

Our film critic's verdict on the latest Austen adaptation

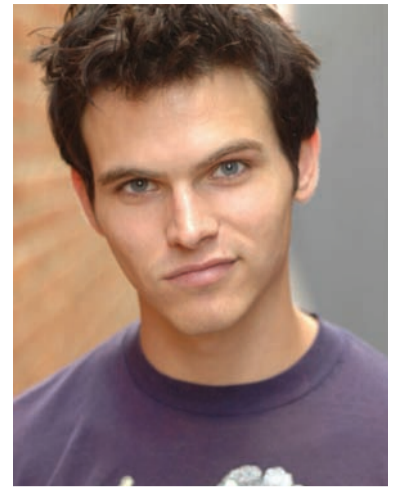


Miss Confidentiality answers all your questions

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The Stiffmeister's younger brother gives Felix the low-down on American Pie 4

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felix



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The student newspaper
of Imperial College
felixonline.co.uk

Students UNITED in worry

Rupert Neate
Editor

Due to the demolition of Southside, Imperial College have leased two private halls from UNITE, a company with a patchy record when it comes to student accommodation.

The £50m redevelopment of the Southside building in Princes Gardens had left College short, some 364 rooms needed to guarantee all first years a place in halls.

College have secured the use of two private halls for two years, while building work takes place. Luckily, given the delays to other building projects, Imperial have an option for a third year should building work be delayed.

The UNITE housing group owned-halls, are located some distance from Imperial's main South Kensington campus. Piccadilly Court, is on New Caledonian road, North London. The other, Orient House, is located in the Imperial Wharf complex, Chelsea.

Some Imperial freshers are concerned that they may be subjected to the same "appalling levels of customer service" experienced by students in UNITE's Grand Central Complex in Liverpool.

The situation in Liverpool was so dramatic that the story featured in the national press and on the front page of *Liverpool Student* (see page 2).

Felix was assured by UNITE that "the problems UNITE faced in Liverpool are a thing of the past, nothing of the sort will happen at Piccadilly Court".

Vasa Curcin, warden of Piccadilly Court told *Felix* he "was very pleased with the new hall and was looking forward to working with UNITE to provide the best hall experience".

No officers from Imperial College Union made the trip to the opening

of Piccadilly court on 31 August. Sarah Khatib, Deputy President (education & welfare), told *Felix* she "wasn't going because it was just too far away".

Felix did make the, 43 minute door-to-door trek from College to the new hall. Although this is not a statistically valid estimate, it is likely that students will spend at least 1 hour 20 minutes commuting everyday.

The hall is fitted out to a high standard throughout with all mod-cons. The highlight of which is an absolutely massive flat screen TV in the common room.

The hall is arranged in the increasingly popular 'cluster room' formation. This arrangement is similar to that of the student accommodation shown on the popular soap opera *Hollyoaks*. Each cluster flat contains four or six rooms behind their own front door. Every flat also has an open plan kitchen and lounge with satellite TV.

Despite being so far away, the rent is comparable to Beit Quad. Although students in Piccadilly court will have to fork out for a very necessary travelcard

The private rental costs are considerably more than our students are paying. College have failed to respond to numerous requests from *Felix* enquiring as to the amount of subsidy Imperial are paying UNITE.

Students might not feel as safe in New Caledonian road as they do in genteel South Kensington. There were a total of 3,164 recorded crimes in the borough of Islington in the month of August 2005 compared to 2,445 in Kensington & Chelsea.

Robbery and violence against the person, crimes which particularly affect students, are also considerably more common in Islington.

Continued on page 2



Piccadilly Court, Imperial's new hall – It's plush but it's a long way from College and a stone's throw from Holloway Prison.

Imperial to pull out of University of London?

Siddharth Singh

In May 2001 Imperial College applied to the Privy Council of the University of London to have its own degree awarding powers. This led to a review by a QAA committee set up by the council, which in turn assessed Imperial College's suitability by carrying out a review.

A paper submitted by Andrew Smith Deputy President (Education & Welfare, 2002-03) to Imperial Union Council on 12 May 2003 discussed the possibility of setting a policy on the issue. The paper discussed issues such as the influence of UL and the students attitude to receiving degrees from Imperial College rather than UL. Sameena Misbahuddin, Imperial College Union President said "We want student opinion on this, we will take whatever the students want to College". She said that the issue would be taken up in the next meeting of Senate.

The issue has recently become more important as other University of London colleges, including LSE, Kings and UCL have also applied to have similar powers and this could lead to a break up of the University of London. Kings College student newspaper 'ROAR' has carried a story on Imperial's degree awarding powers, citing that Imperial could trigger the collapse of the university of London.

Sir Richard Sykes, the Rector of Imperial College has said that no decision has been made yet about using the powers that have been awarded, and if any decision is made it would only affect students entering Imperial in 2007. An alternative plan of action could be a compromise where the college has a special understanding with the University of London, allowing Imperial to use its powers yet remain a part of the UL.

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felix 1,328

Thursday 29.09.05



Big Bad World
"Imperial is 66% boys but some subjects aren't. Biology and medicine are about 50/50 and all of them hang out in SAF, so you have them trapped in one place!"
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Welfare support
Unfortunately, cooking is just something you're going to have to master, unless you're incredibly wealthy. Don't fret Food Felix is here to help. **Page 18 ▶**



Freshers Fair pull-out guide
This useful guide will help you make the most of one of the highlight events of the year. Find all those clubs that you want to join. There's everything from Aikido to Sinofonietta, and rowing to Ultimate Frisbee. Don't Forget to visit *Felix!*
Centre pages ▶

The Sound Inside
"With the passing of summer, this is an album which will cast your mind automatically back to all those nostalgic summer memories of sun, sand and reelexing." **Page 11 ▶**

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Sudoku No 1328

Complete the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 square (bounded by bold lines) contains the digits 1 to 9. Email your solution to *coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk* by Monday 3 October. The first correct solution wins either a 128MB USB stick or a crate of beer.

		6	3		2	5		
		2		1		9		
3	5						7	2
2		1						5
	6						2	3
9						7		
1	3						6	7
		7		2		8		
		4	6		5	3		

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NEWS

New hall nice, but too far away

Continued from page 1

During the same period there were 550 incidents of violence against the person compared to 366 in Kensington.

Also, as Imperial continues to become a more multicultural environment it is worrying that racist attacks are more than twice as prevalent in Islington compare to Kensington.

The crime issue was highlighted when during the editors brief tour of the area, he was offered illegal drugs.

Students will also be neighbours to Holloway Prison, which houses soem of the most high profile female prisoners in the country. Including Maxine Carr, the girlfriend of Ian Huntley notorious for the Soham school girls murders.

Although, most students are sure to be delighted with the facilities of their new hall. The distance from College and the Union are likely to cause some students considerable problems. One could imagine students from these halls finding it much harder to drag themselves out of bed for lectures compared to those who can fall out of bed into lectures from Beit.

LIVERPOOL STUDENT
The official newspaper for the Students of Liverpool
26th September 2003 • Issue

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Travel...
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FRIENDS DE-UNITED

STUDENTS LEFT HOMELESS AGAIN

Halls still not ready

by Mark Johnson

500 students were left stranded without promised rooms, food and laundry services after a private accommodation provider failed to complete a hall of residence in Liverpool city centre.

The UK's biggest private landlord, UNITE, were due to complete its 'Grand Central' complex, well ahead of the autumn influx of students. Despite Paul Whittingham, UNITE's site manager, telling the Liverpool Student on the 25th July 2003 that the completion date for the site is "on schedule", a combination of unfinished rooms, roads, and a builders strike resulted in a lengthy delay.

Initially, students were dispersed at various locations around the city. Then, on the night of Saturday 20th September - a week after students were supposed to be booked into their accommodation - there was an attempt to move some students into the incomplete building.

However, those sentiments were not enough to satisfy students and student representatives, who met the awful events with furious condemnation at an organised meeting at Liverpool Students Union. Verity Coyle, National Union of Students Welfare Vice-President slammed

Yet, within hours students were evacuated after the second floor flooded.

FLOODING

UNITE moved Liverpool students into unfinished halls, September 2003



HALL TO DO: The current state of play. Inset: How things looked in July

ACCUSED POLICE TORTURERS WELCOMED TO CARNATIC

by Marc Waddington

MEMBERS of the Sikh student community in the North West have been left angered by the presence of two controversial Indian police officers at an Anglo-Indian policing conference held at the University's Carnatic hall of residence.

UNITE moved Liverpool students into unfinished halls, September 2003

CITY WINS CULTURE PRIZE

by Alex Mack



LIVERPOOL won the European Capital of Culture 2008 award, ending months of tense waiting, finger tapping and teeth grinding.

Hundreds of delighted Liverpoolians have been out painting the town in all sorts of colours - in a week that will most certainly be remembered by many generations to come.

With "the world in one city" as the theme Liverpool managed to outpace other UK cities in the post, funding of the strong challenge of Birmingham, Bristol and Oxford.

State school numbers fall

Yu Lun Tang
News Editor

Despite government targets to increase the number of state school students, successful applications nationwide have fallen since 2000 for the first. Conversely the number of applicaticates to top universities from the state sector has increased.

Despite government pressure to reach benchmark figures the state school intake has fallen across 16 of the 19 Russell group Universities. The Russell group contains the UK's leading research-lead universities, including including Imperial College.

The total number of students with a state school background at Imperial has dropped 3% to 59.6% last academic year. Oxford and Cambridge have dropped by 1.6% and 0.7%, to 53.8% and 56.9% respectively. With targets of 75.2% and 75%, current figures are significantly short of expectations.

Sir Peter Lampl, a government advisor on widening participation has expressed concerns "3,000 students from state schools who should be going to top universities are not".

This issue is compounded by the news that Imperial College intends to increase the intake of overseas students. During the top-up fees debate last year Sir Richard Sykes, Rector of Imperial College, told *Felix* (1323) that the number of overseas would continue to increase. But, he did state that measures would be taken to encourage state school applicants.

There are arguments that the benchmark figures are unrealistic as they are based on the new UCAS points system. Whereas previous systems have been based on A level grades.

Three straight 'A' grades at A level are equivalent to 360 UCAS points.

The problem arises, because there are a wide range of qualifications that can tally-up. Students who collect points in this way may not be as equipped for top universities as those with three A grades.

A spokesperson for Imperial College has suggested that it is not the role of universities to lower entry requirements to increase social diversity as this would be unfair. "The problem lies much earlier in the system. Universities cannot be expected to address issues of schooling, peer pressure and family expectations that are the main barriers to participation for many young people."

The statement also mentioned entrance to College solely depends on academic merit regardless of background, though efforts have been made to accommodate those who are from the poorest backgrounds, offering scholarships on a sliding scale according to the student's received fee support. "We run a number of initiatives aimed at encouraging aspiration and achievement amongst young people who may not otherwise consider higher education and have well-established links with local schools, overseen by the recently appointed Director of Access."



More of them went to uni last year

UL pullout

Continued from page 1

Although most students think its a good idea for Imperial to award its own degrees, the ramifications are less clear. Most students believe that Imperial is more popular than the University of London and hence better recognised.

A Senior union officer speaking to *Felix* said that leaving the University of London Union (ULU) would leave Imperial without any influence on the issues that might affect students nationwide, including an increase in the tuition fees for home students. This might result in Imperial College Union with little choice than to join the National Union of students (NUS) to get it's voice heard.


Tanaka cafe open for business?

Yu Lun Tang
News Editor

Non-business school students have been denied access to the cafe area of Tanaka Business School for security reasons.

Over the last 12 months, there has been a persistent and recurring problem with the theft of computers from the area. Susie Haywood, Public Relations Officer for the Business School told *Felix* that "as the demand for computers is continually growing, it has become increasingly difficult to replace stolen computers, there is no other alternative but to restrict access to the cafe area."

She stressed that the restriction is only for security purposes and there is no secret agenda. The move has prompted fierce opposition from the City & Guilds Union. The decision has been received as another attempt to distinguish the Business School from the rest of the college.



Tom Davidson, 21

Jazz 'n' Rocker

Harp-tootin', mullet-wearin', whiskey-swiggin', nude-runnin', rock 'n' rollin' Hoochie Coo. Check out Imperial's number one band at the Freshers Fair in DB's as part of the Jazz 'n' Rock society. They are also giving away free copies of their first studio EP, and one lucky person will get a portable DVD player. Check out www.hoochiecoo.co.uk

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What makes us human?

Kathryn Lougheed ponders whether the publication of the chimp genome brings us closer to the answer

What makes us human? Our ability to form complex social structures? Our use of language? Our concept of self? It is undeniable that, of the plethora of species that inhabit the Earth, humans are unique.

While similarities with our closest relative, the chimpanzee, are easy to spot, our furry friends are still very much animals and not people. So the recent publication of the draft sequence of the chimpanzee genome stands to teach us much not only about our closest evolutionary relative, but also about ourselves and what it is that makes us who we are.

Yet DNA sequencing is just the start of the story. You can think of the chimp genome as being a lot like a new textbook; it needs to be read before anything can be learnt from it. The way in which scientists plan to 'read' the 2.8 billion pairs of DNA letters that make up the chimp blueprint is to compare it with the human genome sequence published a few years ago. The aim is to gather information that will tell us about the important differences between these two species. So, while a quick flick through the genome has allowed scientists to glean a brief overview

of how the two genomes differ, there is still a lot of work to be done.

Just how similar our DNA is to that of a chimp may come as a surprise to many when you look at just how much we vary on the outside. Consider our large cranial capacity, the fact that we walk on two legs, and our advanced brain development allowing the use of complex language. Plus it is rare to find a human with quite as much hair as a chimp! So when you consider the somewhat clichéd fact that only 1.2% of our DNA sequence actually differs from that of our great ape cousin, it becomes obvious that this small percentage of changes must have had a big impact on our evolution.

This importance of a small subset of genes in our human-ness has in fact been known for some time following the observation that humans share 88% of our genes with rodents and 60% with chickens, despite being little like either species. Because of the fairly recent divergence of humans and chimpanzees from their last common ancestor, we would expect the genomes of the two species to be much more similar than that seen with previously sequenced genomes such as that of the rat as, in an evolutionary scheme of things, there hasn't been



98.8% human? Simian scientists in search of the human genome

enough time for a huge number of changes to take place between humans and chimps. So when scientists compare the sequences, they are not focusing on those regions that are the same, but rather on the differences.

The real challenge is in determining which differences in our DNA are actually responsible for making humans distinct from apes. Although

only 1.2% of the genome differs between chimps and humans, when you consider that there are around 3 billion nucleotides in a genome, it works out that there are tens of millions of differences between the two species. Some of the changes will simply be silent mutations that have occurred during the 5 million or so years since our evolution took a different route to that of the chimp

and won't actually have any effect on us. It is the mutations that change the DNA code in such a way that the encoded protein is altered that are of interest to scientists. Natural selection has chosen mutations based on the advantage they offer over the original. The combined effects of all of these mutations over the millennia have made us as we are today. A significant number of protein changing mutations appear to be clustered in genes involved in reproduction and immunity; giving a good starting point for further investigation of what makes us human.

Discovering exactly how the evolution of humans has diverged from that of our closest cousins is a big task that will be greatly helped by the upcoming publication of the genome sequence from a number of other primates, such as the orang-utan. Comparing the genome sequences of several species will allow evolutionary biologists to determine which changes are unique to Man and may therefore play a role in making us human. Hopefully, as well as gathering a better understanding of Human evolution, the chimp sequence might help us understand diseases, such as Aids, Malaria and Alzheimer's, which affect people but not great apes.

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Battle of the sexes: Round Two

Pride and Prejudice gets another makeover...but does it really need one?

