

THE DAILY FELIX

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FRIDAY 4TH MARCH

KEEP THE CAT FREE



OVERBLOWN?

The push and pull of regulating online student content at Imperial: Page 5

Exeter declares £9,000 fees

First non-Russell Group university to aim for highest rate

Deepka Rana

The University of Exeter has announced plans to raise its undergraduate fees to £9,000, the new threshold set by the government last December.

This comes weeks after Imperial College officially revealed plans to raise its fees, however Exeter's news marks it as the first non-Russell Group University to be raising tuition fees to the maximum of £9,000. Although the proposal still has to be approved by the Office for Fair Access, eyebrows have already been raised at the fact that all courses at Exeter will require the maximum fee, only days after Universities Minister, David Willets, said in a speech that arts courses should not cost anymore than £6,000.

It also raises the question of whether the price a University charges for its degrees will change how potential applicants perceive it. In terms of fees, Exeter will now be in the same price bracket as Imperial, and almost definitely, Oxford and Cambridge.

Aaron Porter, President of the National Union of Students commented on the issue to Felix, stating "No University should be making a decision about the level of fees it is charging to create prestige. The system the Government have imposed is a mess and poor value for students...". And whilst the decision of Exeter's fees will still be reviewed by the Office for Fair Access, Porter has little confidence in its effectiveness, commenting that "The Office for Fair Access has no power to enforce any access agreements nor to regulate the market and the Government is on thin

legal ice in suggesting it might do so. I see no disincentive for universities to not charge the highest possible amount".

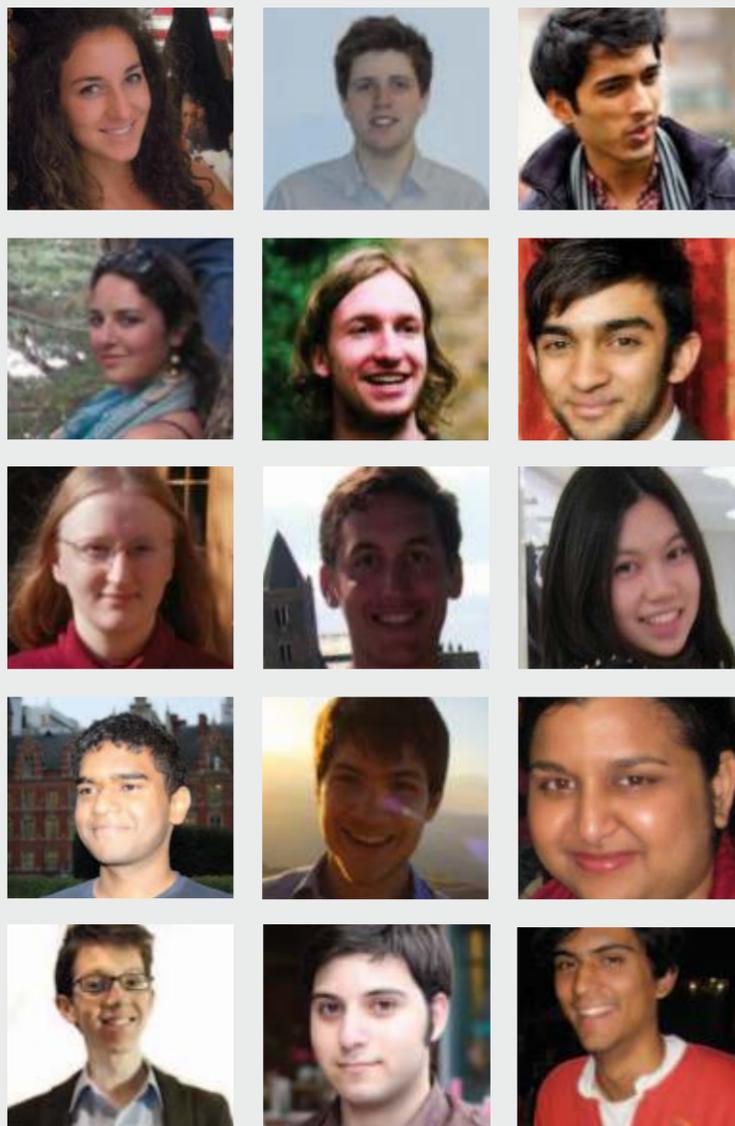
When asked about the potential effect these moves could have on the reputation of Imperial College, Alex Dahinten, Deputy President (Education) responded with: "In my opinion, Imperial's reputation will not be affected by non-Russell Group Universities charging similar fees to us ... I do however feel that some other Universities may struggle to justify setting fees in this region".

Defending Imperial's decision to raise fees he added "the reason why Imperial can (and must) charge these fees is a combination of our International reputation as well as the undeniable fact that it costs much more to run science-based course than it does to run arts or humanity based ones. When averaged out across courses, Imperial is expecting students to pay approximately as much as it costs for Imperial to educate them and guarantee a high-quality student experience". Although he couldn't comment on Exeter's outreach programs or the quality of the courses they teach, he did feel that Universities that were planning to charge as much as top Universities should reconsider and much like David Willets, could not see the justification behind charging as much for an arts degree as for a lab-based science degree.

Not surprisingly, the recent announcements concerning fees from Universities (and many more rumoured to be in the pipeline) are worrying prospective applicants who will be in vast amounts of debt no matter where they study if

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ELECTIONS



Manifestos from Page 8 onwards
Voting opens Tuesday

BUSINESS



The FIG business model: Page 16

POLITICS



Is immigration a problem? Page 18

FILM



Cross-examination of the Oscars: Page 26

HIGHLIGHTS

felix@imperial.ac.uk

On campus

Fairtrade Fortnight

Wrapping up a series of successful events, the Fairtrade Society are putting on a wine and cheese night to mark the end of Fairtrade Fortnight.

Head down to get your fill of... you guessed it, cheese and wine, whilst also having a chance of winning some great prizes in raffles and a mini quiz.

Room 344, Huxley Building

19:00 onwards

Tickets: £6/£7 on door (£5 members)

Rag Week 2

Get involved in the last night of RAG week 2 with this movie themed night out at Supersonic Vague (Gatecrasher). Dress up as your favourite movie character and meet for pre-club drinks at B4| Bar at 8pm before grabbing your wristbands and heading off to Gatecrasher on the minibuses provided. Minibuses will run until 11pm.

Supersonic Vague (Gatecrasher)

20:00 (at B4|Bar)

Tickets: £3

@feliximperial



From Beneath the Editor's Desk



I really must apologise if this has any mistakes in it. The deadline is racing towards me (so close to the end! To sweet release!) My ramblings yesterday were quite downbeat so I must apologise – damn mood swings. The Daily Felix is the most exciting thing that we've done this year and I'm in awe of the Felix team. Who would think that at a university without any full-time humanities courses, where no essay based subjects are studied and without a single journalism student in sight, we could pull off writing, editing, laying out and printing 24 pages of content every day? These guys and girls are truly an inspiration. They have kept me in good spirits and have made The Daily Felix a reality. I am deeply indebted to their skill, passion and dedication.

It's feels strange to be at the end of this project. I wonder what producing Felix weekly will feel like now. I wonder if anyone will do it again? Will it become a yearly tradition? I'm not sure, obviously it isn't up to me but I think...

Oh hell, that deadline won't stop coming closer. I've got rush Imperial, I won't be writing these solipsistic diaries any longer so let's just say that I've had a lot of fun, not a lot of sleep and I'm looking forward to having a beer in the Union.

Lolcat of teh day



shape our future

Imperial College
Union Strategic
Review 2011

We need to talk to you about the services and facilities we offer. Do you have some time next week? We will provide snacks and refreshments and a £20 Union Shop Voucher for each attendee. Go online for more info. We especially need to hear from Postgraduate Taught & Research students.

imperialcollegeunion.org

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A Stoic effort

Kadhim Shubber

The campaigning phase of the Imperial College Union Sabbatical Elections kicked off when STOIC TV broadcasted a 'Meet the Candidates' IC News special on Wednesday night.

Candidates running for the next year's sabbatical and student trustee positions showcased themselves and their manifestos over the live stream found on the Union website.

The slated 6pm start turned out to be overambitious as the live broadcast started nearly an hour late. There were further delays, as technical glitches meant the sound cut off during the first round of candidates' speeches.

The format of the special edition show took after the party leaders' debate during the 2010 general election; each candidate was allowed one minute to pitch themselves uninterrupted before answering questions from IC News interviewer William Prince and the live Twitter feed. An out-of-studio punditry team were also on hand to dissect and discuss the candidates' debate. Located in the Felix back office, IC News Presenter Elizabeth Skrzypiec lead the discussion with current Union President, Alex Kendall; ex-Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), Jenny Wilson; and ex-Felix Editor, Dan Wan.

The event is in addition to the traditional round of Hustings in the Union bars. This year, FiveSixEight will hold its first Hustings since opening last October.

Kadhim Shubber



It was an impressive display of technical aptitude and collaboration from the Union staff and student TV station, albeit hampered by the technical mishaps and delay. Studio presenter William Prince was on notable form as he constantly placed candidates under the spotlight with discerning questions about their policies and wider knowledge of the Union and the role they were fighting for.

The commentary team provided further insight into the roles and were quick to point out discrepancies in the candidates' debates. Dan Wan staunchly opposed the view that Felix was an insular and male-orientated society: a point that the IC News studio present-

er and Felix Editor candidates raised. Kendall was unexpectedly put under the spotlight himself when Elizabeth Skrzypiec questioned him about his role as Union President in the nationwide student protests. December's Life Sciences cuts was a hot topic throughout the program as both Deputy President (Education) and Presidential candidates were quizzed about their views upon the issue.

The footage from the live stream will stay on the Union website for the Elections period. The show will serve as hard and lasting evidence of each candidate's credentials and suitability for the positions they are running for when voting opens on the 8th of March.

Exeter declares £9,000 fees as GSK plans to fund students

...Continued from Front Page
the number of universities raising their fees keeps up at the current rate and are increasingly going to look at graduate employers to pull them out of it.

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) have announced a scheme along these lines with which they will guarantee to pay off their graduates intakes' tuition debt on completion of 2 years work at the company. The practicalities of the plan have not been disclosed yet as it will only affect graduates who will start their degree in 2012, which is when the uncapped fees come into effect.

A GSK spokesperson told Felix that the scheme would not only cover the costs of those who had paid £9,000 per year, but all fees that are under the new threshold amount. In addition, the only criteria for the financial aid (aside from successfully completing 2 years at the firm) would be the amount paid for tuition, and that background and household earnings would be of no relevance. However access to this scheme will be highly competitive as GSK only take 50-100 graduates in the UK every year, and out of the thousands of applicants, only those few will benefit from the scheme.

Duke of York visits Imperial

Jo Mieszkowski



Alex Nowbar

The Duke of York, Prince Andrew, visited the College on Wednesday to look at the translation of research and education into health benefits. Imperial prides itself on its ability to translate its activities into applications for society.

With a focus on healthcare, the Duke of York met health-related companies that are developing new treatments and diagnosis techniques in the Imperial Incubator, a facility of ours that provides office and laboratory space for fledgling companies. He also addressed simulated keyhole surgery (a field in which Imperial is a significant player), which uses one of the robotic technologies being developed by our Hamlyn Centre for Robotic Surgery, and heard about Imperial's international partnerships in Abu Dhabi, Qatar and Singapore. He also visited the Union.

Prince Andrew said of Imperial: "Im-

perial College has, to my mind, gripped the problem of being able to deliver its output internationally in a way that many other universities have not been able to achieve."

For some, Prince Andrew is a controversial figure. He has been accused by the shadow justice minister, Labour MP Chris Bryant, of being a "close friend" of both Colonel Gaddafi's son Saif al-Gaddafi, and convicted Libyan gun smuggler, Tarek Kaituni; accusations which have been strenuously denied as false. Nevertheless, the shadow Justice minister has called on David Cameron to "dispense with the services of the Duke of York".

The Sir Keith O'Nions welcomed The Duke of York's visit saying that Imperial brought most value to society through the "reach and impact of our education and research" and that he was "proud that The Duke of York is keen to hear about some of the results of that focus for the College."

Last man standing – RAG Week 2

Kadhim Shubber



Nail the guy praying for his life or the one practising his robot routine? If only he had two balloons

NEWS

Varsity is just two weeks away

Medics and Imperial gear up for their yearly showdown, now at The Stoop

Hannah Blandford

The biggest day in the Sport Imperial calendar is nearly here, yes that's right Varsity 2011 is taking place on Wednesday 16th March. After an action packed day of SPORT, entertainment and rivalry at Harlington, Ethos and Wilson House, the JPR Williams Cup will be finishing off what "will be the best Varsity to date" (Medicals Club Captain, Jamie Rutter). This year the JPR Williams Cup has moved to a new venue The Stoop, home of Harlequins RFC, this venue is a larger professional stadium and is all geared up for a dazzling display of Rugby, with exhilarating entertainment both on and off the pitch. The Stoop is the biggest venue many of the players have ever had the chance of playing in and is a fantastic opportunity for all involved.

2009 & 2010 saw Imperial College crowned the overall winners of Varsity, will this winning streak continue or will this be the year when the Medicals take the number one spot? However, the big match of the day has gone to the Medicals; 2009 Medicals Rugby won 15-7 after going to extra time and last year the Medicals won again with a 29-13 victory, "the gap between the two teams has narrowed significantly over the years, to the point where 2 out of the 3 matches have gone to extra time" (Medicals).

Who will come out on top this year and secure the title of the first team to win at The Stoop?

Imperial College Rugby Men's 1st are currently in fierce competition with University of Reading 1sts for the top spot in the BUCS South Eastern 1A League with, with not many fixtures left to play. Can they steal that top spot with a chance of being promoted to the Premier League next season, let's hope so! They have won 6 out of their last 7 matches only losing to Chichester 12-11.

With many players including Joe Harris, Ben Adubi, Jamie Aldridge, Max Joachim, Ed Labinski, Caolan Cotter (c), Jack Newton, Louie Barnett and David Wilson (Imperial College Rugby) and Angus Hamilton, Andrew Mowat, Dan Neville, Ovuefe Efeotor and Elliot Rees (Imperial Medicals) playing in their last Varsity fixture this year it is shaping up to be quite an occasion for both teams and their supporters.

Imperial Rugby Club Captain Joe Harris believes, "...the squad is going from strength to strength each week which I know we can carry forward into the match. It will be a tough, physical encounter as it is each year but the challenge of the medicals will bring out the best in us, so it should be a great game!"

Imperial Medicals Rugby Men's 1st are in the South Eastern Premier League at the moment and again with

Christopher Walmsley



not many matches left to play are sitting in an uneasy position towards the end of the leader board and Oxford Brookes and St. Mary's stand in their way to ensure they stay in the top flight of University Rugby Union. However, they have made the Final of the UH Cup (University Hospitals) after a fantastic performance against RUMS. The final will take place on 11th March, can they win two massive matches in 6 days?

This recent string of matches will however have no effect on their confidence, as they will without a doubt be in a different gear on the night. With such fierce rivalry between the teams,

the atmosphere and stature of the venue and occasion will all add to every player contributing 110 percent to Varsity 2011.

After speaking to the Medicals about the match, Club Captain Jamie Rutter said "we are expecting a challenge and one that we are very much looking forward to... Having never lost the cup in previous years the pressure is on us to retain the title."

When looking at the current BUCS league positions of both Imperial College and Imperial Medicals and recent performances this should be a fairly even contest making it a really exciting spectacle! Caolan Cotter (Captain Imperial

College Rugby 1st) is looking forward to the atmosphere the event will bring this year along with the excellent rugby and excitement in the air as they aim to deliver some "Champagne Rugby"!

If you still haven't got a ticket there are only two weeks to go, go to Ethos or see Hannah Blandford (Sports Partnership Administrator) Level 2M, Beit Quad, you can also buy the tickets online at www.imperial.ac.uk/sports/varsity. The tickets are £12 for an all day advance ticket (transport to and from The Stoop and entry to the ground) or £10 for an evening advance ticket (just entry to the ground).

Christopher Walmsley



Sponsored Editorial

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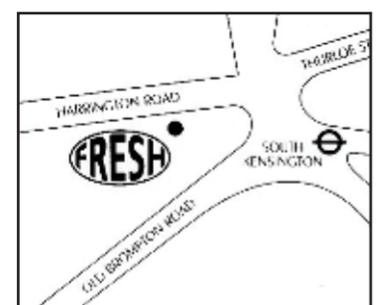
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Hamish Muir



OVERBLOWN?

Victoria Druce takes a deeper look at the recent controversies involving online student content

contain material that may bring the Union or College into disrepute or is of a libellous nature'. The Union argued that the rugby article was not libellous. The College's solution to pull the whole Clubs & Societies server caused far more commotion than would have occurred had the complaint been processed by the Union, who called IC's response "overblown".

It seems the College's involvement in this most recent episode of censorship was due to a breakdown in communication. The switchboard operator, who received the complaint, passed the accusation to the faculty who appear to have been wholly unprepared. The Union president commented that there was "clearly no procedure in place". The college botched any attempt to contact the Union, sending a single email to Kendall's personal account and failing dismally to find the phone numbers of relevant union staff (which are available on Outlook).

The College accepted that there was a communication breakdown with the Union which caused some difficulties, but defend their response despite the outcry that it was overblown as the College behaved in accordance

with the Code of Practice that exists between the College and the Union. The Code contains an annex, a 'Defamation Code of Practice', designed specifically to deal with allegations of libellous material published in a Union publication or on a Union website. The annex states that although 'the College does not wish to interfere with the freedom of expression enjoyed by ICU and its publications...it does require some safeguards to be in place to enable a speedy response to an allegation that defamatory material has been published'. In the case of the recent allegation of libel the College employed such a 'safeguard'. The action by the College was in accordance with the Defamation Code of Practice: 'Where there is a dispute over the existence of defamatory material...the material in question shall be removed for the protection of the College and ICU while the College Secretary consults an arbitrator for guidance'. As such the College argue that their actions were reasonable.

Jon Hancock, Head of the Central Secretariat, admits that the procedure "envisages that it will normally be the Union that will arrange for the offending material to be temporarily removed" but that in being unable to contact

the Union President the College removed the material by pulling the Clubs and Societies server, which caused the uproar from Clubs trying to access their website or the room booking system. As the Union hosts the server, only they have the authority to remove any single part of the content, in this case the Rugby Club's article. Hancock agrees that "it is much better for the Union to be in control of this process" for this reason.

The College's involvement in this sort of issue is rare, this being the first time the 'Defamation Code of Practice' has been used since being agreed with the Union in 2007; Kendall hopes that it is a one off. Kendall accepted the College's apology for meddling "with the condition that [the college] think about this (generating a new procedure for dealing with complaints)". The College, having accepted responsibility for the lack of proper communication, have responded by drawing up a "more coherent procedure for the future if a member of the public complains about content on the Union server" with "clear lines of communication" to ensure similar issues can be overcome in a less problematic manner in future.

Last fortnight the College took down the Union server in a move aimed at removing an article concerning the latest antics of the rugby club. After receiving a complaint from a member of the public and an accusation of libel, the College took steps to remove the allegedly offensive material (and the rest of the Union website) from public access. This action by the College comes just weeks after IC radio was taken off the air following concerns over the content of a show. The seemingly radical reaction of the College to these recent events has pushed the issue of student media censorship into the limelight.

The College's apparent knee-jerk reaction to the recent complaint from a member of the public over the content of an article on the Rugby Club's website was to pull the whole Clubs & Societies server, banning access to

"The College's apparent knee-jerk reaction was to pull the whole Clubs & Societies server"

any sites hosted on this server. This caused disruption to all other clubs and also to the online room booking system. The grievance alleged that the exposé of a recent rugby match contained libellous comments, an accusation both the College and the Union take very seriously. The decision by the College to take down the entire Clubs & Societies server, which is hosted by the Union, faced objections from both the Union and the student body.

The move by the College to deal with the complaint was labelled an "over-reaction" by Union President Alex Kendall. The Union have clear procedure set out aimed at dealing with any grumbles over their media content including a network of staff responsible for fielding such issues. A complaint concerning any media content on a club's website is first passed to the club themselves and then to Heather Jones, Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), or to Chris Birkett, the systems administrator of the Union website. The Union then decides on the course of action to take.

Kendall was surprised by the College's line of action over the rugby article, commenting that they had gone much further than they had in the case of the grievance with IC Radio over the use of racially offensive comments on air. When the comments were determined to be in violation of the Union's web policy, the procedure worked fluidly to overcome the complaint in a way that was widely viewed as appropriate considering the circumstances. The precedent for the competency of the Union's procedure for dealing with serious complaints makes the interference of the College over 'rugbygate' more surprising.

Union staff were "pretty angry" and remain annoyed even after the Rector's apology, as they view the action as interference by the College in the matter. Both the College and the Union take an accusation of libel very seriously. The Union's web policy is clear that clubs and societies web content 'should not

NEWS

H

arriet Gliddon is the latest student to join the campaign. A student campaign that first sparked in the classrooms of Yale and burned across the world; it has finally reached Imperial College London. Harriet is the founder of the newest chapter of Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM), here at Imperial. The organisation lobbies universities to show their commitment to aiding developing countries by ensuring that potential new drugs developed are made affordable in developing countries.

Research at Imperial College is underway into a novel Meningitis B vaccination. Meningitis B is an epidemic bacterial meningitis and occurs throughout the African meningitis belt. There is no vaccine. In January, the research received an upfront payment of £1m in funding from Novartis, a world-leading pharmaceutical company, in exchange for the exclusive worldwide license. Felix has learnt that the agreement was subject to a confidentiality clause. Due to the clause, it is not known whether the deal will require Novartis to produce the vaccine affordably for developing world countries.

UAEM are not the only ones engaging with universities to release intellectual property (IP). On Monday, the Council for Industry and Higher Education (CIHE) published a report urging universities to share their ideas more freely. However, the case for releasing IP is not black-and-white.

In the current economic climate, CIHE argues that universities could have a significant impact in kick-starting UK manufacturing. According to the council, "our taskforce has found that the simple act of universities opening their vast knowledge banks and providing free access to their intellectual property would have the single biggest impact on accelerating the capability and growth of smart manufacturing in the country". CIHE's report cites an initiative launched last year by Glasgow University, "Easy Access IP" which aims to give away university IP to businesses for free.

Universities currently represent an important source of intellectual property (IP), with only 2% of patents now owned by private individuals. In the past, it has not been unusual for universities to take a liberal stance on IP and the economic repercussions are well established. The 'Cambridge Phenomenon', which began over 50 years ago, led to a cluster of technology-based business start-ups exploding from the university's research activity. In the US,

Kadhim Shubber



The pen is mightier than the sword – Harriet Gliddon, founder of UAEM at Imperial, explains her campaign

The Battle for Imperial's Intellectual Property

By Ben Scally

universities have contributed to similar occurrences in Massachusetts and Silicon Valley. Most university IP is already released freely when research is published. Only ideas that have yet to be published can be patented in the UK and Europe, but published ideas can be patented in the US.

Imperial College is one of the most important sources of IP nationally and filed for 48 patents in the 2009-10 academic year. It trails behind Cambridge and Oxford Universities who filed for 124 and 73 patents respectively. However, Imperial leads against UCL, which filed for just 35 patents in the year previous.

