be welcoming people to take part in our Culture Crawl event.

"It has always been a highlight of the year with a fantastic warm, friendly, and fun atmosphere, but more importantly, as we rely almost entirely on voluntary donations, the funds raised will hugely help us to support people living with cancer.





bit.ly/GlaCC22

Culture Shock in the Hebrides

Owen Wild

Culture shock is a strange but exciting feeling. The discovery that another place does things completely differently can be tough to get your head around. Scotland is a small country, but even within our borders a variety of unique ways of life have developed. And one subset of cultures seems to stand out above the rest, island culture.

Growing up, I lived on the largest island in the Inner Hebrides, Mull. Situated a short 45-minute ferry trip from the port town of Oban, Mull lies near the centre of the archipelago.

Of the 36 islands with permanent inhabitants, Mull is one of the largest islands in terms of both area and population. Yet in the most recent census, that population was only 2,800.

It's a small community, with a culture that for a lot of people sounds backwards.

For example, for years I didn't own a key for my back door. It didn't matter, nobody was going to break in. Helen McWalter, a resident who moved to Mull for the first time five years ago was shocked by this safety: "It was a massive shock being able to leave your house open and your car unlocked. Feeling safe walking at night alone and living on my own are things I would never feel in a city."

"I got used to planning considered purchases, I can't just pop to BNQ if I need something for my garden,

everything needs to be thought out."

A lot of Hebridean culture comes in the little things. We don't have fast food or cinema's back home, no nightclubs or supermarkets, takeaway is a luxury and only a recent development in all honesty.

Most islands have a single small shop, or no shop at all, with supplies being delivered or trips to the mainland needed to buy necessities.

Robert Chalmers, a lifetime resident says: "coming from a small island, I was most shocked by the sheer scale of things in cities, even common activities like going to the shops was shocking, as at home I'm able to touch both sides of an aisle and see the exit the whole time." Back home you know everyone, so you wave at them in the street or stop for a chat.

But in concrete jungles like Glasgow, you don't have that comfort. Getting lost in the maze of people and giant buildings is easy for Island folk.

Laura O'Neil, who stayed on Iona for the first time over the summer agrees with this sentiment.

"I think for me it's the people, especially on such a small island everyone knows everyone, and it doesn't take long for you to feel like you're part of a community.

"Even just small things like saying hello to someone you pass on the street is something you never dream of doing back home in Glasgow."



John_Mcmillan_Unsplash

All these little things draw bewildered reactions. Sheep all over the road, single track roads almost everywhere, the cinema that pulls up in the back of a lorry, it all seems like you're trying to trick someone when you tell them.

But that's the wonder of cultures, discovering something new and finding joy in it.

Luckily for students there is no better place to learn about new cultures than university.

Glasgow Caledonian University has a diverse student community and is a great place for meeting people from all over the world.

Maybe you'll meet people from places you've never heard of, or a country you've always wanted to visit. Learn about where they're from and try to be open to trying things from their culture. It makes great memories, and at the core, that's what university is all about.

The best nerd culture movies of the 2020s (so far)

Jodie Murdoch

In the post-pandemic era, cinemas are certainly struggling, but that does not mean that the quality of movies has failed to live up to the quality from prior years. In fact, the past year has seen numerous amazing films release; so why not countdown some favourites?

5. Resident Evil: Welcome to Raccoon City

Perhaps a biased entry in this list, but for a movie that is nearly a straight adaptation of a video game, it does its job fairly well. The cinematography and soundtrack were great, and I would certainly argue that the Resident Evil vibe was well encapsulated. However, the characterisation of characters was questionable to say the least. The acting itself was fine, however, I found the characterisation of some very beloved characters – namely Leon – very questionable. I find the attempt at light-heartedness and humour was not executed very well, particularly through a character like Leon.

4. Scream (2022)

If there was ever an example of a movie being hilariously self-aware, then this would be it. After the amount of Scream movies that have been released, I think the direction this movie took was very refreshing. Despite this, it still obtained the classical slasher movie vibes that you would expect from a Scream movie. It's clear that the directors – Matt Bettinelli-Olpin · Tyler Gillett – had the viewers in mind in the making of this movie, as all the horror movie tropes were present, while not being too unpredictable. Personally, I have never been more frustrated at my own inability to predict the ending of a movie before.

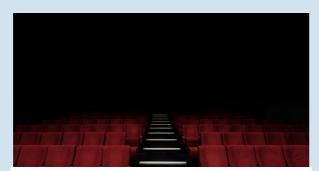


3. Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness

Considering Marvel's reputation for movies that seem, on their surface, very light-hearted and funny, Doctor Strange was refreshingly dark and thriller-like. The development of Wanda's story was very well done. It did a great job at making me sympathise for Wanda despite the quite literal atrocities she was committing on screen. Additionally, the premise of the movie was an excellent excuse to self-indulgently bring back characters from previous instalments of the franchise.

