# The Student Newspaper of Imperial College No 1032 09JUN95

# Excessive Drinking' to be Curbed

Imperial's senior academics are looking at measures to curb excessive drinking on campus. Alan Swanson, Pro-Rector (Educational Quality) presented a paper to the house committee on Tuesday to express his increasing concern. "I have no doubt that some students are spending more money and time on drink than is good for them," he said.

In response, the committee are pressing for a new campaign to heighten awareness of the dangers of alcohol. They are calling for a clampdown on beer promotions during the day, as well as a review of the bar extensions policy during termtime. In a report that also expresses concerns of problem drinking amongst staff, Dr Alan Swann, IC Occupational Health Advisor, said that the problem drinking 'exists at a level where action is needed.' But he admitted that the college response should not be 'unnecessarily punitive towards the many for whom alcohol is a safely-used social relaxant.'

Gareth Jones, IC Senior Tutor, endorsed proposals to raise awareness of the problems. "I've been concerned for some time about the effects on students of excessive drinking," he said. "I've seen quite a number of students who have got into difficulties, and it's sad." Describing cases where students have got into difficulties that are 'financial, behavioural, as well as getting into trouble with the law,' he said. "I would not be surprised if we have a worse problem here than in other universities."

(See report, page two)



A quiet day: but is excessive drinking a real problem at Imperial College?

# **Holland Club in Doubt**

BY THE NEWS TEAM

The future of the Holland Club, Imperial Colleges social club for non-academic staff, is in doubt. However, Brian Devlin, Imperial College Credit controller and Holland Club treasurer, has dismissed fears that its future is uncertain, despite the latest ninemonth accounts which showed a net deficit of £13,000. Blaming the club's financial difficulties on staff problems, Mr Devlin commented that the club was 'hoping to see an improvement from now on.'

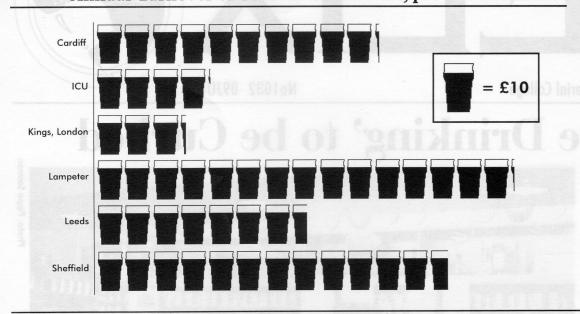
The worrying financial report comes on top of an £8,000 loss for the same period last year, leaving the Holland Club with reserves of only £2,000.

"We were unfortunate in that the bar steward wasn't up to scratch," Mr Devlin claimed. The Holland Club has been beset with problem bar managers in recent time. One bar steward left at the beginning of the current academic year amid allegations that he had been stealing from the club, whilst another steward lasted for only one half-year probationary contract. According to the treasurer's report, he cost the club £7,000 for the six months he was employed. "Certain members of the committee didn't like Duncan," one Holland Cub member commented, "But a lot of the committee don't like each other either."

Kevin Young, a former Imperial College Union bar steward, has taken over the position. "We anticipate that [he] will make a positive difference," Mr Devlin said. "The staff problem is hopefully sorted... and," he insisted, "we can absorb the loss we've made."

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#### Annual Turnover of Student Union Bars, per student



#### **Drink Report**

Recent figures comparing Student Union alcohol consumption nationwide put Imperial College Union drinkers towards the bottom of the league. The comparison of how much is spent per student predictably leaves isolated campus universities scoring highly, but even amongst a comparison of citycentre institutions Imperial students spend less on alcohol.

The results have led senior academics to emphasise that excessive drinking here is a problem only for a noisy minority. Others have speculated that the figure is surprisingly low because the IC Union bars face stiff competition from Southside bar.

### News In Brief

#### **New Group**

A new environmental law and management group at Imperial has been launched. Sponsored by Denton Hall, an international law firm, the joint partnership will work closely to help address the need for better technical ability in practising environmental law.

Since the UK's adoption of the Environmental Protection Act of 1990, the number of environmental lawyers in this country has grown from 40 to over 1200. This has occurred despite the fact that there has not been a proportionate rise in relevant cases.

"Lawyers need to understand the scientific options, as well as the legal issues", says John Salter, head of the environmental law group at Denton Hall. "Businesses expect their solicitors to set their legal advice in a technical context."

The group hopes to work closely on subjects such as biotechnology and biodiversity, fraud and crime, contaminated land and pesticides. The initiative will see Denton Hall partners teach at Imperial and IC academics speak at the law firms training courses. Students may benefit as they will have the opportunity to understand the true implications of environ-

mental law for business and to assess issues of environmental policy and the law.

MSc Students at the IC Centre for Environmental Technology will be offered a specialist option in environmental law and management.

#### **Penney Saved**

A break-in at the department of computing was aborted in the early hours of last Friday morning. Security were alerted when the newly installed infrared detectors sent alarms off.

They gave chase to two youths seen running away from the broken window. Two men detained shortly afterwards on Kensington High Street are awaiting charge, awaiting police forensic results from the fingerprints taken from the broken glass.

The men attempted to break into the William Penney building from the Sherfield walkway, and although IC security found a word processor on the window-ledge, nothing was stolen from the department. A computer was stolen and three others were damaged during a similar, but more successful raid on the William Penney laboratory last month.

Terry Briley, Deputy Head of Security, said he was encouraged that the new security measures were proving to be effective. Praising the quick reaction of the security guards involved, he said "I'm pleased with my people".

### editoriaL

Well it's thursday afternoon, I'm late with pages, so it must be time to write an editorial. I remember my dream of editorial writing before I became editor - the great social commentaries and the shaking fist at the Sherfield building. The reality has been somewhat less flamboyant and in fact I have a confession to make: I've never found more than twenty minutes for this regular event. This is not a boast, I'm sure you will find it pretty easy to believe. I guess it's some sort of belated apology.

#### Sex

Sexism and feminism and grubby old men, I dunno. On the one hand I think that some women are prone to use the feminist argument as a rather noble but ill-considered argument about the problems of life in general. Why can't I X, why do we Y? But on the other hand, women certainly have to overcome hurdles that us males can't really appreciate.

One of the simplest of these is sexual harassment. I went through a period a couple of years ago where I endured several run-ins with gay men: one who climbed over a toilet cubical wall whilst I was using it (yeah, haha) and another who I'm pretty sure was about to assault me had me leaping in front of a taxi. I've had to consciously avoid becoming homophobic, as women balance

'a few dodgy blokes' with their idea of men I suppose.

Still, I have little sympathy for those who explain to me in a leather miniskirt that men don't take them seriously. Anyone who sexualises the everyday environment (and no, we don't need to be covered from head to toe – men aren't) cannot complain if someone comments on their appearance.

A girl I know wears high heels because 'men don't take her seriously otherwise'. But why aren't people brave enough to be themselves rather than a sex?

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Jon Jordan

Standby

### The Muslim Voice... The drug law-makers are off their heads...

#### A User Hits Out

Dear Felix,

Over the past couple of weeks, the evil weed has appeared as front page news in Felix. I thought I'd better clarify some points

1) Smoking cannabis may cause cancer, but so can cigarettes and alcohol, and they're legal. 2) 80% of students at IC smoke (or have smoked) cannabis (according to Mr Reynolds, Head of Security). 3) In Mr Briley's (Deputy Head of Security) words, the use of marijuana is no worse than the excessive use of alcohol often seen on campus. Drinking clubs, are you listening?

4) Cannabis users are considerably less violent and aggressive than someone after eight pints. I challenge anybody to try and beat someone up after a few spliffs!

So if all these points are true, and I suspect they might just be, then the current law on cannabis is outdated, clearly uniformed and WRONG! Twenty years on, things will change as 80% of students become 80% of politicians but I can't wait that long. So, Sir Ronald, if you're reading this, GIE'S PEACE!

P.S Thank God I'm not living in halls this year, Big Brother or

P.P.S As for the argument against cannabis, in that it induces memory loss... sorry, I've completely lost my train of thought.

#### [Name withheld by request]

Cannbis, like all drugs, has both benefits and side effects. I am always amused that cannabis is compared favourably to tobacco, but cannabis is often smoked with tobacco anyway, thus making the argument moot.

I won't attempt to gain the high moral ground, as I myself have partaken of the 'evil weed' in the past. But excessive use of ANY drug is bad for you!

I agree with Mr A. User as I believe the law should be changed, as it would reduce the amount of organised crime based on drugs. It would also make the job of charities and organisations dealing with drug addiction easier. But let's face it, the current government is highly unlikely to facilitate such a change in the law, unless they were sure they could make lots of money from it. This seems to be the only driving force behind legislation these days.

#### Change to Islam

Dear Felix,

I note with interest some of the comments made by Alan Bailey, (Mech Eng post grad.) about student attitudes (Felix Issue No 1030) and other way it should be. He proclaims that our political views should be voiced and action taken to change the world we live in. The fact of the matter is that the system which rules does so in tyranny. When was the last time government changed policy as a direct result of public opinion? If you wish to refer to the poll tax, well, it's now become the wolf dressed in sheep's clothing in order to subdue and pacify the citizens

As the commenting editor, Piers Daniell, said it is the system which needs to be and can be changed but not individuals and individual policies. Well done, Sir. At last, someone has come to the same conclusion that Muslims worldwide have been and still are rallying and campaigning for. But when it comes to students and their participation in politics, be they local or global politics, it seems that Muslim students are excluded from this general category of students who should and can participate. I would like to remind readers that we Muslims constitute a significant proportion of the student body and thus should be encouraged, not repressed whenever we voice our concerns, opinions and ideals. I refer to the incidents of the past three years of my time at Imperial during which I have witnessed many bannings and cancellations of talks which were considered radical but of high priority to Muslims on campus and worldwide. The Union (ICU) has a bigoted policy of freedom of speech and expression which is biased towards all groups of people but Muslims. The overall role of ICU seems too authoritarian rather than democratic or diplomatic. I would be naive indeed to imply this attitude to be solely attributable to ICU: it is merely a reflection of the political organisation of the socalled democratic state we live in. Democracy is only ever experienced by voting citizens of democracy during the few exhilarating moments of casting vote. After that, we have no say. Essentially, we are free to choose the tyrants we wish to have rule over us for the next few years. Under such circumstances, it is no surprise that students, who are often impoverished, have no wish

to waste their efforts on causing insignificant ripples in the vast ocean of hypocritical democracy.