Imperial Innovations is a company with ownership access to IP generated at Imperial College that translates research into commercial products. Although Innovations started life as the college's technology transfer office, it

is now a plc on the London stock exchange with Imperial College holding only a 30.3% share. Innovations helps researchers to get to grips with technology transfer, and undertake filing of patents and product licensing. In a minority of start-ups, they help academics to set up 'spin-off' business. Innovations currently have 81 of these 'spin-off' businesses in their portfolio. However in the vast majority, they help researchers find industrial partners to advance their product. Imperial College retains a share of these businesses but doesn't pay for any failures, making it a 'no win, no fee' arrangement for the college and researchers. Innovations receive 3-400 ideas every year from inventive academics and this leads to the filing of between 40 and 60 patents. Each year, Innovations spends hundreds of thousands of pounds in filing and defending these patents. They are extending their

"Universities are an important source of intellectual property, with only 2% of patents now owned by individuals"

activity to include late-stage projects in other high research-income universities including Oxford, Cambridge and UCL.

The CIHE report was produced by its Engineering & Manufacturing taskforce, which is made up of heads of industry, including BAE systems and BSKyB, as well as a number of leading academics. It would be wrong to consider these proposals in the same instance as the UAEM campaign. Many of the industry figures on the taskforce stand to directly benefit from universities releasing their IP.

Glasgow University's "Easy Access IP" initiative was not without its critics. Reportedly, the first question asked at the press launch was "what do the inventors think?" highlighting concerns that it fails to support the university's researchers. In addition, a source at Imperial Innovations said Glasgow had been "selective" in picking which IP to release and had "only chosen the ones that they had already tried and failed to commercialise".

UAEM at Imperial is organised by the MEDSIN society and was denied its society application by the Union. Since its launch this year, it has already held the UAEM-Europe Conference, attended by Nobel prize-winning bioethicist Professor John Sulston. UAEM are engaged in ongoing dialogue with Imperial Innovations to achieve their campaign goal.

Gliddon told Felix of her concerns that Imperial Innovations were "not going to listen to us" as "for them the be all and end all is money". She argues "it's a privilege for a company to get access to university's research".

Imperial Innovations is unusual for a university technology transfer office in its status as a private company. Gliddon commented, "this is despicable - they should be answering to the university not to bankers in the city".

An ethical statement on the Imperial Innovations website states that they "will seek assurances from commercial partners that wherever possible they will make available licensed technologies and products to developing countries for locally affordable prices". However, Gliddon told Felix "I don't think they even try".

'A Global Village', Imperial College's international affairs journal, will be hosting a panel discussion entitled "Big Pharma and Global Health: The Role of Intellectual Property". This event takes place at the Business School on Monday 7th March and tickets are available online now.



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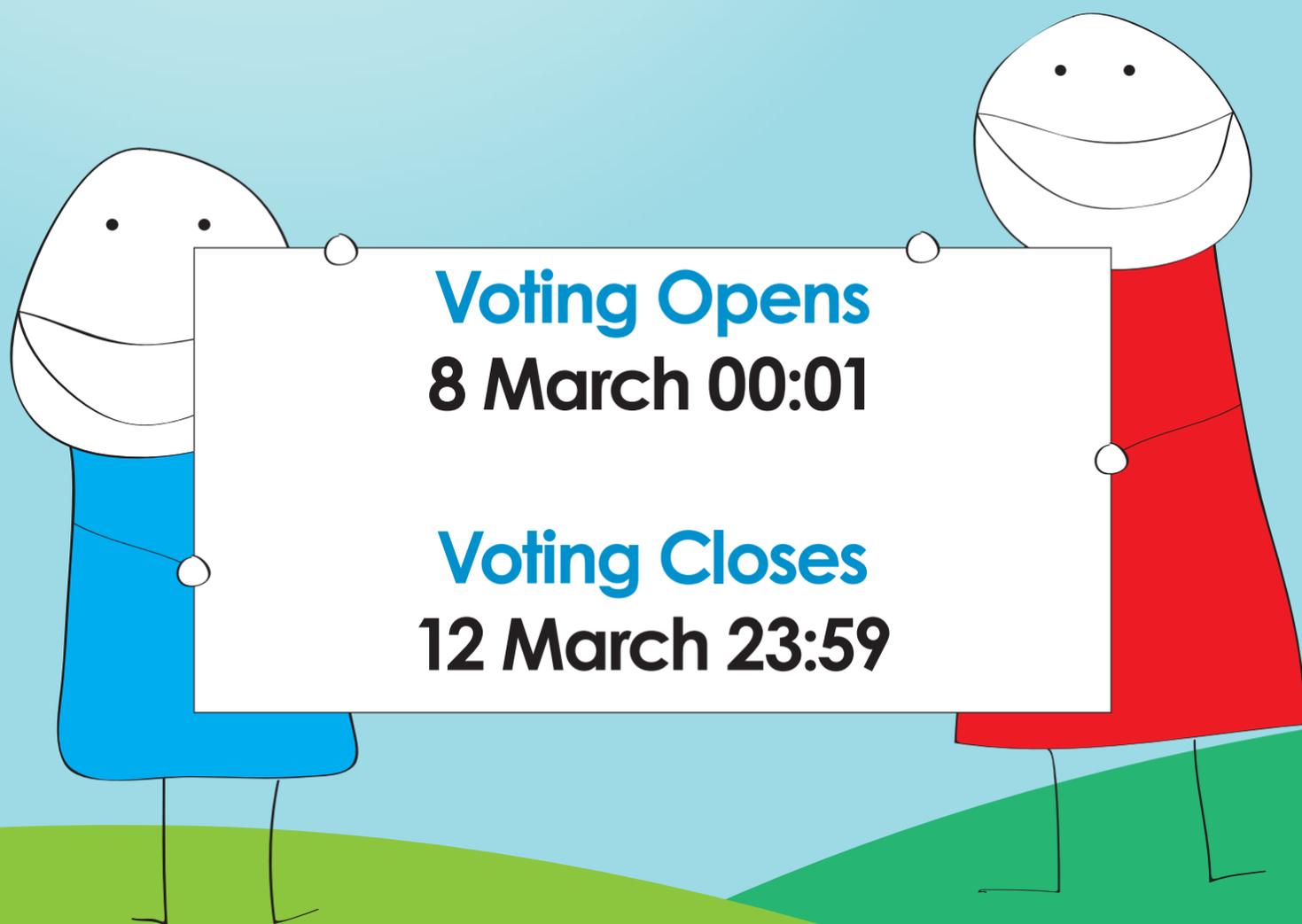
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Sabbatical
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record
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stats during voting!



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Voting opens on Tuesday 8th at 00:01 and closes Saturday 12th at 23:59

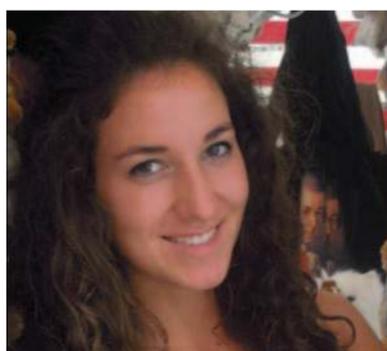
www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections for voting and more info



PRESIDENT

You can also vote to Re-Open Nominations (RON)

Naida Dzigal



During my time at Imperial I've been involved with many clubs, including RAG, Political Philosophy, Tennis, Volleyball and Union Court to name a few. These past 4 years have been an irreplaceable experience of Union life and this is the main reason I've decided to stand for President. I've noticed that the Union can always do more and see next year's Sabbatical team concentrating on:

- Better representing minority and non-represented groups by giving them the support they need (e.g. integrating the GSA into the extensive Union system and along with it, the graduate students);

- Encouraging joint society events in Union facilities in order to encourage dialogue and ideas exchange between clubs and societies.

- Improving the representation and welfare network by advocating its

- role to students at crucial times (e.g. include a list of each student's contact points before they arrive to university: their dep rep, tutors, hall senior, subwarden, Sabbatical Officers, FU committee);

- Adding a forum-style website to Imperial's network where students can evaluate landlords/rent their rooms during the Summer;

- Increasing the student voice with meaningful Union referendums and

easier access to the Union workings. (Felix issue on how the union works)

Finally, the most important role of the President is to promote and advance student interests, their welfare and education without prejudice at all times. Hopefully, you've been convinced that the Union IS its members. The greater the involvement, the more advantageous the outcome, so please do vote; a wasted vote is a mockery of democracy.

Scott Heath



Students need a Union President with great ideas and the ability to implement them. I will bring both of these to our Union.

As the current RCSU President I am the most experienced candidate – I sit on most Union committees and represent 30% of students at Imperial.

When it comes to ideas; I have many. I want the next academic year to be the one where we stop Imperial

providing poor quality food at higher than reasonable prices. I want it to be the year we guarantee value for money for every student in his or her halls of residence. I want it to be the year where your Union makes a Guinness World Record attempt and has bigger names playing in our club.

With me as your President, next year will be the one where we strive for efficiency. I will continue to work towards computerising processes

which will mean student officers can spend less time planning and more time enjoying their activities. I will increase our profits over the summer vacation in order to provide more funding for Clubs and Societies and greater investment in our facilities. I will increase service times so you queue less at the bars and develop a web-based system to help you find part-time work at the Union and in the local area.

This election, only you have the opportunity to allow me to keep taking our union from strength to strength.

Vote Experience. Vote Ideas. Vote Heath.

Danish Khan



Being the Union President is all about making your lives at Imperial easier and more fun and here is what I'm going to do to make Imperial a better experience for you.

Push for a system that will enable Imperial ID cards to be used as a means of payment on campus. I have contacted ICT and Jemma Morris, head of catering operations, who have confirmed that this is possible to implement.

Improving the nights out at Metric with a wider variety of music and better promotion of events to draw a larger crowd. Also I would extend Metric's closing time to at least 3am on weekends.

Have more halal meat available in the university and introduce kosher meat. All the food will also be labelled to make it clear what is kosher and what is halal.

Subsidise selected sports halls

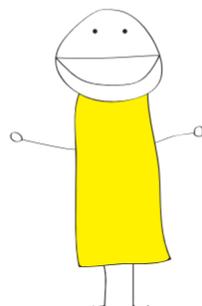
around South Kensington, Fulham, Hammersmith and other areas with a large number of Imperial students. This will help students organise casual events with friends and give societies a wider range of booking options.

Although the incoming President is expected to bring big ideas to the table it is often the small changes that are most noticed. So I also plan to have the library gate open after

11pm, get departments to provide some model answers to past papers, have a regular casual meeting where you can discuss your ideas with me and introduce a games room.

Deputy President

WELFARE



Jehan Pasangha



Hi, I'm a second year bioengineer. I left Sri Lanka only 16 months ago to come to Imperial and have enjoyed every bit of it so far. My involvement with the union started when I joined some clubs and societies before becoming the treasurer of Bioengineering and Everynation Societies. It was only after my election as the union's international officer, that I got involved with the welfare section of the

union and have had the opportunity of working closely with the current DP Welfare. If elected as DPW I will:

- Increase bursaries for home students

- Lobby college to increase bursaries, so that future increase in tuition fees will have minimal effect on students from families with average income.

- Freeze tuition fees for internation-

al students in their year of entry

- Lobby College to freeze tuition fees for international students so that the fees they would pay in their final year would be the same as in their first year.

- Make campaign weeks more effective

- Follow up on surveys carried out this year to find out the effectiveness of campaign weeks and focus more on campaign weeks that address is-

issues students are most ignorant of.

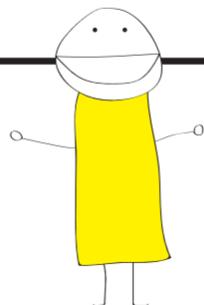
- Support the GSA and clubs & societies to organize social events in summer for post-graduate students.

- I will visit one hall every fortnight and speak to students directly about any issues they face.

- I'm very friendly and approachable, so if you have any questions about my plans please don't hesitate to drop me an email. jcp209@ic.ac.uk

More Deputy President (Welfare) manifestos on the next page

WELFARE



Voting opens on Tuesday 8th at 00:01

www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections
for voting and more info

You can also vote to Re-Open Nominations (RON)

Nicolas Massie



Hello. I'm a fifth year medical student and if you elect me I WILL improve the student experience – from beginning to end. What you need, when you need it. Is he mad? No. I have a plan:

Before they land I will make prospective freshers/PGs more comfortable through a dedicated online forum with a MDT-TM (Mums/DadsTool-TradeMark)

Here I'll support and further Wel-

fare Officer Information packs and training

I'll cut down on but improve Campaign Weeks

I'll set up a Union accommodation website

I'll continue Charlotte-the-current-DPW's efforts in setting up a GUM clinic at the Health Centre

I'll target PGs and ensure that the GSA continues its excellent, though recent efforts.

Things for the after(Imperial)-life

I will revamp volunteering at Imperial College so that you can do what you want to do, despite the closure of the ImperialVolunteerCentre

This sounds like a ridiculous list but it is entirely achievable and I am very open to suggestion. You can tick my online boxes. Over the past five years I have developed an understanding of the student population and of the

Union, first as a member of several different clubs/societies/projects, then as SCC Chair, then CAG Chair this year. In these capacities I've sat on most of the central Union committees (Exec/Council/RWB/CSB/NPC) and am very ready to make a difference full-time. I haven't always aspired to be a Sabb but there is too much work to do to step away now.

Vote NicolasMassie. What you want, when you need it.

Mevani Jagodage



As the current RCSU Welfare Officer, Law Society President and Wilkinson Hall Senior, I come from a Union-based welfare background with experience and new ideas to improve the system. With continuous direct student contact from a variety of backgrounds, approachability is one of my strong attributes.

The current weekly awareness campaigns are not having the desired effects and the welfare ser-

vices are not widely advertised. How many of the 22 welfare services at Imperial can you name? Time, money and effort are put into campaign weeks, for a low turnout, leading to a decrease in our reputation with external organisations.

The welfare structure needs to be changed and I am willing, organised and dedicated to ensure this occurs. If elected, I will ensure:

- A more focused and tailored wel-

fare system to meet the needs of individuals

- Cheaper, healthier and more varied food options including late night food outlets

- Better basic facilities like cleaner toilets and more water fountains on campus

- There is a step towards affordable accommodation near the college for students

- Personal tutors carry out their

roles effectively

- Full implementation of the buddy system

- Every member of the welfare structure, from faculty welfare officers to year reps, is part of one unified welfare system to achieve one goal- improving student satisfaction

Vote Mevani for an enhanced student experience, quality services and approachable friendly care! For more information see www.mevani.com

Deputy President

EDUCATION

Stefan Bauer



During my 4 years at Imperial, I have enjoyed the responsibility of holding many positions in clubs & societies' committees within the Union, such as the Handball Club, the German Society and the ACC and I have grown fond of the college and its students. Now, I want to use my experience and commitment and represent the student body on the highest level.

In the past year, many decisions

have been made that will have a significant impact on student lives in the near future and it is crucial to ensure that everybody gets the best out of their time at Imperial.

The changes to feedback quality and timeliness, including a feedback code of practise have been a step in the right direction, making Imperial a more efficient and dynamic academic environment. I aim to ensure it is implemented to its

full potential and to iron out problems where they may occur, so it can succeed.

Postgraduate representation is important, but there is a long way between the first point of contact and the Sabbatical Officers. Providing a solid PG representation system that works well will help information to flow in both directions more efficiently.

With the upcoming and unavoid-

able increase in tuition fees in 2012, it is important that the university's academic commitment mirrors the financial commitment of the prospective students. It will be crucial to deal with any issues that arise in the forthcoming year with the student body in mind in order to ensure that Imperial stays as good as it is.



Jason Parmar



My name is Jason Parmar and I have what it takes to be the next Deputy President for Education.

I'm currently a Chemistry undergraduate studying towards a four-year degree with Management.

Being an Imperial student isn't the easiest of tasks. It's difficult to balance the demanding workload we get from our respective courses with our other commitments.

The proposed timetabling changes

are something I take very seriously. I will fight to make sure that any changes are effective, yet reasonable, and are in all of our best interests.

If elected I will work with all students and staff to find a timetable structure that fits everyone's needs. We're not all perfect; sometimes we do miss lectures, be it because of the Eyjafjalajökull volcanic eruption or from not knowing your limits the night before.

I believe it's time for us to bring in

recorded podcasts for all our lecture courses.

We study at a world-class university; we deserve to have ALL our lecture material to be of a world-class quality so we can be world-class graduates.

Vote J.P for D.P.E for podcasts of lecture courses.

Vote J.P for D.P.E for better quality lecture notes.

Vote J.P for D.P.E for SOLE to have more of an impact.

Vote J.P for D.P.E for improved coursework and exam feedback.

Vote J.P for D.P.E for your voice to be heard.

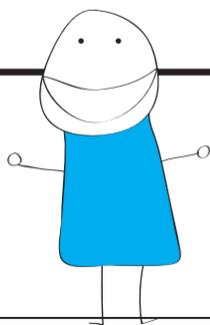
Representing every demographic at Imperial.

Representing you.

Go to http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_202852719741906 or www.twitter.com/votejpfordpe for more information

Voting closes on Saturday 12th at 23:59

www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections
for voting and more info



FINANCES & SERVICES

You can also vote to Re-Open Nominations (RON)

Rebecca Clark



Hello! I'm Rebecca Clark, and I'd like to improve your Union. I'm running for DPFS because I feel that having worked in the Union Finance Office and been part of the SCC Exec, I can be effective in making the real improvements needed in the Clubs' finance system. Further, having organised a large convention, I have the experience as well as the enthusiasm needed to continue improving Union Ents and the Summer

Ball.

With Phase Three finished and the bars open, there is little improvement needed and so I will not make any changes which would disrupt the present high standards of service. I will try to introduce more varied Ents in Metric; extend the Union's kitchen hours and menu; will try and make CID cards valid proof of age (and persuade local pubs to accept them) and will try to further improve

the Summer Ball by providing more dancing.

For Clubs' finances, there are many areas in need of improvement. The finance manuals should be simpler and more accessible, reclaiming VAT should be easy so that clubs stop losing money, and we need much more training for CSC/FU treasurers so that they can better help their clubs. I will get Club finances dealt with online as much as

is possible and make sure that the introduction of BACS reimbursement runs smoothly.

I will also always give as much time as possible to students, since your input is vital to giving you the Union you want!

Michael Foster



In my four years at Imperial, I've twice been president of Ultimate Frisbee and am currently treasurer of the ACC. These roles have provided a deep involvement with Union finances, from knowing the issues faced by clubs to the skills necessary to administer large budgets and group finances. Similarly, I've gained experience in running large events, from weekend-long tournaments to club nights in Metric, including ACC

Bar Nights. If elected to DPFS, I will:

-Install a U-Pay cashless payment system: I will ensure the successful roll-out of cashless payments using your college cards at the Union's bars and retail outlets. This will significantly speed up till service.

-Introduce reformed online Union finances: I know all too well the reams of paperwork clubs, societies and projects have to go through to run their club. By moving more

processes and forms online, I will streamline the Union finance system and make it easier for committees to run their clubs.

-Run more postgraduate events: Working with the GSA, I will continue to increase opportunities for postgraduate involvement in the Union through more events aimed at them.

-Improve service in Metric and 568: The Union has opened fantastic new entertainment venues in the last

year. However, students have complained about the slow service due to the lack of staff. I would make the bars friendlier work environments, to encourage more bar staff to wish to work there, speeding up bar service.

For more, visit tinyurl.com/dpfs2011

Chia Lim



Why DPFS? Throughout my three years in college, I have gained many enjoyable experiences through being involved with the Union. The time has come for me to pay it forward by sharing these experiences with fellow students, and possibly even improving on them. More importantly, this is a most challenging role as it involves being responsible for the finances of a million pound-organisation that seeks to accom-

modate students' needs. I feel that I am up to the task of bringing about potential improvements to the Union.

Why me?

I am highly committed, very driven and learn quickly on the job. My current role as the OSC treasurer involves taking care of the finances and events planning of more than 40 international societies. This is on top of my long history of dealing with money for clubs and societies

since high school. Furthermore, I have also been involved in organizing International Night and Malaysian Night, both of which were very successful. Hence, I believe that I am well-equipped with the necessary skills for DPFS. Besides fulfilling the duties of the current DPFS, I intend to implement the following proposals:

'Finance' Proposal:

1) Dealing with clubs and societ-

ies made me aware of the need for an easily accessible online financial system. This would accelerate the process of claims and reduce the risk of mistakes through paper records.

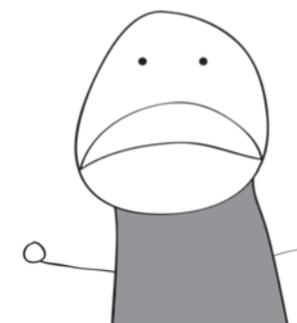
2) Effective training schemes for the committees of societies.

'Services' Proposal:

1) Feedback system that can help me to reach out to students regarding their

VOTE RON

(Re-Open Nominations)

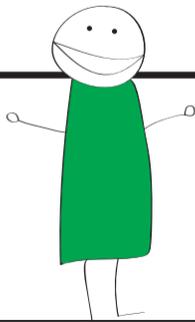


For every election, you will get the chance to vote for RON, which means you think the election should start again with a new set of nominations. Vote for RON if you believe that none of the candidates would be right for the job. Please read the candidates' manifestos

carefully before voting for RON, but do not be afraid of doing so. The ability to say 'none of the above' by voting for RON is a democratic right noticeably absent from other elections in the UK. Since this election uses the STV ranking system, you can vote for RON in any position, ranking it higher than any candidate

who you think is unsuitable. Even if you think the election is a complete farce and the entire Union will come crashing down whatever the result, log on and vote for RON. RON won't directly make the place better, but it will allow time for other candidates to stand, and it certainly won't make the situation worse!

Don't reckon that any of the candidates for any of the positions are good enough? Don't waste your vote! Vote RON!



FELIX EDITOR

Voting opens on Tuesday 8th at 00:01

www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections
for voting and more info

You can also vote to Re-Open Nominations (RON)

Matthew Colvin



Working on Felix over the past two years has been an absolute joy. Joining the heady world of news reporting as a humble fresher was a rush, but once I got going it was - and continues to be - an amazing experience that I genuinely wish more people were involved with. My aims will build on Kadhim's outstanding work this year and oversee the evolution of Felix as a publica-

tion that students of Imperial will continue to have fun reading and helping out with:

-You write it, it goes in. There will be no barriers to student content.

-I will encourage section editors to have regular face-to-face meetings with interested contributors, so that everyone can discuss their sections, get to know each other and bring together everyone's strengths.

-Social events promoting Felix will be held each term in order to keep momentum going and encourage long-term involvement beyond the start of term when interest can quickly fade.

-Videos across sections will be made available online, tying into each week's content - from roving news reports to the latest reviews.

-Felix under my editorship will re-

tain the high standards of reporting it has enjoyed, mixed with its own unique, even better, brand of humour to see you through lectures.

Let's keep breaking down the perception of Felix as an exclusive club because, let's face it, it shouldn't be; it's open to everyone. Let's make it more of a community rather than a club or society.

Alexander Karapetian



My vision for Felix is twofold. A realisation of the growing use of mobile technology for media consumption coupled with experience with software programming enabled me to take the lead in developing a Felix mobile app. I aim to polish the online presence of Felix and give the paper an entry point into the world of mobile media, allowing students to read issues in a manner tailored to

their phones regardless of physical issue availability.

Secondly, I intend to transform the idea of any Imperial student writing for Felix into a reality. I promise to take criticisms from the student body regarding the paper into account, and would invite potential contributors to express interest or submit articles and opinions through a variety of new means, including the website or

aforementioned app. This would be phased in whilst maintaining a high level of approachability and sociability within the Felix image and myself.

