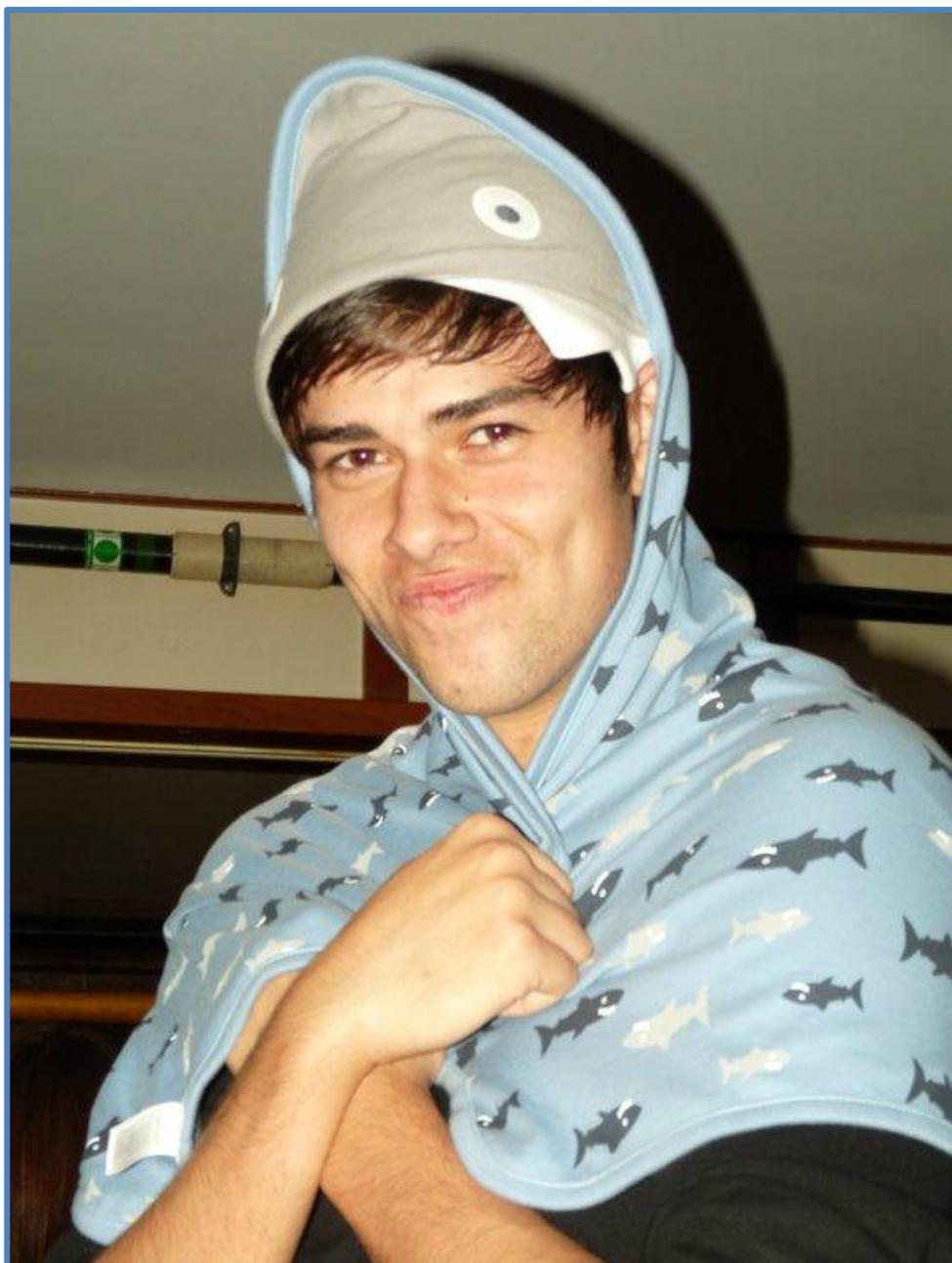


Issue Two

The Brick

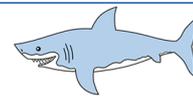
Joe Pritchard & Alex Marshall



Sharking!

The seedy underbelly of Cambridge nightlife

Sharking



Sharking is the latest reincarnation of the classical socio-cultural phenomenon of 'chatting up da bitches'. Distinguishable from its counter parts, schweffing and flirting, sharking inherently encompasses a more predatory temperament.