Before some ignorant and bigoted people start telling me and the other Muslims to go and live in Iran or some other eastern country, I'd like to make it clear that we are the third generation of Muslims in this country, not to mention the ever-increasing numbers of English and other Europeans who have converted to Islam. Islam, its principles and political policies are to be applied to humanity regardless of the colour, race or personal bias of individuals who regard themselves beyond the all-encompassing nature of Islam. We know that we can change the system (Piers Daniell agrees) and that's what we, Muslims, have been trying to do through reducing public ignorance about Islam. However, for all the well-meaning advice and enthusiasm of people like Alan Bailey, London University colleges have proved themselves to be against the concept of university being a bastion of free thought, uninhibited expression, a place where the world's future leaders form their values....and which principles they will embrace. Some colleges have banned Islamic Society altogether whilst places like IC which let us exist on paper and in a prayer-room, refuse to let us exist in life.

This letter is not meant to be a

Edited this week by Mark Baker

good moan about the wrongs done to Islamic Socs and Muslims in general but just to put the record straight about students not taking an active part in challenging and questioning the system we live under. As long as the two-faced policy of freedom of speech and expressions only applies to every class of people of every inclination and orientation, BUT MUSLIMS, I fail to see any basis for being outraged at the lack of life and vitality in students. People who feel this way i.e. outraged, depressed and whatever at the apathy amongst students should start taking notice of Muslims' activity other than with the intention of curbing and repressing our voices of protest.

Yours sincerely

Farida Begum **Biochemistry UG3** 

It's a shame that you feel ICU has taken away your freedom of speech. I hope that this does not continue in the future, as all people deserve the right to voice their opinion. In conclusion, I can only agree with your letter.

Letters may be commented on by a guest editor, whose opinions are not necessarily those of the editor, and cut due to space restrictions. Deadline: Monday 6.00pm.

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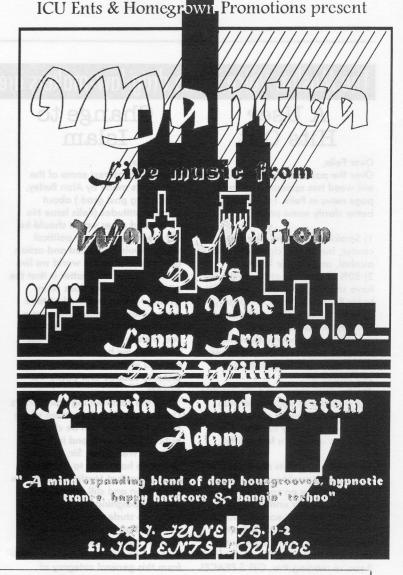
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#### Sex: the infinitely malleable continuum

# •Mixed Blessings

HERMS MERMS AND FERMS



# •Headlines

POLARITY IN THE PRESS



# ·Real Lives

#### IT'S A MAN'S MAN' S MAN'S MAN'S

Between 1984 and 1994, the percentage of female students at Imperial rose from about 17% to about 27%. Efforts go on all the time to increase women's awareness, appreciation and wish to study science through schemes such as Women Into Science and Engineering

(WISE) and Women's Science Night at the Science Museum (to name only two).

In Britain, however, the perception remains resolute:

science and engineering are naturally ordained as male preserves. 47% of academic physicists in Hungary are women; the figure in the United States is 3%. Where has the perception that science is for men -apparently prevalent only in English-speaking countries - arisen from?

Helen Haste, former president of the

psychology section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, has a theory to answer this question. Her idea is that people are reared into anxious feelings

about being "properly" male or female: very few overlaps are acceptable. Haste sees the male-female polarity in many different guises: "In Western cultures some polarities have become associated with male-female polarity: such as public-private, hard-soft, activepassive, rational-intuitive, thinking-feeling, science-arts. These metaphors are not just poetic fancies, they express underlying theories held by both lay and scientific people." (New Scientist, 15 February, 1992)

Headlines from scientific magazines (see box below) reveal our predilection for expressing scientific findings in terms of

> these polarised viewpoints. Research is presented for what it means to one group or the other: but can we take the divide for granted?

Professor Anne Fausto-Sterling, an American geneticist, has written that defining everyone as all-male or all-female may be insufficient. Rather than using this prescriptive terminology, she proposes three extra sex classifications, herm, merm and ferm. "Biologically speaking," she says, "there are many gradations running from female to male

> and one can argue that along the spectrum lie at least five sexes" (The Sciences, March

If it is this difficult even to classify whether one is

technically male or female, there must even less of a basis for the argument that women choose not to study science because they are naturally less scientifically talented. Until such ideas are expunged, the myth that science is male will live on and the real reasons will stay comfortably hidden.

S-files

"If you prefer the husband, children and sucprefer cessful career scenario, then don't go into science and industry. Women who work in industry are punished by our



male-dominated society for having the temerity to do so; the ones who make the WISEst choice do not do science at all!"

Sue Tiplady, writing in Physics World

"The basic idea is that if you are a woman interested in science you are gender confused."

Catherine Didion, director of the Association for Women in Science

> e drawn of a female y a male colleague: n has now left the d relocated A caricature of engineer by of the woman company and the compa

"There is no evidence that sex is related to success in scientific research, and no justification for holding women out for special treatment as part of formal policy."

"Research in the UK and elsewhere shows that young women who choose to continue with science, particularly physics, still do not achieve the same level as males of the same ability.

Patricia Murphy, writing in Physics World

"Being a scientist, in the UK at least, is badly paid, insecure, holds out minimal prospects and is a general all-round crap career. I therefore come to the startling conclusion that women go for the careers they like, want to do, are good at, and in which the benefits outweigh the bruises."

W M Fletcher, letter in Physics World

"Women are the single most under-used resource in British science. HMSO report 1992

"To women who wish to become professional physicists I am also suggesting that they remember, in a paraphrase of Hillel's words: 'If you are not for yourself, who will be? And if not now, when?"

Fay Ajzenberg-Selove, experimental nuclear physicist

Why women are better with words New Scientist, 18 February 1995



Why women smell better
The Sciences, January 1995

Women get the feel-good tactor, men just get tired Sex and science New Scientist, 11 March 1995

Gender gap in the National Curriculum

In Hungary, 47% of

professional physicists

are women

Sex is a vast, infinitely

malleable continuum that

defies the constraints of

even five categories

Physics World, January 1990

that show up the polarity

# Why women are so loathsome: an evolutionary approac

• Why, apart from the sheer physical differences between men and women is the male power structure so stable?

I am reliably informed that we fear what we fail to understand. However, some things just demand disliking, regardless of the individual's knowledge of the subject. Cabbage is one example: it tastes and smells bad, it looks bad, it is so crammed with glucosinilates that, were it a synthetic food, the health inspectorate would laugh it off the shelves. Nevertheless, every day people are seen eating, cooking and forcefeeding small children cabbage. Women are somewhat analogous to this. Men are - from an evolutionary perspective - irrelevant. One man has sufficient sperm to inseminate entire nations of women. But, due to the obvious benefit of being male in such a situation, or female in the opposite situation, the sex ratio is maintained at 50:50. So women - whom, due to the production of single eggs every now and then, tend to be monogamous - are left to pick the prime males - whom due to their mass production of relatively energy cheap sperm are naturally less choosy and have a preference for blanket coverage of the females rather than monogamy with the fittest one on view. Thus social convention in humans - marriage and babies – is dictated by the females.

The important factor in the survival of humanity is thus under the control of women. It is a stable system, and thus proliferative, but at the same time it hardly allies itself with the selfpublicised image of the 'discriminated against, abused and dehumanised' women of the nineties. I was concerned that my role as a male, ignorant totally of women (having not clapped eyes on a non-relative female until the age of 19) was oppressive and degenerative to them. I talked it out. Oh! winge winge bitch bitch moan moan not taken seriously used as object to popularise masculine products blah blah sex crimes harassment no time off for babies blah blah eating disorders 40 times more likely to occur in females than males as a result of the male-induced pressure to conform to the popularised ideal female form which happens to be only maintainable in 20% of women without serious health risks.

The last point seemed relevant. I read a book - The Beauty Myth by Naomi Wolf. She starts with the suggestion that women should be happy with their appearance, because popular culture is essentially asinine in nature, and all statements therein are geared 99% to marketing and 1% to enlightenment. At this point she gets paranoid. She starts to imply that men have concocted a plot to suppress women by making them conform to impossible goals of personal presentation, and that all advertising agencies are heinous dens of male fascism taken up with preserving male dominance in society like a large golf club. She did not go on to say that ad men were actually aliens from the planet Debauchery who have taken on humanoid form with the intention of transforming female humans into creatures sexually compatible with their own species, although there is a sequel out now, so your guess is as good as mine.

Men are also victims of the same forms of advertising. Look at the Calvin Klein underpants adverts, or pick up any copy of Smash Hits or the like. Women speak and write about the role

of titillating imagery of young women in objectifying them. Pornography has very loose definitions, but surely Take That displaying their back-sides, and most other pop groups, who have a marked tendency to get their 'pecks' and 'six-packs'

out in magazines, ostensibly marketed at easily influenced pre-pubescent girls can only be bad for the male image. They can only produce anxiety in boys that do not possess bodies of equally unnatural conformations.

I started to read a bit more about feminism. The Female Eunuch by Germain Greer was the first real blockbuster of feminism by Glyph

in the sixties. Even today, she appears obsessed with some sort of male plot to silence women, and worse yet she appears to hold onto some idea of the moral superiority of women to men. I recall an interview wherein she started harping on about if women ran the world, government could be abolished because hierarchies in society are fundamentally patriarchal. Combine this with all those 'women against the bomb' protests, and Greenham Common women, and we are looking into the face of a gross hypocrisy. In what sense are women morally superior to men? The most common answer I hear is something to do with the fact that men do not have children, they do not create life.

In terms of a biological phenomenon called sexual selection, human relationships need to be geared around finding the fittest possible mating partner so that offspring will benefit from the good qualities of the sexually selected individual (as alluded to previously). This fitness is not necessarily displayed physically - say with a 'six-pack' - it's also behavioural. The likelihood that children will grow up healthily and reproduce (the biological aims of parenthood) is a different quantity in the slums of Calcutta and provincial Ealing. Thus social status as well as physical fitness is a sexually selective factor. I am talking about money, but more specifically power. Men will have noticed at the recent Maxwell 'millions' trial the photos of Maxwell ir's American wife. He is an ugly little shit; she is definitely not. But he is (was ha ha) a powerful rich man, so his selection over far more attractive men, me for example, is hardly surprising. This tendency for women to go for rich powerful men warps society, because, as anyone who has read Freud for Beginners will gladly tell you, basically, men just want a damn good shag.