Having operated under two Chief Editors during my time in Felix, spending over a year actively assuming the roles of News Reporter, Photographer and Copy Editor, I have gained an overwhelming sense of attachment and pride for the paper.

Assuming the role of News Editor, I have co-managed the section and gained considerable experience with the paper, handling several pages of investigative news and layout every week to ensure the section's production to the highest standard in both content and coverage. I ultimately aspire to bring this to the entire paper, and your vote can make it happen.

Indy Leclercq



I'm a third-year physics student currently on a year abroad in Valencia, Spain. Having been sports editor for Felix last year and a regular Comment contributor this year, I am very familiar with the workings of Felix and am absolutely committed to making an informative but entertaining paper the way students want it.

My campaign is based on three points:

-Firstly, I think that this year's editor is doing a great job and I fully intend to maintain the high level of quality already present in Felix. From this solid base, my aim is to deliver even more content in a variety of sections, from a "numbers of the week" news page to a sports captains "fitness head to head" feature, for example.

-Secondly, I want to emphasize the

importance of student contributions to Felix. I want to get you as involved as possible, using the power of social media but also regular Felix student events (like this year's music nights) so that it's easy to meet the people behind the paper, and get involved yourself.

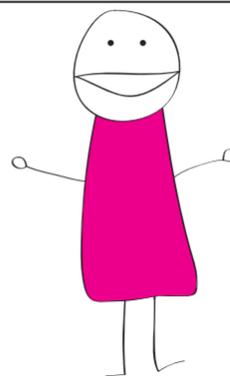
-Finally, my ultimate objective for next year is to make Felix a truly modern newspaper by giving it its

very own mobile app. Interactive and accessible to all, it would be a cutting-edge innovation catering to a tech-savvy student body.

These points are expanded in much more detail at www.voteindy.com. You can also ask me anything in person as I will be in college during the campaign. See you around!

Deputy President

CLUBS & SOCIETIES



Monya Zard



Hi I'm Monya and throughout my 4 years at Imperial I have been ridiculously enthusiastic about Clubs & Societies; holding posts from Secretary of Physoc to ACC Chair. I have shown commitment to supporting club officers, organising events and representing the ACC.

Through my experience, I believe I can improve systems in place for the student officers who dedicate so much time to activities they are pas-

sionate about. And in freeing up more of their time, they can then put more energy into making their club the best it can be. If elected, I promise to:

Improve the experience of club members:

-a combined wet/dry weather plan for Freshers' Fayre

-increase postgrad participation

-ensure members get what they want from clubs

Make activities bigger and better

for Clubs & Societies

-aid smaller clubs in bidding together for Sponsorship

-introduce a club 'health check'

-tackle storage space and the room booking system

Make life easier for Club & Society officers

-continue moving club finances online

-provide CSC/FU officers with more on-the-job training

-train club officers more efficiently fully utilising club handovers

-ensure club officers are recognised for their efforts

I intend to bring new ideas to the role by working to eliminate common problems experienced by all clubs. As ACC Chair I have already proved I have the energy and understanding required for the job (as well as bags of patience!), and I want to take on the challenge of DPCS!

Voting closes on Saturday 12th at 23:59

www.imperialcollegeunion.org/elections
for voting and more info

STUDENT TRUSTEES

You can also vote to Re-Open Nominations (RON)

Joseph Rumer, Kandeegan Gopalakrishnan, Muhammed Khas and Nathaniel Bottrell are also running for Student Trustee but they did not submit manifestos to Felix.

Dominic Andradi-Brown



I would like to be a Student Trustee because over the past three years of volunteering in the Union, I've grown to really care about the Union and Students, and I believe that I have the right experience to become more involved at a higher level.

Being a Student Trustee would be really important for me and if you voted for me I would work hard to make sure the Union is being run in

the interests of everybody and in a cost effective way.

Over the past few years I have been extremely involved in Union Clubs and Societies and taken a very strong interest in Union Policy. Last year I was Chair of Underwater Club. As such, I was involved in major long term financial decisions on the future of the club. This required planning and using money from the Harlington Trust

and other finance sources for major equipment investment (2 boats).

This year I have been on the RCC Exec as Secretary. During my time on the RCC Exec I have ensured that RCC meetings have run smoothly by making certain all papers are circulated in good time, allowing more effective decision making at meetings. I have also helped several clubs with their general finance and writing

their budgets, as well as assisting them in planning their club finances into the future.

My experiences over the past few years have well prepared me with the knowledge and skills required to take on the role of Student Trustee.

Eugene Chang



Hi there! I'm a 2nd year Bioengineering PhD student and did my undergraduate Maths degree here, so I've been around awhile! I have been involved in the Union for many years – serving as club Officer (various, '05 – present), Union Officer (RCC and OSC chair in '07-'08 and '08-'09 respectively), working in Student Activities Centre, sitting on Union Committees (New Clubs, CSB,

Council) and working groups, redrafting Union Policies and even helping to repaint the Union one summer. In addition I spent two years in Pembroge Hall as a sub-warden ('08-'10), liaising with the Union on pastoral care and organising inter-hall events.

I have seen plenty of changes in the Union in the last seven years (such as the entire Union redevelopment), and gained a real insight in to

how the Union works, hierarchically and financially. In particular, I have worked closely with Sabbatical Officers in some aspect for every year since 2005 and have a strong awareness of ideas and projects that have succeeded or failed in the past.

Subsequently, I feel suitably qualified to stand for a position as Trustee of the Union. I strongly believe that continuity, enthusiasm and

experience are key to a successful student-led Union. We already have a great Union and fantastic student officers with great ideas – all we now need as a Trustee is experience and somebody who has been there, done that but still cares passionately about the Union! Please contact me if you have any further questions about my manifesto.

Ravi Pall



Hi, I'm Ravi Pall. You may know me as your Deputy President (Finance & Services). I've been a Student Trustee before and have sat on the Trustee Board all of this year. Being a Student Trustee is about helping to secure the long-term interests of Imperial College Union, to which I will give a definitive student opinion. With my prior experience and my insights to the inner work-

ings of the Union, I will bring a proactive and knowledgeable viewpoint to the Trustee Board. I believe I'm the most qualified person for the job. If you want the Union to deliver on all fronts, including the long-term development of our new bars and nightclub, or simply want someone who actually understands the Union finances, which is very important on the Trustee Board, then I'm your

man. I promise you, my fellow students, that you will be well represented and that the Union will thrive!

Abdul Patel



I am running for a position as a student trustee for one reason and one reason only – you, the people!

I feel the students should have a greater say in decision making regarding the union and the college in general.

The board needs someone that is not afraid to voice what the students are feeling and I believe I am that

person.

I will make myself available to listen to ideas and suggestions from all students. I PROMISE to relay these ideas brought to me to the meetings and I will ensure that they are heard.

I will bring up certain issues that bother a number of students, such as the ETHOS time restrictions, and

I will demand good answers.

I am a firm believer that it should be the people that make the decisions and not just the chiefs on top.

So please vote for me if you want someone that will fight for you and makes sure your voices are heard!

Miles Robertson



In an era of spending cuts and tuition fee rises, the responsibility of the Union to provide good services and value for money is more important than ever before.

Having spent a year as CGCU Events Officer, I am comfortable with being on a committee and making my voice heard. I have also been a hall senior (go HWJ!) and am ad-

ept at communicating and helping resolve students' concerns. ic.ac.uk :-)

It is a cliché but the Union does need to be more transparent. I would help improve this by making links with the student body and helping to answer any queries people may have about the Union.

If anyone has any questions, feel free to contact me at mr3209@ic.ac.uk

Science Editors: **Charlie Harvey**
Kelly Oakes

science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

SCIENCE

Has the Media failed Science?

Sci-Fi Column

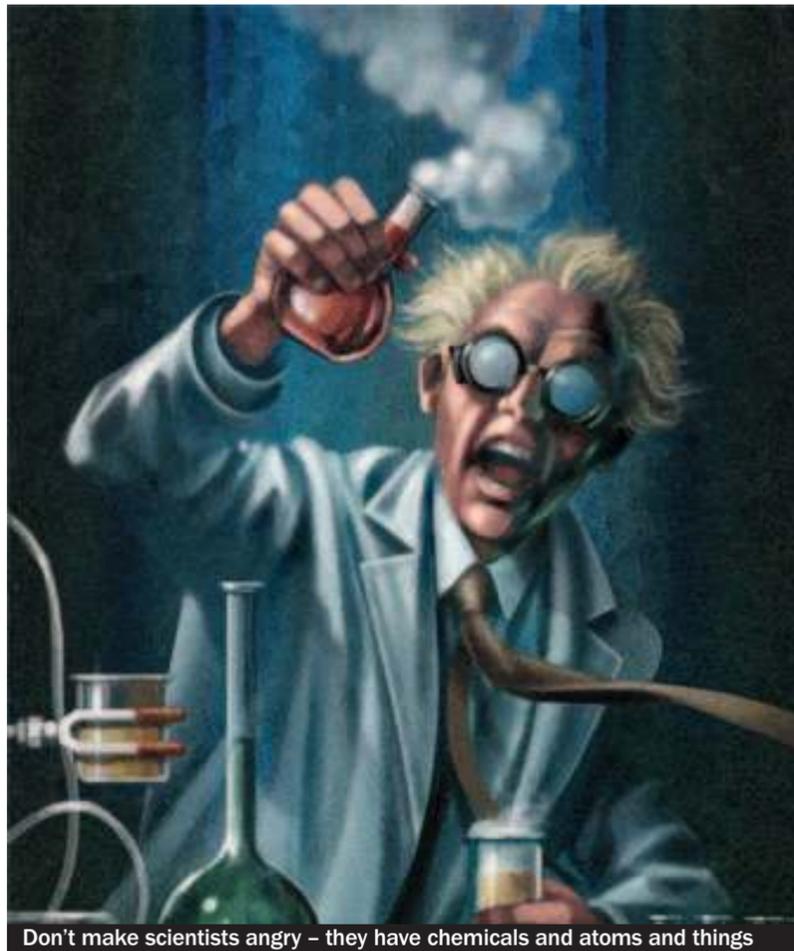
Chris Richardson

This year's BioSoc debate, held last Thursday in the Sir Alexander Fleming Building, turned out a huge success. The provocative debate title 'Has the media failed Science?', albeit a little misleading to the speakers who were expecting some fierce opposition, was always going to invoke some great input from the audience and speakers alike.

The evening kicked off with some great points from the Times Science Correspondent Hannah Devlin, who rightly noted the unfortunate conflict of interest between the two fields of work: science is a discipline of evidence and truth-seeking whereas journalism is very much about sales, and unfortunately those all-too-familiar sensationalist headlines seem to sell all too well.

Next, Imperial alumnus and author Simon Singh shed some light on the importance of accurate representation, refreshingly steering clear of the perhaps slightly over-discussed libel case. After noting such representation as "incredibly important", the audience cackled away to some hilarious anecdotes as, in true Simon Singh style, he recounted the tedious but necessary process of complaining to journalists when they get it catastrophically wrong.

Much to everyone's amusement, Singh recalled being told to "go and fuck yourself" when raising some queries about a rather dubious programme on global warming. Singh then went on to scrutinise the wonderful world of alternative medicine, showing foot-



Don't make scientists angry – they have chemicals and atoms and things

age from a BBC show where a patient undergoes open heart surgery with no general anaesthetic, but via the magic of acupuncture.

Of course the show failed to mention

the incredible doses of powerful sedatives surging through the patient's body – I guess modern medicine isn't so bad after all.

Head of BBC Science, Andrew Co-

hen was the first panel member to flip the question on its head, asking instead 'has science failed the media?' Indeed, scientists could be held accountable for some major media scandals in recent years, such as the alleged links between autism and the MMR vaccine. His general point was that at times both sides have failed to live up to standards for whatever reason, but more recently we've seen progression to a better relationship between the science and media communities.

Gareth Mitchell, a convenor of Imperial's Science Communication MSc, also focussed on modern progression, but this time with reference to social media elements like tweeting and podcasting. Campaigns such as Science is Vital, spearheaded by Imperial's Stephen Curry and others, probably wouldn't be so successful were it not for such tools.

While there is of course still the danger of misinformation being spread, social media now makes it easier for people to better inform the previously ill-informed and point out problems.

A final show of hands requested by Richard Black, who chaired the meeting to perfection, brought us to the realisation that neither science nor the media are to blame, and that this multifactorial issue is certainly improving as we learn from the mistakes of yesterday.

Overall some very interesting discussion from engaging speakers and a very well organised event. Kudos to BioSoc; I, for one, am very much looking forward to next year's debate.

Maciej Matuszewski

I've done very few book reviews over the past few weeks so I thought that I'd remedy this today by reviewing one of the most well known and respected series of science fiction novels: Frank Herbert's *Dune*.

The first *Dune* book follows the fortunes of the Atreides family sent to rule the planet Arrakis, also known as *Dune*, by the galactic emperor. On the face of it, this is a great opportunity as Arrakis is the only source of the valuable spice melange, a potent drug which can drastically increase the human lifespan. The assignment, however, soon turns out to be a trap as the emperor has allied himself with the Atreides' deadly enemies, the Harkonnens, who launch a surprise attack. Duke Leto Atreides is killed and his family flee to the wilderness of the desert planet where they must learn to survive and plot revenge.

Those who haven't read the novel shouldn't be put off by this wholly inadequate description or by David Lynch's distinctly mediocre film adaptation. This is an amazing book, with interesting characters and a complex, rewarding and suspenseful story which, at points, had me literally gasping with surprise.

Herbert's real achievement, however, is in the universe he created in this book. It is rich, detailed and has a well developed back-story. Its centrepiece is of course Arrakis itself, a deeply alien yet realistic feeling place. It is a place where giant worms roam the sand and where water is so scarce that most inhabitants have to wear "stillsuits" which recycle their sweat and urine. The planet's population, the Fremen, are an ancient, proud people who Herbert created using strong Arabic influences. I can think of no other book in the entire genre of science fiction which has as well developed a setting as this. It is certainly on par with even *Lord of The Rings*.

You might have noticed that I've been carefully referring to only the first book. Herbert wrote six *Dune* novels, each worse than the previous one. The plots begin to get far too convoluted, to the point where I barely understood what was going on and the story begins to feel boring. The later novels also have a bizarre and totally unnecessary focus on sex. The graphic sex scene between Duncan and Murbella in 'Heretics of *Dune*' is almost unbearable.

Herbert's death in 1986 left the series unfinished but his son, Brian Herbert, wrote two sequels (as well as countless prequels and even interquels) in partnership with Kevin J. Anderson. While they have been almost universally panned by the critics, they are infinitely better than Frank Herbert's own later work: at least I could find some excitement and follow the plot.

My advice is to read the first book and forget about the rest.

Deep voice sign of shallow personality

Charlie Harvey

Men with deep and manly voices are more likely to be judged as unfaithful by woman, compared to those with a higher vocal register – good news, perhaps, for Joe Pasquale.

The research, published in the journal *Evolutionary Psychology*, also found that women viewed the deeper voices as more sexually attractive. The voices of 49 males were digitally altered to create masculine and feminine versions, which were then rated by female volunteers.

Previous studies have linked testosterone, the male sex hormone, with attractiveness; high levels produce "sexy" features such as a strong chin and brow and larger muscle mass. It is also associated with voice pitch – more testosterone equals a more sonorous tone.

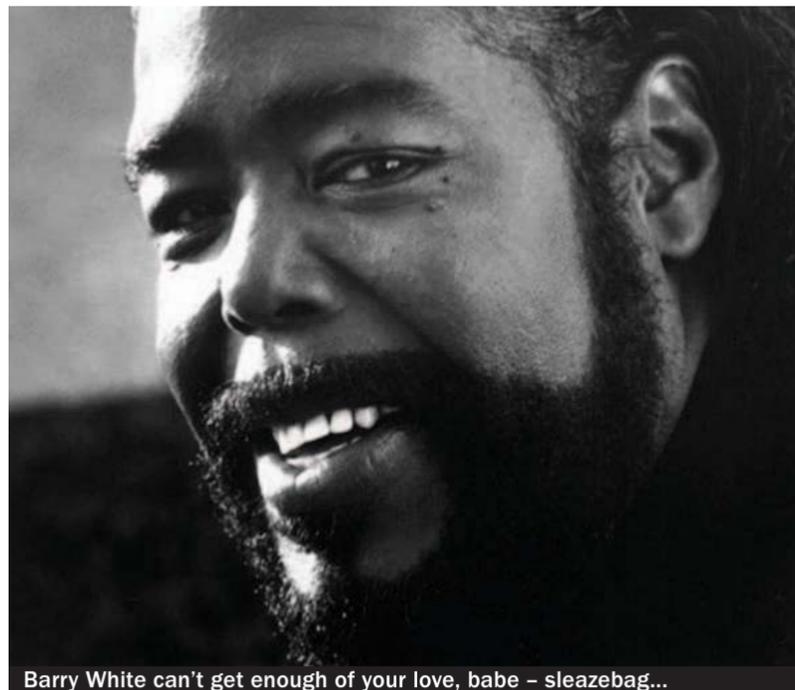
The researchers believe that a deep voice is seen as unfaithful, because these individuals are more sexually at-

tractive, and so more likely to be playing the field.

The study also showed that males are not totally to blame – men viewed woman's voices that were altered to appear more feminine as likely to belong to an unfaithful individual. Oestrogen, like testosterone, is positively associated with attractiveness, and affects the pitch of the voice. In this case, higher oestrogen levels raise the pitch of a voice.

The study highlights a conflict of interest among sexual partners. Each wants the other to remain faithful, while simultaneously being free to pursue others. For males, this is to prevent cuckoldry, while for females it is the risk of STIs that create this demand for faithfulness.

This is the first study to show that voice pitch is but another tool in the arsenal of characteristics that we all use to judge one another's value as a potential sexual partner.



Barry White can't get enough of your love, babe – sleazebag...

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BUSINESS

Business Editors: **Sina Ataherian**
Afonso Campos

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FIG grows by finding eleven more businesses to invest in

The finale to Sina Ataherian's two-part interview with James King, CEO of FIG

In 2009, James King founded Find Invest Grow (FIG). FIG is a young company that funds and supports promising enterprises started-up by university students, including from Imperial College. James currently serves as its CEO. The firm is involved with fifteen different student-led businesses, across a broad range of sectors: sports equipment, online retail, lingerie, and user-generated news.

In part one of the interview, James shared his thoughts on the broader economy, how it is affected by government policy, and how it affects his businesses. In part two, the focus is on FIG as a company, what it does, plans for the future, and James's own thoughts on business.

Felix first interviewed you a year and a half ago. You had three companies but said that number would grow. Have things gone as well as you were expecting?

It certainly has. We are now up to fourteen companies, and recently got our fifteenth. The company that you featured last year (SpineStrength) is doing incredibly well. I thought it would take longer for people to trust us, because it is a big thing. It turns out people really like our business model. We do charge, but from the guys who have the money, the investors, not the guys looking to get money. If a student is looking to raise money, they are not in the best position to pay big fees.

What is so unique about university students that you focus exclusively on them?

The biggest reason is that they should be able to do their own research. You should at least be able to Google your idea. If you are not a university student and you can do that, we will still welcome you, but you will have to push harder to convince us that you can do it. That being said, there are a lot of

"You should at least be able to Google your idea... a lot of university students cannot"

university students who cannot do that. There are also other advantages to being a university student. They have the best resources. They are surrounded by connections. These are very difficult to get if you are not a university student, but it is not impossible.

Many students face a dilemma in deciding whether to start up their own businesses because it would mean missing out on graduate programmes. Do you have any thoughts on that?

I would say go for it. The worst that can happen is the business fails a few years down the line and you go to a graduate programme and start from scratch. It sucks, but on the upside, the business might not fail and you might never have to work again.

Last year you said you were quite keen to work with university entrepreneurship societies. Having becoming more established, has that ceased being a priority?

No, not at all. Next year we will be launching an accreditation scheme. The average turnover of a university society in the UK is three and a bit thousand pounds. The average turnover of an enterprise society is half that. We are going to set up standards to recognise enterprising societies in all areas, not just enterprise societies.

We will advertise to hundreds of universities, telling them that all of their societies may or may not qualify. They will have to submit applications saying how much they turned over and how they did it. The reason why they will have an incentive to do this is because we will give them £10,000. At the next level up, there will be £15,000 for societies that run a few events that show they are enterprising.

Then for the top tier, like the SIFE society at Nottingham University, which turns over £70,000 per year, we will give them the Gold certificate. They will be in the running to win £25,000.

A lot of these enterprise societies are going around saying, 'you join us and you are an entrepreneur.' No, you're not! That does not make any sense. We want them to get out and do enterprising things.

The Imperial Entrepreneurs Society provides networking opportunities



The FIG team is made up of directors who each look after and advise a portfolio of its student-run businesses.

and organises lectures and competitions. Do you think they necessarily need to run enterprises themselves to be able to call themselves enterprise societies?

Yes. Imperial Entrepreneurs' Society is one of the better ones in the country but they are not perfect. They have a good reputation and several of their members have come to FIG with ideas. That is good, but FIG cannot support everybody. For our service to be better, the entrepreneurs' societies need to be better.

They do a lot of networking, which is fine, but it is not everything. At Imperial, you should be able to have that already. There are so many academics here as well, who are easy enough to talk to. You do not need to be shoved into a room and told to meet people, and say, 'here is my business card.' You do not need that.

What someone might need is to hear real stories. The societies can get local businessmen in to talk. Keep things simple. The real entrepreneurs might not have two hours to sit and listen to a lecture, they might have half an hour. It would be great if they could just walk in for half an hour and get out thinking, 'cool, we learned something new.'

This is something we are building into

the awards. To get a gold certificate, societies need to hold a certain number of events every year when their members can say, 'this is my start up, this is what I am working on at the moment.'

There are plenty of societies that just ring up accountants and ask if they can come in and give them a talk. They say yes, they turn up, and they are boring as hell.

There are some really great sets of accountants and lawyers knocking about London. There is Waterfront Solicitors, who are based near London Bridge. The lady who set that up has a great personal entrepreneurial story. But does anyone ever ask her to speak? No, because they pick up the phone and go to PwC.

We are going to insist that societies that apply for our accreditation scheme have at least one business set up by one of their members, because if you do not help to set up any businesses, what is the point? What is the point of being an enterprise society? We had over 3000 people come through our doors with ideas and we have eleven more companies than we did last year. So it is not difficult to get maybe three companies to form with good ideas, so we expect at least one.

Enterprise societies should be looking

to find students with good ideas. They need to come to be brought to the society so they can meet other people with good ideas and be inspired. That is what we are trying to encourage, and why we are offering £55,000 in prizes.

Does running this accreditation scheme suggest that you are looking to expand beyond even your current size?

We just want more to choose from in terms of businesses. At the moment, we get plenty of people coming through and obtaining funding and we cannot charge them because we cannot get involved. The more people we get using our services, the more people we get coming through that we can choose from.

So are you planning to keep your focus on quality over quantity?

Absolutely. If we do expand, it will be on a director basis. Each director looks after five or six businesses. We do not want to have a hundred companies, but maybe thirty companies. We are already halfway there, which is shocking. If we need to get bigger, we will hire more directors. I cannot imagine ever hiring more than ten directors, because I like to be involved, even if I am not directly

BUSINESS

running the business.

In our interview last year, we focused on SpineStrength, a sports equipment business started by Doug Higgins when he played rugby for Imperial College. How is that doing?

SpineStrength is doing very well. It has gained interest from the NFL and several large sports clubs. Doug is currently working with researchers from Imperial College on developing his products. It is now a massively successful company. Doug is happy, taking a salary and building it up.

