





I SEE THE FUTURE!

EDITOR'S NOTES

With a new year comes new hope, new aims and new resolutions. I don't know about you but last year was tumultuous, uncertain and stressful. The silver lining is that in the rough times, the friends, the people who care step up to support.

This is what gives me hope and optimism this year. It gives me a confidence and platform to try new things, try more things, knowing that there are people to back me up when things go wrong because undoubtably things do naturally go awry no matter how much you wish it doesn't.

Here at CHIp we are all about new and fresh ideas that we are passionate about, things that matter to us and we hope it matters to you too. So please continue this journey with us in making Ipswich an even more vibrant town than it already is.

- Ed









WILL BRIGHAM



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POWER OF COMMUNITY

We are looking for volunteers who are passionate about connecting with people, combating loneliness and isolation, making a difference in the heart of Ipswich, and making a good brew! By volunteering with us, you'll help foster a welcoming environment for individuals from all walks of life.

As a CHIp volunteer, you will:

- Meet and connect with a diverse range of people—from creatives and artists to marketing professionals and job seekers. Every day offers a new opportunity to network and broaden your perspectives.
- Gain valuable experience in customer service by assisting with the sale of goods from local traders and artists, all while receiving safeguarding training to support your growth and personal development.
- Build lasting relationships, forming friendships with people from varied backgrounds, and contribute to a supportive environment that promotes connection and shared experiences.
- Make a meaningful impact by actively helping combat loneliness and isolation within the community.

Volunteering at CHIp is flexible, help whenever you can!

Together, we can create an inclusive space where everyone feels welcome, supported, and valued.

Fill out the form and come be a part of our vibrant community!

CLICK HERE TO APPLY



WE NEED TO HAVE A GREAT DEBATE ABOUT THE FUTURE.

Stripping away the pretension, this is the core theme of Francis Ford Coppola's 'Megalopolis'. Despite the prestige of its director, this film is an obscure production which has been received poorly.

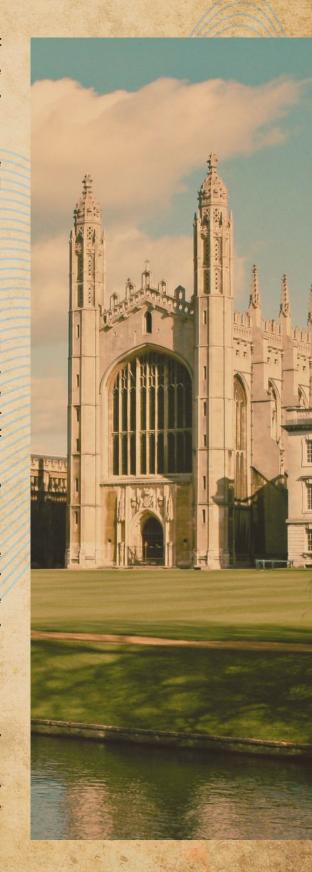
I am not going to write about how great the film is, because it isn't. That is, except in the entertainment value that bad films unintentionally offer us.

However, it has inspired me to write about something which is as obscure and no less grand in scope.

Cardinal Wolsey created a college in Ipswich, intending the town to be a centre of learning in England. He wanted to afford the people of England the same opportunities as he had been afforded in his youth. Ipswich was to be the focus of a grand project of colleges in England. You might think that something as grand as this would be the talk of the town, but it is not. Unfortunately, Wolsey's 1529-30 fall plunged both himself and his Ipswich twin of learning into obscurity.

You might wonder why I am writing about a fallen college with respect to the future? In 'Megalopolis', the society models itself on the Roman Empire. The degree to which the film accomplishes this is up for debate, with tonal shifts leaving a confusion of the time period.

Coppola may have been inspired by other successor states. Unlike Wolsey's college, the Roman Empire has not been relegated to a historical curio. In fact, it has inspired many institutions that claim to be its true successor - states, churches and titles. The debate of the Roman Empire has famously transcended academic interest, even beyond the confines of Coppola's New Rome.





New Rome is the foundation from which the new city of Megalopolis is built - is the society effective, what can be done to improve things, what is the society about and what is it trying to achieve? This film seeks to discuss these questions, even if the presentation leaves much to be desired.

What of Ipswich and its future? Just as no-one is happy to settle the succession of the Roman Empire to New Rome, Ipswich should not rest on its own laurels. My view is that much more needs to be done to raise the education of our town to national prominence, both within and outside of its institutions.

Our creative efforts need to be in service of the ideal of educational excellence and of ensuring that someone like Wolsey has a future in Ipswich. Young people must feel that they can meet their own ambitions (creatively, in education and otherwise) without needing to leave, otherwise they will leave.

We need to understand whether we have actually done enough on Cardinal Wolsey's college, beyond outward pageantry. But you may ask what form "enough" would take? That is a matter of great debate.

- Andrew Bolt



Ipswich drew me close
Welcomed me like a long lost friend.
This town became my haven
My happy place.

Ipswich is slowly awakening
High Street is busier than ever
From harried mother to defiant goth
My place to call home.

Ipswich is exciting
Tractor boys breathing new life
Weaving an air of pride and
anticipation
My team in blue

Ipswich is quietly busy
Hidden gems round every corner
From fine dining to mcds
My kind of town

Ipswich supports unconditionally
Mental to physical health
And everything in between
My place of healing

Ipswich has a future
Past and present are proof
Nothing keeps a grand old lady down
My muse and inspiration.





Christmas leaps upon us
Like some strange exotic beast
All tinsels and urgency
And just as suddenly disappears
Leaving limp gifts
A tree that looks like an alien structure.
We go back to our urgent daily routines
And thus and thus till we die.

-Oscar Joachim

WHY IPSWICH ALWAYS HAS A FUTURE

Before this time, there was a time, before the Vikings, before the Angles, and before the Romans. And in that time, there were no seconds and minutes, people only had seasons and years - seeds were planted and harvests taken in.

And in those times, there was a village, a happy prosperous wee village by the shores of the river Orwell. Except the folk were less happy than they had been last year and the year before. Rumours spread from the fishermen in the taverns that the mermaids were leaving, following their own folk North where the seas were clearer, and the waves were whiter. Simon Garrod and his three sons were in the 'Old Jolly Sailor' having a cuttla ales when they heard this rumour. Curious to see if it was true, it being full moon when the mermaids can be heard singing in the wee small hours, the intrepid four pushed off from the jetty and came to the midstream. Shooshing their talking they could hear the sweet singing of the mermaids. We all know that mermaids are fond of kelp candy and Suffolk ale and in that way the four men lured the mermaids to their boat to answer their questions. 'Is it true that you are all leaving and this is the cause of the town folks' grief?' "We are leaving, we are heading North. No longer will you hear our songs, listen to our poems and stories. No longer will we embellish and adorn the walls of your homes with pictures of our happy lives. We are loath to leave people to a life without these joys, but we must follow our people. Simon Goddard if you and your sons and daughters carry on these tasks then tradition will keep your people happy and prospering. And your town will have a future. And we can leave happy in this knowledge.' Even today, there are still a few descendants of Simon

Garrod. And in every new year they sing, tell old and new

keeping them happy, keeping them prospering, giving them a future. And because songs are sung, stories are told, and

stories, adorn the walls of the townsfolk. In this way

paintings are painted, Ipswich has a bright future.



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