Pride and Prejudice

Director: Joe Wright

Starring: Keira Knightley, Matthew MacFadyen

Length: 127 minutes

Certificate: U

Released: 17 September 2005

★★★★☆

Pride and Prejudice, everybody has heard about it. Guys hate it but the girls love it. In fact, the old plot of the misunderstanding that soon clears up to allow true love through is recurrent theme in romantic comedies. Just to name a few, there is 'How to lose a guy in 10 days' and the ever-popular 'Bridget Jones' Diary'. The original version of 'Pride and Prejudice' (which was 3 hours long) which followed the exact sequence of the story written by Jane Austen shot Colin Firth to stardom. The latest one must have been expected to blast both Keira Knightley and Matthew MacFadyen to stardom as well.

However, the question that plagues me is not the quality of the remake but rather the point behind the remake. The story of Mr. Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet was written more than a hundred years ago and despite the fact that it still strikes a chord with today's audience, has it simply been overdone? In our generation, where scriptwriters look to novels for inspiration, (remember 'Lord of the rings'?) perhaps 'Pride and Prejudice' should have been left

alone.

Firstly, 'Pride and Prejudice' is a period film that would not have benefited in any way from the new technologies that have appeared in today's movie industry. Granted, the cinematography in the latest version is breathtakingly beautiful. The shots of the English moors and the countryside were nothing less than inspiring. However, 'Pride and Prejudice' is more than a discovery programme. Amazing cinematography is not an excuse to remake this movie.

The second question we should address is the apparent dearth of literature in today's world that must have led to the exhausted remake of 'Pride and Prejudice'. Have we simply lost our story-spinning touch since the invention of the Internet? Granted, 'Pride and Prejudice' is a classic and the remake has probably helped keep it from disappearing from the literary world.

Jane Austen, like Oscar Wilde firstly fools the readers into deciding who the bad guy is from the very beginning only to be proven wrong when the plot unravels. However, there are also new pieces of literature with amazing new plots and angles such as 'The Time-Traveller's Wife'. Why are we looking in the past for inspiration when we have inspiration right here?

'Pride and Prejudice' is a brilliant satire of the ridiculous customs and worries that plagued the female species in that period of time. However, what worries me is the fact that none of the female population of today's world gets Jane Austen's



A stolen moment at the break of dawn...

message in this movie. Just look at this month's cover of Cosmopolitan for proof. I'd like to believe her real message was not the love story but the female species' ridiculous obsession with betrothal. Why must we be in such a hurry to get hitched? Is it only through marriage that women become complete? We have come such a long way since the women of those times. Why do we still look at betrothal as the only way we can be accepted in today's society? Has nothing changed at all?

To be honest, this remake of 'Pride and Prejudice' was the best remake I've ever seen. Keira Knightley

brought a softer, more vulnerable side to Elizabeth Bennet's character that helped endear her to today's audience. Matthew MacFadyen was definitely more 'lost' than Colin Firth was 'uptight' in this remake. However, MacFadyen is a dear and he has the cutest puppy-dog eyes. As he strides across the moor in his semi-transparent white shirt and billowing black coat, there is no one that has better screen presence than he does as Mr. Darcy. If I had not seen the original version and have not been a fan of the book, I would have been totally awed by the on-screen chemistry that flowed

between the two of them.

'Pride and Prejudice' is but overdone beef, tough and hard to swallow. What we need in today's film world is a new angle and possibly a full stop to women's obsession with getting married. We are women, hear us roar! And if you are not yet inspired, take some time off to listen to Natasha Bedingfield's 'Single'. Maybe once we actually cease our obsession with marriage, Jane Austen will cease to turn over in her grave.

Yuen Ai Lee
Film Editor

All hail the new Stiffmeister!

Tad Hilgenbrick speaks up about *American Pie 4*



The wedding's over so what's left of the motley crew? This time around, the focus is on Matt Stifler (Tad Hilgenbrick). Matt Stifler is the younger brother of Steve Stifler (Stiffmeister) and he gets sent for the ultimate 'band camp' experience. To live up to his reputation as the next Stiffmeister, Matt attempts to wire the camp with hidden cameras to turn it into the set for his own "Girls Gone Wild"-type video. However Cupid's arrow strikes Matt and he falls for fellow campie Elyse. *American Pie 4* is the next set of gags in this famous series as Matt tries to stifle his Stiffmeister urges in the name of true love.

What was your first reaction to the making of a fourth *American Pie* film?

I knew there was a lot of pressure for the film to fill the shoes of the first three but I thought it was a great idea to continue the legacy. It was something which I grew up with and the whole purpose of the film was to make people laugh hard so I jumped at the opportunity to continue this legacy and I think most people will agree after watching the film that it was a success. The film set up cussing in its finest sense and it really is very funny.

In the film you play Stiffers brother, how was it trying to work as a character expected to live up to Stiffers reputation?

Everybody who loves the *American Pie* films will definitely have a love for Stifler so trying to create a character similar to his was obviously going to be very difficult. I

had to study the Sean William Scott's classic films to try and work on some of his quirks, there is a love side of the story but a lot of Sean's mannerisms are still there.

Do the *American pie* films give a good representation of student life in America?

There is a surprisingly large amount of work but there is a big party aspect to it. I think its more of either one extreme or the other. People are either working really hard or going out and getting completely wasted with beer bong. The women aren't all as gorgeous as these films make out but some are really really hot. Guess it's like anywhere really.

How does the *American* youth imagine typical British students?

I dunno, posh? Playing Polo? Hanging out with Prince William (laughs). No, seriously, I studied acting in London for six months at a school near St. Pauls and it was six of the best months of my life. There was a place in the neighbourhood called the Duke, it was a fantastic pub and every night you would see exactly the same people in there. I even went back recently and recognised the bar man. I'd love to come back to London and spend some more time here, its such a great place and the nightlife is awesome.

Rock on Matt Stifler!

Jonathan Stoddern
Studento.com

film

film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Mortensen's History of Violence

And we aren't talking about orcs here

History of Violence

Director: David Cronenberg
Starring: Viggo Mortensen, Maria Bello, William Hurt.
Length: 96 minutes
Certificate: 18
Released: 30 September 2005
★★★★☆

Directed by David Cronenberg, *A History of Violence* is a film that covers the "inescapable situation" theme the director has dealt with before. Starring Viggo Mortensen (best known as Strider from the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy) as the go-lucky family guy Tom Stall, this is one of Cronenberg's most accessible films yet.

Settled happily in a small community, Tom runs his own average-joe "Stalls" diner, and is married happily to very American wife Edie (Maria Bello), who together parent their son Jack (Ashton Holmes) and daughter Sarah (Heidi Hayes). Tom leads a respectable life with a good standing in the community.

However, this peaceful present is shattered when Tom thwarts



When the past comes a calling, pour him a cuppa...

an attempted robbery at his diner, unwillingly allowing his past to catch up with him. The media praises him as a hero, but his actual history could not be further from this, and now Tom, his family and his community have to discover the ugly truth

the hard way. An interesting, but imperfect, look at a person's *History of Violence*.

The film is well executed and directed, but contains a few unnecessary scenes, especially in the introduction where there are many

"family guy" portrayals. However, fifteen minutes into the film, the plot tightens and the atmosphere thickens.

For those who have seen the trailers, *A History of Violence* is not as action packed as the trailers suggested. It dwells mainly in the characters' reflections and relations, built around abrupt but dispersed gun totting scenes. The action though, when it happens, is realistic, fast paced and brutal, with the audience being drawn into the intensity of the real time gore scenes, left to piece together what they just witnessed in the blink of an eye.

Credit must go to Mortensen for accurately playing a character caught between two personalities and two lives. The viewer's sympathies clearly sense the hurt Tom is going through as he protects his family both from danger and from being hurt by the truth. Yet, at the same time, the no-more-mister-tom-stall challenges this sympathy and simultaneously questions the safety of the family.

The changing relations between the characters as the plot develops are well played throughout, with raw emotions and gritty realism making the acting believable. For the whole length of the film, Mortensen

oozes the "normality" his character needs to gain the audience's sympathy. Bello is fantastic as the wife in doubt, and performs her role with a certain vulnerability that gives her character importance and appeal. It must be said though that her script is rather straightforward and narrow.

Ed Harris also brilliantly stars in the rather short lived role as Fogarty, the man with the key to Tom's past, in a quirky and eerie role, suited to his acting image and his make-up in film. William Hurt makes an unexpected appearance (one to watch out for) in a simultaneously hilarious but dangerous role.

The biggest failing with this film though is, in my opinion, the way the storyline is adapted to the film. Although the plot contains a few twists, it is all somewhat predictable, and the intro and the ending leave some refinement to be desired. A little more attention to detail and a tiny bit more unpredictability would have gone a long way to make an already very good film great. Other than that, *A History of Violence* is a recommended film, with very engaging acting and a satisfying plot.

Ammar Waraich

Land of the 'senseless' dead

Zombies past their prime

Land of the Dead

Director: George A. Romero
Starring: Simon Baker, Dennis Hopper, John Leguizamo
Length: 93 minutes
Certificate: 15
Released: 23 September 2005
★☆☆☆☆

Land of the Dead by George A. Romero is deadlier than the zombies it has in it. The story is simple. Several years ago, dead people rose from their graves in search of human flesh. Like vampires, the zombies turn the live ones into zombies by biting them. The humans who managed to escape the terrible curse barricaded themselves in the city, fending the zombies off with barbed electric wire. What makes things bizarre is the fact that there is still status division in such dire times. There are the rich ones who stay in the nice high-rise building and then there are the poor normal people whose lives are limited to the basement and the ground.

Every night, the humans organized raids into zombie-ville for food and medicinal supplies. All they had

to do were to release fireworks in the sky (which apparently stupefies the zombies), ransack the abandoned grocery stores and shoot any zombie that dares to cross their path. However, one of the 'smarter' zombies was infuriated by the humans' intrusion into their world. He led the zombies into the 'live' city, using guns and other 'life one' tools against the humans. '*Zombies Bite Back*', you get the picture...

Frankly, you do not buy tickets for '*Land of the Dead*' and expect an enlightening experience. However, it is not wrong to at least expect the film to be entertaining. To be fair, Romero did introduce a new concept of zombies. The zombies in this movie are smart and have the capability to evolve (the horror!). However, he didn't expand on this aspect and focused his film on lengthy displays of gore. It's definitely not a film for the easily-distracted because despite my frequent run-ins with Quentin Tarantino productions, this is just gross.

Granted, there were a few shocking scenes as expected in a film with a 'horror' title. There were also a few attempts at humour with vague references to George Bush. However, I think the director must

have been confused when he made this film. The movie is neither a 'horror' film nor a comedy. The storyline was simplistic and would have reached the audience better as a comedy but the scriptwriter tried to make the characters deeper than they should have been. Hence, he ruined the movie's potential to be a good comedy.

The acting skills of the cast were wasted in this movie. Simon Baker is a talented actor and he should have known better than to have included this movie in his portfolio. He did a very good performance of a misunderstood and 'shut off from the world' hero but this character is simply misplaced in a movie of such lack of depth. Cholo (John Leguizamo) is the cowboy among the team of raiders who is bent on getting things his way. He's a good-looking fellow and his character would have been better placed in a more thought-provoking film. The only actor who doesn't deserve any honourable mention at all in this horrible movie, is Kaufman (Dennis Hopper). His acting was stilted and jarred with the rest of the cast. Perhaps if he had been more menacing with his lines, the whole movie might have been saved. However,



Land of the Dead - Simply a waste of money

due to his stupid accent, the villain in this movie is simply more repulsive than hate-inspiring.

In a nutshell, '*Land of the Dead*' is simply a waste of money. Readers should avoid the movie like the plague unless of course, they are strangely inspired by scenes of extreme disgust and mindless vio-

lence (that is worrying). The actors in the show must have had the fun of their lives messing around in all that gore (like children in the mud-pen) but a fun-to-watch, this movie is definitely not.

Yuen Ai Lee
Film Editor

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Date and Time: 18:30, October 18th

Location: Holiday Inn Kensington Forum Hotel, 97 Cromwell Road

Achieving more together





Shaun Stanworth
Coffee Break Editor

Going to university can be a daunting experience - for many of you this will be your first time living away from home. Of course, there's nothing to worry about really, and despite first impressions, Imperial isn't entirely full of creepy geeks. Just the scientists. It's important to try and make the most of your spell here, as once it's over you have to grow up, stop drinking Snakebite, and find yourself a nice dead-end job. And nobody wants to stop drinking.

Your first week here is going to be a scary one, full of meeting new people and telling them what A-Levels you got. Going to a new town gives you the opportunity to make a fresh start, and be whatever type of person you'd like to be. Students here tend to break down into these two main groups:

Nerdy

Geeks form the majority of the college, something that you'll no doubt have realised very quickly. Not everybody who comes here starts as one though - it takes hard work to meet the high standard of nerdiness that's required. So how would you go about becoming a geek?

1. Stay Indoors

Studies show that over 90% of social interaction takes place outside of your own bedroom. Don't let it happen to you.

2. Join a Rubbish Society

Imperial has far too many clubs and societies, covering all kinds of social fetish. As a student here, it's pretty much required that you join at least one, so why not join the geekiest one you can. Freshers Fair is this week, so take a look around and find the worst available. Good things to look out for include

- Barely anybody else has signed up
- Their Table has a laptop on it
- Neckbeards
- Absence of girls
- Poor-quality confectionery. This is especially important.

3. Enrol at Imperial

See, you're almost there already.

4. Speak Like a Geek

On some rare occasions you may be forced into conversation, and so you're going to need some prepared topics to speak about, thus forcing the person who spoke to you to never want to speak to you again. So remember that there's nothing more interesting than hearing a stranger's A-Levels, that spouting the virtues of Linux is ever-so-popular and that if all else fails you can always try to prove just how much smarter you are than them. Nothing livens up a party like Integration, Fluid Dynamics and talking about fucking rocks (RSM, shame on you).

Sporty

Despite being viewed that way, Imperial

isn't entirely made up of geeks. We also have sporty types who prefer physical exercise to working their clicking hand. They can normally be found in the bar on a Wednesday evening, singing about their supposed sexual prowess and throwing up. Sounds fun, eh? Well it is, and if fun is your cup of tea, you'll want to get involved. First of all though, you'll need to decide which sport it is you want to play. Please bear in mind that actual sporting talent is almost entirely irrelevant here; Most teams are so rubbish / desperate for players that they'll take anyone.

Football

A gentleman's game, played by thugs (or maybe that's Rugby), Football is the national sport and one of the biggest clubs at Imperial. The main men's club has seven teams, which unfortunately is about six too many. Pace, Control and Awareness - All these things have no place at IC FC, as all you need is a drinking habit and an appreciation for boob. Perhaps our teams would be more successful if their minds weren't occupied with dreams of Championship Manager and Lucy Pinder. Preferably together.

Women's Rugby

If you're a girl (and you're probably not) you could always try out for the ironically named IC Virgins. Just be sure to bring your boots, shorts, and diaphragm. I'm completely unaware as to whether they're any good or not, as their reputation is not quite a sporting one. Promiscuity and STDs are the key qualifications for any budding Virgin, as is the ability to out-sing the boy's team. As any guy will tell you, there's nothing more attractive than a girl who can drink you under the table, take you back to her room and it's bedpost so notched it's falling to pieces, and proceed to give you the worst case of crabs of your short young life. They're femininity personified.

Ultimate Frisbee

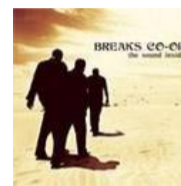
Obviously, these people wouldn't lower themselves to Regular Frisbee, or - god forbid - to just playing for fun. No, they've taken a perfectly lame game and turned it into an even lamer 'sport'. I don't quite understand how anybody can win at throwing a yellow piece of plastic around, it seems like a game in which there can be only losers to be honest. And why is it 'Ultimate'? It's just a little game; there isn't Ultimate Hangman, Pro Mousetrap and Extreme Hide and Seek, and they're all far better wastes of time.