How much equity has he retained?

Doug has 45%, which is quite a lot, especially given how quickly his company has grown.

One of your other companies, GaBoom, was featured on Dragon's Den but did not receive funding. What did you see that the dragon's did not?

Jess may or may not have already had funding from us for GaBoom when she went on the Den, not that we would use it for free publicity or anything. They

“We had one guy who came in and said what he had done, and literally showed us the back of an envelope.”

could have edited it either way, either to show what actually happened, or to make her look bad, which is what actually happened.

They edited the bit where Deborah Meaden was asking her to change the name to ‘Video Swapper’ because otherwise people would not know what GaBoom meant.

Jess asked about ebay, amazon, yahoo, these famous names that have no relevance to what they do. Anyway, it could have gone either way. It took months to get on the show and in that time she had already raised funding. At the same time, if they made a good offer, she would have discussed it.

How will the fund that you are setting up in the summer to invest directly in FIG seeds affect your business?

It will just make it quicker. We see these companies that are great and only need a hundred grand. In the past there have been situations where myself and the partners have invested our own money, but there are only so many times we can do this.

Setting up this fund will mean being able to tell people that they can start in a week. They might need £300,000 but if we can give them £50,000 that is enough for them to get things moving. Like everything we do, we want this to be a service that we would use ourselves.

So is speed a major factor?

Speed and quality. It might sound clichéd but it is not. If you keep things simple, you can do things incredibly quickly, and yet keep a very high level of quality.

What stage do businesses need to be at before they come to you asking for funding?

We had one guy who came in and said what he had done, and literally showed

us the back of an envelope. We supported him to build a very successful company.

Is he one of your fifteen companies?

Yes, he is very good lad. He came in and we discussed the idea. He did not spend long, maybe ten or fifteen minutes. I said he should put his idea online. It must have taken two or three weeks. Then he had a clear idea and by the end of it we had raised his money.

The obvious question, what advice do you have for students with an idea that they are thinking of turning into a business?

Go for it. Pursue your idea. What is the worst that could happen? Your business fails, and even then, if you are careful, you should avoid going bankrupt.

If you have an idea, analyse it. Do not plough ahead assuming the first idea is right. That is why our website is there. Another thing I would say is, do not think you have made it. Even when you have set up the business, you are still not an entrepreneur.

You are just a guy or a girl with an idea. Make sure you have good friends

around you to ground you. If you say, ‘I am an entrepreneur,’ they should be able to say, ‘shut up. Be quiet.’

When can someone say they are an entrepreneur?

When they have multiple successes. I like to think that an entrepreneur is a risk taker. Some people would also say that an entrepreneur needs to have an innovation.

That innovation can be small. It can just be charging a different price. It is funny how many people go around saying they are entrepreneurs.

Do you have a favourite business out of your FIG seeds?

My personal portfolio. Within that, I really could not say.

In that case, can you tell us whether the best companies in terms of success necessarily the ones you enjoy working with the most?

Yes, maybe not necessarily enjoy working with the most, but excited by the most. The most successful companies are the ones that are so exciting that you feel like you have to work on them.

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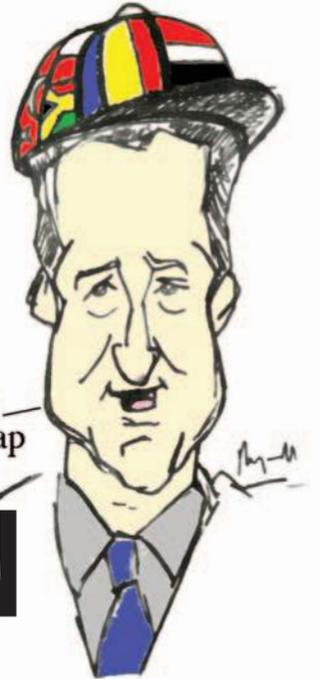
- 16.30 Private Housing Exhibition opens in the Queen's Tower Rooms
- 18.00 Private Housing Talk in the Great Hall
- 19.00 Private Housing Exhibition in the Queen's Tower Rooms continues

POLITICS

Politics Editors: **Rory Fenton**
James Lees, Rajat Jain
 politics.felix@imperial.ac.uk



With David Cameron attacking “state multiculturalism” and introducing an immigration quota, Felix asks:



IS IMMIGRATION A PROBLEM?

Yes – Haralambos Dayantis

Immigration to the UK is increasingly being recognised as a problem, and not just within the Daily Mail’s typical demographic. Research by Ipsos MORI has shown that 71% of people aged 16-24 are concerned about immigration. This should come as no surprise, since figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) show that if immigration levels are not reduced, the UK population will hit 70 million within 20 years. The strain which this will put on the UK’s infrastructure simply cannot be ignored.

Net foreign immigration currently lies at around 200,000 people a year, and ONS figures predict that immigration will account for 68% of population growth within the next two decades. The consequences of increased population should not be lost on London-dwelling students. Overcrowding on public transport will be the least of our worries as the population booms. Increasing demand for housing, healthcare, education and employment will continue to put a strain on both the government and the individual. Competition for places at the most prestigious universities, for places to live and for well-paid jobs can only increase. The implications for current and prospective students are truly dire. Likewise, the pressure on the already overstretched NHS will continue to rise, increasing the burden on doctors, nurses and taxpayers alike.

The implications of mass immigration are not simply practical; they are also cultural. Government projections show that immigration will account for 39% of new households in the next 20

“It often leads to ghettoisation”

years. Already there are over 300 primary schools in the UK where over 70% of students only speak English as a second language, many of them in London. These schools are usually found in areas dominated by one particular ethnic group, such as Bangladeshis in Tower Hamlets, who make up 33% of the borough’s population. It is only natural that immigrants choose to live in areas where many of their neighbours are their countrymen, however, this often leads to ghettoisation and cultural divides. This can be seen on a smaller scale at Imperial itself, with international societies encouraging students of the same nationality to group together socially. Whilst it is perfectly understandable from the individual students’ point of view, it can lead to disharmony within the student body. Of course, the majority of international students integrate perfectly well into the wider community. However, a significant minority rarely venture outside their own ethnic communities, in which English is seldom spoken.

The issue is clearly a controversial one, since many who take a stance against mass immigration are often branded racist by the liberal media. The likes of Nick Griffin and, to a lesser extent, Nigel Farage do the debate no favours with their strong anti-immigration views. Too often, the opinions of sensible individuals with legitimate concerns are tarnished by association with the extreme views of such far-right figures. To accept that immigration is a problem in the UK is not racism; it is simply pragmatism.

No – Tagore Nakornchai

Immigration is a difficult issue to tackle, with little rational debate in the media. The UK, compared to others in Europe, has a lower proportion of recent migrants, yet people are more likely to list it as one of the top concerns facing the country, up there with the economy and crime. The UK has seen, in the last 10 years, the largest wave of net inward migration in its history.

A lot of Britons’ fears about immigration come from the media. The tabloids and Tory right love a good scare and Britons seem to perceive immigration more negatively than continental Europe, even though most countries have a higher foreign born population. The Mail, Express, and Sun compete to splash scare stories about immigrants clogging up NHS wards, causing crime and needing social housing. Most of it is either deliberately misleading, or just completely bollocks – some numbers about the “cost of immigration” trumpeted by The Mail include £1.8 billion for processing asylum seeker applications – something which the UK is obliged to do under international law.

There are good economic reasons for immigration. Migrants tend to be young and productive. Having one of the youngest populations in Western Europe, means the UK is not heading for a demographic calamity where decreasing numbers of young people are supporting increasing numbers of old people. Recent EU migrants pay around a third more tax than they receive in benefits, helping to balance books and contribute to the economy. Migrants are also much more willing to take jobs that

A lot of Britons’ fears about immigration come from the media”

most Britons shun – hard labour is not very popular with a generation of young British workers raised on Xboxes.

Migrants are also needed in some tertiary industries – many postdoctoral researchers are born outside the UK, and the city needs its traders. In most industries in the highly globalized world today, companies don’t want someone who can do the job. They want the best person for the job and that person might not be UK born. There’s a reason why Cameron has been reluctant to fulfil his election pledge to cap immigration – it’s a bad policy, given how much immigrants contribute.

Migrants also enrich Britain’s culture and heritage. Migrant groups have all added their own distinct part to British culture. Curry, dim sum, kebabs have all been brought into the UK via successive groups of immigrants, and are now significant parts of British cuisine. Salman Rushdie is a prolific, though often controversial writer. Given the relatively short time most immigrant communities have been here, they have already left their mark on society in a positive way.

Culturally and economically, immigration has made the UK a richer place. While there are still things to iron out with regards to multiculturalism and integration of new arrivals, continued immigration is a good thing, and much of the debate arises more from tabloid scaremongering rather than genuine negative effects.

Breaking News

Want to hear what Charlie Sheen’s said now? You’ve come to the wrong place.

The Pakistani Minorities Minister, Shahbaz Bhatti has been assassinated. Bhatti, the only Christian member of the Pakistani government had been calling for reforms to the nation’s blasphemy laws. Currently the law calls for the death sentence to any who insults Islam. Bhatti was shot to death on the way to work.

Theresa May proclaimed that pay cuts for police officers were to be an inevitable part of budget cuts. Of the current £11bn police budget, roughly 75% goes on pay. This has made pay reductions likely if Police numbers are to be maintained while taking a 20% budget cut. By law, the Police are not allowed to go on strike.

Libyan forces loyal to Gaddafi began to move into rebel-controlled areas. An oil installation near the town of Brega was taken without fighting, although later in the day rebels claimed to have retaken control. The rebels in Brega are braced for a conflict. Pro-Gaddafi forces aerielly bombarded an arms dump in the city of Ajdabiya.

Westminster Council confiscated Baby Gaga breast milk ice cream sold at a Covent Garden shop. Westminster Council has received several complaints from members of the public, and decided to confiscate the pasteurised breast milk dessert, to see if the milk “was fit for human consumption”

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A young man with dark hair and a slight smile is the central focus. He is shirtless and holding a black tray containing several red and yellow apples. He is standing next to another shirtless man whose back is to the camera. The background is a solid dark blue color. The text 'HOW DO YOU LIKE THEM APPLES?' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the upper right portion of the image.

HOW DO YOU LIKE THEM APPLES?

Do you want to do a centrefold? Email felix@imperial.ac.uk
it's not just for Clubs & Societies!

COMMENT

Comment Editors: **Anna Perman**
Jan Piotrowski

comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

London is a SAD place in winter

Around the world, there prevails the same stereotypical image of London: dark clouds stretching to the horizon, a heavy downpour, men and women in black suits with black umbrellas wading across flooded pavements. But the reality is quite different. Compared with other global cities, rainfall here is pretty unremarkable. New York, Paris, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Singapore all receive far more rain than London.

No, the truly defining characteristic of the London climate is not rain, but cloud. The constant, oppressive blanket of grey, blocking out the sun, casting a feeble half-light.

This is felt most strikingly in the winter. One of the side effects of living so far north is that a winter's day can be as short as eight hours. This, coupled with the almost omnipresent cloud cover, means that it's not uncommon for a Londoner, during the winter, to go several weeks without seeing the sun.

Whether we realise it or not, this has a huge impact. Humans have evolved to naturally depend upon sunlight; extended deprivation has serious effects on both physical and psychological health. Take Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a condition afflicting people all around the world, in which normally healthy individuals experience bouts of severe depression during the winter. Psychiatric jargon aside, we can all relate to the uplifting feeling of waking to a beautiful clear sky, and to the corresponding downer of a dark, overcast morning, so often the lot of us Londoners.

Yet in spite of its desolate winters, London itself is an incredible city. Few places on Earth offer such a wealth and diversity of culture and opportunity. To quote the great writer Samuel Johnson: "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford."

Nevertheless we might, in the harsh months of January and February, find ourselves yearning for a more pleasant, more hospitable climate – something a little less conducive to depression and suicide. In the end though, that wish is self-defeating. Those overcast skies are a vital part of London; they have defined and shaped its character. Without them, sure, we might gain a little more cheerfulness. But we would lose the identity of our city. We would no longer be Londoners, would no longer be living in London.

Also, it's not always this bad. The summer months are truly blessed – blue skies and ten p.m. sunsets. As we drag ourselves out of winter and reach towards spring, we can look forward with some hope: we've rode out the storm, and there are clear skies ahead.

Navid Nabijou

Doctoring the truth

The German secretary of defense has finally stepped down after his PhD was exposed as plagiarised



Nils Hanwahr

The tedious work of assembling footnotes that usually torments scores of postgraduate students and research assistants has suddenly become a matter of national importance in Germany. After extensive passages of plagiarized material were discovered in his PhD dissertation, the German Secretary of Defense Karl Theodor zu Guttenberg resigned this Tuesday morning.

Guttenberg had been the youngest Secretary of Business and Technology at only 37 years of age. When he became Secretary of Defense after the 2009 election, his immense popularity with conservative voters made him a contender to succeed Angela Merkel as Chancellor.

After initial accusations of plagiarism that Guttenberg had dismissed as 'absurd', he recited his familiar canon of conservative values, only to declare shortly after that he would temporarily lay down his Dr. title. Only days later, the website "GuttenPlag Wiki" revealed more passages from the dissertation as plagiarized material, including text from the introduction that had been copied from a newspaper article. So far, passages without correct footnotes have been identified on 271 out of 475 pages – more than 20 percent of the material.

Chancellor Merkel initially countered by saying that she did not need a "research assistant, postgraduate student or PhD", but a Secretary of Defense, dismissing calls for Guttenberg's resignation. Faced with these accusations in a special session of parliament, Guttenberg claimed to have 'unconsciously' copied the texts and excused his errors with the overwhelming pressure he had been under while simultaneously acting as an MP, writing his PhD thesis, and raising a child. Reminding people of his duty to German soldiers, he attempted to deflect attention away from what seemed to be regarded as a 'gentlemen's crime' by the conservative coalition government.

Bundeswehr-Fotos



Arriving at parliament in a fighter jet... eat your heart out Cameron

Having handed back his title to the University of Bayreuth, the storm seemed to subside, after the committee of the university decided not to inquire further into whether he had breached intellectual property rights. That is where academics and students stepped in.

Last weekend, hundreds of students took to the streets in Berlin, waving their shoes in the air in disdain of Guttenberg and calling him 'Dr. ctrl. C'. An open letter posted online by a group of university researchers, calling for the resignation of Guttenberg to save the integrity of German academic standards, has now been signed by more than 50,000 people. Eventually, eminent professors, including Guttenberg's former supervisor Peter Häberle, began to speak, saying that the extent of plagiarism was unacceptable.

Nevertheless, after the resignation, German academia will have to address important issues regarding its postgraduate education processes. Why was the former Defense Secretary's fraud not recognized earlier by the academic committee of the university? How significant was the fact that many academics at Bayreuth had close ties to Guttenberg's political party? And how is it possible that Guttenberg himself seemed to be ignorant of the extent of the plagiarism in his own work?

Many suspect that the 475 page opus

Last weekend, hundreds of students took to the streets calling Guttenberg 'Dr. ctrl. C'

was indeed the work of a hired ghostwriter. Usually, German law dissertations range around 150 pages, often concerning single paragraphs and mainly written for the sake of business-card embellishment. Guttenberg's, however, as with everything he has done in his career, was more ambitious. Already a member of the German Bundestag, he also made use of the parliament's information service. This advisory body of academics and experts supplies reports on a large range of questions upon request by MPs. At least six of these reports appear to have been incorporated into the dissertation without citations.

Chancellor Merkel, as of today, has not commented on the resignation as there is no obvious successor. However, the resignation was an important signal to show that academic standards are not just idle conventions, but laws. Breach of intellectual property rights is more than sloppy editing, it is theft. We should applaud all those German postgraduate students that stood up and insisted on the integrity of academic research.

Have your say on this article at felixonline.co.uk

COMMENT

The opinions expressed on the Comment pages represent the views of the author only.

Lansley's plans will stitch up the NHS



Tagore Nakornchai

“With cost the driving factor, quality of care will suffer”

The NHS is one of Britain's most cherished institutions – pretty much the only thing Labour and the Conservatives agreed on during the general election was the need to safeguard the NHS from budget cuts. It has gone through one of the biggest spending increases in its history.

Yet, despite everything, the NHS is, to put it mildly, mediocre. It scores worse than most developed countries' systems on survival rates and life expectancy.

Furthermore, it is one of the most socialised healthcare schemes in the world – even continental Europe, traditionally much more socially democratic than the UK, has healthcare systems that have more independence and significantly more private involvement.

Most countries have a healthcare market where providers compete for patients by offering better services. This model appears to have inspired the proposed reforms put forward by the Secretary of State for Health Andrew Lansley. The Cabinet minister's reforms are based on

delivering the advantages of market-based mechanisms while retaining the system under state control. The administrative monoliths that are Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities would go, with the money being channeled instead into the GPs.

Devolving spending power to the GPs seems like a good idea; GPs will be able to “pick and choose” between various providers of healthcare in order to pick one most suitable for their individual patients, and the most cost-effective. In theory, this would create a market which would drive down costs and improve performance.

But there have been concerns raised about the system, not least by GPs themselves. Many GPs feel that they already have too much on their hands, and juggling a significant health budget isn't exactly high on their current list of priorities – so they will have to hire a team to handle the budget. In other words, managers. The very people who the Tories are trying to cut out of the loop by abolishing PCTs and SHAs.

With cost the driving factor, quality of care will suffer. Private providers can compete on the same level as public hospitals, which should provide an incentive to strip and pare down costs, or to reduce waiting times.

But stripping down costs means that many GP consortia might avoid paying for patients to have more expensive surgeries done, meaning reduced access to hip replacements and other quality-of-life treatments that many patients have access to now. Furthermore, many private providers will only ever try to compete with the public hospitals on things that can turn them a profit, leaving the existing public providers to pick up the ball on more expensive or less profitable surgeries.

And every contract won by private providers means money that used to go into providing for the public hospitals now going elsewhere. This, in effect, means a budget cut for many hospitals, with some reports saying that dozens of hospitals could be forced to close. Of course, because many of these hospitals

would be in rural areas with no other health facility in the immediate vicinity, they would have to remain open – and that would be at government cost. This could all get expensive very quickly.

NHS reform is needed in order to face the upcoming demographic changes and to bring the UK in line with the rest of Western Europe.

Reforms are needed, but Lansley's fails on many accounts: patient choice is still extremely limited, as it is highly dependent on what their GPs will offer them and would probably even suffer given the need of GPs to cut costs. Private competitors will underfund existing health services, and the “market” would lead to a re-focusing of healthcare towards saving money, rather than, say, curing the patient.

There really is no easy way to reshape and improve the NHS, but a half-arsed step, which brings in a mixed market and basically strips public hospitals of their money and gives it to private healthcare providers is worse than doing nothing at all.

The naked truth...



Alex Nowbar

“As the Felix centrefold teaches us, nudity is no laughing matter”

Ah, *The Full Monty*. No, I'm not talking about today's centerfold (It seems so long since we had one!), but the movie, which was on TV on Monday night. Gritty Northern themes, like unemployment and Sheffield, spruced up with humour – this usually makes for a solid film.

It opens with a brilliantly botched theft of a steel girder from a disused factory, for example. And the quick-witted ego-busting response to “I need an audience” when the protagonist has trouble stripping in front of his son and some of the other lovely male leads – “You need a doctor” – was the point of no return for me, that is, no return to work; I was going to watch the film in its entirety.

Since it features so very briefly, I'll not go into the nakedness theme (‘nudity’ might be the ‘correct’ vocabulary but whatever Trevor; nude sounds vanilla and naked sounds hardcore). For the observant amongst you, you'll notice that's not strictly true – nakedness does feature prominently, even in the title, would you believe it. So let me explain where I'm coming from. I am trying to do some serious analysis-cum-preaching. As the Felix centrefold teaches us, nakedness is no laughing

matter. Yet *The Full Monty* mocks one highly respected art form, interpretive dance; the team interpret Tom Jones's ‘You can leave your hat on’ exquisitely. I respect that.

But I've digressed horribly. We must discuss the soundtrack! I highly recommend ‘Make me smile (Come up and see me)’ courtesy of Steve Harley and the Cockney Rebels. And by “recommend” I mean that if I could, I'd shove this song down your throats. Alternatively you could simply listen to the song by way of watching *The Full Monty* if you haven't already done so. Don't miss ‘Moving on up’ by M People, either! Or Hot Chocolate's one hit wonder, which should go without saying. Shame on you if you don't know their masterpiece.

Then there is the adorable ‘fat bastard’ subplot, which is so heart-warming. This is not sarcasm. To clarify, I cried at that tender moment when he says “Who wants to see this [gesturing at self] dance?” and his wife says “I do.” If I were to take a wife, I'd want one like her, one who would reaffirm my existence. Cynics might suggest that her needs were being provided for elsewhere (with her work colleague) but, in that case, at least she is resourceful. Don't look at me like that, you sexy thing. She is hot stuff. For Sheffield, anyway.

Letter

Reveal the actual cost of halls

Dear Sirs,

I write in reply of last week's article entitled, “Measures to reduce hall rents considered”. I found the content of the article surprising as the cost of rent for both UG and PG students is outrageous. Imperial has lost touch with students and their budgets; the current cost of Southside and Eastside is beyond the scope of the student loan! Additional rent costs seem to have appeared from nowhere over the last 10 years and I think we should be made aware of how these rents are calculated and where the money goes.

In my opinion, the College has lost touch with the people who really matter – the students. Most students don't mind placing a mere 1% of their termly budget into the Halls' amenity funds. They know that they have the opportunity to spend it and organise parties if they want to. They appreciate the pianos, TVs, games consoles that are bought these funds. Very little is spent on alcohol, as Halls try to involve everyone in their events.

Wardening is also an important feature of Imperial, and it makes our halls stand out from the soulless residences of most other Universities in this country.

I feel that to know the “true” break-

down of student rent we need to see all the gory details. Contractors employed by College have some interesting costs, borne by the students: £16 for a light bulb to be changed and £66 for the ‘duty’ engineer to be called to look at a drippy tap.

Furthermore, the Commercial Services team are advising that new changes for limited cleaning and a reduced student experience are made. Part of their annual budget is bolstered by student rent and already this year they have happily spent their budget on gatherings in Eastside! Yet team bonding for Freshers is deemed too expensive? And I am sure that no one wants to live in a foetid room that has barely seen a mop! I would suggest that a wider range of options must be investigated.

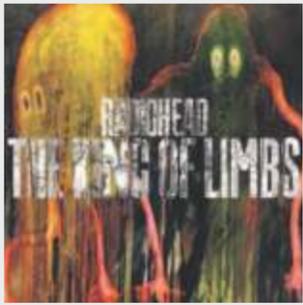
For a fair debate, ALL the costs associated with rent need to be laid bare. A few years ago rents in South Ken were only £90/week, and very little about the amenity funds or Wardening system has changed since then. So what has? Imperial has the power to change the prices to something reasonable, but will they accept the challenge? There are many cuts to make in the whole College system I am sure, but there must be a level of transparency to this before misinformed decisions are made.

