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sandwich courses:
the authoritative
guide to lunch

f. ii sly stallone
and the royal
academy

the haldane library:
cool music bits, and the
FT on CD-rom



FELIX

The student newspaper of
Imperial College

Issue 1035
October 6th, 1995

Hizb-ut-Tahrir Move into Imperial

BY ANDY SINHARAY

Police were called on an incident on Prince Consort Road on Tuesday after confrontations between the Islamic Liberation Party and the organisers of the Freshers' Fair. A group of students representing Hizb-ut-Tahrir were involved in unauthorised activities just outside Beit Quad.

While the officially recognised Imperial College Islamic Society had a legal stand in the Sherfield Ante Room, certain members of an internationally renowned radical grouping decided that this was not sufficiently prominent.

Hizb-ut-Tahrir feel that both their organisation and Islam in general, have been subjected to a media smear campaign portraying them as evil extremists. Distributing leaflets from a stand outside Beit Arch on Prince Consort Road, entitled "Discovering Islam", they claim that the "western secular way of life is not working".

However, one of the organisers claimed that they were not proponents of an

Islamic state as such, but were merely "raising awareness." According to sources at ICU, the group's aggressive style warranted concern among Union Stewards who asked them to relocate.

When this failed, College security called the Police, who watched from outside the newly refurbished Aeronautics Chemical Engineering entrance. Shortly afterwards they asked the group to move slightly to one side as they were blocking the main Union entrance. However the Hizb-ut-Tahrir campaigners complied with this request.

Hizb-ut-Tahrir came to prominence in October 1994 after allegedly distributing anti-semitic and homophobic literature at the University London Union, and IC's own Islamic Society distanced itself from the group, as have many mainstream Muslims.

A thirty-year-old international organisation, Hizb-ut-Tahrir feel that western problems such as poverty and unemployment could be solved

continued on page 2



BY IVAN CHAN

The annual Freshers' Flea Market - another creative name for freshers' fair - took place on Tuesday afternoon. While committee members of clubs and societies tried to get as many members as possible, freshers and non-freshers received more and more leaflets. Students readily solved the problem of excessive pamphlets by getting rid of them in the nearest bin.

Almost 200 clubs, societies and businesses braved the rain to display their wares around the Queen's Lawn, Sherfield building and throughout ICU.

"I think it was a great success," said Tim Townend, Deputy President (Clubs and Societies).

In Summary



Drinking to Excess

ICU staff angrily denounced an article in last week's Time Out which suggested that Imperial students have a problem with drinking to excess.

Page 3

Fire in Garden Hall

Graham Cox, IC Fire Officer, has denied there is any problem with the fire alarm system in the light of a fire in Garden Hall last month.

Page 2

Fire Officer: Alarms are Fine

BY ANDY SINHARAY

A burning dust sheet, apparently left by contractors, almost caused a serious fire in Garden Hall during September. With the main entrance to the hall filled with smoke, a female security guard managed to put out the flames using two fire extinguishers.

Speculation that the fire was started by a burning cigarette butt, dropped by one of the hall's summer residents, is unconfirmed as the cause remains a mystery. With at least one alarm not sounding a considerable number of residents did not even attempt to exit the hall.

Speaking to *Felix*, Graham Cox, Imperial College's Fire Officer, played down the incident insisting that there was no real blaze as such. "Dust sheets do not readily burn ... it's unlikely that it would have done anything," he said.

Mr Cox further asserted that a subwarden had attempted to extinguish the sheet before alerting security. The fire, which occurred in the early hours of 15 September did not result in any injuries, and following the activation of the alarms the Hall was promptly cleared, Mr Cox

insists.

In view of the over-activity of the Linstead Fire Alarms, the Fire Officer stressed that he had no concern over the system's reliability. In contrast it has been suggested to Felix that Security had no knowledge of the fire until alerted by a Garden Hall resident

Mr Cox said that the majority of these alarms were caused by students tampering with the system or by inadvertently exposing detectors to cooking fumes.

The Fire Officer went on to indicate that similar systems are widely used in hotels, "and there hasn't been a fatality since the Fire Precautions Act". He attributed the excess of alarms in the halls of residences to the positioning and relatively high number of kitchen facilities in student buildings.

The contractors, to whom the burning dust sheets belonged, have now finished their work in Garden Hall.

Mr Cox said though that in future such items would have to be locked away when not in use to reduce any fire risk, though why regulations to such effect did not previously exist remains unclear.

Hizb ut Tahrir continued from page 1

by embracing an Islamic way of life, especially in Britain, where they claimed the political system merely offers "capitalism and more capitalism".

In response in an incident where Hizb-ut-Tahrir students reportedly "sat in" on a meeting of Kings College London's Jewish Society, they said that Muslims should have the right to listen to other ideologies. They also said that they were quite prepared to go on the record and account for

some of their negative publicity, also claiming that their campaign was being stifled by student unions like that of Imperial College.

In spite of their apparently mild publicity, Hizb-ut-Tahrir are well known for their extremist views. The Deputy President for Clubs & Societies, Tim Townend, told *Felix* that "they're a recognised terrorist organisation, banned from Arab states... [and] banned from most universities." He added that last year it was believed that they were active in about 50

News in brief

Beit Moves

After the months of confusion, Imperial Estates are openly discussing their plans to move Imperial College Union over to the Sherfield building. Sarah White, ICU president, has been given a copy of the final feasibility study undertaken by architects Trout and MacAslan in preparation for a meeting with Director of Estates Ian Caldwell next week. "I am delighted we are making some progress," Sarah said, although she is still concerned about the lack of student representation on the crucial Building Committee.

Andy Mourned

Andrew Flanagan, who was ICU Bars Manager between 1991 and 1993, died of AIDS this week.

There will be a service at Golders Green Crematorium at 3pm this afternoon.

C&S Break-in

It is still not known just how much has been lost in the theft from the clubs and societies store room last month. The store on the top floor of the union building was broken into at some stage over the summer, but it is not known exactly when. The damage was only discovered when last year's ICU President Lucy Chothia went back to reclaim some things she had left in the room over the summer.

While Lucy had not left anything particularly valuable in the store, she has lost a number of things of sentimental value, including her old rowing medals. As a number of different people have access to keys to the store, it seems unlikely that ICU will be able to find the culprit.

Freshers' Full Up

The ICU Freshers' events have sold out every night this week, and there are no tickets left for tonight's carnival. Entertainment Manager Mark Horne insists that students without tickets should not turn up at the event, as they will not be able to get in. He says he is 'delighted' with the success of the events.

There have been a number of problems during the week: on Monday evening, the building had to be evacuated when the fire alarms went off. Badly functioning vents meant that gas from the smoke machine accumulated at the top of the building. On Wednesday evening, a window was broken in the Union lounge. It is not known who was responsible.

Erratum

In *Felix* 1034 we mistakenly described the attempted suicide as being from the Mechanical Engineering department. He was in fact from the department of Electrical Engineering.

universities, but were strongest in London. "They are really bad," he added, citing newspaper reports of their anti-semitic, anti-democracy, extremist views and their support of anti-Israeli terrorist action. If they appeared on campus again, he said, they would have to be removed for trespassing, as happened on Tuesday, though he conceded that it was problematic for other college issues such as freedom of speech.

Imperial College Union President Sarah White said that similar activity had taken place at

the freshers' fair at University College London, and that there had even been a bomb scare. One source at UCLSU said the group had "been very disruptive and intimidating, and were harassing students" and had been ignoring pleas for them to stop. They were consequently banned from the Freshers' Fair but proceeded to take over the stalls of the Arab and Pakistani Societies. In the light of these events, Sarah said that there were now plans for a ULU-wide telephone support service should such activity occur again.

IC Drink Problem Denied

Alcohol Awareness Campaign Planned



Returning students enjoyed the start of the new term at the Freshers' events this week.

BY ALEX FEAKS

College authorities reacted strongly to suggestions published this week in London's listing magazine, Time Out, that Imperial College has a problem with student drinking. The article said that there was "excessive drinking on campus" at Imperial.

Alan Swanson, Pro-Rector (Educational Quality) thought the report to be inaccurate, highlighting what, in reality, effects only a small number of students. "Our best estimate is that the average spent per student per annum on drink is only about £100."

Even allowing for the students at Imperial who spend little or no money in college bars, this figure implies that there is only a core of a few people who are drinking a lot.

Sarah White, ICU President, was "annoyed that the article created a negative image of the College," and insisted that IC was "no worse

than anywhere else". ICU has recently begun to enforce a policy of not allowing those obviously drunk onto their licensed premises, and last year the CCU Presidents signed a document stating alcohol consumption at their events is not obligatory. These moves are part of co-ordinated attempt to de-institutionalise excessive student drinking and the behaviour it can encourage.

Most excessive and rowdy drinking is annoying for other bar users and an unpleasant morning after for the participants PC Clive Coleman, whose beat includes the campus, said that incidents for which he is called out to college for are often drink related. These are most commonly neighbours complaining about the noise, although there have been more serious offences including a number of assaults on Union stewards in the past year.

A rise in the number of

reported drink related incidents over the last few years caused the College to establish a policy on drinking for both students and staff. For example, College Catering have been instructed to not hold lunchtime promotions to bring them into line with the Union.

A House Committee met in June to discuss the issue and informal talks with Union representatives over the summer agreed on increasing awareness of drink related problems, including holding an 'Awareness Week' sometime this term.

PC Coleman joined with the Union and College authorities in endorsing a new initiative on campus - Bar Watch - following the 'barred from one, barred from all' principle. Union staff have, however, been reluctant to set up any kind of 'rogue's gallery' of offenders, saying that it create a 'Big Brother' image that they would rather avoid.

PC Clive Reports

Dear Readers,

Welcome to Imperial College. I am the local community officer for the area. My involvement at the college is to report crimes, give student talks, organise crime prevention displays and code pedal cycles.

I will assist in any personal or police matters. My advice to you at present: do not carry large sums of money around the street.

Please do not leave property unattended in College, and always report any crimes immediately.