So what have we learned about Imperial? That we're rubbish? True. That we should have gone to Kings? Again, true. But where else would you find such a diverse mix of idiot than here? The next few years of your life will be fun, but only if you actually bother to have any. Go out, make friends, see London, get drunk (if you want), and you'll see why despite the fact that all we ever do is complain about the place, we're all still here.



Album reviews

The Sound Inside
by Breaks Co-Op
EMI Records



Zane Lowe: the guy from Radio 1 with the dodgy accent. What you may not know is that Zane has been kicking around the studio creating music for years and over the British summer of 2004, Zane joined with Hamish Clark and Andy Lovegrove to create *The Sound Inside* under the name of Breaks Co-Op, a New Zealand band highly acclaimed in its own country.

With the passing of summer, this is an album which will cast your mind automatically back to all those nostalgic summer memories of sun, sand and reelexing. It's rich in all things summer and comes practically sun-drenched. You would find it hard to believe that it was recorded in an inner-city London studio and not in a garden shed overlooking the unspoilt deserted beaches of New Zealand.

From first listen this album grabs you and gently and tenderly wraps you in its smooth, sultry and soulful sounds. A laxated beat and the crooning vocals flow through on a diverse mix of ballads, acoustic instrumentals and songs that don't leave you, even after you leave them. You could label this trip hop, earthy electronica and even at a push, folk (but let's not), though what this is is clever.

Standout tracks, quite frankly all of them, but if you have to raise some to a loftier peak, then the first single *The Otherside* and the second track *Wonder* are the ones to put up there.

The best way to listen to *The Sound Inside* on these autumnal days is to find a sunbeam, put your face into the light and let the music do the rest.

The Antidote
by Morcheeba
Echo



The café set have many different tastes, and so it is Morcheeba. With an emphasis on the vocal performance these songs sound like they have been taken from a funky musical.

From the first song, *Wonders Never Cease*, the sultry voice of Daisy Martey invites you on a journey. Sounding like a James Bond theme, *Everybody Loves a Loser* is a change from their usual chill-out style. Sometimes the statement and reply phrasing of the lyrics can become tiresome as in *Living Hell*, but this album seduces and has you coming back for more. The use of brass in *Lighten Up* gives a warm lift and the chorus is one of the most catchy this year.

Some fans of the band will be disappointed by the change in direction but I think the new Morcheeba album is well worth a listen.

Ambulance LTD
by Ambulance LTD
Tvt



Starts beautifully, with a track that is more of an instrumental overture than a song, skipping between three or four different themes as it slowly builds up to a (slightly cliché, admittedly) harder, chugging guitar climax. It takes its time, but never becomes boring. Q Magazine, quoted on the front of the CD, had this to say on the album: "Nonchalantly cool debut...", and as the first song drew to a close I was hopeful that this quote was, for once, telling the truth, and that I was about to hear a wonder of an album that built on the tension developed in the first five minutes.

Now I wasn't exactly disappointed, since I quite like '60s NY rock, but several times I found myself wondering if the Velvet Underground had released a new single. I felt like I'd been deceived by the beauty of the build up, as the rest of the album then unfolded into - very nicely put together, admittedly - easy indie rock.

Having said this, it is nice to see the British influence travelling over the pond. There are overtones of the English Indie ideal peppered all through the tracks, and while I was hoping, perhaps, for something a little more challenging, there wasn't a moment during the entire album when I felt like switching it off.

But strangely this is also one of my main criticisms of the album as well. The reason I kept listening is because I was interested in what they might do next. There is little feeling of a single band at work. It's puzzling, since a quick glance at the sleeve notes reveals that all songs were written by the same fellow (one assumes the singer) - except the first one, tellingly, which seems to have been a group effort. And yet he doesn't feel content with a specific style. This is, I accept, usually to be applauded, but in this instance it left me with the feeling I'd just listened to a compilation album put together by a NY indie label, showcasing the various signings they have - all a similar style, but no coherence. If I haven't made myself clear, I have the exact opposite feeling about Radiohead (sorry to bring it up, and possibly show my age) who seem to have very different types of song, but retain an obvious style.

And yet, as I sit here writing this, I have casually lifted my hand and pressed the play button on my CD player. I haven't put in the CD that was in before, and, despite the fact that I'm running out of room on my mp3 player, I'm probably going to rip this on as soon as this piece is finished.

So maybe they're a victim of the quality of their first track. If they'd gone straight into the second, I would probably have happily listened all the way through, nodding my head to the lovely retro rhythms. But, as it was, I spent the time hoping for a little bit more of that original magic. Perhaps they should write more as a band...

Free Music

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The Music section needs your help. We want people for reviewing CDs (which you can keep), writing gig reports (for free) and interviewing moody Indie Superstars.

Sounds Good? Email music.felix@imperial.ac.uk for details.

Arts

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A woman in Trafalgar Square?

The fourth plinth is finally unveiled to a somewhat mixed reception

Sculpture
Alison Lapper Pregnant
 by Marc Quinn
 Trafalgar Square
 Until Spring 2007

After years of standing empty, the fourth plinth in Trafalgar Square was finally filled this month with a sculpture of disabled artist Alison Lapper. Created by the British sculptor Marc Quinn, Alison Lapper Pregnant is one of two works selected for the plinth, and is one of the most important public art commissions in Britain in recent years.

The statue is carved from Italian marble, stands at 3.55 metres and weighs 13 tons. Ms Lapper sat for Quinn when she was eight months pregnant, and the artist took 10 months to produce the work, sculpting from a single piece of marble in Italy. He hopes that the work will add femininity to the square.

Heralded by many as inspirational and a tribute to modern society, motherhood and overcoming dis-

abilities, Ken Livingstone said at the unveiling that Lapper deserved her place in the square because her life "is a struggle over much greater difficulties than the men who are celebrated here". Others have interpreted the sculpture as a symbol of the female in society. However, one critic has already dismissed the sculpture as "rather ugly".

Standing alongside the sombre dark figures of Nelson, Napier, Havelock and George IV, Alison Lapper Pregnant is made of striking white marble, making it look almost painfully out of place, yet oddly defiant of the history surrounding it. The contrast of styles between the natural, smooth and flowing curves of the body and the harsh, stern and classical style of the face is a little bizarre, and is accentuated by the long neck, making it seem almost as if it is made of two separate sculptures.

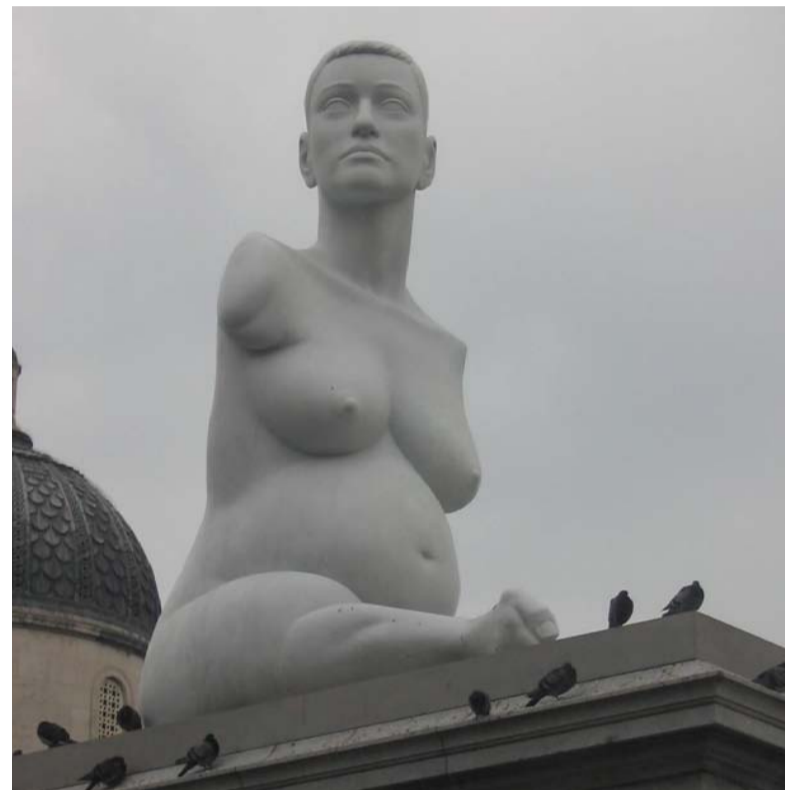
As a strong female figure in a showcase of the male domination of British history, the sculpture is long overdue. Although Lapper doesn't represent a figure of power in political history, the strength of will and defiance of the norm shown in her

face makes her as deserving of admiration as those around her.

The plinth was originally designed for a statue of William IV, but this was never completed due to a lack of funds. Since no-one was able to decide on a permanent fixture, Ken Livingstone has decided that the

"For me, Alison Lapper Pregnant is a monument to the future possibilities of the human race, as well as the resilience of the human spirit."

plinth should be used as for an ever-changing exhibition of artworks as part of a move to make Trafalgar Square a cultural focal point of London. The statue will be on display until Spring 2007, when it will be sold off and replaced by Thomas Schutte's Hotel for the Birds.



White marble statue of the pregnant Alison Lapper by Marc Quinn



Photograph of Marilyn Monroe, just one of the exhibits of "The World's Most Photographed" exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery.

Glitz, glamour and iconic figures captured on film

Photography Exhibition
The World's Most Photographed
 The National Portrait Gallery
 Tickets £4/£2.50
 Until 23/10/05

The National Portrait Gallery is the most wonderful gallery in London. Walking through its corridors you see iconic images of anyone and everyone you can think of, from the earliest paintings of the British monarchy through to iconic works of figures from modern society. It also frequently puts on fantastic shows, including the upcoming Schweppes Photographic Portrait Prize 2005, which starts on 9 November.

The World's Most Photographed is an exhibition that leads the viewer through the much-publicised lives of Queen Victoria, Gandhi, Hitler, Greta Garbo, Audrey Hepburn, James Dean, John F Kennedy, Marilyn Monroe, Elvis Presley and Muhammad Ali. We see the ways in which they used and manipulated the medium of photography in order to create the personas by which we know them best. Each display shows a timeline of images, from the famous and iconic to those suppressed for showing the wrong side of their subject and those simply forgotten over time.

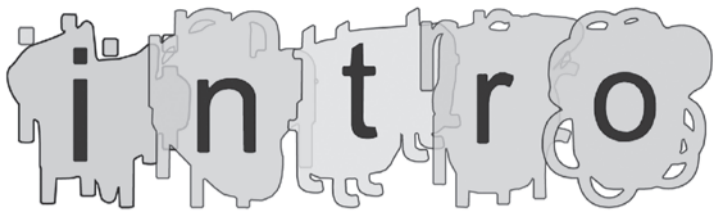
The exhibition examines the propaganda used by four contrasting political figures; Queen Victoria, Gandhi, Hitler and John F Kennedy; in order to ensure

that they were regarded in the best light possible. The differences are shown by the growing simplicity of the photographic style of the images of Gandhi reflect his increasing political influence over the repressed classes of India in the 1930s and 40s. Just as interesting are the images rejected for being unsuitable, particularly a comical photo of Hitler in lederhosen.

The photographs displayed of Greta Garbo are particularly insightful into a life surrounded by mystery. Although a major Hollywood icon, Garbo strictly controlled her image in the press. After her withdrawal from the limelight in 1941, she continued to be followed and photographed for a public still intrigued by her secretive lifestyle. In later years she was stalked by photographer Ted Leyson, and the display of his slides shows her aged face still defiant of the camera just a few days before her death.

Other highlights of the show include some fabulously romantic shots taken by Cecil Beaton of Audrey Hepburn during the filming of My Fair Lady, three powerful shots of Muhammad Ali training underwater, four photos of Elvis Presley drinking in a strip-club, and a bizarre series of photographs of James Dean climbing in and out of caskets in a funeral parlour.

The exhibition was produced in collaboration with the BBC, who produced an accompanying series of documentaries on the lives of each of the subjects.



Imperial College Union Freshers' Fair 2005

Tuesday 4 October
11am – 5pm
South Kensington
Campus



SIMON MATTHEWS
DEPUTY PRESIDENT
(CLUBS & SOCIETIES)

Greetings one and all and welcome (back) to Imperial. I trust that you all enjoyed your summer holidays and are now keen and eager to begin those wonderful lectures. What's that you say? You'd rather be having fun trekking through Snowdonia or playing in the symphony orchestra? Well, I can't say that I blame you; with more clubs than you can shake a snooker cue at Imperial is definitely the place to be if you want to try something new. For your delight we have organised Freshers' Fayre; a six hour extravaganza where all 250 clubs and societies are gathered together, competing for your attention, all of whom would much rather that you spent your days with them rather than wasting your time in dull, boring lectures, listening to

octogenarians with enormous beards droning on about Advanced Quantum Field Theory.

Of course, with so many clubs to choose from you'll have to wander around a bit. On the Queen's Lawn you'll find many of the sports type clubs along with the motor clubs and the London Fire Brigade's display team by the Queen's Tower (chip pan fires are really spectacular) and just inside in the Main Dining Hall there are yet more sports clubs. Across the road the Sir Alexander Fleming Building is full of the Medics' Union clubs, although anyone can join them. Upstairs your choice becomes even wider with the overseas clubs in the Great Hall, the religious and political type societies in the Junior

Common Room (JCR) – they serve a good breakfast in there by the way. Further along from the JCR (or up the ramp from the lawn and carpark) is a wonderful area known as Upper Dalby Court wherein lies all of the City and Guilds' clubs (again anyone can join).

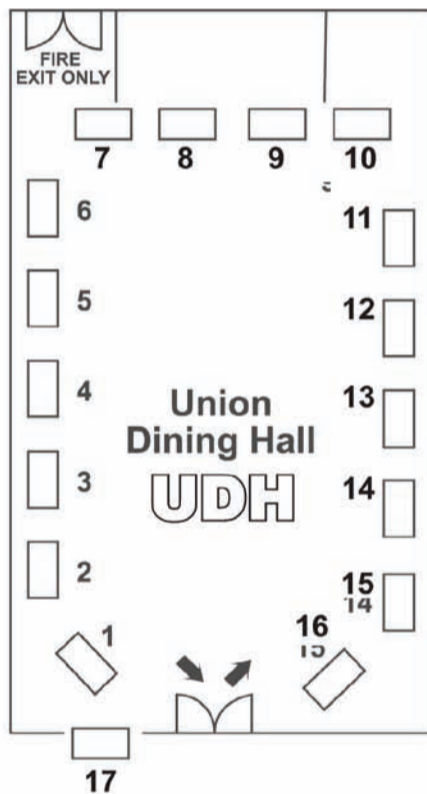
Over in the Union building in Beit, we have a plethora of recreational, social and arts clubs ranging across three floors and the Quad outside. With everything from Canoe to Jazz Big Band via Science Fiction (we have the largest student run library in Europe) taking in our television studio (STOIC) and radio there is sure to be something that you want to do. As if that wasn't enough we also have a stage which will be teeming with clubs determined to

show you just how great their activity is; ever fancied fire juggling? And there are BBQs in the Quad and on the Queen's Lawn just in case you get a bit peckish.

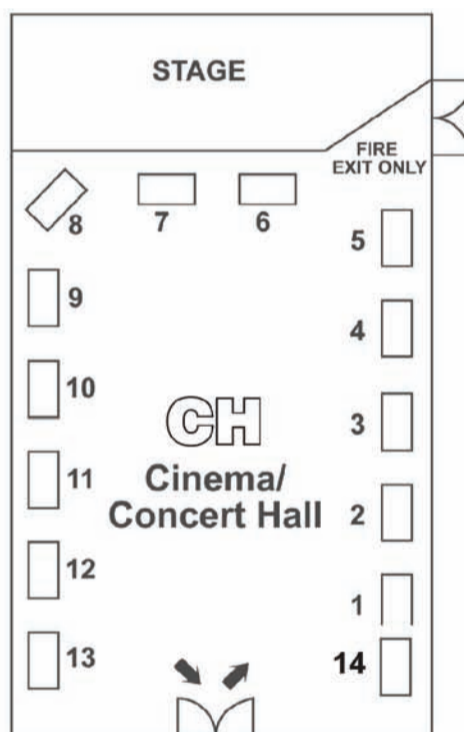
You're all pretty much spoiled for choice so don't waste the opportunity because "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". Enjoy the day, relax, meet some clubs and take pleasure in the fact that you've got no lectures and by the weekend you'll be running, swimming, playing, jumping, reading, debating, singing or whatever with the nicest bunch of reprobates that you ever did meet!

