



BULLETIN

February 2016

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Bradley from Great Britain

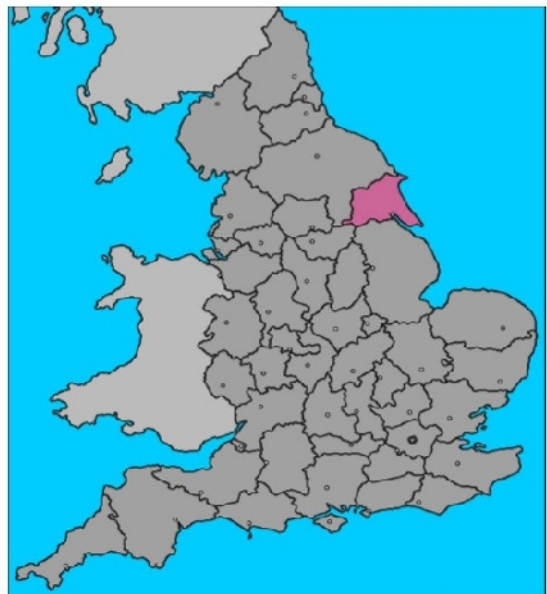
Hey there, my name is Bradley Acum. I am from Kingston Upon-Hull (Hull for short) in England and will be your February edition of OKO's bulletin. I am 23 years old (24 in July this year).

I found the opportunity with OKO through my experience of travelling Europe for 2 months in the summer of 2015. I visited the Czech Republic (Prague) for the first time during my trip and became very interested in the culture and the people there.

I made a few friends in Prague who eventually recommended that I take a look at this opportunity with OKO. I have always wanted to take part in an EVS scheme, I always thought it would be another great experience for me. So far it is looking like it, and I am very excited for the next 8 months in Rychnov.



This is me.



This is where Hull is. (In the east of a county called Yorkshire)

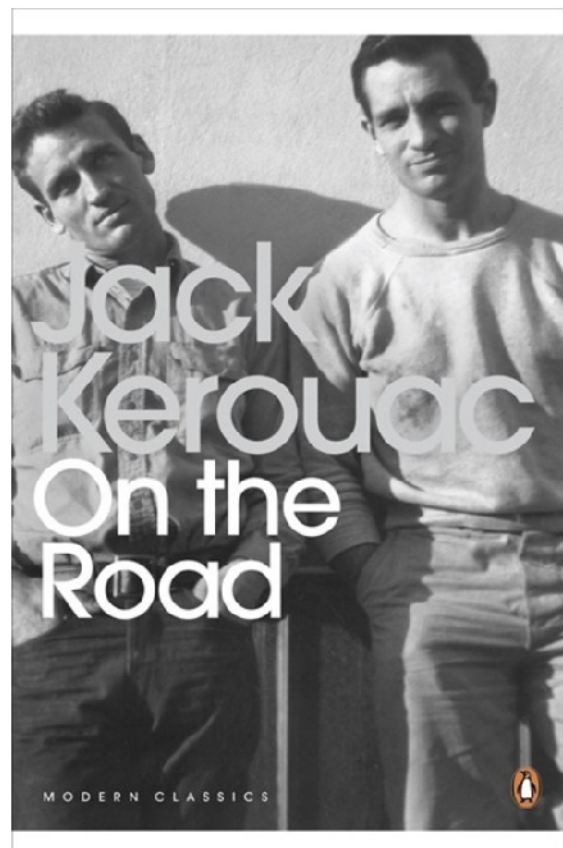
My Hobbies

I have a bachelors in politics and philosophy. I am very interested in politics, I love to read the news to see what's happening in the world, I am a member of the Labour party in the United Kingdom, I write a blog on certain issues that are happening in the world— (pjinlimbo.wordpress.com) I am looking to study an MA which will also include politics and economics in the future.



**This is the logo of the Labour party—
A very important party in Britain's history**

Another one of my hobbies is that I love to read. My favourite book is a novel by an American author in the 1950's called Jack Kerouac. The book is called 'On the Road'. A perfect example of how creative it is possible to be with the modern English language. It describes events as the main character of the book travels from one side of the United States to the other. This book really helped me develop a different way of how to view life, and also what we in England call a "travel bug": the feeling that you want to travel as much as possible.



**The cover of my favourite
book**

Great Britain



The Union Jack
The flag of the United Kingdom

Although I was born in Hull which is in England, my mother was born in Scotland. Because of this, when I speak to people of where I am I generally use either the UK (United Kingdom) or Britain (Great Britain).

There are of course many cultural things and stereotypes that people think of when they see the Union Jack: The classic rock music of the 1960's and 70's (The Beatles, Rolling Stones, David Bowie), punk fashion (Sex Pistols), red telephone boxes, tea, or simply people being overly polite.

As a lot of people are already aware, Great Britain is a large island to the north-west of the European continent. There have been many political struggles over a very long period of time to decide what "Great Britain" actually is. As it is at the moment, when we say Great Britain, what we mean is the island in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, without Northern Ireland: just England, Scotland and Wales.

"I'm sorry!"
"Stop saying sorry."
"Okay, sorry".

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A typical British exchange.

Kingston Upon Hull—City of Culture 2017

The city in England that I was born in and have lived in for most of my life is Hull: the recent winners of the UK city of culture 2017. This award is basically an effort by the government of the UK to help Hull realise its potential. Hull won this award because even though it is often a city which is thought to be ignored by others, it is actually a great place with many positive features and cultural gems!



Freedom Festival



Humber Street Sesh

We have Freedom Festival and Humber Street Sesh which are two music and arts festivals in Hull that attract hundreds of thousands of people every year. We have one of the longest extension bridges in the world, and the world's only underwater aquarium. Hull was traditionally a fishing town on the east of England, near to the river Humber and the North Sea. A lot of the history of Hull is based on this fact. In the past we would have trawlermen (fishermen in big boats) who risked their lives for their work. As our own late famous poet Philip Larkin said: "Hull is on the edge of things" - we seem to be also, on the edge of the world.



Erasmus+