Indeed, Germaine Greer is correct in her assumption that social hierarchies are patriarchal. But, if the roles were reversed, Denis Thatcher would look like Johnny Depp or the Wundpitt.

Why then, apart from the physical

differences between men and women, is the male power structure so stable? Surely a construct so easily based on a BMW and a nice arse cannot be so

> sexually specific. Empowerment may only take education and

It is men who are oppressed and damaged by the gender roles and not women.



any day I say), but in popular culture, which is the metre for popular opinion, scientists and accountants and engineers and computer types are perceived to be really dull. Women can just get away with doing something they don't like because they have choices in their life that men don't have. Warren Farell in his book The Myth of Male Power summarises the possible male and female life histories as follows:

Work Women: Work

Have Babies Work part time and have babies as well (IBID p9; women are seven times more likely to work only part-time)

The lack of pressure on Western women has allowed them freedom to pursue goals of self-fulfilment, not the other way around. Stability in the patriarchal hierarchy is maintained not solely by the proliferate megalomania of the male psyche, but also by the way it enables women to have a cushy life. They can be looked after. They are not conscripted to fight in major wars, they do not spend their lives working hard to support a sexual partner perfectly capable of doing the same work with the result that they live shorter lives. Men do all the worst jobs, men have a far higher suicide rate (dentists curiously) so it would appear that contrary to popular opinion, (and let's face it if it gets you laid - which it does - it will be popular) it is men who are oppressed and damaged by the gender roles and not women. It would be possible to go as far as to say that the whole system is geared towards giving women an easy life, but that would be hypocrisy.

The next time a women starts singing off about what a poor lot women have in life, beat the living shit out of her.

# Who's wearing the new generation's trousers?

Let me tell you a story. Like all stories it starts "once upon a time, in a land far, far away ... all the men got jobs and married, and all the women got married and pregnant. Everyone was happy, healthy, wealthy and wise. They'd never had it so good."

Like most fairy stories this one contains

some truth, some make believe and more than just a pinch of wish fulfilment. In fact the starting phrase, 'once upon a time'.

Post-war employment trends families a thing of the past. As heavy industry has declined and infor-

mation technology has cut a swath through middle management, the traditional preserves of semi- and unskilled men have been lost. Instead the fastest growing sector of the economy is part-time jobs for women on low wages. Whilst the Left rail on ad nausea concerning minimum wages and the Right

by Jon Jordan about the duty of mothers, the world of employment is becoming more complex.

For men, one effect of this new situation has been strangely to reinforce the old class structure. As traditional working

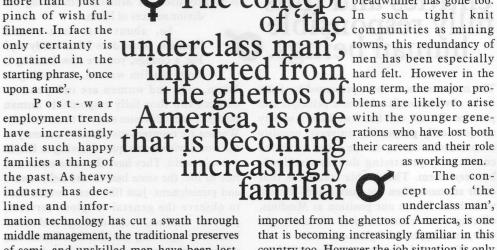
class manual jobs have been lost, so the role of The concept breadwinner has gone too. of the In such tight knit communities as mining as working men.

> The concept of 'the underclass man',

imported from the ghettos of America, is one that is becoming increasingly familiar in this country too. However the job situation is only one part of that equation. This, for men, has acted concurrently with the increasing attractiveness of women within the job market, particularly in the retail section. The widespread failure of marriage and the acceptance of single parent families has hit young men in more ways than one.

In the professional classes the situation is somewhat reversed. Twenty percent of women now earn more than their partners; a situation which leads to their careers dominating the social and geographic decisions of those relationships. The current trends for contractualisation and working from home have also provided some men with the opportunity to spend time with their children, take voluntary jobs of their own or just indulge themselves in rounds of golf.

In the future however, the standing of women seems likely to continue to strengthen. Girls generally gain a better education than boys and women will continue, as a gender, to improve their employment prospects in both professional and casual spheres of work. But if they so desire they can also chose to opt out and have children. Maybe it's not an easy choice, but it is a choice. If there's any trouser wearing to be done, it will be women doing it.







# What Does Islam Say?

by Someera Butt & Farida Begum

Pror a change,
you are now
hearing it from
Muslim women.
According to
Islam, men and
women are
independent
entities and thus
fully responsible
human beings.

The men-women issue as presented by Felix is the obvious conflict between principle and practice. On the one hand we have a society unequivocally purporting universal equality of men and women, on the other hand one continually practising double standards between them. The double standards that occur are most often not questioned. We live with them. But in our position as Muslims, offering an alternative way of life and world view, those hypocrisies glare out at us.

We would like to pose the question: what is the basis of your understanding of the issue of equality? If it is based on a personal interpretation of what YOU perceive to be right and wrong (by its very nature highly susceptible to external pressure) then the validity of such rights and wrongs are very much at risk. Also, the word equality itself is repeatedly used today without qualification. Yet men and women are not absolutely equal: they differ in many matters e.g. biologically and in psychological characteristics. What sort of equality are we talking about?

Consider the case of Islam: based on the absolute truth (the Qur'an) and the Prophet Muhammad's (peace be upon him) example (the Sunnah). The guidance for all judgments passed on every issue of what is right and what is wrong has been ordained by the Creator, Allah. Once a person accepts Islam through conviction that there is no deity worthy of worship but Allah and that Muhammad (peace be upon him) is His messenger and servant - he/she has submitted to the will of none but Allah. This is the literal meaning of the word 'Muslim'. Through application of the unequivocal principles, teachings and rules of the divine texts of the Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah, we have an infallible criteria for all matters.

Islam has been much slandered and accused of oppressing women and granting men more rights than women. Through the media, the principles laid down seem to contradict the practices of Muslims world wide. The people who slander Islam do so out of sheer ignorance and malice but they are not always guilty of fabricating the images of Islam as they see it practiced. This is the fault of the Muslim who has failed to practice the way of life Islam has prescribed for us. The media is prone to use the word Islamic for what Muslims do. This is incorrect, the word is rightly used for Muslims emulating the

divine sources of Islam.

So, about this men-women business. What does Islam really say? For a change, you are now hearing it from Muslim women. According to

Islam, men and women are independent entities and thus fully responsible human beings. Islam addresses each of them directly. Women are counterparts of men – contrary to the world-wide status quo of having to live in a man's world. They have the same status and role in life, the same heaven and hell, reward and punishment. Just like men, women have to observe the general religious services, personal conduct, social dealings and moral behaviour e.g. being truthful, fair, beneficent, righteous and well-mannered. Islam does not provide different moral orders for men and women.

Public life is no stage where men alone can play. There is no segregation of sexes in public domains which call for joint efforts. Thus both men and women are expected to contribute equally to decisions which affect the society they live in. In sharp contrast, take a look at all the exclusively male establishments of various political leanings which are prevalent in a culture which fights for equal rights for women to take off their clothes in public but does not allow them nor encourage them to partake in affairs of public concern.

There is no separate order of regulations between men and women except for a few secondary regulations where a distinction is drawn between the sexes. These are intended to enable them to give a genuine expression of their faith with consistent with their respective human nature, human life and society. The preservation of the family unit and the welfare of children are of paramount importance in Islamic social setup. The ultimate responsibility on familial matters (particularly financial support) lies with the husband in consultation and cooperation of the wife. Do not interpret this to read that whatever he says goes. This is an

infringement of the wife's role and rights.

Men are also obliged to attend group prayers and conscription for war. Women, though not obliged to undertake these responsibilities, are free to contribute as much or as little as they wish to these affairs. In fact, if men are not fulfiling their due obligations in this regard, it becomes the duty of women to compensate or complement their effort. Forget Florence Nightingale, Muslim women were engaging in active warfare on the battlefield at the time of the Prophet (peace be upon him). They were not only bringing water to thirsty combatants, treating the wounded and carrying them to safety but also physically defending their fellow Muslims on the battlefield by confronting the enemy. A far cry from the generally expected and accepted role of women in Muslim and non-Muslim societies today!

Today, in the name of liberation of women, a modern woman feels that provided she looks like a model, works twice as competently as a man, earns half the wages for their labour, carries and brings up the children, cooks a banquet every night and still has the energy and mental capacity to lead a fulfiling sex-life, she is on an equal footing the man. How naive, blind and brainwashed that is. It would appear that intellectual liberation of women has not yet taken place and judging from the direction that societies all around are heading for, it will be a very long time coming.

Blatant fallacies have been propagated by Hollywood. These images are nothing but false and distorted images of Islam's attitude towards women. Modesty in dress and attitudes, applies to both men and women. Both must refrain from dressing to impress and seduce. This is not a form of sexual repression. Islam does not impinge repression of the sexual instinct but regulates it in a manner which allows a healthy attitude towards it in the defined context of a responsible and accountable sexual relationship i.e. marriage.

Contrary to what is currently perceived as sexual liberation, the practice and excessive encouragement of unlimited and wide spread promiscuity and sexual deviations from the norm (homo and bisexual inclinations) are all manifestations of misuse of the sexual instinct in a society obsessed with the physical pleasures of a conjugal relationship without the commitment which should accompany it.

The men-women thing is not an issue. It is a by-product of a confused and aimless society which needs an answer to its ills. *This* is the issue.



# UNPROTECTED

### Sexual Exploration in the Aids Era

by Manor Askenazi

Have you ever had 'unprotected' sex? Have you ever wondered about the sexual history of your partners? Have you ever questioned the lack of a public campaign for voluntary testing?

A growing number of us encounter Aids before encountering sex - our first sexual escapades plagued by the fears and doubts surrounding this disease. Perhaps it is time our generation considered the untold consequences of the epidemic: for Aids does not exact its toll in lives alone, it also claims a heavy socio-cultural price.

