

SABBATICAL ELECTIONS

Lies and damned lies: manifestoes of '96

f.ii

Spellbound:

Damien Hirst & Steve McQueen & Ridley Scott

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FELIX

The student newspaper of Imperial College

Issue 1051

February 23rd 1996

Biomedical plans stalled once more

BY TIM ST. CLAIR

Approval of the application to demolish the RCS II building to make way for the proposed Basic Medical Sciences block has been postponed once more. The application, which should have been put before the borough council planning meeting this week, has been put off until March 7th so that English Heritage may present their views to the meeting.

English Heritage's involvement in the application plans is a consequence of the listed status of the RCS II building. Their officer responsible for the presentation was unavailable for comment. In her absence, English Heritage staff were reluctant to give details of the organisation's intentions.

This is the third time that the application has failed to be considered by the planning meeting, and the time allowed for possible delays which the building schedule incorporated has now decreased to a matter of weeks. Ian Caldwell, Director of Estates, did not seem worried about this latest setback, com-

menting that there was still time in hand. He admitted to being 'somewhat concerned' when the planning authorities last delayed the proposals (*Felix* 1047).

The constituent medical school Unions are still worried that the plans do not make adequate provision for social space within the BMS building itself. A joint letter from the St Mary's and Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School Union presidents, written in response to an open letter from the Rector, queried the funding available for student facilities. Whilst accepting that social facilities at their current campuses could not be fully duplicated within the new premises, they insisted that adequate provision must be made for medical students needs.

Sarah White, president of ICU, remarked that she knew nothing of the letter, and "didn't know what they were trying to achieve" by not telling her, insisting that the medical school presidents had said they were writing the piece for *London Student*.

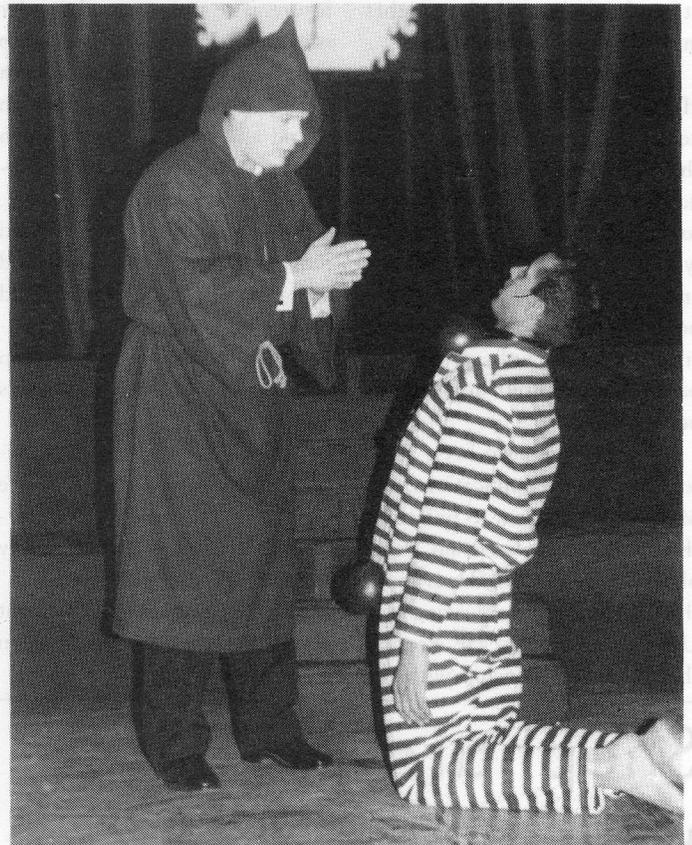


PHOTO: ALEX FEAKES

A disguised Duke of Vienna (John Barnes) and Barnadine (Omar Islam) of St Mary's Hospital Medical School Drama Society performed William Shakespeare's play *Measure for Measure* at ICU this week. The two night run of the play on the South Kensington Campus marks a first for St Mary's Dramsoc and hopes are high that it will encourage future cooperation between drama societies.

Director Jim Coward's intention to move the play into a seventies setting gave a new feel to the play, one that is traditionally difficult to discern as a tragedy or a comedy. Tuesday night saw a small but appreciative audience witness an impressive performance by the cast. A full house on Wednesday evening relieved growing concerns that Imperial College students were allergic to cultural stimulation.

in summary



Disc-jockey thieves

Disco equipment stolen from the Union last week is thought to have remained in Beit Quad for a few days before being removed, sparking suggestions of student involvement. **page 3**

Capital funding cuts

ICU face a 28% capital funding cut in their equipment grant from College. There have been complaints that the budgets have already been "cut to the bone." **page 2**

End to late bars

Late licences to 1am on Friday nights could soon be a thing of the past as fewer extensions are granted. The bar will still be open until midnight, and ents will not be affected. **page 2**

Bar extensions for ICU in jeopardy

BY ALEX FEAKES

Friday nights at the Union will soon be coming to an end earlier than usual due to a cut in the number of late bar licences granted by the local constabulary. The reduced number of late extensions means that the bar will shut at midnight on Friday nights instead of the current 1 am.

Talking to *Felix*, Mark Horne, ICU's Events and Marketing Manager, explained that the nature of the Union's bar licence meant that it had to apply for each bar extension individually. Recent policy reassessments and staffing changes in the local police force have led to nearly sixty percent of previously passed bar extension applications being rejected.

No reasons have been given for rejecting the applications, and Mr Horne was keen to point out that there had been no complaints from local residents about the bar or people leaving the Union late at night. He stressed that ICU's relationship with the

police has always been amicable, insisting that the police had an 'understanding' of ICU's special situation.

Mr Horne said that the Union was looking into other types of bar licences to try to circumvent the problem in the future. The two currently under scrutiny are a 'supper-club licence' and a 'club licence with exemptions', both of which would allow the bar to be open late without having to apply individually for each extension. However, the former would require there to be food served during the evening, which could prove to be difficult, and the latter could require some expansion and upgrading of the building's facilities.

When asked about the ramifications of the cut in late licences for the end of term carnival, Mr Horne would only reply that the matter "was in hand." He gave assurances that the night was fully booked and still on course to happen.

Shepherd promises talks with CVCP

BY MIKE INGRAM

The Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals met last Friday to discuss the looming crisis over higher education funding. The Government's Education Secretary, Gillian Shepherd, had promised to deliver a timetable for discussion of funding proposals in time for the meeting, in an attempt to avert threatened action by the committee (*Felix* 1050).

The meeting took place amid the continuing row over funding between the Government and university heads. Among principals, adherence to the CVCP's opposition to reducing student numbers to combat

the cuts is almost universal. However, the Higher Education Funding Council for England had indicated that it might allow universities to take in less than their contracted number of students. Reducing student intake is a method used by some colleges to save money.

When the deadline for specifying intended intake levels ran out a few days ago, only one university had applied to cut numbers. The university has not been named, but it is believed to be one of the larger 'new' universities. In a late development, the Government agreed to set up a working party for the whole issue of higher education funding.

Union capital funding slashed

BY MIKE INGRAM

Imperial College Union is to have its capital spending budget slashed by 28% next year. The cuts are being imposed by the College to offset funding cuts of over 31% imposed in last year's Budget.

The money is used by the Union to finance facilities and equipment used by clubs and societies. It is distributed by the Union Funding Council (UFC), which assesses the five-year budget plans submitted by clubs. According to some, these budgets have already been "cut to the bone".

The implications of the cuts were discussed at the last UFC meeting on Tuesday. Matt

Crompton, DP(F&S) told *Felix* that the Union may be forced to use money from its trading outlets to make up the difference. He said that the Union was "going to try to get money [if possible]", and that it would be "dreadful coming to terms with" cutting budgets any further.

Using up the revenue from trading could have an effect on ICU's future in Beit Quad. The profits had previously been earmarked for improvements to the Union building and its facilities. After the controversy over the Estates Department's proposal to move the Union into the Sherfield building, it was made clear that changes to the building would be necessary (*Felix* 1038).

News in brief

BY THE NEWS TEAM

ICU supports nursery

Imperial College's Nursery was the recipient of a donation by ICU this week. The cheque for £104.86 was a combination of money raised by the Royal School of Mines Union, the weekly bar quizzes in Da Vinci's and sales of matches in the Union's two bars.

Gates locked at night

Access from Imperial College Road to Queen's Gate and Prince Consort Road will soon be curtailed. The two exits from the college are to be closed between the hours of 11 pm and 6 am.

The decision to close the gates was taken for security and safety reasons and will be effective from the 1st March. The West Precinct, in front of the Rector's residence, 170 Queen's Gate, is felt to be a particular security risk.

Nick Black, Estates Manager, explained that College was "concerned that anyone

could get in" during those hours. He predicted that only a small number of students would be affected by the closure, and said that the main objections to the closure had been from the college catering staff.

Although there are alternative entrances to the college grounds from Exhibition Road, the status of Imperial College Road as a public right of way is considered a 'grey area'.

Beit clock's stoppage

Beit Quad's clock, hanging above the entrance to the Union, was repaired this week after one of its hands became 'mis-aligned'. Time was restored on Wednesday after a three day break.

Correction

The band named in last week's *Felix* as having dropped out of a gig due to one of its members being banned from the Union was not 'Herb' as stated but was in fact the band 'Neither Both'. *Felix* apologises for any confusion.

Turntable thieves elude security net

BY DIPAK GHOSH

Imperial College Union's entertainments received a temporary blow last week when disco equipment worth nearly £1000 mysteriously disappeared from the Union building, amid suspicion of student involvement in the theft.

The equipment, including a Technics turntable, was reported missing last Friday when the evening's entertainments were being set up. The equipment was last used the previous week, the 9th of February, and was secured in a sturdy flight case after the night's disco. Sometime during that week, someone opened the cases and unbolted the turntables from their mounts and took them from the building.

Mark Horne, ICU's Entertainment and Marketing Manager, has been scanning security videos for clues to the culprits, though admits that the crime is puzzling. "At least two people must be involved in this theft as the equipment is too heavy to be carried by one person. They obviously knew what they were taking, as the expensive gear was taken and the rela-



PHOTO: ALEX FEAKES

This Technics turntable, similar to the one which was stolen, is kept permanently in ICU's ents venue. The thief had to undo heavy bolts which lock the turntable into a flightcase in order to make off with it.

tively cheaper mixer was left. We suspect that students were involved."

The Beit archway was the only possible exit route from the quad since all exterior doors were locked due to the Mountbatten Festival in the Royal Albert Hall

last week. The video evidence seems to indicate that the equipment is still within the buildings in the Beit Quad, but Mr Horne speculated that the thieves have most probably escaped with the decks already.

The Police have informed

local dealers of disco equipment to be aware of anyone trying to sell gear matching the description of the stolen items. They have also appealed to students who might know anything of the crime to speak to Union officials as soon as possible.

C&G fill Union posts, but voters stay away again

BY ANDY SINHARAY

Voting in the the City & Guilds College Union (C&GCU) elections took place on Monday and Tuesday of this week. The posts on the C&GCU were filled, with the current Overseas Societies Committee chair, Gaurav Misra, being voted in as president after the 4th count.

One of the failed candidates, Alex Tylee-Birdsall, said that he "expected not to win really" and wished Gaurav well, saying that he was "very happy for him...he's a good guy." Alex will stay on in his current role as the Motor Club's captain but said he may run for the job next year. Andy Gilder was elected to the post of Vice-president with Hannah Pearson as Hon Sec.

The turnout for the election

was low, with only 276 votes out of a possible 3000 being cast. The response was marginally better than last year's, when an electorate of only 190 students registered their preference.

Jez Clayton, the C&GCU current Honorary Secretary, said that the turnout of about 10% "isn't too bad, considering that only 50% of students had Union cards." He said that some students had got ICU cards especially for the occasion.

The post of Honorary Treasurer was filled by its current incumbent, Simon Cope, and Computing first-year Ling Li was voted in as Publicity Officer. The current VP, Duncan Tindall, has been elected to the post of C&G College Association representative.

SABBATICAL ELECTIONS

BY THE NEWS TEAM

Campaigning in the Imperial College Union sabbatical elections has started slowly, though commentators were reassured by a late flurry in enthusiasm as last minute canvassing saw all candidates fully nominated.

Sarah Corneille, a member of the women's rugby team, registered her intention to stand for the position of Deputy President (Clubs and Societies) with only an hour to spare before nominations closed. She is opposed by James Handley and Neil O'Shaughnessy. The presidential position is the only other post that will be contested. Eric Allsop, Mark Bridge and Luke Morales are standing for the job.

Piers Williams and Alex Feakes remain unopposed in

Sabbs race "lacklustre"

their bids to become Deputy President (Finance and Services) and Felix Editor and Print Unit Manager respectively.

Voters in the elections, which will take place on March 4th and 5th throughout college, will also have the opportunity to call for a new election to be run. Nominations would then be reopened next term, allowing further candidates to stand. The current Deputy Presidents, Tim Townend and Matt Crompton, have been mandated to run the New Election campaign, but have as yet failed to publicise it as a voting option at all.

Hustings will take place in the Ents lounge (South Kensington) next Tuesday, and in Gladys (St Mary's) on Wednesday, both at 6pm.

VACATION PLACEMENTS

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Can Power Lines give you Cancer?

New evidence which has only recently been made public shows that the risk of contracting cancer from exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMFs) such as those from power distribution lines or from domestic appliances may be higher than was previously thought. The debate has persisted in scientific circles for some time and has occasionally spilled over into the public domain, but has always ended in indecision. Even the very existence of biological effects of EMFs has been challenged on theoretical grounds.