Yours Sincerely,
Eleanor Jay

MUSIC

Music Editors: **Greg Power**
Luke Turner
Christopher Walmsley
music.felix@gmail.com

Album of The Week



Radiohead
The King of Limbs
 2011

Yes, this is the same album as before our Daily pull-out, however **Radiohead** are and have always been a band that take time. 'All hail Radiohead' is a far more accurate account, after the initial shock of a new Radiohead album. The album keeps curious, perfect rhythms, clacking throughout, at times rising to the forefront and at times carrying the sound along without even being noticed. The bass is jumpy, bounding quickly and precisely along with the complex percussion. **Radiohead** have experimented with different bass sounds, at times breaking an electronic barrier sounding more minimal than before. With careful use of sampling and echoes they have created a masterpiece. Admittedly there may be the odd poor track, but that's only because you were previously listening to perfection; there needs to be some dynamic or the whole album would suffer. Thom Yorke does as he always has done, descending with haunting energy upon the tight wall of sound. He wails beautiful vocal riffs that play off the angelic resonating soundwaves from various synthesizers. An album of only eight tracks, the wonder that is **Radiohead** have done it again, a delicately crafted album from beautiful musical minds.

Luke Turner

Most listened to this week by Felix Music members on last.fm

1. Radiohead
2. Arcade Fire
3. The Strokes
4. The xx
5. Muse
6. Kanye West
7. Daft Punk
8. Gorillaz
9. Coldplay
10. The Smiths

Join in at: <http://www.last.fm/group/Felix+Music>

Make sure not to miss

Jack Bruce

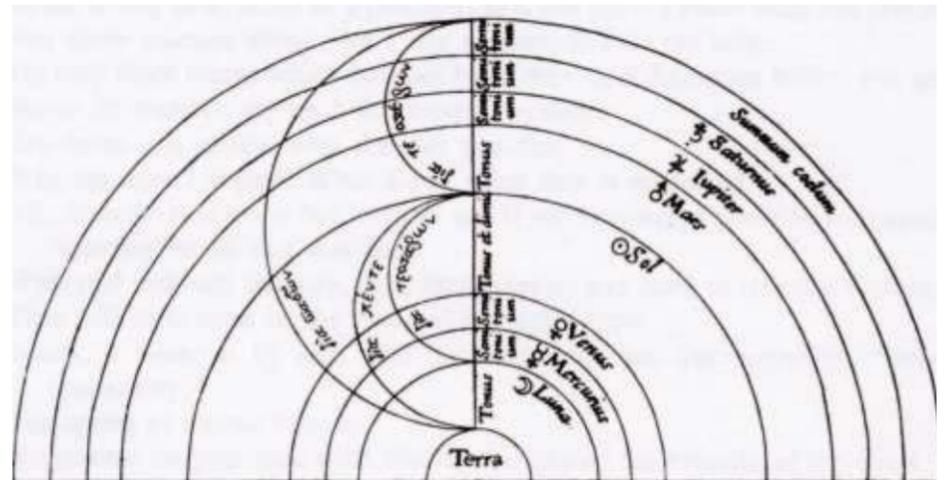
Ronnie Scotts
 Wednesday 9th March 2011

The original bassist from **Cream!**, *Crossroads & Sunshine of my love!* Holy shit! That's right, he's taking to Frith Street's Ronnie Scotts on Wednesday to bring the power of **Cream** through his jazzy basslines, and Ronnie Scotts couldn't be a better place to host him. A bass icon and in fact a rock icon is going to bring it... Are you?

Pythagoras had a theory of music?

The Pythagorean Sourcebook and Library

On planet Earth in 500BC the first non-religious, scientific society was formed by Pythagoras



You can't be serious? Every single arrow missed again? What a fail...

We as human beings cannot help but think. We exist because we think and have an unexplained stream of consciousness that puts us into existence. It is not true to say that without our ability to think intelligently we would not exist; we would simply be unable to explain, or attempt to explain it. So, our cognitive existence is deeply intertwined with our physical existence on planet Earth. Coincidence... possibly, but do we live our lives hoping for coincidence or do we set out at the beginning of each day to develop, open our minds and learn about the beauty that so humbly surrounds us in its quiet, harmonious way.

Many of us nobly dedicate our lives to the sciences and what is real about the world we all occupy, in a quest for some kind of truth, just as Pythagoras did, creating possibly the world's first un-priestly cooperative scientific society approximately 500BC. This is a non-coincidental parallel between the human world thousands of years ago and the human world we all live in now. So what was it that triggered this search in Pythagorean times and what is it that keeps us searching? Perhaps even more importantly why? Is it consciousness itself that creates this perpetual hunt for reason and rhyme, or have we become too complex for our own good and the solutions arise in the simplest of the world's beauties. All we need do now is take a step back from the supply and demand of the economics that we have created or the political rights and wrongs that we live by, seeing as they clearly don't define the type of life I'm getting at.

If we look at the world in a physical way: there is material, energy. This is made up of fundamental particles that have their own individual properties, and these particles working together make up everything in the material world, fact. There are also immaterial phenomena such as waves. Waves and material are just as important

as each other when considering the functionality of our Universe. Waves play their part everywhere and can manifest strongly in some arts; musical waves for example. This type of energy appears to be far too easily overlooked in the importance of life, and the harmony of man within it.

If I was to say, I listened to a song the other day, and this song completely transformed the rhythm that day had previously been beating. This song adjusted my gloomy, pessimistic, frankly dissonant day into a pleasant affair. It was something that emitted hope and encouragement along with immediate satisfaction of sounding beautifully concordant and euphorically cathartic. It is well known that a song has the power to do such a thing; be it because of nostalgia, hormones or chemistry, what we know is that the chemicals that caused this physical change within my body were not present in the sound waves prior to my hearing them. My senses and body acted as some sort of canvas for the raw vibrations to unleash what power they hold.

Considering the above, it all comes down to a vibration. The study of a vibration will reveal harmonics. Harmonics are musically pleasing to the ear, a perfect equilibrium that is clearly audible. The word 'harmony' is frequently used as a co-existing, perfectly balanced state of existence between two or more parties, just like a string. Harmony is a state, and many philosophers believe that a harmonious state is a prerequisite for beauty. Something can only be truly beautiful if it is in a state of perfect harmony. This can be looked upon from the point of view of Earth; the world with all its life is beautiful, and it is harmonious. The higher the degree of beauty, the more harmonious it is in nature. This would explain that beauty is just the material manifestation of the nature of harmony.

Indeed there are some ancient philosophies that attempt to explain harmonic motions of the

planets in our solar system, by observing physical harmonies in planetary motion, the ratios between maximum and minimum angular speeds, and separations between planets. All of these celestial bodies sing, and there are times when more than one sing in harmony. Even more rare are the times when huge quantities sing in perfect concord. I wish not to bring The Divine into this, however, perfect harmony is a measurable phenomena. The complete harmony of our Universe may have only ever occurred once in existence. One point in time when all that is, was perfectly balanced, perfectly harmonious and beauty was at the point of Creation.

Is it that there is a perfect harmony present on Earth that sustains life? Or is the perfect separation (diapason) between the Earth, the Sun and the Stars a cognitive coincidence? The law of octaves is just as important in the periodic table, discovered by Newland, as it is in the composition of a piece of music. Whichever way we look at the world, the beauty of harmony in music exists. It is this purity of the physical world that brings music and science together, undeniably, in its unique chorus of vibrations around us.

Luke Turner



Fractal art using Pythagoras' triangles

MUSIC

Imagination is more important than knowledge, for it is limitless

We're taught that facts are all-important. But we risk forgetting the power of our imagination says **Luke Turner**, as he deciphers John Lennon's 'Imagine'

It must be accepted that we are each unique in completely different ways, physically as well as mentally. Each person has their own personal way of thinking, their own imagination which they control. It can create a world without limits of any sort. To 'Imagine' is simple to do. All you have to accept is that it is through imagination that human progress can be made. Let us say that, the human race is constantly evolving. Be it technologically or mentally, it is happening without us even trying.

Why don't we then attempt to control the direction of our evolution of thought, as we do with material benefits? In first world societies, there is no need to fight one another for food as in the wild, like the cavemen did, because it's provided for us by farmers in a system that has developed over many years. Considering this, it's also not necessary for the selfishness of a human being to be as dominant as it used to be, with respect to the bare necessities of life. We all live on Earth together now, we are no longer striving to survive, we are striving only for money. In fact, if we didn't already work together the world would now fall to pieces.

Lennon said he was a dreamer. He also said he was not alone in his dreams, implying that there is a possibility for people to think in the same way he does. In a less selfish way.

There is an emotion in all of us which is the feeling a child has towards their mother/father/brother/sister. There is something that feels different towards one's own genes. Some call it Love. No matter what it is, it does exist. It's the feeling that causes you to give your life to save that of a sibling or your own child. You wouldn't however, give your life for a friend. Giving your life for someone else has to be a completely selfless action. Say that one boy has 5 brothers, and another boy has 10. These boys would give their lives to save that of their brothers', however one has considerably more brothers. This doesn't mean that his Love has been spread thinner or means less, because he would still die for all 10.

**"Imagine there's no heaven
It's easy if you try
No hell below us
Above us only sky
Imagine all the people
Living for today..."**

**Imagine there's no countries
It isn't hard to do
Nothing to kill or die for
And no religion too
Imagine all the people
Living life in peace..."**

**You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
I hope someday you'll join us
And the world will be as one**

**Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world"**



This must mean that the boy with 5 brothers also has the ability to Love another 5, or 10 even. So this emotion has no limits, in that case, can somebody Love a friend in the same way as a brother? Of course, people get married and love each other so much that they would also die for one another, the ultimate sacrifice.

I believe that with imagination, it would be possible to plant the idea of branching this brotherly love for one within one's own vertical genetic tree, horizontally, to a friend. If this is achieved, we already know that this emotion is limitless and we could evolve to become one.



Music to make you think...

This week's page may be slightly on the philosophical side so you might need some music to help you think.

John Lennon
Imagine

Radiohead
I Will

Coldplay
The Scientist

Bright Eyes
At The Bottom Of Everything

Gil Scott-Heron
The Revolution Will Not Be Televised

Bob Dylan
Masters Of War

The Band
The Weight

The Grateful Dead
St. Stephen

Radiohead
Little By Little

The Beatles
Let It Be

Bon Iver
Bood Bank

Bob Marley
One Love

Black Eyed Peas
Where Is The Love

If you want to share a mind-blowing playlist send it in to music.felix@gmail.com

FILM

Classic Cinema

Blade Runner



A chilling view of Lady Gaga's future

The first time I watched *Blade Runner*, I really didn't like it. One of my relatives had given it to me for my birthday so I felt I had to watch it. I thought it was rubbish; the plot made no sense, the characters were flat and while the atmosphere and soundtrack were both awesome, I nearly gave it to a charity shop.

I now have watched director Ridley Scott's masterpiece five or six times, and love it more each time I see it. The idea is this: Harrison Ford plays Deckard, a detective who specialises in tracking down escaped clones. He has to find a group of clones who are fearsome adversaries: they are specialised for a range of tasks, from combat to seduction.

In this futuristic version of Los Angeles, it's always raining. There are brightly lit signs everywhere, and the air is thick with steam. There are flying cars and adverts for life on off-world colonies. The atmosphere is amazing and unforgettable, aided by a stunning and unforgettable Vangelis soundtrack. Along with the screenplay and a very well put together cast it makes for an unforgettable movie.

There was a lot of drama surrounding the making of this film, however. They ran out of time and money on several occasions, and the crew revolted against Scott. These problems arose from Scott's insistence that everything should be as he wanted. For example, he made one of the stunt team do backflips for an entire night's filming session until he had the perfect shot. One night filming a few seconds of film - no wonder they ran out of money!

The action sequences really are phenomenal. Few will forget the final encounter between Deckard and Roy, the leader of the clones. The action is interspersed by a very intelligent detective story as Deckard hunts the clones. These parts really annoyed me the first time I watched the film as I just didn't get how he worked some things out. For example you really have to be paying attention to what the announcer says in the strip club scene to work out how Deckard finds one of the clones.

If a visually stunning film with great action sequences and a very clever plot isn't enough to make you rush out and watch *Blade Runner*, there is also romance and not a little philosophy: the film investigates what the distinction between a human and a clone is. A word of warning: there are a lot of different versions out there and by all accounts the final cut is the one to go for: no annoying voiceover and digital remastering. All in all, well worth a watch.

By Guy Needham

Give me my Oscar!

Ed Knock examines what the Academy really looks for

The Best Picture Award is the most coveted prize at the Academy Awards and is awarded to the film that Hollywood views as the greatest accomplishment of the past year. It is apparently given to the film that has the greatest script, performances, cinematography, editing and direction but if we look back at all 83 previous winners, what does the Academy really consider when deciding who receives the greatest prize in the film world?

The Feel Good Factor

Although an edgy European film may get rave reviews and clean up all the gongs at Cannes and Berlin, a palm d'Or winner will never usually get a look in at the Oscars. Hollywood doesn't like to venture far from its comfort zone and will always favor an all-American film over a black and white French indie heavy on the existentialism (which French films aren't?). A 'Foreign' film has never one a best picture award, the only other country outside of America to ever have a chance in this category is Britain and we maintain a healthy average of about one win every five years. Impressive when you compare the difference in money in the respective British and American film industries.

And so it happens all too often that the Academy can't get help but get its knickers in a twist over a film that promotes real American values and leaves the audience with wide content grin on their faces; regardless if there were superior films that year. Everybody loves *Morgan Freeman* *The Shawshank Redemption* but it was overshadowed by *Forest Gump*, essentially a nasty piece of right wing propaganda where an imbecile who never questions anything triumphs over those pesky liberals. If audiences love it and the critics agree with them then a shallow 'feel good' film will inevitably be victorious at the Oscars.

The Old Boys Club

Hollywood is a dog eat dog world and aspiring filmmakers will typically end up in an asylum or rehab whilst trying to get a foot in the door. However once you are an established name,

The Old Boys Club Case Study - The Departed

Taxi Driver lost out to Rocky (Eh?), Raging Bull lost out to Ordinary People (unfortunate) and Goodfellas lost out to Dances with Wolves (robbed!). Would Scorsese ever get an Oscar? He should have got one for Raging Bull grumbled Clint Eastwood but when Spielberg, Lucas and Coppola all walked on stage to present the Best Director award in 1996 we all knew who it was going to. *The Departed* bagged best picture as well but is definitely one of Scorsese's weaker films; it's too long, over acted and stuffed full of pointless camera tricks but Hell, he was due an Oscar.



the world is your oyster and studios will have few qualms about greenlighting new films and providing vast budgets. At Oscars the Academy love nothing more than to slap each other on the back and beloved directors with large impressive filmographies eventually eventually find themselves at the Kodak theatre will a shiny statuette in their hands.

That's if you toe the line however, Stanley Kubrick famously fled Hollywood in the sixties and holed himself up in England making fantastic but often controversial films. He shunned Hollywood and as a result never won an Oscar, to this day it's one of the Academy's biggest embarrassments. In the past decade, Danny Boyle, The Coen Brothers, Martin Scorsese, Clint Eastwood and Ridley Scott all had Best Picture Winning Films and it's no coincidence that they were already respected directors.

Whats in Vogue

Although Hollywood likes to reward the 'safe' films, every now and again it needs to blowout the cobwebs and pick an explosive and usually controversial film to prove that it still has the edge when choosing talent. Of course prime opportunities are missed, notoriously *Brokeback Mountain* in 2005 whose gentle tale of a gay relationship ruffled many Republican feathers but ultimately lost out to the self in-

dulgent "We're highlighting racism!" mess of a film that was *Crash*. Traditionally the film festival circuit nurtures independent films, but during the seventies New Wave and Neorealist inspired films dominated the Oscars; Both the *Godfather* films, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *The Deerhunter* were all part of the very fashionable 'New Hollywood' scene.

What's in Vogue Case Study - Midnight Cowboy



The first R-rated film to receive Best Picture and very different from the previous years winner *Oliver!*. *Midnight Cowboy* depicts the friendship between an aspiring gigolo and a small time hustler as they ride the highs and mainly lows of New York's seedy underlife. It's full of profanities, drug references and prostitution and officially marked the end of the dying 'Golden Hollywood' era and the start of the bright fresh cinema of New Hollywood. The film cemented Dustin Hoffman's reputation and kick started Jonny Voight's career.

The Feel Good Factor Case Study - Rocky

The American Dream in a nutshell. *Rocky* follows the fortunes of the underdog who by dedication and hard work earns the respect of the boxing world by lasting fifteen rounds in the ring with a superior heavyweight champion and he gets the girl. It's got strong performances, catchy music and that sodding montage sequence which popular culture will be forever obsessed with.



How long is too long for a sequel?

Jade Hoffman names and shames some of the worst, long-awaited sequels

After the release of *West is West* last Friday was greeted by mostly tepid reviews, it may be disappointing – yet not all that surprising – that the sequel to 1999's critically acclaimed *East is East* fell so flat. It's been 12 years since the low-budget *East is East* stormed British cinema with its heart-warming, brilliantly funny portrayal of a British-Pakistani family living in Salford in the early 1970s and, in its time, it won a good handful of awards including a BAFTA for Best British Film. For its sequel, however, it looks unlikely that any similar levels of success are to be achieved.

Unlike many belated sequels that are cobbled together to cash in a little more on a successful franchise, *West is West* actually features much of the same cast and crew that made its predecessor so well-received. Among others, the pitch-perfect Om Puri and Linda Bassett reprise their roles in this follow-up that, once again, is written by Ayub Khan-Din as based on his own experiences. It looks good on paper, and perhaps would've been a more welcome sight on cinema billboards if this were ten years ago, but with the film industry churning out films so quickly, audiences move on. You need only look at the posters for *West is West* that proclaim its status as "Sequel to smash hit *East is East*!" to realise that they are grasping at straws. Are people still demanding a sequel after twelve years?



Twelve years on and they've still got it...

This is not the only time this kind of pattern has been seen. In recent years, the desperation to snatch back the for-

mer glory of profitable, much-loved franchises has caused the release of films like *TRON: Legacy* and *Indiana*

Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull that, despite taking advantage of modern filmmaking technology, failed to add anything of much value. *TRON* and *Indiana Jones*, which saw their latest installments released after lapses of twenty-eight and nineteen years respectively, were hugely anticipated in the overhyped build-up to their release but invariably had fans leaving cinemas muttering the same old criticism: "it wasn't as good as the original..."

It isn't a strict rule, though, that every film sequel released long after its precursor is going to be underwhelming flop. *The Color of Money*, for example, opened to rave reviews and won an Academy Award for Paul Newman reprising his role from *The Hustler* despite the twenty-five year gap between the two. Not every film, however, is fortunate enough to be graced with the timeless talent of Paul Newman – as fans of the *Rambo* franchise might have released if they bothered to go and watch Sly Stallone's 2008 *Rambo (IV)* that saw Stallone, twenty-years on from *Rambo III* relying on massively cranking up the violence to cover for a lack of quality.

For the most part, it is just a shame that *West is West* and other sequel late-comers don't quite manage to replicate the success of their earlier films and, instead, just tarnish the reputation of the franchise and its crew. Supposedly, a third film is in the pipeline to follow up *West is West* and, whilst we may still hold out hope that it'll be better, it seems

Late sequels: the worst offenders

Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989) vs. *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* (2008)

Rambo III (1988) vs. *Rambo* (2008)

Psycho (1960) vs. *Psycho II* (1983)

The Hustler (1961) vs. *The Color of Money* (1986)

TRON (1982) vs. *TRON: Legacy* (2010)

Gone with the Wind (1936) vs. *Scarlett* (1991)

Bambi (1942) vs. *Bambi II* (2006)

a little unnecessary to keep rehashing the franchise for the sake of it. Surely the talents of those involved with "smash hit" *East is East* would have been better used in something else.

Obscure Japanese *Kamikaze Girls* gets belated praise

Kamikaze Girls

Director Tetsuya Nakashima
Written by Nobara Takemoto (novel), Tetsuya Nakashima (screenplay)

Cast Kyōko Fukada, Anna Tsuchiya and Hiroyuki Miyasako
Release date 2004

Aditya Narayanan

Mention that you've watched a film called *Kamikaze Girls* the first thing people tend to ask is whether you have a fetish for Japanese adult videos. Appearances can be deceptive however, and this adaptation of Novala Takemoto's novel tells the story of the quirky friendship that develops between two girls of vastly differing tastes.

The story begins in medias res, with Momoko (Kyoko Fukada) being thrown

into the air after colliding with a small vegetable truck. Flashing back, we discover her history and the events leading up to this accident. Born in the city of Kobe, she feels like a displaced soul who should have been in Rococo-era France (think Marie Antoinette et al). Her father, a low level gangster who makes a living selling fake designer goods runs into trouble with the local mob and is forced to flee with his daughter in the small town of Shimotsuma, where she is the only 'Lolita' in the village. It is through her desire to fund her fashion by selling her father's counterfeit goods that she meets the tomboyish Ichiko (Anna Tsuchiya in her big screen debut). As a pairing, they seem outrageously mismatched, even for regular 'odd couple' movies. The innocent, aloof girl with a penchant for the frilly, fairy tale dresses of the 'Lolita' style and the thug-

"A prescient commentary on the problems of promoting stereotypes and how they are often wrong."

gish 'Yanki' biker chick put a fresh twist on the genre.

What makes this film different to other stories of its ilk is that it manages to go deeper into the characters and themes prevalent without losing its light-heartedness. The tough Ichiko (whose real name, Ichigo, means

strawberry in Japanese) is the emotional, vulnerable one in the relationship while the self absorbed Momoko exhibits a chilling lack of emotion and borderline viciousness. This serves as a prescient commentary on the problems of promoting stereotypes and how they are, more often than not, wrong. Furthermore, the climactic scene goes on to demonstrate how the selection of friends based on shallow, tribal allegiances is often misguided.

The leads have a lovely chemistry, allowing their characters' respective personalities to blend well, while still appearing to clash. Indeed, it is amusing to note each girl's mutual disdain towards the other's fashion and pastimes, despite the fact both subcultures appear equally ridiculous to the inhabitants of the village. In her first feature film, Tsuchiya is a revelation playing

the aggressive yet sensitive Ichiko and deserves the plaudits she has received for this role. That is not to downplay the excellence of her partner in crime, Fukada.

It should be pointed out that this movie is a comedy, and it is all the more impressive that these interesting aspects have been coaxed out – a testament to the skill of writer/director Tetsuya Nakashima (whose latest film, *Confessions*, was shortlisted for an Oscar nomination). Fans of anime and manga will appreciate the regular use of cartoonish additions to facial expression and slapstick humour and while the language is Japanese, the film's excellent subtitles are more than enough to provide laughter. If there's ever an obscure foreign film that will please both film connoisseurs and average movie-goers alike it is this.

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TELEVISION

Best in Class: Crime

James Simpson on television's best cops, robbers, detectives and con-men

Why is it that we love crime so much? Obviously when one is the victim of such offences (give me five minutes and a rounders bat with the bastard who stole my bike...) it's a little different, but crime fiction persistently tops the books, films and TV charts. It's probably the most popular category of television, all that reality piffle notwithstanding (it's for cretins anyway).

I do question the term 'reality TV' when I see some of the people on the likes Big Brother or I'm a Celebrity who are grossly unrepresentative of reality due to their severely warped minds and the fact that they say 'me' after every sentence which references the personal pronoun. I get annoyed about that, me. Anyway, I do digress.

In order that I might have some explanation to give for the popularity of crime drama here, I have gathered some opinions through the medium of Facebook - apparently it's because "[of] the mystery, and because, as children, we all loved Scooby Doo".

Another contributor, who described himself only as "a youth from Merseyside", was more interested in "tips on how to commit crimes" and a first year computing student who commented: "everyone wants to think of a way of committing the perfect murder, just in case they need it one day..." How lovely.

Author P.D. James is of the opinion that the connection between social classes that a good detective story forms, along with a thrilling perspective of the world which most of us never encounter unless we become entangled with the law, is what makes crime drama so appealing to such a wide range of people.

