

SR



# THE FELIX

Friday 25th October, 1996  
issue 1066

<http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/Felix>

Student Newspaper of Imperial College

**Freshers week**  
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**SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND**

Don't forget to find sobering thoughts in Something for the Weekend this week!

## Clayponds crime

**JACKIE SKEATE**  
A spate of crime at Clayponds, the College's South Ealing residential estate, has been at the centre of rising complaints of "inadequate" security at the site. Just this term, inhabitants have noted a significant number of break-ins, currently about one every ten days. The estate, situated in South Ealing, currently houses 334 undergraduate and postgraduate students in 130 separate houses.

Mr P Leeson, Clayponds Residential Superintendent, tells a different story. He assured *Felix* that there had been no burglaries for "about 4 weeks," and that the culprits had been apprehended. One is serving a two-year prison sentence, the other is on remand, yet to appear in court. He also stated that break-ins had only occurred through ground-floor windows. At the request of residents, Crime Prevention officers from Ealing Police have already visited Clayponds, and have recommended the fitting of deadlocks on all bedroom doors and bars on all ground floor windows. Students have mostly agreed with this, "We wouldn't mind it looking like Alcatraz if we got to keep all our stuff," remarked one.

All the window locks have now been replaced, though Mr Leeson claims that students are not using them. A meeting was held to discuss the security issue on 13th October. Attended by Prof Swanson, the Pro-Rector, Ian Caldwell, the Director of Estates, Graham Daniels, the Residence Area Manager, and about a hundred students. This meeting discussed the possibility of dummy TV cameras, bars on ground floor win-

dows, and deadlocks. It was later decided that deadlocks would be pointless, as they would make it difficult to exit the room in case of a fire, and there not had been, as yet, any break-ins through doors.

Mr Daniels added that a lock was only as strong as the door it was fitted to, and that deadlocks were not designed for internal doors. He added that the cost of fitting deadlocks on all the bedroom doors would be "hundreds of thousands of pounds." However, the College's own figures show that deadlocks cost under £100 each, so a simple calculation shows the maximum total cost would be £33,400 for the 334 residents. Mr Caldwell dismissed the possibility of putting bars on windows, "We don't want the place to look like Fort Knox. I once stayed in a hotel room that had bars on the windows...it was a grim experience."

College have also conducted an independent review into Clayponds security. As well as replacing all the window locks, a new set of window frames were ordered 6 weeks ago at a cost of £17,000. These have now been delivered, and will be fitted on Monday. Also, Mr Leeson confirmed that a "man and his dog" have been hired at a monthly cost of £3,000 from a local security firm to patrol the campus at night, and "deterrent shrubbery" will be planted along the wall where Clayponds borders a council estate. This will consist of "various sorts of bushes, roses, pyrocanthia, anything with big spikes on."

continued on page two

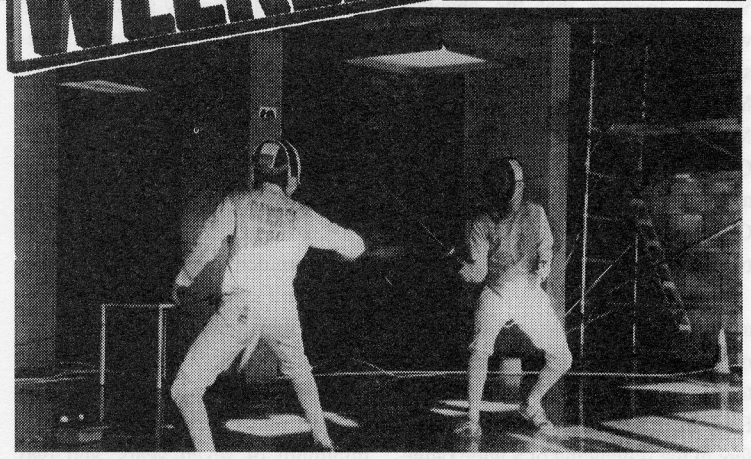


PHOTO: WEI LEE

The Imperial College Fencing team getting in some practice before Wednesday's match against Barts.

The results of last week's friendly against the Royal Free and Queen Mary can be found on page 14 along with the rest of this week's sport.

## LSE won't Top-Up

**ANDREW SMITH**  
The London School of Economics, one of the leaders in the rush towards 'top-up fees', have abandoned plans to make their September '97 intake pay for tuition. "Administrative difficulties" are quoted as the reason behind the move, with students expressing concerns that the '98 intake will not be lucky.

The decision announced last week comes as a working party, set up to examine the mechanics behind the implementation of fees, continues to discuss the proposals. It is understood that the Acting Director of LSE, Leslie Hannah, as well as other senior officials are behind consistent attempts to introduce the fees.

An LSE spokeswoman confirmed that the 'Court of Governors' would have to approve any new measures, but refused to supply details as to how much the fees, if introduced, would be. Other sources suggested

that figures of up to £1,000 are under discussion. Unlike Imperial College, LSE are facing serious financial difficulties, despite income from their large number of overseas students.

While LSE's Union believes that tuition should be free, and continue their attempts to persuade LSE authorities of the same, they are currently working with LSE to provide a scholarship structure should 'top-up fees' be implemented. "We feel that top-up fees would mean that only a quota of people from lower economic backgrounds would be allowed in", commented Sam Palmer, the Educational and Welfare Officer of LSE Student's Union.

The decision to postpone the introduction of fees comes amid statements from David Blunket, Labour's Education spokesman, that his party would 'claw back', by reducing grants to third level institutions, any money gained by tuition fees.

# The woman who wants to be ..... a Defence Minister

## ANDREW SMITH

The day that the Government's plans for their latest Parliamentary session were announced, the Minister of State at the Home Office responsible for prisons and life sentences defended policies which will dramatically increase the UK prison population. While admitting that the changes would increase overcrowding in the short term, Anne Widdecombe, Member of Parliament for Maidstone, spoke to Imperial College students on Wednesday about Law and Order, and of her Government's plan to help build twelve new prisons.

In a move, widely regarded as an attempt to embarrass the Parliamentary Labour Party, after seventeen years in power the Conservative Party have announced plans to interfere in the sentencing of a wide range of convicted criminals. Ms

Widdecombe, admitted that the plans are a political tool, but denied that this was the only reason for their introduction.

"It is not just a crude attempt to put clear blue water between us and them," she insisted after being questioned about her party's motives. The Junior Minister, who enjoys a comfortable 16,000 majority, insisted that the package of measures was being introduced for the public good, despite the fact that "there will be some hiatus", due to the inevitable overcrowding.

Government plans centre on the imposition of mandatory sentences, and thereby regularly removing the judiciary from the sentencing process. Anyone convicted of a third Class A drugs crime would receive a minimum of seven years, and two successive rape convictions would

lead to "mandatory life sentence". This would mean that "we will have control over the point at which they (sexual offenders) get released."

According to Ms Widdecombe the overall rise in UK crime during the course of the successive Tory administrations is part of "a rising tide of lawlessness that has been experienced in every western country for the past 40 years." She repeatedly denied that there was any link between poverty and crime, and asserted that vehicle and property crime increase with prosperity.

While the Tories have introduced crime bills almost every year since their election in 1979, the Home Office Minister insisted that, "It is not possible for any Government to wave a magic wand." Her Government's new measures of mandatory sentences and "honesty in

sentencing" were an attempt to "deal with what we have."

Recent personal attacks on the Labour leader, Tony Blair, also came under fire during a question and answer session, but Ms Widdecombe insisted that the 'dangers' of Labour plans for trade union reform and the introduction of a minimum wage and the Social Chapter must be highlighted. She dismissed her party's of tax increases following the last election, blaming the ERM and the recession, saying "We were derailed."

Looking forward to the next General Election, which she expects to be held on 1 May 1997, Ms Widdecombe would like to "break the mould" and become the first ever woman in the Ministry of Defence. Perhaps optimistically, she hopes to serve in a Government which will have, "a nice large majority."

## continued from front page

Last week, as part of a questionnaire concerning security that was sent to all residents, asking what measures they would like to see taken, students were asked to consider window bars, lights programmed to turn on and off at random, net curtains, whether they would be willing to spend their spare time planting rose bushes, and whether or not they would consider paying an extra £2.50 a week for the extra security patrols. So far, replies handed in have been mostly negative, and the feeling seems to be that people were not prepared to pay extra rent towards security. As one resident remarked, "it should come out of the rent we are paying already."

Currently, Clayponds Village is insured by College. Residents' basic cover gives a payout of £2,200, and the maximum payout for any specific item is £600. The most that a student could claim for is £5000. Last year, Clayponds insurance claims cost the College somewhere in the region of £25,000. This could have a knock-on effect, forcing College to increase insurance premiums.