STDs have always influenced society's attitude to non-reproductive sex. In the past, this has translated into an oversimplified dialectic of Good (healthy) vs. Evil (syphilitic). Fortunately, the discovery of Penicillin brought an end to this point of view. In just a few short decades a far wider range of practices were legitimised: the world ceased to be divided into Hedonists and

Safe(maybe)

#### No One Can Be Trusted

Though we do not yet have the technology with which to beat Aids, we do have the technology with which to detect it. Why then, are we not hearing any calls for voluntary screening? Why is it common practice to stop by for a casual mammography but not to do the equivalent in the case of Aids? The answer to this question is twofold:

- 1. The health authorities fear the consequences of people finding out, en masse, that they have the disease, without appropriate counselling being given at the same time. Some of the specific concerns are: fear of an increase in suicide cases, and fear of irresponsible 'I won't go down alone' reactions.
- 2. More importantly, the health authorities are afraid that people will get tested once, and then operate under the assumption that they don't have Aids, and won't ever get it. This is particularly important in the case of prostitutes which used to display 'certificates of HIV-negativeness'. Genito-Urinary clinics no longer notify patients of Aids test results in writing: results are always given verbally.

The safe sex campaign is a based entirely on the irresponsibility of the individual. It asks us, in the name of public health, to have sex in a climate of suspicion. By planting mistrust at the heart of every sexual interaction, aren't we re-defining the very meaning of sex? Is safe sex really sex?

Moralists. The increase in sexual freedom brought with it a diversification of attitudes to sex and sexuality.

Does the appearance of a new and deadly STD (such as Aids) threaten the legacy of this era? In other words, are we seeing the return of a polarised approach to sexuality?

On the face of it, the answer seems to be a resounding no. Society is dealing with Aids in a radically different manner to its approach to Syphilis (you won't find many government sponsored posters which preach 'clean living' or the avoidance of 'fornication' as a means of protection against Aids). Yet it could be that the current 'safe-sex' campaign reveals a more sinister undercurrent.

Consider the underlying assumptions behind the 'safe-sex' campaign:

- No one can be trusted.
- Sex is essentially a 'plug & socket' affair.

Clearly, under these conditions sex in the Aids era is 'hobbled' in comparison with pre-Aids-post-Syphilis times. There are two exceptions however.

Neo-Moralists: those who will only ever have one partner (for instance those of a religious persuasion). Clearly they are not affected by the current sexual climate.

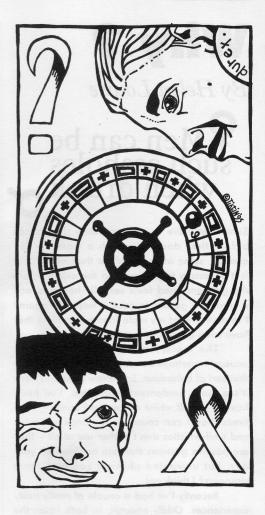
Neo-Hedonists: those who approach sex without much regard for its human perspective. Whilst the physical constraints may slightly annoy them, they are not really affected by the current sexual climate either (e.g. the loss of trust is not an issue for them).

In other words, I believe that we are living in an era which may very well see the return of a two-sided, simplistic approach to sex. Those who regard it as a sacred/religious activity can continue to flourish alongside those who approach it as purely physical. However, for those who live in the fragile middle-ground, Aids represents a serious setback: if you find the current sexual climate of mistrust profoundly disturbing, and if you feel constrained by the rules of safe sex, then you are a member of this middle-ground.

As such, you must ask yourself whether there is an alternative answer to Aids, other than the tyranny of safe sex. Could we not replace fear and suspicion with a more positive approach based on mutual trust? Should we not place more emphasis on voluntary self-testing as a means to minimise the need for safe sex, even in the absence of a long-term relationship?

No one is forcing us to treat our partners as potential killers. We can break the circle of suspicion.

We can get tested.



### Sex(sort of)

#### Sex is a 'Plug & Socket' Affair

Condoms are a perfectly adequate means of protection against infection from penetrative sex. However, most people are not likely to be satisfied by a single form of sexual activity and virtually everyone experiments at the boundaries of what is considered 'safe' according to the scientific community. e.g. many people regularly have oral sex under the assumption that this is a low-risk activity.

Unfortunately, it is only as Aids affects behaviour patterns that data becomes available focussing on specific forms of sexual activity. In the case of oral sex, it was initially very difficult to find cases where the physician knew for certain that no other high-risk activity was being practiced. Today, such data is becoming available, and the results are not pleasant: oral sex has recently been promoted to a moderate-risk activity by the Centre for Disease Control.

As long as safe-sex means 'use a condom and everything will be all right' most people live with it, but how many people do you know, who would even consider using such a thing as a dental dam? Would you? Then how safe are you after all? Is safe sex really safe?

# Why?

By Helen Louise

# Men can be such assholes when drunk

Some men have to get completely slaughtered before they dare approach a woman. Fair enough, some of us are shyer than others. But is it necessary to be drunk to the extent where the girl concerned feels sexually harassed and is afraid to go out in case it happens again? I've never heard my male friends complain they have been groped by a stranger in the bar...

The male/female mix at IC is a bit unusual - perhaps our social situation provokes that sort of behaviour. Somehow though, I think it's a more fundamental problem. I've been hassled myself whilst out around London more times than I can count on my fingers. Smiles and wolf-whistles don't bother me at all - they are positive gestures that can brighten up your day. But unwanted physical contact? From strangers? I think not.

Recently I've had a couple of really nasty experiences. Oddly enough, in both cases the male was somewhat one over the eight. I don't think I'm prone to scaremongering, nor do I dress outrageously or walk home alone in the dark. But at 7am on a Sunday morning in Covent Garden, surrounded by people, should I feel scared when someone who seems friendly enough starts chatting me up? Or when three of us are walking down Hammersmith Broadway on a Friday night -a main road, welllit - and an alcoholic starts trying to grab us? It might not sound like much, but I have felt emotionally scarred ever since.

Obviously there are a lot of reasons why sexual harassment like this occurs. It's not funny trying to figure them out when you're in that situation. Yes, there are perverts out there who get their kicks out of terrifying others. But I've noticed that all the men who've tried it on with me were perfectly decent blokes when not drunk. Why do certain males find it necessary to act like this when drunk? Immaturity? Inadequacy? Or primeval 'male' behaviour?

Guys - when you read this - please just take some time to stop and think about the way you act. By all means have a drink and enjoy yourselves, but don't lose control over what you are doing. You may think you are just having a bit of harmless fun, but I bet you've never been in a situation where an unpredictable, physically stronger person is trying to force you to do something. Have you ever walked down the street fingering a rape alarm in your pocket, wondering when to start running? Can you see the fear in my eyes?

# DO YOU SUBMIT OR FIGHT FOR YOUR DIGNITY?

**A** businessman is aggressive; a businesswoman is pushy. He's good

on details; she's fussy. He loses his temper because he's so involved in his job; she's bitchy. He follows through; she doesn't know when to give up. His judgements are her prejudices. He is a man of the world; she slept her way to the top. He's a stern taskmaster; she's hard to work for."

In Imperial College there are three female professors - yet throughout the country women are consistently getting better grades in school. Social leaders and personnel management are almost exclusively male even though women are commonly (rightly or wrongly) accredited with a far better understanding of people. Over 50% of the population is female - vet birth and menstruation are unacceptable conversation topics. Far more than 50% of television viewers are female, yet producers and directors (nearly all male) write and film for

the male perspective one that is frequently patronising and offensive. 

He is a man of biology dept (in theory the most

Advertising executives have only two types of women in their ads: the 'executive tart' or 'two cunts in a kitchen' Over 50% of us are female but history books are

exclusively male; Jessie Bernard, an established academic, points out that practically all sociology to date has been a sociology of the male world. Males have taken themselves as the reference point, assessed problems and determined priorities from their perspective and then proceeded to conduct their research and construct their sociological knowledge on these most subjective and unquestioned premises - an exclusion of female meaning. Over 50% of us are female - but this workforce, these consumers, these civilians with equal rights to independence still live a second-class life. The concept that the need for feminism is a thing of the past, that everything is alright now, could fairly be described as a sop fed to us by a male-dominated society protecting their

As a person I am still seen primarily as female - and boxed accordingly. Society classes me according to dress - frump or tart. This doesn't happen to men. Society does not allow me to walk down the street without harassment - if I object it brands me as having no sense of humour or becomes abusive. Society has never recognised women

as thinking, dynamic, strong people capable of leadership, and still doesn't. Yet in Western history women have been taught to protect their men from the realities of life women coped with pregnancy alone and were shut away to do so. Family illness was handled by women. Unwanted pregnancies and physical disasters were all handled by women. Often the financial running of the household was handled by the woman, who consistently protected her man from trouble. Men were not to be told about anything that could upset them and women, as they still do, bore the brunt of the problem and tended to the man's needs.

Imperial College pats itself on its managerial head for hosting an annual WISE week - while in the meantime the senior

(male) staff in the the world; she female-friendly in college) discuss slept her way to "dishing out the crumpet" as they the top survey the photo sheets of the new sheets of the new vear's intake to

distribute them amongst themselves as tutees. Meanwhile a career's officer takes a long look up and down a client's legs before telling her no, he can't have met her before or he'd "definitely have remembered". Then ten minutes later he berates her for not taking herself seriously as an academic. Again, throughout college, staff who are known to have harassed female students are kept in position, kept in contact with first years and given female tutees. Female students are commonly in receipt of letters from male lecturers suggesting relationships, and then are expected to turn up to tutorials and seek out this person for academic advice. And these women, again taught by society to consider these men's feelings as of paramount importance, are afraid to speak out. Not because of fear of personal exposure, but due to this ingrained idea that we cannot cause a man trouble but must instead protect him

In the light of all this I find it increasingly difficult to accept that the battle is won, that women are accepted as an integral part of society. I admit that men have also

By Fiona Duerden

that is one that can change without challenging the shape of society. What men have been given is independence and ambition - creative and mental stretching and the potential for advancement - continual challenges, something new. Probably the most damaging box a woman is put in is the one that says it is what she looks like that determines her level of acceptance - whether she is listened to, respected and her opinions, even her self, valued. And the difficulty with this is that what she is supposed to look like is 'feminine' - a word defined by males to mean

gentle, pretty and generally Laura Ashley.

This inherently excludes women from any

position of power or authority, if only by

impracticalities of dress!

been boxed inside an

emotional stereotype - but

This image is propagated by a male advertising world, a male film world, maleoriented authority figures. Male historians have deprived me of role models, again propagating the belief that women can never be great. Male critics, who naturally do not relate to the experiences of female artists, writers, film directors and musicians, have unwittingly prevented their recognition, thus depriving me of another huge part of my heritage. More damaging is that female perspectives of female potential is not publicised, again relegating women to the role of

Women are

not naturally

passive, women

are not

inherently

anything but

women

tart or mother figure Reading most acclaimed books, the difference in the portrayal of women by women or by men is enormous - and so few women authors are recognised. Yet we are taught

to take in these books, study them at school, accept them as our cultural heritage - and again and again they deprive women of any ambition, self-belief and value in themselves simply as people (for an example, compare Steinbeck with Austen).