Clive Coleman
Homebeat Officer
Grosvenor Sector Office
Belgravia Police Station,
202 - 206 Buckingham Palace
Road SW1

Tel. 730 1212

Sandwich politics: The best

David finds himself stuck between the extra thick cut prices of the local Sarnie Stalls, wondering if perhaps they've bitten off more than they can chew.

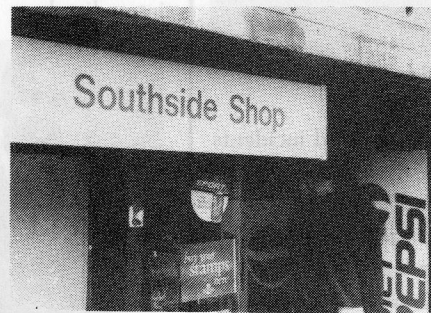
Settling into college life involves (ir)regulating one's eating habits in one way or another. Like it or not, unless you are a budding Master Chef, sooner or later you will find the pleasure and instant satisfaction offered to you by the ubiquitous sandwich.

The Catering department, controller of all the main alimentary outlets on campus other than DaVinci's and the Union Bar, is responsible for providing such foodstuffs to the College populace.

To the impoverished student, now tackling larger debts than ever, a good deal on cheap food should therefore be of prime interest. It seems strange then that Catering do not reflect this necessity. A quick comparison of the local private shops, scattered around the page, to the College run

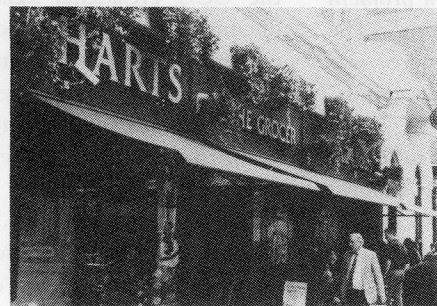
joint shows a surprisingly small difference (if any) in service, and certainly in price. Considering the fact that Catering outlets do not have to bear the overheads laid on those shops one would expect them to be cheaper. At the very least because they should be non-profit making service providers, profits should either be reinvested in the outlet itself, or go towards subsidising the items they sell to students. Neither of these is the case at present.

Strict price controls imposed by Catering management ensure that all outlets have profit as their prime goal. In the case of the SCR (Senior Common Room) and the MDH (Main Dining Hall) this is understandable as their combined loss for 94/95 was in excess of £187,000. However, both the Queens Tower Snack Bar (QT) and the



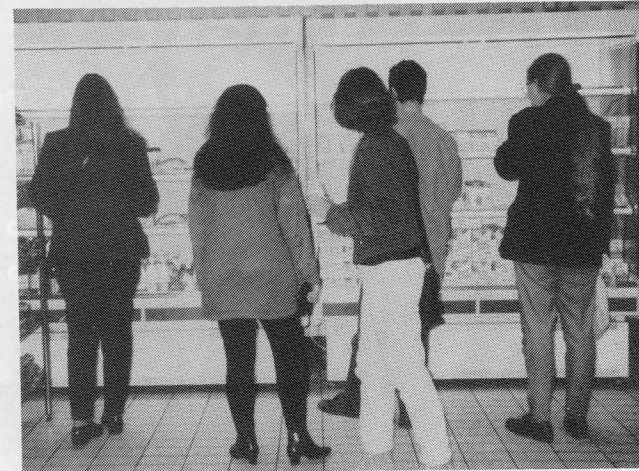
Southside Shop A reluctant last resort for lazy starving students. Prices are reasonable for the area (£1.10 to £1.50 for yer average sandwich!) A student shop? You could've fooled me! "...Milk's cheaper at Harrods", I've heard.

Harts Although a little far (Next to Gloucester road or South Ken tube stations) Harts offer a large range of sandwiches matching those in the QT and Southside Shop both in price and in quality. For those who like to take a little exercise before lunch. (Open 24 hours)



Greenfields Imperial students enjoying a bite at Greenfields, the cosmopolitan sandwich bar on Exhibition Road near South Ken Station. A secret-ish spot guarded by its clientèle. High quality food, fair to expensive prices though.

thing since Sliced Bread?



QT Priced the same as the Southside Shop, despite its rather more student centred location (less chance of naughty outsiders getting a cheap eat!) Generally in appalling disrepair, no reasonable justification for the prices.

Southside Shop made tidy profits during that same period (£58,145 and £22,036 respectively). The Southside Bar came a close second at £51,327 profit for 94/95 (Figures from Monthly Catering Accounts JULY 1995). These are net-profit figures quoted after all other refurbishment costs/administrative fees, etc... have been deducted from the takings.

One cannot help but ask whether these profits might be better put to use subsidising the cost of student purchases, and in the very least improving the quality of areas such as the JCR. Instead they are poured into the abyss created by the losses Catering incurs due to the SCR and MDH. Happily it has been recognised that the bulk of the aforementioned losses are due to the appalling situation these outlets are in.

John Foster, Catering Manager: "Staff currently enjoy high wages and long holidays... comparable to academic level." Mr Foster also mentioned a high rate of sickness amongst staff; this means contract workers have to be hired regularly and at premium rates to cover for the regular absences. "We wouldn't

put the prices up if we didn't have to", he maintained, "we're here for the students, but we have to break even".

Students, the predominant customer-base, are as usual the hardest hit. If Catering is to control the monopoly of food outlets on Campus surely it should ensure that, in places such as the QT, subsidies are made available to students. There is no reason for staff and students to support this department if nothing is ever given back, either in terms of price or by refurbishing the surroundings and improving their quality.

The shadow of the Imperial College Students Union's imminent move to the Sherfield Building (see news in brief) has given rise to rumours that Catering may devolve its responsibilities to Union Catering which will then take control of all food outlets on the South Kensington Campus Premises. If this is so, Union Catering would have to maintain its high standards while streamlining the operation it inherits to ensure long term benefits to students, staff and the Union are guaranteed.

Sandwich Shop An earthy shop, tucked away on Gloucester Road. Another secret bargain joint. Again, prices competitive with College outlets, with the added special half-price sandwich deal after 4.00pm. Great vegetable samosas and real chips too!

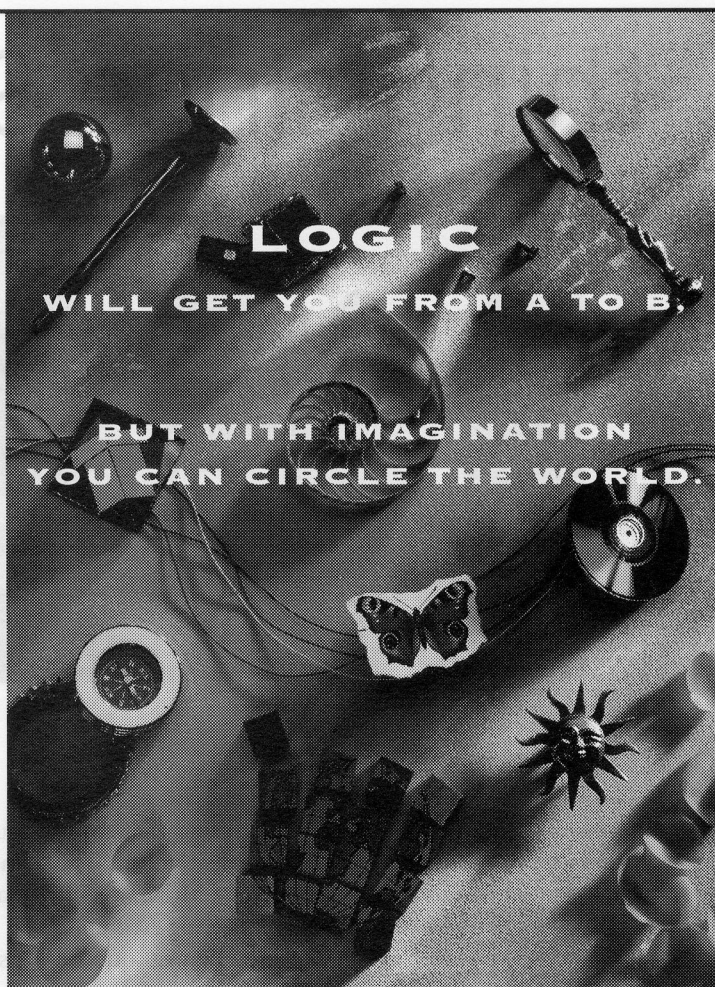


GRADUATES

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For a copy of our graduate brochure please contact the careers service or see below for details of our milkround visit.



We will be visiting Imperial very soon.

Our Presentation will be in the

Ante Room

at 6pm on Friday 20th October,

Our milkround interviews are scheduled for

Friday 8th December

so your application must be received by

Friday 27th October.



These vacancies are open to both men and women regardless of ethnic origin in line with Ford's equal opportunities policy.



READING TO REFRESH –

THE HALDANE COLLECTION

Tired of wading through textbooks for that vital solution? Why not try relaxing with the Haldane Collection...

Last year *Felix* published a witty alternative guide to the Central Library, complete with map. As this showed incontrovertibly that the most memorable feature of the Haldane Collection are the "cool music bit", *NME*, the newspapers, and the Audio-Visual Room, this account of the College's Humanities and recreational library will take up the story from there.

The Haldane collection is situated on level one of the Imperial College and Science Museum libraries, and lends most of its stock (books, maps, printed music and sound recordings) on the IC and SML ticket. It has two primary functions - to support the teaching of the Humanities Programme other academic activity, and to provide material for all members of the College to read or listen to in those increasingly precious leisure moments. As the purpose of this article is to emphasise the latter function ("all work and no play..." - those who can't complete the quotation can look it up in the *Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs*), academic features will be mentioned only in passing. These include the aforementioned Audio-Visual Collection, which the alternative guide found to be "alas... for College purposes only". You are of course welcome to pick up a handout or come and ask about it!

The range of the Haldane's 40,000 volumes is wide. Subjects covered in the greatest depth are mostly those in which courses are taught, such as history, politics, philosophy and literature, as well as art and music. Travel and biography are well represented, and other subjects covered include sport, humour, popular medicine, car manuals, psychology, feminism, crime, law, language and consumer issues. There is a good collection of current fiction, which is one of the more popular sections of the library; we now have a second copy of John Grisham's *The Chamber*, but there are still queues, so you are strongly encouraged to reserve early!