Behind the fin – Our experts



Name: Josh Games
Status: Active
Also known as: The
Naughty Choirboy



Name: Will Woods
Status: Dormant
Also known as: The
Despotic Two Headed
Sex Beast



Sharking 101



Tips from our experts, Josh Games and Will Woods

Where do you prefer to shark?

JG: Obviously there're the classics, Cindies, Life and Lola Lo.

WW: To me there's no place better than a Robinson College Bop. However recent sighting of *Elliot Chambers* chatting up lifeguards in the local leisure centre suggests there may be other opportunities out there.

How do you make your approach?

JG: Let's not homogenise this. Each approach is to be judged on its own merits.

WW: There's a standard approach each individual relies on, be that a cheesy chat-up line, buying them tequila (*Darius Alexander*) or showing off you dance moves.

Do you shark in pairs, packs or on your own?

WW: Personally I favour the lone ranger approach, what would I need a wingman for?

JG: Again, it differs each time. The wingman classic is an underrated device. However it needs to be used with precision. Comments like "Have you met my friend Josh? He's in the choir" aren't always beneficial.

What advice can you give for guys who start to have a rough night when sharking?

WW: If you're having a rough night you're probably taking the wrong approach, change tact and start playing to your strengths.

JG: It usually means you've been punching above your weight. Moderate your expectations.

If your desired target is surrounded by overbearing male friends, what are your options?

JG: Ah, that old chestnut. It's risky to fight fire with fire but it depends on the lengths you are willing to go to.

WW: If you circle long enough eventually an opening will appear.

What if you realise you've picked the wrong girl too late?

JG: A common faux pas. There's two options. Either persevere and make the best of a bad situation or call it a night and head to the Trailer of Life.

WW: To be honest I have impeccable taste and the highest of standards so I've never had this problem.



In a bizarre zoological-linguistic shitemare, a pack of sharks is actually known as a 'wolf pack'



The She-Shark!



Don't think for a second that sharking is exclusively a male phenomenon! Women of Robinson College regularly head out to the murky waters of Cindies in search of some 'fresh meat'. A prominent recent example is Sarah 'Shark Attack' Pamenter. These lustful vixens can smell the blood of a fresher within a three-mile radial distance and their closing speed approaches, but *rarely* exceeds the speed of sound.

She may merely buy you a drink to lure you in. She may lead you onto the dance floor with promises of a well-intentioned, platonic dance. She may even flatter you with squeaky blandishments. But before you know it, she's got her lips locked on your face and now your only hope is divine intervention. For this reason we warn all students, male or female to watch out for these dangerous predators. The Brick advises you to stay in groups and avoid shark-infested waters.

Know your shark



Great White

sharkus muscularus

Characteristics: The largest of the sharks, physically strong and obvious in a crowd.

Most likely to say: "It's not a game it's a way of life"

Current examples

Shershah Assadullah, Stefan Filip, Sam Troughton, Josh Lomax.



Basking Shark

pullus omnibus

Characteristics: Equipped with a helpful filter feeder, slow moving and will feed on anything.

Most likely to say: "It's a numbers game"

Current examples

Jimmy Campbell, Harry Salmon.



Nurse Shark

schwefus maximus

Characteristics: Lurks in dark places, latches onto its prey and disarms with unbridled sleaze and charm.

Most likely to say: "I don't really hit on girls; I'm more of an opportunist"

Current examples

Tim Headley, Sam Sloman, Aakash Patel, Will Ghosh.

Newly Spotted Sharks



Justin!



Lara!



Adin!



Steph!



Stockton!

Ask Robinson

What's your favourite thing about Robinson?

"I came to Robinson to learn maths, I'd come again to make friends." *Chris Halcrow*

"The gardens." *Maria Farrimond*

"Most of the other colleges are very pretty and whatever, but the people here are really fun and a good mix." *Daniella Allard*

"The triple chocolate fudge cake in the canteen." *Arun Niranjana*

"The fact that they do decent vegetarian food, especially at formals." *James McKnight*

"Alan's beard." *Anthony Milner*

"Me." *Nathan Proctor, amazing fresher footballer*

"Limestone." *Helena Mumdzjana*

"The music at the bops, specifically the dj's choice of tracks and sexual appeal." *Jonathan Coote*

"The RCSA Constitution." *Will Ghosh*

"Being bummed by Lara!" *Peter Judge* "...Would that work?" *Joe Pritchard*

"I hate your questions." *Sam Troughton*

"The clunge." *Pete Hall*

"Pete Hall's chat." *Andrew Shipley*

"The way the bricks make me feel inside. That sounds sexual." *Daisy May Pope*

Do you think you drink too much?