It is nothing less than a fact that all of us are inherently sexist - as long as we are separated in our experiences by culture our

perspectives will be different. Thus a male interview panel will naturally be biased towards

males (of the same background - this affects class and race), just as male critics are biased to male art. There is, then, a need for positive discrimination until there is an even balance of men and women in positions of power, or else the situation will continue to propagate itself. There is absolutely no reason why 50:50 leadership should not be the case women are not different from men in talents or abilities, women are not 'naturally passive', women are not inherently anything but women. The fact is that the all-male world is a difficult one to break into - it demands changes in male lifestyle in offices, it creates challenges to traditional thinking and practical arrangements. (I wonder in the midst of this whether if there were more female senior staff in college, male lecturers with a 'reputation' would still be doing the jobs they do - because I most definitely question whether they should be).

But a woman usually has to be twice as good as a man to get half as far (although it has been said that this is not difficult...). For Margaret Thatcher to be a leader she became branded 'the Iron Lady', a derogatory term denoting her loss of 'femininity' - okay, I have problems with her policies, but she was an excellent leader. To be this good, to get this far, why should we have to become 'like a man'? There are strengths in female culture that are generally not present in male culture

that need to be present in leadership situations - the ability to talk about feelings for example. Maybe if women were put in these positions men could, by association, become released from their own emotional boxes. But, looking at the facts, this time is still a long way off. Too many men, in short, have a problem with being under the authority of a woman. It is this ego that

stands in the way of our ultimate freedom.

"If a woman recognises that the only way women can ever live in real dignity is to make this society a place where both men and women can share its responsibilities and rewards equally, then she must commit herself to the struggle for women's freedom. Coming to grips with this is very difficult. Even now, I feel resentment that my choice is submit or fight."

# Models

By Owain Bennallack

More than clothes horses, we need models to base our mental idea of self on. Until a geneticist convinces me otherwise, it seems the bulk of our development is through mimicking the actions, postures and indeed the lives of others; our parents, our peers, characters in films and novels. And I would arave that it is indicative of the still prevalent bias in culture and language that 'model' is a female word and, bar the cover of Loaded, a female concern. Whereas 'role-model' is at best nongender specific and probably tends to the male.

"Okay", you say, "but what's the big deal"? ("'Owain' is a male right, or have my worst fears been realised"?) Well, I'm a male who is interested in aging, time and what we make of our lives. The first time I stopped going 'who needs feminism - we're all equal enough now' was when somebody or some piece of writing pointed out to me that a good example of how far we've (not) come can be gauged simply by walking through the underground and looking at the posters. Try it. You'll notice (again) female bodies used to promote everything. The film posters which virtually invariably feature man-to-fore, weak or semistrong woman behind. The way women over the gae of thirty-five disappear from view, until they become seventy and need medical care.

Don't think that it's the same for men look and you'll see that it isn't. There is the odd underwear advert or burly bloke leaping naked from a bottle of bacardi, true. But there is a huge range of other males in a variety of fictitious walks of life. Not all are attractive and a significant block have made it past forty.

The only consistent female figures are the females society can't fear - the super-models. The most visible, highly paid women in the world who are rewarded, basically, for doing nothing since the day they were born except avoid motorcycle accidents and too many cream cakes. What kind of a model is that: stay young, pretty and we'll take you into our arms? And before somebody yaps on about male super-models - yes, they do or could soon exist But who are they going to threaten?

The point that critics of this simple brand of feminism (which is really just eye-opening) consistently miss is that for the moment at least, it wouldn't matter two hoots if a few super-boybimbo's appeared on billboards everywhere. Because men could simply open any quality newspaper and see page after page of small grey squared mostly-male faces: running the country, making the best deals, inventing and allowed to grow old gracefully in the public eye (old women have two options: homely granny or hag). If we're serious about 50-50 menwomen then that's a simple fact to bare in mind. It's not anyone's fault particularly. I just feel lucky you might see me grow old.

# Filmsoc Presents...

Doors open 15 minutes before time stated. ICU Cinema is no smoking but drinks from Da Vinci's bar are welcome. E&OE; ROAR

# TARANTINO DAY Wednesday 21st

Reservoir Dogs - 2pm True Romance - 5pm Pulp Fiction - 8pm

# **DUMB AND DUMBER**

Thurs 22nd 8:30pm Fri 23rd 5:30pm

An Awfully Big Adventure Tuesday 20th at 6pm

SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION Thursday 22nd 5:30pm

La Reine Margot Tuesday 20th 8:30pm

Al No Corrida

(IN THE REALM OF THE SENSES

Weds 21st 11pm Thurs 22nd 11pm



**Sunday 18th June 8pm** 

SUPPORTED BY STA TRAVEL, IMPERIAL COLLEGE TEL: 0171 581 8882



Monty Python's THE MEANING OF LIFE Friday 23rd 8pm

STEPHEN DORFF REESE WITHERSPOON
Autorit

Monday 19th Jume at 8pm

Monday 19th Jume at 8pm

Accompanied guests and students who cannot show union / swipe card.

ters. **E IU**Other IC or ULU
students & staff

Film Card holders.



#### Run-down of this week's ents

Keys: Midsummer's Carnival

Well, now we've recovered from our headshaking little welcome burst of indieness, here's this weeks pearls, guaranteed to be more entertaining than England's display against the might of Japan.

Friday June 9th: If you want a special night of 'mind-expanding trance, happy hardcore and bangin' techno', then mantra is for you and it's all yours for just a Quid. Or free if you're there before 9pm.

Saturday June 10th: Without my Mystic Meg Ball, I don't know who's playing but I do know we'll be continuing our big screen coverage of the Rugby World Cup quarterfinals in Da Vinci's. Bar opens at 1pm, watch posters for full details.

Tuesday June 13th: This is going to be a very lucky 13th for somebody, as we hold our end of year, summer holiday, Bar Trivia. There's £50 cash to the winning team, courtesy of STA Travel, plus beer and other goodies to be won. Is there a better way to spend a Tuesday night?

Wednesday June 14th: Still hanging on in there... Club Spanque. 8pm - 11.30pm.

Thursday June 15th: An evening of light training before the main event... Cocktail Night. Summer specials from £1.70.

Friday June 16th: What the world's been waiting for. For those of you with you head full of formulae who've not noticed the garish posters, it's The Midsummers Night Carnival. For just £5 in advance, you can celebrate the end of the year in style, as the Union Building gets as close to holiday heaven as possible without putting 2 tons of sand in the Quad. For fans of all things trancey, Whirl-y-gig, featuring DJ Monkey Pilot, Earthtribe, and Joi will be in the concert hall, and quieter types may fancy the chilled out ambience of the Malibu Cocktail Bar, with cool cocktails and chilled sounds. If you want to get wet and wild, the Ents Lounge turns into a bubbletastic Foam Party, on a Balearic tip. You can also try not to "wipeout" on the Surf Machine, limbo away to the Steel Band, "oooh" and "aaah" at the Circus Acts, stuff yourself at the Barbecue, or just make yourself sick on the free "BIZZ" soft drinks, and Candyfloss. And someone will be going home with a surfboard! There's also special gifts for those in beachwear. Ticket are on sale in the Union Office, but we expect to sell out, so don't leave it too late. It's going to be hot, hot, HOT!

A final thing... if you want to stand a chance of winning £150 worth of travel vouchers, fill in an I.C.U questionnaire and return it to the Union Office or STA Student Travel, before 5pm next Friday (16th).

### GOLOURS

#### This Year's Awards

Keys: Reward, Service, Social

### **Imperial** College Union Awards and Colours 1994/1995

**Union General** Award Dan Look Ian Parish Owain Bennallack

Pot Dave Goddard Dan Look Ian Parish

Lucy Chothia

**Honourary Life** Membership Karl Drage Stef Laugharne Ian Nichol Paul Cooper Mark Walton Marc C. Swan Charlie Leary

Outstanding Service Award Annie Mathewman Owain Bennallack Jon Jordan Peter Mee John Durrell James Cooper Chris Ince Christian Endersby Garret O'Conner

**Social Colours Anthony Waite** Ashley Lumsden Barry Wright **Becky Cotton Brian Lloyd-Davies** Charlie Bell Chris Bragg Chris Lowe Claire Maloney **Duncan Tindall** Emma Green

Fiona Grandison Garry Waller Ivan Chan James Harrow Jeremy Thomson Joe Mcfadden Jules Taplin Juliette Decock Kate Andrews Karen Barnes Keith Fisher Kuham Sivathan Louise Rickard Lucy Hobs Luke Gietzen Mark Sharman Marlain Angelides Martyn Crook Matt Szyndel Mellissa Parcell Michael Biddle Mike Hanson Myles Barret Nigel Wheatly Owen Brown Paul Brown Piers Daniell Piers Williams Rachael Curran Rebecca Finn Richard Parker Sarah Wingrove Sir Frank Cooper Susan Dalan Tony Moore Vinod Fernandez

#### **Althetics** Clubs Committee Colour Awards

**Full Colours** Wai Kwok Ben Willis Jane Key Tara Wood Jim Ryan

**Half Colours** Abdul Said Daniel Loureda Barbara Spence Steve Trussell Jin Yee Lim Ian Haines

Stephanie Couchman Karen Young Kim Jabbour Sarah Thomas Cathy Anderson Melanie Hayles Alison Dyer Rand Selman Laura Rasso Sarah Godleman Jessica Dallimore Nick Flynn Tim Oldham Marcus Alexander Keith Simpson M Yasuda Helen Brindley Tansin Lyle Maryam Yahyavi

**Social Colours** 

Jon Philip Chris Collinson Belal Al-Khatib Ste Lamb Claire Robins Mike Elliot Rachael Curran Su Purdom Juliet Bird Toby Rolph Richard Bibby Paul Bland Ivor Crampsie Sian Evans Caroline Deetjen **Brooke Hoskins** Karl Drage Gareth Williams Rhydian Jones Stevie Wilkinson Vinod Fernandez Tim Townend David Lloyd

#### City & Guilds College Union Colours

Distinguished **Service Award Becky Cotton** Helen Roberts Christian Enderby Pauli Markannen

Garret O'Connor Eric Allsop Steve Wilkinson **Prof Julia Higgins** Paul Griffith Ian Parish Dr Shaun Crofton Adrian Winchester Mark Walton Colin Rogers Nick Morgans

**Full Colours** Tim Dulley Nathan East Jez Clayton Tammy Atkins Alison Butt Kieran McCullough Mark Price Fiona Grandison Louise Van Der Straeten Ralph Clague Roger Pownall John Evans Tom Howell Alex Bell Gavin Chow Andy Smith

**Half Colours** Eric Fosdike **Duncan Tindall** Nick Osborne Rob Bell Jon Jansen Steve Starkey Thomas Todd Stephen Barnes Simon Cope Karen Aylward Adam Torry Dan Look Ben Maxwell Gareth Parry **Eloise Thurston** Glen Walllington John Esser Tim Oldham Tom Salter Hulian Harrison Tom Hovord

Colours Certificates may be collected from the City & Guilds Union Office.