Daily newspapers and some sixty periodicals of general interest are taken. The latter

include *Auto Car and Motor*, *Radio Times*, *Newsweek*, *Private Eye*, *Plays and Players*, and *Which*. Newspapers are held for one week, and one of our most frequently asked enquiries is where back issues can be found. Here are some of the many answers to this. A complete run of the *Times* (mostly in micro-form) can be seen by Science Museum library staff on level 3 of the IC and Science Museum, and the *Financial Times* from 1993 onwards (updated quarterly) can be consulted on CD-ROM in the Electronic Information Services, level 2. Other newspapers and periodicals are held in nearby public libraries; the Haldane holds copies of the



Kensington and Westminster location lists.

World Wide Web is becoming increasingly useful for news and other information. For example, if someone else is using the current *FT*, selective information from it, including the top story and technology report can be seen on the web. If you wish to get a listing of, for example, the weeks' science programmes without scrutinising every page of the *Radio Times*, the BBC schedules of television and radio programmes provide a quick overview. Ask the Haldane staff to demonstrate, or try it yourself on the PC cluster (level two).

The Music collection is both popular and classical. In the popular section, besides *NME* and other magazines, there are cassettes and CDs. the "Jazz, Folk and Pop" collection is dominated by rock and its developments. These recordings are purchased by IC

Union and selected by student buyers elected each year. This year we are fortunate to have buyers already (if no-one is elected, nothing is bought) and your suggestions will be welcome. You may give these directly to the buyers, Sarah White and Matt Crompton in ICU, or fill in a library recommendation form which the staff will forward to them. All CDs, by the way, popular or classical are charged at 50p per issue (which compares very favourably with many public libraries).

The classical section of the Music library consists of books, periodicals such as *Opera*, printed music including vocal scores, miniature scores, chamber music parts, and recordings on CD and cassette. These are of interest to both the new and more experienced listener. There are favourites such as Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* and Pavarotti albums, a good stock of standard repertoire and works well beyond — lesser known works, the avant garde, and early music, for example. A wide selection of language courses on cassette are also held in the Music library.

Reading and listening are of course not the only services provided. The Haldane staff (Jane Agnew, Anna Bozic, and myself) are glad to answer your enquiries or to refer queries specialised beyond the scope of Haldane elsewhere. Nearby libraries which Imperial College students may consult for reference include the Royal Geographical Society, Royal College of Music and National Sound Archive.

Finally the Haldane puts on exhibitions and cultural events. This term it is marking the Purcell tercentenary with an informal exhibition and with a recital of Purcell recordings from the National Sound Archive by Timothy Day, Curator of Western Art Music at the Archive, and broadcaster on Radio 3, on Tuesday 14 November at 5:30pm speak (admission free). Next term we hope to have a well-known science fiction writer to speak. Watch for announcements in the library, on the walkways, in *IC Reporter*.

Stoic

The student television of Imperial College is run for students by students, and produces a wide range of programme material from the serious to the downright weird, which are broadcast over our extensive cable network to college and halls.

Annual membership of Stoic gives free access to all our broadcast standard equipment (cameras, vision / audio mixer,

edit suite, fluffy boom-mike, studios, etc...) and a once-in-a-lifetime change to see behind the scenes of the world's most influential medium.

We also have subsidised trips to Museum of the Moving Image and other TV / film places, as well as often getting to be in BBC studio audiences for free.

We also compete annually in the National Student Television Awards, where we have won many awards (damn we're good).

See us at the media buffet (October 9th, 7pm, Union Lounge) or at the Stoic Food n Drink evening (18th, 7pm, Stoic studios).

Or just email us at stoic@ic.ac.uk (isn't technology wonderful). Schedules for the week's broadcast can usually be found in *Felix*.

If you wish to get involved in any way please contact us (hell, you might even enjoy it). Student TV, Union Building, Level 3, extension 48104

Schedule

October 9-13

MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER

12.05 Uhura interview

A cast member from the original series of Star Trek reveals all.

12.10 Short

Short Sharp Shock

12.35 The Report

The news and features magazine designed to keep students informed, enlightened and entertained

1.05 GBH

Gross Bodily Harm?

1.30 Shutdown to BBC1

1.30 Neighbours

TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER

12.05 Best of Freshers Week

All the fun and frolics from the first week of term

12.45 Technobytes

Investigating everything from Cyberculture to the rebirth of intelligent science fiction

1.05 Illicit Entrance

Film premiere by Elliott Parish

1.30 Shutdown to BBC1

1.30 Neighbours

WEDNESDAY 11TH OCTOBER

12.05 Shorts

More fit-bits of entertainment

12.35 Pub Guide

James Caseys alcoholic romp around a South Kensington Pub

12.45 Wash & Go

Documentary about London's oldest Launderette

1.00 Shutdown to BBC1

1.00 BBC News

1.30 Neighbours

THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER

12.05 Best of Freshers Week

12.45 Technobytes

Investigating everything from Cyberculture to the rebirth of intelligent science fiction

12.35 Pub Guide

James Caseys alcoholic romp around a South Kensington Pub

1.05 What Was The Big Idea Then?

The very best of London's Exhibitions

1.30 Shutdown to BBC1

1.30 Neighbours

FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER

12.05 Uhura interview

A cast member from the original series of Star Trek reveals all.

12.10 Shorts

Even more fit-bits of entertainment

12.35 The Report

The news and features magazine designed to keep students informed, enlightened and entertained

1.05 At The Flicks

Reviewing the latest releases at the cinema

1.30 Shutdown to BBC1

1.30 Neighbours

the
week
ahead

oct 7th

Nothing on – recover from Freshers' week and do some shopping.

saturday

oct 8th

Y.H.A. Freshers' Walk

Meet 9am South Ken tube station.
Walk around the South Downs.

sunday

monday

Publications Board Media Buffet

7pm Ents Lounge, Union Building. Wine, cheese and wine (free!) courtesy of those who take upon the various guises of Rupert Murdoch at Imperial.

Meet STOIC, IC Radio and of course Felix...

oct 9th

Jewish Society

Hello and Welcome to Imperial College Jewish Society. We weren't at Freshers' fair, but that doesn't mean we are not still here! We have plenty of things lined up for this term, starting with next Wednesday, 11th October. At 8pm at Hillel House, 1-2 Endsleigh St, Euston, there is Intro 95, the London Region Jewish Students' Freshers' party. There will be two live bands, barfly and loads of other things from 8pm, priced £3. Come along, it's a great chance to meet other London students!

tuesday

Y.H.A.

Freshers Buffet & Slides

7pm, Union Senior Common Rm

Bar Trivia Quiz

8pm, Davinci's Bar, Union Bdg.

Pit your wits against the mighty Dan & try to win a crate of beer.

oct 10th

Then on Thursday 19th October, from 12pm onwards, in the Senior Common Room in the Union, there is our Freshers' bagel lunch which will give you a chance to meet us. It's free to all.

If you have any questions, or would like somewhere to go for the festival of Tabernacles, please call Rabbi Jonathan Dove the London Region Chaplain on 0171 380 0207, or drop us a note in our pigeonhole in the Union Office.

The Jewish Society is contactable at jsoc@ic.ac.uk or look for us on the Web at <http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/clubs/societies/scc/jsoc.htm>

wednes

Pimlico Connection

Mech Eng 7th floor, 2-5pm

Student tutors training session.

Jewish Society

London Region Jewish

Students' Freshers' party

8pm Hillel House (*See left*).

Price £4.

Rollerblade Society

12:15pm Southside Upper Lounge

Meeting followed by Hockey in Hyde park (weather dependent).

Wargames & Roleplaying Society

1pm, Table Tennis Room

FROLIK

9pm-1am, Union Building

Indulge in a bit of a "FROLIK", party tunes for all the energetic types & midweek party animals.

FREE entry.

oct 11th

Nippon Kempo

The ULU Nippon Kempo team are Currently World Champions. In March, the Japanese are coming to the UK with determination to regain the title.

Nippon Kempo is a relatively modern combat sport. Unlike most other commonly known ancient and mystical Japanese martial arts, Nippon Kempo can boast a history of only 65 years. Muneumi Sawayama set about developing a sport the was free of the rituals and dogma that restricted the traditional arts to a narrow group of techniques. Nippon Kempo incorporates all and any technique that can be effectively, safely and practically applied in combat, using a full suit of protective body armour, fashioned around ancient Samurai armour. The sport is based on scoring points using tact and skill rather than a knockout, thus avoiding most of the injuries that commonly occur in martial arts.

The core of Nippon Kempo is at the University of London club, which is based at SOAS (in Russell Square). All the club's senior members and coaches have been trained by Physiology and Sports Science

Professor Doya, of Osaka City University either in Japan or on his training visits to the UK. In 1992, a UK team consisting of 80%



SOAS club members won the Nippon Kempo World Championship. This was highly unexpected by the Japanese and they are currently preparing with vengeance for the next International Championship due to be held in Birmingham, March '96. Teams from Italy, France and America are also expected.

Nippon Kempo is currently expanding to IC. There exists a unique opportunity for IC students and staff to be trained by coaches that have accumulated a wealth of experience. Those who join the IC club will automatically have membership of the ULU club. This harbours the rather intriguing tradition of having at least one or two UK resident Japanese who take up Nippon Kempo from scratch with us. Anyone interested in Nippon Kempo is welcome. The club atmosphere is friendly and relaxed and you will be able to train at your own pace. If you want to become a champion, then we will get you there, but if you want to get fit, have fun and learn how to protect yourself, you are equally welcome. Most members who train regularly are able to achieve a black belt, first-aid and coaching qualifications as well as fitness and confidence by the time they graduate.

For training times and more information, contact Ian Mercer, Department of Chemistry (0171 594 5807, internal 45807, ian.mercer@ic.ac.uk) or David Akera (0171 631 5291 - work).

Bust-a-Gut Comedy Club

Sean Lock and John Fothergill represent the first of five Newcastle Brown Ale National Comedy Network acts who are coming to Imperial College on alternate Fridays this Autumn.