In his interview, Mr Caldwell

pointed out that Clayponds is often empty during the daytime and early evening. He also expressed a resigned attitude that if thieves really

to change tactics," he said, pointing out that they glass panels have been smashed and window frames jemmied in order to gain entrance, which

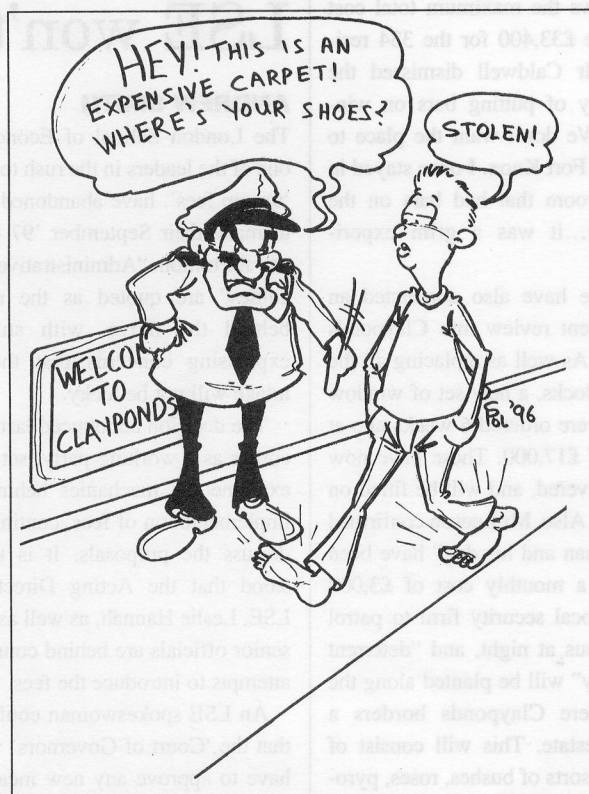
on the grounds that it would be too expensive to put bars on ground floor windows and deadlocks on the doors. They feel that that argument is a bit weak, considering the lavish expenditure on brand new carpets that have recently been installed, at a cost of £163,170 including VAT. (Figures supplied by Mr Daniels). The reason for this, Mr Leeson said, was that "on the stairs, where the carpet was fraying, someone could have had a nasty accident. These new carpets should last for a good 10-15 years." Mr Caldwell added that they had had a substantial discount for carpeting all of the hall at once.

Mr Caldwell pointed out that the money for the new carpets and for the forthcoming new common room (estimated to cost about £40,000) does not come out of the same fund as the security costs, though, ultimately, it all comes out of the rent. The new common room, which students have been waiting several years for, is in the planning stages. Alternative funding for this venture has been sought, with the IC Trust offering to provide £15,000 towards the final cost. As yet, there appears to be no alternative funding sought for the residents' security.

wanted to get in, they would find a way of doing so, whatever precautions were taken. "The burglars seem

is, apparently, "very unusual."

Despite this, residents still feel that College aren't doing enough, mostly



## AUT plans Autumn strikes over pay

### MARIA IOANNOU

The threat of a one-day strike looms over UK universities this week as a broad coalition of Trade Unions, including the Association of University Teachers, goes to the ballot box over pay.

The National Executive Committee held an emergency meeting on Wednesday morning where they voted to ballot all HE affiliates on whether to hold a National Higher Education shutdown in November.

AUT figures show that salaries for main-grade lecturers have been cut by half a per cent in real terms since 1981, compared with the pay increases of 23 per cent above inflation awarded to schoolteachers and hospitals managers over the same period.

The General Secretary of the A\*UT, David Triesman, expressed his concern: "All groups in the public sector have had to deal with an effective pay freeze over the last two or three years, but university staff have been putting up with one for more than fifteen."

If the outcome of the ballot is, as is confidently predicted, a 'yes' vote,

then the resulting stoppage would be the first wide-scale industrial action in the HE sector for more than ten years.

The National Union of Students immediately pledged support for the strike plan. Embracing the AUT's cause, NUS president Douglas Trainer spoke of solidarity, "Students are suffering in the crisis of higher education cuts. It is vital that we unite with lecturers, teaching staff and other trades unions against the crisis on campus."

Representatives from ICU were somewhat less vociferous in their support of the strike. Upon hearing the news, President Eric Allsop adopted a carefully considered approach, "We are in a very difficult position, caught between a rock and a hard patch. The AUT have a perfectly valid protest, and so we'd like to back them on this issue. However, if pressure is put on the College to provide extra funding, it will mean that they will have to look for additional money from alternative sources, namely top-up fees. This is something the Union wishes to avoid, so we're faced with a dilemma."

## Mary's Sabb funding in place

### KENT YIP

After much campaigning by St Mary's Hospital Medical School Student Union, funding for a sabbatical presidential post has finally been secured. This should see the transformation of the current position into a full time role for at least five years.

The president will receive an annual salary of £8,000. The funding is understood to be coming from St Mary's current subvention, and other sources and trusts associated with the medical school.

Speaking to *Felix*, Piers Williams, Deputy President (Finance and Services) of ICU, was unaware that funding for the post had been found. He did however recall that a motion relating to this matter had been passed in an ICU Council meeting last year. In principle, the Council had voted in favour of this change, provided that St Mary's Union were able to come up with the required funding.

Sami Ansari, the current Mary's President, expressed his view that the new sabbatical nature of the job would allow future presidents "to lead a normal life, to enjoy what the

College has to offer, instead of having to miss out on all the social and sporting activities, as is presently the case." He pointed out that, on top of his clinical study, on average he spent over 6 hours a day in meetings.

Mr Ansari went on to explain that "the nature of the job has changed fundamentally over the last five years. Issues that past presidents did not have to deal with directly, such as changes in the curriculum, the constructions of the BMS building, finance of the clubs, provision of recreational space and sports ground, are all of a pressing nature at the moment."

"That person must have the confidence of the student body and the self belief in doing a good job. Future presidents would be strongly advised to carry out the job sabbatically. Given that the new intake is going to be around 320, an enormous amount of work will be required."

The Mary's President summarised the dedication needed for the job by saying, "You take on this job because you care. You must believe in what you are doing, and that it is all worth it at the end of the day."



## Goldman Sachs International

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**6:30 pm**

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# The case of the 'superfluous insurance'

**Are Imperial College students being conned into paying for insurance they don't need? Simon Wistow dons trench coat and fedora and steps out to investigate ...**

As anyone who has tried to join a sports club this year will have found out, the College appears to have instituted a supplementary insurance policy in the form of Activities Cards, bought at the bargain price of one and a half pounds sterling.

For this pint-purchasing sum of money you become covered to hurl yourself out of perfectly serviceable aeroplanes, climb walls and mountains "because they're there", scrum down with 15 other sweaty, beer swilling, heavily muscled berserkers (with apologies to 'Vicky' the Viking) and ... play table tennis. Um, yes, that's right, somebody somewhere has decided that Ping-Pong falls into the same category, insurance wise, as sky diving.

OK, one could argue that an errant forehand smash could leave a nasty bruise but, how about aerobics? Fair enough, you might slip on a sweaty leotard but how can one possibly jus-

tify players of Bridge needing insurance. Do they expect the deck to explode? That someone will tear their ligaments picking up an unusually heavy two of Clubs? Maybe a highly stressed player will crack under the strain of a particularly tense rubber and will run amok with a vis-ously sharpened scoring pencil. Somebody, somewhere, is either very paranoid or is taking some extremely powerful narcotics.

Still, back to the story. I must have been told "I'm sorry, you have to join or you can't play." at least a dozen times at the Freshers' fair but a spot of investigative journalism has uncovered a large scale scam:

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE A CARD TO PLAY!**

Yup, you are being misled.

*somebody somewhere has decided that Ping-Pong falls into the same category, insurance wise, as sky diving*

According to Sports Manager: Frank Murray, Activities Cards are not compulsory, they are "recommended". Okay, this ain't exactly Lois and Clark stuff (although I am better looking than Dean Cain) but it does suggest that somebody up the hierarchy is misinforming the people below. Whether it's deliberate I could not say. But why do we need extra insurance anyway?

Union membership provides insurance for students taking parts in club activities and many sports clubs have their own policies to cover public liability, especially those that are affiliated to their governing body. The Rugby club for example is insured up to £5 million through the RFU. The College has what was described by the Finance Office as a "massive insurance policy" which covers you for anything that has a bonafide association with Imperial whether it is a chemical spill or a spontaneously combusting pack of cards.

The interesting bit however is the fact that the Finance Office didn't know anything about this, *ergo* it doesn't have anything to do with them (really Sherlock?). So, the big question is: who came up with the whole idea in the first place?

Yet more detective work ensued and after a bit of lying, weaselling, pleading and bribing (OK, not strictly true but it makes it sound so much more interesting) I managed to get my grubby hands on the Deputy President (Clubs and Societies) Council report (15th October, 1996) which had this to say:

"Insurance: Members of all sporting clubs have now been asked to obtain an Activities Card. This provides the holder with BUSA Gold Plus cover during participation of organised Union activities. Unfortunately we are having to charge £1.50 to cover the cost of insurance, printing and lamination costs. We will more that (sic) likely be able to get them sponsored for

next year."