The problem with the subject and the reason for this indecision is twofold. It has not been possible to come up with a mechanism by which the relatively tiny fields involved could have an effect on biological tissue, and furthermore, the empirical evidence has not been clear cut. New developments on the former point may throw more light on the subject. For instance, recent correspondence in the journal *Nature* has proposed a new theory involving minute quantities of highly magnetic iron oxide present in living tissue, while findings by a team at Bristol University published in the *International Journal for Radiation Biology* approach the problem from a different perspective, and suggest that power lines may attract radioactive radon present in the atmosphere; this is known to be carcinogenic and people could be put at risk by inhaling it in increased concentrations. With regard to the empirical evidence, there have been many studies which are perhaps epitomised by a study of 232 child leukemia cases in Los Angeles over the period 1980-87. This study sought to find a relationship between the cases of leukemia and the level of EMFs in the children's homes. The fields were measured by two different techniques; one yielded a close correlation but the other did not, throwing all the results into confusion.

But now a report recently drawn up for the US Government by the National Council on Radiation Protection has suggested that the long-term effects of over-exposure are dangerous, and therefore advised new levels on EMF exposure that are *several thousand* times lower than current internationally accepted norms.

This new suggested limit is greatly exceeded by the field within 30 yards of power distribution lines and is even exceeded by many domestic appliances such as vacuum cleaners, hairdryers and food mixers.

Before a general panic is created and people start throwing away their hair driers and moving house to get as far away as

possible from any power lines, it should be noted how great the risks actually are. The report highlights two classes of people who are more susceptible to developing leukemia than others; workers in the electrical industry and children. The *possible* risk to workers in the electrical industry is estimated to be a few chances in 100,000 per year. This is a lot smaller than the total risk of death in such occupations – the probability of receiving a fatal electric shock is much greater but it is nevertheless a non-negligible contribution. Surveys seem to show that the above-normal risk for children is something of the order of 5 in 100,000 (which happens to be about the same as the leukemia risk for in utero exposure to diagnostic X-rays).

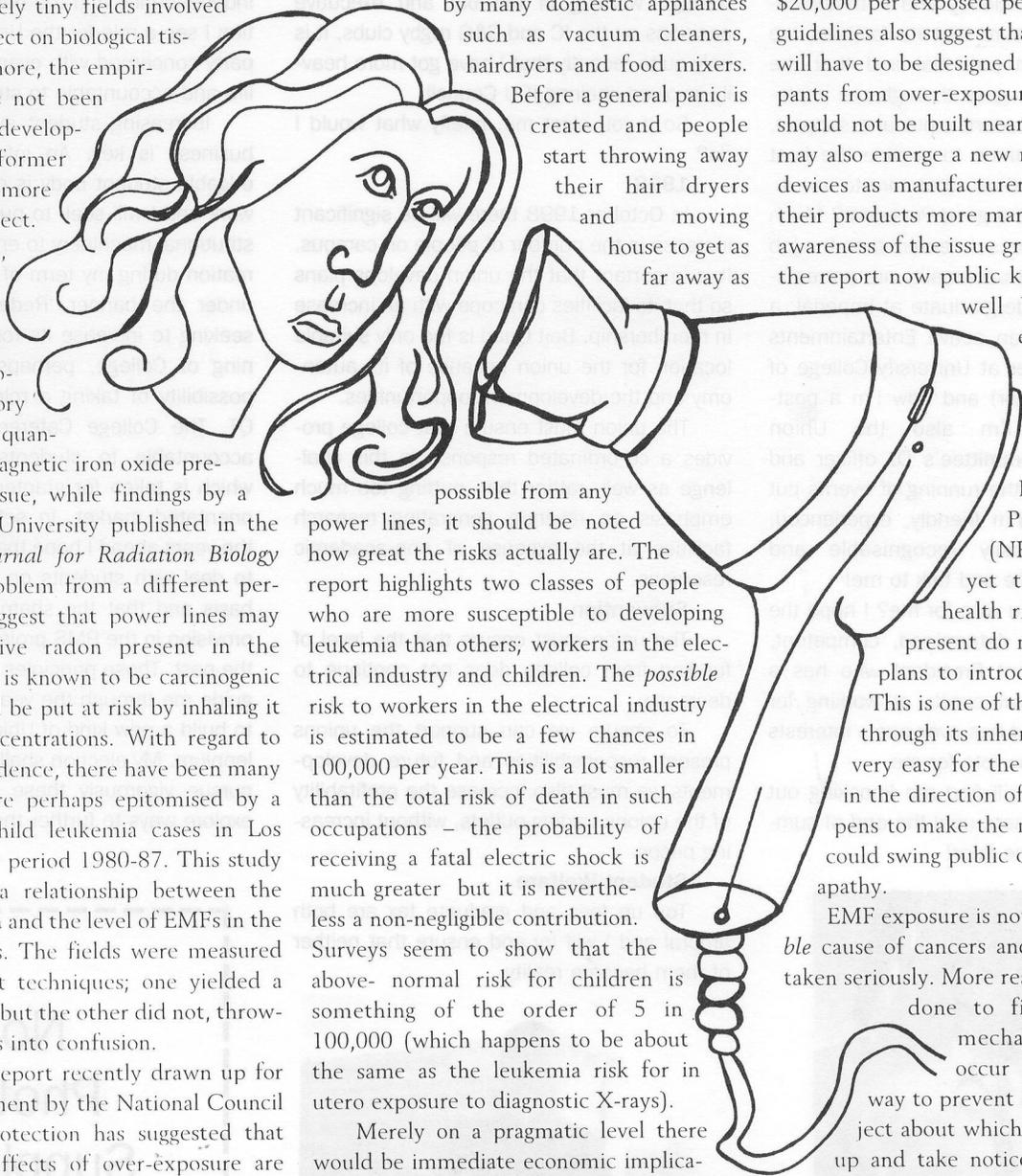
Merely on a pragmatic level there would be immediate economic implications if these guidelines became law, as has already been seen when companies or local government have implemented some kind of EMF reduction programme on an ad hoc

basis. An example is a town in the US where a substantial number of power cables were moved underground at an average cost of \$20,000 per exposed person. The proposed guidelines also suggest that in future buildings will have to be designed to shield their occupants from over-exposure, and new schools should not be built near power lines. There may also emerge a new market in 'low field' devices as manufacturers attempt to make their products more marketable when public awareness of the issue grows. Moreover, with the report now public knowledge there may well be a very adverse effect on the value of property near power lines.

In Britain the National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB) maintain that as yet there is no definite health risk from EMFs so at present do not seem to have any plans to introduce new legislation.

This is one of those issues for which, through its inherent complexity, it is very easy for the public to be swayed in the direction of whichever side happens to make the most vocal case. This could swing public opinion from panic to apathy.

EMF exposure is now regarded as a *possible* cause of cancers and as such it must be taken seriously. More research will have to be done to find any biophysical mechanism which may occur and hence the best way to prevent its effects. It is a subject about which the public should sit up and take notice. Public debate will sustain interest and investigation into the issue which must not be allowed to remain confined to the pages of scientific journals.



Here are the manifestoes of this year's sabbatical candidates. Read them well! Voting is 4-5 March in all departments, and you need a green Union card to vote.

SABBATICAL
ELECTIONS

President

Luke Morales

What interest do you have in the Union? Do you use it's facilities, from ordering a drink to seeking advice or playing for a club? Whatever the extent of your involvement the coming year is important. The Union, indeed the University, is in a state of transition and your vote is one of the strongest ways you can register your opinions in these times of change.

Why do I want to be Union President? I enjoy my involvement in the Union and have an interest in overseeing its continued improvement in efficiency and communication. I hope to ensure that its facilities are used to their best potential and that the changes the Union goes through are implemented with full student input and support, so that it can continue to provide the best possible service to those that care to use it.

Why would I be a good President? Much of anyone's aptitude is determined on the job but experience and personality are prerequisites. I was an undergraduate at Imperial, a postgraduate and an active Entertainments Committee member at University College of North Wales (Bangor) and now I'm a postgraduate here. I'm also the Union Entertainments Committee's DJ officer and have a key role in the running of events put on in the Union. I'm friendly, experienced, outgoing and easily recognisable and approachable. Come and talk to me!

Why should you vote for me? I hope the Union will have a determined, competent, accountable up-front President who has a different outlook but excels at working for and with others and has everyone's interests at heart. I hope you vote for me.

Either way, you'll find me knocking out the bangin' tunes here until the end of summer. See you on the floor!



Eric Allsop

"Why do you want to do that?" is a question that I have been asked a number of times since announcing my candidature. It is not simply a matter of the quid pro quo cliché (I got a lot out of here, and now it is pay-back time), although this is partially it, but more a question of ensuring that students coming to IC in the future have the opportunity to have as much fun as I have had.

Having spent what some of my describe as a long time at IC, for the majority of which I have been on the periphery of union affairs through working in the bar and executive positions on the IC and C&G rugby clubs, it is only quite recently that I have got more heavily involved chairing ICU Council.

So if you elect me, briefly what would I do?

1998

In October 1998 there will be significant increase in the number of people on campus. It is important that the union develops plans so that its facilities can cope with an increase in membership. Beit Quad is the only suitable location for the union because of its autonomy and the development opportunities.

The union must ensure that college provides a co-ordinated response to this challenge as well, rather than putting too much emphasis on revenue generating research facilities at the expense of non-academic resources.

Subvention

The union must ensure that the level of funding from college does not continue to decrease.

To ensure we can support the unions present responsibilities and future developments we must also increase the profitability of the unions trading outlets, without increasing prices.

Student Welfare

Top up fees and graduate tax are both amoral and I will try and ensure that neither of them become reality.



Mark Bridge

I do not believe that ICU does very much these days, and well understand the disdain with which many view the Union. As President of ICU I will aim to sponsor more interdepartmental forums, fixed events such as the recent pan-IC Academic Affairs Day. I plan to explore this because I believe that college departments, highly devolved, are too much in isolation to experience the myriad benefits of the complex dynamics that such sharing might bring. In striking the balance between their requirement for a measure of independence and the need for communication I see a role for the Union - an interested party concerned with every aspect of college life and accountable to students.

Increasing student awareness of Union business is key. An informed and knowledgeable student body is essential for ICU to work and I will seek to put in place the constitutional machinery to ensure student information during my term of office. I shall work under the banner 'Redefining the Union', seeking to increase its role in the daily running of College, perhaps by exploring the possibility of taking a role in managing the QT. The College Caterers are not directly accountable to students now, something which is taken for granted in any consumer orientated market. In setting the stage for the years ahead I hope that College will begin to deal with students on a more good faith basis and that the sham that is the social provision in the BMS project will be a thing of the past. Those principles outlined herein will guide me through the year, and I shall begin to build a new kind of Union for the next millennium. My election shall be my mandate to pursue vigorously these aims set out and explore ways to further these principles.

No
Photo
Supplied

Deputy President (Clubs and Societies)

Neil O'Shaughnessy

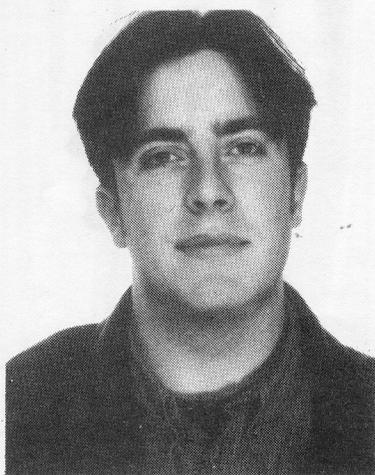
My major objective as deputy president is to publicise the clubs and societies more effectively within Imperial College. This can firstly be accomplished by donating space in the JCR from which they can sell themselves again to the student body. The college publications are widely distributed around IC and Mary's, these publications are an easily available platform with which clubs/societies can promote themselves.

By having internal college competitions enables students to join in for fun. These fun teams will give the recognised sports teams a pool of players with which to field their own. With an increase in the quantity of money spent on professional coaching the standards of the teams at IC will increase and take IC back to a position of academic and sporting excellence.

I want to help people recognise the non-sporting clubs and societies. By working with the Entertainment's manager the Union building can be fully opened and more accessible to socs. This can be done by making use of the Union building on Saturdays. Larger events will incur an increased turnover at the door creating a larger revenue for the Union. By having special events in the Union those clubs and societies involved will be highlighted to the rest of college and will lead to a higher membership over time.

A further plan is to have combined events between 'related' societies. For example Opsoc and IC Radio could produce a radio play together, as Dramsoc and STOIC produce a screen play. This will hopefully strengthen these socs. and provide for a greater turn out at there events, as well as enhancing the talents of each soc. learning from the other.

All in all, I wish to see more advertising of the clubs and societies so that more interest will be stimulated in them.



Sarah Corneille

Sarah is a third year Biologist and I have known her throughout her time at IC. She has always been enthusiastic and committed to everything she has been involved with. She is very approachable and particularly good at working with and motivating people.

During her time at college she has been an active member of both the Ladies Rugby Club and RSM Hockey team. She is now a Re-app in Linstead Hall where she has used her skills to organise some hugely successful events.

Fiona Grandison

As Deputy President my goals will be clear and realistic rather than over-ambitious and idealistic, they are outlined below:

- I aim to promote the arts by setting up and Arts week, including societies within college and professionals from outside. Continuing the work of my predecessors, I plan to work on obtaining sponsorship for the arts.
- It is necessary to improve health and safety standards for all sporting and recreational clubs, and to ensure the implementation of comprehensive insurance policies for all ICU members involved in dangerous activities.
- I would like to gain support for some new major events with possibilities including a CCU sports day, and continued support for an ICU Ball.
- I will set up a monitoring system to find out who is involved in clubs and societies within the Union. Extending the opendoor policy of the Union and encouraging communication with students to ensure that the facilities available are fully utilised.
- Finally with the merger with St. Marys looming I will continue laying the ground work to ensure Union facilities are maximised and improved, clearing the way for a smooth transition. Simultaneously maintaining the individuality of the CCU's traditions and identities.