Also, speaking on Radio 4's Today Programme, the former commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Ian Blair, criticised the level of violence in novels and on screens, along with something he dubbed the 'CSI effect' - the Jury's mal-informed forensic analysis (and probably the belief that the tests are generally conducted by incredibly fit women).



Why does every show potentially look like the Apprentice?

"Sir Ian Blair, criticised the level of violence in novels and on screens"

Lynda La Plante, a renowned script-writer, who joined Blair and James in their discussion, said that she felt as though there should be less violence in crime drama, but that she would carry on writing about what she read in the papers. In the last series written by her and shown on ITV, a top-ten world's-most-wanted criminal escaped custody using a small leisure aircraft and a course of plastic surgery. When has this ever happened?

The BBC's new series Silk is a rather different take on crime drama. It's more

like a courtroom soap opera. Following two barristers, Martha and Clive (Maxine Peake and Rupert Penry-Jones), on their quest for 'silk' - the inside term for becoming a Queen's Counsel. It is unusual in that the clearly guilty characters get off scot-free, leaving one with the faintest dislike for the legal profession.

As this article is supposed to have a theme of 'best in class' I feel obligated to give Spooks a mention. It has now been ten years since the first series was aired, and as the proud owner of every box set, I must say that it's one of the best shows I've ever seen. The only character to survive the entire span of ten series is Harry Peirce (the amazingly authoritative Peter Firth), most of the other characters only last a couple of series - I think that's what keeps it so fresh legit. That being said, the last series, which finished just before Christmas,

was rather disappointing (they turned one of the main characters into a traitor which was horrible!) and there have been rumours of BBC budget cuts bringing the show to an end. Maybe it's better to go out on a high?

Going back to the very first episode is actually rather scary, because they have phones with black and white screens and they still send texts to trigger explosions of various kinds. There is also the heavily recurring incidence of large LCD countdown timers attached to explosive devices, all of which are of course disarmed with seconds to spare (except in the demise of Connie James, slight curveball there).

Overlooking the slight (and major) incongruities with the realm of the real, Spooks is actually just plain brilliance, but don't watch too many at once or you'll run out of fingernails. Start at se-

ries four if you want to see it at its best.

Topping the detective-dramas for 2010 is Luther, the HUGE DCI with the temper to match his physical size. Luther plays the rather typical part of you-know-I'm-right-but-the-rest-of-the-cast-can't-see (known as dramatic irony to the eloquent), which can be slightly frustrating, but at least it keeps the suspense going. There are some truly bilious, graphic murders in this series - including a man who has a cannibalistic fetish but leaves no evidence, so Luther promptly fabricates some, what a lad!

One can't discuss crime drama without giving a mention to the very queen of the genre herself - the formidable Agatha Christie. There's nothing like a good Poirot or Marple to round off a good Sunday evening. Sir Ian Blair is an advocate for the 'toning down' of the violence in more modern crime series to the likes of Christie's twee country murders, or if you watched 'Murder on the Orient Express' at Christmas - just absolute arsewash (of course, that was probably ITV's fault).

If you read my usual column you'll know I have mixed feelings about The Hustle. It's one of those amazing success stories of plot resurrection that seems to work. The team has a brilliant dynamism and although the stories are quite unbelievable, you feel compelled to believe every word - a factor that gives it a certain edge.

A show I've been hoping would return is the BBC's 'Sherlock' starring Benedict Cumberbatch in the title role. Three episodes were broadcast in May 2010 and there have been rumours of a new series coming soon... exciting!

Writing about the 'Best in Class' in Crime Drama to fit in this rather modest space has been quite difficult considering the size of the genre. I wrote of some amazing shows and of some amazing shows, I did not. It's now 2:30AM and I'm just about to go into the kitchen to make my last brew of the day (that's a cup of tea, southerners). I'll send this before I go just in case there are any murderers around...

On the Box tonight

7pm

Dr Who - BBC3

The most recent series gets a second airing before the new one arrives. Mmmmmmm Karren Gillan.

8pm

Mastermind - BBC2

The quiz show for hardcore nutters, I totally own at general knowledge. Come round my house and I'll prove it.

9pm

The Departed - More4

Seriously one of the greatest films of the last decade. I can't recommend enough that you should be watching this.

10pm

The Departed - More4+1

I'm not kidding, you have to watch the departed. It's so so good. The cast is stellar and the script is cast iron.

11pm

Spaced - Dave

Well, you should still be watching The Departed right now, but in case you're not, make sure you catch this instead.

Games Editor: **Simon Worthington**games.felix@imperial.ac.uk

GAMES

Game over for *IC.HACK*

Tackling all those little bugs is the most important step, argues **Michael Cook**

And so we trundle to the end of our experiment in short-term, fast-paced development. In just a few hours a day I've knocked together a rough-but-ready game that's got a little bit of everything, from graphics to level generation. Nothing clever, nothing award-winning, but definitely 'a game'. And in terms of starting off, that's all you can ask for.

Hopefully you took a look at our exciting new level generator yesterday and played around our new lairs. It's time for farewell, and that can only mean one thing – we have to finish this game. I used to think that finishing a game was simple, a heavenly state I would be in if I could ever actually get going with any of my projects. Unfortunately, finishing is one of the hardest bits of development. Today we'll look at why that is.

If you look at where we are with *IC.HACK*, it's tempting to stay in that prototype mindset and see the thing as finished. We've got player characters, enemies, special moves, level generation - everything you need to play a full game. But there's no rounding to it. You might have shown off your game to a friend or two so far, but that's not the same as convincing someone to spend their free time playing it. To get that, you need to polish it, and fill in all those tiny holes you skipped over earlier.

First of all, our game doesn't actually

have proper objectives. The endgame is crucial, for obvious reasons, so we have to add in ending scenarios. But then it gets even more boring - what about players who want to restart? Or return to the main menu? Is there anything we need to clean up or delete in case they try and start the game again?

Finishing a game off is a case of returning to all of those "deal with that later" moments and biting a multitude of bullets. But it's also the final few straits you have to run in order to become an official game developer. Spelunky/Aquaria developer Derek Yu offers a list of things to help developers finish their games on his blog *Make Games*, and my favourite tips I've tried to weave into the days this week – including the 'cut out what you don't need' rule of thumb, and that all important step of actually starting development.

Today's Derek-tip is probably the more depressing one – grind is normal. Grind is what it's about a lot of the time. We started the week prototyping fast and loose, shooting off features like we were in a Western and our gun fired gameplay mechanics for some reason. Now, at the end, it's time to fill in every little bit – writing the menus, the about text, the help, making sure the text is aligned everywhere and the animations synchronise (thankfully, none of that here).

It might, for the first few games you finish at least, also be a time of reflection



on how things went. What would you do differently next time? *IC.HACK* is riddled with problems – a poor collision model, identical enemies and little variation in classes. The maps are a bit aimless and unguided, and there's no inventory (I followed my own rules for once and cut out what I couldn't imple-

ment in time).

But don't be too critical, because ultimately you have developed a game. That's awesome, and not easy either. In fact, despite starting over a dozen projects in the last six months, *IC.HACK* is the most finished of any game I've ever made. Small, ugly, but I'm still proud of

it. And the lessons carry through to the next game too.

Hopefully some of you will have been spurred on to pick up Game Maker over Easter, or beyond, and fiddle about for yourself. I've been considering the idea of a society dedicated to such things at Imperial, perhaps to set up sometime next year; if you'd be interested in being a part of such a thing, please get in touch with me.

Interested or not, though, hopefully you've been playing *IC.HACK*. So next Friday we'll be releasing a brand new version of the game, taking into account some of the suggestions we've received this week. Today's version adds three new degree subjects to the game, but yours may not be in there! Email us with suggestions for new subjects, gameplay changes, or additions and we'll try to include them for next Friday.

Thanks for following and to all who have emailed in. Use imperialgamedev@gmail.com for feedback on today's article or any previous.

DOWNLOAD IC.HACK:sn.im/ichack

Discuss: felixonline.co.uk
Game Maker: sn.im/25gndv

Games That Never Made It #4:

Lord of the Rings: White Council

Thinking of a single reason why they didn't make this game is really hard. If they were worried that it wasn't going to sell enough copies to make it viable I really hope they're reading this because I will commit right here to buying enough copies to make it worth it.

In fact it's hard to find out why they didn't make it – EA just sort of put it on hiatus and never bothered to pick it

up again. They said this was due to a 'management issue' and instead released *Lord of the Rings: Conquest*, something almost as disappointing as the fact there won't be a White Council.

Essentially the game promised to deliver not just what *The Third Age* failed to deliver, but what a lot of RPG's across the field have all failed to do. The idea was simple, a set of story line quests set in an expansive, explorable world with more side quests than a *Fallout: New*

Vegas and *Red Dead Redemption*'s illegitimate (but presumably glorious) love child.

Why would it have worked? IT'S LORD OF THE RINGS! The fact that you have even stopped to read this article informs me quite quickly that you probably like video games, which in turn tells me you love *Lord of the Rings*. In fact, you love it so much that when you watch it you're kind of upset you're not there. And then suddenly, you could

be. You know those really cool named places on the map of *Lord of the Rings* you at some point studied/had on your bedroom wall/is tattooed across your chest? You could totally go there too. *Dragon Age* and so many others have always fell short of what I imagine this to have so nearly been.

Though we still will most likely never see this game, I'm accepting lottery ticket donations if anyone else out there wants to help make it so.

Games That Never Made It #5:

Duke Nukem Forever

Yes, eventually I get to it. Of course, technically speaking this game has been picked up to be carried to completion by Gearbox Studios, mainly by being incredibly famous for just never showing up.

Some of the keener nerds amongst you (I say this as a proud member of the clan) may have seen the graph which demonstrates that in the same time pe-

riod this game was in development both world wars were fought (with enough time left over for a third if we felt like it), the President of the USA changed twice and most of the people who played the previous version moved out of their basements.

However *Duke Nukem Forever* will always be a game synonymous with vapourware because it took – feel free to not forgive the pun – forever. At this point the game has spent twice as long

in development than all the super best games you love so much with more potentially undeserved hype surrounding it than a Peter Kay stand up DVD.

I for one could no longer care whether this game actually ever makes it in to fruition. It already got the people who tried to make it the first time sued – must the cycle of hurt this game inflicts never end?

Of course, despite all of this I'll be celebrating my 62nd birthday waiting

in line outside a Tesco, the only type of store that will exist in this hypothetical future, waiting for my copy. I'll wave when I see you there.



FOOD

Food Editors: **Dana Li**
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Savouring the Tuscan hills

Charles Betts makes us envious with his glorious food escapade

Jukka Vuokko/flickr



I set my eyes on the rolling hills of Tuscany... fear not this isn't the Travel section, but a homage to a haven of awesome Italian food

Quite often, when planning my next holiday, I get all too carried away with the prospect of exciting adventures and wonderful discoveries. I've plodded along on a camel in the Sahara, watched an interesting game of ping-pong in Bangkok, and even catapulted myself out of a plane somewhere in Texas. Rather thrilling, you might think. But no, they were all massively disappointing. It seems that the more exotic the holiday, the more vile the cooking. Travelling isn't pleasant when the cooking is bad, especially when you spend more time on the loo than off it.

So for my most recent trip, my planning focused on food. I've just got back from Tuscany, and it's all been terribly bourgeois. Winter is the best time to visit as there are no bus-loads of arse-scratching sweaty tourists, no sweltering temperatures, and no air-conditioning; just stunning vistas of green hills, vineyards and olive groves, with no annoyances, no incessant clicking of cameras, and no shouting and glacial shrieks of "Parlare English?"

It was in the lovely town of Volterra (Editor's note: where poor Edward went to kill himself? Le Sigh.) that I stumbled across a restaurant that offers everything



Italy, where there is great food and a promiscuous PM roaming around...

"Travelling isn't pleasant when the cooking is bad, especially when you spend more time on the loo than off it."

Tuscan cuisine should be. Where tourist traps are countless, **Del Duca** offers a welcome respite with perfectly *al dente papardelle*, scrumptious wild boar ham, and best of all, heaven of heavens, fillet with black truffles.

The staff are charming. You don't get the feeling that you're being robbed, or being charged £100 for a plate of pasta. Del Duca strikes a fine balance between genuine, simple Italian home cooking and the rip-off, pretentiously crap restaurants that relish devouring the aforementioned arse-scratching tourists.

You can feast on rabbit, *ossobucco* (cross-cut veal shanks braised with vegetables, wine and broth), and the best tasting ravioli you'll bloody eat – be it stuffed with truffles, nettles, or pecorino.

The place has a cellar divided into two sections: one for seasoning hams and cheeses; the other for storing wine. And, ooh, what a wine list! It's simply terrific, with every variety of Tuscan wine that you can fathom: *Chianti Classico*, *Brunello di Montalcino*, *Vernaccia*, even the stonkingly expensive "Super Tuscan" *Sassicaia*. And if that's not enough, they stock stuff from Abruzzo, Piemonte, Sicily, Marche, Molise and, ahem, France.

The only pit-fall is the lack of any decent fish on the menu. But then, this is a restaurant that serves local produce that's in season. Forget strawberries in December, or Porcini mushrooms in the Spring. This is where you get your *bruschette* with proper red, juicy tomatoes bursting with flavour, and your T-bone steak honestly cooked on the grill with salt, pepper, and oil. If you want fish, go to a seaside town.

Tuscany is just about the only place I'll bother visiting again. Goddamnit, how many places did I have to travel to before discovering this culinary temple? How many stupid, long haul, nose-

pickingly dull flights did I have to sit through? I should have known sooner, how was I so stupid? Yes, Greece has the Acropolis of Athens, New York its skyscrapers, Australia the Great Barrier Reef. But when it comes to food, Italians do it best.

Ristorante – *Enoteca Del Duca*
Via di Castello 2,
56048 – Volterra – Toscana
tel. +39 0588 81510

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I am horrified by the stodge that is passed off as food in some of Britain's institutions today."

– Heston Blumenthal

FOODCYCLE & Tom Aikens

A collaboration is happening between Foodcycle, a charity devoted to tackling the 8.3m tones of food we throw away in the UK, Whole Foods Market Kensington and Michelin-star chef Tom Aikens.

Imperial is 1 of 13 branches nationwide dedicated to the cause, run by students.

Tom Aikens, from Channel 4's Iron Chef UK, is keen to tackle the problem of food poverty and food waste in the UK and on March 21st. Two lucky winners and their guests will have dinner cooked for them by the young chef to raise funds.

Tickets for the three-course meal, which will be held at Whole Foods, in their "Room With A View", are already on sale for this event at £5. Winners will be announced on March 14th 2011.

Buy your tickets today:
<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/ICFCdinnerbyTomAikens>

Vegetable Lasagne

We're spreading the love for vegetarians!

Stephen Smith

It is an unfortunately ubiquitous belief amongst non-vegetarian cooks that vegetables are an accompaniment to a meal rather than a meal in themselves. This means that meatless dishes can often go catastrophically wrong.

Vegetable lasagne is one of the most standard dishes there is and yet it is so very rarely done well. The problem is that cooks tend to make up for the absence of meat by adding as many vegetables as they can find. This results in a messy, cramped meal with far too many flavours mingling together. On many occasions I have ordered a vegetable lasagne in restaurants, awaited it with much excitement, only to be disappointed when what arrives is a soggy mixture of tiny quantities of aubergine, courgette, carrot, onion, pepper, tomato, fennel and squash. No vegetable is present in sufficient abundance to make an impact. From a vegetarian perspective it must be something akin to a cook making lasagne with small portions of lamb, beef, pork and chicken. Here, I'll show you

"I'll show you how to transform your cramped vegetable lasagne into a thing of simple beauty."

how to transform your cramped vegetable lasagne into a thing of simple beauty.

To make this well, you need to be picky about which vegetables you want to use. I would recommend a maximum of three; any more and you risk having such a mix of flavours that the lasagne doesn't actually taste of anything at all.

This is a recipe for a simple lasagne with two vegetables: spinach and butternut squash. Don't go thinking that these are randomly selected, some thought must go into considering which flavours work well together. Squash and sage are fantastic together, giving a sweet, warming sensation. On the other hand, spinach and mascarpone complement each other sublimely to give a sharp, almost metallic feel. Combined, the flavours give a very full flavour, and being only four in number, all the flavours are distinguishable. If you wish, you could replace the squash with a pumpkin or other member of the squash family, apart from courgettes since they are too weakly flavoured. You could also use ricotta (or any other very creamy and mild cheese) instead of mascarpone. Frozen spinach is fine for this, though fresh spinach has the advantage of a new texture to add to the mix. I would also recommend getting hold of some Lasagne Verdi (Green Lasagne) which is aptly coloured with spinach (priced the same as normal lasagne in Sainsbury's). This adds an interesting visual touch and will surprise anyone who has never seen it before.

When it comes to adding seasonings, I have not included quantities since this is very much down to personal preference. Use common sense. To phrase it unnecessarily complicatedly, add enough pepper so that you can taste the pepper but not so much that it tastes of it. This recipe makes enough for about 6 people (or 4 hungry people).

Canola Growers/flickr



You're gonna make your Italian mama proud, and eat this whole dish of vegetable lasagne...

Ingredients

125g Lasagne (about 6 sheets)
450g Spinach
450g Mascarpone
450g Butternut Squash
2 eggs
175g grated Cheddar (or Edam)
Some Butter
Seasonings: Pepper, Sage, Thyme

Set the oven to 180°C (gas mark 4).
Chop the squash into cubes of ~2cm,
then steam in a sieve over boiling water

until soft enough to eat (about 15 mins).

Melt the butter in a frying pan, then add about 1 tbsp sage and mix briefly before adding the squash cubes. Fry until the cubes are coated in butter and sage (about 5 minutes). Set aside to cool.

If using fresh spinach, wash it under a tap, then, without drying the leaves, place in a covered saucepan on a medium heat for 7-10 minutes or until tender. Don't add water. Then drain and leave to cool. (If using frozen spinach, heat in a pan until no ice remains).

Mix the mascarpone in a large bowl with the eggs, thyme and pepper.

Layer half the spinach on the bottom of the baking dish, followed by half the squash and half the mascarpone mixture, then layer half the spinach. Repeat. Spread a small quantity of mascarpone mixture onto the top layer of lasagne so it is entirely, thinly, covered. Grate the cheddar on top of this.

Bake for ~35 minutes or until the cheese starts to brown. Be careful not to let the cheese burn. Serve immediately.

Ciccetti: the Italian gastro-fad

REVIEW: **BOCCA DI LUPO** BY DANA LI

foodieguides/flickr



Best view: the kitchen... or watching men who can cook

Italian food is probably the cuisine that serves the most disparity in London. The big giants like Pizza Express, ASK and Zizzi lure the indifferent diners with their attractive 2-for-1 deals, but what say you to pasta that is freshly made on the day and pesto that is so brilliant, even Berlusconi might be distracted from his loins for a brief moment.

Say hello to Polpo, Polpetto, Bocca di Lupo and soon (more precisely on March 14), Spuntino. For all it's worth, I may just be throwing Italian nonsense at you, but these spell out the growing line of restaurants that are catering to the booming fashion for *ciccetti*, meaning Italian tapas.

Gone are the days where you sit with your fork twirling through stodgy spaghetti and yearn the moment you can be finished with the bland tomato sauce that reminds you of the Tesco value Spag Bol you thought was already a distant memory.

Resembling a more authentic Italian experience, the concept of *ciccetti* al-

lows for ordering of more dishes, and a whole lot of sharing. Boy would Joey Tribbiani disapprove.

When faced with a menu like that at **Bocca di Lupo**, the meal is what you make it. Fancy a shaved radish, celebric and pecorino salad with pomegranates and truffle oil? Yes please. A dish of fried prawns, baby squid, blood orange and white *polenta*? A large portion would do me fine. That's the beauty of it all. You can opt for a larger portion when something really takes your fancy, or a small if you've never heard what *polenta* is but you're willing to take the first step in this beautiful relationship.

If you're one to eat, dream and breathe pasta, the *papardelle* at Bocca di Lupo is quite simply heaven on earth. Rarely can

"Boy would Joey Tribbiani disapprove"

you find fresh pasta as silky as this, that is, unless you take the advice of Charles Betts and hop aboard a plane to the land of the Pope. The option of taking a small-sized dish also means that pasta doesn't have to formulate the main dish of your evening.

Every dish is labelled with its region, and the dishes on the menu constantly rotate depending on what is seasonal, as I found out when I visited in January. The blood oranges that are now making an appearance in the atrium of Whole Foods, were just arriving from Italy. Carbon footprint, whatever.

With a fourteen-strong dessert menu, everybody who plans to visit Bocca should leave stomach space for the brioche 'sandwich' of pistachio, chestnut & hazelnut gelati - the ice-cream burger as I like to call it. The gelato may not rate as highly as that of Amorino in my opinion, but hey, it's an ice-cream burger!

Bocca di Lupo 12 Archer St, London W1D 7BB. www.boccadilupo.com

TRAVEL

Travel Editors: **Chris Richardson**
Dylan Lowe

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European playground exposed

Dylan Lowe
Chris Richardson

The lowdown: Once the playground of Romans and feudal lords alike, modern Europe is now flocked by visitors pursuing the delights it has to offer. The diversity of cultures, languages, history, cuisine and so on are reasons us Brits should roam our continental neighbours.

Culture: To say the least, it varies. From the Nordics to the Romanic Mediterranean coasts, from the Iberian Peninsula to the Eastern Slavic nations, Europe's appeal lies with its cultural diversity.

Costs: Relatively expensive, considering the current exchange rate. Rule of thumb: prices decrease the further east you go – though this doesn't apply in Russia – and the farther out of cities you get.

Cuisine: Same as culture. Especially judging by its geographic disparity, what the land and sea yield tend to be unique from region to region. Brave up and sample unheard-of delicacies. Savour stereotyped dishes – you'll be surprised how gorgeous they taste when done the correct way.



Must see: Hustle-and-bustle of Madrid, Spain's capital, for a taste of Spanish dynamism, finest gastronomy and *la vida Española*

Viva la España

It's official: Spain *is* cool. Forget about Costa del Sol and Ibiza, lazing on beaches and gallons of sangria – a football world cup win later it seems like the world's fascination for *España* has been revived. Flocks of culture-pilgrims now visit Spain in order to immerse themselves in its rich history, art, architecture and gastronomy; and although Spain's regional diversity often threatens its national integrity, it may be interpreted as cultural variety for her visitors' enjoyment.

Accommodation: Choices are aplenty. Hostel-living is an ideal budget option – often housed in magnificent historical buildings adjoined with Moorish and Hispanic influences – though increasingly rare the further away one goes from cities. A 'hostal' is in between a hotel and hostel - inexpensive guest houses often making a comfy lodging.

Food: The French should be embarrassed when their prized Michelin Stars were snatched *en masse* by Spanish chefs – indeed, Ferran Adrià's 'El Bulli' is considered as the best restaurant in the entire world. The tapas culture reigns supreme in Spain and sets to wow your palate with economical platters of sheer delight. Booze-wise, the Spanish know their quality control – be impressed by their artisan approach to wine, beer, sherry and cider.

Activities: Hit the beaches by all means, but resist not the viscous allure of the Spanish culture. Architecture and historical sites aside, bull-fights and football games spell out the Spaniards' love for a spectacle. Participate in crazy fiestas such as La Tomatina.