The Union Building: Beit Quad

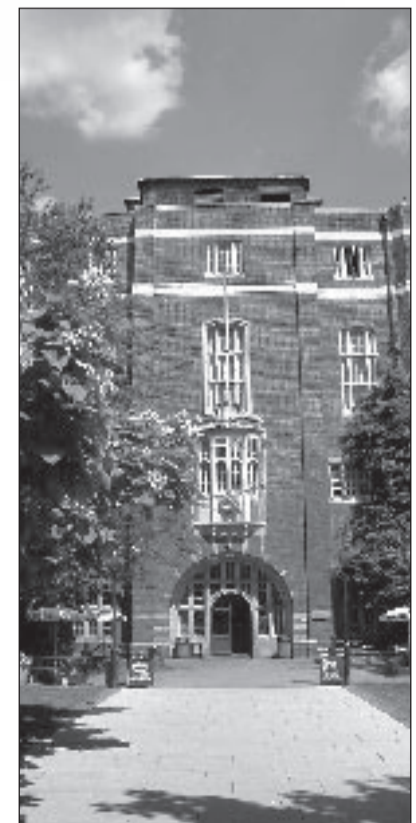
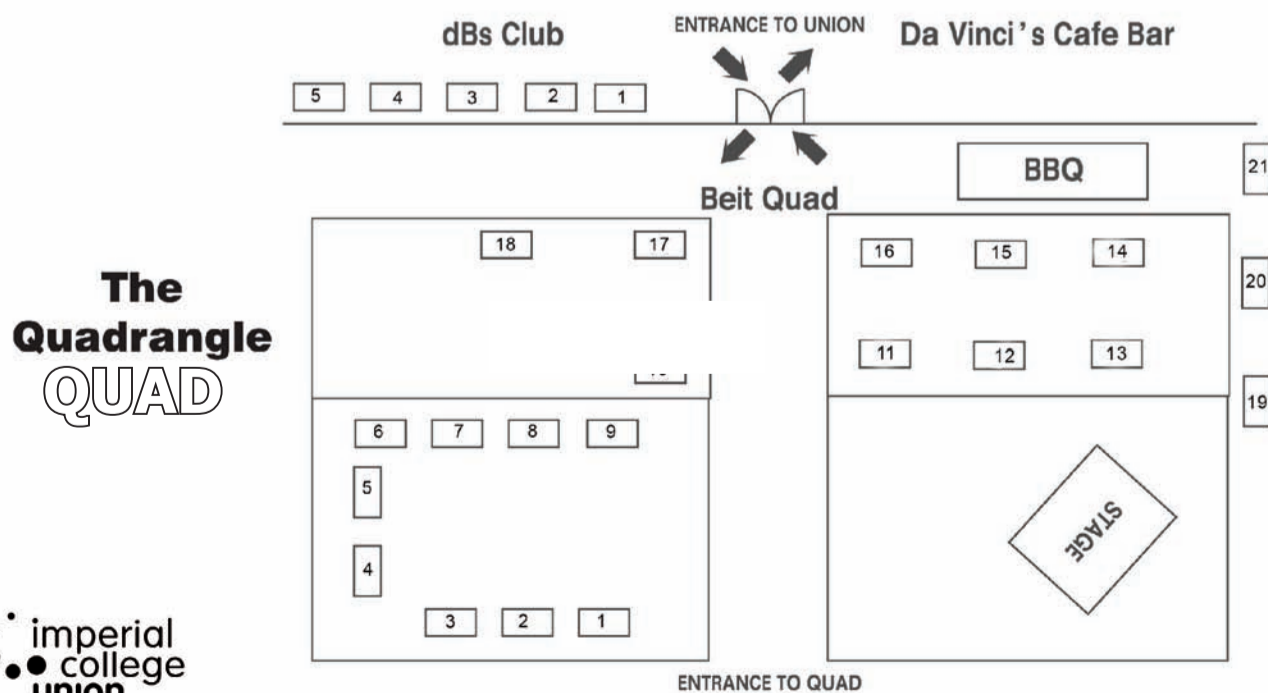
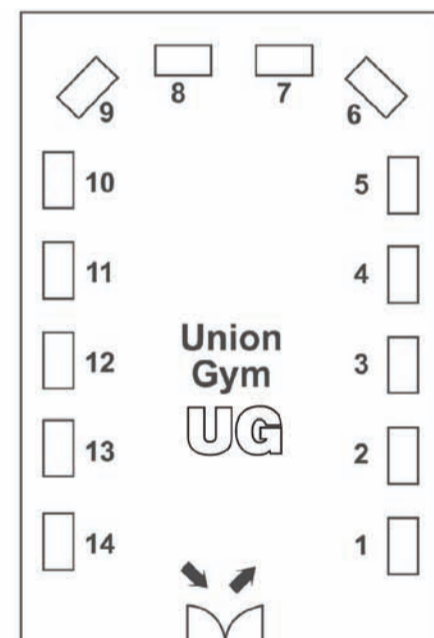
First floor



Second floor



Third floor



Queens Lawn Carpark

Fire engine

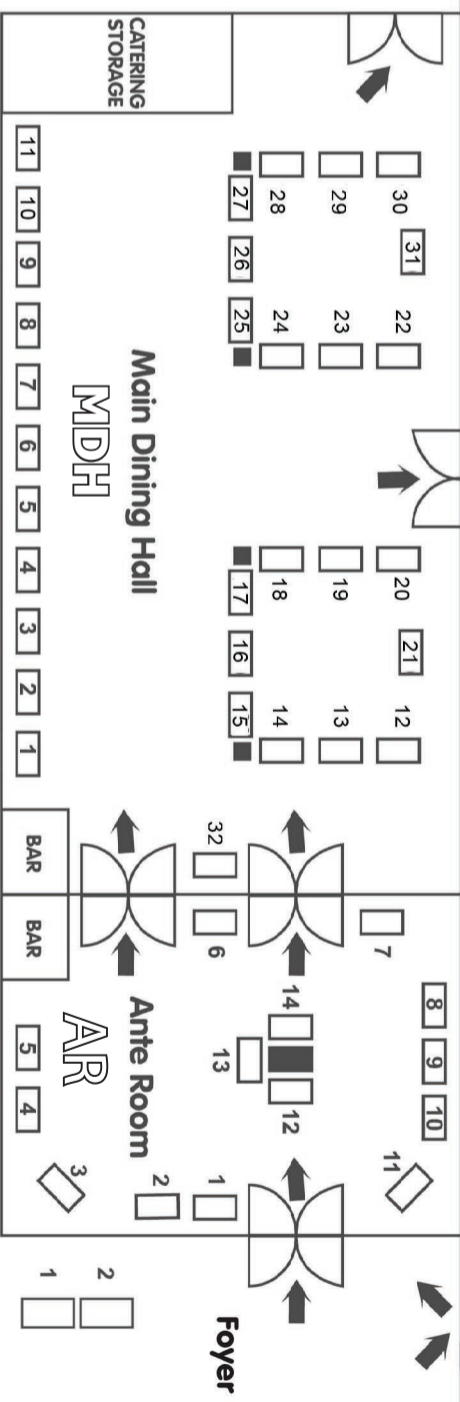
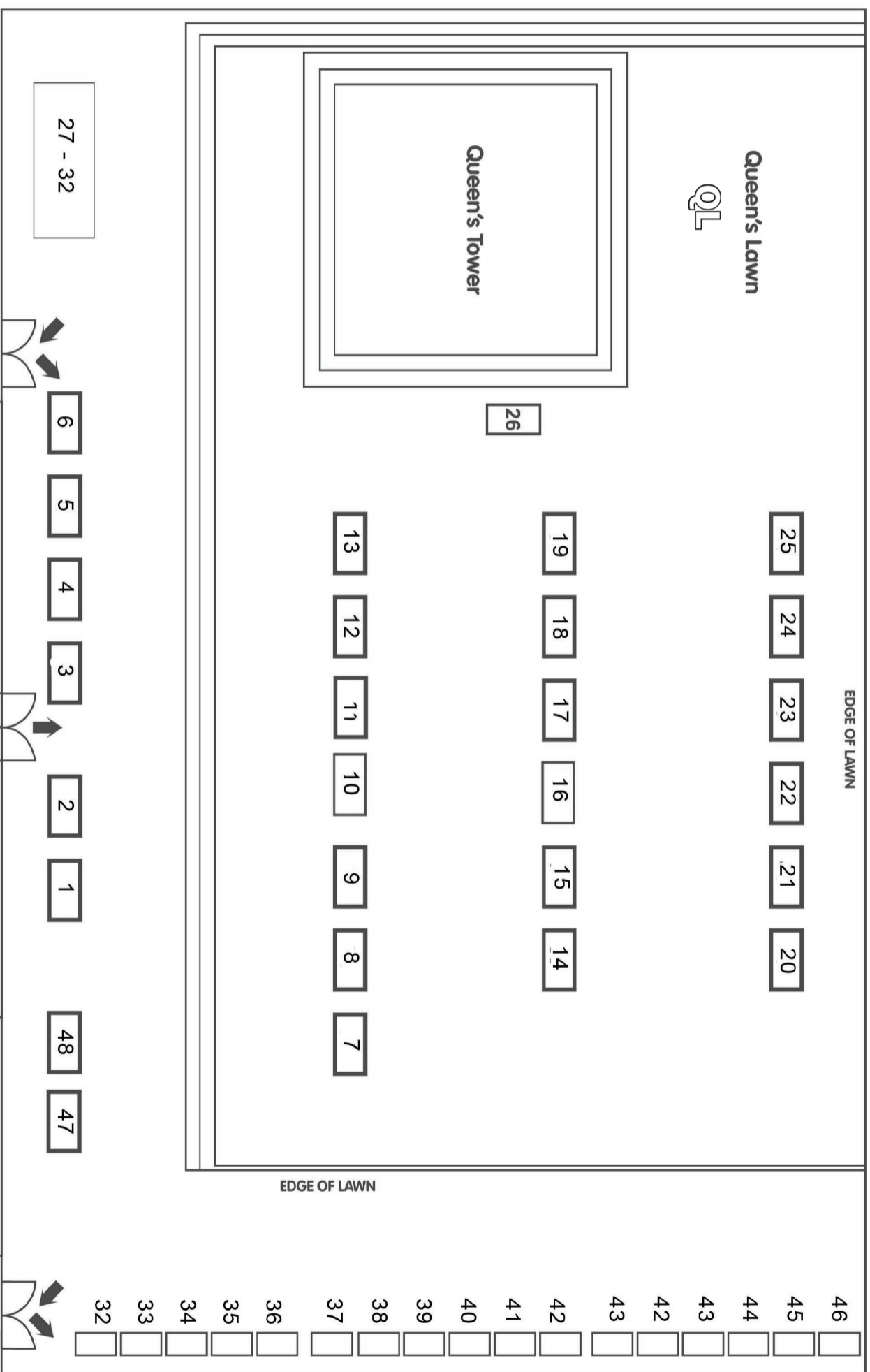
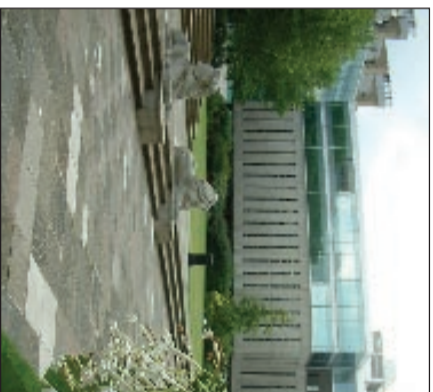
Fire Demonstration

Ambulance

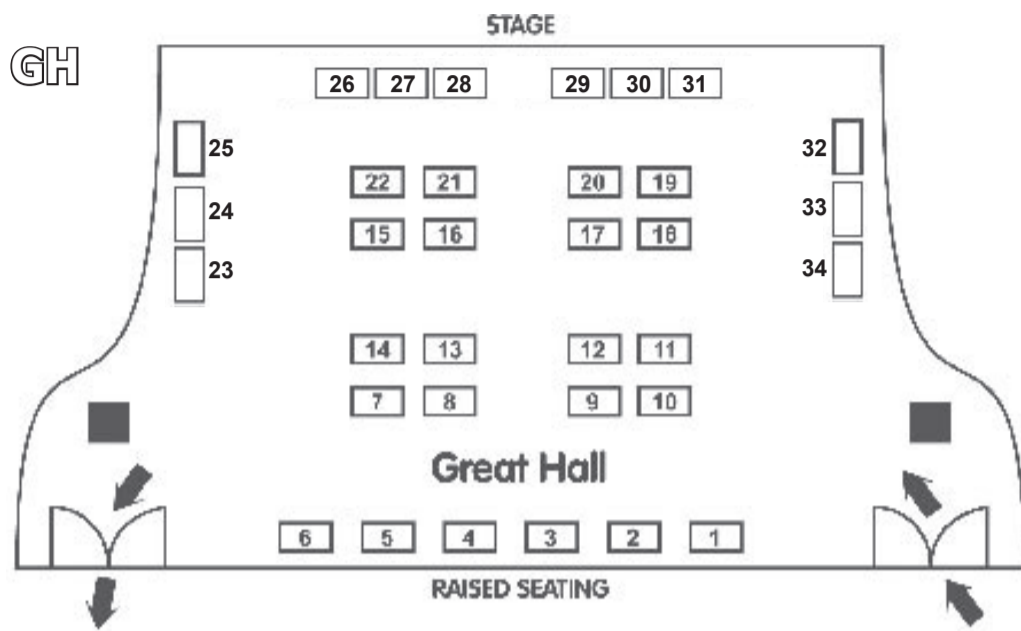
CP

CP1	CP2
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CP7	CP8
CP9	CP10

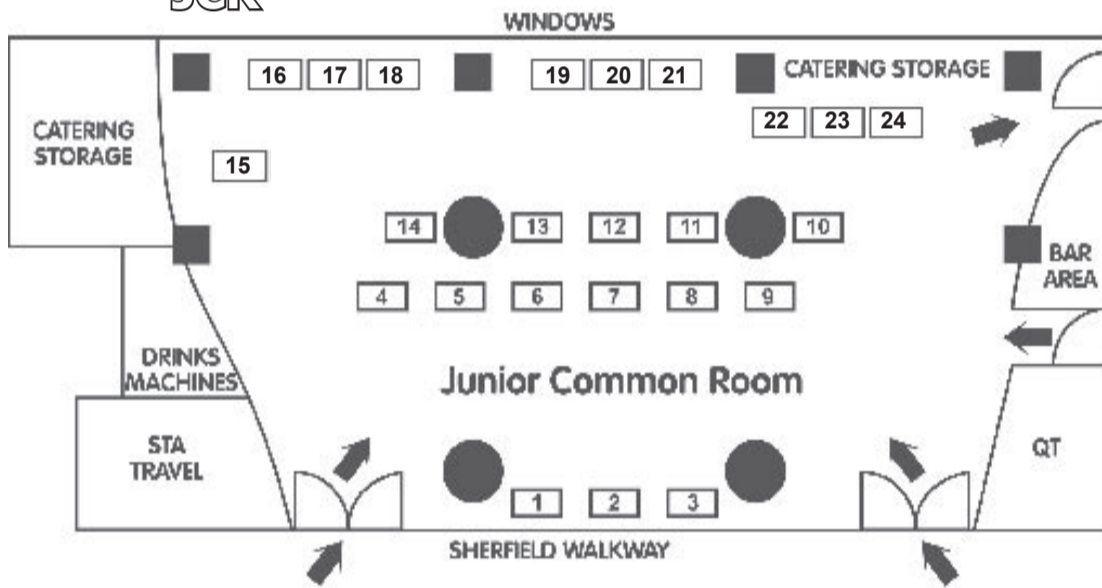
Queen's Lawn and Sheffield Building (Ground Level)