James Handley

In his year as IC Radio station manager, James was highly motivated, committed, and also very capable, and I know he will also give 100% to this job if elected. As DP he'll achieve the best possible for the Union clubs and societies, and so I recommend you vote for James on March 4th & 5th.

Paul Brown

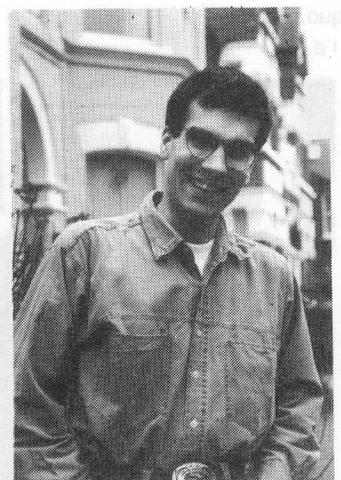
As Deputy President, my aim will be to help the clubs and societies of the Union to be excellent in every way. I believe this involves talking with them as well as allocating resources fairly. I am fully prepared to fight on their behalf, where necessary. I will of course deal with the issues that arise from both the Charing Cross merger and increasing links with Mary's (hopefully with the help of the clubs and societies who are, or will be, affected by these changes).

I think it's wasteful for new sabbaticals to totally ignore the work of previous years and so I will carefully review existing and proposed projects. I hope to create a coherent way for clubs and societies to recycle waste where possible, and I would love to give first years more encouragement to get involved than just Freshers Fair - I still remember how daunting my first few months at IC were!!

I believe I am well qualified for this post; As IC Radio station manager (93/94) I became very familiar with the workings of the Union, but subsequent years spent doing things like learning various musical instruments and rock climbing mean that I have developed a broad viewpoint on Union issues.

As well as being qualified for DP, I know I will do the job to the very best of my ability - so vote for me!

James Handley



Deputy President (Finance and Services)

Piers Williams

Once more ICU is at a turning point. Continued government cuts in higher education again look to leave the Union budget level-funded, if not cut again. Set that against a backdrop of spiralling costs and the imminent influx of medical students onto the South Kensington campus and it would appear the Union is to shortly find itself woefully under-equipped to provide the services students expect.

Fortunately with the immediate future of ICU in Beit Quad not apparently under threat we can turn our minds once more to long-term planning, and attempt to make the best out of what we have. Historical precedent means we have some catching up to do as regards the union's status as a venue, but I feel that with the right approach great steps can be made, and a pooling of resources should aid struggling clubs and societies.

Similarly we must look to our trading outlets, and what must be done to continue their expansion, and improve their already high standards of service and value for money. An obvious example is the imminent new bookstore; it seems obvious to me that only a store run by students will be properly able to serve the needs of students. Despite college's obvious attraction to large amounts of money from big retail organisations, I am confident that a properly thought-out bid will show them the advantages to the students of it being run by the Union (as well as the prestige of it being the biggest student-run bookstore in the country).

To conclude: whilst concentrating on optimising the considerable assets we have already, we must plan wisely to create a better union for the future, one that encourages more active participation. That I stand uncontested is a sorry indictment on the status quo.

I'd ☞



Felix Editor and Print Unit Manager

Alex Feakes

Felix's role at IC is an important one, it serves to inform and entertain, and provides a platform for those who want to contribute, take part or express an opinion. Next year, as Felix Editor, I intend to increase participation of students, encouraging people to write for the news team, review films, plays and music, engage in feature writing and photography, and also express their opinions. This college has a lot of talented people who I would like to see getting involved with their student newspaper.

IC is often thought of as being apart from the other colleges in London, but this shouldn't be the case. Therefore, I would like to initiate much greater contact between Felix and the other student newspapers in London, with the intention of reporting what happens around the capital that interests to students, whether it's news or events.

It is important to broaden the scope of the news to include stories that are London-wide as well as local, with a view to covering what is going on at other colleges. As Imperial has a wide range of people with a wide range of interests, I feel features should stimulate people in areas other than that of their degree.

Parts of Felix that always attract a lot of interest from students are the sports pages, columns and letters. I think that sports could benefit from more dedicated coverage and Felix should give people the opportunity to express their opinion on what occurs around college. To this end, I would like to institute an open forum where students can comment and analyse on any subject.

There is need for the Print Unit, which partially funds Felix, to secure more income to offset a drop in funding and rise in paper prices.



All Posts

New Election

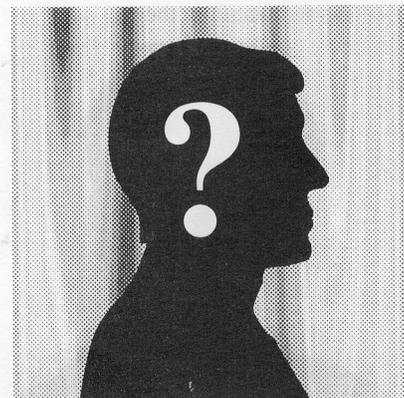
Hi there! Tim and Matt, your current Deputy Presidents, speaking. We're running the campaign for Mr N. Election (or 'Ron' to his friends) as we can't seem to contact him.

However, despite this startling lack of communication with the sabbatical candidate there is one thing we can guarantee on his behalf. You are no more likely to see him if he is elected (How many of the other candidates will dare make that claim?)

So, why vote New Election? New Election is standing for all posts. If he gets elected there will automatically be a second election for that post, held during the summer term. This will enable you to take your pick from a new crop of candidates, the theory being that they will be better than the last lot. Therefore, if you feel that the candidates standing for any post are not up to the job, VOTE NEW ELECTION.

Remember, if you don't vote at all then you can't complain if a completely bone idle set of sabbs get in and ruin it all! Even more importantly, you can't vote **at all** unless you have a green Union Card! Get one from the office now – you need a photo and the top bit of your registration form. Of course, there is a disadvantage; if New Election does win we have to go through all of this again. So please, for all our sakes, think before voting. OK! That's enough of the boring, positive side of the campaign. What you really want to hear from us is what we think of the candidates. So here, exclusive to *Felix* is the negative part of our campaign, where we spread unsubstantiated lies and malicious gossip about each of the other candidates.

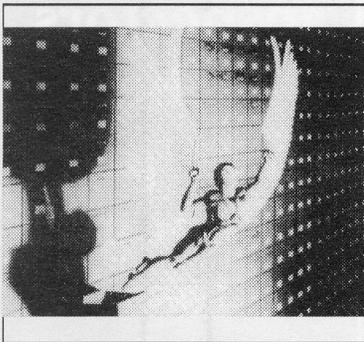
The first person who's reputation we'd like to ruin is ☞



fil

terry gilliam

Yes, that Terry Gilliam. No, it's not funny. He hasn't done anything funny since the big top collapsed. This exhibit was closed, but it says here "...it's based on themes from his film *Brazil*. A vast wall of filing cabinets looms in the corner of the gallery and holds many surprises." This picture may be relevant: ☹



eduardo paolozzi

This exhibit appears at first to be a pile of junk. It turns out to be some quite impressive sculpture mixed with plenty of junk. It is claimed to be "an imaginary museum of movie memories... from films both actual and unrealised". He is an art teacher, which strengthens the theory that he has simply emptied his cupboard.

spellbound: art and film

is a multi-faceted exploration of the use of film in art, or art in film, or maybe the overlap, venn-like. Who can say?

Animations, paintings, films, piles of stuff and huge noises jostle for attention as the Hayward is decked out with ideas from no less than ten 'artists'. Something for everyone:

ridley scott

The director of both *Bladerunner* and *Alien* has put together a loose documentary explaining the planning and production of these films. Contains previously unreleased material ideal for SciFi spods.

**Bladerunner,
Alien.**

fiona banner

has contributed a gargantuan piece of paper, on which she has laboriously written with a pencil. Step closer, though, and the deciphered writing as found to be descriptions of scenes from Vietnam films.

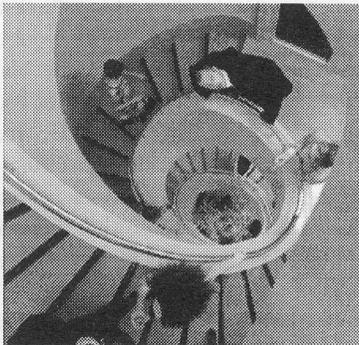
**Apocalypse Now,
Full Metal Jacket.**

boyd webb - love story

An amusing animation starring two pieces of popcorn. Executed with the help of the *Spitting Image* team, this short film is a brilliant piss take of both cinematographers and cinema goers.

hanging around - damien hirsh

Likely to be the highlight for most, his first short film stars the genius revolutionary Keith Allen as a strange forgetful aerophile drug-dealing idling bigamist. A lot of strange and nasty things happen until the psychologist (Eddie Izzard) ends up on the couch. With Britpop™ croonings of friends blur and pulp. ☹

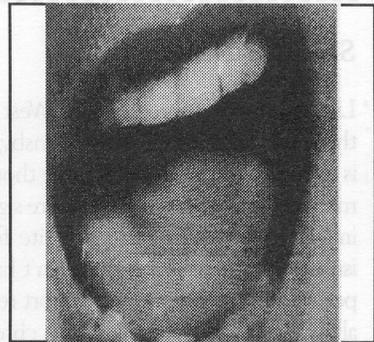


steve mcqueen

An odd, silent, very black and white short which, despite its brevity, explores a meeting of two lovers very slowly. To be honest, I didn't really know what was going on - the characters seemed to have enormous difficulty negotiating a corner at the bottom of her stairs. There're a few naked genitals, too.

paula rego

How innocent and cuddly are Disney films? Are they happy families and platonic fluffy friends, or is there a sub plot of incest, bigamy and sycophancy? Paula Rego's oil paintings examine this, taking scenes from film and stories and illustrating in new ways that suggest the scary and the dubious.



douglas gordon - 24 hour psycho

The classic thriller *Psycho* on a large screen, with no sound, slowed down to just three frames per second. The idea is to make sure that the viewer notices every cut, every detail of the masterful direction. The gallery is running two all night screenings (30 March & 27 April), with entrance including coffee and breakfast, £8.

peter greenaway

The room is divided into three: one features choice excerpts from film scripts, the second is an eclectic selection of props. The last explores further into the genre of putting people into glass boxes, only this time they change over. It is rumoured to form a plot, but it would cost a lot to follow. Besides, it's extremely noisy.

and now the boring details:

Spellbound is at the Hayward Gallery, in the SouthBank Centre. The nearest tube is Waterloo. The telephone number is 0171 960 4208 and it costs £5 to get in, or £3.50 for concessions. It's open daily from 10 until 6, and late until 8 on Tuesday and Wednesday. The exhibition runs until April.

exhibition: **spellbound**^{jeremy}

column: **simon baker**

insight: **newbury antics**^{nolan fell}

singles: **mr trout**

album: **bluetones - expecting to fly**^{jason}

album: **front 242 - mut@ge.mix@ge**^{max}

album: **gin blossoms - congratulations, i'm sorry**^{vik}

album: **various - survival**^{BeA}

album: **speech - speech**^{BeA}

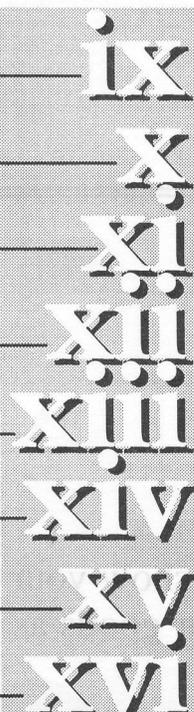
album: **the brotherhood - elementalz**^{paul}

film: **rendez-vous in paris**^{spooky}

film: **casino**^{nic}

film: **ulysses' gaze**^{jenny ho}

travel: **mr fogg in the ukraine**^{matt crompton}



simon baker

Life is always unpredictable. West Ham were thrashed in the FA Cup by Grimsby, a town that is as bad as it sounds. When we thought that no more could ever be needed, more signs have definitely appeared on the BMS site fence, which isn't bad for a project that doesn't have planning permission (presumably this short respite was to allow the fitters to recover from chronic exhaustion). Most remarkable of all, the RCS organised a good annual dinner. No, the RCS organised a bloody brilliant dinner that I for one would never have thought them capable of, had I not been there. Excellent food, plenty of booze, loads of people and not a embarrassing chant to be heard anywhere. Good work fellas! Maybe your previous lapses were due to mercury-induced madness while you were based in your old building. What have I said...?

I have often thought about pouring forth to you, dear reader, my views on Europe, and having heard the following, I thought now was the time. Last week, I saw a feature on Watchdog (well, a man cannot live on drugs and debauched sex alone) about the EU Chocolate Directive. This esteemed piece of proposed legislation, from the same stable as the straight banana rules, wishes to 'harmonise' chocolate across member states, imposing minimum levels of cocoa solids etc. Problem is that British chocolate contains less cocoa and, God help us, vegetable fat. The fact that it tastes better than equivalently priced French and Belgian chocolate is irrelevant. If we want to continue producing it, we must change its name to *Vegetate*. What the Hell is going on?

To defend the European stance, Glenys Kinnock was wheeled on, managing to talk as much sense as Stanley Unwin on speed. She insisted that such a harmonisation would be desirable, showing perfectly how quickly the environment of the European Parliament has completely destroyed her already questionable mental faculties. Such ideas of harmonisation have dangerous totalitarian overtones, portraying an organisation that seeks to impose drab uniformity on the culturally and socially distinct countries of Western Europe. Some would argue that I am simply expounding Daily Mail-style Euro-bashing, but these barmy fringe issues serve to illustrate perfectly the wider malaise in the EU. The Common Agricultural Policy adds approximately £20 per week per family to British grocery bills mostly so that the woefully inefficient and less than totally honest French, Spanish, Italian and Greek farmers can be kept in business.

