

THE BADGER

Valentine's Edition 2019



EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the Valentine's / Post Valentine's Edition of the Badger.

After hours of sweat, blood, procrastination and honestly unnecessary delays on my end. I present to the you the next piece of Aidan's journalism.

My first thank you to Sejal Goel for the front cover of this piece. Genuinely great work.

We only have a few weeks left in this term, and instead of working on your summatives, finishing or starting your dissertation or prepping for exams. Feast into this Badger Issue.

From a delightful recipe from Mickey de la Godsmack, to Valentine's commentary to another installment of Stevo's memory lane, this issue has plenty for you to read.

That's all from me, until next issue.

Matt xxx





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COOKING WITH MICKEY

ALICE WILLIAMS WITH A MICKEY CLASSIC

Need a spicy supper to impress a date? Want to impress your housemates with an innovative and classy dish?

Here is Mickey's recipe for a sexy sausage pasta, spiced to perfection, deliciously delectable and designed to show off your culinary prowess.

Ingredients

2 x saucy sausages
3 x rashers of sexy streaky bacon
 $\frac{1}{2}$ onion chopped roughly
1 x tin of plum tomatoes
100g pasta
Cheese, lots of it.



Recipe

1. Boil the kettle, whilst waiting, open your tin of tomatoes and pulverise them with a knife, making sure the object of your affection can see your aggressive side. Add boiling water to pasta and cook.
2. Sauté the sausages on high, making sure to burn the outside with a lovely char whilst the inside remains raw enough to almost taste the poor piggy sacrificed for the feast. Add the bacon.
3. Once cooked, add the demolished tomatoes and allow the juices to combine, then add the drained pasta.
4. Serve the pasta up and grate half a block of cheese onto your pasta, just enough to hide the travesty of your sins below.
5. Enjoy!
6. Realise you forgot to add the onions, shrug and move on.



A COMMENTARY ON VALENTINE'S DAY

JOE EATON WITH SOME CULTURAL AWARENESS

Alright, lads. This isn't the Bog Roll but just go with it a second.

Valentine's day exists all around the world. It is celebrated across immense geographic distances – across continents, from London to Cape Town; across the world's vastest ocean, the Pacific, from Vancouver to Tokyo; and from Gilesgate to places people actually care about. Because of these distances, traditions to mark the day are diverse and often unique to different nations around the world.



In **Japan**, for example, chocolate or チョコレート is exchanged both ways – which is nice, no major comments on that.

In the **Philippines**, there are large group weddings. Yep, group weddings. Apparently the ceremonies are often free, and include flowers, a wedding cake and sometimes even wedding rings. Not a bad gig if you ask me



**Editor in Chief comment: Line up for Joe ladies. Nothing is more romantic than standing in a hall with 100 other couples getting married too!*

In **Denmark**, they give snowdrops rather than red roses – having grown sick of red from afternoons spent pillaging coastal villages and sacking monasteries, or whatever the Danes get up to now. @Johan



A COMMENTARY ON VALENTINE'S DAY CONT.

JOE EATON WITH SOME CULTURAL AWARENESS

Our friends the **Greeks** tend to take each other on lavish indulgent dates where they drink only the finest wines the EU can provide, and then of course dip shortly before the bill comes.



The **Croats** get themselves off by rewatching last summer's semi-finals. **Outrageous.**

The **Chinese** pray for good husbands – a novel way to get around the State's Tindr ban.

And married French government officials, often former *Présidents de la République*, like to share their romantic exploits on the front of tabloid newspapers (pages 1 – 40) – all year round.



Valentine's Day doesn't actually exist as a concept in Germany. Although, to be fair, what more do Germans actually want than efficient trains, sharpened engineering pencils and peaceful European integration - this time.



The countries of Chad and Jordan actually merge in political union for the day in a weird joint national role playing holiday.