Polski Gabolski

The shadow of WWII and Soviet rule has barely lifted, yet Poland's reputation as a budget traveller's destination has flourished. Cheap, tourism-friendly, must-do's aplenty – the Central European country ticks every box. Its history meant traces of turbulence was carved onto every structure, which meant no shortages of attractions for those hoping to engross in the authentic European culture.

Accommodation: Hostelling is fast becoming the trend and so abundances of hostels will be found in the likes of Warsaw and Krakow. Many large-scaled hostels accommodate young families and so curfews may be imposed. Further away from the major cities, rely on guest houses for your kipping needs.

Food: Polish cuisine varies drastically from place to place, often a distinction between wealth and poverty. Owing to the hardship suffered in the past half-century, the people have mastered transforming simple, common ingredients such as root vegetables and cabbage into lavish tongue-teasers. Pierogi is the uncontested national dish.

Activities: The wow-factor exists in more places than you may bargain for. The Jagiellonian University in Krakow, one of the oldest in the world, co-exists with an amber royal palace and a fire-breathing dragon statue. The Wieliczka Salt Mine, 300km in length, is an underground wonder that boasts grandiose rock salt caverns and statues. Though not for the faint-hearted, every Holocaust pilgrim must visit Auschwitz and be overwhelmed by the sheer poignancy of the former Jewish death camp.

The mighty potty Dam

Talk Holland and be directed to Amsterdam – this metropolitan hub is on everyone's to-do list for a good reason. The liberal Dutch will challenge your attitudes and show you that there's more to the city than mere coffee shops.

Accommodation: Any of the hostels on the streets surrounding Dam Square are perfectly located for public transport, evening entertainment and coffee shops. The city's resident St. Christopher's Inn is highly recommended as a great place to meet people.

Food: Steer clear of pricey food aimed at those with the munchies. There are plenty of great traditional pubs around: check out 'bitterballen' fried meatballs with a 'witbeer', because there's far more to Amsterdam than McDonalds and Heineken.

Transport: Grab a map and explore the city by bicycle, but take particular care to avoid cycling into tram tracks! Day and weekly passes can be purchased for the trams if you're venturing out further. The city centre is very small so as long as the weather's bearable, your stoned legs should be able to handle it.

Activities: Ask at your hostel about the free walking tours of the city and pick up some interesting facts, check out the abundance of great street art, and unwind on a boat ride through the canals. Take the time to visit the Anne Frank House and the various impressive religious buildings. Waste your days in coffeeshops, giggle your way through the sex museum and wind up in the red light district in search of love.

Germanic Grandeur

If your previous memory of Germany sprang from your last school language exchange, and distaste is all you have in store for all things German, then you're dearly mistaken. This European country fulfils every need of the apprentice backpacker – rich culture and heritage similar to ours, friendly English-speaking natives, staggering architecture. And did I mention that beer remains cheaper than water?

Accommodation: As a beginner-level budget travellers' destination, seeking good quality hostels and low-cost guest houses presents no difficulty. Though shared accommodation does combine with abundances of alcohol to produce a bastard son: late-night drunken rowdiness.

Food: The standard affairs of international fast food chains are adherently cemented to the German society. That doesn't mean, however, food characteristically German is entirely absent. The German sausage may have succumbed to stereotyping, yet it is a hearty dish that varies from region to region in flavour. Meat is heavily featured in menus – try the *schweinshaxe*, or the best roasted-to-perfection crispy pork knuckle ever created.

Activities: Despite the substantial rub that is Germany's high living costs, there are no shortages of sites and activities to keep tourists sufficiently entertained. Every major city has their star attractions: Berlin has its wall and party vibe, Cologne its carnival, Munich its Oktoberfest. For the outdoor-types hiking in scenic Bavaria, sandboarding on Monte Kaolino and heli-bungee might tickle your fancy.



Puzzles Editors: **Polly Bennett**
James Hook
Aman Nahar
 puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk

PUZZLES

The Serpent - The End of Our Woes

	7	4	4	6	5	4	6	4	2	3
4	1									
6										
6										
1										
8										
5										
1										
5										
3										
6									45	

A serpent lurks in the grid and its segments are numbered 1 to 45. Each segment is linked to its previous one either horizontally or vertically. The serpent does not cross itself, nor do different parts of the serpent touch, not even diagonally.

The numbers at the ends of the rows and columns indicate how many segments of the serpent there are in total. From this given information, can you work out the location of the serpent?

The red square should lead you to the whereabouts of our editor, if you think about it...

I couldn't believe it. Polly Bennett, a puzzles editor, was responsible for this foul deed!!!

"What made you do such a cruel thing?" I asked cheesily. "Start car, lacking in malice (7), of course" Revenge...Obviously.

"But these were such extreme lengths to go to!" I wailed. "If it wasn't for the good people of Imperial sending in these puzzle solutions to point to the kidnapper, then who knows what could have transpired!"

"Isn't it fairly easy to figure out?" Polly retorted. "I was the one giving hints to you this whole time. I just wanted to send a message to the editor that we will not stand for this Daily nonsense! I was always planning to release him later. Nonetheless, I needed you to figure it out because I knew you'd be too busy doing crosswords to call the police like a sensible person.

"I see...So, one question remains. Where is Kadhim now?" "Somewhere in Imperial. Here, this should help you figure it out"

She chucked a piece of paper at me. I unfolded it and gazed at the contents. It was a blank grid that read "The Serpent". But when I looked up again, Polly was gone, perhaps to distribute puzzles in far off lands. Hopefully for us, this Daily nightmare had finally drawn to a close.

Word Hunt

	P	R	I	N	C	E	S	S	Q	C
	B	S	S	E	H	C	U	D	O	B
1.	A	U	A	N	A	T	L	U	S	A
2.	X	D	T	J	F	D	N	W	E	R
3.	Z	L	U	T	O	T	F	O	L	O
4.	N	O	B	L	E	W	O	M	A	N
5.	G	A	L	S	T	R	D	A	M	E
6.	M	I	S	S	U	S	F	N	E	S
7.	E	M	P	R	E	S	S	L	F	S
8.	S	S	E	R	T	S	I	M	Y	M

1. Adult
2. Baroness
3. Butterfly
4. Countess
5. Dame
6. Doll
7. Duchess
8. Empress
9. Female
10. Gal
11. Missus
12. Mistress
13. Noblewoman
14. Old
15. Princess
16. Sultana
17. Woman

Yesterday's Solutions

Codeword

B	R	A	N	C	H	U	P	D	A	T	E
E	D	Y	L	J	L						
M	O	V	E	S	C	A	P	A	D	E	
U	O	N	I	R	V						
S	A	C	C	H	A	R	I	N			
E	A	E	H	T	R	A	I	N			
T	A	L	I	B	I	Q					
S	T	E	E	D	N	F	U	Z			
C					S	N	O	W	F	L	A
R	A	C	R	L	A						
E	X	C	H	A	N	G	E	B	U	L	L
A	I	R	A	N	O						
M	O	D	I	F	Y	K	N	I	G	H	T

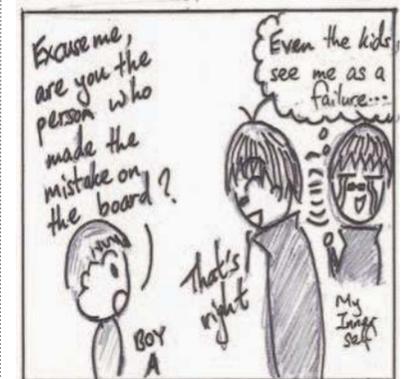
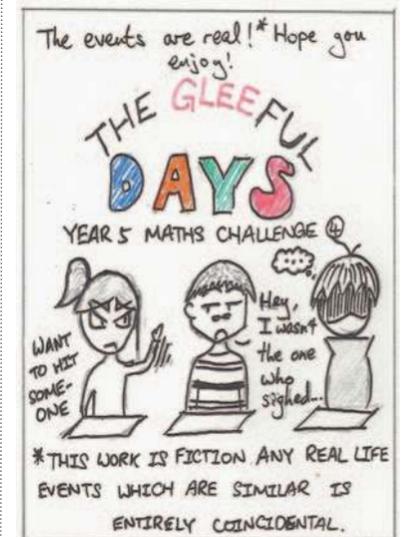
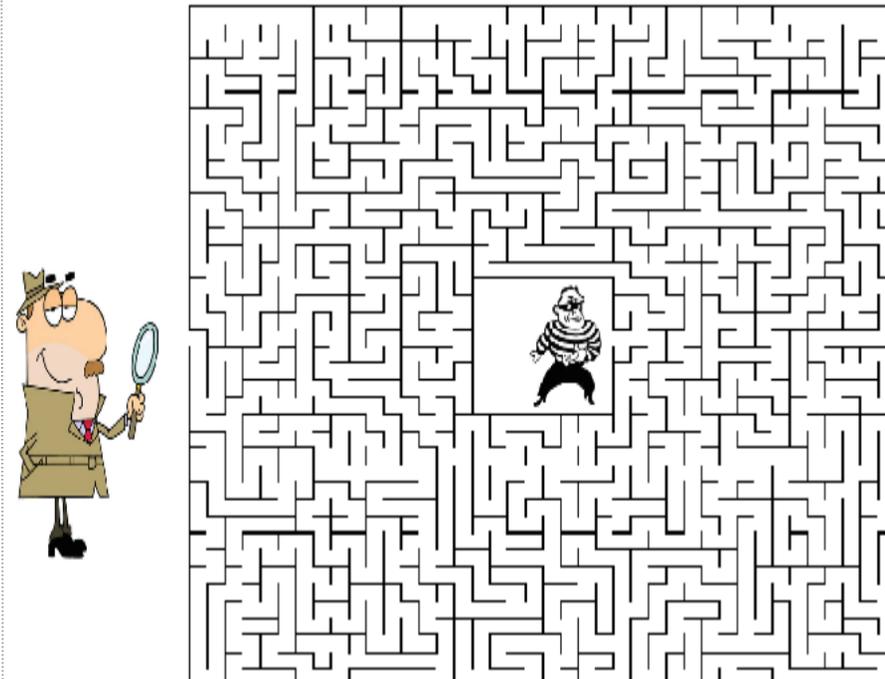
The message spells SECOND LETTER. The second letter of each word in the speech spells MATT COLVIN, the final innocent person.

Chess - 1. Bxf7+ Kc7 2. Bg5+ Kd6 3. Nc4+ Kc5 4. Na3++

Nonogram

		1								
		1	2	3	1			6		
	3	3	4	2	1	3	4	2	7	7
6										
2 3										
1 1 3										
4										
3										
3										
1 3										
3 2										
4 3										
5 3										

Mentalist maze



HANGMAN

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Twitter



Cameron_DA_Maneron!!!

srsly. This libya shit ever going to end?



SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

I know! I'm bored of it



SexyOsama69

Gadaffi keeps blamin shit on me :(



SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

lol. Everything gets blamed on you these days



Cameron_DA_Maneron!!!

My boiler broke last week. Pretty sure Al Qaeda had something to do with it



SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87

My ceiling has got a leak. I think Al Qaeda bombed my ceiling



SexyOsama69

Oh this is hilarious



The_Cleggomatortrontown <3

My wife won't get a boob job. I blame Al Qaeda lol



Barack_attack_I33thaxor

Woah. That's sexist



SexyOsama69

Fuck me, Cleggman, you really are a dick.

DRUNKEN MATE OF THE WEEK

Send your photos to felix@imperial.ac.uk.
Stop sending naked photos...

The Hangman Guide to...

Getting sweaty with the boys

Yay Sport! I love the inevitable disappointment...

1. Join Snooker society. Why? So you can ask everyone to chalk up your massive cue and blow off the excess.

2. When playing golf remember that, while this may be dull now, you can get laid a lot from this. Being good at hitting a ball into a hole with a stick is sexy apparently. Also, you probably want to make sure you know how to properly drive a 4x4.

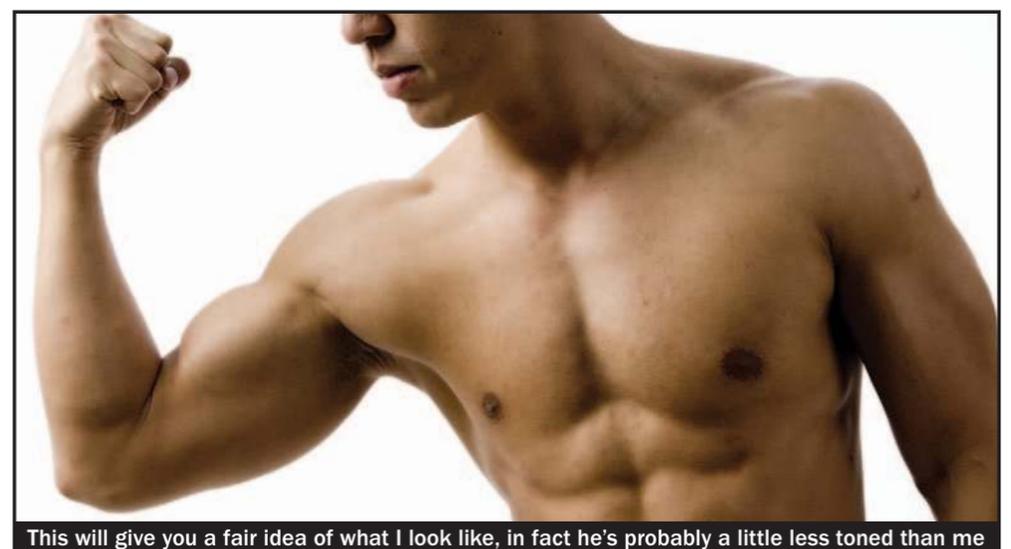
3. Hey baby, you should see my cue control. It's off the chart.

4. I'll pot my balls right in the centre of your pockets. They won't even touch the jaws.

5. Are you my referee, because I want you to put on white gloves and polish my balls.

6. I'll 147 break you while you just sit back and watch.
(Ed - that's enough snooker puns...)

7. Getting trapped into a conversation with someone about the fringe sport they play is one of the worst things imaginable. The escape route is simple. If it's a man politely ask: "isn't that a girls' sport?" If it's a girl, ask: "have you put on weight and come out without wearing makeup? It looks like you have, seri-



This will give you a fair idea of what I look like, in fact he's probably a little less toned than me

ously, you look a fucking mess."

8. Going on a night out with a sports team? The golden phrase is "Meh, I'm not that impressed with you lot, I've heard Rugby are much crazier."

9. If you are a sports commentator then it is best to play it safe and tuck your microphone in yourself. Asking for help will only be misinterpreted.

10. It's not cool that you do post match interviews with yourself in your head. You're doing them aren't you? Stop asking yourself difficult questions.

11. When asked if you watched "the game" last night just say yes. Then listen to someone give a fucking opinion on some minute detail. Vaguely say a few

noncommittal moans of support every now and then.

12. "I could have played for England" Yeah, you could have, if you were much more talented.

13. Talking to a footballer "Rugby is the sport of real men, it's so much better."

14. Talking to a rugby player "Football is really the better game, much more skill is involved."

16., If you are talking about football and are not knowledgeable, never fear. Ashley Cole is a prick and you don't know how he ever got Cheryl (make sure to include that you definitely would - this applies to both men and women) and Andy Carroll is overpriced. That will keep you looking topical.

17. Be alarmed that the flamboyantly dressed team member who doesn't play but is the treasurer seems very keen on communal showers. He didn't even do one bit of exercise, why is he so sweaty?

18. Try and find out how the tradition of communal showers started. Then email it in to hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk. Seriously, how did this start? When was the first time that a guy walked to his sports team and just told everyone that he wishes for the group to all shower together. More importantly, who were the group of guys who decided that this was a good idea and must be implemented immediately?

Luca De Benedetti

Both IC Radio and Union server shutdown by college after undesired comments

I thought we had freedom of speech in this country



Of course! You are free to say what we want you to say



Who are you voting for Felix Editor? I'm going to vote for the guy who's most like Charlie Sheen. Seriously, the first candidate to go on a 7 gram rock binge should win it...

HANGMAN

THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS

Aid Worker's pop quiz makes dehydration fun



CENTREFOLD WANNABE OF THE WEEK



He left his socks on... fucking amateur

Horoscopes

Aries

This week, you wake up in a bed that isn't your own. You look at the guy asleep beside you and feel pretty chuffed. You take a peek beneath the sheets, you feel even more chuffed. Just as you lower the duvet, he farts and you're hit by a gust of wind. You're not chuffed...

Gemini

This week, you're at the cinema when the person in front of you starts talking about their ex-girlfriend. Apparently she had a third nipple but didn't like when you played with it. You start touching yourself and ruin everyone's evening when you scream "NIPPLE HEAVEN!"

Leo

This week, you constantly hear this pumping horn noise in your ear. It's everywhere you go. You even hear it in your dreams. It's like something calling to you. Something telling you to go parrrrtay! Aww giggidy... (The doctor disagrees and says you're going deaf...)

Libra

This week, you realise that the horoscopes might be a little less sharp than usual, but you can't help not feeling like a malicious evil cunt. Things are pretty good at the moment. You look down. A dog has eaten half of your leg. **GODDAMN!**

Sagittarius

This week, you're bloody fed up with *people*. They're just so friendly, and *supportive*. Bastards. Go jump off a cliff. All of you! Which cliff? I don't give a damn. As the mountain of bodies grows you feel an overwhelming sense of satisfaction...

Aquarius

This week, some people have the gall to suggest that the Pisces horoscope is a cop out. A cop out? Was it a cop out when I shagged your mum in Vietnam? Ok, maybe not. But it was fucking awesome. **GIGGIDY. LAD. THE DAILY IS OVER... HOO-RAH**

Taurus

This week, you're strolling down the street when a lady catches your eye. As she walks past you turn on your heel and come up beside her. "Hey little lady," you say. Suddenly everything turns B&W, you start speaking French and you make out on a street corner...

Cancer

This week, you're sitting in the library, looking out the window at stressed students scurrying speedily by. A guy trips, falls and drops his notes everywhere. You quickly run out of the library screaming like a banshee and start kicking him in the face...

Virgo

This week, you're at the end of your thread. It's Sunday, the thread store is totally closed. Damn, what are you going to do? You call up Charlie Sheen and ask him to party. He says no because last time you gave up after 84 hours without sleep. **YOU WIMP.**

Scorpio

This week, you take an epic 30 hour nap and wake up in another dimension. In this new world, you have three arms, four legs and a girlfriend who loves you for who you are, regardless of your horrible extra limbs and deformities. This world ain't so bad.

Capricorn

This week, you learn how to do a handstand. A properly good handstand. You're able to hold it for at least a few minutes; six minutes is your record. Your handstanding days end when, during one handstand, the Burger King Man karate chops your groin.

Pisces

This week the font is bigger

SPORT

Sports Editors: **Jovan Nedic**
David Wilson

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Guido's 60 Second Pit Stop

Netball



Lindsay Hennah

>>Sum up your progress over the season so far?

Currently, we are in the final of the ULU cup, the semi-final of the BUCS cup, top of the ULU league, and joint top of our BUCS league.

>>How do you prepare for a match?

Try and get there on time, which is surprisingly difficult for the medics...

>>Favourite pre and post match meal?

Too nervous to eat a big meal before the game, but we can always rely on our GS to bring a suitable selection of sweets for the journey! And it's got to be pasta and healthy serving of chocolate to follow a game, and maybe a cheeky pint if we've done well!

>>What tune do you listen to get psyched before a game?

Backstreet boys or Spice Girls classic hits...both so bad they're good.

>>How important is Varsity to you? Could it be described as being season defining?

Ridiculously. Having had quite a successful record, we've got everything to lose. It's one of the season's highlights, and always a tough game.

>>Prediction for the result?

Despite having beaten the Imperial team already this season, Varsity is always a totally different game. But obviously I'm keeping my fingers crossed for a good win!

>>Is there more pressure to achieve a result at Varsity than any of your other games?

Varsity is the one thing that everyone will remember the result to. If we manage to win either the ULU or BUCS cup this year, I think we would be even more pleased though!

>>Do you feel that the rugby match overshadows the other sports?

Netball and rugby are always both hotly contested matches at varsity. And yes, I do think we're overshadowed. Rugby medics aren't the only team that have won Varsity! Though, to be fair, the game is a real crowd pleaser – I can't deny that I like watching it! But I can guarantee that this year, the netball matches will all definitely be worth watching!

>>Thoughts on 'grazing' becoming an international sport?

Amongst my friends, there are lots of people who are very competitive, all of whom are "grazers." I think it could get dangerous...

Gold for Harriet as IC compete in BUCS Indoor Athletics Championships

Adam Jones

Athletes from both Imperial College Athletics Club and ICSM Athletics Club travelled up to Sheffield on the weekend of 18-20 February for the BUCS Indoor Athletics Championships. Competing across a wide range of both track and field events, the team were looking forward to an exciting weekend of sport.

Starting the day early on Saturday morning were the 60m sprint events, which saw Pavindra Sivanandarajah competing in the women's category and Ewan Mackay and Adam Jones competing in the men's.

Following the sprints, Aaron Mason ran well in an event he is not accustomed to, the 800m, and managed to run a new PB of 2:03.94. In addition, Jonathan Mann, normally a 400m hurdler, competed in the 400m race and managed a respectable 54.74s, which should set a good benchmark for the rest of the season. Seethalakshmi Muthalagappan also competed in the women's 400m and ran a brave race.

While the events on track were taking place, Chris Jones competed in the High Jump, and achieved a decent height of 1.65m.

Towards the end of the afternoon Harriet Scott, Imperial's only long distance runner of the weekend, took to the track in the 3000m women's heats. Harriet had intended to compete in both the 1500m and 3000m, but due to a nonsensical timetabling decision, they were scheduled back-to-back with no rest in between; so Harriet decided to put all her efforts into the 3000m. Running confidently, but not so quickly as to tire her out for the finals the following day, Harriet qualified easily at the head of her heat.

Last of the events on the Saturday were the 4x200m relays, which the Imperial Men's team were greatly looking forward to. Getting off to a good start, Adam Jones put Imperial into a decent position, and with a nail-biting changeover to Jonathan Mann which was only inches away from the outside of the changeover box, Jonathan was in a good position coming into the break. Running hard, he was able to maintain position and pass the baton swiftly to Imperial's next runner, Ewan Mackay. Ewan ran well and when the time came to pass to Aaron Mason on the last leg, there were only a few teams in front. As Aaron received the baton, one of the runners up ahead who had just finished his part of the race was slowly jogging in lane 1, rather than exiting the track as quickly as possible. Aaron, a veteran of 4x400m running, wasted no time going around the obstruction and instead dipped his shoulder and drove through him, knocking the other athlete clear of the track! Aaron continued to run in the same determined fashion and finished the race well for Imperial. Though the team were disappointed with the final time they were given; 1:37.23, they certainly enjoyed the race!

The events on Sunday kicked off with the



200m sprints which saw Muzaffar Zaiivji Ismail compete in the men's event and Pavindra Sivanandarajah in the women's. Both athletes ran well given the type of training they have been doing over the winter.

All eyes were then focussed on the women's 3000m final. Harriet started the race strongly, not wanting to fall behind any break-away groups. Staying near the front of the pack for several laps, Harriet and another athlete began to pull away from the main group and Harriet really started to show her quality. With only

a few laps remaining, Harriet started to drive, over-taking the athlete by her side; nobody could live with her pace. Harriet stormed home to win the race in a great time of 9:20.53!

Rounding off the day for Imperial was Samzu Agbaje who competed in the men's 60m sprint hurdles. Running very well against stiff competition, Samzu managed a respectable 8.90s.

With one gold medal and lots of great memories, the Imperial team left Sheffield in a great mood - eager for the University of London Championships on 20 March.