The Common Fisheries Policy has resulted in the disgraceful spectacle of British trawlers being decommissioned while Spanish fisherman pillage the Irish Sea, catching undersized fish safe in the knowledge that the token inspectors in their home ports do not give a toss. The Spanish state airline Iberia has just been allowed another huge state subsidy only 18 months after they were told 'never again' by Commissioner Neil Kinnock, while British Airways has to compete on its own two feet. The only 'sick man of Europe' is this deeply flawed association of states. I do not advocate withdrawal - the idea of a single market is excellent - but to suggest that rather than resolve the problems, we move to monetary union is stupidly reckless.

“Spanish fisherman pillage the Irish Sea safe in the knowledge that the token inspectors in their home ports do not give a toss.”

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The largest environmental protest this country has ever seen recently took place in a field outside Newbury. Nolan Fell, with a bemused friend from Kenya, report from the Newbury Bypass Protesters camp.

≥inSci#ght°

Newbury: New England Rises

Jacob had never been so cold. Arriving from Kenya a week ago he had flown into a storm. England, the country Kenyans tend to look to as the promised land, was under a blanket of snow and blizzards were sweeping in from the east.

"We have snow on Mount Kenya, but I have never climbed high enough to reach it" Jacob told me. "It is beautiful, but aie! so cold! I can't believe people are sleeping in trees during this weather. They must be crazy."

There were a lot of things Jacob was finding crazy about England. But by far the strangest experience he had had in his first week was demonstrating against the building of a road.

"They can build the road in Kenya if they like," he said with a grin. "You should be happy, you're roads are good. In Kenya most roads are dirt tracks and good ones built with aid money aren't maintained and are full of holes."

I tried to explain that many people now felt we had quite enough roads thank you very much and that if we carry on covering our country in tarmac soon our ecological heritage would be damaged beyond repair. They were destroying SSSIs for Christ's sake. Jacob had never heard of an SSSI and I could see he wasn't convinced.

We were standing in a field outside Newbury with five thousand other people. Middle class local housewives mixed with dreadlocked new-age hippies. One bunch had dressed up as badgers, while another held a banner which said "snog not smog." Newbury was the site of two major battles during the English Civil war between Charles I's Cavaliers and Cromwell's Roundheads. This, then, is the Third battle of Newbury and Middle England, in all its eccentric glory, was on the march.

The Newbury bypass, if it is ever built, will pass through three Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), two Nature Reserves, two Civil War Heritage Sites, one Conservation Area and make six river crossings. Snelesmore Common, incorporating Snelesmore Woods where three tree-top camps are situated, is the SSSI that will be most affected. The road will effectively destroy 1.2 Hectares and the woods will be cut down. The SSSI contains badger sets and is the home to dormice and the nightjar, both are endangered species. Ironically, since the route was announced so much work has been done to assess how much habitat and diversity will be lost, many species and niches have been discovered. The most recent are the famous 3mm snails.

SSSIs are areas considered vital

xi



The road to oblivion...or Birmingham?

for the maintenance of Britain's environmental heritage. Friends of the Earth describe them as "the minimum areas necessary to maintain Britain's biodiversity." In England they are the responsibility of English Nature, who 'notify' land owners, local authorities and the Secretary of State for the Environment of their existence. However notification does not guarantee an SSSI's survival. Often landowners, particularly farmers, are compensated for loss of profit if they maintain an SSSI on their land rather than ploughing it over. But when a development project is proposed which will damage an SSSI, then all that is necessary is that "a balanced decision is reached". In the case of the Newbury bypass, although numerous studies have been made on the anticipated release of congestion in Newbury itself, the interpretations of which are a major cause of debate, no proper environmental impact assessment has taken place. Ultimately the decision as to whether development should take place in an SSSI is made by the appropriate Secretaries of State. In the case of Newbury, presumably the Secretaries of State for Transport and the Environment got together and made a balanced decision that the road should be built.

This balanced decision had a lot to do with the anticipated reduction in traffic through Newbury, which will undoubtedly improve the environment in the centre of town, but many local residents are worried that the road will lead to industrial growth around the town and within a few years they will be back to the same level of congestion, but with a town twice the size.

If the bypass is built, the land between it and the town will become prime real estate. At the moment any plans for development on this land are officially denied.

With the level of protest the Newbury bypass is attracting - Friends of the Earth are already claiming that the demonstration last Sunday was the largest environmental protest this country has ever seen - the building of the road is no for-gone conclusion. To do it the government may split the country, creating alliances between strange bedfellows in the process. Already a Camp Support Group is being run with efficiency and vigour. Middle-class mothers are providing food and washing facilities for people who only a few months ago would probably have been barred from their homes.

The Newbury bypass has become a much bigger issue than simply whether a road should be built around an average town in the middle of England. It has become the focus for the direction of transport policy in Britain in the next century and reflects a growing clash in values between those who feel that Britain has reached the point of over development and those who wish to maintain the ethos of conventional economic growth.

Jacob had to admire the protesters' courage. "If people are prepared to live up a tree covered in snow they must really believe in what they're doing. I remember President Moi burned tonnes of ivory a few years ago to stop people poaching elephants. I see now it was a good thing; for Kenyans wildlife is very important. Maybe this is similar."

album: the bluetones -
expecting to fly_{jason}

The Bluetones were first heard by the general public in 1994 with their highly sought after Fierce Panda e.p., 'Return To Splendour'. With the publicity from this release they were supporting the likes of Shed Seven and Supergrass by the end of 1994. Now, with the re-release of 'Slight Return', which went straight into the charts at No.2, they are headlining their own sold out tour and are releasing their eagerly anticipated debut album.

The album begins with an aeroplane flying over The Bluetones' home in Hounslow, a town which is now firmly on the musical map. The CD version of the album is divided into two halves just like a traditional record, with a bit of hiss and static in between. It contains the two most recent singles, 'Bluetonic' and 'Slight Return', with their unashamedly jangly guitars, as well as live favourites and new material.



One of the stand-out tracks is 'A Parting Gesture', a laid-back, blues-tinged outing. Another highlight is 'Putting Out Fires' where lead singer Mark reminisces about a past relationship. On the theme of relationships, 'The Fountainhead' is a more personal song which talks about Mark's grandfather.

The Bluetones have decided not to follow the current Britpop scene and have produced an album with individuality and a genuine sense of honesty. They obviously didn't feel that they had to outdo the rest of the crowd because they are rightly confident that their music stands up alongside the best. (9)

album: front 242 -

mut@ge.mix@ge_{max}

The Belgian group Front 242, renowned for their industrial dance music, have taken a break from the usual routine and released an album of remixes by themselves and various artists including The Orb and The Prodigy. Unfortunately, what was born of this seemingly good idea is something that can only be described as 'Front 242 Lite'.



To coin a cliché, this is an album of two halves. The first simply drifts slowly by in a disappointing, unadventurous ambient mess. This may serve as a half-decent background to whatever you happen to be doing at the time but it also

serves to spoil The Orb's reputation. On the other hand, the second half does pick up the pace somewhat, although The Prodigy's two mixes of 'Religion' and Underworld's mix of 'Happiness' are the only tracks with any balls.

Apparently, the tracks were re-edited to provide "a successful continuity of enveloping atmospheres and rhythms", when what they really provide is music that would send a hyperactive amphetamine user to sleep.

All of this begs the question as to what they were actually trying to achieve with this album. It was hardly a great career move and all they've really done is confirm what I already thought - that Belgians are not the most exciting of Europeans, even if they do make nice beer. (4)

album: gin blossoms -

congratulations, i'm sorry_{vik}

Regular readers of this page may have noticed that in recent weeks I have been singing the praises of a great many bands. I just hope that this deluge of masterful albums continues for the rest of the year. A tad unrealistic you might say but given this new album by the Gin Blossoms and the fact that there are a few more positive reviews to come in the next few weeks, you never know - a great album a week might just be the case.



So, what makes this album so good? Well, if you've heard the new single, 'Til I Hear It From You', you should know already. Robin Wilson's lilting voice, Scott Johnson and Jesse Valenzuela's slightly understated guitars and a gentle, naggingly persuasive chorus all add up to a tune that you can't say no to. Elsewhere, the likes of 'As Long It Matters' repeat the trick but place even more emphasis on Wilson's textured voice.

Not that the Gin Blossoms get by on just being mellow. Far from it. Opener 'Day Job', for example, is a bit of a rock-out with heavy percussion and tasteful guitar histrionics. Given their past, wondrous outings such as 'Hey Jealousy', this should not come as much of a surprise and merely points to the band's versatility within the middle-class American musical framework that they operate inside.

And so, there you have it. Another album overflowing with songs that get better every time you hear them. Roll on next week... (8)

singles: mr. trout

bluetones : easy-c : just tah let you know
Don't let the fact that the guy's dead fool you into thinking that this might be anything near a decent record. The epitome of the terrible 'gangsta' track.

china drum : can't stop these things
Fast, catchy pop-rock. Worth a look for the amazing cover of 'Wuthering Heights', which should sound awful but doesn't.

heller and farley project : ultra flava
Six tired mixes of a dire techno 'tune' that even 2 Unlimited would distance themselves from.

evil superstars : satan is in my ass
Hilarious mickeytake of death metal, the Chilli Peppers, William S. Burroughs and every kid goth you ever met. At least I hope it's a joke...

audioweb : yeah?
A more than pleasant, raucous mixture of ragga chat, sweet vocals, crunching guitar hooks and a wall of electronic noise.

the auteurs : light aircraft on fire
Their sound is somewhere between Ziggy Stardust and Radiohead, but this is a strange choice of single considering the superiority of the b-sides.

oasis : don't look back in anger
Oh just buy it. They pull off a Slade cover for goodness sakes. Chuffin' ace.

almighty : all sussed out
The sentiment of RATM, brass from the Dallas theme tune, and the sound of Bon Jovi if they were any good, mix to give a classy number.

finn brothers : only talking sense
This is yet another Crowded House-style classic song for drunken blokes to get tearful to.

scheer : shea
Caffeinated Nirvana. Officially The Single of the Week Apart From Oasis.

listings:

eric clapton - 23, 24, 26 to 28 feb, 1 to 3 mar - royal albert hall - £23.50, £18.50
saw doctors - 23 feb, 1 mar, 8 mar - shepherd's bush empire - £12
flaming lips+papas fritas+elevate - 23 feb - ulu - fring
tripping daisy+smoking popes - 23 feb - water rats - £3
the damned+sham 69+alternative
TV+chelsea+999+anti-nowhere league+peter and the test tube babies - 24 feb - forum - £12.50
my life story - 25 feb, 3 mar, 10 mar, 17 mar - dingwalls - £8
r kelly - 26, 27 feb - wembley arena - £17.50, £20
paul brady - 26, 27, 29 feb - jazz cafe - £12.50
right said fred - 26 feb - la2 - £9
northside+rollercoaster - 26 feb - garage - £5
gabrielle - 27 feb - dingwalls - £7.50
wedding present+det-ri-mental+cable - 28 feb - mean fiddler - £7.50
mica paris+roachford+more - 28 feb - bottom line - £8
steel pole bath tube+poster children+nub - 28 feb - garage - £5
supergrass - 29 feb, 2 mar - astoria - £10
dr. robert - 29 feb - subterania - £tbc
steeleye span - 29 feb - mean fiddler - £10
goldie presents metalheadz - 29 feb, 1 mar - forum - £12.50, £15
pulp + edwyn collins - wembley arena - 1 mar - £12.50
carter usm - 2 mar - shepherd's bush empire - £9.50
megadog - 2 mar - brixton academy - £17
bruce willis+the accelerators - 2 mar - forum - £12.50
foetus - 4 mar - grand - £8
boo hewerdine - 4 mar - jazz cafe - £8.50, £10
african head charge - 5 mar - grand - £7.50
allison limerick - 6, 7 mar - jazz cafe - £10, £12
michael bolton - 6, 8, 9 mar - wembley arena - £tbc
lightning seeds - 8, 9 mar - kilburn national - £11

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album: various - survival^{BeA}

Charity records. They're a bit of a mixed bunch really. On the one hand you have such genuinely great albums as 'Help', but then again it's all too easy to cobble together a bunch of singles and release them for a good cause. Speaking of which, Survival campaigns for the rights of tribal peoples, helping them to overcome those that seek to oppress and exploit them. But then I'm not here to assess the charity...

What you get for your money is an eclectic dance compilation. The tracks range from ambient tracks by the Sabres of Paradise, Jam and Spoon and Spooky, through Slab's Chemical Brothers-esque trip-hop, to trancey and house tunes, including a great trance mix of The Shamen's 'Transamazonia'. Most of the tracks are either from albums, such as Leftfield's 'Afro-Left', or new mixes of singles, including the quite magnificent Underworld mix of Dreadzone's classic 'Zion Youth'.

All in all, this is a worthy purchase, especially if you don't already have the album tracks. In fact,

apart from the staid Moby track, every tune is good. Most of them even have tribal references which brings us back to the fact that this is all for a good cause. What more could you ask for? (8)



Leftfield

album: speech - speech^{BeA}

This is the debut solo album from Speech, formerly front man with Arrested Development. In fact, you could be forgiven for thinking that his excellent new single, 'Like Marvin Gaye Said', was by Arrested Development. This album, however, shows that Speech can turn his hand to other styles too.

Tracks like 'Let's Be Hippies' sound just like 'Lovesexy'-era Prince, right down to the soppy strings, the guitar histrionics and Speech sounding uncannily like the purple one. Most the tunes have a soulful, funky early '80s feel, and they sit well alongside the smooth beats and breaks.