So what is the Card for precisely? It appears to do exactly the same as the College policies. The Council report informs us that "I have already begun to implement (this policy) due to the call for extra insurance cover, and the five claims I already need to put in." So it could be it is a knee jerk reaction to cover somebody's ass. The author does concede that he/she/it "would like to express my concerns in how effective it will be this year."

Yet more digging around got me through to Sarah Corneille, the most informative person I'd spoken to during the investigation, and somebody who actually appeared to know what was going on.

The policy was initiated by Tim Townend, her predecessor, who had in turn been asked by the College on behalf of the clubs. Apparently there a number of accidents last year and the College insurance, which was described as "minimal", didn't cover them so, on the recommendation of BUSA (British Universities' Sports Associations), the Union took out this extra policy to cover personal injuries and stuff like dental care.

Does this mean that before this year we were dangerously under insured or alternatively that we're paying for a policy we don't need (I know that it's only £1.50 but that is the equivalent of three sandwiches form the Sandwich Shop after four)?

Either way nobody seems to know what is going on, which is the general impression I seem to have garnered during my time at Imperial. Hence forth I suggest a 'teach the right hand to speak to the left hand' campaign. Comments, suggestions, donations, abuse and free tickets to prestigious parties should be sent to the usual address.

And so I trudge back to my office, hang up my mac, loosen my tie, put my feet up on my desk and crack open a bottle of bourbon satisfied in the knowledge that it was another case...

not quite solved.

## Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme



- **Undergraduates:** assist academic staff with their researches
- Directory of 1996 - 97 opportunities available (free) from Room 313C Mechanical Engineering
- Information meeting: Wednesday, 30 October 13.15 - 14.00 Room 342 Mechanical Engineering on UROP in general + the Delaware (USA) exchange scheme in particular
- Closing date for Delaware exchange applications: Friday, 8 November 16.00 hours.
- Find out more on <http://www.hu.ic.ac.uk/urop/>

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Imperial College Postgraduate Students  
in the  
CENTRE FOR COMPUTING SERVICES

HELP DESK STAFF REQUIRED

The Centre for Computing Services runs a HelpDesk providing support to Members of the College on computing related problems. Help Desk duties consists of one 4.5 hour session each week, working in the HelpDesk office (a morning or afternoon), paid at demonstrator's rates, currently £8.46 per hour. You will be a member of a team of 3 people (2 on-duty desk staff with a Duty Manager providing support).

**Experience:**

You should have some experience in the use of one, or more, of PCs, UNIX or Macs and be able to communicate effectively with people. We do not expect you to be a computer expert (but if you are, then that too is not a problem). However you should have a reasonable User type experience in one or more of the areas mentioned and be willing to learn. Enthusiasm and willingness are just as important as technical knowledge when you start.

**Professionalism:**

Since we are the front-line for the Centre, we consider it important that clients are treated in the best possible way. Politeness and willingness to do the best for the client is important, almost more important than computer knowledge.

**Who to contact:**

For an information discussion, please contact Mr Michael Nock, Centre for Computing Services, room 482 ME, Tel 46968 or email [m.nock@ic.ac.uk](mailto:m.nock@ic.ac.uk).

*Applications are invited for the position of*

**SUBWARDEN**

in

**FALMOUTH KEOGH HALL**

Falmouth Keogh hall is a student residence in Princes Gardens, which houses 186 undergraduate and postgraduate students. Every year Falmouth Keogh runs a lively social programme of events, and a team of wardens and subwardens facilitate this social programme and provide pastoral care to residents.

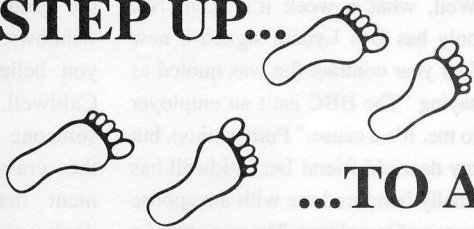
We are looking for a subwarden to join the wardening team in January 1997. Applications are welcome from all members of College, although the position is particularly well suited to postgraduate students with at least 18 months to completion of their course. Applicants should be friendly, resourceful, possess energy and a high degree of personal maturity. Rent free accommodation will be provided to the successful applicant.

Application forms are available from the Student Accommodation Office, 15 Princes Gardens.

Application forms should be returned to the Warden, Dr Andrew Livingston, Department of Chemical Engineering, by 5pm on

**Wednesday 20 November 1996**

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The Avon Room  
11am - 5pm



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**ENTERPRISE**



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Well, what a week it's been. Not only has Des Lynam signed a new four year contract (he was quoted as saying "The BBC isn't an employer to me. It's a cause." Pure genius), but my dear old friend Ian Caldwell has finally honoured me with a response to one of my pieces. The man says he often agrees with me, so he can't be all bad (some may think this deeply disturbing, but there you go). Continuing this spirit of amicability, I have decided to be nice to Mr Caldwell this week, and give him a flavour of what's currently on parts of the Estates grapevine that he may not have heard. I was initially going to say something just about Montpelier Hall, the sale of which could net the College several million, and is easily justifiable for this reason alone, but then I started hearing about rumblings at another postgrad encampment, Clayponds. If the rumours are true, it would seem that the inmates are restless.

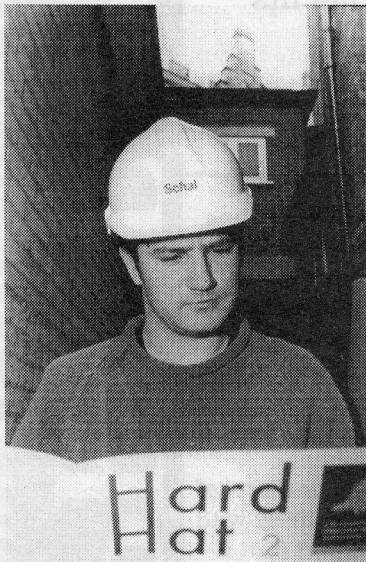
It would appear that security is a major concern, not unreasonably, of the residents. I hear that they average one break-in every ten days, which means that, with 130 houses, the chances of getting done over a year are a tad higher than the national average. Allegedly, most burglaries are effected by jemmying ground floor windows. The situation is not helped by doors having glass panels and no deadlocks. College refuse, apparently, to install deadlocks because of cost, yet will not let residents fit their own. Nor will they, I recently overheard, install bars on

the ground floor windows. Can you believe, Mr Caldwell, that someone made the crass comment that 'you don't want to live in Alcatraz.' I know, it's disgraceful. With such stringent security, the last thing you would want is for a set of keys to get into the wrong hands. Oh dear. A set of master keys was stolen. Not a

major problem, I hear you cry, just a matter of changing the locks. Overheard snatches of conversation say that it took four days to change the external locks and seven weeks to place the order for new internal ones. Another story drifting over the tables of Southside bar told of a resident whose lock jammed, was removed after 24 hours and replaced after three days.

Still, you say, there's always the insurance. Oh dear. Because of the absence of deadlocks, experienced crime prevention officers who have had a look at the place say that no insurance company appears willing to take on business at Clayponds. But, I hear you cry, there is the College policy. Oh dear. Maximum basic cover is £2,200. Not too bad, until you realise that as from this

## Simon Baker



### Voice of Reason

year, apparently, the maximum cover on any one item is £600, not much use for a computer, which students have been known to possess. Additional cover for expensive bits clocks in at a massive 12% premium. With this, allegedly, the absolute maximum cover they will let a student have is £5,000. Strangely, this is rumoured to be the College's excess on the policy. Therefore, all claims are met by IC. Clayponds has some very smart cookies and some of them were mentioning, while I queued up at DaVinci's, that the total payout for last year must be about £100,000. I'm not the man from the Pru, but this strikes me as a less than entirely suitable policy for insuring residents' property.

All these measures would be very expensive, you say. Whatever policy they have will carry an excess, though a policy that would pay out only if Ealing was sucked into the sun seems to have scope for improvement. Cash is tight these days. Bloody Government, you say. Oh dear. Even though the building is only five years old, it has recently

been entirely re-carpeted. Strolling along the walkway one day, I heard someone mention that this cost £150,000. That's a lot of shagpile by my reckoning. So let me get this straight. No cash for locks and bars, loadsamoney for axminster. And did I forget the new common room, allegedly to be costing £45,000? The residents have seemingly been offered a daily patrol if they are prepared to stump up an extra £2.50-£3.00 per week. That wouldn't seem too bad if the previous had not been done or planned. Wandering through the library (they're all talking about this, you know), I heard that Security have asked if the residents would help in planting 'deterrent shrubbery.' So you can plant spiky bushes, but not fit locks.