Sherfield Building: Second Floor (Walkway Level)

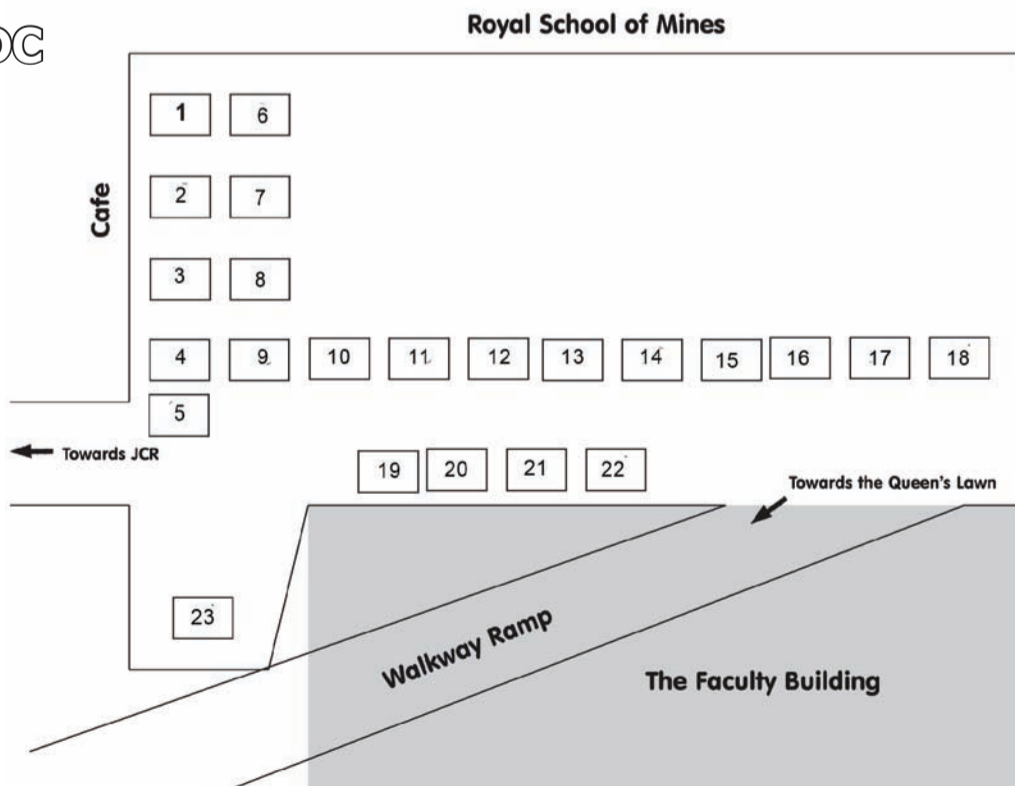


JCR



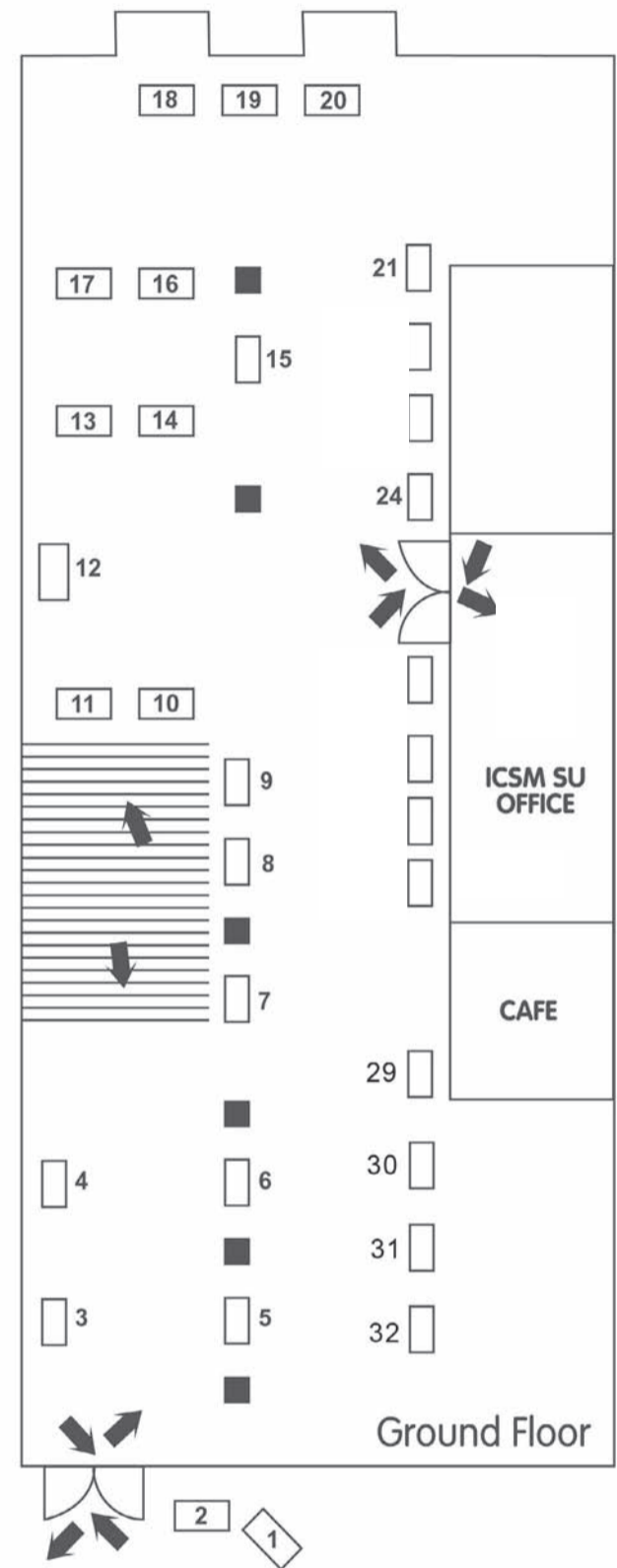
Upper Dalby Court

UDC



Sir Alexander Fleming Building

BMS

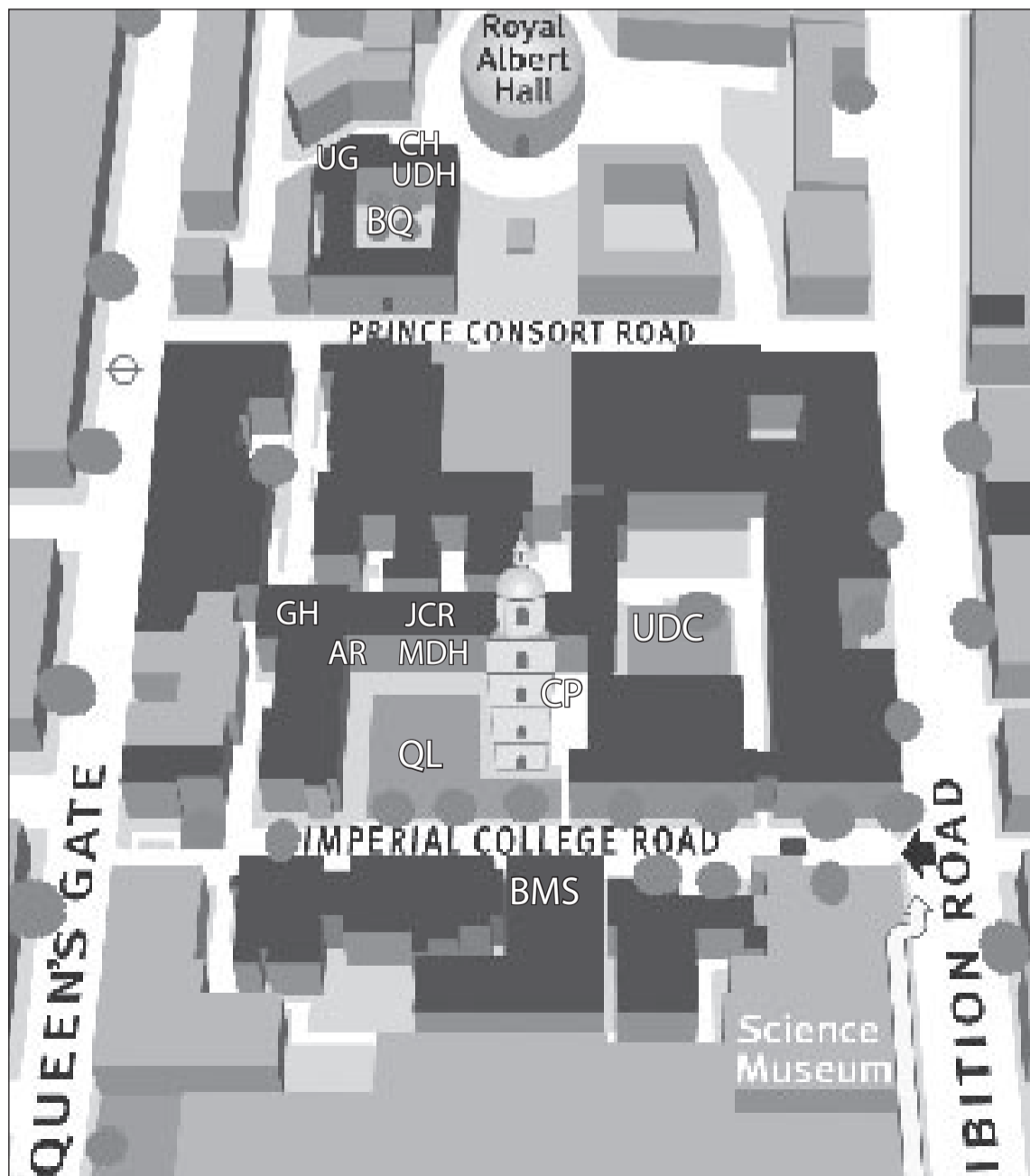


Imperial College Union Freshers' Fair 2005

Stall Directory

ABACUS	GH32	ChemEng	UDC5	Felix	BQ3	ICSM Mountain	SAF17	Paintball	UDH5
Aero Soc	UDC1	ChemSoc	QL6	Fellwanderers	BQ8	ICSM Music	SAF18	Pakistan	GH22
Afro-Caribbean	GH1	Chess	UDH1	Fencing	QL9	ICSM Netball	SAF19	Palestinian Society	JCR25
Ahlul Bayt	JCR22	Chinese	GH4	Film Appreciation	UG4	ICSM Opera	SAF20	Parachute	BQ12
Ahmadiyya Muslim S.A.	JCR17	Chinese Church in London	AR8	Finance	JCR15	ICSM RAG	SAF21	Petsoc	UG9
Aikido	QL33	Chinese Wu Shu	QL35	Fire Display	CP1	ICSM Rugby	SAF22	Photographic	BQ5
Airsoft	UDH6	Choir	CH5	Fitness Club	MDH19	ICSM Sailing	SAF23	Physics	QL6
AKA	MDH7	Christian Student Action	JCR2	Football - Mens	QL20	ICSM Squash	SAF24	Poetry	CH10
Alternative Music	DBs1	Christian Union	JCR1	Freethinking	JCR19	ICSM Subaqua	SAF25	Poker	UDH11
Amnesty International	JCR10	Chutterboxrocks.com	AR5	German Society	GH10	ICSM Tennis	SAF26	Polish	GH23
Anime	UG1	CivEng	UDC6	Gliding	QL11	ICSM Waterpolo	SAF27	Portuguese	GH24
Apple Computers	AR12	Classical Guitar	CH12	Golf	MDH17	ICSM Weights	SAF28	Postgraduate	UG3
Arabic	GH2	Clubbing	DBs2	Hellenic	GH11	ICSM Wmns Football	SAF10	Pugwash	JCR13
Archery	QL3	Conservative	JCR5	Hindu Student Forum	JCR18	ICSM Wmns Hockey	SAF12	RAG	BQ13
Arts	UG2	Contemporary Music	CH11	Hockey	QL19	ICSM Yoga	SAF29	Railway	UG9
Astronomy	UG11	CREST	UG3	Holmes Place	QL48	ICT IT Services	AR4	RCS Motor Club	QL30
Badminton	MDH12	Cricket	QL4	Humanities Programme	AR 7	ICU Cinema	CH8	RCS Rugby	QL31
Bangladeshi	GH3	Croatian	GH5	I Chums	MDH6	ICU Dance Company	UDH9	Riding	MDH26
Basketball	MDH21	Croquet	QL6	Imperial Queers	UG5	IC Sport & Leisure	SAF31	Rifle & Pistol	MDH29
Bike Users Group	BQ15	Cross Country	MDH15	IC Library	MDH32		QL47	Rock Music	DBs4
Billiards & Snooker	UDH3	CSSA	GH6	IC Links	CP2	IMASE	UDC12	Royal Society of Medicine	MDH11
Bioengineering	UDC2	Curling	MDH16	IC Portal	UG6	Imperial College Lodge	MDH3	RSM Exec	UDC14
Biochemistry	QL1	Curry	UDH13	IC Racing	QL28	Indian	GH12	RSM Football	QL15
Boat	QL2	Cycling	MDH27	IC Radio	QL29IC	Indonesian	GH13	RSM Golf	MDH18
Bridge	UDH10	Cypriot	GH8	Volunteer Centre	Sherf Foyer1	Int. Tamil	JCR16	RSM Hockey	QL19
Buddhist	JCR24	Dance	UDH8	ICAB	SAF1	Internet & E-Commerce	UDC17	RSM Motor	QL31
Bulldog Broadband Union Foyer 1		De La Beche	UDC13	Ice-Hockey	MDH24	Internship	UDC19	RSM Real Ale	UDC15
City & Guilds Exec	UDC3	Debating	JCR4	ICSM Arts & Photo	SAF2	Iranian	GH7	RSM Rugby	QL16
City & Guilds Media Group	UDC4	DoC	UDC8	ICSM Badminton	SAF3	Iraqi	GH19	Rugby	QL17
City & Guilds Motor Club	QL27	Drama	CH9	ICSM Basketball	SAF4	Islamic	JCR9	Sailing	CP7
City & Guilds Rugby Club	QL28	Duke of Edinburgh's Award	BQ18	ICSM Boat	SAF5	Italian	GH14	Scandinavian	GH25
CAG	BQ14	EE	UDC9	ICSM Cricket	SAF6	IVC Rugby	QL15	Science Fiction	UDH16
Canoe	BQ1	Environmental	JCR21	ICSM Dance	SAF7	Jajuta UK Ltd	MDH1	Shaolin Kung-Fu	QL45
Capoeira	QL34	Erasmus	GH9	ICSM Drama	SAF8	Japanese	GH15	Shorinji Kempo	QL46
Catholic	JCR8	ETHOS	UDC10	ICSM Football	SAF9	Jazz & Rock	DBs3	Sikh	JCR20
Caving	BQ2	Every Nation Christian	JCR3	ICSM Hockey	SAF11	Jazz Big Band	CH13	Sinfonietta	CH3
Ceilidh	UG13	EWB	UDC11	ICSM Islamic	SAF13	J-Dorama	UG7	Singapore	GH26
Chamber Music	CH6	Exploration	BQ16	ICSM Ju-Jitsu	SAF14	Jewish	JCR23	SIS	UG10
Chaplaincy	JCR7	FLSU Exec	QL17	ICSM Lacrosse	SAF15	Judo	QL37	Skate Society	BQ17
Chaplaincy Labyrinth	UDC23	FPSU Exec	QL18	ICSM MedSIN	SAF16	Juggling	BQ9	Ski	MDH23
						Ju-Jitsu	QL38	Socialist Students	JCR12
						Karate do Shotokai	QL39	Spanish	GH27
						Karate Shotokan	QL41	Sports Motorcycle	QL32
						Karting	QL29	Squash	MDH14
						Kendo	QL42	Sri-Lankan	GH29
						Kenyan	GH17	SSETI	UDC21
						Kickboxing	QL43	STA Travel	AR9/10
						Korean	GH16	STOIC	BQ10
						Kung Fu	QL44	String Ensemble	CH1
						Labour	JCR14	Swimming/waterpolo	MDH23
						Latin-American	GH18	Socialist Worker	JCR11
						Lawn Tennis	QL19	Symphony Orchestra	CH2
						Leonardo	CH7	Table Football	UDH4
						Linux Users Group	UDH2	Table Tennis	MDH15
						London Nightline	MDH10	Tae Kwon Do	QL40
						London Philharmonic Orchestra		Taiwan	GH40
							AR14	Ten Pin Bowling	MDH28
						UoL Royal Navy Unit	MDH2	Thai	GH31
						Lord mayors Show	UDC20	Transport for London	MDH5
						Mah Jong	UDH12	Turkish	GH33
						Malaysian	GH20	UoL Officer Training Corps	MDH1
						Materials	UDC16	Ultimate Frisbee	QL2
						Mathematics	QL17	Undergraduate Research	MDH9
						Mauritian	GH21	Underwater	CP5
						Meat Appreciation	UDH15	UNICEF	JCR6
						Mech Soc	UDC18	UNIMOB	MDH4
						Medical Ethics	SAF30	UoL Air Squadron	AR5
						Milkround Online	Sherf Foyer2	University Poker league	AR6
						Minds Eye	BQ4	Urban Music	DBs5
						Model United Nations	GH28	Visit London	AR3
						Mountaineering	BQ7	Volleyball	MDH31
						Musical Theatre	CH10	VVMC	UDC22
						National Blood Service	AR1	War Games	UDH14
						National Theatre	AR13	Waterski	CP6
						Netball	MDH20	Weights	MDH30
						Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment	AR2	Windband	CH4
						Orienteering	MDH22	Windsurfing	CP3
						Origami	UDH7	Wing Chun	QL36
						OSC Exec	GH34	Womens Football	QL37
						Outdoor	BQ11	Womens Rugby	QL38
								Yacht	BMS28
								Yoga	UG12