The lyrics display Speech's social conscience, as we have come to expect from his previous

stuff, but it is never cliched or patronising. We are allowed to have fun too, as on the old skool 'Can You Hear Me?'

While he might have overstretched himself in places in the name of variety, this is a very listenable album and it ought to sell well. (8)



album: the brotherhood - elementalz^{paul}

British hip-hop isn't exactly what you'd class as one of our most successful national products. It's not as if there's a lack of an audience - bands like Public Enemy and Cypress Hill regularly pack out our biggest venues. One look at the charts will show you that rap is no longer an underground alternative culture. Record companies have recognised the selling power of a genre that is so innovative and controversial that the publicity pretty much looks after itself.

With gangsta rap as much of a success story in the '90s as grunge, you'd have expected that Britain might at least have come up with one or two successes of its own. We're leading the way in the worlds of jungle and trip-hop, so why can't we grow our own little Public Enemies?

Well, the answer is that at long last, we have. On the basis of this debut album, I would say that The Brotherhood are going to shatter a lot of peo-

ple's illusions about the inadequacies of British hip-hop.

'Elementalz' is an assured, deadly serious verbal assault on the evils in British society. There's none of the lyrical naivete of Credit To The Nation, or the sheer irreverence of Honky which characterises a lot of British pop-rap efforts. This is very much a rap album for rap fans, but the range of issues covered and the unending stream of references to British culture should say something to most people. Trying to identify with American gangsta rap is a bit of a non-starter when you live in West London, but here at last is a rap band who have a go at the British establishment and British prejudices as well as having the musical talent to back it up.

'Elementalz' is an album that will haunt you - it makes you think about your own prejudices, your own attitudes and what you're doing with your life. It's not quite the masterpiece that you may have been led to expect, but it is excellent, and if you're a rap fan I thoroughly recommend that you add this to your collection. (8)

film: rendez-vous in paris

^{spooky} Eric Rohmer's *Rendez-Vous in Paris* is a compilation of three discrete stories set in different areas of Paris and all dealing with meeting or rendez-vous. The first segment entitled 'Rendez-Vous at Seven O'clock' concerns Esther who suspects her boyfriend is being unfaithful. In retribution she arranges to meet up with a stranger whom she met at the market, in a café her boyfriend is said to frequent. She has her wallet stolen but is coincidentally returned to her by the woman who is meeting her boyfriend at the same cafe. Together they go to their respective rendez-vous' at the same cafe.

The second segment, entitled 'Park Benches', details a series of meetings between a young woman intent on leaving her fiancé, and her boyfriend, a young professor, intent on moving from the suburbs into the city. All the meetings take place in the various parks scattered throughout Paris. The third segment, entitled 'Mother and Child, 1907', tells of a chance encounter between a painter and a young woman. The painter becomes instantly infatuated with this young woman, whilst escorting a Swedish friend to the Picasso museum.

Not a great deal happens in the film, with only the first segment having any narrative direction. Consequently, the majority of the film consists mainly of just a few characters doing nothing but wandering around and talking. Not that

this makes a bad film – some of the best Woody Allen films are little more than this – but Allen's dialogue is entertaining and the characters are interesting. By contrast Eric Rohmer's dialogue is boring and simply breeds apathy for his characters. The first segment is quite diverting but unfortunately is also the shortest. From then on the film steadily goes down hill.

It is not just the script which is to blame. Eric Rohmer has done himself no favours with his choice of film locations and methods. One would imagine that any film maker shooting in Paris would want to make good use of the Paris architecture and sites. By choosing to shoot the film as a sort of nowhere town Rohmer seems to be defeating half the point of his film. It is, after all, supposed to be about rendez-vous in Paris, rather than any other European town. Paris implies a degree of mythicism and romanticism which Rohmer manages to totally obliterate with shots of building works. The film might have redeemed itself somewhat if it was at least scenically shot. However, by using no fancy cinematography Rohmer has ruled out that option as well. In fact at times the camera work is so poor as to be distracting and annoying. The actors cope with their material but none of them act with any real indication of emotion.

Rendez-Vous in Paris doesn't pretend to be anything fancy but it can't be described as an entertaining small film.

celluloid guide: this week

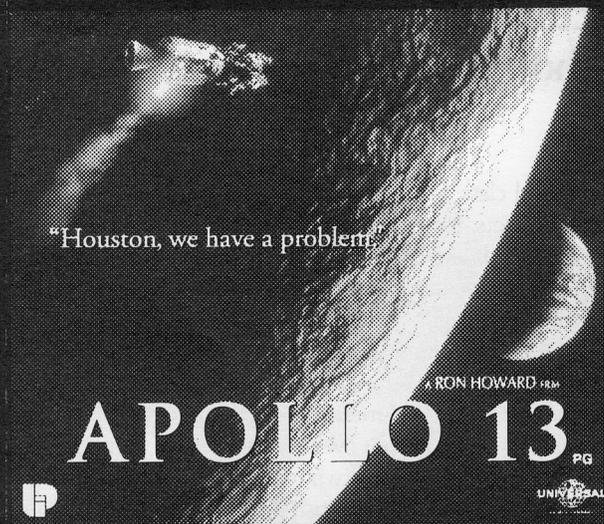
	warner west end	0171 437 4347
r	trainspotting	12.50, 3, 5.10, 7.20, 9.40
e	heat	1, 3.25, 4.40, 7, 8.15,
n	othello	12.40, 3.15, 6, 8.40
d	desperado	2, 4.30, 7.10, 9.30
e	leaving las vegas	1.20, 3.50, 9.20, 8.50
z	a little princess	12, 2.10, 4.20
j	loch ness	12.55, 6.40
v	les misérables	12.30, 4, 8.05
o	tube; leicester square	£7.50; £4 mon-fri before 5pm
u	empire	0171 437 1234
s	casino	12.30, 4.15, 8
	seven	12.45, 3.25, 6, 8.45
	sabrina	12.45, 3.25, 6.05, 8.45
	tube; leicester square or piccadilly circus	£7.50, £9, £4 1st perf mon-fri
	notting hill coronet	0171 727 6705
	casino	12.30, 3.50, 7.45
	tube; notting hill gate	£5.75, £3 1st perf mon-fri

xiv

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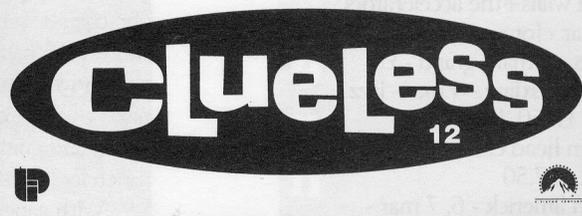


Sun 25th 8:00pm

FOUR ROOMS

Thurs 29th 8:30pm

Sex. Clothes. Popularity.
Is There A Problem Here?



Weds 28th 8:00pm
Thurs 29th 6:00pm

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

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STA TRAVEL

celluloid guide:^{this week}

odeon kensington
0426 914666

sense and sensibility
12.15, 3.15, 6.15, 9.15
waiting to exhale 1.30, 6.50
withnail & i 4.20, 9.40
father of the bride part ii
1.20, 3.55
seven 6.30, 9.25
jumanji 1.50, 4.25, 7, 9.35
othello 1, 3.50, 6.40, 9.30
casino to sat 12.20, 4.05, 7.50
from sun 1.05, 4.50 8.35
tube; ken high street. £7, £6,
£3.50 before 5pm mon-fri,
£4 before 5pm sat-sun

mgm fulham road
0171 370 2636

casino 1.20, 5, 8.40
trainspotting
1.20, 3.40, 7.10, 9.30
jumanji 1.30, 4, 6.40, 9.10
babe 12.40, 2.50, 5
leaving las vegas 7.10, 9.40
heat 1.10, 4.40, 8.20
tube; south ken then bus
£6.80, £3.70 students and
before 6pm

mgm chelsea
0171 325 5096

a little princess 1.40, 4.05
seven 6.20, 9.25,
jumanji 1.45, 4.10, 6.55, 9.30
loch ness 1.25, 3.50
sabrina 6.15, 9.10
desperado

1.10, 4.05, 6.45, 9.35
tube; sloane square then bus
£6.20, £3.70 students and
before 6pm

renoir
0171 837 8402

rendez-vous in paris
2.15, 4.25, 6.40, 8.55
ulysses' gaze 12.35, 4, 7.35
tube; russell square
£6, £4 1st perf, £2.50 stu-
dents

minema
0171 369 1723

rendez-vous in paris 3, 5, 7, 9
don't tube; you can walk it
£6.50, £4 matinees

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film: casino^{ade}

Las Vegas, 1973: a city of glitter and dreams, a stage for billionaires, politicians and glamorous showgirls. It just wasn't ready for the arrival of Sam 'Ace' Rothstein (Robert De Niro) and Nicky Santoro (Joe Pesci).

Ace, the consummate bookie who could change the odds just by placing a bet has been picked by the mob to front their entrance into Vegas where he quickly doubles the mobs takings. With Ace providing the brains and Nicky providing the muscle everything seems to be going well until Ginger McKenna (Sharon Stone), a chip-hustling vamp, Charms Ace and becomes his wife.



Greed soon overcomes them all and leads to their eventual destruction, but not before they bring down everyone else with them.

This movie sees the return of the Goodfella team with Martin Scorsese directing and co-writing the screenplay with Nicholas Pileggi and De Niro and Pesci in front of the camera. The

chemistry between De Niro and Pesci is very strong and Scorsese's attention to detail is amazing, proving that it really is better to work with people you know well.

The film itself is straight to the point with plenty of expletives and some horrifying moments of violence including a very unusual application of a vice. These moments are alleviated by some genuinely funny scenes which spring up throughout the movie.

However, *Casino's* real strength lies in the cast. De Niro and Pesci tell the story in a semi-narrative which although annoying at first actually paces the move very well. De Niro gives a characteristically strong performance and Sharon Stone proves that she really can act. As for Pesci, well he steals the show, his mere presence brings the screen alive.

The only gripe I have about this movie is that at three hours it is too long, but don't let that stop you from going to see this fine example of how movies should be made.

film: ulysses' gaze^{jenny ho}

Ulysses' Gaze stars Harvey Keitel as 'A', a Greek film maker working in the United States who returns to his home town of Ptolemais, after a thirty-five year absence, for a screening of his latest controversial film. But he is really returning to make a documentary about the Manakias brothers, the pioneers of the Balkan cinema. Three of the Manakias' films are believed to be in the Sarajevo film archive and so A travels through Greece, Albania, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia and finally into Bosnia in search of them. On his travels, he revisits his past and meets several incarnations of the same woman with whom he falls in love with again and again.

Ulysses' Gaze contains many shots of scenery - a study of shifts of perception and emotion. At a coccyx-wrenching three hours, the film possesses qualities which critics seem to love but which will deter the mainstream audience.

There is insufficient character development and any story or plot is masked by director Theo Angelopoulos' focus on the landscape. The dialogue is sparse and partly subtitled; what there is often sounds stilted. Nevertheless, *Ulysses' Gaze* has already won the Grand Jury Prize and the International Critics' Prize at Cannes and a Felix award for film of the year.

One feels that the camera work lacks purpose; the camera lingering pointlessly on a scene for a long length of time. Amazingly, a passage of several years may occur in just one scene.

No doubt *Ulysses' Gaze* is intended to be very deep and meaningful but unfortunately, it fails to stimulate. This is quite a demanding film and many will be sitting in the cinema bored and leaving with sore buttocks.



*hitchhikes to
the Ukraine*

Mr fogg

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'Steph, what are you doing in June?' *'Not much, why?'* 'I'm thinking of hitch-hiking to the Ukraine, do you want to come?' *'Alright then.'* Such was the start of it all. A bit too much to drink, and an agreement was struck. Armed with two rucksacks, two tickets to Ostende (OK, we cheated slightly and got a head-start) and some dollars, we set out.

Lift no.1 was negotiated before we left the ferry by sitting next to the truckers' canteen and asking them all where they were going. So we managed to get across Belgium without setting foot on Belgian soil. A few hours' sleep (under a hedge) later, and we were off again. Razul, our Macedonian driver, told tales of poverty as he hurtled along the autobahn (sometimes without bothering to hold the steering wheel) with the 20 tonnes of latex he was taking to Skopje.

Seven more lifts later we walked across the border into Poland. A 300,000 zloty fine (for putting our feet up in the waiting room) nearly stopped us catching our train to Krakow. We only had a hundredth of that and fortunately they couldn't be bothered to argue.

There's nothing quite like waking up in the morning as your train pulls into a strange city. Especially if it's Zhmerinka, and the first thing you do is buy breakfast through the carriage window: cream cheese filled pancakes from a passing grandmother. You rub your eyes, yawn, and try and work out whether you were dreaming – or did they really lift the train up at the border and change the wheels?

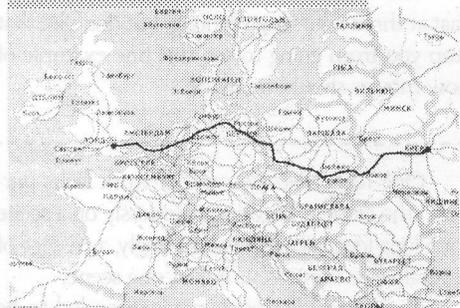
Once in Kiev, I was amazed at the place. It's not a city many people from Britain visit, partly because it's only 60 miles downstream from Chernobyl (er, don't drink the tapwater) but also because everyone assumes it's full of hideous concrete tower blocks. True, there are some, but



they're cleaner and nicer than you'd find in Birmingham. The plethora of beautiful churches, monuments and public buildings is truly fantastic. The Pecherskaya monastery complex by the River Dnepr is stunning.