"No." *Vanny Lambert*, "Yes we do!" *Hannah Dillon*,

"No we drink the perfect amount!" *Vanny*, "...We are perfect..." *Hannah*

"Oh yeah, I get smarshed on a reg base." *Victoria Marsh*

"Yah, cus I'm a lad!" *Henryk Brzyski*

"I can still remember some of my regretful Cindies make outs so absolutely not." *Richard Slade*

"Hmm" *Lewis Blackwood*, "I remember the time you got your nipple out for a man you'd never met before." *Joe Pritchard*, "I didn't get it out specifically for him, but he said I had small nipples, so I showed him and I said 'I bet you have dinner plate nipples' which he did." *Lewis*

"Yes, after my work-do I woke up in Cockfosters, had thrown up everywhere and had no memory of how I got there. Definite low point." *Lara Tembey*

"I have no drink problem." *Simon from the bar*

"I haven't been sick on anything or anyone this term." *Katerina Pascoulis*

"My nickname by some is Vom." *Kate Fairhurst*

"I don't drink enough, I'm not enough of a lad. My nights out are strong but not huge. I'm a strong.5, towards the 'huge' end." *Toby Heyward-Butcher*

"Errm, probably but I don't intend to stop." *Alex Carruthers*

"Probably at formals yes." *Jack Harrison*, "Because of Edwin Lee..." *Joe Pritchard*

What do you think of Scottish independence?

"I don't want them to leave, I like Scottish people. I like their oil money!" *Fraser Jardine*

"I believe in full independence or no devolution." *Chris Halcrow*

"Do you really want me to answer that or do you want to call the ambulance now?" *Ewan McGregor*

"Ah, that's horrendous... I don't want to offend Tobias." *Helena Mumdzjana*

"I think you have to let them have a referendum but they won't survive because they're too small and north sea oil is disputed." *Victoria Marsh*

"I don't really like the Scottish." *Simon from the bar*, "My family's Scottish you bitch!" *Cat from the bar*

"I do have pretty strong views on it actually; it's a pretty serious issue." *Alex Brazier*

"[incredulous giggles]... I'm very independent!" *Hannah Dillon*

"If it gets Alec Salmond's ugly face out of our newspapers I'm all for it." *Richard Slade*

"Salmond is a babe but I'm not sure about independence yet." *Rosalyn Old*

"I'm a lawyer, so im supposed to have a clever answer, but I can't think of anything!" *Abi Li*

"I have no opinion despite being half Scottish." *Ben Hancock*



Robinson Life

Five Questions



He serves us our daily pint and Panini, but how much do we really know about our local barman, Alistair?

1. How well do you feel you connect with the students of Robinson?

Very well, I'm the same sort of age group so can relate to their everyday situations.

2. Do you think it's a shame you cannot enter into romantic entanglements with current students?

Yeah very much because of the lovely talent within the college!

3. What's been your career highlight behind Robinson bar?

Moving from downstairs in the canteen up to the bar. The humour of the bar staff and the banter with the students keeps me going day to day.

4. You're quite the Casanova we hear, with your rebel jeans and trainers that scream I'm 'chock full of testosterone'. Can you give the fellas of Robinson any advice on how to let a lady know that you're the one?

Fucking hell. Cat recommends getting your cock out, and seeing where it goes, however I would take a more gentlemanly approach: take them out for dinner. (*Simon interjects*) "Dinner?! He's got some Burger King vouchers!"

5. Who's your favourite customer and why?

That good looking brunette girl. I don't want to name names...



If you're wondering what our president has been up to since his election, he had a quiet New Year's at home in chateau Campbell (see above)



News Flash

- ❖ Once again RAG is running their blind date charity event on 7th so scrub up and get ready for a romantic evening at Gardies.
- ❖ Ewan McGregor's petition on CUSU affiliation caused quite a stir but the vote resulted in 84% approval of staying in CUSU. Soz Ewan.
- ❖ The bar saw another successful open mic night, thanks to Simon's organisation and fantastic acts.
- ❖ Upcoming bop themes are: Chav on February 3rd, May Ball launch on February 10th, a belated Valentines on February 17th and LBGT's Rainbow Robinson on February 24th.
- ❖ Toby and Will, our Ents buddies, are also organising a fortnightly quiz on Saturdays in the bar.
- ❖ Anyone interested in playing Volleyball for the mighty Robinson Condors team next term should email Will Woods on ww273@cam.ac.uk. They play on Saturday afternoons and are regular cuppers finalists, possibly putting together a second team.