It's not all bad, though. They are very sensibly trying to cut the energy bill at Clayponds. Oh dear. Changed all the 100W bulbs for 60W low energy ones. Result? People can't read in their rooms, so they have switched on additional lamps. But in the corridors, they save lots, you say. Would if they'd changed those bulbs, mate. They commissioned a survey, apparently, so that's OK.

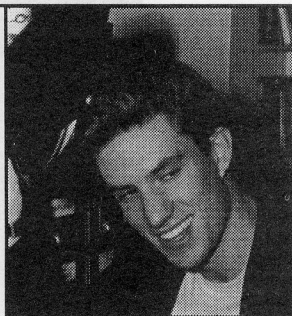
Boys and girls, being a chemist, I have a keen sense of smell for all sorts of nasty niffs. As Biology is a related discipline (that second cousin that Mother says we don't talk to, mind), I have some skill in the scents of animals. Here I detect a furry rodent that has a penchant for the Black Death.

Any comment?

There seems to be a problem at Imperial. A problem so great, so ingrained, so paradoxical that few (if any) have noticed its existence. The problem is work, and what it is for. Week after week, lecturers and teaching staff churn out assignments for the students without stopping for a moment to ask themselves what the assignments are for. Week after week, students plough through these assignments with equally little regard for why they are doing them; or rather, they have a reason but it is the wrong one. Why are you doing this? I might ask, and the reply is invariably 'because I need the marks'. Why do you need the marks? 'Because I want to get my degree'; and why do you want the degree? Because you need it to find a decent job with a nice pay packet, company

car, mobile phone, mortgage and a sweet little suburban pair of smiling kids.

This is the problem. The degree is no longer a mark of learning, of experience and knowledge,



### - in the course of duty -

but it is simply a meaningless qualification; but although it has no meaning it is nevertheless a necessary and required qualification. Therefore, year after year millions of students and staff go through the charade of pretending to learn, pretending to teach, simply so the machine can carry on moving; and they are all reluctant to break the cycle because

breaking the cycle means losing money, and losing money is fundamentally bad.

Of course, I am not saying that no students are there for the right reasons (to learn, to gain understanding

and experience); many of them are - but they do seem to be the minority, and the difficulty for them is that the system is geared towards the majority. This is a problem, because it can turn teaching into a farce. For instance I recently had an assignment which I could have completed in two ways. One was to take the assignment and use my intelligence and

imagination to complete it in the best way possible, thus gaining from it intellectually. The other was to complete it by rigorously obeying the lecturer's hints and tips, and following his spoon-fed orders from start to finish, thus learning nothing at all. Which method should I choose? the simple answer is that I should choose the latter, because it is the one which will gain me most marks. So I find myself left in a tricky situation - either I gain the marks and the qualifications, or I gain the knowledge and experience. Which do I choose? Well, being a foolish idealist I would always choose the latter, and suffer for it - but how long will it be before it is literally impossible to complete a degree by using one's own initiative, rather than blindly following orders? Depressingly soon, I fear.

# Dunblane : A balanced response?

The Government has taken this action in response to the shootings at Dunblane. This incident was a national tragedy, something nobody wants to see repeated. However, it seems unreasonable to deprive thousands of responsible people of their chosen sport unless the proposed changes significantly reduce the chances of such an event happening again.

Over one million people shoot in the UK. They come from all walks of life. It is one of the few sports which allows men and women of all ages, able-bodied and disabled, to compete on an entirely equal basis.

Shooters are aware that firearms are potentially dangerous. For this reason the sport is heavily regulated by both the present gun laws, amongst the strictest in the world, and by shooters themselves in the form of the regulations laid down by the sport's governing bodies.

The phrase "guns don't kill people, people kill people" has become a cliché, and been dismissed as such by the press. It is true nonetheless. The most effective way to ensure safety is not to restrict the guns in use by calibre or magazine capacity, but to control which people have access to them. This task is carried out by the police, who control the issuing of licenses, in cooperation with the shooters themselves. Gun clubs have strict rules governing who they will admit, and will not hesitate to ban anyone considered unfit. All applicants for firearms certificates are required by

law to have completed at least six months as probationary members of Home Office approved clubs, and so these rules help the police in deciding whether to grant such a certificate.

After the tragedy of Dunblane, the government ordered an independent enquiry into gun legislation led by the eminent Scottish judge Lord Cullen. He conducted a thorough investigation and made a number of considered proposals for tightening the law in order to ensure that the

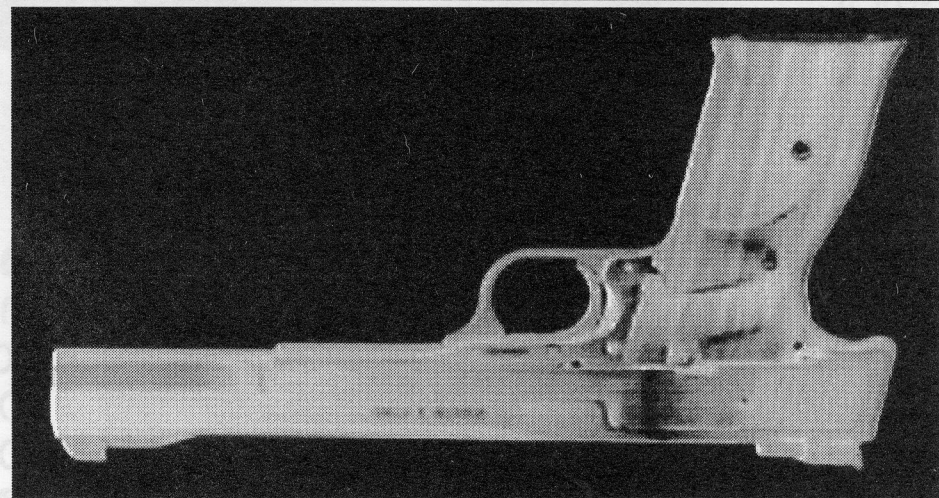
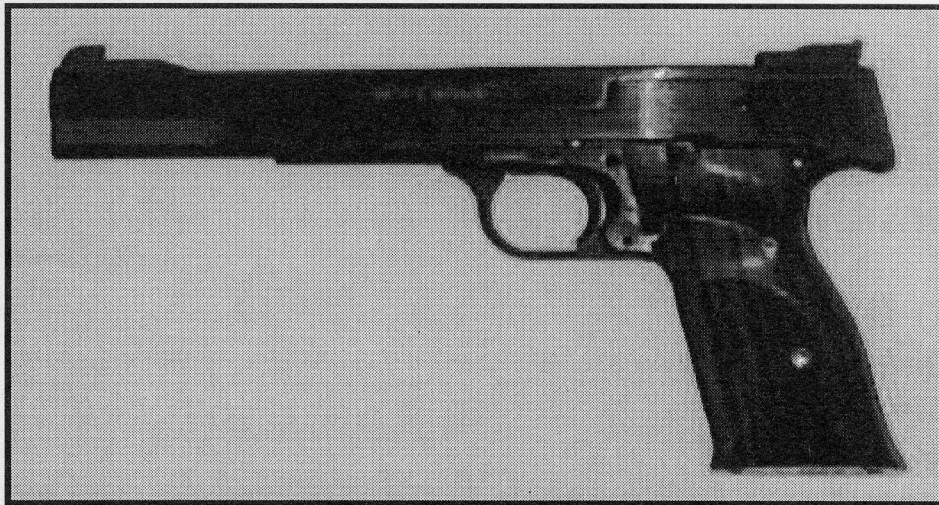
Few people can be unaware that the Government has introduced a bill severely restricting the use of firearms in the sport of target shooting. *Felix* invited the Imperial College Rifle and Pistol Club to react to the Bill.

the conclusions of the enquiry that they had ordered. Instead they disregarded the report's recommendations and announced the bans listed above as well as additional restrictions on the owning and keeping of firearms.

times inaccurate. Most people have been led to believe that a ban will greatly improve public safety, whereas a firearms expert who gave evidence to the Cullen enquiry has stated that it will not. In fact, the current legislation should have prevented Thomas Hamilton from obtaining a firearms certificate as the officer who interviewed him recommended against the issue of a license, but was overruled by a senior officer. This would seem to be a deficiency in the implementation of the law by the local police, rather than in the law itself.

The high profile of the tragedies at Hungerford and Dunblane has also meant that the number of illegally held weapons has been forgotten. At a recent meeting of senior Police officers, the chairman accepted as accurate an estimate that 96% of firearms used in crime had never been registered. In other words, they had never been legally owned by a dealer or private owner.

We should not forget what happened at Dunblane, and it would be a second tragedy if Lord



likes of Thomas Hamilton would be denied access to firearms.

One would have thought that the government might pay attention to

The bans were promptly described as Draconian by Lord Cullen.