The place is cheap. The bus costs less than half a penny. Go shopping in state shops, and the prices are dead low - although Ukrainian produced food is not recommended due to the possibility that you get some radioactivity (at no extra cost) - and you get to experience the quirky system of buying things. You queue up and ask for what you want, they give you a ticket, you queue up elsewhere and pay, they give you a receipt, you queue up again and get the goods. A bit like Foyle's bookshop really.

A quick day out shopping in the Black Sea resort of Odessa and it was time to return. A couple of trains took us to the border, and we walked into Slovakia. But this time we didn't cheat - we hitched all the way back.



xvi

**'BUST-A-GUT
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dave

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VACANCY

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HOLBEIN/WILLIS JACKSON
HOUSE

Applications are invited for the position of Assistant Warden at Holbein/Willis Jackson House, which is available from April 1996.

Holbein/Willis Jackson House is a self-catering mixed hall situated in Evelyn Gardens. The Assistant Warden will be responsible for helping the Warden with pastoral care and maintaining discipline of Students within the house. In return s/he will receive rent-free accommodation within the house.

Application forms and an information pack can be obtained from Janet Jones, Room 512, Sherfield Building, extension 45536. 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: 7 March 1996.

 **THE INDEPENDENT**

Have you applied for a career in Engineering or Computing/IT?

Do you want to be paid £15 to tell us what you think about graduate recruitment?

The *Independent* and *Independent on Sunday* newspapers are sponsoring a national student survey and want to discover your views on graduate recruitment.

The discussion groups will take place during the afternoon of Wednesday 28th February in Imperial College and each group will last no more than 1.5 hours.

Interested? Then please contact Jackson Collins on (0171) 428-9000

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FRIDAY 1st MARCH

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£6 (not including cultural show)

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Mon. 19 Feb. in JCR

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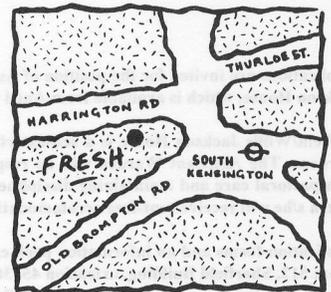
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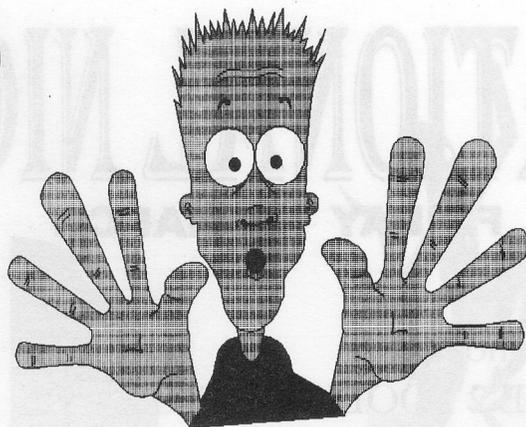


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Telephone **0171 924 6934**
 For further details and to make an appointment

friday 23 february

Amateur Radio Society (HamSoc)

1pm. Meeting in the shack. Top floor of union building. (R)

Rag Meeting

1.10pm Ents Lounge. (R)

Pakistan Society

3 - 5pm. Basketball, union gym. Contact Kashif, Aero II, k.ahmed@ae.ic.ac.uk. (R)

Wing Chun Kung Fu

5-7pm. Union Gym, 2nd Floor ICU. Beginners welcome. 1st lesson free. (R)

Fitness Club

5.30pm. Advanced Step Aerobics. Southside Lounge. (R)

Ents

Digger, Destiny & Crew bring you the crashing waves of "Sex On The Beach" - a night of soul, funk, hip hop & jungle. The bar will only remain open until 12.30 tonight, but there's dancing 'til 2am as usual. FREE before 9pm or with an entscard, £1 otherwise.

Free minibus service from the union, taking lone female students home to anywhere in central London. First run midnight, last run 2am. See Beit Security for times. (R)

Bar Extensions

ICU obtains its Friday night bar extensions through what is called a "Special Orders Exemption" from the Police Licensing Officer. Usually our applications are granted with an extension until 1am, however for reasons totally beyond our control, the next three Friday nights have only been granted bar extensions until 12.30am or midnight: we will be keeping the disco open until 2am. At present, we cannot appeal against these decisions, but we are hoping to begin moves toward a permanent license, which would prevent this situation re-occurring in the future. We apologise for the effect this may have on your Friday nights, but we hope it won't stop you having a great night out, 'cos we'll keep on bringing you the best ents ever...

f r i d a y

the
week
ahead

saturday 24 february

Gliding Club

Gliding at Lasham Airfield. For more information contact gliding@ic.ac.uk. Come to Thursday meeting first. (R)

Mauritian Society

6pm-2am. JCR. "Tam Tam" on the beach '96. £8. Dinner, disco & bar. Contact l.subrun@ic.ac.uk for more information.

s a t u r d a y

Chinese Society

The Chinese Society Variety Show was held on 16th and 17th February, offering an opportunity for the members of the Chinese Society to throw away their lecture notes and tutorial sheets for a 'couple of hours' and take up the task of acting, directing or back-staging a live show.

With a production as big as the V-show, problems were unavoidable. In the week before the production, the 'problem index' had reached its upper limit: Overestimated sponsorship (due to VAT), management problems, performers withdrawn due to illness... Despite these problems, as the chairlady put it, 'the show must go on'.

On Friday evening the show performed to a friendly audience. As one of the production crew put it 'The show was not perfect, but it wasn't bad at all.'

On Saturday the curtain went up to a larger audience and crowd control became a problem. There were difficulties at the entrance, but when the music started, the only sounds were fun and laughter. The show finally ended with a Cantonese song called 'Strong' which summed up the feeling of those involved.

During the organisation of the V-show, the name of Ka Wai Lee, the chairlady, stands out. Her effort and enthusiasm were, and still are, greatly appreciated by all those involved.

Happy [Chinese] New Year, and all the best in the year of the Mouse.



'No Problem! No Problem!' said Tim, although 'problem index' had reached its highest limit.

sunday 25 february

Gliding Club

Gliding at Lasham Airfield. (R)

Wargames

1pm. Table Tennis room. (R)

Fitness Club

2pm. Southside gym. Intermed. aerobics. (R)

Ents

Standing Room Only - Live premiership footie on the DaVinci's big screen. See posters for details.

s u n d a y

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The Labour Party Will Win The Next General Election. . .

...if they continue to succeed in gaining votes by force-feeding the electorate with their utopian manifesto. However, anyone examining the shiny exterior of 'New Labour' will notice cracks, revealing superficial, ill-considered, and impractical policies. **Forget Labour.** Instead consider yourself invited to listen to the sound political views of the Conservative MP's and ministers who have put the Great back into Britain after years of socialist-led decline.

Come to a

Parliamentary Meeting

on

Wednesday March 6th at

3pm

**Mail ConSoc for further
details**

consoc@ic.ac.uk

<http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/clubs/societies/scc/consoc/home.html>

monday

26

february

Student Industrial Society
12 - 2pm. Table Tennis room, Union building. (R)

Fitness Club
12.30pm. Beginners body toning (45 mins)
5.30pm. Beginners aerobics
6.30pm. Intermediate aerobics.
Southside Gym. (R)

Ski Club
5 - 5.45pm. Southside Upper Lounge. (R)

ArtSoc
12.30 - 1.30pm. Brown Committee Room.
Come and sign up for our many trips to Musicals. Note the location change - look out for directions. (R)

Jewish Society
12.45pm in the CCR, Guest Speaker and food. Jeremy Newmark on Hizb-ut-Tahris. top of union building

Concert Band
5.15pm. Great Hall. Any ability. (R)

Cross Country
5.00pm. Circuit training. Union gym. (R)

IC 2nd Orchestra
7 - 9pm. Great Hall. All welcome. (R)

Methsoc
6pm. Chaplaincy Office, Northside, Princes Gardens Ecumenical Group. (R)

Ents
Standing Room Only - Live premiership footie on the DaVinci's big screen. See posters for details.

next diary
deadline: noon,
February 26th

the
week
ahead

tuesday

27

february

Cathsoc
12.00 pm. Bagritt Centre, Mech Eng. (R)

Yacht Club
12.30pm. Lecture Theatre 2, Physics. (R)

Afro-Carib Soc
12.30 - 1.30pm. Room G02, Materials dept, RSM. All welcome. (R)

IC Sailing Club
12.45 - 1.45pm. Southside Lounge. (R)

AudioSoc
1.00pm. Southside Lounge. Want to buy cheap C.D's? Interested in borrowing high-end HiFi? We have it all! (R)

Photo Soc
1.00pm. Southside Lounge. (R)

SciTech
1pm. Civil Engineering Rm. 317. Student consultancy, run by students, give a short presentation about themselves. More information: scitsl@ic.ac.uk

Circus Skills
5 - 8pm. Ents Lounge. sdh@ee.ic.ac.uk (R)

Fitness Club
5.30pm. Advanced aerobics. (R)

IC Bridge Club
6pm in the Clubs Committee Room. (R)

icsf
7pm in STOIC Studios.
<http://www.ph.ic.ac.uk/moontg/> (R)

IQ
7.30pm. Brown Committee Room.
Further Info: pink-help@doc.ic.ac.uk or
<http://pink.doc.ic.ac.uk/IC/> (R)

Canoe Club
7pm. Beit Quad. All levels welcome, and free instruction. (R)

ICCAg
8.15pm. Weeks Hall basement. Soup run for the homeless. (R)

After Dark
8 - 11.30pm in the Ents Loung. Admission only £1 for a night of swing, hip-hop and jungle with the African Caribbean Society. Definitely the way to celebrate winning the bar quiz. (R)

Ents
8pm. DaVinci's. Proving that you can have brains and beauty, Dan has his all singing, all dancing Trivia Night. Your chance to win £50 or a crate of beer, without doing anything more strenuous than answering a few questions.

tuesday

wednesday

28

february

IC Sailing Club
12.15pm. Meet outside Southside, go sailing. (R)

Skate Society
12.15pm. Southside Lounge. Contact Alex a.cinelli@ic.ac.uk, 0171 352 9111 for details. (R)

Wargames
1pm Table Tennis room. (R)

Fitness Club
5 - 6pm. Southside Gym. Intermediate / Advanced step class. (R)

Squash Club
3.20 - 5.20pm. Sports centre. 'Club Night' (R)

IC Symphony Orchestra
7 - 10pm. Great Hall. (R)

Wing Chun Kung Fu
1.30 - 3.30pm. Lesson. Union Gym, 2nd Floor Union Building. Beginners welcome. 1st lesson free. (R)

Ents
8 - 1am. "Frolik!" - the best cure for those midweek, mid-term blues. And it's totally and utterly free.

w e d n e s d a y

Exploration Day

On the 29th of February IC ExploSoc will be holding Explo Day. It will consist of two lectures on different aspects of exploration.

Firstly the IC expedition, Hunza 1995 will be giving their account of their expedition to Pakistan. They went to study the effects of the Karokoram highway (the highest in the world) on the Hunza people. In addition to being highly entertaining it should prove to all you budding expeditioners just what you can achieve whilst at IC. It will take place at 12.15pm in the Clore lecture theatre.

Nick Lewis will give a lecture in the evening entitled 'Bootless on the Hummingbird'. Nick, an environmental consultant based in Windsor, will talk about his 'entertaining' trip to Canada and Alaska. The Hummingbird ridge on Mount Logan is one the longest and hardest in North America with a reputation for being irreversible and certainly not the place to drop a boot. After his companion did just that they had a serious discussion before descending both alive and unscathed. Since they could not be flown out they had to ski out 100 miles through the Yakon to safety. This will take place at 6pm in the Pippard lecture theatre.

Members of ExploSoc will be available at both events to answer questions about the Society.

thursday 29 february

Fitness Club

12.30pm. Die Hard circuit training
5.30pm. Beginners aerobics. (R)

ConSoc

1pm. Southside. <http://www.su.ic.uk/clubs-/societies/scc/consoc/home.html> (R)

Gliding Club

1pm. Aero 266. (R)

Mountaineering Club

7pm. Social, Southside Upper Lounge. (R)

Yoga Soc

6.15 - 7.45pm. Table tennis room. Beginners' Kunalini yoga class. More information from mpn@doc.ic.ac.uk, ex 48237. (R)

Christian Union

6.30 - 7.45pm. W2 in Biology. (R)

ICCAG

8.15pm. Weeks Hall basement. Soup run for the homeless. (R)

Skate Soc

Night Skate - everyone welcome. Call Alex on 0171 352 9111 or a.cinelli@ic.ac.uk (R)

YHA

1pm Southside Lounge. 'Take a walk on the wild side.' (R)

Ents

5 - 11pm. A night of quality and distinction: the justly infamous Cocktail Night.

t h u r s d a y

RCS Dinner

The RCS Annual Dinner was held at the Kensington Hilton Hotel last Friday. Tickets were sold out as 250 people arrived in their glad rags to witness one of the most successful RCS events in recent years.

The after-dinner speaker was Stephanie Snell, RCS president 1988/89. She finished on a happy note as she, with encouragement from her audience, persuaded Mo to do his 'party piece'. Dinner was then officially over with a remarkable and appreciated lack of traditions such as the kangela and penalty pints. As Mo explained later: "It was more important for people to enjoy themselves than get lost in traditions many of them would not understand".

The band *Bandicoot* arrived looking most peculiar in black wigs, but their music did not correspond to their dress sense and a good time was had by all. The band was then replaced by a disco, DJ'd by one of the minibus drivers. Unfortunately the minibuses turned into London Buses as arrival and leaving times became delayed. Many diners continued the party in the hotel foyer, to the amusement of the hotel staff, whilst they awaited transport to their respective beds.

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27TH FEB 6PM

ENTS LOUNGE

28TH FEB 6PM

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VOTE

JUST DO IT

Careers Information

Summer Vacation Training opportunities are now available on the database in the Careers Office. Apply to UROP for research opportunities.