Anyway, my point is: Valentine's day is what you make of it and the 14th should be cool and diverse and whatever you want it to be. Wink, wink.

WHAT PEOPLE DID ON VALENTINE'S DAY

CLARA OHAYON ON VALENTINE'S HAPPENINGS

I asked my friends what they were doing on the 14th of Feb and here were the answers:

- Getting battered with Ex-Aidan's legends ATA, Jaisal Patel, and Ollie Jackson.
- RIPPED OFF
- Ripped Off Bar Crawl
- My friend is conducting psychology experiments on me and then me and my boi are baking muffins
- A hot date with Aidan's gym
- going to an aquarium and then having dinner and a movie
- I'm making dinner for my bestie
- N O T H I N G
- Recorded a DJ mix
- Getting laid actually

(here is also the proof that I only have 8 friends)

Most of my friends are going on an Aidan's Ripped Off bar crawl. Some are going to eat pasta and drink loads of wine. Others will get rekt at fifa. A couple will have nice romantic meals and a couple more will be watching "Little Miss Sunshine" in the Bailey room.

Whatever they do, the majority of them will be doing it with people they care about: either friends, lovers or merely fellow Aidanites. And those who spend the day alone are but a facebook message away from dozens of people who care about them.



WHY THE BOTANICAL GARDENS IN WINTER IS A TERRIBLE PLACE FOR A DATE

MATTHEW O'BRIEN WITH SOME CRITICAL ADVICE FOR YOUNG LOVERS

No seriously go any other time than middle of Winter. Getting sick of being in your room or the Billy B? Don't go to the botanicals you will regret everything.

It was 10 degrees. Warm by British standards, bloody freezing by Aussie. But you take what you can get. Being the hopeless romantic I am, I decided to check out the botanicals near Collingwood in case I ever talk to a girl and to make myself sound remotely interesting. This is my story.

There is a **grass collection**. Basically big huge weeds of the same variety just hanging about. I don't have much more to say than there is grass.



Here is a **big coal tub**. Surprise your date with interesting facts like: The Bowes Railway Museum contributed the coal tub, the Tanfield Railway contributed the coal and the Blamish Museum contributed the track. Riveting.



Lake. The botanicals include a beautiful tribute to the entire Lake District. There are no fish and minimal pebbles for skimming. Fun activity ideas include pushing your date into the water, jumping into the water with your gumboots and ignoring this part of the gardens.



WHY THE BOTANICAL GARDENS IN WINTER IS A TERRIBLE PLACE FOR A DATE CONT.

MATTHEW O'BRIEN WITH SOME CRITICAL ADVICE FOR YOUNG LOVERS



Giant Ants. Deriving from the Hymenoptera, and featuring a boutique stainless steel wire design, the botanicals have done it once again. These multi-legged *formica rufa* are sure to get the conversation rolling!



Red Squirrel Holding Comic Sized Nut. Probably the highlight of the trip is seeing this squirrel, where there are only 139,999 other red squirrels to be found in the UK. Be careful though, they steal nuts!

Windy Path. Like my time at university, it goes for too long, lots of ups and downs, full of unsubmitted summatives and regret. As you can see this barren land is about as empty as my Tinder matches. To the right we have a **British Rabbit Proof Fence.** I honestly couldn't get my head around this one. Are they saying there are no rabbits? Or don't let your rabbit roam around here? Or is it telling rabbits that they can't go in. In Australia they're a pest thanks to the **First Fleet** introducing them and now ruining our crops.



THE DARKSIDE OF LOVE

WILLIAM JC WITH A SALTY SURVEY DE AMOR

A happy couple here, another happy couple over there. There really is too many of them. The way they waltz around town, getting heart-shaped coffees and matching tattoos, the arrogance is unbecoming. The whole thing just makes you want to throw up. There's too much of it. Everywhere you go and BOOM, a couple *dry humping*.