Some might argue that since the majority of people in this country seemed to be in favour of the bans, the government were right to capitulate to public pressure. I disagree. The majority of the public, who have had no direct personal experience of the sport, have based their views on reports in the popular press, which have mostly been biased and some-

Cullen's recommendations for preventing its repetition were not acted on. What shooters fear is that legislation will be passed which goes beyond this and bans the ownership of handguns in order to punish all those involved in the sport for Thomas Hamilton's actions. We are in danger of losing this most challenging and enjoyable sport forever without the justification of improving public safety.

## PROPOSED CHANGES

§ A ban on all handguns larger than the smallbore calibre of 0.22"

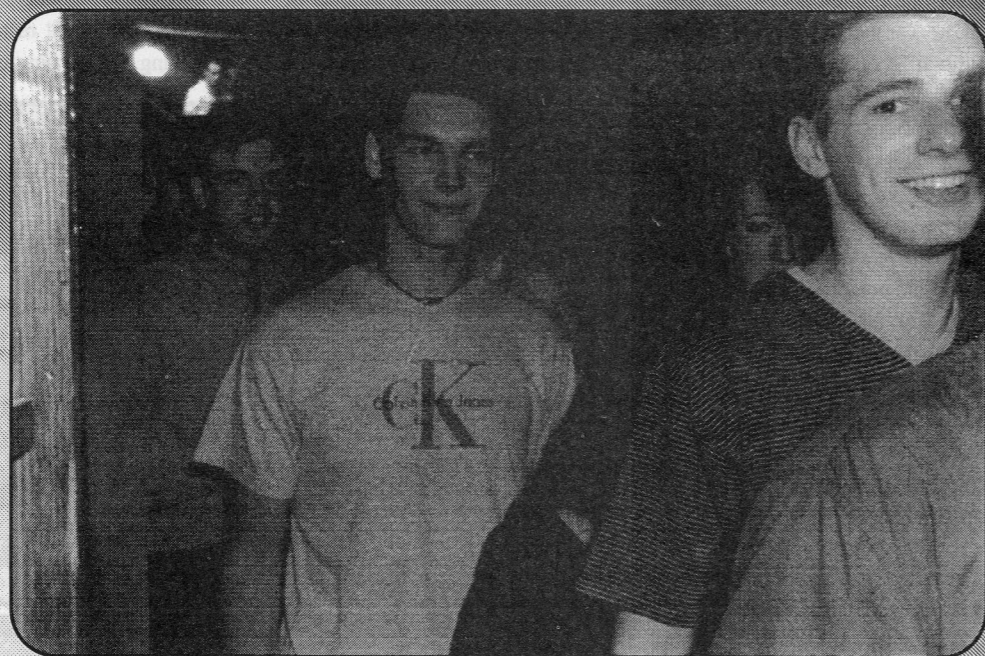
§ A ban on all self loading handguns

# fresher's week

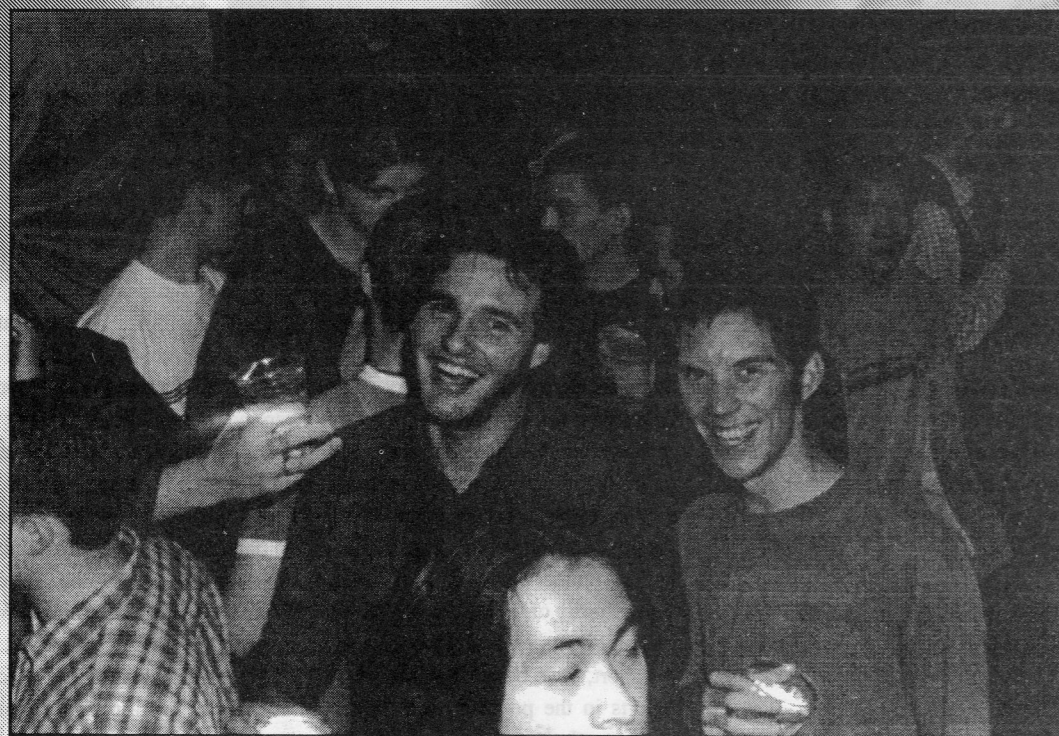
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At the start of Fresher's week, the FELIX photographers were let loose on an unsuspecting public, with only a camera and film to save them. Only now can the full story be told...

**ALERT:** Good natured party goers patiently await the all clear. An over sensitive fire alarm reacting to the Concert Hall's smoke generators fails to dissipate the party spirit.



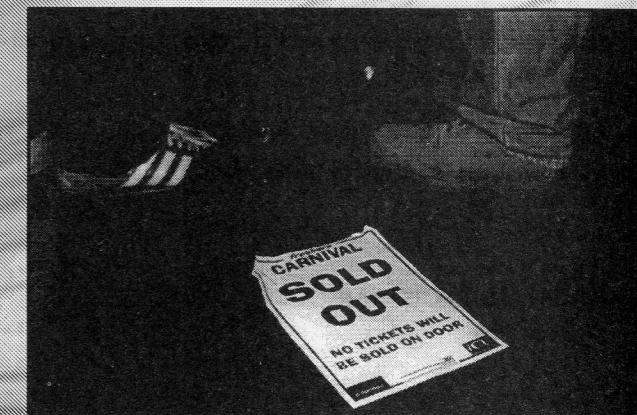
Caught out in the crowd: Doing something you shouldn't have?



**Hot cakes:** With tickets selling out days in advance, the queues on the night saw touts getting a healthy trade.

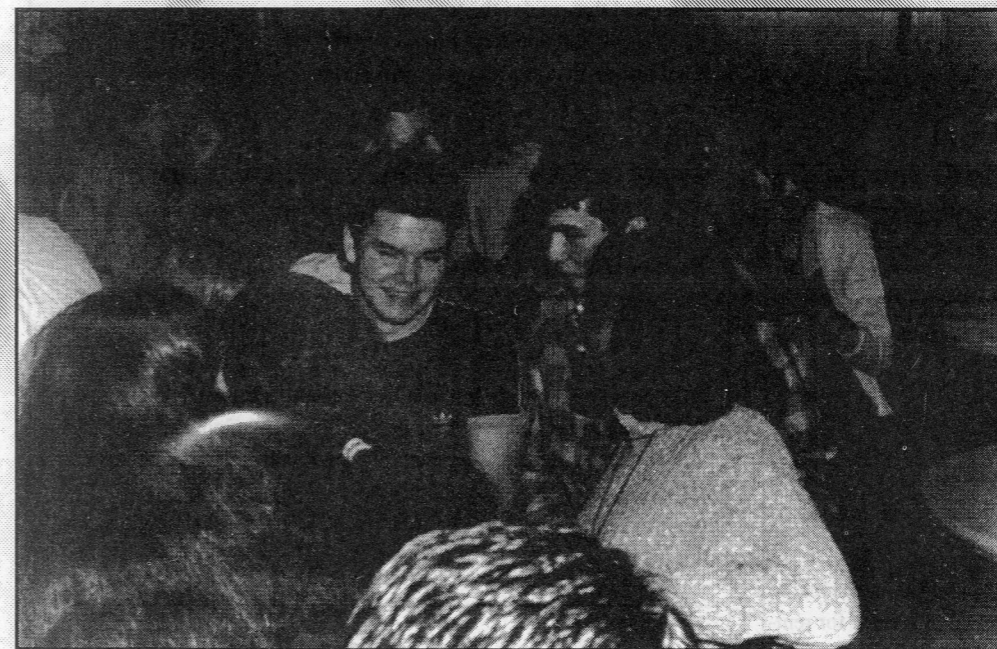


**Shampoo:** Take two bottles into the shower? My hair used to be shiny and clean before I went to the Fresher's Carnival!



Have you heard the one about the bishop, the blindfold and the lorry load of frogs?

"it was 'king brilliant'" said one satisfied punter.





