

Celebration

Theme: Celebration

for your dress, it would be amazing! Well you lucky girl, ring me when you get a chance later, or will you be too busy with your husband-to-be? Haha. Just email me when you get a minute yeah.

Oh and I might be moving back to England next year, just started house hunting, thought I'd drop that one on you!!

Ellie xxx

From: Olivia

To: Eleanor

12:54, 15th November 2009

Subject: RE: OI!

I'm sorry for leaving it as a voicemail, but you had to be the first to know! No we haven't set a date yet, Sebastian isn't fussed when it is as long as it's all I've wanted, bless him. Sebastian's parents have no idea, they're still away in Brazil doing research in the Amazon, we have to wait until they get back because they have no internet access as they're in a remote part apparently. I can't imagine why they can't just hook up to the internet whilst they work, it's not like they can't afford it. The proposal was sooo romantic, he wrote will you marry me in the frost on the car and then got down on one knee there and then. You'll be proud of the size of the rock, I tell ya!

Yeah it would be pretty incredible if she paid, would save us a bit as well!

You're coming back home! EEEEEKKKKK! Promise me you will be my maid of honour even if you're not living here yet, you could house-sit for me while we're on our honeymoon or something! Oh and you moan at me for leaving you a voicemail and there you are just adding it on to the end of an email that you're coming back! I want regular calls to keep me updated please, I want to know where you're moving to (anywhere that's close is the rule), when you're moving back and are you bringing James!? I know you haven't been together long but you can't abandon him can you?

Liv xxx

From: Eleanor

To: Olivia

13:27, 15th November 2009

Subject: RE: OI!

Word Count: 1907

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Right, I've asked him, he said no, nothing else I can do. So we're still friends yeah!?

Ellie xxx

From: Olivia

To: Eleanor

11:51, 16th November 2009

Subject: RE: Oi!

You liar! You did not ask him! Hang on, have you even told him you're leaving!? I can't believe you Ellie, you haven't! Oh my god! Ellie, you have got to tell him, you can't just pack up and leave, think how you felt when Adam left you, you can't go and do the same to James. Seriously, this is coming from a friend, YOU NEED TO TELL HIM!

Liv xxx

From: Eleanor

To: Olivia

15:25, 16th November 2009

Subject: RE: Oi!

Okay okay, I'm sorry. I will tell him, but how? Be my friend now and make me a script haha. But on a serious note, I don't know what to say, you're good at this heart-to-heart stuff, help! Please?

Ellie xxx

From: Olivia

To: Eleanor

15:40, 16th November 2009

Subject: RE: Oi!

Right, first of all sit him down, make him a meal or something so he's not in a bad mood, the last thing you want to do is make any existing problem worse. Then say something along the lines of "Babe, I've been offered an amazing opportunity back home to complete my archaeological degree, it's what I've always dreamt of. I know it's not fair on you, what with us only just starting out, but it's an offer I can't refuse, we've always discussed the possibility of me returning to England, well, it's now. I

Word Count: 1907



Michael Wye, before his last Saint's match

A CELEBRATION OF A FAN'S DEVOTION

TWELVE games into the season, Northampton Saints have had a reasonable start, currently holding third place. The squad is capable of higher as many have seen in past years; the 1999/2000 season when they won the Heineken Cup being a particularly memorable one.

But as in any sport, avid sports fans are what ultimately fuels the players, Michael Wye being one such man. The eldest of five, Michael's passion for rugby started at an early age, playing initially for Mill Hill Rugby Club. Moving to Nether Heyford, Northampton, in 1968 brought about his retirement of the game which was replaced by his support for the Saints; his first opportunity to witness the game that he had once enjoyed participating in. The sport he envisaged on that first Saints match took over him; he had found a new side to the game, a new hobby and undoubtedly a new love.

The birth of his son, Anthony, formed the basis of a new fan; Michael took him to games, buying them both season tickets year on year. For many doting fathers, the key to building a strong relationship is a joint interest; rugby was theirs.

Northampton Saints have always boasted a strong, well respected, supportive fan base, in the midst of this there are individuals who hold it together, creating the spirit that is visible to opposing clubs. Described as a family; these fans turn up to



Bruce Reihana (left) with son at Franklin's Gardens

each game, willing the players on, inspiring the players more than they may realise.

Bruce Reihana, veteran winger, said after signing a new contract with the club, "I'm competing with the young players, which is hard for someone like me. But

what they have to learn is that it's the fans that keep you going, if you have them on side, no matter what happens you can still be a winner." Michael was one of these supporters; he was there way before the game started, not departing until he'd socialised with other fans and seen every player leave, no longer needing any player's autographs having obtained them previously. "It's when you see the same faces after matches that you realise you're doing something right, people actually want to come back!"

No club can become great without a strong fan base, this is evident from the Saints performance. They are truly a great team and it's people like Michael that have shaped them over the years.

When I was asked to write an article about the fans of Northampton Saint's, the name that instantly sprung to mind was Michael Wye. The first game I had ever seen him he brought a monkey cuddly toy, dressed

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Commentary – Theme: Celebration

Shortly after reading 'P.S. I Love you' by Cecilia Ahern, I decided to write the beginning of an epistolary novel. This was based on 'Twelfth Night' by William Shakespeare, the concept being that it was a modern day version of the play with the main characters being taken from it, aimed at young women; the typical chick-lit audience. The modernisation also came from the use of emails rather than letters to form the basis of my novel; this was done in order to appeal to my target audience who will be more familiar with emails than letters.

Clear distinctions between idiolects were created for all three characters, bringing them to life for the audience. Ellie, I envisaged, to be a more down-to-earth character that had come from a lower class background than Olivia, for this reason her emails used more colloquialisms and 'text' language such as "hun". The idiolects give an idea of the social status of the characters which enables a back story to be created in the reader's mind. The language used by each character also presents a relationship between the recipient and the sender of the email; for example when Olivia emails Eleanor she signs it "Liv" which shows how close the pair are and that their friendship goes back a long way.

Links between the narrative and epistolary sections were clear, such as at the end of the second paragraph when it says, "he was my rock" which then leads on to the wedding plans, with the "rock" linking to the ring. The use of the word "rock" also implies that it is a very solid and stable relationship; my wider reading of books like 'What About Me?' by Kate Figs, tended to start with the protagonists being happy with their life so this was the aim when I began my own novel; to create an idealistic lifestyle, allowing the future events to appear more distressing due to the contrast. This also reflects 'Twelfth Night', where Sebastian and Olivia are singing at the opening stages, which is a traditional 'happy' action, before they become separated; a typical chick-lit event that occurs within the plot.

Celebration, in both pieces, is established from the offset; it is in the headline for my magazine article and the first email of my epistolary speaks of a recent engagement. Other key themes within 'Mixed Messages' and 'A Celebration of a Fan's Devotion' include love and family, all positive themes which are reflected in everyday life.

On my non-literary piece, my pictures were chosen to further enhance the themes of family, love and celebration whilst still linking to the article as a whole. The image of Michael Wye was intended to make it a more personal article, allowing the audience to imagine him as more than just words. The image of Bruce Reihana with his son was chosen specifically to link to the family

Word count: 999

Bibliography

Non-Literary:

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Films –

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