Robinson Debate: The Bar



Toby believes the bar is still a focal point for Robinson social life, and any talk of a bar-boycott is both childish and detrimental to the well-being of the college.

Ewan is writhing in Scottish fury over the changes made to the Robinson Bar. In particular, he objects to the fact the students weren't consulted before the changes were made.



I don't like the lack of seating; you used to be able to get 15 people around a table! And I'm not keen on the mood lighting; the green makes people look ill. Plus, the new step isolates people and the wood doesn't match the college. Oh, and the quiz machine gets in the way of the pool table which is a pain.

I take the points, but I do think as an evening location this it can be better. During my first and second year, it was rammed in here every night.

That is a point, but you can move the furniture around to make more room, maybe not as much as before. For me I find it doesn't make that much of a difference. It *could* be because I don't have many friends, but I doubt it, because, as you know, I am a massive big name on campus.

I actually like it because I prefer sitting in smaller groups in a bar environment. If I wanted to be in larger groups I'd go to the pub or town etc. One good bonus is that it's much nicer to chill or work in here during the day whereas before it was quite grotty. Regardless, I think they should have consulted us beforehand though.

Well I feel it's the case that I may have too many friends. Oh, by the way, the mood lighting clashes with Toby's hair.

I guess, but I quite like the mood lights, it makes Ewan's face look even more sinister... How about a referendum to disaffiliate from the bar, Ewan?

Affinity Project

What is it?

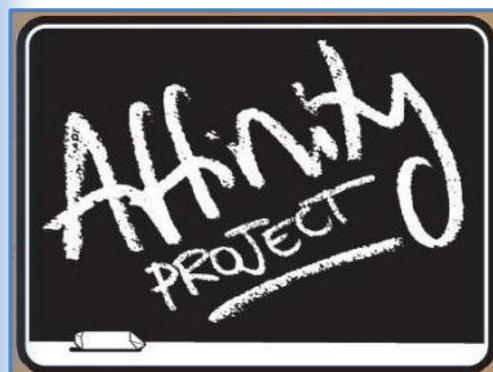
A new student organisation aimed to provide assistance for a struggling school affected by the riots in London and budget cuts. They found such a school near South Croydon, the Harris Academy Perley.

What are they doing?

The student reps regularly contact with students of the school on Skype to provide support and give advice. The school itself has a wish list the charity is seeking to satisfy.

How to get involved

Once a fortnight, the Cambridge lottery is held, £1 entry with a chance to win a big cash prize, as well as local bonuses from establishments such as Gardies, Fudge Kitchen, Big Fish Events, the Mahal, etc. Wednesday February 1ST tickets go sale again. See your local Affinity rep to buy or for more details!



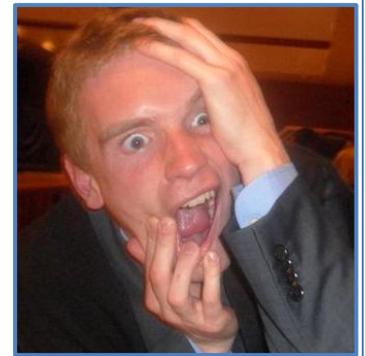
Thanks to Josh Levy. Get involved in the Cambridge Student Lottery!





Agony Aunt

One's naughty and the other's nice, your two favourite agony aunts give their advice!



Recently I've been struggling to keep up with my work. I'm finding it difficult to motivate myself and often find myself procrastinating.

Kate: Find solace in the motivation of others. Pursue individual interests but don't feel bad about using other people's motivation to increase your own.

Dickie: Tie a brick onto your balls and get on with it.

I find more and more the only way I can enjoy myself is with alcohol. I can't walk through the bar without being tempted to buy a drink, and I need to drink heavily when I go out. Am I overly reliant on alcohol and what can I do about it?

Kate: Although many people like to enjoy a drink socially, it does sound like you are becoming too reliant on alcohol on a day to day basis. I would advise either speaking to the welfare team or close friends about this.

Dickie: Try drugs.

To be honest, I've fancied a girl in college for a while now but nothing has developed so far and I can't pluck up the courage to move things along. Any helpful tips on how best to let her know how I feel?