## ACCESS FUNDS 1996-97

Application forms for the above are now available from the College's Student Finance Office, Room 334 of the Sherfield Building.

Any home, full-time student suffering serious financial hardship is invited to collect and complete a form which must be returned before 22 November 1996. Undergraduates should note that they **MUST** have taken out a Student Loan before an Access Fund application can be accepted.

There is a limited amount of funds available and priority will be given to the following categories of student:

- (a) Those paying their own fees
- (b) Those in receipt of levels of maintenance significantly below LEA or Research Council rates.
- (c) Those with inevitable expenditure over and above standard costs eg medical expenses.

Please ensure that you collect and return your form in good time since it will not be possible to accept late applications.

Tony Cullen  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR  
October 1996

## CYCLISTS FORUM

ALL WELCOME  
LET'S DISCUSS ALL THOSE  
CYCLISTS/PEDESTRIANS  
PROBLEMS OVER A DRINK  
ON  
MONDAY 28 OCTOBER 12.30 IN  
THE EVENTS ROOM OF THE  
HOLLAND CLUB

Ken Young  
Estates Office

*Applications are invited for the position of*

## SUBWARDEN

in

## FISHER HALL

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

Application forms are available from the Student Accommodation Office, 15 Princes Gardens and should be returned to Dr R.J.Murphy, Department of Biology by 5pm on **Tuesday 29 October 1996.**

THE WEEKLY POEM  
supplied by PoetIC

### "The Mind Of Man"

'What is Man that thou art mindful of him?'  
What are his deeds but reeds blowing in the wind?  
To fully understand the species of Man,  
You must be mindful of him, for Man is Mind;  
A dual edged sword that is both curse and gift.

The Mind - the greatest bane of Man?

The mind that guides the hand;  
The hand that wields the sword, the gun,  
The hand the mutilates and destroys.

The mind that controls the tongue;  
The tongue that bruises the soul, the heart,  
The tongue that pronounces death and doom.

That mind that thinks, creates, imagines;  
That spends it's time devising new ways to maim,  
To torture, to better cull Man.

The Mind - the greatest blessing of Man?

The mind that guides the hand;  
The hand that harvests a land of crops,  
The hand that tends the sick and heals the injured.

The mind that guides the tongue;  
The tongue that comforts and puts away fear,  
That tongue that praises and exalts another.

The mind that designs and builds;  
That thinks of ways to better Man,  
To solve his problems, assuage his doubts.

Bane or Blessing - the Mind is Man.

L'Morte

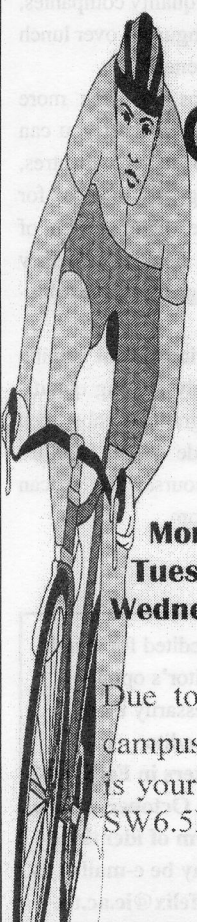
This poem taken from A Selection of Member's Poetry, published by PoetIC, the society for creative writing at Imperial College.

PoetIC welcomes new members. If you would like more details about PoetIC, please contact the publicity officer Keith McNulty on [k.mculty@ic.ac.uk](mailto:k.mculty@ic.ac.uk) or the chairman Ed Saxton on [e.saxton@ic.ac.uk](mailto:e.saxton@ic.ac.uk)

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LATER THAN 2.00PM ON THE TUES-  
DAY BEFORE PUBLICATION**

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# CYCLE CODING

in the ANTE ROOM


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on

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**Tuesday 28th October 96 12noon - 6pm**  
**Wednesday 28th October 96 12noon - 6pm**

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*Clive Coleman PC210AB*  
*Stephen Haywood PC476AB*  
*Grosvenor Sector Office*





# THE FELIX

est. 1949 <http://www.su.kc.ac.uk/Felix>  
 Student Newspaper of Imperial College

**Editor Alex Feakes / Advertising Manager Mark Baker**

### STUDENT HARDSHIP VS ANIMALS

Something that I meant to point out last week, but never got around to, is the surprising lack of response to the first issue's feature on student funding compared to that to Jon Trout's article on animals.

A sense of priorities that places the welfare of 'small furry things' above that of humans (however selfish they may be) is perverse. The two shouldn't be judged with the same values, as the favour is clearly not reciprocated.

So where were the letters lamenting the passing of students' meagre maintenance grants into history? It might seem selfish to compare the two, but it is peculiar that students are prepared to stand up for admittedly voice-less animals yet are not prepared to even comment on events that they will feel the effects of far more keenly.

### SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE GREY AREAS

The letter entitled "Us and Them?" on the opposite page raises a few interesting points. The correspondent has noticed the tendency of some College staff to huddle in a 'grey area' of departments' smoking policies. The department mentioned here is, I believe, Physics, one of the last departments to ban smoking in public areas (*Felices passim*), and one which tried to accommodate both smokers and non-smokers for many years.

The intention behind bans such as these was ostensibly for health and appearance sakes, both laudable reasons. However, it does require even-handed implementation and, perhaps, education, for staff and stu-

dents alike. For students to see staff breaking rules like these will not encourage them to keep to rules in other areas, such as the new policies on rollerblading on campus. So maybe a closer eye needs paying to the greyer areas of departments and their policies to ensure that people do not feel that there is one rule for some and another rule for others.

### A BUNGED UP NOSE...

Like many others, I have succumbed already this term to a heavy dose of what is colloquially known as "freshers' 'flu". I would like to thank whichever fresher it was who swanned through the office and left some of their germs floating around for me to breathe in.

It was, as sure many of you will readily sympathise, a somewhat debilitating experience and brought with it its own share of sleepless nights, snuffly noses and 'out-of-body' feelings. I mention this last one in particular (though perhaps it is something peculiar to me), as there is nothing quite like staring at a page of text and suddenly feeling like you are falling through it in a "it's full of stars" manner. If it wasn't for the fact that the 'flu also engenders an inability to concentrate and a necessity to constantly down 'Tunes', I might not mind the annual depletion of my handkerchief reserves.

### BOLD AND CHEEKY PEOPLE NEEDED

One last thing. Felix could really do with some dedicated photographers for news, features and photo-stories. So if you have a wish to take pictures using some good 'ole fashioned optics, then come along to the Felix office in Beit Quad at 6.00pm on Mondays.

NEWS: ANDREW DORMAN-SMITH; FEATURES: MARK B, DAVID AND CHRIS, PUZZLES: DUNCAN ROBERTSON; ILLUSTRATIONS: STAVROS; GRAPHICS AND LAYOUT: MARK B, MARK R, DAVID AND CHRIS; PHOTOGRAPHY: WEI AND WILLIAM; SPORT: DAVID; GENERAL HELPFULNESS: JON.  
 COLLATING LAST WEEK: MARK B, ANDY AND THE PRINT UNIT PEOPLE AND PIERS; DELIVERIES LAST WEEK: ANDREW.

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# LETTERS TO FELIX

edited this week by David Roberts

## Deterrence and Determination

Dear Felix,

It is with a wry smile and ironic amusement that I read last weeks articles on Dangerous Cyclists and Bike Coding having had my D-locked bicycle stolen on the Thursday preceding. I write not so much as to correct your quality publication but your misguided security informant. It may be that the RSM walkway is covered by four separate security cameras. But to my unfortunate experience I have discovered that the cameras are merely a device installed of psychological expedience for the benefit of all (the student, security and the establishment) concerned with the possible exception of the criminals involved.

The truth of the matter is that whilst the security reception may be the epitome of modern CCTV technology the information relayed by the cameras occupies only a fraction of the television screen. As for the attention paid to it in a security reception that on two occasions reminded me of lunch time at McDonald's

Well, one wonders whether increasingly scarce resources may be better directed toward some other means of crime prevention? Or would it be less pretentious to say crime deterrence? Without detracting from the cumulative advantages of a secure lock and bike coding, insurance it seems is the only answer, wisdom indeed for all to contemplate than to learn of bitter, and oh yes I am, experience.

*Yours as Ever,*

*Humbaba*

(a pen name under which I'd rather have the article published under than receive hate mail, many thanks)

Dear Felix,

With respect to the "News in Brief" item ("Bike Coding") that the "safest place for bikes is on the RSM walkway". Safest for whom? Easiest, and cheapest, for College Security certainly, but is this prompted as much by laziness as by concerns for the security and safety of the general college population?

Who thought that centralisation, particularly in that area, was a good idea? It certainly won't have been a

cyclist. Are the College authorities going to pay for the damage caused by leaving bikes out in all weathers? Are students in Chemistry, Computing or Physics really going to want to traipse half way across the campus?

