

(Story 1)

Mix it with Sheffield's night-life!

Let's face it: a big part of 'the university experience' has to be the night-life! At Sheffield, things are red-hot right now – and have been for a number of years.

The big talking-point is pubs versus clubs. There's a change going on, but where's it all leading?

When Cream closed its doors last summer, and Gatecrasher went monthly, there was talk of the 'death of dance' and the 'death of the superclub'. But, according to many, reports of these deaths are greatly exaggerated!

The fact is, there's a new kid on the block: the 'plub'. Superclubs are being challenged by these young pretenders – late-opening bars that offer fashionable DJs playing anything from hip-hop to funky house.

'Forum' on Division Street is leading the way with a new breed of hungry DJs playing funky house – and charging nothing for the privilege! The appeal of this archetypal 'plub' is not having to worry about dress codes, and just enjoying the music for its own sake.

Also embracing the 'plubs' phenomenon is Crookesmoor's Springvale Tavern which has taken on Sure Radio manager and DJ (), to pull in the punters with his own unique blend of funky house.

"Students can't afford to go to superclubs every weekend and blow a hundred quid," says D. "They still want their fix of dance music, but it's all about accessibility, so we're taking it to the punters and they seem to love it!"

But he disagrees that places like Forum or his own venture mean the death knell has sounded for the superclub:

“People will still go clubbing to experience the lights, the lasers and togetherness of superstar DJs. It’s crazy when anyone talks about the death of dance.”

Gatecrasher regular (), a third-year Biochemistry student at Sheffield, agrees:

“Yeah, I’ve heard about this ‘plubs’ thing and all the hype that’s surrounding it,” he says, “but it’s just the same old excuse for dance – you know, funky house with tedious beats and some old diva’s wailing vocal. Give me Gatecrasher any day of the week!”

All the evidence suggests there’s plenty of room in Sheffield for ‘plubs’ AND superclubs. You’ll hear on the grapevine what’s cool and what ain’t. At the end of the day, you pays your money and takes your choice. As ever, the market will out.

ENDS