James Turner

crumb



# welcome to weirdsville

always been grounded in the understanding that they are fact. In documentaries, the people who talk case and it's this twist of the factual to the camera say their lines as themselves: no characterisations are involved. But that power always involves a double-edge; something evidenced in crumb - a documentary about the underground artist Robert Crumb.

Some parts of the film are unsurprising in their factuality. Crumb, the geeky, speck ridden artist, sketches continually and compulsively. Even when being interviewed in a restaurant, he draws over the paper napkin.

We get to hear about the experiences he had in the sixties, when his influence was strongest. Ex-lovers and wives swan into view, expressing mock anger over the way he treated them and Robert just raises his shoulders and laughs soundlessly. Robert Hughes, the gruff culture critic, tries to raise Crumb to the canon of great art and fellow cartoonists discuss whether he's a racist, a misogynist, a genius, a sell out or a loser. We see him doing a photo shoot for 'Leg Show' magazine; him and a bevy of lovelies. The editor, another ex, waxes lyrically about his sexual habits - uninterested in bed, obsessed by masturbation, excited by piggy-backs!

It's all quite standard documentary stuff really. Some information is imparted and something of Crumb's strange character is displayed. If the documentary was made up totally of this type of material it would remain a worthy,

The power of documentaries has yet boring film, purely one for the araphical train-spotters.

Tragically though this isn't the knife which makes the film so compelling. Because behind the facade of the professional commentators loom the three Crumb brothers and, for all their sad weirdness, it's an enthralling sight. For the Crumb family was, and what remains of it still is, an example of the two sides of the american dream/nightmare.

Father was an authoritarian marine who wanted his sons to be blond, strapping lads. What he got was three dysfunctional geeks, as well as two daughters (neither of which appear in the film, one being a 'separatist lesbian'). Mother was a tranguilliser addict and the boys, Charles, Robert and Max grew up and atrophied within their own little world of hand-drawn comics.

Older brother, Charles, gives gummy smiles (sans teeth) and tells tales of his mental illnesses, the medication that stops him wanting to commit suicide, reclusehood and the continual rereading of the books of his youth, and it's compelling. One because he's real, two because he's actually funny, three because it's incredibly sad and four because Charles is aware of all these things too. In a similar way Max gets out his bed of nails and sits on it, swallows qualities of cotton to clean out his gut and tells of the urges that saw him jailed for pulling women's trousers down.

In turn it doesn't take too much of this before you realise where Robert's art is coming from. The

#### THE MENU



In a wild and wacky week; tintin keeps on truckin' with king of underground comics, Robert Crumb in the documentary crumb. Magpie endures the charms of the brady bunch.



In space no-one can hear you scream, on rotation they don't stop you spinning until you ask them nicely. Luke Gietzen and Joe McFadden muse over the week's singles.



paul weller bring it all back home - Nick goes too. Joe hears the new future sounds of london album and says yes, Nick returns with teenage fanclub live before Ian is surprised by boy george. Vik brings up the rear with steamboat band.



The 227th Royal Academy of Art summer exhibition is the setting for over a thousand exhibits from established artists and random newcomers. Tintin mingled with the crowd.



The ever popular classic book column continues for an unprecedented second week as Samin sings the praise of Umberto Eco's reflections on the name of the rose.

crazy have always told us more about society than the sane and seeing it demonstrated in Crumb turns out to be an intensely many and on data and a small disconcerting experience.

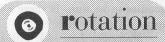
Let's set the cringe worthy scene: the brady bunch have somehow evaded time. They have neither grown old or changed with the times. Maybe it's an alien abduction or some genetic experiment. Whatever, this family has landed in the nineties and they are completely oblivious to their new surroundings.

Well, until that oblivion is rudely interrupted by the small matter of a \$20,000 property tax. The Brady Bunch face eviction (cue audience tears) and the auctioning off of their house. And if that weren't enough the individual members of the family are facing their own personal problems; puberty, dating, middle child syndrome, inner voices. It's all very worrying, it really is.

If you are unfortunate enough to see this film then watch out for the star guests. Ru Paul plays a school counsellor in one of the more amusing scenes, and then there are three quarters of the Monkeys (Davy Jones, Peter Tork and Micky Dolenz). It's small comfort I know.

From start to finish The Brady Bunch had me cringing in my seat with embarrassment. It will also embarrass and haunt every thirtysomething who remembers polyester shirts and flared trousers, and those still wearing them today.

Burlesque it is not, a turkey it is. This film is best seen, and I quote, "stoned and on video". 6





above; Luke and Joe, or it could be Joe and Luke?

dodgy – staying out for the... Joe: ok, let's play 'name that oh-so familiar guitar riff'. Ready Luke? Here we go... (cue bouncy indie guitar antics). Luke: sounds suspiciously like: lggy Pop's 'passenger' to me, m'lud, May I call the court's attention to Exhibit A? (short pause while we rummage around for exhibit A. Find: one female rat and 6,548 cans of draught Guinness, all empty. No exhibit A. Start. throwing empty cans at rat, who knocks over a teetering pile of tapes. The Banshees' version of passenger flies throw the air and lands, as luck would have it, in the tape deck. ". I am the pass-enn-ger .") The verdict: guilty of shameless plagiarism, but a suspended sentence since we actually quite like it anyway.



### running on the spot or standing still?

A wry smile must have crossed paul weller's lips when he penned the first track of his latest album, stanley road. Weller is indeed a 'changingman'. From the Jam and Style Council to today the modfather has certainly altered his musical direction.

'Changingman', the track, opens 'stanley road' and it's a stomping song which is one of the album's best. A ballad, 'you do something to me', then shows off Weller's chocolate voice as it changes from contemplative to rocky during the song. 'Time passes' is another ballad in the same vein but before too long you start to realise that "the same" is a phrase which casts a long shadow over the album. Yes, Weller can play, I don't deny that, but the album as a whole is better suited to midnight background music rather than upfront non-passive listening. The songs only seem to have two faces - loud or quiet and they either start with a clanky guitar sound or a piano break.

'Wings of speed' includes a some gospelesque singing which adds originality to the closing track, but Weller is in danger of pushing the aor routine a little too far. Despite being the darling of the NME, he may indeed have to re-invent himself once more to regain what he has lost. (6)

There's a five second snatch of sampled speech at the start of isdn, the future sounds of london's epic new album, where the creators break their rule of invisible performances and speak directly to the audience. What do they have to say to the punters? "Stop flashing those f\*king lights please" And that's it.

The rest of the album is a seamless soundscape of cybernetic cool with samples from 'aliens' and 'repoman' serving as the vocabulary for a post-modern conceptless album. Meaning disappears over the event horizon and you're left simply to sink into sensation. This is music in its truest, purest sense.

Motifs repeat, fade and return in transmuted form during this seventy minute journey. I might compare it to classical music, but I don't know enough to do more

than vaguely recognise a similar sophistication in the arrangements.

FSOL are, despite occasional lapses into back-patting pretentiousness, one of the most important and innovative artists on the music scene today. (8)

teenage fanclub wander onto the Shepherd Bush Empire stage in their customary manner to a wall of clapping and whistles. With no further ceremony, they kick off with 'hang on', followed quickly by 'what you do to me'. By this time, the moshers are in full mosh and the atmosphere is brilliant. Every single track is filled with the enthusiasm the band demonstrate each time they play live. Then TFC storm through 'the cabbage', 'commercial alternative' and other from their previous and current albums. The hour long set finishes with the sublime 'star sign' and we're into encore land.

First cover version is the Beatles' 'rain', followed by 'the concept'. Encore number two consists of covers so obscure noone had heard of them. In a mosh of feedback and strobe lights, TFC finish and wander off as they came on. The best band in Britain?

boy george is back with an album that touches on aspects of his life and also takes a new musical direction, leaving behind the old days of Culture Club.

cheapness and beauty opens

with 'funtime' (Iggy Pop/Bowie) and progresses on through a fair number of guitar laden tracks. Another remarkable thing about it is how personal the themes are. George defends his sexuality from society, attacks past lovers as well as talking about cheapness, beauty and misadventure.

With anyone else this material would probably just end up angry and loud. George, however, seems to be content to lead you through the pages of his public life. A good example is 'unfinished business'. It's about an ex lover and is sung emotionally, without resorting to shouting match.

Boy George has pulled off a very pleasant surprise with this album and while he may not be a cool name to throw around, you should give this a chance. (8)

I so wanted to like the steamboat band. After all, it's not every day that a band from your home town, who have played your local pub, release a major label lp; runners and riders. Alas, no. Within the first few chords of opening track, three ugly (to some) words slap you across the face; the Black Crowes. This wouldn't necessarily be a bad thing if it weren't for the fact that the world is only big enough for one lot of Rolling Stones purloiners. Copying the pioneers is one thing, copying the copyists is quite another.

The moral of the story is that a rock band who play in their local pub often ends up playing pub rock. (4) (9

#### black grape -

reverend black grape Luke: Very funky; very catchy; very, very good. Primalscreamesque one might say. Joe: Bad boy Shaun Ryder returns to devastating effect: a nuclear groove that kills braincells and leaves people dancing. Single of the week.