The transport situation in London is appalling. Car use is ridiculously high, public transport woefully under-funded and under-used. College should be encouraging bike use, not making it dramatically hard.

Quite rightly the local police are clamping down on illegal pavement cycling, and not before time, but is it any wonder that a growing proportion of cyclists are turning to this method? London's roads are packed with irate motorists casting envious glances at the urban cyclist who is fitter, happier and quicker than any driver, pedestrian or bus-user. Road rage is not a headline or a buzz-phrase, it is a daily occurrence and a real menace to the safety of cyclists. The quicker the police crack down on that, with the appropriate backing by the law courts who seem to value the life of a cyclist very lightly, the better the life of everyone.

Attack the cause, not the symptom - the future transport of London might not be the bike, but it certainly is not the car.

*Chris Harrison.*

## Caldwell : The saga continues

Dear Mr Feakes

I am writing in response to Mr Caldwell's reply to Mr Baker's article two weeks ago, which stated that the College is suffering from a lack of funding due to the Government cutbacks. I would like to point out some key facts arising from the response which came on the same day that the new book shop tender was announced in Felix 1065.

The ICU Bookstore currently is a source of income for Imperial College Union, as it is a Union retail facility, similar to Da Vinci's and the Union Bar. This income can, and is, used to fund improvements in student facilities and activities. One obvious example of this is the construction of dBs, now a venue of exceptional quality, funded solely through the operating surplus of the Union's

retail outlets.

The question that should now be asked is thus; how can College justify the tendering of the ICU Bookstore when an outside retailer would not retain retail income on the campus, for the benefit of the College community at large? Surely this will lead to a reduction of the Union's income, which will result in less funds for student activities and the continuing development of Union facilities. How will this shortfall be covered? I, for one, certainly do not wish to see any student services compromised.

The tender is seen by myself and numerous others as a particularly unsavoury idea. The student body would rather see its money being recycled to the Union than go to an external company's profits and shareholders' dividend payments.

*Yours,*

*Caroline J. Deetjen.*

Dear Editor,

May I make a small correction to your news item (18 Oct. p.4) about the tenders for the Bookshop?

It was never proposed that I should appoint a student to the panel which will consider the tenders. What has happened is that I conferred with the ICU President about how best to represent the student interest, remembering that as one of the tenderers (we assume) the Union could not properly have a member or officer on the panel. The President proposed, and I was delighted to agree, that Professor Bob Schroter should be a member of the panel. Your readers can reasonably assume that the other members will remember that the new bookshop will exist primarily to meet the needs of students.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Alan Swanson*

## Us and Them?

Since I returned for my second year, I have noticed the storekeeper smoking in the store, and when I go to my lecture theatres 2 and 3, I notice technicians smoking in the stairway, toilets and workshop.

Is there a rule for us on no smoking, and one for them for smoking in their areas?

H.O.D. policy is NO smoking - or is it no-one checking? Policy for us, policy for them?

*Second year student, standing outside smoking.*

## Get a Life....

Dear Editor

I would like to draw your attention what final year students have to deal with in looking for a job. IC may pride itself on having a 'Careers Office' to assist us in looking for a job, and College may enjoy looking at the Times League Table of college's graduate jobs, but it seems as if students do all the job searching themselves.

Firstly the Careers Office is just not big enough to deal with the number of people who enter their third floor office. They have one desk, one person to deal with the enquiries of a few thousand final year students - does that make sense ?

Then there is their programme of lectures and workshops. What happens if you are not able to go at the specific times that they get people in to talk about filling in application forms and dealing with interviews ? They have an impressive list of speakers from top quality companies, but if you study languages over lunch time you cannot benefit.

Their workshops are even more difficult to get into, at least you can pack people into lecture theatres, with courses being fully booked for weeks in advance. One session of courses gets fully booked, and they won't take bookings for the next lot - you can't win!

If college is serious about helping students in not only gaining qualifications, but also graduate jobs, then they should provide decent facilities and lectures and courses that we can actually benefit from.

*Ben Weir*

*Physics*

Letters may be edited for length.

The guest editor's opinions are not necessarily those of the editor.

**Deadline for letters in Felix 1067 is Monday 28th October. Please bring some form of identification. Letters may be e-mailed to our address: felix@ic.ac.uk**

**Elimination by Clansman**

- a) Animal entrance?
- b) Two homonyms
- c) Portable suitcases?
- d) Two making dessert
- e) Flag holder
- f) Two with off
- g) Price cut?
- h) Two forming good health
- i) Behind the scenes
- j) Two synonyms
- k) Carrier of goods
- l) Two anagrams
- m) Overtime?
- n) Two with bean
- o) Amorous plant?
- p) Two forming item of jewellery
- q) Hotel catering after hours?
- r) Two with shot
- s) Identical transcript
- t) Two elements

**Eliminations:**

Simple really. Look at the statements above and try and find two words from the list on the right that match it.

Keep going, and you should find that you have eliminated all but one of the words.

- 1. cat
- 2. gun
- 3. let
- 4. put
- 5. back
- 6. copy
- 7. fall
- 8. flap
- 9. form
- 10. hand
- 11. iron
- 12. late
- 13. lead
- 14. room
- 15. root
- 16. ship
- 17. apple
- 18. baked
- 19. brace
- 20. crazy
- 21. offer
- 22. route
- 23. shape
- 24. stage
- 25. bearer
- 26. carbon
- 27. flower
- 28. sprout
- 29. angered
- 30. crumble
- 31. derange
- 32. luggage
- 33. passion
- 34. service
- 35. special
- 36. trolley
- 37. weather
- 38. working
- 39. shopping
- 40. standard
- 41. irrational

*Solution to issue 1065's Crossword:*

**Across:** 1. Bad cough, 9. Arrested, 10. Mowgli, 11. Triads, 12. Who, 14. Cynical gag, 16. Idea, 17. Building society, 19. Near, 21. A loose tyre, 22. Foe, 23. Off top, 25. Old boy, 27. Telegram, 28. Elements. **Down:** 2. About you, 3. Cog, 4. Unit, 5. Having a good time, 6. Prodigious, 7. Stowed, 8. Advocary, 13. Pillar, 15. Animal farm, 16. Idiots, 17. Benefits, 18. Turncoat, 20. Age old, 24. Pole, 26. Doe.

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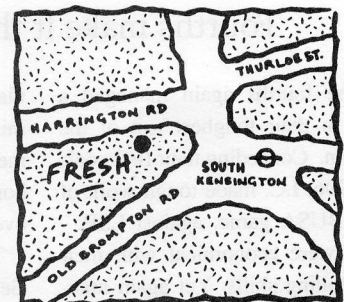
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# FELIX SPORT

## IC football on a high

"LSD" swallow bitter pill against firsts

With half the football club still coming down from Friday's festivities, I.C. Firsts came right back up with another boosting victory against last years high fliers. With the notable absence of "Fat Boy" (again) and "Archie", the rest of us stormed on to kick LSE. all over the park. With Psycho having a relatively "bloodless studs" game, it was left to young Jamie to show the rest what to do. Debutante Chris Parsons seemed to think the game ended early, hitting the bar twice, when even Phil "only scores drugs and birds" could have bagged one. Thankfully, Ike did

what he's paid for, putting us one up, before Arno "shot up" the LSE. defence, between 18 men, including most of our team, to score the most outrageous goal in I.C. history! At half-time, happily 2-0 up, we ate oranges. Little did we know that they had been drugged, allowing LSE. to score the most off-side goal ever, despite an outstanding block by David "honest, Roy is my cousin" Keane. However, a little "injection of speed" brought us out of it, allowing our 100% record to be maintained. Keep doing the pills, lads!

### Seconds saved by own goal

After a pre-match warm up at the Complex nightclub, Phil, Steve, Laurence and Donal took their place in the seconds line up wide eyed and eager for the game. Captain Steve Fleming's five at the back formation looked solid with Chris Parsons having an outstanding match. However, even with I.C. having the majority of possession, the front pairing of Martin and Alex saw little of the ball, and RFH. proved to be dangerous on the counter, taking the lead midway through the first half.

The second half saw two substitutions; Felix on for Hajo, and Dave on for Phil, who had to leave the field due to "something he ate"

the night before. I.C. stepped up a gear, and were rewarded with an equaliser via a Chris Parsons back pass through the keepers legs from 25yds. I.C. maintained the pressure, especially through Laurence on the right, who must have thought he was still clubbing as he kept trying to score. Victory came as Felix sent a deep free kick into the box, where under pressure from Alex one of their fullbacks rose like an idiot to head into his own net.

Asked after the game how the new formation had worked, captain Steve was quoted as saying it was "Sorted!"

### Fourths make it three in a row

The fourths again managed a win in their toughest test of the season. Conceding their first goals of 1996, I.C. made tough work of this BUSA game, against LSE. - who were economical with their footballing skills. Yet again man-of-the-match went to Darren - this time with four goals. Nak and Chris also scored quality goals.