South Kensington campus map



Key

AR	Ante Room
BMS	Sir Alexander Fleming Building
CH	Concert Hall
CP	Car Park
GH	Great Hall
JCR	Junior Common Room
MDH	Main Dining Hall
QL	Queen's Lawn
SF	Sherfield Foyer
UDC	Upper Dalby Court
UDH	Union Dining Hall
UG	Union Gym



Welcome to *Felix's* new Media section. Each week we'll be keeping you up-to-date with the latest news from the Union's Media Centre, home of *Felix*, stoic tv, IC Radio, PhotoSoc and others.

I, Science nominated for Media Awards



FEATURES
Twike around the block
Zoë Corbyn takes a test-drive in a Twike, the world's most efficient motorised vehicle.

One of Zoë's articles from *I, Science*

I, Science, the Imperial College science magazine launched as a spin-off of *Felix's* science section, and Science Communication student Zoë Corbyn have both been shortlisted for this year's Guardian Student Media Awards.

I, Science is nominated for Student Magazine of the Year. The science magazine was developed and edited by *Felix's* science editor Darius Nikbin, and produced two issues in the second half of last year. The shortlist will be judged by the editors of *Observer Food Monthly*,

Heat, *Grazia* and *Nuts*, with the winning editor receiving £1,000 and work experience at the *Guardian*.

I, Science contributor Zoë Corbyn has also been shortlisted for Student Feature Writer of the year. Zoë's contributions to *I, Science* and *Felix* included "My uncle, the global warming sceptic" (still available on felixonline.co.uk) and "Twike around the block" about the world's most efficient motorised vehicle. Her work will be judged by the *Guardian's* features editor and writers Jon Ronson and Simon Hattenstone.

The winner receives £500 and work experience at the *Guardian*.

The winners will be announced in November.

For more on the awards visit media.guardian.co.uk/studentmediaawards/

If you want to be in with a chance for next year's awards, why not start writing for *Felix*? Visit the *Felix* stand at Freshers Fair or e-mail the editor (felix@imperial.ac.uk).

Anyone fancy a Liquid Lunch?



Liquid Lunch is IC Radio's first lunchtime series, broadcasting every single weekday 12-2pm. Martin Archer and the Liquid Lunch team bring you everything you need for an enjoyable break packed full of music and entertaining features.

From discussions about *Felix* from its very own editor through to competitions and even dating services, you'll find it on Liquid Lunch. For instance, every week we give away tickets as part of Movie Mondays with Odeon Kensington, our cinema review talking you through the latest releases along with opinions and the movie charts. We could also be sending you and the object of your affections off for a date to Revolution Soho on Liquid Love. We've also got tips on how to save money in London and a guide to the coolest things to do in the capital.

It's not all talk though, Liquid Lunch features a good mix of mainstream music with classic feel good songs and the very latest tunes, the newest of which we call TBR Tracks. We'll play one TBR Track everyday Monday through Thursday and then you get to vote for your favourite of the week on Friday. You can control the music too by requesting songs on our micro-site and getting your name read out on the radio.

During Freshers' Week, Liquid Lunch has some extra special stuff lined up too. Firstly, every single



Have a Liquid Lunch at www.icradio.com/shows/liquidlunch

day we'll be giving away a handful of computer games and all you have to do to win is call up with the answer to a simple games related question. We'll also be broadcasting our recent interview with Brendan from Wheatus, where you'll find out what they've been up to since the days of Teenage Dirtbag and get a taster of their new material. Finally, you can hear what we got up to at last week's MOBO Awards, where we sneaked our way beside the red carpet.

If you think this sounds fun and you'd like to get involved, produce

and present your own feature on the show or help out behind the scenes, then come and see us broadcast live at Freshers' Fair in front of Queen's Tower, or contact us via the website.

Listen to Liquid Lunch and all our other shows on our website at icradio.com, where you can also download archive programmes. Those of you on the Wye campus can also point your dials at 1134AM.

Week One on stoic tv



The new look stoic TV returns on Monday 3 October. During week one we'll be screening a selection of highlights from last year to give you a taster of what we're about.

The Matt and Dave Show
The light entertainment extravaganza where we Harass the Masses, Beat the Greek (it's a quiz before you get the wrong idea!), and much more. It's not big, it's not clever, but it's a good laugh!

Preparing for Emergencies
Sketch show featuring Tara Soft, the stoic news presenters who didn't quite make the grade and the director with big ideas in a small lift. Who says scientists can't be funny?

Moving In
Comedy drama (like Cold Feet but on a smaller no budget), featuring the story of a regular student flat... ish. It's subtitled "Film Orange", but you'll have to watch to find out why.

A Room of My Own
Short film about a man who awakes to find himself trapped in small room. Follow the mystery and terror as it unfolds.

Flicks
The movie review show in association with Odeon Kensington. Duncan Pearse and Andre Refig cast their critical eyes over the latest big screen releases and give you the chance to win great prizes.

The DICQS
The Definitive Imperial College Quiz Show asking the questions that matter - like how to make a screaming orgasm (cocktail) and what is your lecturer's favourite department store?

stoic News
Sample our current affairs output with a report on the Southside redevelopment and highlights of our union elections coverage.

Scouting About
Documentary about a local scouting group. This programme was screened nationally on the The Community Channel.

If you want to get involved in any aspect of programme making or the technical aspects of running a television station and production house then come along to one of our introductory workshops. You'll get to have a look around and help produce a short programme.

More information will be here next week. Alternatively come and find us at Freshers Fair, visit our website (stoictv.com) or drop into our offices in the Media Centre.

Advertise on stoic tv
When not showing programmes, our screens in the JCR show a rolling text information service. You can advertise you club, society or event from as little as £5 per week, with discounts available for bulk orders.

For more information or to arrange your advert, contact advertising@stoictv.com.

Watch weekdays 12-2pm on the screens in the Junior Common Room (Main Walkway), or stream selected shows from our website at stoictv.com

Contact us

Media Group: union.ic.ac.uk/media | media@imperial.ac.uk • Felix: <http://felixonline.co.uk> | felix@imperial.ac.uk • IC Radio: icradio.com | manager@icradio.com • Mind's Eye: union.ic.ac.uk/media/mindseye | gg104@doc.ic.ac.uk • PhotoSoc: union.ic.ac.uk/media/photosoc | photosoc@imperial.ac.uk • stoic tv: stoictv.com | manager@stoictv.com



food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Back to basics



Hannah Theodorou
Food editor

Welcome to my column of domestic bliss where I will introduce you to a range of recipes from the basic yet tasty to the downright sin-ful. My first year at Imperial introduced me to some pretty hopeless cooks and I hope some of these recipes will help them make it through this year without overloading on MSG and Saccharine. It's easy to pick up ready-made meals from the supermarket yet they are both pricey and unhealthy and should only be reserved for emergencies. Ask any medic about the effect of excessive salt on your blood pressure and they'll be happy to tell you negative feedback + too many acronyms on your timetable= bad news for your ticker. Occasionally I'll have a Phoebe rating (if she's not too busy with clarinet practice and gossiping about the latest dolls-house trend) or, failing that, I'll just have to rate it myself.

Student basics

Olive oil (for cooking): 1 litre	£2.62
Extra virgin olive oil: 500 ml	£1.74
Pure vegetable oil: 1 litre	£0.43
Coarse sea salt: 500g	£0.74
Black pepper mill: 100g	£1.59
Mixed herbs: 18g	£0.25
Granulated sugar: 750g	£0.76
12 Veg or chicken stock cubes: 71g	£0.69
Mild chilli powder: 50g	£0.89
Mild curry powder: 80g	£0.55
Wholegrain mustard: 280g	£0.43
White wine vinegar: 350ml	£0.73
Mayonnaise: 500ml	£0.58
Value plain flour: 1.5kg	£0.27
Spaghetti: 2kg	£0.85
Penne pasta: 1kg	£0.49
Basmati rice: 1kg	£0.90
Value chopped tomatoes: 400g	£0.17
Bulb of garlic:	£0.24
Onion: 1	£0.16

All together this comes to about £15, when shopping at Tesco, so try to get mum and dad to pay for it before they drive off. Pick up good quality reduced meat for the freezer and try to cook for two or three to make life easier and share the load.

Tomato sauce for pasta

Today I'm going to start off simple with a recipe for tomato sauce. Paired with pasta of any sort it will satisfy even the largest of appetites. Any unused sauce can be kept in the fridge for a couple of days and can be smeared on jacket potatoes or toast with cheese before grilling to make a pikey pizza. The recipe is easily adaptable- you can chuck in olives, some cooked bacon or any herbs you have. After the onion has browned you can add chopped mushrooms or peppers and cook for about 5 mins until soft and then add the tomatoes. Basically, do whatever you fancy. Loyd Grossman eat your heart out....

- 1/2 an onion
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tin chopped/ peeled tomatoes
- 1 portion pasta (spaghetti or penne etc.)
- pinch of salt + ground pepper (+pinch of sugar- optional)
- fresh or dried basil or oregano or chilli powder (optional)
- dollop of plain yoghurt or cream (optional)
- grated cheese (optional)

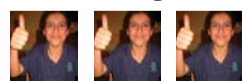
1. Cut the onion in half from root to tip. Chop finely, slicing to the root but not through it and then across in the opposite direction. Finely chop the garlic clove. Heat the olive oil over a medium heat and then add the onion and garlic, stirring so it doesn't burn. You want to soften them until the onion is golden and almost see-through- this should take about 5 minutes. Meanwhile, put on a pan of water to boil.

2. When the onion is softened you can add any extras you want like peppers, mushrooms or olives and cook them until softened as well which will take another 5 minutes. Cooked chicken or ham could also be added. Then add the tin of tomatoes

3. Season the sauce with salt and pepper and any herbs like basil, oregano or thyme you may have (fresh is better), adding chilli if you fancy it with a bite. A pinch of sugar if you haven't added chilli goes down well. Leave the sauce to simmer for about 10 minutes while the pasta cooks. At the end of cooking I usually stir in a spoonful of yoghurt or cream to make it creamier. A dollop of pesto can also be used to add flavour. Mix sauce with pasta and serve, saving any spare for tomorrow's lunch. Top with grated cheese (preferably Cathedral City cheddar)for extra Phoebe points.



Phoebe rating:



Time: 20 minutes
Cost: 30p per portion
(Loyd Grossman Tomato and Basil Sauce £1.60)

Loved it or loathed it? Email your comments and suggestions to food.felix@imperial.ac.uk



fashion.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Fashionable freshers?



Dolly Delany
Fashion editor

Darlings! You live in South Kensington; King's Road is but a hop, skip and jump away and you dress like a student! For any self respecting fashionista, the student look of ill-fitting jeans, shabby woolly jumper and puffy eyes from the night before, is just so passé. I'm here to make us Imperial Geeks fashionable, and no, Geek Chic isn't in (Eugene!). I will systematically dissect (and that's "dissect") the latest trends into a simple algorithm. All you have to do is follow, et voila, Imperial Chic!



Ooooh la la: Roland mouret perfected the hour-glass look on the autumn catwalk with wasp- waisted models. Dieting is not essential but, for those with anything less than a C-cup, chest- enhancing chicken filets are a must.



Pom-poms beware: Keep them to a minimum as shown by Burberry Prorsum on the catwalk in New York. Alternatively try a beatnik-style black and white striped scarf from Topshop (£12)

So, to start. All fashionistas know the Autumn look contains pompoms, stripes and polka dots. With these key essentials you can mix and match to make the Victorian, Russian, Beatnik or Hourglass look which dominated the catwalk. In my opinion, pompoms are just so bizarre that wearing them will make you look like a complete slave to fashion. The key to being a trend setter is not to wear overtly hip items, but to wear a fashionable outfit teamed with the odd piece that's going to get you noticed.

My favourite look of this season is inspired by Edie Sedgwick, Andy Warhol's muse. He also seems to have inspired Alexander McQueen and Christian Dior on the runways. Think bold black and white stripes, mohair sweaters dresses and black drainpipes, topped with a baker-boy cap-it's the Beatnik Look. This look may appeal to those of you who don't like fussy or uber neat. Think tousled hair, with lashings of eyeliner and smoky eye shadow. The essence of the Beatnik Look was a rebellion against the pre-war conservatism, so to look effortless, make the look effortless.

The Hourglass Look is one that will look great on those with ample bosoms and of course, the hourglass figure. Polka dot dresses are going to be a big thing this Autumn, so how about investing in one for the Freshers' Ball? Topshop and Hennes do an affordable range for those of you who have learnt from the perils of spending that Student Loan. But for those of you who haven't, or have the Bank of

Mum and Dad, Roland Mouret and Alexander McQueen (the man's too good!) had gorgeous outfits at their latest fashion shows. But be warned, many people are suggest using a thick leather belt strapped tightly around the waist to perfect the hourglass look. It looks vulgar and Marilyn would be turning in her grave; keep it simple girls. A pair of killer heels and a simple tight-fitting dress with an essential great handbag, are all you need.