You're all legends, and for that we thank you

First of all, can we just apologise to the Ladies 1s Hockey team for getting their headline totally and utterly cocked up yesterday. We realise it makes no sense and we're sorry. We're sorry-- I'm picturing the South Park episode about the oil spill and realising it really does work a lot better when it's not written... Anyway, we're sorry.

This week has been, for lack of a better phrase, difficult, difficult, lemon difficult. In total, we have put out 18 pages of sport this week – much more than those pull-out sections and I think even the news! This is more of a testament to you sports people out there than it is to us. We are here to facilitate your stories, and at times give you a gentle nudge/reminder to actually write them because you said you would to your sponsors!

We tried something big; printing the stories either the day after they happened,

or one after that, is not that easy, but you guys did it. When we started, we were a little bit apprehensive about people sticking to deadlines, especially if your game finished at 16:00, you were all the way out in Bath with no internet connection and the print deadline was before you would get back. So what do you do, you send the report as a text. AMAZING! Yes, I'm talking to you Badminton girls. Then we have the Hockey team who were churning out reports like the Guinness factory churns out beers on St Patricks Day! Ice Hockey and Fencing were reliable as ever, big hand to Will and Charlotte for their help. Finally, thanks to the photographers who went to the games so we had some nice pics, the pages would have looked bare without them. You're all legends and for that we thank you.

Right, now that that's over, pint?

Jov & Dave

SPORT

Fencing: Men's firsts discover the concept of a clean sweep while advancing to BUCS semi-final

Charlotte Levin

Men's Fencing

IC 1st 135 - 74 Bath 1st

Men's first fencing team had a visit by University of Bath's first team on Wednesday afternoon.

With the women's advancement to the semi-finals of BUCS Championships just an hour earlier, the men wanted to keep their pride and join the ladies in Sheffield.

The match started a bit later than planned, a problem that was soon solved by the sabreurs Maiyuran Ratneswaran, Camille van Hoffelen, Henry Gann and Didier Nohlmans quickly and easily winning by 45-12.

Next on piste was the foil team, this time represented by Ed Collier, Chris Gilliam and Robert Shaw. With a previous record of finding it difficult to pull out a win, they had a mental block to fight.

This Wednesday was apparently a good day for it; they started off by building a small lead that then gradually increased. In the end the score was almost sabre standard: 45-18 and thanks to the two massive indicators, the match was now already won.

This presented a new situation to the epeeists Marcello Colombino, Ed Gilhead and Chris G. In previous matches, they always had a certain goal to reach before the victory was theirs, but this time the situation was more similar to the one the women's team almost always had. They didn't have to score

a single hit. Though the idea of just standing there and not having to do anything was interesting, they couldn't be worse than the girls. A full sweep was in reach. It was an even match, Bath not giving up despite the circumstances. It kept on swaying back and forth, Imperial's men showing confidence and Bath's still putting up a fight.

As the last bouts begin, with Marcello representing Imperial, the score is 38-40, Bath in the lead. In a thrilling last bout, the two fencers building it up to 44-44 with only 40 seconds left. The entire team is crossing their fingers, and with only two seconds remaining, Marcello gets the final hit. They got a clean sweep. They are in the semi-final. It was a happy team leaving Ethos.

Miles Robertson



Ice Hockey: League leaders too much for Devil B's

Will Mason

Ice Hockey

Imperial B's 2 - 10 Warwick B's

A relatively up-beat third ranked team arrived at Streatham to see away a home match with the division leaders. In the second game without coach Coolegem the B-Team were confident in themselves although this may have manifested into arrogance. A solid pre-game tactics session by bench coaches Dolan and Runcorn made sure the team knew what was required of them, but concerns over Warwick's player stats and top scorers stole the focus. Added to this the line-up was missing key elements, treachery on the half of Assistant Captain Matt Nolan (#53) and Treasurer Nathan Jones (#40).

A ridiculously strong line-up of 21 Warwick players took to the ice to face off against Imperial's 13. From the opening face-off the puck went to the Devils' defensive zone, we were going to be on the back foot all night. Determined resistance from the Devils delayed the first goal until 3 minutes in, but we were not disheartened. Imperial conceded 3 in the first, and ended the period on a penalty as Centre Sofie Liljegren (#23) was called for tripping.

It was clear to all where the Devils were going wrong and coach Dolan spelled it out. Back on the ice, the Devils held out for a further 6 minutes, but conceded a total of 5 more goals. Praise must be given to goalie Gemma Bale for exceptional efforts to keep the puck out but often defensive errors left her outnumbered in the goal-mouth. The same mistakes were coming up, but the Devils were outclassed and, in frustration, resorted to physical play in the third. Another goal was followed by a penalty for cross-checking by Captain Will Mason (#52). However, the Devils steeled their resolve and a complacent Warwick let Rob Barakat (#11) score from Eugene Lau (#27) on a breakaway. The heat was turned up and a double penalty awarded to both Imperial and Warwick for two players' attempted checking. Warwick retaliated with a goal, before Barakat (#11) slotted a last second goal to end the game. The final period a 2-2 draw didn't tell the whole story as Warwick walked out with a 10-2 victory. Nevertheless, the Devils were proud to have outskated them in the third and will be sure to hit the ice for some hard consolation training. MVP (Most Valuable Player) went to Sofie Liljegren (#23).

Hockey: Solid performance by third team see's four goals scored against St. Barts

Jonnie Clowes

Men's Hockey

Imperial 3s 4 - 0 St. Barts

The Men's 3's overcame the odds to produce a sterling performance to embarrass St Bart's 2s. Quick play mixed with characteristic flair saw the 3s put 4 past a solid Bart's team.

After horrendous traffic, the men's 3s arrived five minutes after the scheduled push off, meaning the first 11 on the pitch were the starting XI. None the less IC were energetic and their tenacity paid off with an early goal Designer V pow-

ering in from the top of the D.

Nerves were settled and IC settled into a good rhythm, now with their original starting XI on the pitch, Cockerel scored a fantastic solo goal. The goal was good but the celebration was pure arrogance.

However Bart's didn't give up fighting, a surging foray into the IC half led to a brave one on one save from Sifter. The loose ball was crossed in from the edge of the D and a moment of madness from Fritzl saw him smashing the ball into his own goal. IC's response was instant, from the push off IC drove forward, the ball found Teabag who

slammed the goal past the despairing dive of the Bart's GK.

In the second half IC turned the match into a training game knocking the ball around with ease. Any time Bart's got a stick on the ball, IC won it back. Simple hockey resulted in IC scoring their 4th after Designer V found himself with lots of space in the D to calmly slap the ball home to complete his brace and IC's rout. The final whistle came as a blessed relief to the Bart's team allowing IC a long but joyful journey home which, due to unfortunate circumstances, was not remembered by anyone.



SPORT

Felix Sports League



sponsored by

ERNST & YOUNG

Quality In Everything We Do

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Index
1 Fencing W1	9	9	0	0	1210	607	603	5.00
2 Fencing M1	10	10	0	0	1229	919	310	5.00
3 Table Tennis M2	10	10	0	0	146	24	122	5.00
4 Water Polo W1	8	7	1	0	102	24	78	4.63
5 Volleyball M1	11	10	0	1	22	4	18	4.18
6 Volleyball W1	11	10	0	1	21	4	17	4.18
7 Table Tennis M1	8	7	0	1	96	39	57	3.88
8 ICSM Netball W1	14	12	0	2	573	355	218	3.71
9 Basketball M1	12	10	0	2	917	735	182	3.50
10 Tennis M1	12	9	1	2	84	60	24	3.25
11 Lacrosse M1	10	8	0	2	146	80	66	3.20
12 Squash W1	10	8	0	2	31	8	23	3.20
13 Netball W1	13	10	0	3	546	367	179	2.92
14 Rugby M1	13	10	0	3	325	171	154	2.92
15 Basketball W1	8	6	0	2	386	325	61	2.75
16 Hockey W1	13	9	0	4	67	24	43	2.23
17 Lacrosse W1	9	6	0	3	110	64	46	2.00
18 Hockey M1	10	6	1	3	37	24	13	2.00
19 ICSM Football M1	11	6	2	3	33	21	12	2.00
20 Table Tennis W1	6	4	0	2	20	10	10	2.00
21 ICSM Hockey M3	9	6	0	3	17	27	-10	2.00
22 ICSM Hockey W1	20	10	3	7	54	48	6	1.40
23 ICSM Rugby M3	10	6	0	4	252	266	-14	1.40
24 Football M1	13	7	1	5	34	20	14	1.31
25 Badminton W1	13	7	1	5	44	60	-16	1.31
26 Hockey M2	12	5	3	4	22	26	-4	1.25
27 Football W1	7	4	0	3	19	19	0	1.14
28 Tennis W1	7	4	0	3	42	42	0	1.14
29 ICSM Hockey M1	11	6	0	5	26	20	6	0.91
30 Badminton M1	11	4	3	4	44	44	0	0.91
31 Netball W2	11	6	0	5	409	442	-33	0.91
32 Fencing M2	10	5	0	4	1122	1128	-6	0.90
33 Netball W3	8	4	0	4	247	194	53	0.50
34 Hockey M3	10	3	3	4	10	10	0	0.50
35 ICSM Hockey M2	12	3	4	5	21	31	-10	0.25
36 ICSM Netball W2	11	5	0	6	341	360	-19	0.09
37 Ice Hockey M1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
38 ICSM Football M3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
39 Lacrosse W2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
40 Badminton M2	9	3	1	5	37	35	2	-0.33
41 Fencing W2	10	4	0	6	1142	1170	-28	-0.40
42 Fencing M3	10	4	0	6	1146	1201	-55	-0.40
43 Squash M3	8	3	0	5	15	23	-8	-0.63
44 ICSM Badminton W1	9	2	2	5	32	46	-14	-0.67
45 Football M3	10	3	1	6	21	29	-8	-0.70
46 ICSM Badminton M1	10	3	1	6	24	56	-32	-0.70
47 Squash M4	5	1	1	3	5	7	-2	-1.00
48 ICSM Football M2	6	2	0	4	15	18	-3	-1.00
49 Hockey W2	12	3	1	8	13	41	-28	-1.25
50 ICSM Badminton M2	7	2	0	5	23	33	-10	-1.43
51 ICSM Rugby M2	13	3	1	9	212	443	-231	-1.46
52 Tennis M2	9	1	2	6	28	79	-51	-1.67
53 ICSM Rugby M1	11	2	1	8	144	427	-283	-1.82
54 Rugby M2	13	3	0	10	194	334	-140	-1.92
55 Water Polo M1	3	0	1	2	23	30	-7	-2.00
56 Rugby M3	9	2	0	7	66	313	-247	-2.00
57 ICSM Hockey W3	5	1	0	4	4	17	-13	-2.20
58 Hockey M4	10	2	0	8	15	31	-16	-2.20
59 ICSM Hockey W2	11	2	0	9	21	43	-22	-2.36
60 Squash M2	12	2	0	10	16	44	-28	-2.50
61 Rugby M4	8	1	0	7	59	325	-266	-2.88
62 Football M2	12	1	0	11	14	36	-22	-3.25
63 Squash M1	7	0	0	7	5	30	-25	-4.00
64 ICSM Netball W3	9	0	0	9	186	352	-166	-4.00
65 ICSM Netball W3	7	0	0	7	134	257	-123	-4.00

5 points for a win | 2 points for a draw | -4 points for a loss



Fencing: Ladies comprehensively beat Manchester to make it to the semi-finals

Jack Patten

Women's Fencing

IC 1st 135 - 58 Manchester 1st

The scene, Wednesday lunchtime, Ethos; enter, the Women's first Fencing team, they start preparing for the quarterfinal match of the BUCS championships against Manchester's firsts. Feeling very confident of advancing, thanks to previous form, everyone was ready to win. The match opened well with Imperial sabriers Zoe Robinson, Clare Harding and Hannah Bryars taking an early lead. This was something kept and extended throughout the weapon with the only real moment of fear coming when Zoe charged her opponent and ended up cross legged on the floor, with the team worried about injury. She was fine, and had even won the point. In the end, the sabre team set a new record for this year and won by 45-8.

Foil was up next and Hannah was joined this time by Outi Supponen and team captain Alice Mitchell. Imperial took the lead in the first bout, but Manchester made an attempt to regroup in the second, scoring 8 hits which put them only one behind Imperial. This manoeuvre was halted quickly by the Imperial foilists,

finally winning with only 11 hits dropped over 7 bouts (each bout being meant to be to 5), and the score landing at 45-20. This meant that there was no chance of Manchester winning even if the epee lost every point. With the epeeists still caring about their own pride, a clean sweep was now what they were after.

For the epee, Hannah and Outi stepped aside and Alice was joined by Emily Bottle and Charlotte Levin. The fight appeared to be closer at the beginning of the weapon, but Imperial started pulling away, at such a pace that by the fifth bout they were leading by 25-12! In the end the score was 45-30 to Imperial and clean sweep was attained.

Overall, the Imperial women came out on top with a score line of 135-58, meaning that the women's first team continues their undefeated streak and make it to Sheffield for the semi-finals. This has been an impressive year so far, having only dropped one weapon out of 10 matches (à three weapons each). Last year in Sheffield the women's team came second, and so did the men. For the ladies, it was the same as their 2009 result, now they're going for third time lucky. With the fighting spirit shown so far, Sheffield will not know what has hit it!

DNAC Milan in high hopes for tonight's game

Tom Welch

Fresh from a much-improved performance against Huxley Athletic, DNAC Milan will be holding high hopes ahead of their game against Blue Box, in spite of an injury to key player Marina, who faces a late fitness test on his broken toe. Despite the injury, team captain Delia has played down the possibility of making any emergency loan moves since he feels the squad has more than enough strength in depth with the likes of Laucha, Fair Weather, One Nils and Paparazzi. Should Marina fail his fitness test Delia is expected to stick with the hugely improved Dr God at the back alongside midfield enforcer La Niña.

DNAC Milan went into the season with high hopes but Delia's team have failed to live up to expectations. They suffered a huge crisis of confidence at the start of February with a run of results that read 10-0, 7-2, 10-0 all against them!

However, many pundits believe that the Helices turned a corner in their 3-0 defeat last time out to Huxley Athletic. Despite not scoring a goal for the second game running Delia's team actually controlled much of the play, ultimately claiming a moral victory. They enter the game with fellow strugglers Blue Box boosted by the availability of their Twiga Star, who is expected to provide a formidable partnership up front with The Rev B. Good.

DNAC Milan are expected to stick with their tried and tested flexible diamond formation and if they play their heads up football with some belief Blue Box will certainly be in for a long match (well 20 minutes anyway!). In recent weeks the Helices have managed to achieve a great balance between flair and physicality, it is only the mental belief that is lacking. As long as they BELIEVE, they will win this match.

Baseball: Falcons punch a historic end to the season

...Continued from back page the year but retain it's one game lead that caused the title chase to go down to the very last game.

One last comeback was in the cards in that game, which was made necessary when Imperial found itself down 7-0 in the first inning, and 7-1 as late as the fifth inning. The Falcons began picking away at it however, and went into the last inning leading 8-7. The top of the inning saw Southampton tie the game, setting up the bottom of the ninth heroics.

The year saw many new things including new equipment, faces and a superb new field to boot, courtesy of Sport Imperial.

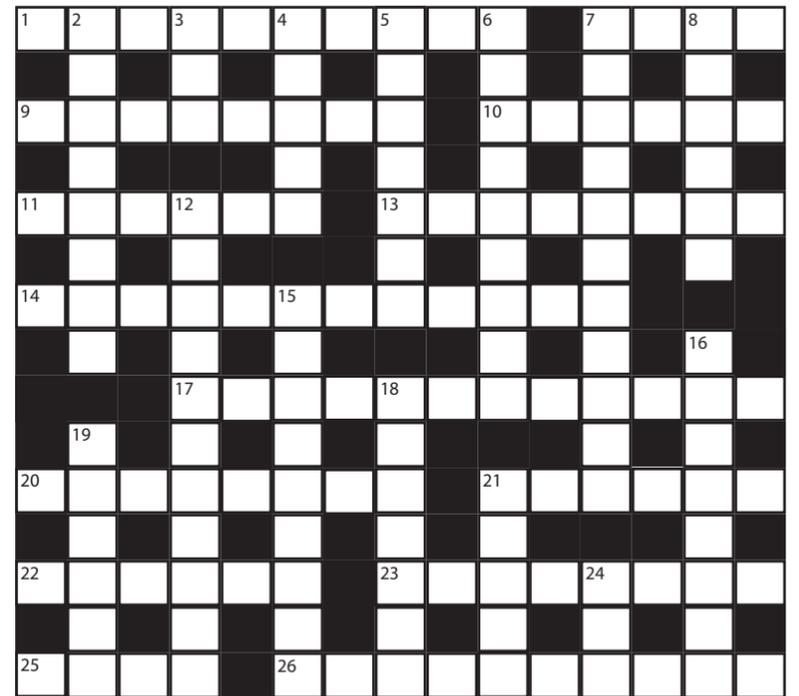
In the serene and idyllic surroundings where cow spotted horses graze and planes can be seen on approach to Heathrow, one of the finest baseball fields in London was built. The ballpark at Harlington was proposed at the end of 2010 season and was completed in autumn with a ceremony fit for Yankee Stadium itself. Having already hosted

three league games the field is set to be one of the lasting legacies of the club founders.

This wraps up an exciting and successful 2010/11 season where the Falcons swooped to victory in both the Fall Cup and the Southern League. In two short years the Imperial College Falcons have established themselves as a powerhouse in British University Baseball. It is the hope of the players and the committee that the club should continue in its success in the future.



Cryptic Crossword



Across

1. Middling retrospective, faded musical ditty (7)
5. Of course villain to manifest (5)
9. Hide inside and evade Ismaili, with rational belief in God (5)
10. Left inside group of guys, time for allowance (9)
11. The thing (7)
12. Drain southern and northern cup of tea (7)
13. Happy, positive argument (10)
15. Extraordinary individual in revolutionary Nevada city (4)
18. Silly day behind (4)
20. Transport for fish food (10)
23. European fixes shingle (7)
24. Test for mathematics and a fruit (7)
25. Position again restriction for boutique (9)
26. By convention, we youth! (5)
27. Until now, one's abominable creatures (5)
28. High-flier to ambush with simplicity, say (7)

Down

1. Spray scattered to mines (7)
2. Somehow sold mace to one living precariously (8)
3. Projection of a wise man (5)
4. Just fail to break down recession brief (4,5)
5. Do not participate in operation hustle (6)
6. Corrupt central collection for letter (7)
7. Go bad with gold revolver (5)
8. Improved, one tangoed around Vatican (8)
14. Gain courage, when Mortal Kombat ends, perhaps (4,5)
16. Mistaken trade aid broadcast (8)
17. Incomprehensible delinquency enveloping street (8)
19. Japanese fish first composer of thematic music (7)
21. Flatter an instrument up and gone (7)
22. Mistakes for girl, say (6)
23. Primitive organ for cathedral city missing top (5)
24. Place to sit around 50 notes (5)

Fixtures & Results

in association with
 Sports Partnership  

Sunday 27 February

HOCKEY ULU

Men's 1s 4
 King's College 1s 4

Men's 2s 0
 UCL 2s 2

Men's 4s 4
 St George's Hospital Medical School 2s 0

Women's 2s 1
 King's College 2s 1

WATERPOLO

Women's 1s 8
 University of Warwick 1s 3

Women's 1s 9
 UWIC 1s 5

Women's 1s 13

University of Exeter 1s 4

Monday 28 February

BADMINTON ULU

Mixed 1s 5
 King's College 1s 4

BASKETBALL ULU

Men's 1s 78
 UCL 1s 96

NETBALL

Women's 3s 40
 King's College 4s 26

Women's 4s 23
 St Bart's 4s 12

Wednesday 2 March

BADMINTON

Women's 1s 2
 University of Bath 2s 6

BASKETBALL

Men's 1s 71
 City University London 1s 84

FENCING

Men's 1s 135
 University of Bath 74

Men's 3s 131

UCL 2s 106

Women's 1s 135
 University of Manchester 1s 58

FOOTBALL

Men's 1s 5
 St Mary's University College 3s 0

Men's 2s 0
 St Mary's University College 5s 2

Men's 3s 3
 Buckinghamshire New University 6s 2

Women's 1s 4
 Buckinghamshire New University 1s 1

HOCKEY

Men's 2s 5
 Buckinghamshire New University 1s 1

Men's 3s 1
 Brunel University 3s 3

Women's 1s 5
 University of Chichester 2s 0
 en's 1s 4

Women's 2s 1
 Imperial Medicals 2s 0
 King's Medical 1s 3

LACROSSE

Men's 1st 15
 College of St Mark and St John 1s 4

NETBALL

Women's 2s 30
 UCL 3s 48

RUGBY

Men's 1s 17
 Reading 1s 20

TABLE TENNIS

Men's 1s 17
 Newcastle University 1s 0

Men's 2s
 Buckinghamshire New University 1s 0

TENNIS

Men's 1s 0
 Leeds Metropolitan Carnegie 12

Saturday 5 March

FOOTBALL ULU

Men's 2nd vs London Southbank University 1st

Men's 3rd vs Royal Holloway 2nd

Men's 4th vs Queen Mary University of London 3rd

Men's 7th vs King's College 6th

Sunday 6 March

HOCKEY ULU

Women's 2nd vs Goldsmiths 1st
 Saturday 5 March

Monday 7 March

NETBALL ULU

Women's 3rd vs St Bart's 3rd

Wednesday 9 March

BASKETBALL

Women's 1st vs Roehampton University 1st

Women's 1st vs King's College 1st



Lindsay Henna visits Guido for a quick pit-stop: Page 36

Felix Sport sponsored by
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Miles Robertson



Clean sweep for Men's Fencing

Fencers beat Bath to make it through to semi's: Page 38

Baseball: Falcons crowned Southern Champs

A. Krishnan, G. Lam & K. Ling

Baseball

IC 1st 9 - 8 Southampton 1st

The Imperial College Baseball team clinched the Southern League Championship last Saturday in the last game of the season, retaining the trophy after a thrilling 9-8 comeback win against the Southampton Mustangs. This brings to a close an epic season for the Falcons, winning 10 games, drawing 2 and losing 1 on the way to winning the British University Baseball Association (BUBA) double, namely the Fall Cup and Southern League.

The Fall Cup, a competition between the top 6 university baseball teams in the country, was a two day event in October where the Falcons travelled north to Hemel Hempstead. Having won the sister tournament Fall Shield last year in their first season, Imperial was eager to test itself against sterner opposition this time around, in taking on the established powerhouses such as Nottingham and University of East Anglia. 2 wins and 2 draws in the group stages saw the Falcons face off against the Nottingham Thieves in the final. Setting the standard for a season of comebacks Imperial came from behind to win on the last hit of the game. With this, the Fall Cup was brought to London for the first time and now resides in Ethos.

With this triumph behind us, Imperial went to work defending its Southern League crown. Winning the first 4 games in the 8 game season, Imperial took the division lead to the Christmas break. The Falcons kicked off the second half of the season by opening their long awaited new ballpark in Harlington. The team christened the field with a crucial doubleheader against second place Oxford. The resulting split saw Imperial take its first loss of

...Continued on Page 39

SCIENCE



Has the media ultimately failed science? Page 11

COMMENT



A doctorate in plagiarism: Page 22

MUSIC



The Pythagorean theorem of music: Page 24

TELEVISION



Telly's best-loved cops and robbers: Page 28

TRAVEL



European playground exposed: Page 32