However, after digging around and asking a few people some questions, I have come to discover that this is simply an illusion. There is actually not that much love going around at all. During long and extensive interview, I have come to the conclusion that love is, in fact, a ludicrous concept. Below we can find some comments by fellow Aidanites on their true opinion of **LOVE**.

“LOVE CAUSES MORE PAIN THAN SATISFACTION”

Harry E.L Stephenson 7/3/1996

“LOVE IS HARD TO FIND, SO IS IT WORTH IT?”

Sai Kiran

“LOVE IS LIKE COLLEGE FOOD, COSTS A LOT FOR VERY LITTLE IN RETURN.”

William JC

“IT'S JUST HORMONES INNIT?”

Mark

“BLAAAAGHHHHH *SHAKES HEAD*”

David Atwood



THE DARKSIDE OF LOVE CONT.

WILLIAM JC WITH A SALTY SURVEY DE AMOR

“LOVE CAN COME IN MANY DIFFERENT SHAPES AND FORMS AND QUITE OFTEN IT CAN FEEL UNRECIPROCATED. YOU FEEL LIKE YOU’RE PUTTING IN ALL THE WORK AND THEY JUST LET YOU DOWN TIME AND TIME AGAIN, BUT YOU KEEP COMING BACK TO PORTMAN ROAD UNDER THE LIGHTS.”

Cameron Sykes

“JUST GOOGLE A DEFINITION” *LOOKS AROUND CONFUSED*

George Webster

“LOVE IS ABSOLUTE, BUT ONLY A SITH DEALS IN ABSOLUTES.”

Sam Pearce

“YOU CAN’T BUY LOVE BUT YOU CAN BUY A JET SKI”

Jonny’s friend Dan who is an accountant

“LOVE CAN’T BE CYNICAL.”

Clara “Je suis la présidente maintenant” Ohayon.

“LOVE CAUSES HEARTBREAK. I FUCKING HATE IT.”

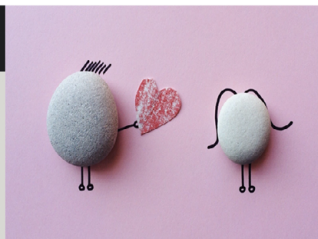
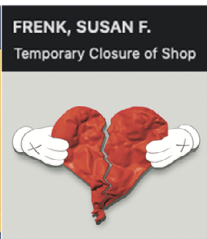
Georgina Moore

“LOVE DOESN’T EXIST, BECAUSE NOTHING EXISTS. NOT EVEN THE HANDS IN FRONT OF ME.”

Saffron Dale

“IT’S A BIT COMMERCIALISED ISN’T IT? I DON’T REALLY THINK ABOUT LOVE.”

Saoirse Ellis



BACK IN MY DAY

HARRY STEPHENSON ON A BYGONE ERA

UK Politics

A simpler time. When discussing political issues consisted of debating how to eat bacon sandwiches, erecting a stone tablet inscribed with your manifesto, and what minister did to a pig's head. How this was only four years ago I have no clue, it feels like a lifetime.



Quaddies

The iconic drink of a bygone era. Walking into a club nowadays, everyone will have their different go-to orders. But back in the day, a drinks order at Klute meant only one thing- the Quaddie. Available in orange, cranberry or mixed, this behemoth came in a pint cup and was made up of 4 shots- yes, 4 shots, and a juice mixer of your choice, all for the unreasonably reasonable price of £4. A crackdown on excessive drinking in Durham a couple of years ago saw its demise, but the Quaddie was the beloved staple of countless messy nights.



The Tennis Courts

Basketball hoops with nets, built in football goals, a tennis net that stays up in the middle, Aidan's boasts a fully functioning tennis court that numerous Aidanites use and appreciate regularly. This is a welcome change from the court we had until 2017, a tarmac surface strewn with cracks, sprouting weeds and a drooping net that made using it for conventional sporting purposes almost impossible. A welcome improvement for the college community.