Kate: Aw! Girls are far more sensitive and receptive than boys give them credit for. There is nothing wrong with making a move on a girl even if you later blame it on a drunken mistake!

Dickie: Ask her how she feels about the concept of penis. If she says anything but 'I want you inside me' then move on.

I have a great relationship with my girlfriend, and we have a lot of fun, but recently she's been interested in a lot more adventurous stuff in bed. She's even bought a bottle of barbecue sauce for bedroom antics. I don't want to damage what we have but this really isn't to my sexual taste. What should I do?

Kate: If you and your girlfriend both care for each other as much as I sense you do, talk to her about this. She cares about your sexual gratification as much as her own so try and find a compromise.

Dickie: Try a cock ring.



If Kate and Dickie don't quite come up to scratch, you might want to check out the Mental Health Week being organised by our very own Welfare Officer, *Hannah Cowan*. This is part of a national student-led campaign to destigmatise and spread awareness about mental health issues in universities. The week will involve several talks from sufferers of mental illness, and will culminate in a debate on the 21st on whether it is always helpful to diagnose mental health issues. The Cambridge branch of this organisation under the leadership of Hannah recently won an award for being the best new Mental Wealth group! So if you're interested, or want to get involved, contact Hannah on hc363@cam.ac.uk or check out ww.facebook.com/CUmentalwealth.



Mental health affects all of us, so let's talk about it

Sports & Culture

Men's Hockey

Netball

Under the astute leadership of Tim Headley, the Robinson Men's XI has had another successful year thus far. They have combined success in the league with progression in both mixed and men's cuppers. To date they have recorded a series of convincing victories over Jesus, Girton, Emmanuel and Downing with their only loss coming against an exceptionally strong St. Catherine's side. The team looks to play a fast paced, attractive brand of hockey and have high hopes of being rewarded with some silverware come the end of Lent term. –Jasper Joyce

Robinson Netball has been given a new lease of life thanks to the enigmatic captaincy of Lara Tembey. A sport previously scorned for not actually being a sport has finally clawed back the respect that it deserves through her enthusiasm, determination, and awe-inspiring competitive streak. After a tough start to the season (when we couldn't actually cobble a team together) previously unearthed talent rose to the surface, resulting in a nail biting clincher against Sidney. This was it. The final battle for promotion against our most revered rivals. The last 30 glorious seconds saw us (well me...) score the winning goal; promotion, glory, respect and champagne were ours. It can only be described as epic, and will surely go down in history as one of the most monumental sporting achievements Robinson College has ever seen. Finally, we got what we have been dreaming of for over a year. A promotion, and to division three no less. And to celebrate? Brand spanking new stash. – Hannah Dillon

Ghosh's Film Corner

That the *Lion King* is a retelling of *Hamlet* is an old story.



Yet, nine hundred million box office dollars later, as the film arrives again on these shores – now in three Panavision dimensions – the debate still rages over whether this African-American recasting of the Shakespearean original constitutes a neo- or an anti- colonial rewriting.

Gikandi, N'Thiongo and even Emiliano Ma have hastily condemned a film in which predatory, dynastic discontents are wrenched from their European locus and imprinted upon a sub-Saharan landscape which was for so long merely the 'clay' in which Western governments 'imprinted' their colonial superstructures. Attention has been drawn to the manner by which Disney signifies ruled-and-ruler not by their true signifiers (black and white skin) but by hyena and lion. The Disney machine has cast an arbitrary power relation as if it were a natural, Darwinist configuration; thus tacitly sanctioning the implied imperial dispensation.

But this account seems conveniently blind to the events of Simba's liminal wanderings. Growing up in Scar's shadow, the young prince finds refuge not by means of a Laertes character, but in a rediscovery of the nation's indigenous interior. In Timon and Pumba's rhapsodies, we find 'a specifically postcolonial performance of reinscription'. (Bhabha, 1994) Teaching Simba not just their philosophy ('no worries for the rest of your days') but their very language itself ('*Hakuna Matata*') the meerkat-warthog pair re-erect the colonised ideology, which appears now as a sign of emergent identity; conflicting with, and undercutting, the imperial nomenclature.

Although – as the history of the Global South post-1950 (and the plot of *The Lion King 2: Simba's Pride*) will tell us – Simba will not fully realise the 'problem free philosophy' which his teachers espouse; the *Lion King* remains *the* seminal film of anti-colonial resistance.

Happy Valentines Robinson!