In the past twelve months Sean Lock (*right*) has toured nationally with Mark LaMarr as well as Newman and Baddiel, including an appearance at Britain's biggest ever comedy gig at Wembley Arena in front of 12,000 people.

Apparently, Sean's distinctive brand of unique and utterly original comedy, combining an off-beam style with the sort of jokes you wouldn't expect outside secure homes for the irretrievably disturbed, has established at the very forefront of British stand-up.

oct 12th

Jewish Society
Freshers' Bagel Lunch

12pm Senior Common Room

Exploration Society
Talk – 'Exploration at I.C.'

Professor Schroter
12:30pm, Biology W2/3
(underneath Beit Archway).

Admission free.
(See right)

IC Youth Hostel Association

1pm Southside Upper Lounge.
Regular Meeting

Conservative Society

1pm, Southside Upper Lounge.
Regular meeting.

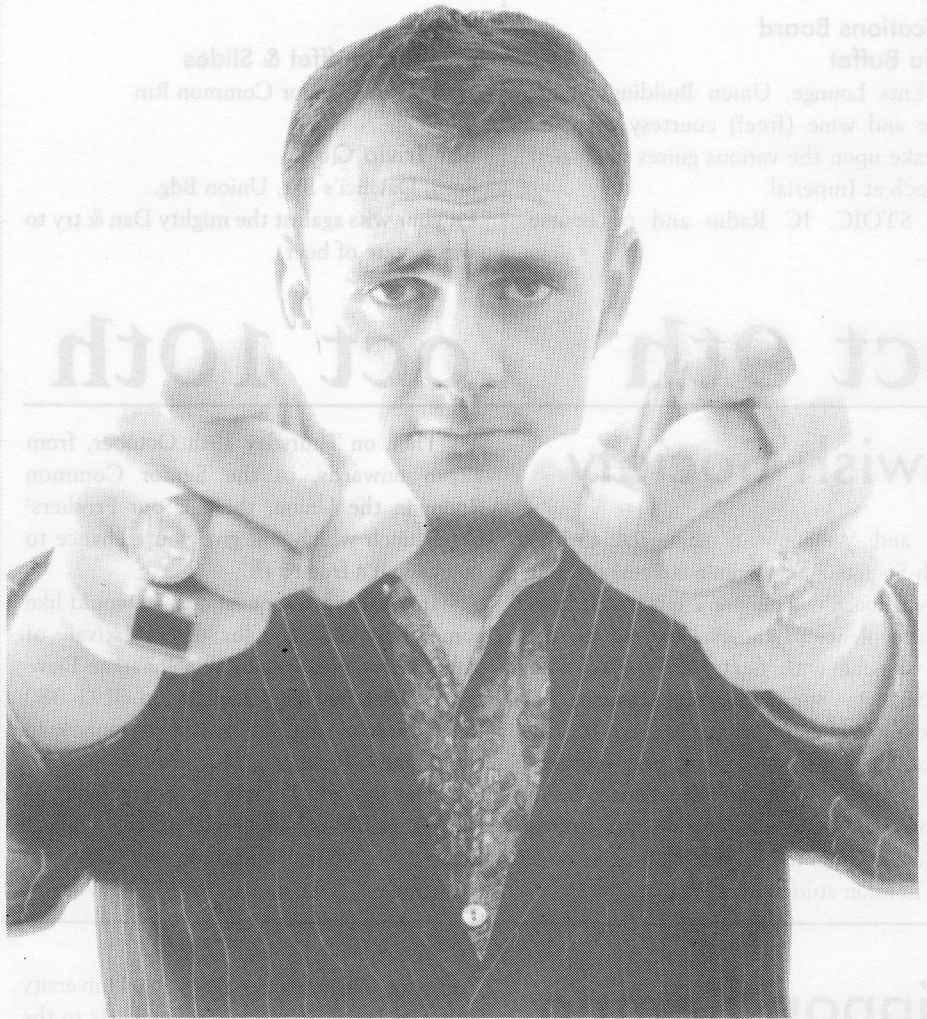
Cocktail Night

From 5pm, Davinci's bar
Style & sophistication in a glass.

Mountaineering Club

7pm, Southside Upper Lounge.
Regular social meeting,
all welcome!

**t
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oct 13th

Bust-A-Gut Comedy Night
Sean Lock & John Fothergill

Doors 8pm, show 8.30pm

ICU concert hall

The first "Bust-A-Gut" comedy night.

Limited seats available.

Price £2.50 / £2 EntsCard holders.

Free T-shirt to the first fifty to arrive.

(see above)

Climax

10pm - 2am, ICU

Anything goes club night.

1am bar.

Price £1 or FREE to EntsCard holders.

f r i d a y

next

diary

deadline:

noon,

October

9th

Exploration Society

Explosoc cordially invites you to slip inside its sleeping bag!*



IC Hidden Garhwal Expedition: Porters crossing the Parbali River, Indian Himalaya

The Exploration Society will meet for the first time this year on Thursday 12th October at 12:30pm in Biology W2/3 (underneath Beit Archway). This introduction to the society is entitled 'Exploration at I.C.'. It will include talks by Professor Schroter (I.C. Exploration Board), Shane Winser (Royal Geographical Society)

and the Explosoc committee on how these organisations can help students plan and accomplish expeditions around the world. Absolutely everyone is welcome and admission is free.

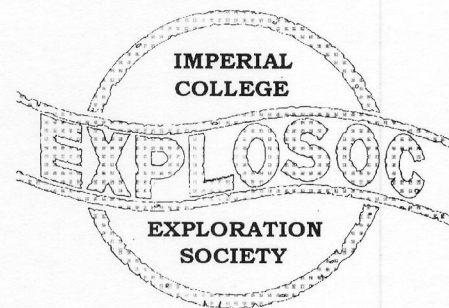
Imperial College is unique in having an Exploration Board, a body able to provide expedition funding, equipment and advice. A student expedition organised via the Exploration Board is given the privilege of bearing the college name, a considerable boon when approaching media companies and potential sponsors.

All expeditions require detailed research in their initial stages. Imperial is very well situated in this respect since the Royal Geographical Society, Alpine Club and the London museums are all near to college and have useful resources.

Explosoc offers you the opportunity to hear funny and exciting talks by talented and experienced explorers. It also provides a forum - or platform, if you prefer - for immense inter sexual exchange and copious amounts of social intercourse. And if you're hungry for more you can spice up your own c.v. and be dead impressive at future interviews by becoming Explosoc's Exploration Reporter; the post involves operating alongside the committee (themselves I.C. students) by producing reports of each Explosoc gathering for *Felix* - please contact the committee if you're interested.

For more information about Explosoc please contact the committee or see us at our first lecture:

Asa Atherton (Chairman), Biology UG, 0181 847 3292. Phil Wickens (Secretary), Biology PG, 0181 847 3292. Jim Evans (Treasurer), Mech. Eng. PG, 0181 870 0792. Mark Evans (Liaison Officer), Mech. Eng. PG, 0181 870 0792



*Heavily influenced by the ZZ Top song 'Sleeping Bag'.



IC Hidden Garhwal Expedition: Nomadic Herdsman in the Indian Himalaya (Parbali Valley)

Subwarden Wanted for Fisher Hall

Applications are invited for the position of Subwarden in Fisher Hall

We are looking for a friendly, resourceful and responsible individual to assist the Warden in the day to day running of Fischer Hall, in return for rent-free accommodation that would be suitable for a single person.

Application forms are available from the student accommodation office and should be returned to Dr R.J. Murphy, Department of Biology, by 5pm on Thursday 12 October 1995.

Careers

There are two careers lectures this week in the Clore lecture theatre (Huxley 213), at 1-1.50pm.

Tuesday 10th October: "Graduate Study in the UK" by Andrzej Skapski, Chemistry Department

Thursday 12th October: "Making Successful Applications" by Genevieve Tennant, Personal Executive at J Henry Schroder & Co Ltd.

All undergraduates and postgraduates are welcome to attend.

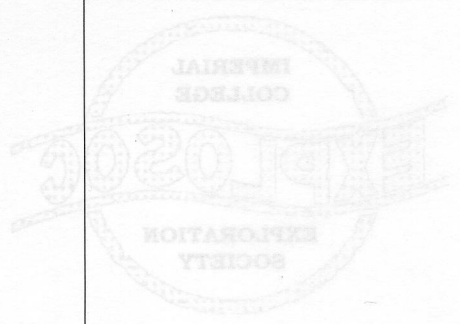
"The job market and other options" is an interactive workshop run on the Wednesday 11th October from 2.00 - 4.00pm in Huxley room 344. Sign up in the careers office.

For further information and advice come to the careers office, room 310 Sheffield open from 10.00 to 5.15pm Monday to Friday.

Campaign for Human Rights

Israel Halperin, Secretary of the Campaigns will address an open meeting, answer questions and receive suggestions at 5.15pm, Tuesday October 10th, Blackett Laboratory, room 536. Professor TWB Kibble FRS will be in the chair.

The present campaign is an International Campaign for Human Dignity.



60/1

Long odds. High rewards.

On paper, your chances of getting a graduate appointment with Andersen Consulting – the world's largest business and technology consultancy – are not good. Of the many thousands of graduates who apply to us every year, less than one in sixty are actually offered positions with the Firm.

Match our high standards and you can expect nothing less than the very best: exceptional training; outstanding rewards and benefits; exciting prospects for career development to Partner level within a demanding and meritocratic organisation.

If you are in your final year and interested in finding out more about Andersen Consulting, please come to our informal presentation at 6.00pm on Monday 16 October 1995 at The Forum Hotel, Cromwell Road, SW7.

Alternatively you can contact the Careers Service or call our Recruiting Helpline free on 0500 100 189.