2. Spider-Man: No Way Home

As someone who isn't even an avid Marvel enjoyer, it would just be objectively incorrect for me not to rate this movie highly. While movies who take the direction of bringing back previous characters/actors usually rely on nostalgia to garner traction and a positive reaction, No Way Home took this a step further. It struck the perfect balance of humour with absolute gut-wrenching grief. It was also the first time I had encountered people screaming and crying in the cinema, so needless to say, it was a very unique experience in more ways than one.



Felix Mooneeram Unsplash

1. The Batman

I believe I speak on behalf of other DC fans when I say this was perhaps one of the best movies brought out in the past year. Robert Pattinson was an excellent choice as Batman perhaps his years as Edward Cullen served as a good steppingstone to embody the jaded and mysterious figure that is Bruce Wayne. Another thing I appreciated about this movie was the general grunginess of it all. This was conveyed excellently through the cinematography, soundtrack and acting. It also discussed very contemporary issues in terms of themes too, discussing wealth inequality, crime, and poor mental health support available to those who need it.



Batgirl: the latest DC disappointment

Connor Steel

Following what were unconfirmed reports at the start of the month, it is now certain that the movie Batgirl – filmed in Glasgow and due to be released in December – has been unexpectedly and inexplicably cancelled.

The film, shot on location in Glasgow at the beginning of the year, saw huge names such as J.K Simmons, Brendan Fraser, and Michael Keaton (reprising his 1989 Batman role) star alongside Leslie Grace's titular character. Filming lasted for around one month and saw some areas of the city centre transformed into the famous Gotham City, with some filming even taking place at the abandoned Botanic Gardens train station.

Sadly, after all that effort, Batgirl looks to have gone completely down the drain.

Despite the film being almost completely finished – and even shown to test audiences – Warner Bros confirmed that it will never be released and refused to give any further

It is believed that one reason may be that due to the release during the post-pandemic market, releasing it would not recoup what was spent, but this seems like a null point given that the money is already spent and the film ready to launch.

It is especially strange as Warner Bros just reported a \$3.4 billion loss in the second quarter of 2022, so one would think they would take any money they can get.

The situation is quite frankly bizarre and there are no winners involved.

Warner Bros have spent their money and put the nail in their own coffin by guaranteeing that it won't be made back.

The cast and crew poured all that time and effort into the production of a project that will never see the light of day.

Fans will never get to see what was an exciting prospect, a female-led major superhero film with Michael Keaton reprising his iconic role for the first time in three decades.

There may even have been people whose businesses or day-to-day lives were impacted by the filming in the city, which was now all for nothing.

Mail Online reported that the cancellation of the film prompted fury from local shop owners who are demanding compensation now that all the road closures, noise, and reduced footfall they received was in vain. They also reported that Glasgow City Council gave a grant of £150,000 to the production company to tempt them to film here which, once again, is now an absolute waste of money.

With several DC films in recent memory being huge flops, at the box office and/or in the court of public opinion, and with Warner Bros having several controversies going on behind the scenes, they are certainly not doing themselves any favours.

By displaying a cutthroat attitude with great disregard for the people who worked hard to get the job done and for the excited fans, Warner Bros have only shaken their already flimsy reputation.

A Guide To Glasgow's Charity Shops

Louise Hannah

The best way to plan your next charity shopping trip in the city.
Glasgow has some amazing second hand shops stocked with a great range of fashion, books, homeware and more.

Going around the charity shops with friends (or alone) is a fun, inexpensive and sustainable activity. Stop off for some scran halfway through to help refuel and it is the perfect day trip.

The only issue is where to start. It can be a little overwhelming navigating the streets and google maps for a route that takes you through all the best spots, especially if you're unfamiliar.

Well, fret not because below is a selection of the best stores to visit and the best route for you to take to see them all.

Where to Begin?

We're starting our journey at Glasgow Central. The most accessible and, obviously, central point of Glasgow. Just a two minute walk from the train station is your first destination – Shelter Scotland.

It's always worth popping in for a rummage whenever you're going to catch a train and have a little time to spare.

City Centre Loop

The charity shops are a bit more spread out in the centre of Glasgow compared to the southside and west-end of the city. Luckily, the best of them are all within walking distance.

The best route to take is a loop from Shelter on Union Street to Queen Street then Trongate and then to St Enochs Subway Station where you can catch the train to Kelvinbridge.

Vintage Stores

While they may be slightly on the expensive side, they also are packed with amazing vintage items that still cost less than the high street.

Pop into these stores if you are looking for a good jean or a funky vintage jacket.

The Glasgow Vintage also has loads of great accessories (including hundreds of inexpensive canvas totebags)
Byres Road
Byres Road is any thrifters wet dream.
The street is full of great charity shops - from curated boutiques to

Some shops, like The British Red Cross, also sell high street brands like Zara and Miss Selfridge brand new but for only half the price.

secondhand record and book stores.

So, even if you are not a fan of wearing secondhand clothing, you still could spot a great bargain on the rails.

Specialist Stores

While the list mostly sticks to shops that sell primarily fashion and clothing, there's one or two specialist stores that have been added because of their great selection.