"Improve your interview skills" is a short course on Wednesday 21st February in Huxley Room 343 from 2-4 pm. Sign up in the Careers Office.

For more information and careers advice come to the Careers Office, Room 310 Sheffield Building, which is open between 10am and 5.15pm Monday to Friday.

Exam Stress Workshops

Exam stress workshops will be held at the Health Centre over two sessions - from 3pm to 4.30pm - on the afternoons of
Wednesday 6th March 1996
and
Wednesday 13th March 1996

To take full advantage of these sessions, you are advised to attend both. These workshops will be led by Psychotherapist Claudio Calvi. Everyone suffers from stress before and at examinations. For most people stress improves their performance; but if you have a significant or debilitating examination stress problem, these workshops are for you.

For bookings, please ring Liliane Carter on direct line no (0171) 594 9381 or internally on 49381. This service is entirely free of charge, so don't hesitate to register and solve your problem.

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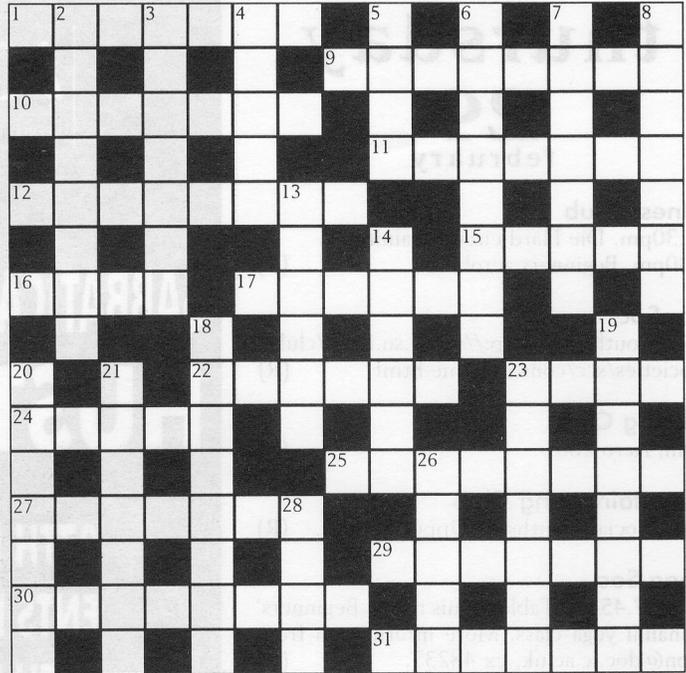
the
week
ahead

Crossword by Catfish

- Across:**
 1,9. Crowds of males do perhaps have it hanging over them (5,2,8)
 10. A break-in at airport by vagrant (7)
 11. Wild about journalist - in a state! (7)
 12. Unless I go first, this may turn unpleasant (8)
 15. River goes through partly industrialised area (5)
 16. Manage to gain lead on the ladder (4)
 17. Pub may declare time before this point (6)
 22. In action? Certainly! (6)
 23. To be reckless results in irritation (4)
 24. Gave the fashionable directions which were unclear (5)
 25. Courtesy in city - it is my last! (8)
 27. Scores for navy recruits, for example? (7)
 29. Tied up again, starting new relationship too soon(7)
 30. They plan to arrange a little heat (8)
 31. Sack clergyman for removal of someone's dress! (7)
Down:
 2. Exhausted when the alarm was raised, I heard (5,3)
 3. Like lions do when it's in the forties? (7)
 4. Love the speed of the lecture (5)
 5. We said it was a mistake to use a hook (4)
 6. Breeze past trees makes a sweet sound (8)

Solution to issue 1050's Crossword:

Across: 1.Lacerate, 9.Utopia, 10.Stud poker, 12.Unicorn, 13.Snowflake, 15.Agates, 16.Era, 18.Pea, 19.Chidden, 20.Ops, 21.Ten, 23.Ripped, 26.Additions, 27.Adores, 28.Part-timer, 30.Trench, 31.Loneness. **Down:** 2.Acting, 3.Endower, 4.Apollo, 5.Eke, 6.Stringent, 7.Apportion, 8.Rat nests, 11.Ruc, 14.Kindred, 16.Earphones, 17.Accedence, 18.Perianth, 22.Edition, 24.Hilton, 25.Inlets, 26.Asp, 29.All



7. Old fair broke down in the U.S. (7)
 8. To employ fewer would be futile (7)
 13. Small but helpful drink! (6)
 14. It may leave crater, but you'll measure nothing inside (6)
 18. Used to line a bin every couple of years (8)
 19. Balanced fluid is no cure (7)
 20. Keys of gold used to open plants (7)
 21. Metal it took in caused upset (6)
 23. Bitterness - king is weighed down by it, they say (7)
 26. Notation made by British Rail the day before (5)
 28. Diminishes those who are easily fooled (4)

EASTER VACATION EMPLOYMENT

From: 20th March - 26th April 1996

Temporary Front Office administrators are required, to provide a **first class** reception, cashier and clerical service to vacation guests to Imperial College.

- * Rotating shifts of 07⁰⁰ - 15³⁰, 15⁰⁰ - 23⁰⁰, 23⁰⁰ - 07³⁰
- * Working five days out of seven
- * Total of 38 hours per week
- * Rate of £5 per hour, with increased rates for nightshift
- * Accommodation may be available on request

No Front Office experience is necessary as full training will be given, but all candidates must be of smart appearance, numerate, accurate and have a good level of customer care

Job description and application forms are available from:

David T. Mander, The Conference Centre, Watt's Way, South Kensington, London SW7 1LU
 (0171) 59 49506

Interviews will be held the week commencing 4th March 1996

LETTERS TO FELIX:

REPLIED TO BY RACHEL WALTERS

Dear Rachel,
I was intrigued by your comment in last week's Felix [1049, February 9th], alongside the Pro Rector's letter under Official Fees Line, that "It seems remarkable that there is no official line from Imperial on this emotive and controversial issue." I had thought that the College position was pretty clear. On page 3 of the same issue of *Felix* the Rector is reported as having reiterated Imperial College's opposition to imposing top-up fees. IC has no intention of charging a £300 fee – it would achieve almost nothing for the College, he is quoted as saying. I would have thought this official enough.

The idea of a £300 charge, for what I now read is described as a "government deficit levy", is a discussion item among 100 plus Vice-Chancellors. But it will be for the governing body of each individual institution to decide

whether such a charge is the best way of alleviating its financial problems. The Executive Committee of the College's Governing Body fully endorsed the Rector's view at its meeting last Friday. And that's official. Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

P E Mee

(Registrar and Clerk to the Governors)

Thank you for putting my mind at rest. Very good news indeed!

Deadline for letters in Felix 1052: 12pm, Tuesday 27th February
Please bring your union card for identification.

Letters may be edited for length.

The opinions expressed by the editor or guest editors are not necessarily those of the paper as a whole.

FELIX

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BMS?

Look, jokes aside, but is this actually going to happen, or what? We've had revised deadlines and a reset schedule; gone planning permission in the autumn to 'definitely by the end of 1995' to 'we'll still be on target if we get it by the end of February.' So now we have the latest date: Kensington and Chelsea will begin to *consider* the application on March 6th

Perhaps I don't have a clue what I'm talking about (it is possible, you know) but surely we've got to throw some of the blame from this farcical situation at our Borough Council. They hardly seem to be pillars of efficiency, and you would have thought that being the proud possessors of one the most prestigious medical schools about would be something they could get a *little* bit enthusiastic about. I wonder is it connected that they are the staunchest Tory council in the country? It brings a whole new dimension to the concept of rotten boroughs...

Perhaps I should mention that I'm pleased to have recruited a new sub-editor to the *Felix* team: Stephen, who has been battling through the morass of

Clubs and Socs articles for the past couple of weeks, is also a keen member of Consoc.

uplifting

Observing the launch of this year's sabbatical elections has been quite thought provoking. Until I decided I quite fancied the idea myself, I thought anyone keen to stick their oar into ICU affairs was 'a sad hack', belonging to that mysterious brand of people who label anyone not interested the things that fascinate them as being apathetic.

But at 6pm on Monday, faced with the deadline of handing their manifestoes in to be printed in *Felix*, eight self-conscious and slightly insecure, but very likeable human beings trooped in one by one. They all seemed keen, enthusiastic, but most strikingly of all, utterly genuine in their desire to contribute constructively to the needs of Imperial students. I don't know why this surprised me so much, but it was thoroughly uplifting.

I also found it rather interesting to see that, practically without exception, they seemed to have great difficulty making deadline.

EDITORIAL TEAM:

NEWS: ALEX FEAKES FEATURES: MARK BAKER
MUSIC: VIK BANSAL CINEMA: WEI LEE
ARTS: JEREMY SPORT: JONATHAN TROUT
DIARY: BEN JANES CLUBS AND SOCS: STEPHEN HAMILTON
PHOTOGRAPHY: IVAN CHAN, DIANA HARRISON
AND WILLIAM LORENZ
THEATRE: KATHERINE FISHWICK AND CLAIRE SAMUEL
PUZZLES: CATFISH SCIENCE: BEN WILKINS

COLLATING LAST WEEK: MARK (THANKS!)

THE FELIX WEEK

The indispensable guide for Felix contributors and helpers

monday, high noon
**clubs & societies
articles deadline**

monday 1.20pm
**reviewers'
meeting**

monday 6pm
news meeting

tuesday noon
arts meeting

tuesday noon
letters deadline

tuesday 6pm
features meeting

thursday night
collating

friday morning
**another Felix hits the
street...**

FELIX SPORT

Imperial Rowers Rise To The Blue Boat Challenge

ICBC 4 - 0 OXFORD

Last weekend, the ICBC's 1st and 2nd eights met the Oxford University Boat Race crews. It was a fairly intense affair, with IC starting on the outside of the Chiswick bend, and not suffering from this early disadvantage. Although Oxford had a fast cruising pace, they couldn't match the explosive acceleration of the IC VIII's. They have obviously improved, as shown by the fact that IC later admitted to

have been pushed hard for the win, coming in almost a length ahead in both races.

The 2nd eight showed that strength in depth is not dead at IC when a crew made up largely of freshers easily overhauled their Oxford counterparts. Their bowman and ICBC captain Andy Kershaw commented: "I am very proud of the boys, they rose to the challenge of Oxford, and we dominated them from the outset."

CROSS COUNTRY TAKE A HYDING IN BAD PUN SHOCKER

With vociferous IC support, the 1996 Hyde Park Relays were underway. The Imperial team ran well and Jon Johnson, despite being weighed down, won himself a pint after leaving Tom for dead. This, however was all that IC won, with Cambridge taking the men's event, and ULU winning the ladies prize.

IC LADIES DOMINATE 4-A SIDE FOOTBALL

Last Monday the IC Ladies took the University of London invitational tournament by storm.

After the league stage, both IC teams had done enough to qualify for the semi-finals, where they met each other. After a surprisingly close contest, the first team won and went on to lift the shield after an incredibly tense penalty shoot-out was won 4-2.

Tempo? What's Going On?

IC 16-11 SURREY

Even lacking their three international fencers, IC fencing squad battled through to the last 16 with a nail-biting victory over Surrey. The foil started off well, with IC winning 6-3, with two of the losing fights on the last point.

As always this season, epee proved to be our weakest weapon although we went down a respectable 4-5, thanks to a great 5-4 win by Ed Rysdale against Surrey's Rumanian international epeeist. This left sabre as the decider, and IC took an early lead to require one of the last four fights for victory. The first two went to Surrey, and IC captain Nick Manton found himself 14 down in the third, before battling back to score the winning hit at 4-4.

The final fight also went to IC giving a final victory of 16-11. The other team members were, as usual, Reuben "Wild Thing" Kalam, and Charles "Criminal Mastermind" Cooper.

Barnados fundraising

This Sunday, fund raising for the Barbados tour kicks off with an all day open pool tournament in Southside bar.

The tournament will comprise of three events: Men's doubles, ladies doubles (perhaps) and mixed doubles. The bar will be opening at 11.00 hours and remain as such until 22.30. This gives copious time for fun, frolics and annihilation of your opponents. The competition will begin in the middle of the afternoon and extend into the evening. There are hundreds of spectacular and coveted prizes to be won. Be the envy of all your friends as crowds flock to be near you and share in your fortune.

And we're talking BIG prizes. The winners of each event will receive a bottle of quality liquor and a snappy item of clothing to impress all those prospective loved ones. The final and most amazing prize will be awarded at the discretion of the tournament for the most flamboyant and entertaining participant.

Hockey win

IC hockey blokes 3rd team romped their way into the BUSA quarter-finals, with a late win over neighbours UCL.

With the scores level at half time, Apeman's goal looked to have clinched the tie, until plucky little UCL pulled one back. Extra time saw IC come out fighting with characteristic aplomb; Vidal and Rab both found the net to take the final tally to 3-1. It was an immensely satisfying win for the hockey boys.

IC Athletics Clubs Committee is sponsored by



SportsNews

Manchester United have been installed as new FA Cup favourites after beating their Manchester rivals by 2 - 1. A controversial penalty, given by the same referee who sent off Eric Cantona triggering the infamous 'kung-fu' incident last season, turned the match for the Reds.

England beat the mighty United Arab Emirates by eight wickets in the Willis Cricket World Cup, but lost all-rounder Craig White to injury.