**ANDERSEN
CONSULTING**

fi



album: **compilations**
 book: **lost in music** - giles smith
 exhibition: **africa** - royal academy
 film: **assassins**
 film: **forget paris**
 gig: **matador records tour part II**
 the modern mr fogg: **cairo cont**

XII
 XIII
 XIV
 XVI
 XVII

the art of a continent

exhibits
 adventuring
 into african art
 are running
 concurrently
 in london:

- barbican: the art of african textiles - tradition & lurex
- royal academy - africa the art of the continent
- serpentine - six contemporary african artists
- whitechapel - seven stories of modern art in africa

africa

female figure - hamba - zaire - wood 25.5 cm - private collection - photo heini schneebeil - royal academy

book: *lost in music* – giles smith_{tintin}

"Caught in a trap, no turning back, we're lost in music" – that's how the song goes and the sentiments seem entirely appropriate. After football, Nick Hornby and his gang of literary newlads (Giles Smith included) have turned their home counties' glance toward music. The result; books to cater for every Q readers' Christmas list.

Which is not to say that Smith's *Lost In Music*, in particular, is a bad book by any means. It's clever, occasionally funny and all shot through with the sort of parochial understatement which made England little. And Smith has a tale to tell, recounting his trials in the

music industry as he fumbles from one poorly named group to the next. But overall what's significant is the numbing mixture of superficiality and obsessional detail, without normality in between. Cross a music encyclopedia and the discos you had at primary school and you're getting close.

The only point of connection with actual life seems to be the chapter when Giles' father dies. At the funeral there were, "no pop songs, obviously. Because my father didn't like pop songs. And because there isn't a pop song written that could have been played there".

exhibition: *africa* – royal academy_{tintin}

Where do you start? would seem to be the obvious question to ask on entering the Royal Academy's new exhibition: 'Africa – the art of a continent'. Even with the ability to display over eight hundred works, the RA have had some hard decisions to make on what exactly to show in their embracingly titled show. Rightly or wrongly they have decided on objects rather than what we in the West would usually consider to be 'Art'. In practice this means that the exhibition in the main consists of figurines, masks and statues with the odd sprinkling of jewellery and textiles.

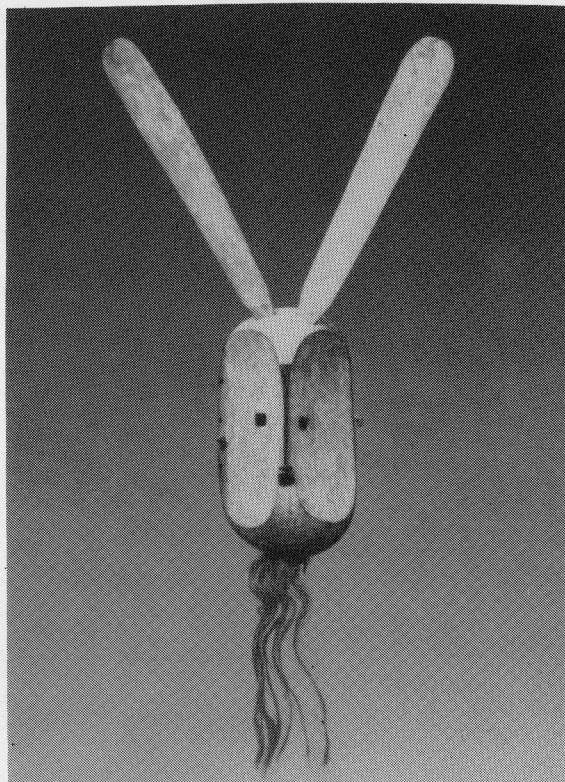
It's an approach which makes sense particularly as the exhibition is laid out in such a way as to show the development from purely functional items, such as axe heads, to the purely symbolic as most gloriously seen in the golden idols of the Egyptians. On the other hand it does leave the RA looking a little like the Museum of Mankind at times and you do wonder whether the curator could have included some paintings as well.

That said, there's still enough on display to keep you occupied. The enormous scope of the exhibits (ranging in both time and geography)

almost by necessity throws up some interesting thoughts. Some of the figures could be exhibited as modern abstracts, such has been the full circle experienced in that form of representation. More obviously there are the facial styles that Modigliani plundered, and indeed if anything is representative of the entire exhibition it is the multiplicity of human faces and masks which are displayed.

Very few of them are realistic. Reflecting their use in ritualistic and religious ceremonies they show the whole gambit of human emotions, from grinning clowns to eerie witch-doctor howlers. There are also examples of Coptic Christian and Islamic art which also shed new light on the traditional examples that we are more familiar with. The Coptic crucifixions are particularly good in this respect.

Overall however, the exhibition does suffer from being no more than the sum of its parts. There's no strand to tie the whole thing together, like the continent it's something of an enigma.



lost in music:
"cross a music encyclopedia and the discos you had at primary school and you're getting close."

spaces: _{this week}

barbican 0171 588 0923
ec2. tube; barbican.
the art of african textiles,
tradition and hurex

a
f
r
i
c
a

hayward 0171 261 0127
south bank. tube; waterloo
until oct 14
western security · gillian
wearing

national gallery 0171 839
3321
trafalgar square.
tube: charing x
next door to:

national portrait gallery
until nov 19
john kobal · photographic
portrait 1995

royal academy 0171 439 7438
piccadilly. tube; piccadilly circus
until jan 21
africa: the art of a continent

serpentine 0171 402 6075
kensington gardens; walk it
until nov 5
six contemporary african artists

tate 0171 887 8000
millbank. tube; pimlico
until nov 17
life patterns

design museum 0171 403
6933
shad thames. tube; tower hill
until oct 19
paper money

photographer's gallery 0171
831 1772 5 & 8 newport st.
tube; leicester square.
until oct 14
appeal to this
age

XIV

film: assassins magpie

So *Sylvester Stallone* returns in another film involving guns, murder and redemption. Stallone (Robert Rath) is your stereotypical assassin who has had enough of killing. With just one more assignment he hopes to retire. Unfortunately he is not alone and so is unable to complete his last mission in peace.

Miguel Bain (*Antonio Banderas*) is ambitious, he wants to be the best assassin – his desire drives him to try and beat Rath to the final kill. Electra (*Julianne Moore*) is the final assignment, unfortunately she possess some information that is detrimental to someone. However being an assassin with a conscience Rath is unable to kill a woman and in true style doesn't complete the assignment – has he fallen in love with this woman? \$20 million then becomes the asking fee for the retrieval of the information.

The film lasts for just over two hours, and you can't help feeling it's been stretched to its limits. The plot, much like a book, starts and stops with a different chapter – first there is the encounter between the two assassins at a funeral, then there's the race to find Electra and to end it all the final show down.

Assassins possesses that easy going action that will delight testosterone/adrenaline addicts. The action sequences are extremely Hong Kong in style i.e. loads of bullets, sparks, explosions and that 'gun in each hand' syndrome. It was also was made by the same people who

made *Lethal Weapon* and *Die Hard*, but unsurprisingly it lacks both films' humour. Another problem is that you can't help feeling that the film is too much like the *Specialist* and that wasn't such a good film either.



film: forget paris magpie

Idyllic romance is now over for Mickey Gordon (*Billy Crystal*) and Ellen Andrews (*Debra Winger*). They have fallen in love, the point at which most films finish. What's left for them is work, marriage, kids, and of course divorce. But first how they get there.

Mickey goes to France to fulfil his dead father's wish – to be buried with his World War II army buddies in a particular village. Problems arise when the airline loses the casket. Help comes from Ellen, a public relations officer for the airline company. She's also an American, which delights Mickey to no end, and of course a relationship ensue.

But everything goes against this relationship. She's in France, he's in America and his work (a basketball referee) has him travelling from state to state. However, she leaves France and comes to America to be with her lover, her darling, her sweetie, (you know what I mean). They are together but Ellen is not happy following Mickey around America, living

in motels with a staple diet of junk food. He stops working as a referee and starts selling cars, while she goes back into the airline business – now he's unhappy. Compromise leads to unhappiness and so the relationship slowly starts to break down.

Forget Paris has that neurotic humour indicative to all films with Billy Crystal. At times the film feels like Crystal doing stand up comedy, but its mixture of narrative from different couples, who know the full Crystal and Winger saga, and the fact it isn't about the beginning of the relationship, allows for a different on perspective of a romantic comedy.

And romantic comedies are always fun to watch anyway, since it is always possible to spot similarities with a personal relationship or with friends. Still *Forget Paris* has a large number of what appear to be tall tales and peculiar stories, and so has a desirable if unpredictable nature. This said, it remains extremely funny and will help you soothe over those post summer blues.

celluloid guide: this week

icu cinema
£2 ic/ulu, £3 other
congo wed 8
rob roy thur 8

odeon kensington
0426 914666
tube; ken high street. £6.50,
£6, £3.50 before 5pm
the net 1.40, 4.20, 7, 9.40
funny bones 12.45, 3.35, 9.25
apollo 13 12, 3, 6.10, 9.15
forget paris 2, 4.30, 7, 9.30

mgm chelsea
0171 325 5096
tube; slone square then bus
£6, £3.50 concs and before 6
the net 1.10, 3.50, 6.30, 9.20
apollo 13 12.35, 3.25, 6.15, 9
braveheart 1, 4.40, 8.20
forget pairs 1.40, 4, 6.40, 9.40

renoir 0171 837 8402
tube; russell square
£6, £4 premieres, £2.50 concs
carrington 1, 3.30, 6, 8.30
land of freedom 3, 5.30, 8

minema 0171 369 1723
tube; you can walk it
£6.50, £4 matinees
burnt by the sun 3, 6, 8.30

gate cinema
0171 727 4043
tube; notting hill gate
£6, £3.50 matinees/concs
carrington 1.45, 4.15, 6.45
the usual suspects 9.15
the lust for life wed 11.35am
mrs parker & the v. circle
11.35am
leon sun 2.10

prince charles
0171 437 8181
tube; leicester square
£2 all seats
jack & sarah fri 1.30 sat 8.15
tue 6.45
bad boys fri 4 wed 9.10
pat garret and billy the kid
fri 6.30
straw dogs fri 9
the rocky horror picture
show fri 11.30
disclosure sat 1
ed wood sat 3.30 wed 6.30
clerks sat 3.30
what's eating gilbert grape?
tue 1.30
legends of the fall tue 4
the piano tue 9
safe passage wed 1.30
interview with the vampire
wed 4