#### house of pain -

over there (I don't care) Joe: Lads, I know this is difficult for you to accept but I'm going have to break it to you. You are ALL whitel You are NOT. repeat NOT, 'niggers from the ahetto' and no amount of inyour-face shouting will give you the cred you so clearly lack. Luke: So bad it's funny.

babes in toyland - sweet '69 Luke: So bad it's not even funny Joe. Cock rock by rockers without cocks. Whotever next?

soul coughing - down to this Joe: Dance/acid-jazz/ambient/ bavarian pipe music crossover kinda thing (it says here). The blue jazz mix has a cool echo effect, but other than that, I couldn't see the point ... Luke: A couple of nice ideas,

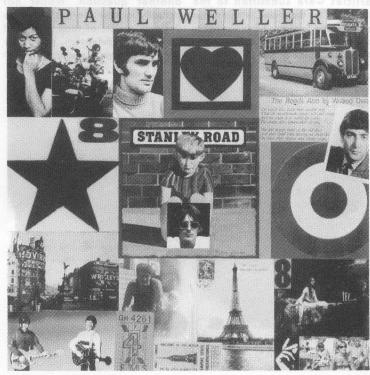
thrown together in a very haphazard way to little effect.

molly half-head - shine Luke: Not bad in a strangelovey kinda way. Joe: Usual 2nd division indieburble from the Mollys.

rosa mota - hopey/traction Luke: Pleasantly surprising, with the two singers complementing one another in some interesting and clever ways. Reminds me of My Bloody Valentine, which is definitely a good thing. Joe: Pretty good. (Whatdaya want, an essay?!)

drugstore – fader Joe: Ah, yes, the heady, intoxicating delights of drugstore, a combination of broken-hearted vocals and dreamy guitars makes 'fader' a winner. This is merely the latest scintillating gem amidst a constellation of stellar songs; a cornucopia of...

Luke: I think it's bollocks. Joe: I beg your pardon? Luke: she can't sing, they can't play, ergo it's trippy, hippy shaegazing ballocks. Joe: Right, I've had enough Outside mate, I'm having you!



paul weller's stanley road

sandro chia: sacre cuore

The entrance to the Royal Academy's summer exhibition is dominated by the model of Sir Eduardo Paolozzi's sculpture, newton after blake for the british library. The enormous white figure bends down to measure out and reduce creation with a pair of dividers. As an opening object it's impressive although not particularly representative of the art within.

The strength and weakness of the Summer Exhibition rests in the diversity and amateurism of its exhibits. Few of the works dominate or even stand out but that's because few of them are by Artists - as opposed to artists. To that degree it's a large show made up of small, if enthusiastic, endeavours.

There are some notable exceptions amongst the 1,168 works. Peter Blake, pop – album cover – artist, has a characteristic mixed media, h.o.m.a.g.e. j.j. in memory of roger de grey. Carel Weight has a series of five oils, and pop art godfather, Roy Lichtenstein, dominates the large gallery VII with his nude with beach ball. These are the exceptions however.

This being the case, heavy duty art critics will, and do, complain about the exhibition but such an attitude seems to defeat its whole underlying ethos. The Summer Exhibition is more an opportunity for the artists of the home counties to display their still lives and landscapes and perhaps even sell some of them. This year 1,383 pieces (including multiple prints) had been sold prior to the public days and over eleven thousand articles were submitted to the Academy for the show. In this sense at least, the Summer Exhibition does seem to have a part to play within the public arena of art.



### brush and strokes of the home counties

The exhibition is organised throughout the thirteen galleries of the Royal Academy; each room being loosely ordered by the media type displayed within. Perhaps one of the most interesting galleries is that which displays the architectural drawings and models. Some of these are particularly stunning, although whether they are art is another question. Whilst not actually in that room, the Future Systems model of their proposed Tate Gallery Extension, gallery for the 21st century, is perhaps the best

example of a striking building and people. The latter is of the design and the incredible attention to detail of the actual model itself.

small south room, which as in previous years, is packed from floor as suggesting some measure of to ceiling with small oil paintings, popularity, and even success. 9

other, more practical, problems associated with the Summer Another favourite gallery is the Exhibition. It can get extremely crowded, a fact which could be seen



### literary reconstruction

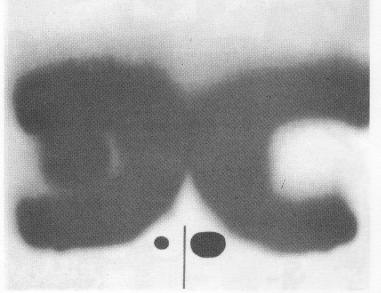
Umberto Eco's reflections on the name of the rose, true to its genre, is not a book but a symbol for a book.

'Reflections' is a slim A5 lit. crit. exercise. No chapter is more than 5 pages but the shortness deceives the reader concerning its cleverness. The title might imply that the book is about Eco's reflections on his novel, 'the name of the rose.. But naming a book is unavoidable. Even calling a book 'unfinished' or 'untitled', as in Martin Amis' 'the information', tells us something. The title is inescapable, but that doesn't mean that it should be faithful. Eco never interprets 'the name of the rose', but invites us into an eclectic universe of issues surrounding a - The, even - novel.

Indeed, Eco's 'reflections' is a dialogue on the intertextuality of literature. He tells us how books are always about other books. And about how constructing a novel is a cosmological event. 'Reflections' tells us of the technicalities of writing a novel; of all the card files and notes; and of how even writing a simple conversation between two men is cause for concern.

Topically (but isn't it always?) Eco discusses whether a highbrow, intellectual event, such as a novel, can ever be popular. This whole situation reeks of irony, of course, as Toby Young's the Modern Review used to sell itself with the "low culture for highbrows" slogan. Ah, post-modernism, how can we ever escape it? Eco is its symbol and for those in the dark, gives his own definition in one of the last chapters.

'Reflections' takes less than half an hour to read, yet contains enough material for the reader to spend half his life on. Eco the semiotician has not written a real book. But, as the song goes, "it's the real thing, it's even better than the real thing". 6



victor pasmore; beyond the eye, i



The difference of the property of the property

### **DRAMSOC PRESENTS**

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WEDDING
of the decade HIPPOLYTA

to marry
JUKE THESEUS
president of
Athens Records
PICS inside

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### VISUAL **BOOKINGS** FELIX 09JUN95

SUNDAY

Glidina Club 8.15am

Thurs meeting if it is your

Rehearsal, Reed LT.

Wargames Club

Skating and Hockey

Hyde Park/Kensington

Table Tennis Rm.

Aerobics Class

Tae Kwon Do

IC Choir

Gdns SI

**FRIDAY** 

C's very own tangy cock-

grooves. Appearing with

Multiformity at the Arena Drury Lane. £3.

Live music from Wave

Islamic Society

ICU Rag

Friday Prayers, SG

Rag Meeting, EL.

Free Minibus Service

1.30pm-2am from the

Test Match Special 11am

12.30am

9.30pm

R4 LW. Day two, first test

Goddard's disturbing post

tionary film wishes death

to cinema and its rulers.

The smell of Reeves &

BBC2. A right grand

Nothing doing at ICU

cinema this week, due to

the Midsummer Night's

Dream production

Plenty of films next

Pavement + dEUS

Brixton Academy

0171 924 9999

Dodgy + Cast

0171 284 2200

tickets; £7.50

tube; Kentish Town

The Best of British

of fantasy & desire to the

bitter edge of comedy

Sorry, but art has

become a sub sectio

the glam genre that

of the veneer of style

ICA Cinema, The Mall, SW1. £6.50, £5 matinee

Animation 2

tube; Brixton

modern savage revolu-

Weekend

BBC2. Jean-Luc

Method, Guest DJs. £1

Latitude

SATURDAY

Rugby World Cup

7,30pm tail of funky iazz and latin Vinci's, Open from 1pm

Gliding Club 8.15am Labour Club 12.30pm Lasham Airfield, Come to Thurs meeting if it is your 1.10pm Roller Blade Soc 10.45am. Aerobics Class 5.30pm nced Step level IV. SG.

Ramp skating at Brixton Skate Park SL Roller Blade Soc 2pm Skating and Hockey in Hyde Park/Kensington

Rugby World Cup 11.45am - 5pm ITV.

Portishead 2pm R1

Band starts at 3.30pm.

Then Jim Davidson came

bloody good laugh at him

Outbreak, S.W.F, An

Adventure, La Reine

Maraot, Resevoir

Doctors + Sinead

MacGowan etc.)

tube; Finsbury Park

Finsbury Park

0171 344 0044

gates; 11 a.m. tickets; £27.50

in and they all had a

week, though

**Awfully Bia** 

BBC1. There was an

Regulars - Please tell me if you want an entry reinstated, changed, removed or almost anything else by the Tuesday morning the week before it happens Thanks. Jeremy T.

> Desert Island Disks 12.15am. R4. Bluest blue pushes the boat out Fawlty Towers 7.30pm BBC's production freeze Bonfire of the Vanities jew and a cripple in a pub. 9pm C4

> > Dogs, True Romance Pulp Fiction, Al No Corrida, Dumb & **Dumber and The** Meaning of Life.

Boyzone + Whigfield (Beautiful South + . Van Morrison + 5aw train; Clapham Jct. 0171 738 9000 doors; 3.30p.m. O'Connor + Jimmy Barnes + Big Country tickets; £5 Kirsty MacColl + Shan Bitty McLean

Jazz Cafe tube; Camden Tow 0171 916 6000 doors; 7 p.m tickets: £15

The Brady Bunch Movie MGM Chelsea, Kings Rd A gently ironic look back nerica's 70's glo 0171 352 5096 Sloane Sq and then bu MGM Baker Street 2.10, 4.40, 7.00, 9.30 0171 935 9772. tube Baker Street, 1.30, 3.55 tickets; £6, Mon-Fri 6.20, 8.45, £6, £3.50

efore 6pm and students except of course for IC's very own exhibiti in the Sherfield Ante room. Some are very good, some are for sale some are not very large but all are on free view all

Aerobics Class 5.30pm Beginners level 1. SG Any Ability GH Bridge Club 2pm 8pm olympic sport, tutored by

Meanwhile, Dram Soc

presents:
A Midsummer Night's

Dream the rock version

by Billy Shakespeare.

tube; Camden Town 0171 916 6000

Splash at Water Rats

Renoir, Brunswick Sq

tube: Russell Square

tickets; £6, 1st perf £4,

0171 837 8402

1 3 5 7 8 9

£2.50 concs.

tube; King's Cross

0171 278 3879

doors; 8 p.m. tickets; £3.50

Clerks

Jazz Cafe

tickets: £10

Body Toning level I. SG.