Results

HOCKEY

IC III 1 - 1 UCL III

(3 - 1AET)

RSM 4 - 1 CHARING X AND WESTMINSTER

FOOTBALL

WOMEN'S 4-A-SIDE: IC I 1ST, IC II 3RD

ROWING

ICBC 4 - 0 OXFORD

ADVICE OFFICE NEWSLETTER



February 96
EDITORIAL

This month's newsletter looks at a number of legal and welfare issues. The most common area of enquiry at the Advice office is still housing but hopefully most students are now settled in their accommodation (or else they have moved out of unsatisfactory housing and relocated) for the remainder of the academic year. Those looking to arrange tenancies for the next academic year now would be advised to check any contracts carefully, get a receipt for any deposits paid (and see if you can cancel if your circumstances change), and, if possible, speak to existing tenants of the property before you agree.

If anyone has any comments or suggestions on items they would like to see covered in future newsletters, please contact me.

Martin Thomson
ICU Advice Office.

IN THIS ISSUE

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
Small Claims Court
Asylum Changes
Hosting for Overseas Students
Disabilities Officer
Eating Disorders
Useful Numbers

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

Some of you may have seen the government's television advertising campaign on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning. This subject has been raised in previous newsletters and is also dealt with in the **Union Housing Rights Guide** (available from the Union reception or the accommodation office). As we are still in the grip of winter, it is worth raising the matter again. Carbon monoxide poisoning is often caused by older gas appliances particularly where there is no

vent on an outside wall which ensures that waste products do not build up inside the room. Landlords are now

legally responsible for ensuring that any gas appliances are safety checked once a year. **Danger signs include:**

1. Soot stains or discolouring on a gas fire or at the top of a water heater
2. A yellow or orange flame
3. A strange smell when a gas appliance is on.

If you are in any doubts regarding the safety of any appliances then you should approach your landlord to get them serviced. If he refuses to do this, contact your local environmental health officer or phone the gas safety action line on 0800 300 363.

Every year 30 to 40 people die from the use of faulty appliances. Sadly, students living in "low cost" private rented accommodation are often included amongst the victims.

SEE YOU IN COURT!

SMALL CLAIMS COURT

The Small Claims limit has been increased from £1000 to £3000 from January 1996.

This is good news for anyone who finds themselves needing to take action to recover monies from rogue sellers or suppliers of faulty services as often, the amounts involved might have previously exceeded the old limit.

Taking a case to the small claims court is extremely straightforward and relatively expensive (costing 10p per £1 claimed or less for larger sums). Another benefit to the

plaintiff is that solicitor's costs cannot be claimed by either side (although you can claim the costs of issuing the summons). The process involves writing a letter to the other party setting out the details of your claim, issuing a summons and then waiting for the defendant to respond. If the case is contested then it is resolved in an arbitration hearing by a district judge's private chambers. The hearing is fairly informal (i.e. there is no jury or courtroom drama!). Many cases are settled before this stage. Often the sight of a summons will be enough to prompt the defendant into accepting his responsibilities.

Naturally, your chances of success depend upon you being able to prove your case "on the balance of probabilities". However, if the person you are suing does not have the means to pay then you may still be unable to recover your money.

Leaflets

The Lord Chancellor's Department has produced an excellent set of leaflets which are available from the Union Reception area. Anyone who feels that they might have a case would be advised to contact either Trading Standards, a law centre or the Union Advice Office for initial assistance.

This newsletter was brought to you by ICU & is just one of the services provided by your Student Union

ASYLUM CHANGES

New regulations affecting Asylum seekers

From February 5th 1996, the government have implemented changes to regulations concerning entitlements of asylum seekers to social security benefits.

Three main groups of people will be affected;

1. Asylum-seekers who have been found by the immigration authorities not to be refugees (and those who appeal against this decision will not receive benefits while waiting for it to be heard)

2. Asylum seekers and other people from abroad who entered the country on the understanding that they

would not be a burden on public funds and who could support themselves, or who have entered the country illegally

3. Sponsored immigrants who were allowed into the country on the condition that they would not be a burden on public funds

In other words, a person entering the country under a status such as "student" or "visitor" subject to the relevant entry conditions cannot, having gained entry to the country, then later claim asylum and expect to receive benefits.

Student Asylum Seekers

Student asylum seekers would fall into the second category although even before these changes, no full time students were able to claim

income support or housing benefit unless they met specific entitlement conditions (relating to disability or family circumstances for example). However, a student who becomes afraid to return to his/her home country whilst studying due to changes in that country could previously have applied for benefits if for example, he or she were forced to leave the course or to switch to part-time study while the application was being considered.

The government has said that in circumstances where "some (people) would be trapped in the UK because of a major change of circumstances in their home country prevents their return after having arrived here" then the applicant will be able to claim

benefits. These countries would be regarded as 'Upheaval countries'. To date, no upheaval countries have been declared.

The new regulations have been opposed by all organisations which assist immigrants and asylum-seekers. Research by the Refugee Council has shown that 80% of the claimants they had assisted who did not apply immediately at the port of entry had applied within their first week of arrival. They argue that many asylum-seekers arrive traumatised by recent experiences and are afraid to apply for asylum immediately until they can seek advice. They also fear that they will be made to return if they apply before they have entered the country.

HOSTING FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS

Overseas students who would like to spend some time living with a British family in almost any part of the United Kingdom are able to do so thanks to the HOST scheme. It arranges visits to participating British households creating an excellent opportunity to combine a holiday with a genuine cultural exchange. All you will be expected to pay is the cost of your travel to your destination so if you are interested about finding out more, further details and application forms are avail-

able from the Advice Office. You can apply on your own or with a friend. Applications are currently being processed for most weekends up to the May Bank Holiday (25-27th).

Care is taken to place students with suitable hosts, for example a lone female student would only be placed with either a single female or married couple and other details including religion (and diet), preference for pets and smoking are also taken into consideration.

DISABILITIES OFFICER

Imperial College has a full time disabilities officer who can help and advise students with seen or unseen disabilities. **Loretto O'Callaghan** is based in the **Sherfield Building, Room 324** and can be contacted on **(internal) 48935**.

Dyslexia

Unseen disabilities include dyslexia which is often hidden by students who are afraid that they will be discriminated against in some way if they make their situation known. As coursework

becomes more complicated it can cause increasing difficulties, especially if the condition is not acknowledged by staff.

Anyone facing any sort of difficulties due to a disability of any kind (including temporary problems caused by accident or injury) can speak to her in absolute confidence.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE SESSIONS
EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING 5-6 PM
ADVICE ON IMMIGRATION OR HOUSING MATTERS.
CONTACT MARTIN ON 48067 FOR DETAILS

EATING DISORDERS

Anorexia and bulimia nervosa are not primarily about food; starving or binge eating are symptoms of underlying emotional and psychological distress.

ANOREXIA

Anorexia is most commonly found amongst people aged 15-25 and it can often lead to bulimia nervosa, which is by far the most common of the two conditions. About 90% of sufferers are women.

Research has shown that about 2% of young women and 0.2% of young men are affected. Over 10% of sufferers die from either the effects of the starvation or from suicide.

The main symptom of anorexia nervosa is the relentless pursuit of thinness through self starvation and a fear of being fat.

Other symptoms include;

1. Severe weight loss
2. Distortions and misconceptions about weight and body size
3. Excessive exercising
4. vomiting/purging
5. emotional irritable behaviour
6. difficulty in sleeping
7. loss of menstrual periods
8. perfectionism
9. feeling cold, poor circulation
10. growth of downy hair over body.

BULIMIA

Bulimia Nervosa is characterised by binge eating followed by self-induced vomiting, periods of starvation and/or purging with laxatives. Other symptoms include;

1. Binge eating large amounts of food
2. Vomiting and/or purging
3. Often disappearing to the lavatory after meals to get rid of food eaten.
4. Secretive behaviour
5. Feeling out of control, helpless and lonely
6. Menstrual disturbance
7. Sore throat and erosion of tooth enamel caused by vomiting
8. Dehydration, poor skin condition
9. Emotional behaviour and mood swings
10. Devious and deceptive behaviour

Treatments can take many forms and generally must be tailored to the particular patient. They include counselling, psychotherapy, cognitive behaviour therapy, group therapy, dietetic advice, day hospital treatment and sometimes drugs in the short term. Re-feeding must be carried out but the treatment must tackle the psychological aspects in order for the treatment to succeed in the long term.

The sooner an eating disorder is recognised and treated, the better the prognosis. People with eating disorders are often afraid of asking for help because they fear that they will not be understood, or that they will be treated unsympathetically. Since the causes of eating disorders are complex and will be different for each person affected, it is important to seek help from people who understand the conditions.

General Practitioners may vary in their experience and understanding of these conditions but for many, a GP will be the first person they seek

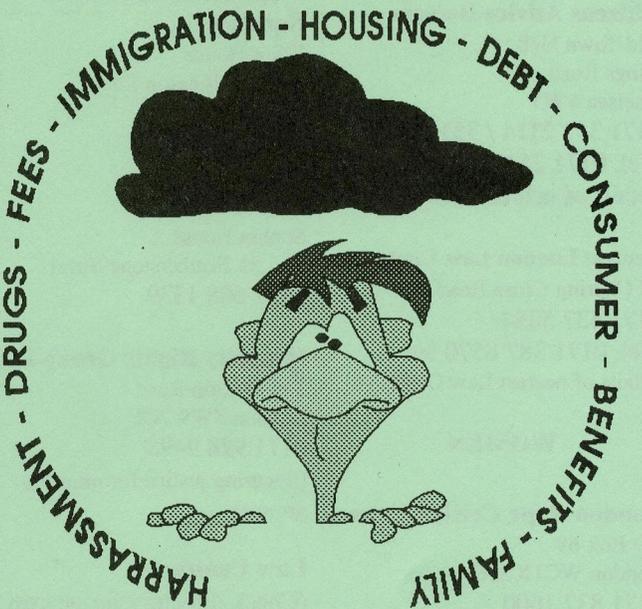
help from. Alternatively, there are specialist voluntary groups who can provide support and advice in complete confidence.

One such voluntary organisation is **The Eating disorders Association** which offers a range of services. It has two telephone helplines.

On 01603 621 414 callers can talk in confidence to someone who understands the problems of anorexia and bulimia (9.00am-6.30pm Mon-Fri). Alternatively a recorded message can be heard on 0891 615 466 (but this is a premium line with high charges). Finally, students can join the association for a discounted rate of £7.50 per year (full rate £20.00).

For this you receive information on hospital and self-help treatment, details of your nearest self-help group, a bi-monthly newsletter and other information.

**A WIDE
RANGE OF
FREE
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AVAILABLE
FROM
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UNION
OFFICE**



ICU ADVICE CENTRE
**DO YOU NEED FREE & CONFIDENTIAL
ADVICE ?**
**FOR ADVICE ON ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE
CONTACT THE ADVICE CENTRE.**

**MAKE AN APPOINTMENT BY PHONING
0171 594 8060**

LIST OF USEFUL CONTACTS

GENERAL

Martin Thomson, Union Adviser.

(DEALS WITH ALL TYPES OF ENQUIRIES)

ICU Advice Office
Beit Quad
0171 594 8060 (int. 48060) to make appointments.
0171 594 8067 (int. 48067) direct - answerphone when interviewing.

Union Sabbatical Officers

ICU, Beit Quad.
0171 594 8060 (int. 48060) or in person at Union Office.

Health Centre

Princes Garden int. 49375

Disabilities Officer

Loretto O'Callaghan
Room 324, Sherfield int.48935

Nightline (6pm - 8am)

0171 436 5561

ULU Advice Office

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

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

Survivors (7 - 9pm)

0171 833 3737
(Support for women who have been raped)

Legal Action for Women

Kings Cross Women's Centre
71 Tonbridge Street
WC1H 9DZ
0171 837 7509

(Specific legal advice for women on issues including domestic violence, rape, racism etc.)

Rights of Women

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

Women Against Sexual Harrasment

312 The Chandlery
50 Westminster Bridge Road
SE1 7QY
0171 721 7593
(Free legal advice & support group)

Eating Disorders Association

01603 621414 (Mon - Fri 9-6.30)
0891 615466 (Premium rate line)

RACIAL HARRASMENT

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 Ltd

379 Brixton Road
London SW9 7DE
0171 978 9498
(Securing justice for minority groups)

Law Centre

(Check directory for nearest centre)

LESBIAN AND GAY HARASSMENT

Lesbian & Gay Employment Rights

21 Old Ford Street
E2 9LP
0171 704 6066

Lesbian & Gay Switchboard

0171 837 7324
(Info., counselling, & referral service)

Gay & Lesbian Legal Advice

57 - 59 Cowcross Street
EC1N 6BP
0171 253 2043
(Advice, assistance on legal problems)

PACE

0171 263 6200
(Counselling for gay & lesbian people)

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

SKILL : National Bureau for Students with Disabilities.

336 Brixton Road
SW9 7AA
0171 274 0565

Disability Law Service

16 Princeton Street
WC1R 4BB
0171 831 8031
(Legal Advice & info.)

RADAR

(Royal Association for Disability & Rehabilitation)
0171 250 3222

Dyslexia Institute

0171 730 8890
(Information, treatment & research)

PEOPLE WITH HIV / AIDS

London Lighthouse

111 - 117 Lancaster Road
W11 1QT
0171 792 1200
(Counselling, support, drop-in Centre)

Aidslink

0483 300150

National Aids Helpline

0800 567 123

Terrence Higgins Trust

Helpline 0171 242 1010
Legal Line 0171 405 2381
Admin. 0171 831 0330

Positively Women

5 Sebastian Street
EC13 0HE
0171 490 5515
(Assists women with HIV/AIDS)

Blackliners

0171 738 5274
(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

Drinkline

0171 332 0202

VIOLENCE/SEXUAL ASSAULT

London Women's Aid

0171 251 6537

Everyman Centre

0171 793 0155
(Help for violent men)

Victim Support

0171 735 9166

.....
This newsletter was bought to you by ICU Advice Centre.
Design by Mamba Designs.
With Thanks to Andy T.