gig guide: this week

julian cope
shepherds bush empire
6-7 october
£7 - 0181 740 7474

levellers
brixton academy
6 october
£10 - 0171 924 9999

delicatessen
monarch
9 october
£3.50 - 0171 916 1049

keziah jones
dingwalls
11 october
£7.50 - 0171 267 1999

nanci griffith
royal albert hall
11 october
£14.50 - 0181 589 8212

black grape
forum
13-14 october
£12.50 - 0171 344 0044

sleepers
shepherds bush empire
13 october
£8 - 0181 740 7474

therapy?
brixton academy
13 october
£10 - 0171 924 9999

echobelly
shepherds bush empire
14 october
£8.50 - 0181 740 7474

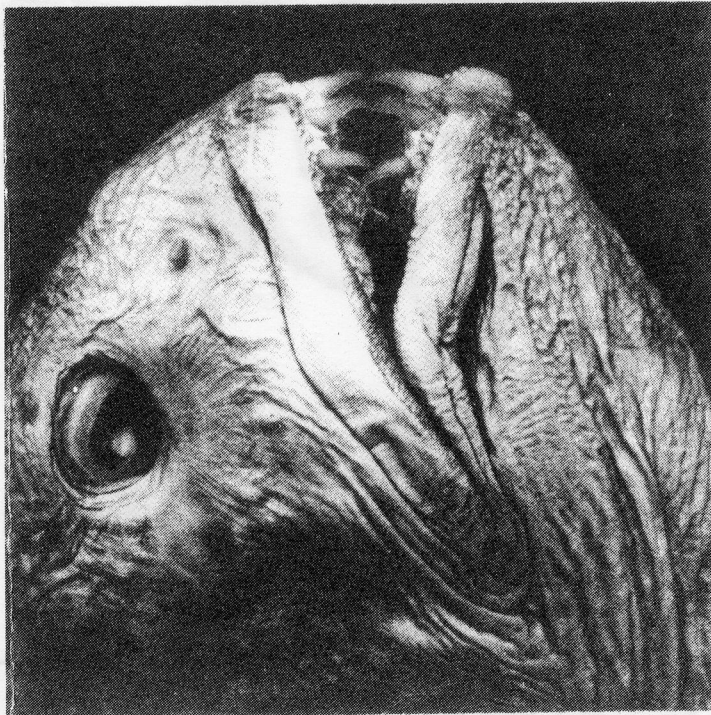
If matador
are cool it's
because
no-one has
heard of
them.

xvi

albums: compilations tintin

Music compilations are a double-edged sword. For example, compare and discuss **tower of song: the songs of Leonard Cohen** and **rare on air: volume 2**.

On the face of it the songs of Leonard Cohen would seem to be an excellent place to start for 'compilation heaven'. Critically acclaimed songs from a reasonably unknown artist are popularly reinterpreted by mainstream stars such as Elton John, Bono, Tori Amos, Sting, Peter Gabriel and Billy Joel. BILLY JOEL! Yes you now start to see that other edge biting - you get the most ridiculous pairing of song and singer



- and the worst of this situation is that the Billy Joel version of 'Light as a Breeze' is one of the better covers on the record. More problematically Sting manages to sing 'Sisters of Mercy' at a different speed to the backing instruments of the Chieftains, which is somewhat off-putting, and then we have to endure Bono talking, rather than singing, 'Hallelujah'. Maybe the problem is that everyone's trying to be clever; too clever for the songs of Leonard Cohen obviously.

In complete contrast the subtitle to **Rare on Air: volume 2** is "live sessions from KCRW's morning becomes eclectic" - people you've probably not heard of (excluding those you have such as Tanya Donnelly of Belly and the Cranberries) singing live on KCRW, a Californian radio station.

The rest of the collection certainly fulfils that subtitle; as track after track roll on with understated bands playing their most understated songs. Bettie Serveert slowdive through 'Palomine' with the controlled despair that has become their trademark and Lou Barlow of Sebadoh beautifully apologises his way through 'Beautiful Friend'. JJ Cale and World Party briefly break through the atmosphere and inject some vigour before the likes of Joni Mitchell bring it down again.

Overall though the pace is perhaps a little too slow. The excellent Volume 1 was if anything more obscure in terms of artists but it managed to avoid getting trapped in the eddies of moodiness. Still for those who are discerning, **Rare On Air** is still a world away from the deadening thud of Leonard Cohen's songs being mauled.

gig: matador records european tour part 2 tintin

Some say that Matador Records are the coolest record label on the face of the planet. Of course most people don't actually express a preference, not actually having heard of Matador Records or anything, and that's the point. If Matador are cool it's because no-one has heard of them or the waves of obscure and down right lo-fi bands they release records for.

Take the first part of their European tour which gave us Chavez, the Amps and the mighty Guided By Voices. The Amps (headed by Kim Deal of the Breeders) 'stole' the show and despite the fact that GBV headlined, a significant section of the crowd vanished after Deal and co had finished playing.

Part two contained such notables as Railroad Jerk and Helium, with Bailer Space headlining. Not many Billboards top 100 hits in that line-up you'd imagine, correctly. And yet because Matador Records are cool, there were some great sounds.

The implausibly named Railroad Jerk opened proceedings with a wave of a guitar stolen from the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion (incidentally another Matador band, but you knew that anyway because you've not heard of Jon Spencer have you?). Something borrowed from the blues and added to the present, they played funky stuff and even managed to get a harmonica in on the act.

Helium were next, with frontsperson Mary Timony's particular blend of womyn-vooodoo-kitsch marking out a territory all of its own. Bailer Space swirled on for over an hour of droning and trance-inducing riffing. Sometimes there were melodies to hang on to, othertimes the audience was left to fall down a seemingly bottomless pit of disfocuss. But all the time, Bailer Space operated with wide grins slashed across their faces. Being cool never meant not enjoying yourself.

m r fogg

august 4th

Pills: 2 Paludrine, 2 Nurofen (better!), 3 erythromycin, 2 imodium, 5 El Habiby fast acting throat lozenges

Cairo is rather oddly positioned on the scale of development. It may be the gateway to the Arab world, the colourful hub where the Mediterranean meets Africa meets the Middle East, but it's also managed to pick up all that is bad about the Western world. I guess it was inevitable that McDonald's would be here. Overgrazing land in the Amazon basin to destroy the local economy of lower Egypt is probably quite cool in these days of global communication. But I really cannot deal with Cairo suffering from the awful screech of Western crime meets materialism in the car alarm. I have no objections to being woken up at 5:30am by the call to prayer. I may not feel particularly strongly that Allah wa Akbar! at that time in the morning, but the sound of it echoing round the city is a beautiful ethereal thing. However, I deeply resent getting roused from my slumbers by the wail of someone's oversensitive Peugeot. Still, that was at noon, so I suppose I didn't suffer that badly. I lay in bed perusing the assortment of little bottles on the table beside me. Began to wonder how many calories a pill has, perhaps that explains why I wasn't at all hungry yesterday. Rather belatedly start to read all the little instruction booklets they come with, absentmindedly at first, and then with increasing fear. If I were to come down with all the side effects this little collection can inflict, I would have blurred vision, drowsiness, headaches, stomach and gut upsets, and constipation. Also am a little concerned as to the composition of the harmless looking little throat lozenges I picked up yesterday. At the time I was more concerned that the chemist I got them from was called 'El Gomurrhea Pharmacie'. Decide I had better stay in bed.

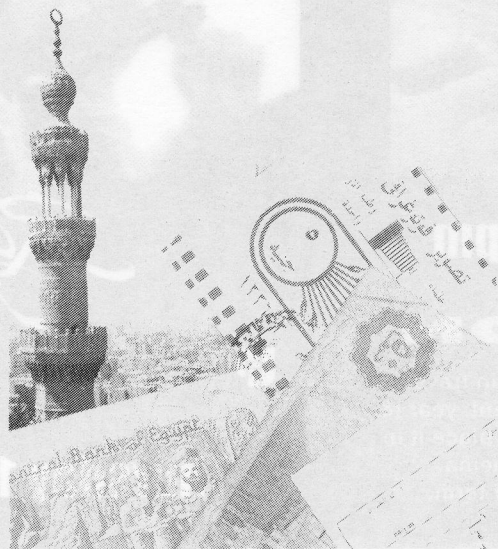
12:30pm Stop panicking and realise I feel much better than yesterday. Get up and go shopping. Have rather an amusing time at the Khan el Khalili bazaar. 'Hey! You want something special for the lovely lady? I have good price! Come and see my real papyrus. Is good quality just for you! Is made by Tutankhamun 2000 years ago!' I buy a rug. It's very nice.

august 5th

Pills: 2 Paludrine, 0 Nurofen (hurrah!), 3 erythromycin, 0 imodium (very good), 8 El Habiby fast acting throat lozenges

Got up early today and went riding. Here the locals have given up fleecing goats in favour of fleecing tourists. Find a stable owner who wants a to charge a mere fortnight's salary to let us ride up to Cheops. All of a sudden I find myself on a massive Arab stallion galloping across the desert. It's not every day you get to act out Lawrence of Arabia, although I would have been able to get into the atmosphere a bit better had my horse not been named after Freddie Mercury. View over the pyramids from a rise ½ mile away is breathtaking, but my inner thighs are sore for the next two days. It's Simon's turn to get ill today: he describes it as 'feeling somewhat billious'. I don't understand this, but a bit of further explanation and it appears that it's the sensation you get in your stomach when you've just drunk six pints of very fizzy lager. Sounds a bit unpleasant. Encounter a wedding party on the way back: cars tooting their horns, people whooping and yelling. The procession moves down the street led by a bunch of bridesmaids in scarlet and black, chanting and singing to the beat of a wizened old lady drumming. She's carried up on shoulders, and her arms move so fast they are a blur. Somewhat incongruously, they are followed by six blokes in dinner dress wearing shiny red bow ties. Despite the fact that I too am feeling a little bilious now, we stagger out for some falafel. 6 pence a go: bargain.

4:30 am I wonder if vomit is a cultural thing. At home, it seems to be based around carrots, no matter what you've eaten. Now it's a rather alarming a shade of green.