Giorgio Armani does the military look. Steer clear of Primark's military jackets: a consumer frenzy has resulted in buckle overload. Try M&S's new line (from £30)

Last, but certainly not least is the Russian Look. It's also called the Russe and has several elements taken from the embroidered clothing of Slavonic Peasants, the marching Cossack, the aloofness of a Romanov Tsarina or mysterious Lara of Dr.Zhivago. Imperial Russia of yesteryear with its crisp military lines is contrasted against the traditional embroidered wool peasant-style inspired clothing of the Russian Steppes. However, have you seen the new Tesco's advert with Prokofiev playing in the background? Great advert- shame about the clothes! Personally I feel that the floral prints and floaty shirts of the summer were enough Peasant for me, so I feel that you should be thinking Pre-revolutionary Russia. Let them eat cake!

Win a Holiday in New Zealand

Felix has teamed up with Stray, New Zealand's leading backpacker bus network, and the award winning accommodation group, Beyond Backpackers, to give one lucky reader an unforgettable experience, down under

One Felix reader will win 10 nights accommodation in New Zealand staying in any of the world class Beyond Backpacker's four locations, plus two Stray bus passes to see the best of New Zealand at their leisure.

The Stray bus passes ensure the winner gets a guided tour around the best attractions in the North Island, both on and off the beaten track. The winner will visit Paihia, the gateway to the Bay of Islands, where they can take part in sailing, horse trekking, and dolphin swimming. They will also visit; Raglan surf beach, Waitomo caves where they can try black water rafting, the Coromandel to experience Hot Water Beach, Rotorua where they will gain an understanding of the Maori culture and see geothermal activity, and Lake Taupo for a spot of fishing.

Stray is New Zealand's fastest growing backpacker bus network - designed for travellers who want to get off the beaten track and really experience New Zealand. Stray offers customers a choice of 20 travel passes which are totally flexible so that you can 'get on' and 'get off' anywhere along the way. Stray's itineraries incorporate the best of what New Zealand has to offer, from the famous attractions to the not so famous but quintessentially Kiwi activities!

The Beyond Backpacker group offers visitors the best hostel facilities in all New Zealand's hot spots including: Auckland Central Backpackers in Auckland, Pipi Patch Lodge in the Bay of Islands, Hot Rock Backpackers in Rotorua, and Discovery Lodge in Queenstown.

Each Beyond Backpackers hostel has its own unique characteristics which reflect the local area and Beyond Backpackers' philosophy of providing travellers with 'More Than Just A Bed'. This means visitors can expect great standards and a fantastic range of facilities including; bars, travel and adventure booking, employment assistance, internet access, Sky TV, and location

specific extras like swimming pools, spas, mineral hot pools and more.

Both the accommodation and transport pass are valid for two years, so even if you are not planning to go Down Under for a year or two, you should enter to be in to win a New Zealand experience of a lifetime.

Visit www.gobeyond.co.nz and www.straytravel.com for further details.

To enter simply answer the following questions, bring this page into the Felix office, West basement, Beit Quad, or email felix@imperial.ac.uk:

What is the name of New Zealand's leading backpacker bus network?

What is Beyond Backpackers' philosophy?

Tie Breaker Question - describe your ideal holiday in New Zealand (no longer than 10 words).

The Felix editorial team will judge the best entry. Entry deadline - 12pm Tuesday 4th October 2005. Non-students and Felix contributors are ineligible (sorry).

Terms and Conditions

The winner's passes and accommodation are valid for two years, from the date the winner is notified

Flights are NOT included as part of the prize

The prize can not be exchanged for cash and is non-refundable

Bookings are subject to availability





Freshers' Week



Saturday 1st October

the mingle

db: Mtv Base DJ Hanif - R'n'B and Hip Hop.
Concert Hall: Current Chart and Party Rock Classics
Room 3: The Mingle speed dating/ friend making service
UDH: Shisha Bar
Entry: £3.
20.00 - 1.00

Monday 3rd October

THE URBAN SELECTION

db: Dancehall, Bashment, R'n'B and Hip-Hop Residents.
UDH: Shisha Bar, games and BBQ.
Entry: £2.
Union Bar: Powder keg Beer Festival, Real Ale Promo £1 a Pint (Free entry).
19.30 - 23.30

Tuesday 4th October

JAZZ BIG BAND

db: Jazz Big Band - 19.30-23.30.
Da Vinci's: STA Quiz Night - 20.00 - 22.00
Entry: Free.

Wednesday 5th October

SPORTS NIGHT



db: Jo O'Meara (SCLUB7) and Sports Night Residents.
UDH: Shisha Bar and games.
Concert Hall: Resident DJs playing the best in party rock.
Gym: Bouncy boxing inflatable Fight Club Fun.
Sports Night Bar Promo: £1 a pint (Carlsberg, Tetley & Cider)
Entry: £5
20.00 - 01.00

Thursday 6th October

Salsa & Samba

db: Salsa and Samba.
Da Vinci's: Karaoke Competition with Clap or boo-ometer.
Bar Promo: Tequila and Corona.
Entry: Free.
19.30 - 23.00

Friday 7th October

bling-bling



FABRICLIVE.

db: Tim Westwood RBK tours from BBC Radio 1 and Mtv Pimp My Ride. **UDH:** Shisha Bar, Games and Chill Out.
Concert Hall: Panjabi Hit Squad (BBC 1 Xtra), Joe Ransom (Fabriclive), Matt Carpenter, Ben Beiny and break-dancers.
Casino: Black Jack and Roulette. Bar Promo: Free Smirnoff and mixer plus free Shark vodka cocktail on entry. **Entry:** £8.
20.00 - 02.00

Welcome...



Sameena Misbahuddin
- President

Welcome to a new year at Imperial College, to the new students just joining us, those returning after a refreshing summer break and to those who have been here throughout the summer.

Upcoming Events

The first week of term sees the usual packed programme of events in the Union. Pick up a flyer and term calendar for more info.

Freshers' Fair (not just for Freshers!!) takes place on Tuesday 4th Oct. and its your chance to get involved in Union clubs and societies as well as grabbing freebies!

Union Projects

You'll know that we're planning extensive redevelopment of the Union building, with initial design and consultation having already been carried out last year. Look out for more details during the term.....

Disabilities awareness

The Union starts the new term with the launch of its

disabilities awareness campaign. Disabilities is often a taboo subject, but the campaign is designed to give you more information about what help is available through the Union and College. Pick up a leaflet or visit the Information & Advice Centre for more details.

Council

Got opinions on issues affecting Imperial students? The Union Council discusses issues such as student accommodation, fair-trade policies and much more, through this we govern the way the Union runs and represents itself to the College. Why not get involved? The issues dealt with are key to your experience as an Imperial student. Elections to the Council will take place in October with nominations forms out now! - for more details visit www.union.ic.ac.uk/council.

More Info

For more info about Union services - from Ents to Welfare advice, from skills training to academic representation - checkout the Union Handbook (available from the Union reception and during freshers' fair) and www.union.ic.ac.uk. For info about clubs and societies, checkout the Clubs and Societies "A to Z" Handbook.

The future of the University of London

You may have heard the news that Imperial may be considering leaving the University of London. In the

coming months, College will be discussing this issue and it is important that the students views are heard. Watch upcoming Felix for more information about what this actually means for students.

Contact

If you want any information or help, pop into the Union offices on the first floor of the Union building in Beit Quad. Sabbatical officers are often out of their offices working for the students, but to help I will be setting aside "surgery" hours starting from 10th October - Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays 12pm-1pm in the Union offices.

Alternatively you can email the Sabbatical team on:

- Sameena Misbahuddin - President
president@imperial.ac.uk
- Simon Matthews - Deputy President (Clubs and Societies)
dpcs@imperial.ac.uk
- Sarah Khatib - Deputy President (Education and Welfare)
dpew@imperial.ac.uk
- Tim Aplin - Deputy President (Finance and Services)
dpfs@imperial.ac.uk
- Luis Hui - Deputy President (Graduate Students)
dpgs@imperial.ac.uk

What's happening at the ICSMSU?



Danny McGuinness - ICSMSU President

The delightful Mr Neate has given me the opportunity to have a little column each week. I better start with an introduction. My name is Danny and I'm the Medic President (controversial to be given a column I know). As far as I know, a medic president hasn't done this before but I guess my job is to report what's been going on in the medic world and as a member of council and the union executive I can probably throw that in every now and again. There will however be no mention of donuts for votes.

The Medical School lies pretty dormant over the summer months which has given me plenty of opportunity to get on with some 'work'. The college in it's drive to increase funds at every available opportunity (some might say to put glass on the front of buildings instead of books in libraries and teachers in lecture theatres) has been hiring out

the SAFB on a daily basis to a range of conferences. My personal favourite was weight watchers day, I felt exceptionally guilty munching on a panini whilst others were promoting the 21st century miracle cure that is slimfast.

A summer of freshers' fortnight planning is beginning to become a reality with events finalised and freshers' signing up like there's no tomorrow. The fear has kicked in but the enthusiasm of the new intake leads me to believe it's going to be a very special year.

Over the course of the next few months I'm looking forward to some good-hearted ICSM vs IC rivalry and banter, varsity day being one of the undoubted highlights. We're all nice people (medics and non-medics) and it's only supposed to be a bit of a giggle when we poke fun at each other.

Anyhow, here's to the next nine months for every part of the union and it's been a treat to say hello. Complaints about a medic having a column can be forwarded to the editor.

Take care, Danny. x

Don't let your concern turn into a crisis...

The Information and Advice Centre is run by Imperial College Union and is a free, Impartial and independent advice service for all imperial college students.

The Information and Advice Centre can help with a multitude of problems big or small, it can also help you if you just need someone to speak to you or if you would just like some information.

Areas The Information and Advice Centre covers include:

Academic Advice - Academic appeals, Complaints, Withdrawals and help with course problems and transfers.

Money Advice - Assistance with loan, fees and grant queries, debt Advice, International student funding, assistance with applications to the Hardship fund, Postgraduate funding information.

Housing Advice - Tenancy agreement checking service, Help getting unfairly held deposits back, assistance on getting your landlord to

carry out repairs, illegal evictions and harassment, information about your general housing rights.

International student issues - How to get a national insurance number, International students' funding, Local and general information for international students.

Employment Rights Advice - National Insurance, Tax Refunds, national minimum wage, holiday and break entitlement.

Consumer Rights Advice - Help with your consumer rights, Internet buying, Illegal traders.

Personal Safety - Tips and advice on personal safety, Free but limited supply of attack alarms and leaflets & publications that can help you.

Sexual Health - The advice service has a wide range of leaflets on sexual health and has a list of local sexual health clinics; the centre also has a limited supply of condoms that are free for students of Imperial.

Legal Issues - Referral to local Legal centres.

The Information and Advice Centre also advocates for students in different situations, this includes liaising with college on students' behalf and writing letters on behalf of students. If you have any problems during your time here whether with the college or externally, don't let your concern turn into a crisis, Make the Information and Advice Centre your first port of call it is professionally run by our Student Adviser Nigel Cooke and can really help you to solve any problem.

The Information and Advice Centre is located in the East Wing Basement of Beit Quad and works on a drop in or appointment basis

If you wish to contact us please feel free:

Opening hours: 10am-6pm Monday - Friday
Drop in/Appointment

Phone: 020 7594 8067

E-Mail: advice@imperial.ac.uk





Iain Heaton

In the big, bad world

I'd like to firstly welcome all the new freshers to Imperial College, have a great next few years! Secondly I'd like to say hello to all the second, third and fourth years, especially anyone who was unfortunate enough to know me! I am now no longer at Imperial, which is a great shame because the three years I spent there were the best of my life. I hope the years you all spend there will be just as good. I also hope I can help you all enjoy them as much as I did.

I intend to try and give you useful tips for Uni and also give you a view of what world is like afterwards, (it is very different). Over the year I intend to bring you such essential topics as 'The Bike Gangs of Cambridge', 'Why Accountants are heroes' and 'Why we DO need a Neighbours Omnibus!'. First, however, a bit about me. While at Imperial I read biology for three years and now I work for Deloitte, Touche and Tohmatsu (I guess in the interest of advertising standards I must mention that there are other financial services firms) training to be a chartered accountant. That brings me nicely to my first point; it doesn't matter too much what degree you do you can still pretty much work in any sector you like. Okay, so you can't really become a doctor unless you do medicine (and I still wouldn't trust some of the medics at Imperial) and you are unlikely to be

employed to be a construction engineer if you do chemistry but for the most part a degree simply proves you have a brain, it shows to employers that they can train you to be an asset to them.

Anyway, I wouldn't worry about all that too much, after all for you freshers the day you have to get a job is at least three years away, but if you feel like you don't know what you want to do right now, don't worry! You can use most degrees for pretty much anything. Of course if you think that you want to do something particular and it means changing degrees then go for it, there's no point doing something for three years that you don't want to do and you don't enjoy!

That brings me on to my second point, enjoy uni! People criticise Imperial; you might see the *Felix* editor wearing a T-shirt reading 'Gimperial' (he is very proud of that!), and it is true to a degree (no pun intended). Imperial does have a lot of geeks and also a lot of boys. For this reason a lot of people say that the union sucks and they all go out in London and to other unions. It wasn't always this way, in my first year (god, I sound old) the union was brilliant, we went there every Wednesday and nearly every Friday. Go to other places as well, London is a wonderful place and has all sorts of clubs and pubs but remember, if Imperial's own students don't go to their Union then it will be crap and empty and if they do go it

will be packed and brilliant.

In terms of girls, yes Imperial is 66% boys but some subjects aren't. Biology and medicine are about 50/50 and all of them hang out in SAF (so you have them trapped in one place!) Looking back now, I wish I had made better friends with more medics; the rivalry that exists between the college and the medics simply stops the rest of the college having access to some very attractive and pleasant girls! Apart from medics, certain clubs and societies have lots of girls, riding club and dancesport spring to mind. Girls, you have nothing to worry about; guys are everywhere, if you go to the Union you won't even have to try and yes, there are some hot guys in Imperial (even though I've left).

Uni is not just a place to study, especially in the first year. I did two weeks very bad revision before my first year exams and I got three C's and a D and I was pleased! I passed and, frankly, in Biology the first year means nothing, it's worth 5%! It varies for other degrees but never will it be worth more than about 10% so enjoy your first year; go out, have fun, turn up hungover for lectures, steal traffic cones and signs, go to Maroush at four in the morning, make those 24 hour staff at Sainsbury's earn their pay and, most importantly, make good friends, they will stay with you for life!



Anushri Patel

Skirts and T-shirts are 'un-Islamic'?

Islam has become a sensitive subject. That's rather unfortunate, because any celebrity who claims an affiliation with the religion will always be seen as a Muslim first and a human being second. And judged accordingly, usually by hardcore critics, who probably spend their spare time nitpicking petty details in the Qu'ran.

No sooner had tennis star Sania Mirza become the first Indian woman to enter the world top 50, the Sunni Ulema Board, an unfamiliar "Muslim" organisation in India, released a religious diktat demanding that she cover up during matches. Apparently, her skirts and T-shirts are "un-Islamic" and "corrupting".

I have to stress that these are random Muslim clerics, who nobody's ever heard of before. I'm not sure if they just wanted some publicity or are, indeed, just stupid.

Rather than praising her achievements, they've been chastising her for not dressing modestly. Of course, Muslim women are known for their conservative dress sense, and whether or not they need veiling is a debate I leave for Islamic Soc.

What worries me about the Sunni Ulema Board is that they don't appear to know the

meaning of context. Context is the defining line between an extremist and a rational human being.

She's a tennis player, not a glamour model. She's wearing what she feels comfortable playing in – and that's her prerogative. It's pure over-reaction, and for people who think women should be protected from manly gazes, they went totally the wrong way about it. All this media attention over what Sania Mirza wears – it does nothing but from draw men to her more. Now they'll be looking at bits they never even noticed before. Clever. Real clever.

The majority of men, shock, horror, really did just watch Miss Mirza for the tennis before all of this hoo-hah.

My second issue is their lack of faith in their own religion. So she isn't following her religion to the letter; who does? Just because one person refuses to abide by the rules, doesn't mean everyone else will. Are they really convinced that Islam is so weak that it'll crumble because of girl?