Meeting. SL (upper)

Exploration Soc 1pm

Meeting. Brown cmtty rm

Aerobics

OSC

Ski Club

MONDAY

12.30pm

1-2pm

1-2pm

UCO

Thatcher: The path to The Cook report 8.30pm power - and beyond 10.10pm A 'probing' pro-file with David Frost. Twin Peaks

C4. Unfortunately this is the poorer Holywood cut, which misses out the ambush scene, but still well worth watching., Watch out for Bob Dylan

TUESDAY

£50 cash prize, and othe

Bible study. Mat B432.

Leonardo Soc 5.30pm

Rippon. CivEng 101. Free.

Aerobics Class 5.30pm

Wine Tasting Soc 6pm

Autumn beginners. JCR.

Ladies' Power Pump Class 6.30–8.30pm

IQ - Imperial Queers

Meeting, Brown Comm

ittee room, 7.30pm

Self protection. Nev

Dance Club

Southside Gyn

Tae Kwon Do

olympic sport.

nced Step level IV. SG.

12pm

8pm

Bluetone

Dingwalls

tickets: £5

Freakpower

0171 434 0403

Odeon Kensington

tube; Kensington High St 3, 6,05, 9,10 tickets; £6,

£6.50, before 5pm £3.50

today & tommorrow only

01426 914666

doors; 9 p.m. tickets; £9.50

Rob Roy

tube: Camden Town

tube: Tottenham Ct. Rd.

0171 267 1999

goodies. Da Vinci's.

June 12 - 15 & 17 at 7pm. £6. £4 for students. Preview Sunday at 5pm, £2. Tickets from Union Office.

Black Uhuru tube: Ladbroke Grov 0181 960 4590 tickets: £8

Quicksand Garage tube; Highbury& Islingto 0171 607 1818 doors; 8 p.m tickets; £5

Six Degrees of Seperation UCI Whiteleys, 0171 792 3303 tube; Bayswater 1 40 4 10 6 40 9 10 tickets: £5.75, before 3pm Mon-Fri £3.50

Meet at SL for hock Motorcycle club 12.45pm weekly meeting. SL. Micro Club Aerobics Class 1.15pm Beg/inter level II. SG 1.30pm Ten Pin Bowling 2.15p Meet outside Aero Eng.
Jazz Dance 3.30-5pt Beginner. Southside Gym Aerobics Class 5pm Step level III. SG.

Roller Blade Soc 12.15pm

WEDNESDA

Club Spanque 8-11.30pm Free UB R

Blackadder goes forth The Mind Field 8pm 9.30 pm. BBC1 C4. Psychology for the Smashie & Nicey - the masses - a top doc end of an era The Crystal Maze BBC1, Enfield kills off his 8 30 nm C4 Income classic characters in a rea battle it out with Edward onably good spoof doo 'Im so strange' Tudor-Pole Smashie singing the chari-ty song at the end not to 10.30pm Newsnight BBC2. The day's news in convenient sound-bite **Rolling Stones live** -sized chunks. With Pete

> J Mascis (Dinosaur Jr.) tube; Camden Town 0171 482 1932 doors; 7.30 p.m

tickets F8

Warrior Soul -Clawfinger Astoria tube: Tottenham Ct. Rd. 0171 434 0403 doors: 7 p.m. tickets; ring for prices

Bullets over Broadway Chelsea Cinema Kings Road SW3 0171 351 3742. Slone Sa tube 2.10, 4.20, 6.35, 8.50 tickets £7, £6 concs

Weezer

marker for ITV.

tube: Tottenham Ct. Rd. 0171 434 0403 doors, 7p.m. tickets; £7.50

Go to the Union Carnival pick up your last FELIX on Wednesday June 21 and then GO HOME!!!

Six Degrees of MGM Fulham Road 0171 370 2636 S. Ken tube and then bus 1 10. 4 10. 6.55. 9.30 tickets; £6, Mon-Fri before 6pm and students £3.50

Guide

Southside Lounge

Union Dining Ha

Union Concert Ha

Ents Lounge

**Great Hall** 

SMALL ADS

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SL UDH **FRIDAY** UCH EL Midsummer night's GH

TTR

carnival 3 floors of holiday fun. See ents bit of Clubs & Socs £5 in advance from the union office

NEXT

THURSDAY

Cocktail Night 5-11pm

Legs, tums & bums. \$G

Meeting. Aero E445B.

Gliding Club

IC Choir

Dance Club

Union Dining Hall

ntermid level 3. SG

Rehearsal, 342 MEng

Autumn beginners. JCR. ULU Lesbian & Gay Soc

St. WC1 . 0171 580 9551.

7 30pm Rm 3C, ULU Male

Da Vinci's, R.

Aerobics Class 12.30pm Labour Club 12.30pr Conservative Soc 1pm Friday Prayers, SG. ICU Rag Rag Meeting. EL. 1pm 1.10pm Aerobics Class 5.30pm Jazz Dance 5-6.30pm Advanced Step level IV. SG. Aerobics Class 5.30pm Free Minibus Service 11.30pm-2am from the 6.15-8pm IC Jazz Big Band 7pm Rehearsals SCR Union

> The World of Lee Evans Ingredients: 9pm C4. Popular comic's 10 oz plain flour stand up show 3 eggs Juice of 2 lemons Drop the dead donkey 10.30 pm. C4 Celebrity Squares 7pm 5 oz butte ITV. A novel way to 2 oz baking powde increase the percieved juality of their programs tablespoon of vinegar. this show so dismal that it

> > Instructions: Sift together the flour and baking powder. Add the sugar and butter and gently fold together. When well blended beat in the eggs, vinegar and lemons. The mixture should be a smaoth paste, add more flour if necassary. Roll out onto a floured board, cut into ange shaped and bake for 20 nins in an oven heated to 350 degrees F. Sprinke with

> > > Word for the Week Maranbutstansica

icing sugar to serve

Meaning: A word of undertermined origins whose meaning is unclear, other than it i a suitable entry for a name on a 10 pin owling computers.

Example: "Did you now that Iran was once called Maranbutstansica? said Sandy's younger brothe "No, foolish one, you nean Mesopotamia Maranhutstansica means something far more sinister " said Sandy. "My, you are so wise

replied his brother

WARDEN

WILSON HOUSE

**ASSISTANT** 

Applications are invited for the position of Assistant Warden at Wilson House, which is available from September 1995.

Wilson House, situated in Sussex Gardens, is a self-catering mixed house of approximately 270 medical students. The assistant warden will help the Warden with pastoral care of the residents and with maintaining discipline. In return s/he receives rent-free accommodation in a self-contained flat.

Application forms and an information pack can be obtained from the General Personnel Office, Room 511, Sherfield Building, extension 55513. Any non-undergraduate member of the College may apply, but experience of pastoral care of students would be an advantage.

Closing date for the receipt of completed application forms: Tuesday 20 June 1995.

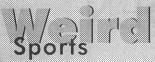
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Sky Diving is the subject this week. It is a sport where you jump from a plane and freefall before releasing a parachute, which slows you so that you land with hardly a bump.

"How can I learn to skydive?" Find out where your nearest Sky diving club or site is (often called a Drop Zone) and phone them up. They should all offer training courses, or know someone who does. Training normally takes about 4-6 hours, then you will get to jump yourself.

There are three different kinds of training: Static Line is used for beginners, as the parachute is opened by a line attached to the plane you pump out of. The parachute opens 2-3 seconds after jumping, so it's very safe. Once about 20 tumps have been done in this way, you will be given your license, and can then jump without the line. Accelerated Free Fall lets you experience more free fall. You train for 5 hours and jump with two instructors who keep you under control and let you pull your own ripcord - you freefall for about 50 seconds. After three jumps, only one instructor is needed. After 7 jumps, you will be allowed to

jump on your own. Tandem Jumps involve you being strapped to a more experienced skydiver, who has control of the parachute. It requires only 15-45 mins training, and has fewer physical restraints. It's ideal for those who want to try the experience!

was dangerous?" "What if the parachute doesn't open?" is a fairly obvious question. By law you have two parachutes, so if one does not open you have a reserve. However, it must be noted that the technology utilised in today's sport parachuting equipment is light years ahead of the old military surplus gear used in the '60s and '70s. The canopies are drastically different from the classic G.I. Joe round parachutes. The materials are stronger, lighter and last longer, the packing procedures are simpler, the deployment sequence is much more refined, etc.

The reserve canopies are even more carefully designed and packed. The reserve parachute must be inspected and repacked every 120 days by an FAA rated parachute Rigger - even if it has not been used during that time.

"How do you breathe in freefall?" This falls into the realm of urban folklore. One CAN breathe in freefall - if it were necessary. However, due to the high speed of terminal freefall (and much higher speeds in vertical freefall dives), the jumper's body is exposed to O2 molecules at a walking around on the ground.

much higher rate than someone

Music to sky-dive to:

Free Fallin - Tom Petty Learnin to Fly - Tom Petty Into the Great Wide Open - Tom Petty Fly Like an Eagle - Steve Miller Band Showdown at Big Sky - Robbie Robertson Guns in the Sky - INXS Bullet the Blue Sky - U2 'Scuse me while I kiss the sky - Hendrix Jumpin' Jack Flash - Stones Come Fly With Me - Sinatra Crazy - Seal Lunatic Frige - Tom Cochrane & Red Rider

The body is able to absorb the necessary O<sub>2</sub> through the skin. This is why

jumpers flap their cheeks in freefall, it presents a larger surface area to the airstream for oxygen osmosis. Once under canopy, days when sex was the jumper resumes breathing normally.

> This is also why jumpers do not jump on cloudy days or when they might risk going through clouds. The moisture in the clouds can condense on their exposed skin surfaces preventing the absorption of the necessary oxygen resulting in suf-

focation. Automatic Activation Devices are recommended for jumpers in climates where weather is a factor.

Further information can be obtained via the WWW - the Paranaru Skydiving club at Lappeenranta University of Technology (Finland).

http://www.it.lut.fi/l/lut/yok/kerhot/Paranaru. There's another site at http://www.cls.ufl.edu/skydive/. If you're interested in trying it out, look in the Yellow pages or try: British Parachute Association, Wharf Way, Glen Parva, Leicester, LE2 9TF.

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£14 ..... LADIES £12 ..... MEN

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1 minute walk from South Kensington Tube Station!!

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