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Cairo:
car alarms and
weddings and
freddie
mercury

LETTERS TO FELIX: REPLIED TO THIS WEEK BY RACHIEL WALTERS

Conservative perspective

Editor:

In response to your report of last week on our web pages, I am amazed that a newspaper such as yours which pretends to defend free speech by attacking any questions about Rupert Murdoch's financial interests can be running such a voracious campaign against our own on-line magazine. Perhaps the contradiction can be easily explained by stating the obvious: you disagree with us.

Nothing in our web pages could cause Rupert Murdoch to take legal action against us since we are protected by several education acts. The article was credited to me personally and is not official ConSoc policy (what

do you think "Off the Record" means?) Your implicit defence of Murdoch, coming from a "politically neutral" paper wasn't signed however. Can we take it that this is official *Felix* policy?

Your hysteria over my political views shows that *Felix* is no place for rationally discussing the issues of the day - hence the need for our society.

The majority of people in this country are uninterested in politics and there is tremendous scope for people such as Murdoch to use tabloid sensationalism to influence the views of his wide readership by relying on the fact that they won't be bothered to assess his newspapers' articles for bias or

factual content.

Similarly a lot of people at IC have little knowledge or interest in ConSoc. But many of them, particularly some uninitiated freshers may naively believe that all of your staff are capable of seriously reporting events accurately without melodrama.

Ian Bailey
ConSoc Chairman

You're spot on: I do disagree with you, although I don't much care for Rupert Murdoch either, quite frankly. And I promise faithfully to never make defending multi-national media tycoons official policy. But what gave you the idea that *Felix* was 'politically neutral'?

I trust that you feel you

have satisfactorily redressed the balance for all those naive freshers.

Deadline for
letters:
6pm
Monday.

Please bring
your union
card for
identification.

Filmsoc Presents...

FROM THE BEST SELLING NOVEL BY THE AUTHOR OF JURASSIC PARK.

FROM THE BEST SELLING
AUTHOR OF JURASSIC PARK.

CONGO



12

Wednesday 11th at 8pm

COMPETITION

Retain your ticket stub for the chance to win travel vouchers from STA. Put your name, department, year (& phone number) on the back of the ticket and place it in the prize draw box at the back of the cinema. Winners will be drawn in the last week of term.

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



Thursday 12th at 8pm

Imperial College or ULU students & staff.
Compulsory annual membership of 50p
(payable on first visit)

£2

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STA TRAVEL

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DOLBY STEREO
SURROUND SOUND ®

FELIX

*the indispensable guide for
Felix contributors and
helpers*

monday, high noon
clubs & societies articles
deadline

monday 1pm

reviewers' meeting

monday 6pm

letters deadline

monday 6pm

news meeting

wednesday 6pm

features meeting

thursday night

collating

friday morning

another Felix hits the street...

W E E K

MEDIA BUFFET

wine and cheese and with a bit
of luck more wine....

Meet STOIC and IC Radio and
Felix for a start of the year get
together.

monday 7pm in the Ents lounge

FELIX

FOUNDED 1949

PRODUCED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION
PUBLICATIONS BOARD

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EDITOR RACHEL WALTERS

PRINTERS ANDY THOMPSON AND JEREMY

BUSINESS MANAGER JULIETTE DECOCK

ADVERTISING MANAGER WEI LEE

Fire in the House!

How long ago is it now that the new fire alarm system first started causing problems? I know that *Felix* has been reporting on excessive alarm ringing now for over a year.

So why is it then that the system still causes us - both students and staff - so many problems. Last Monday night is but one example in a continuing, and seemingly unending line of false alarms for this 'sophisticated system'.

With a leak in a ventilation pipe and a exhaust duct that was restricted the alarms on the third floor of the Union went off. This wasn't the most notable part of the evening, it was the requisite clearing of the building half an hour before the advertised closing time that caused the problems.

How do you explain to a group of not fully sober revellers that the alarm has not actually been activated on purpose so that the staff can go home early? Well by all accounts this is not something readily explainable to the average punter!

This time the cause was something which can be fixed, but what about the continuous excuses of student cooking and people spending too long in the shower. How long is it before it is realised that students are not likely to change their culinary

habits just so that a 'high tech' fire alarm system can be installed.

The authorities are not aware of the level of scepticism that the average student has when they hear an alarm these days. What is the point of getting out of bed in the middle of the night when you know its not going to be for real anyway?

A case in point is the Garden Hall 'incident' which occurred over the Summer. Just how many people actually bothered to get up and out of the Hall whilst the alarms sounded. Having spoken to quite a few of the residents, the answer is - not a lot.

And who can blame them with this constant stream of false alarms which can hardly be kept a secret in a college this size. So the onus then focus on the maintainers and installers of the alarms to respond with a system that is suitable to student halls.

While College does have to have to conform to stringent regulations during Vacation time so that they can operate halls as hotels, these are not required for term time residency. What will happen when there actually is a fire and a student dies because they didn't bother leaving hall for the third time that week? Will College then realise that they were putting student lives in danger all along - or will they still reject all accusations of negligence and continue to blame it on the students?

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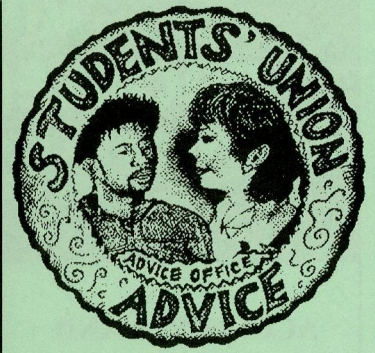
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ADVICE OFFICE NEWSLETTER



September 95

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first edition of the Advice Office Newsletter.

The newsletter will provide information and advice on topics which we hope may be relevant to you.

In this first edition we have information on **licences** - television and the driving variety. There is also information on the much loved **Council tax**. The articles on **stress** and **carbon monoxide poisoning** have been included just in case you missed them in Felix. And in case you need medical treatment, there are details of **N.H.S. charges**. The newsletter also includes details on how to deal with **harassment** and the Adviser addresses specific issues in her problem page.

Some useful organisations have been listed in case you need to contact them.

Remember, if you need **free and confidential advice**, make an appointment with the Adviser. You can do this at the Union Office or by ringing 0171 594 8060.

Hope you find the newsletter useful.

Minever Kavlak
Union Adviser

COUNCIL TAX, STUDENTS AND SPOUSES.

If a property (dwelling) is occupied solely by full-time students, that property is **exempt** from the council tax. This means that you do not have to pay council tax if everyone you share the property with is also a full-time student.

Until 1st April 1995, students who shared the property with their non-British spouse were liable to pay 75% of the council tax bill if the spouse was not a full time student.

This has now changed. A non-British spouse (or dependent) who is forbidden to work in the UK or claim public funds and who lives with a full-time student is exempt from paying the council tax.

This amendment will be of particular use to international students who have faced great difficulty paying the council tax when they were joined by their family, especially as council tax benefit was included in the forbidden 'recourse to public funds' rule.

Students needing further advice or experiencing problems should consult the Adviser or UKCOSA.

LICENCES

Television Licences

If you use a television, you need a licence. You can purchase a licence from the post office. The cost of a colour television licence from 1st April 1995 is £86.50 and the cost of a black and white television licence is now £28.50.

You need a colour licence if you have a black and white television connected to a video recorder.

It is a criminal offence to watch a television without a licence and if found guilty, face a fine.

Driving Licences

UKCOSA, an advisory organisation for international students have suggested that international students obtain a UK licence if they plan to remain in Britain for longer than twelve months to avoid serious legal problems.

This may involve having to take a UK driving test depending on which national licence is held.

Further information can be obtained from **DVLA, Swansea, SA6 7JL**. Details are available from the Union Reception area.

HEALTH CHARGES

The bad news.....

N.H.S charges increased in April. Prescription charges for medication will increase from £4.75 to £5.25 per item.

The good news.....

Students may be entitled to help with N.H.S. charges. This will help to pay for N.H.S. prescriptions, N.H.S. dental treatment, glasses and sight tests, N.H.S. wigs and fabric supports and travel to hospital for N.H.S. treatment.

International students can also claim help with N.H.S. charges without any effect on immigration status as it does not constitute 'recourse to public funds'.

You can claim help with N.H.S. charges by completing form AG1. The form is available from the Union reception area, health centres and social security offices.

This first Advice Newsletter was bought to you by ICU Advice office and is just one of the services provided by your Students Union.

MIN'S PROBLEM PAGE

IF YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM MIN MAY BE
ABLE TO HELP.

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES.

Dear Min.....

I had a cycling accident and suffered physical injury. Can I claim compensation ?

First seek legal advice in a FREE interview with a solicitor, under the Accident Legal Advice Scheme. For details of solicitors offering this service ring the accident line on **0500 192939** (Freephone number)

EXTRA FUNDING.

Dear Min.....

Is there anyone who can give students financial assistance ?

Many students face financial difficulty, but there are a few options.

Access Funds can assist "home" students in hardship. Applications are available from the College Fees Office, Room 334, Sherfield Building. International students may apply to the College Hardship Trust for assistance. Trusts & charities can give some assistance.

Further information can be obtained from the Union Adviser.

TENANTS & LANDLORDS

Dear Min.....

I have an Assured Shorthold Tenancy. The Landlord won't fix the roof. What can I do ?

Under Section 11 Of the 1985 Landlord & Tenant act, your Landlord has a legal duty to carry out structural repairs.

Write your Landlord a list of work required, quoting Section 11. Keep a copy of the letter & send it recorded delivery. If no

work is done, contact the Environmental Health Officer at the local Council.

NURSERY FEES

Dear Min....

My child has a place at Day Nursery, but I can't afford the fees. Is there any help ?

YES- College may be able to help with the fees. Further information is available from Don Adlington. The Union also has limited funds to help. You will need to fill in a form to assess your claim. Contact the Union Adviser for details.

SPOUSES AND VISAS

Dear Min....

I'm a Student from a visa national country. I want my husband/ wife to join me. What must I do?

Your spouse can apply to come to Britain as your dependent. You need to show you have adequate support (income) & accomodation to live together .