Oxfam books on Royal Exchange Square is a small, quaint secondhand bookstore right beside The Gallery of Modern Art. While it doesn't have as big of a selection compared to the Oxfam books on Byres Road, it is definitely more organised, less overwhelming and easier to look around.

charity shop added is Oxfam Music on Byres Road. Perfect for fans of old-school vinyl records. Organised by genre, you can head straight to what 1.

The second, non-clothing

you like and save yourself from 2. rummaging through baskets of 3. jumbled up vinyls. 4.

The Route

Here is a list of the best charity shops to hit in the city centre in the order you should visit them.

- 1. Shelter Scotland Union Street
- 2. Oxfam Books Royal Exchange Square
- 3. Cancer Research Queen Street
- 4. Barnardos Wilson Street
- . British Heart Foundation Trongate

Subway from St Enochs to Kelvinbridge

- 6. The Glasgow Vintage Great Western Rd
- 7. West Vintage Great Western Rd
- 8. Shelter (Glasgow Botanics) Great Western Rd
- 9. British Red Cross Byres Rd
- 10. Oxfam Byres Rd
- 11. British Heart Foundation Byres Rd
- 12. Oxfam Music Shop Byres Rd
- 13. Save The Children Byres Rd
- 14. Sense Scotland Dumbarton Rd
- 15. Salvation Army Dumbarton Rd

Subway from Kelvinhall -Buchanan Street

While there are many charity shops that did not make it to the list, that does not mean they are not worth a visit. Going off route is recommended and encouraged. However, you should find a little bit of everything from these 15 stops.

With your day trip planned out for you, all you've got to do now is invite your friends to join you. Thrifting is always better as a group *insert that one wild child montage.* So have a fun trip and may the thrifting gods be on your side.



Kate Moss makes Diet Coke Fashionable

Paul Brady

Fashion phenomenon, Kate Moss, has partnered with Coca-Cola and will take on the role of creative directorship at Diet Coke, ahead of the brand's upcoming 40th anniversary. The partnership kicked off with the distribution of limited edition Kate Moss Diet Coke cans.

Moss landed on the slogan "Love What You Love" for her first campaign with the company because of her laser-sharp precision with what she likes in fashion. She combines her timeless fashion style throughout the partnership, wearing her signature style of leopard print and lace for the campaign's promotional photos. She also sports this look on the limited Diet Coke cans.

Moss told British Vogue she wanted to bring her passion for fashion to the collaboration saying: "I am thrilled to join the Diet Coke family – I love the past collaborations they've done with such incredible names in fashion."

When looking for inspiration as to how Moss would start her first campaign as creative director of the brand she gravitated towards fellow fashion icon, Andy Warhol. Moss watched The Warhol Diaries on loop looking at his style for inspiration for how to combine her love for fashion and Diet Coke.



Kenny Eliason Unsplash

In her cover story interview for British Vogue, she recruited past collaborator, Katy England, to help dig through her archive of clothes containing decades of unforgettable pieces to bring back one to wear during the campaign's promotional shoot. "It couldn't be things from a new collection, because it's supposed to be me."

At the collaboration launch event in London, she continued the theme of leopard print by sporting a stylish leopard print shirt. During the event Moss was asked why she wanted such a high role in the company, in her response, the supermodel poked fun at her wild party years saying: "Well, I have always loved coke." Moss was infamously dropped by fashion brands in 2005 after appearing to snort cocaine on a night out with then-boyfriend, Libertines singer Pete Doherty, causing her career to come to a halt.

Moss helps usher in the future of Diet Coke as they celebrate 40 years of the iconic brand by incorporating her love of fashion and her superstar style which has become a fashion brand in itself.



Five of the Best Outfits from Harry Styles: Love On Tour

Eilidh Kinsman

Harry Styles finally took to the stage this summer on the highly anticipated European leg of Love On Tour. Thanks to a little pandemic and a lot of rescheduling, stylist Harry Lambert had plenty of time to prepare some jawdropping looks.

Styles stunned crowds night after night in 23 custom made Gucci outfits. It was almost impossible to pick just five of them to crown the most elite. In general, everything was a lot more extravagant than the previous tour dates only last winter.

The tour kicked off at Ibrox Stadium in Glasgow with an outfit almost as incredible as the show itself. Some have speculated that the dazzling yellow and blue suit Styles wore was a nod to both of Scotland's flags. Paired with a matching blue necklace, a pair of yellow shoes with a hint of red perfectly tied in the strawberry details from his jacket. The entire outfit matched to perfection.

Elsewhere in the UK, we saw a rather simple but still graceful look for the first of two shows in London. The love heart patterned suspender trousers and plain white top combination brought together just the right amounts of calm and chaos, perfectly matching the vibe of the show.

In Amsterdam the pop legend rocked a suit similar to Glasgow's, this time with some cooler pastel tones. The matching pink and purple set showcased some shiny details, sure to wow an arena full of fans. Although the two piece was almost identical to some other looks from the tour, the colours paired with a white tee underneath set it apart as a clear winner.