However, the team was let down by poor defending, in partic-

ular by keeper Stuart. The worst mistake was a complete misjudgment when a shot from half-way bounced 10yds out from goal, and over the floundering keepers head.

The ball being stolen from Geordie David in defence certainly made a change from his usual thieving exploits.

Nak and Mike made up, however, with a superb display in mid-field.

## IC Volleyball escape jail

Ever thought what it was really like to be in prison? Well I.C. Volley did it, with some style! The men's team played in Wormwood Scrubs on Saturday in a league match. After an endless wait to get into prison (electronically locked doors, scanning of bags, escort asking permission to cross the fields), I.C. players put on an impressive display for a team which had never played together before, not even in training. True, the mixture of inmates and staff from the well known nineteenth century prison were never a threat for our team, hardly scoring more than five points every set.

The final score was 15-5, 15-3, 15-4: an emphatic win which will boost the confidence for the next three matches in three weeks.

## Gary Hoare triumphs for I.C. X-Country

A beautiful day heralded the start of the cross-country season, with solid performances throughout the team. After a sedate start, where most of the runners were left on the line chatting, I.C. picked up the pace, producing excellent individual results from Fishick, Ponytail and Gaffer, coming 8th, 12th and 17th respectively.

With the womens team coming second, these results provide a good foundation for kicking the butts of the remaining U.L.U. colleges again.

The teams left Parliament Hill with chants of Gary Hoare ringing in their ears, and Holloway whimpering.

## Fencing : Mixed Fortunes

The IC men's fencing team began the season with a friendly against the Royal Free. The foil was won convincingly, 8-1, and the sabre was lost narrowly, to give an overall 12-6 victory. The team was : Eddie, Nick, David, Mo and Reuben

The women's team played their first BUSA league match against Queen Mary & Westfield. Despite a few injuries, the team put in a spirited effort, but unfortunately lost 15-3 overall. The fencers were : Linda, Monica, Elaine and Davinia.

### RESULTS

#### MENS FOOTBALL

IC 1ST 2 - 1 LSE 1ST  
IC 2ND 1 - 1 LSE 2ND  
LSE 3RD 5 - 1 IC 3RD  
IC 4TH 6 - 4 LSE 4TH

#### MENS RUGBY

IC 1ST XV 32 - 17 LSE 1ST XV  
IC 2ND XV 24 - 5 LSE 2ND XV  
IC 3RD XV 0 - 52 BARTS 2ND XV

#### MENS HOCKEY

IC 2ND XI 5 - 3 HOLLOWAY XI

#### FENCING

IC MENS 12 - 6 ROYAL FREE  
IC WOMENS 3 - 15 QUEEN MARY & WESTFIELD

# IC Rugby - It's not just the winning....

A triumphant homecoming...

...but the seconds do better...

**BARRY JOHN**  
**FELIX RUGBY CORRESPONDENT**

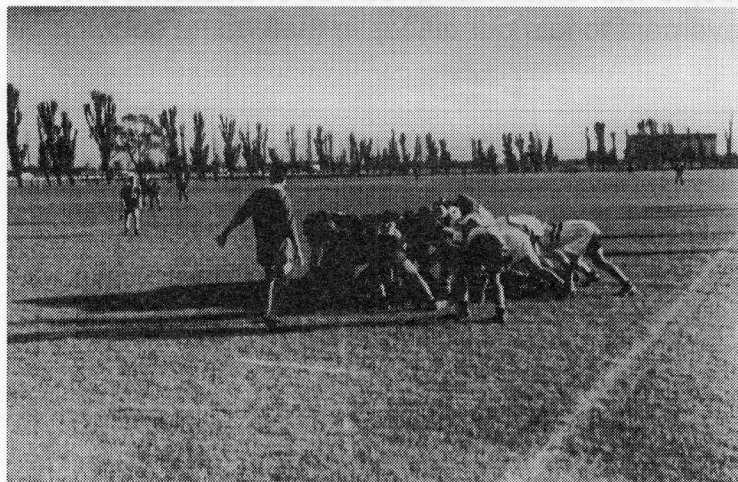
IC's first home game of the season saw the team deliver a convincing victory against LSE.

Debutant centre Dave Gol opened the scoring after some slick passing and interplay between backs and forwards. Two tries by winger Marvin Woodhouse kept the scoreboard ticking over, although some slack defence let LSE back into the game. A mazy run by supermodel Andy Mayes reasserted IC's dominance before the break.

The team seemed to go off the boil after the interval, but the fire was restoked by Rob Gare, who is start-

ing to make a name as a try scoring prop forward. Yes, they do exist!

It really should have been a cricket score, but further scoring was restricted to a second try for Dave, after a scintillating scissors move, coupled with searing speed, resulted in a try under the posts. Conversions were something of a rarity, although at the end of the day the win was still convincing enough.



The second XV upstaged the firsts in style, conceding only five points. The awesome appearance of the IC side had the frightening effect of scaring the opposition into sickness, even before the kickoff.

The game started well, with our Lomu-esque winger, Kolone Peung crashing over within minutes for the first of his two tries. Further dominance resulted in a sparkling "try of

the month" from scrum-half Yomi Benson, and a try from half way by centre and vice-captain Julian "Logic" Harrison. Superb kicking from fullback Jushin Lee (rewarded with two conversions), and outstanding support from Miles "Slim Boy" Gilder also helped us in this outstanding performance.

However, the team slackened off in the second half, and conceded a soft try in the final minutes. Unfortunately, due to procedural wrangles this match may have to be replayed. Next time they will *all* be puking beforehand.

## ...and the thirds just have fun.

After failing to muster a team for last Saturday's fixture against St Mary's, IC thirds pieced together thirteen players for Wednesday's fixture. Barts were kind enough to loan us one forward, which left us only one winger short. Things started evenly, with good defenses on both sides keeping things level. With the wind behind them, Barts managed to pin us down in our own twenty-two for a few minutes before their one man

advantage allowed them to open the scoring. They unfortunately then rapidly scored again, leaving IC 12 points down.

Shortly afterwards, the IC prop made a good break, but was left cussed from the double team tackle. With our numbers once again down

to thirteen things stayed much the same, with Barts breaking down defence only twice more, leaving us 26 down at half-time.

The second half saw IC take the upper hand, and with sound tactical kicking, frequent opportunities to steal the ball, and formidable maul-

ing, IC had a number of good attacking sequences - but just fell short of scoring several times. We sustained yet more injuries - another mild concussion, and a sprained ankle to name but two - but we fought on. Barts managed to make their advantage in numbers show, and scored a few breakaway tries, to end the game 52-0.

It was a truly magnificent performance from IC, under harsh circumstances, where only the lack of numbers (and perhaps fitness) showed. A good showing for our first match together!

## Hockey Seconds perform Mission: Impossible

This was a prime example of a game of two halves. The game started with a phase of good pressure, which led to Shaggy stroking in a cross from PD File. End to end play followed, with Holloway gaining ascendancy. This led to a series of short corners, from which Holloway scored three times. IC were forced to hold out until half-time.

Filled with hellfire and brimstone, IC started the second half with a true sense of purpose. A delightfully struck, defence splitting, pass from Lightweight found Shaggy unmarked, and he duly slotted in a second. A few minutes later saw Shaggy alone at the top of the "D". Moments later he secured his first

hat-trick with his annual well-struck goal.

More intense pressure followed, leading to a long corner. Once taken, the ball arrived at Rich Brunt, and he slammed the ball into the back of the net.

At this point Holloway were destroyed, as IC pressed forward, with effervescent vigour. It was unsurprising therefore, when towards the end of the half, Shaggy again found the net with a reverse flick. Pure disbelief flowed from the Holloway side, 3-1 up at half-time, they were now 5-3 down. IC stormed the second half, to win through against impossible odds.

## Sport in brief

### WOMENS FOOTBALL

After a rather uncharacteristic start to the season, IC Ladies, bedecked in warpaint, came good.

LSE took the lead twenty minutes in, with a brilliant strike from 20yds out. LSE scored twice more, before Jo Staton pulled one back, notching up the Painted Ladies' first goal of the season.

In the second half, IC played bravely, but LSE made the most of a few lucky chances to take the game. Even so, IC showed a return to form, which should serve as a warning to other teams - the Painted Ladies will be a force to be reckoned with.

The womens team had more luck, as their opposition failed to turn up!

### BASKETBALL

After a long summer of no play or training, most players left IC anticipating defeat. However, the match against Holloway ended in a 36 - 24 victory for IC. We shall triumph again!

### SPORTS CROSSWORD

The winner of issue 1064's Sports Crossword was David Clark, the runner-up was Matt Chong. Please come and collect your prizes from the Felix office.

Full solution next week.

### TENNIS

The mens team had tough opposition in their first match, with only Arnau and Alex securing another victory.

Apologies to all those who sent in match reports that haven't been included. Your results should appear asap.

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