Your spouse needs to apply for a visa from the British Consulate. If granted, she/he will have the right to stay here for the same period as your study. If you need more advice see the Union Advisor. Note your spouse can only work if he/she has a visa for 12 months or more.

All these enquiries are fictitious- any resemblance to actual cases or people is entirely coincidental.

ARE YOU BEING HARASSED ?

It is possible that you think that you have never been harassed & that may be true. However, you can never assume that harassment does not effect you.

So, what is harassment ? The common feature of harassment is that it makes a person feel inferior. It is a form of offensive behaviour or language & may include derogatory remarks, ridicule, offensive "jokes", & violence. Some forms of harassment can be recognised outright. Other more indirect forms are not so easy to identify but are just as damaging to a persons well being.

Anyone can be harassed.

Harassment is often based on negative stereotypes & the most common forms include sexism, racism, homophobia, & harassment against people with disabilities.

If you are being harassed or have been in the past, there are a number of ways of dealing with the issue. Some of the following suggestions may help:

*Keep a record of all incidents This will help if you need to pursue action, or when explaining the situation to others. Make a note of the time, date, witnesses etc.

*Tell the harasser to stop the harassment. Explain that you find it offensive & you may take further action if it persists.

*Confide in someone who you can talk to easily. This could be a close friend, someone in the Union or College or a counselor. The Union Adviser will provide support & deal with

your case in the strictest confidence. She will have details of other contacts if appropriate.

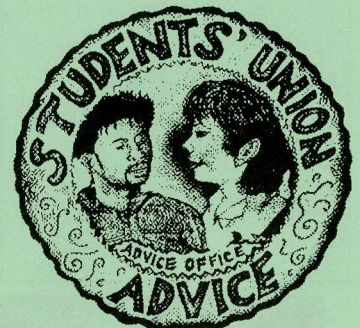
*ICU has a harassment policy, & deals with cases of harassment. Support will be provided & disciplinary action can be taken against the harasser. A copy of the policy is available from the Union Office.

*In some cases legal action may be appropriate. Further information can be obtained from the Union adviser.

Options include Court orders, which order the person to stop the harassment or action, under the Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994. This act makes "intentional harassment" a criminal offence. Legal action can also be taken regarding physical assault. In these cases further advice should be sought immediately from the Union adviser.

REMEMBER - you do not have to put up with harassment. Seek advice immediately from the Union Adviser, who will listen and discuss your case with you in the strictest confidence.

ICU believes harassment is a serious issue and will always deal with it as such.



STUDENT HARDSHIP RISING

It is evident from the number of students using the Union Advice service that student financial hardship is continuing to increase. There are many examples of students working long hours for low wages and others who have not eaten for several days in order to pay essential bills such as rent and fuel bills.

The budget at the end of 1994 was not good news for students. Gillian Shepherd, Secretary of State for Education, revealed that institutions will have to make an almost 3.5% financial cut on each person as student numbers rise. The rates for grants will be reduced by 8% which will result in more students having to rely on loans.

Mature students will be badly affected by the abolishment of the allowance received by students over twenty six. All in all, funding for higher education is to be cut by £25 million in each of the next two academic years and will continue at the new reduced figure into 1997/8. To make matters worse students are facing long delays in having their applications processed for a student loan.

While looking at the financial problems faced by home students, we should remember that international students outside the EEC do not receive Local Education Authority grants and cannot apply for student loans.

There are discussions taking place which consider ways in which students can pay for their education. Recent suggestions include the idea of students repaying maintenance and possibly fee costs through national insurance and tax. This added burden would be very worrying

when most students already face having to repay student loans and large debts when they leave college. It is thought that 18 to 21 year old students are accumulating debts over £2,000 and it is possible that older students may run debts up to £6,000. It is possible that the growing financial pressures may discourage people from poorer backgrounds from embarking on higher education courses in the future.

It can be said that student poverty exists now and measures which may worsen the situation should be strongly opposed. How can students who have to worry about meeting their basic finances be expected to cope with the pressure of their studies?

It may be possible for institutions to introduce schemes to assist students in financial difficulty such as providing **c h e a p e r** accommodation, cheaper meals, help with books and cheaper nursery places. Some colleges have set up systems to waive or reduce fees in cases of extreme hardship.

Current provisions such as the access and hardship trust have helped many students to cope with the pressures that financial hardship brings.

The start of a new academic year can surely be the most stressful time of the year for many students. This article is intended to highlight some of the financial problems which can increase the pressure on students.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, seek advice from the Union Adviser.

Is Your Gas A Killer?

Carbon monoxide poisoning from faulty gas heaters poses a real threat to us all. Approximately 30 or 40 deaths occur in this way every year and students are often the victims.

Carbon monoxide is difficult to detect as it cannot be seen and does not necessarily smell. There are, however, a few danger signs to look out for, such as stains at the top of a gas heater or a yellow/orange flame.

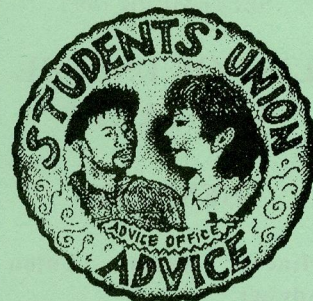
But the best way of ensuring your appliance is safe, is to have it checked by a qualified person (C.O.R.G.I. REGISTERED).

The good news is that from 31st October 1994, landlords/ladies have a legal responsibility to ensure that gas appliances are checked every 12 months. They have to keep an inspection record which must be made available to students. A gas safety action line has been set up to provide information.

They can be contacted by phoning (freephone) 0800 300 363.

All in all, these changes may help students to protect themselves against unnecessary death.

If you are in any doubt, you can seek advice from the Union Adviser.



The Advice Centre

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FROM THE
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IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

SEPTEMBER 1995

LIST OF USEFUL CONTACTS

GENERAL

Minever Kavlak, Union Adviser (DEALS WITH ALL TYPES OF ENQUIRIES)

ICU Advice Office
Beit Quad
0171 594 8060 (ext. 48060) to make appointments.
0171 594 8067 (ext 48067) (answering machine when interviewing)
email m.kavlak@ic.ac.uk

Union Sabbatical Officers

ICU, Beit Quad
0171 594 8060 (ext 48060)
Pigeon-holes in Union Office

The Health Centre

Princes Garden. ext 49375

Disabilities Officer

Loretto O'Callaghan
Room 324, Sherfield. ext 48935

Nightline (6pm to 8am)

0171 436 5561

ULU Advice Line

0171 580 9551 ext 225

Citizens Advice Bureau

Old Town Hall
Kings Road
Chelsea SW3
0171 351 2114/351 0487
(tel. 0171 251 2000 for details of nearest bureau)

Central London Law Centre

47 Charing Cross Road
0171 437 5854
(tel 0171 387 8570 for details of nearest law centre)

WOMEN

London Rape Crisis Centre LRCC,

PO Box 69
LONDON WC1X 9NJ
0171 837 1600
(Support and counselling for women who have been raped)

SURVIVORS (7-10PM) 0171 833 3737 (Support for women who have been raped)

Legal Action for Women

King's Cross Women's Centre
71 Tonbridge Street
LONDON WC1H 9DZ
0171-837 7509
(Specific legal advice for women on many issues ,including domestic violence ,racism ,rape.)

Rights of Women,

52-54 Featherstone Street,
EC1Y 8RT
0171-251 6577
(Free legal advice and pressure group)

Women Against Sexual Harrasment

312 The Chandlery
50 Westminster Bridge Road
SE1 7QY
0171-721 7593
(Support and advice to those harassed and campaigns. Free legal advice.)

Women's Advice & Counselling:

0181 692 6268

Women's Therapy Centre

0171 263 6200

Women & Girls Network

(sexual harrasment)
0171 404 1234

London Womens Centre

0171 831 1492, (Activities, advice, information)

RACIAL HARASSMENT

Commission for Racial Equality,

Elliot House,10-12 Allington Street,
SW1E 5EH
0181 828 7022

City Centre

Sophia House
32-35 Featherstone Street
0171 608 1339

Minority Rights Group Limited,

379 Brixton Road,
LONDON SW9 7DE
0171 978 9498
(Securing of justice for minority groups.)

LAW CENTRE

(CHECK DIRECTORY FOR NEAREST CENTRE)

LESBIAN AND GAY HARASSMENT

Lesbian and Gay Employment Rights

21 Old Ford Street,
E2 9LP
0171 704 6066

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard.

0171 837 7314
(Information , counselling and referral service.)

Gay and Lesbian Legal Advice (GLLAD)

67-59 Cowcross Street,
EC1N 6BP
0171 253 2043/0171 976 0840
(Advice ,assistance on legal problems.)

PACE

0171 263 6200
(Counselling for gay and lesbian people)

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

SKILL:National Bureau for students with disailities.

336 Brixton Road
SW9 7AA
0171-274 0565

Disability Law Service

16 Princeton Street
WC1R 4BB
0171-831 8031
(Legal advice & information)

RADAR

(Royal Association For Disability and Rehabilitation)
0171 250 3222

PEOPLE WITH AIDS/H.I.V.

London Lighthouse
111-117 Lancaster Road
W11 1QT

0171-792 1200(9am to 9pm)
(Counselling, support, drop-in centre)

Aidslink

0483 300150
(Helpline)

National Aids Helpline

0800 567 123

Terrence Higgins Trust

Helpline 0171 242 1010
Legal line 0171 405 2381
Administration 0171 831 0330
(Information & advice)

Positively Women

5 Sebastian Street
EC13 OHE
0171 490 5515/ 0171 495 5515
(Assists women with HIV/AIDS)

Blackliners

0171 738 5274/7458
(Assists black people with HIV/AIDS)

DRUGS

The Hungerford Project

32A Wardour Street
W1V 3HJ
0171-437 3523
(Information & drop-in Centre)

Release - National Drugs Helpline

0171 603 8654

Drugs Helpline

0800 776600

SCODA

(Standing Conference On Drug Abuse)
0171 636 7866

VIOLENCE/SEXUAL ASSAULT

London Women's Aid

0171 251 6537

Everyman Centre

0171 793 0155
(Help for violent men)

Victim Support

0171 735 9166