Most of Styles' on stage clothing is pretty bright and out there, but this wasn't exactly the case this year in Paris. Although it was more simple than perhaps any other outfit he wore, it still managed to stand out. He took to the stage in smart striped trousers and a glittery top, exciting fans who believe it was a reference to his song 'Cherry' that didn't quite make the setlist.

The Dublin crowd was gifted with the most different outfit of the entire tour. What else would you wear in Ireland except from a bright green jumpsuit? The pointed collar and chunky belt combination really brought this whole look together, pushing it right to the top of the list.

Between the bold colour choices and matching Adidas x Gucci trainers for every show, it is clear that Harry Styles and his team are the fashion icons of the music world. It only leaves fans with one question - what will he wear when he makes his return to Europe for Love On Tour 2023?



Twitter_harry_lambert



The Force of Frontwomen in Rock

Louise Hannah

Fed up with the lack of females in rock groups? It's all about to change. When we think of rock 'n' roll, our minds automatically drift toward legends like Hendrix, Springsteen and Jagger. In fact, if you were to google "Worlds greatest rockstars", women make up an average of only 20% of the results.

While the women featured (Janis Joplin, Joni Mitchell and Stevie Nicks, to name a few) deserve their spots, It is about time the music industry recognised the female power in the rock industry.

It wasn't until 1969 that the first all female rock group signed a recording contract with a major record label. FANNY rose to prominence in the early 70s, opening for the iconic David Bowie and appearing on the Sonny and Cher show, and yet their name is unknown to most rock fans.

Punk-rock itself is a genre that wouldn't exist without female influences. The likes of Kathleen Hanna and Bikini Kill are credited with inventing the Riot Grrrl movement in the 90s. The group used their music as a means of cultural resistance and giving women a voice. Punk music is making its way back

to the mainstream but this time with a feminine twist. Solo artist Olivia Rodrigo took her influences from Paramore's Hayley Williams and became a chart-topping poppunk success. Breaking records with her debut album SOUR. In fact the opening song on the album "brutal" bares a striking resemblance to "Rebel Girl" by Bikini Kill. Whether that was a coincidence or a nod to the women who helped pave her path to becoming a household name, we may never know.



Lindsey Lamont Unsplash

If you're on the look-out for some new up-and-coming punk-rock groups and tracks with female voices, keep an ear out for Pale Waves (She's My Religion), The Linda Lindas (Growing Up) and Glasgow's own: Spyres who just released their cracking debut EP "Dear Diary".

It does lead us to the question: If it wasn't for groups like FANNY and Bikini Kill would these girls ever have found their voices?

Death of a Bachelor: The

downfall of Brendon Urie

Owen Wild

Bursting onto the music scene in the early 2000s, Panic! At The Disco quickly made a name for themselves thanks to their unique spin on the emo-pop genre, with a very distinctive style of storytelling.

Fans fell for the band's clever lyrics and theatrical sound, and for a decade they released success after success.

Viva Las Vengeance, released in August 2022, is a far cry from the Panic! of the early 2000s.

Their signature theatrical sound is the weakest it's ever been, the lyrics are clumsy and the vocal performance from Urie is at sub-par. It doesn't feel like a product from an experienced musician as Brendan Urie, and fans of P!ATD have vocalised that point all over social media.

But eventually, things started to come apart. Back in the band's youth there were four friends: Ryan Ross, Spencer Smith Brent Wilson and the face of the band, Brendan Urie. Today Urie is the sole member of the band, using the name while performing as an independent artist.

The other members left slowly over the years, with new members coming and going in between many reworks of the group's sound, but Urie has been flying solo for years now.

For a while he found great success as a solo artist, releasing two albums to overwhelming positivity and support from his pre-established fanbase. The third album, however, has not been a different story.

On TikTok, thousands of videos have been posted mocking almost every song on the album. With 'Panic! At The Disco' trending for a few days on the app due to all of these reactions.

It is safe to say that fans were let down with this project which they waited three years for. But why is the album so hated?

Originally, Ryan Ross, the founding member of the band, wrote the lyrics for the majority of their songs, and following his departure due to creative differences, most of the writing duties would go to new member Dallon Weekes.

Urie, while a great vocalist, was not the reason for the band's signature lyrical style. He performed the works of Weekes and Ross excellently but did not contribute much to the writing process, and now we begin to see why.

Brendon Urie has only released two albums since Dallon Weeks departed in 2017, Pray For The Wicked and Viva Las Vengeance. Pray For The Wicked leaned very heavily into musical elements. With strong pop influences and a focus on big, bombastic riffs, the lyrics took a back seat and were not to be taken too seriously.

Unlike the first few projects of Panic! There wasn't a distinct message or story in the songs of Pray For The Wicked, but that approach is gone altogether in Viva Las Vengeance.

Urie seems to have gotten comfortable in his casual approach on the new album, resulting in a clumsy mess of attempted meaning that all boils down to a man trying, and failing, to break out of his comfort zone.

The failure of this album mixed with multiple controversies in recent years has left Brendon Urie's reputation at an all time low.

He needed Viva Las Vengeance to be a hit, but it has only dug him deeper into the status of a dulled star.



Arctic Monkeys return with a midnight release of 'There'd Better Be A Mirrorball' The band's new album, The Car is out 21 October.

Leona Stewart

If there is one band who can drop a single at midnight after a four-year long hiatus, it is Arctic Monkeys.

After a weekend of live music and their much anticipated return to UK stages at Reading and Leeds Festival, the indie icons released the first single from their forthcoming album The Car.

'There'd Better Be A Mirrorball' follows the jazz and blues style of their previous album, Tranquillity Base Hotel & Casino, which was a massive change for the riotous Sheffield rockers that we all love.

But nonetheless an artistic triumph.

Paired with an artistic music video, Alex Turner and Co dropped 'There'd Better Be A Mirrorball' in the early hours of Tuesday 30 August, a lyrically beautiful break up anthem, and a glimpse into the album.

For the moment when you look them in the eyes/And Say, "Baby, it's been nice"

At first listen the single may sound repetitive, and that would be because it is. Repeating the same chords and singing about those final days in a relationship that is breaking down, Turner is talking about the loss of familiarity and love that he longs for. With such a jump from their punchy guitar riffs and witty one-liner lyrics, many AM

fans struggled to transition with the new, matured sound that they provided in TBH&C.

But deep down they haven't changed.

If we look back to hits like 'Cornerstone' or '505', we hear the same lyricism. The heartbreak metaphors, the longing and the romance. At a surface level, all that's changed is the sound, which has matured with the band.

If 'There'd Better Be a Mirrorball' is just a taster, then The Car will be powerful. It may continue to divide fans, but it will leave no room to doubt Alex Turner's genius.



Sofia Guaico Unsplash

Are Marvel Movies Real Cinema?

Eidane Montgomery

Martin Scorsese, one of the most acclaimed directors of this century, faced massive backlash by both Marvel fans and cast members for describing the massive franchise as "not cinema". Scorsese also went on to compare the Marvel Cinematic Universe to "theme parks" due to their lack of conveying emotional psychological experiences to audiences. Since its acquisition by Disney in 2009, the Marvel Cinematic Universe has created a phenomenon of box office toppers that have millions of fans across the world. The ever-expanding world of Marvel has something for everyone - totalling 34 movies, nine Disney original TV shows, and a multitude of children's cartoons with much more to come in the approaching 6'Phase 5'.

However, as seen by Scorsese, the MCU has faced criticism for things such as surface-level storytelling, fluctuating consistency, and poor visual effects. The oversaturation of the classic superhero movie by Marvel has overwhelmed many casual fans who cannot understand references or catch up on the history of a cinematic universe spanning nearly fifteen years.



Many Marvel movies are held as classics by fans and film critics but that, of course, is not the case for all films. A recent example may be 'Eternals' which promised a classic Marvel star-studded ensemble cast and extraordinary special effects. But upon its release the film failed to impress, becoming the second worst performing Marvel film in history and being labelled as visually bland and bloated with a dozen equally important characters, with a runtime of two and a half hours. This, to critics, would affirm and exemplify The MCU's already stated issues. This also may show why Disney rushing to expand and add to the cinematic universe is damaging the quality of the films and making Scorsese's words true. Many Marvel movies today are two-hourlong "theme parks" designed to grab the most people's attention and sell the most toys.

This business model is also damaging to the entire film industry. Many visual effects artists have spoken out against Marvel overworking, underpaying, and bullying their visual effects staff. One artist told of how working with Marvel pushed him to leave the VFX industry due to the seven-day work weeks and office breakdowns where the client (Marvel) would ask for excessive changes far into the design process. With new projects constantly underway VFX work for the MCU is inescapable and the film company uses this to treat their artists poorly which contributes to the MCU's VFX problem.

While Scorsese may sneer at Marvel movies for being surface-level or childish, fans of all ages hold these films dearly and will defend them tooth and nail. The MCU has continued to entertain millions of people across the world, creating a franchise with more diversity and representation than ever seen before. These films have given new life to their source material and (for better or worse) created jobs across the film industry. Marvel has created a new cultural wave of mighty superheroes that will create a lifetime of films, TV shows, and comics that will entertain us in the future, and is the goal of cinema not to entertain?



We Should Talk About Bruno

Sophie Macgrain

At the end of last year, Disney's Encanto took the internet by storm thanks to one particularly catchy song, "We Don't Talk About Bruno". The tune went viral on TikTok, with nearly a million videos tagged under the sound, and promptly became the first Disney song to top the UK Singles Chart. Kids, teens, and adults alike found themselves singing along and as instructed, nobody talked about Bruno. But we should've. Bruno exhibits a trait that was brushed over in the film, and in the analysis of it since one which points to the possibility that the banished Madrigal family member could suffer from obsessive compulsive disorder.

Although he is not diagnosed in the film, Bruno exhibits several OCD tendencies. He avoids certain floorboards, repeats words multiple times, and holds his breath whilst passing through doorways. His family 'gift' itself, the ability to predict the future, could be interpreted as his intrusive thoughts which he is anxious will manifest into reality. This is a common symptom of OCD sufferers, who then create 'rituals' such as repeating an action a certain number of times to prevent something they're paranoid about from happening.

Until recently, mental health has generally been misrepresented in films, whether it's those with Schizophrenia being depicted as psycho killers or the depressed teen trope. However, OCD for the most part is rarely represented at all. There are other movies and TV series that make references to the mental health condition, but often this is addressed once and then lost within the plot. Take Euphoria for example; one of the very first things we learn about protagonist Rue in the pilot episode is that she was diagnosed with OCD. But as the show progresses, what seemed to be a big struggle in her life is overshadowed by her other mental health conditions and drug addiction.

More often than not, OCD is instead depicted in films as a quirky trait for the 'clean-freak' character. This generalisation trivialises OCD and continues to feed that stereotype, rather than draw attention to the seriousness of a complex and often debilitating mental illness.

Encanto conveyed a lot of brilliant messages about self-worth and family dynamics, but it also raises an opportunity to consider how we can de-stigmatise mental health within our circles. But like most hush-hush topics we're too scared to. When the Madrigal family felt threatened by Bruno and his predictions, they made a (rather tuneful) point of avoiding discussing something which made them uncomfortable and in doing so, isolated someone who needed their support. Let's not do the same to those who suffer from mental health conditions in reality.

Look Both Ways Film Review

Lucy Rodgers

"If you fail to plan, you plan to fail" is an important quote for organised Natalie Bennet, yet an unplanned pregnancy brings Natalie to the path she was destined to find. Premiered in August, Look Both Ways is a comedy-drama that follows protagonist Natalie, played by Lily Reinhart, weaning her way through life in a sliding doors-esque way. This incredible film has movie fans thinking a lot about life and how no matter what decisions you make;

The colours used through both universes are a crucial indicator to the audience in which one they are watching. In the universe where she falls pregnant, the prominent colours are blue and purple to signify disappointment and despair as her best friend Cara commits to their five-year plan and moves to Los Angeles for job opportunities. In the conflicting universe colours such as yellow and pink stand out signifying happiness and excitement.

none is the wrong one.

In the beginning, the film splits into two parallel universes in which, after a one-night stand with friend Gabe (Danny Ramirez), she finds out she is pregnant in one and happens to only have a scare in the other.

The film's inspiring message gives a sense of relief to people who are perhaps not where they would like the be in their life yet. The idea that two roads can lead to the same destination is a comforting thought for us.

The 'burden' that Natalie perceived motherhood to be at the age of 22, turned out to be the inspiration that kick-started her career in animation using a nickname that she would refer to her daughter by (night owl). Oppositely, in a world where she did not face motherhood, she had done everything in her control to ensure her career began yet struggled to find her voice.

Contrary to the popular belief that "What is for you won't go by you", the ending of this thought-provoking film unveils Natalie with two different love interests. University classmate, Gabe who she owns a child with, and producer Jake (David Corenswet) whom she is hoping to own a house with. Nevertheless, a lovely moment at the end of the film reveals both selves look at one another through the mirror and whisper, "You're okay".

From the very beginning of this film, the events that take place continue to reinforce the idea to the viewers that life may throw curveballs that alter you're planned route for life, but you will remain to find the place you are predestined to be.

Pinterest Shuffles is the App that keeps on Giving

Eilidh Kinsman

The invite only app that is taking social media by storm

Pinterest has been an essential for so many people since its launch in 2010. It's always hard to keep an app relevant, especially when it's been around for so many years, but one way around that is to make a whole social media site linked to it!

The excitement of an app being so exclusive drew in a lot of attention across other platforms like TikTok and Twitter, with people scouring the internet for spare invitations. Some even sold their codes or hosted giveaways for people to win them.

Shuffles is an exclusive app directly connected to your Pinterest profile. Users can make collages and then post them to gain followers and interactions. The only way to create an account is through having an invite code from someone who is already a Shuffles member. Everyone is given three codes to share with their friends upon joining.

It's hard to create a new network that is completely original, and when it comes to Shuffles it definitely has some pretty strong comparisons to a few older apps. It's like a more modern version of Polyvore, which was a favourite for most teens in the 2010s, with a hint of Picsart and PicCollage thrown in the mix.

What sets Shuffles apart from the apps it's similar to is the way that it uses its sister app Pinterest. The only way to log in is through your Pinterest account, meaning users are able to immediately access anything saved to their boards when making a collage. The easiness of it all is really appealing to people.

Having invite codes was a genius idea as it really allowed the app to reach a whole bunch of different people. From fans making edits of their favourite celebrities and characters to fashionistas putting together outfit plans, it's really proven useful to everyone.

The more people who showcased their creations online and bragged about being one of the first to access the app, the more people want to try it out for themselves. This well and truly started the chain reaction that we saw all over the internet during Shuffles' release week.

The automatic cut out tool doesn't always work how you'd like it to but there's always the option of tracing the image on your own, which is an easy fix. Along with that you are also able to search Pinterest for new pictures through the Shuffles search bar, so the possibilities are endless.

Is this the end for the Monaco GP?

Leona Stewart

The Monaco Grand Prix is easily the biggest race in Formula 1. Part of the triple crown, alongside Le Mans and the Indy 500, the race on the streets of Monte Carlo is a fan favourite, yet there is no contract for next year.

Attracting celebrities from across the globe, Monaco is always exciting for fans and drivers alike, but for F1, the feeling is not mutual.

While it is the diamond on Formula 1's crown, the racing itself has often been critiqued. With a lack of overtakes or high-speed corners, and minimal tickets available, there is a sense of exclusivity to Monaco, which isn't all good.

As the race calendar only continues to grow with the addition of Miami and Las Vegas, Monaco and its procession-like racing may need to step out of history to stay in the sport.

The general feeling is that there must be a compromise between F1 bosses and Monaco organisers. Monaco already pays a significantly

lower fee in comparison to other tracks, which is thought to be the main reason for its possible removal.

Formula 1 has an ongoing sponsorship with Rolex, however Monaco have their own agreement with Tag Hauer, which in itself raises eyebrows. Alongside this the coverage of the race is organised locally, and often falls short of the sports standard.

Stepping away from the financial aspects, the narrow streets of Monte Carlo have not changed, while a Formula 1 race car has. Travelling faster than ever before in a car that is almost two metres wide, bigger than it has ever been, overtakes are few and far between in Monaco. While strategy keeps

teams on their toes, there would likely need to be adjustments made to keep racing there.

To remove Monaco altogether would be an unpopular decision between not only fans but also the drivers, many of whom reside in Monte Carlo. Both Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff and Ferraris Charles Leclerc have outwardly said that they want the race to remain on the calendar.

Realistically we will see Monaco in 2023, but beyond that? It is uncertain. Unless changes are made, both on track and behind the scenes, the history that lies on the tarmac of Monte Carlo may well be lost.

Sports

Rangers to Thistle Loanees

Connor Steele

Following much negotiation before the start of the season, it was eventually voted that for the year to come the B-teams of Celtic, Rangers, and Hearts will all play in the Lowland League.

This decision has caused controversy and disagreement. Managers have come out in defence of it, claiming that it is best for the development of young players that they are in a league that plays every week.

While I'm sure few can disagree that playing regularly will be good for the progress of up-and-coming footballers, it isn't quite as simple as that. This decision comes with baggage. A bigger league creates increased entry fees, and the fact that these colt teams are not allowed to be promoted into the SPFL pyramid means that essentially the 'big teams' are being granted permission to put their youngsters in a lower league to play against lesser opposition just to 'get them a run out' with nothing able to come of it in the way of progressing as a team.

Another point that comes with the inclusion of these B-teams is the financial (dis)advantage in comparison to the rest of the league. Rangers, Celtic, and Hearts all have the monetary muscle to buy promising young players to play in this league. This is potentially good for them since these players could develop into great talents for the first team in the future, but if they are playing in a league otherwise occupied by first teams trying their best to work their way up in the footballing world, and as a team that should primarily exist to create opportunities for young home-grown talents to progress all the way from youth team to first team, it seems unfair.

In terms of alternatives, loaning is the go-to option. When it comes to players going out on loan you could create an endless list of successes and failures, so let's just look at one partic(k)ular example.

Partick Thistle is often a go-to destination for Rangers loanees. In the last two seasons alone, there is a fair list of both B-team youngsters and slightly more experienced players to look at.

Last season, Rangers loaned out Jake Hastie, Lewis Mayo, Andy Firth, and Juan Alegria to Firhill.

Jake Hastie, who would have been 23 at the time, was a flop. He got game time at the start of the season, but was not cut out for that level, so he fell out of favour until eventually going back to Rangers to be loaned elsewhere.

Andy Firth (24 at the time) joined in the January window and proceeded to play 0 (zero) minutes, and in fact could be seen streaming video games on Twitch and flying flags at Ibrox more than he could be seen at Firhill.

Juan Alegria (20), an extremely promising foreign striker from Rangers B who netted a few in the Lowland League, joined in the Winter and played in nearly every game until the end of the season in which he netted – drum roll please – 0 (zero) goals. Don't worry, he made up for it by missing a sitter in the promotion playoffs!

Lewis Mayo (21) was at Firhill the entire season and was a strong contender for Player of the Season due to being an unstoppable force at the back and even doing a job in the midfield at points. Jags fans begged for him back, but he was deemed fit for a higher level and was loaned to Kilmarnock upon their promotion.

This season, Thistle has teenage duo Tony Weston and Cole McKinnon as season-long loans. Weston hasn't played regularly yet, but from what he has played it is clear to see he is an unbelievably quick and skilful player who can play striker or winger successfully. McKinnon has made himself one of the first names on the Thistle team sheet early in the season since he puts himself all over the pitch effortlessly. At just 19, he doesn't look out of place amongst Championship/ Premiership experienced players and has been putting in Man of the Match performances weekly.

After all the highs and lows I've just described, you may think my point is of no use as it doesn't return a definitive point. But that's just the point! A young and developing player is a gamble. As much as they need to play to reach their peak, they also need to find their level. Of course a player is going to look phenomenal if they are scoring 4 goals a game against part-time bin men with a budget of 25 pence. If a big team aren't convinced enough to offer a young player first team minutes, they can play it safe with a League Two (English or Scottish) loan to get them, still professional, but slightly easier experience. If they have higher ambitions, they can try a loan to a second or first tier team. If the player can't handle it, maybe they need more time or maybe they just aren't good enough. But if they can go there and make a brilliant account of themselves, generate a buzz around their name and show how talented they are, then the clubs future has been found.



When these options are available, what is the point in having the second teams getting what is essentially a free win every week in a league where wins for them ultimately don't mean anything? And I mean that with no disrespect to Lowland League teams, it's unfair to expect them to compete with clubs who have full-time players and well over 100 times their budget. There should be no problem with youth players home-grown by the biggest teams remaining in the huge and expensive youth system designed specifically to train and develop them until such a time that they can either be sent to try out a bigger challenge for a season or two, or until the club decide to give them a chance with the first team in front of tens of thousands of adoring and hopeful fans.

Celtic and Rangers Best Champions League Nights

Jake Blakeway

For the first time since 2007, both Glasgow's big two will compete in the Champions League group stage.

Celtic will play holders Real Madrid, RB Leipzig and FC Shakhtar Donetsk, whilst Rangers take on Ajax, Napoli and Liverpool in a 'Battle of Britain' clash.

Old Firm fans can look back on some memorable results in the European Cup/ Champions League down the years for inspiration.

Celtic:

5. Celtic 2-1 AC Milan – October 3 2007

Celtic also met the trophy holders in their 2007/08 group. This time, AC Milan were the visitors, managed by current Madrid boss Carlo Ancelotti. The home side took the lead courtesy of Stephen McManus. Kaká then equalised from the penalty spot before a late Scott McDonald goal snatched a famous victory.

4. Celtic 2-0 Real Madrid – March 5 1980

Goals from George McCluskey and Johnny Doyle secured an almighty scalp for Celtic but unfortunately it was not enough in the end as the Spanish giants turned this European Cup quarter-final around with a 3-0 return win. This was the club's last great European result until the 2000s.

3. Celtic 1-0 Manchester United – November 21 2006

A fabulous free-kick, mighty opposition and late penalty drama, this game had it all. Sir Alex Ferguson's Manchester United succumbed to a trademark beauty from Shunsuke Nakamura, whilst Artur Boruc was the hero at the other end, saving a last-minute Louis Saha penalty as Celtic qualified for the knockout stage for the first time.

2. Celtic 2-1 Barcelona – November 7 2012

Barcelona dominated this group match from start to finish, but a Victor Wanyama header and a dream goal from teenager Tony Watt had Lionel Messi and co rattled. Despite the visitors' constant pressure, the defiance of keeper Fraser Forster was only breached in the 91st minute as Neil Lennon's side saw out a memorable win.

1. Celtic 2-1 Inter Milan – May 25 1967 The Celtic side which would go on to be known as the Lisbon Lions became the first British team to win the European Cup when they defeated Inter Milan in the Portuguese capital. Helenio Herrera's dogged outfit opened the scoring, but goals from Tommy Gemmell and Stevie Chalmers brought the big cup back to Glasgow.

Rangers:

- 5. Lyon 0-3 Rangers October 2 2007 PSG may be France's top dogs these days, but it was Lyon who dominated Ligue 1 in the noughties. That's what made Rangers' 3-0 triumph in the Stade de Gerland even more impressive. Lee McCulloch's first half header put the Gers in front. Daniel Cousin and DaMarcus Beasley completed the rout with second half strikes.
- 3. Rangers 2-0 Juventus (Agg: 2-1 Rangers win) September 27 1979
 The Light Blues sent the mighty Juventus crashing out of the European Cup at the first round with this 2-0 victory in Glasgow. The first leg in Turin finished 1-0 to The Old Lady, but a header each from Alex MacDonald and Gordon Smith helped Rangers progress.
- 1. Leeds United 1-2 Rangers (Agg: 4-2 Rangers win) November 4 1992
 Rangers took on English champions Leeds
 United in another 'Battle of Britain' with
 entry into the inaugural Champions League
 group phase at stake. Walter Smith's side
 won home and away against a Leeds team
 featuring Eric Cantona. The Gers would
 then go on to almost reach the first final of
 the competition's new era.

- 4. Rangers 2-0 Parma (Agg: 2-1 Rangers win) August 11 1999
 In one of the loudest nights in Ibrox's history, star-studded Parma were put to the sword in this glamour playoff. Following Fabio Cannavaro's dismissal, the home side twice beat Gianluigi Buffon in goal. The Italians won the away fixture 1-0. However, it was not enough to stop the Scottish champions reaching the lucrative group stage.
- 2. Rangers 1-1 Inter Milan December 6 2006

The Ibrox side became the first Scottish club to reach the last 16 with this draw in their final group match. Adriano headed the away team in front, but Peter Lovenkrands equalised by slotting home a one-on-one. The point was enough to send Alex McLeish's men into what had previously been uncharted territory.







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