When those four boys came to London and blew up our transport system, everyone was adamant that we should not consider them Muslim, for their actions were not indicative of Islam as a

religion.

So why is Sania Mirza treated as though she's the sole symbol of Islam? She's merely one girl wearing a skirt. It doesn't mean that the world will now view Muslim women as evil exhibitionists. If anything, she'll be idolised for her achievements. She'll attain a support that, sadly, her own community failed to give her.

The third strike by the "board" was to say that she's corrupting the "innocent" minds of young women. That, is a disgustingly presumptuous statement about all women. It implicitly states that women are sheep. "Oh dear, let me rip off my veil and run around in my birthday suit, inviting illicit sex, because that tennis player is showing her legs."

Furthermore, these so called "men of faith" have absolutely no confidence in the women of their society. I'll let you all in on a little secret: women are not robots; we're perfectly capable of thinking for ourselves.

I grew up on a road full of prostitutes, but that never meant that I wanted to be one. People who are predisposed to brainwashing will get brainwashed – don't blame the poor catalyst. Those who aren't? They watch and learn and make up their own minds. It's called being an individual.

The Neighbours generation



Our parents had The Beatles, our grandparents had WWII. We have *Neighbours*!

The summer holidays have not stemmed the create juices down Australia way! How classic was it when Izzy was all set to flee Erinsborough until Karl told her Darcy had amnesia. But, then just her luck he recovers! What does she do? She asks Paul Robinson if he knows any good hitman.

Paul, still on good form despite having been tricked into having his leg amputated, sets her up with a napkin sales man!

But, one should not talk *Neighbours* all day long, especially to you new freshers who might start thinking I'm some sort of freak. The summer saw the tragic death of Richard Whiteley aged 61. Loveable Whiteley was the host of another student TV staple, *Countdown*. I've personally spent countless hours failing to solve the count down conundrum, while I should have been revising for exams.

Whiteley will forever have a place in my heart with his fantastic collection of truly hideous ties. Normally such pathetic gags would get on my tits, but Whiteley's demeanour made him virtually impossible not like. I challenge you to find me someone who really didn't like Whiteley.



'Good night'

When Whiteley died I imagined that it would be the end of *Countdown*, this surely was a case of the star being bigger than the show. *This Morning* struggled on with out Richard & Judy, I doubt *Countdown* can do the same.

Deadlines

Its currently 4.50am the deadline for submitting the completed *Felix* to the printers is less than

7 hours away and there's a lot left to do. Why is it that I'm always up all night the day before a deadline. This reminds me of the my nightmare BSc research project. I stayed up for 51 hours straight and then went straight out to buy a £300 suit for halls going down dinner, got hideously drunk, threw up on it and allowed compromising photos to be taken. The one to the left is the only one fit to print.

Thank You

I would never have got *Felix* to this state with out all the help I've had, please give yourselves a pat on the back. Special thanks to *Felix*'s new Deputy Editor, Alexander Antonov who is also staying up all night. But, he has gone one further – he's staying up all night in Paris! Thanks also to Dave Edwards, last year's editor. Dave really brought *Felix* around last year by changing to this format. I'm only just starting to realise quite how much effort Dave put into *Felix* and I hope I will be able to match his sterling performance.

Hopefully next week's *Felix* won't make me quite as physically ill as this one. You can help, please contribute to your paper, *Felix* will better represent Imperial of more of us create it.



felix

No 1328
Thursday
29 September 2005
felix@imperial.ac.uk

“
It was a dingy place in the basement, but it was still the best place to go for a drink on campus
”

Southside bar

This will be the first year of Imperial without Southside bar. For those Freshers amongst you Southside bar was arguably the most popular bar on campus. It was a dingy little place in the basement of Southside halls in Princes Garden. Its decor was in need of replacing and the furniture was falling apart.

But, it was still the best place to go for a drink on campus, and its going to be a sad year without it. College did suggest re-housing Southside in Linstead hall, but last year's Union President, Mustafa Arif, thwarted this plan. In doing so he also caused the closure of all hall bars. So if your sitting around halls wondering why you can't get a cheap drink, you know who to blame.

This issue might not have been quite as important if there were any suitable local alternatives. If you haven't discovered the local prices yet, lets just say you'll be lucky to get a pint for under £3.

UNITE halls

What happened in Liverpool happened, but its in the past now. Its important that Freshers are aware of the previous problems, but these halls should be judged on their future performance.

Piccadilly court is a long way from College, but student accommodation in London is scarces

at the best of times and this appears to be the optimal solution. Southside had to come down and the new building promises to surpass even Beit in luxury.

But, are luxurious halls what students want? The new ensuite Southside rooms are likely to cost in the region of £130 a week, compared to the previous £90. At a time of the introduction of top-up fees and spiralling London living costs. Should priorities not be focused on providing more affordable, if more basic student accommodation?

Letters

To be the become a better newspaper *Felix* needs to know whats going on, and issues are important to you.

The best ways you get your views heard by everyone in College, including Sir Richard, is to write a letter to *Felix*. We will endeavour to publish every letter received from students, staff and those from outside Imperial.

Previous letters in *Felix*, particularly those about the Library situation, have brought 'the powers that be' to attend issues that affect you.

Don't just whinge to your friends and colleagues write to *Felix*.

To encourage letter writing, the 'star letter' received each week will win £10 or a prize of their choice from the *Felix* freebie pile.



Stormy Woods

Dear Readers,

Welcome and welcome back to the wonderful world of Stormy Woods!

I trust you all had an amazing summer without me? Well, someone had to, given that the deities of conscientiousness decided to pay *me* a visit - to shoot me a cupid's bow full of assignments and revision! The fifth year is not fun when it comes to getting my most exquisite nose down to the grindstone, despite the increased responsibility shadowing at an outer London GP practice brings....

...and added responsibility in an affluent area of London is certainly a bonus when the catchment area contains twenty-thousand tanned and built South African men under the age of thirty-five. I don't mind doing over-time just this once...or twice. It's best I don't get greedy, since my friends in areas with high concentrations of males of the persuasion they don't find attractive, fight amongst themselves to deputise at my practice. Their fervour is heightened especially when a violation of the doctor-patient relationship isn't covered in either of our medical defence policies! Students

are a grey area, and whilst ethics may dictate one set of rules whilst you're playing doctor, hormones dictate another!

And boy, does it feel good to finally relieve some frustration! GP surgeries are wonderful - just ripe for the picking, given that the young patients who visit aren't chronically ill, and the medical equipment (including the all-important couch) is ready and waiting!

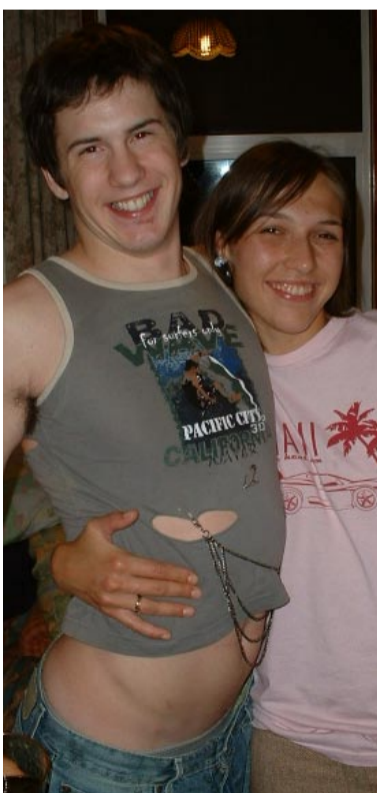
Most importantly, I am ready and waiting, for the freshers - it's rude not to offer them living anatomy tutorials as and when they see fit (and if they are fit - males of the surfer/goth persuasion are preferred, although I wouldn't be rushing to kick a cute skater/indie-boy out of bed!). Unattractive males and females need not apply, offer subjected to terms and conditions of the Stormy Woods safe sex act of 2005.

Legalities and formalities aside, my summer was not all doom and gloom. The trip to the Big Apple went very well - with Stormy's previous top-ten best looking men being shunted down another ten places for an exclusive selection of American hot-like-woah! Regretfully for me, the bleeding fanny put a stop to my efforts, and I left New York with a suitcase full of clothes, shoes, make-up and CD's and an array of cultural experience on a non-sexual level. Positively-speaking, sex on my own has never been better; I thank the men of New York profusely - I can see how the SATC girls got inspired ;)

Naughty also had a second holiday whilst the rest of you were getting down and dirty at the Carling Weekend and the Notting Hill Carnival! An old friend took me to Budapest, where we had a very civil girlie weekend admiring the architecture, classical music and the cuisine. Coffee and cake is definitely the way to this girl's heart - especially with a little kink the way they do in Covent Garden! Hungarian men are very charming with a rustic ruggedness. They're very refined, and appear to be grossly misrepresented at Imperial College by a very horny, churlish chappie every female I'm friends with has had the misfortune of meeting.

sighs
I better leave you now - I need both my beauty sleep and verve for tomorrow's patients.
Until next time....be good ;)

The Blue Book Diaries



Rob Robinson

It's a new Imperial year, and without Southside bar I don't know how I'll survive! I write this article to the new Imperial students in the hope that I might influence the way you always behave, and mould you into normal human being. It's odd that I feel like have I tell new students how to act, but it is "gimperial!"

First of all, if you are a girl do not get spit roasted in the first week. This has actually happens every year in Freshers week, everyone always finds out (normally via web cam), and you will be labelled a cheap whore for the rest of your life. If you don't mind the names (union S_) go for it, just make sure it is two good looking guys.

If you are guy don't write a diary (the blue book), and leave it lying around in halls. Especially if it depicts your penis size against time, maps of where your pubes are growing and your innermost sexual fantasies.

To be more serious, I beg, in fact I plead with you, please do not make yourselves look like a bunch of prepubescent wankers... guys please don't all flock over the same girls, it is sickening! You see it every year ten guys crowding around one girl, who is not even particularly good looking. To be honest none of you have a chance if you all treat her like a god, because within two

weeks she have her head so far stuck up her own ass she won't be able to hear you.

Girls, get over the fact that you get so much attention, it's not because you are pretty, it's not because you are cool, its just there aren't any other girls to compete with.

I hope as my new readers you will end up sympathising with at least some of my views. For example, I do not understand those that come to uni with girlfriends/boyfriends from school or home. It is not going to work! You are too young... go out and enjoy yourselves, you are missing out on the best days of your lives.

Girls don't sleep with someone within at least the first month. They may seem nice, but get to know them first, if you sleep with the wrong person straight away your reputation might never recover. However, if you sleep with someone after this period and he's still an idiot, 1) you probably deserve it and 2) well done to the guy for either, getting her so pissed or being able to pull the wool over her eyes.

Well thats about it for this week, but I have been told to tell you a bit about myself. I am not particularly good looking, very unpopular and have an extremely small penis, so it is up to you if you ignore my words of wisdom, but be warned.

RCS MOTOR CLUB

RCS Motor Club exists to maintain Jezebel, a 1916 Dennis N-Type Fire Engine.

Jezebel is fully working and we try to go out every Wednesday and many weekends. It costs nothing to join and no mechanical experience is required.

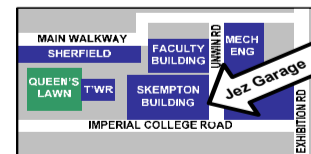
We're after all sorts of people, so come along and talk to us at Freshers' Fair or come to one of our events!

See the website for more information:
<http://union.ic.ac.uk/jez/>

Meet us near the Queen's Tower at Freshers' Fair,

Jezebel Garage on Wednesday's from 2pm

Or come to one of our events!



Wed 5th Oct
Sightseeing + BBQ
Meet at 2pm

Sat 8th Oct
Pumping Trip + Lunch
Meet at 11am

Sat 22nd Oct
Pub Crawl
Meet at 6pm

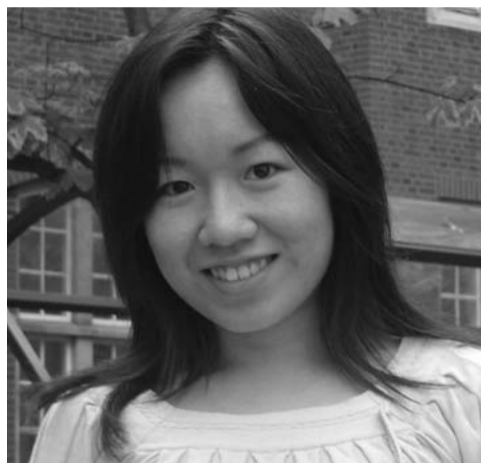


blind date

felix@imperial.ac.uk

26 October 2005: Rich & Angela

Each week *Felix* plays match-maker and sets up two of Imperial students in the hope they'll find love, or at least have a laugh.



Angela, 21

Chemical Engineering (2nd Year)

Describe your ideal partner?

My ideal partner would be sensitive, big-hearted, generous and kind. I would have to find him physically attractive (this doesn't mean he has to be the world's greatest looker), he has to have a sense of humour, he has to be able to talk about a wide breadth of topics. And, yes he has to be taller than me, no mean feat as I am only 5ft 2!

Which famous person would you say most resembles you?

A famous person that resembles me (laughs), that's a bit far-fetched. I don't think I have the X-factor. Oh, well personally-wise I would say Meg Ryan - I'm whimsical, a bit fickle-minded, and I just have weird demands sometimes.

What is your favorite type of cheese?

My favourite type of cheese (laughs)? I don't really like cheese - but for the heck of it - I would say Camembert.



Rich, 25

ex-Deputy President Clubs & Societies. Chemical Engineering (graduated 2003)

Describe your ideal partner?

My ideal partner will have a youthful complexion, but the vigour and experience of a strict upbringing and good schooling. She shall have child-bearing hips and a submissive manner and be no stranger to the kitchen and the bedroom. She shall be respectful and diligent and shall speak only when instructed.

Which famous person would you say most resembles you?

I am famous!

What is your favorite type of cheese?

Bitto della Valtellina, a rare cheese, produced above 4,000ft in Italian alpine pastures. It's made from a blend of approximately 90% cow's milk and 10% goat's milk and aged up to one year. It has the most divine tangy and wonderful flavour, while its aroma is sweet and botanical. As the cows are grazed so high up, they don't produce much milk, so not much cheese either, making it really difficult to get hold of, but I have a supplier in London Bridge who sorts me out.

Looking for
Love?

Or just a great
dinner?

E-mail felix@imperial.ac.uk with the answers to the intro questions above, and we'll set you up a date to remember.



The Date

7.30pm
Masala Zone
147 Earls Court Road

sponsored by
masala zone

Angela's Verdict

What were your first thoughts when you saw Rich?

He looked like a normal guy.

Did you fancy him?
(laughs)

Did you enjoy yourself?
Yes, good fun and good conversation.

What did you eat?
Lamb Rojan Josh, I don't normally enjoy Indian food, but, this was great.

So is Rich funny?
Yeah, very funny.

Will you be seeing him again?

We haven't made arrangements yet, but hey, you never know.

And, finally, the question everyone wants ask, did you kiss?

No, I don't normally kiss on a first date.

Rich's Verdict

What were your first thoughts when you saw Angela?

Umm, oh god, how to put it into words. A very distinct emotion. Possibly, her lack of courteousness. She ignored me knocking on the door, while I was trying to get into the *Felix* office.

Did you fancy her?

She was a delightful and enigmatic girl. But, I'm not one who falls in love at first sight.

Did you enjoy yourself?

I had a pleasant evening. The food was colourful, tasty, and the service was excellent.

Will you be seeing her again?

Sadly, due to current circumstances the chances of us managing to meet again will be down to the dice of fate. However, should the opportunity arise, it would not be a displeasure to receive the offer. But, let's just say I won't be jumping over the moon.

So you didn't kiss?
No, we didn't.

bling-bling presents...

WESTWOOD



TIM WESTWOOD

(BBC Radio 1, **RbK**  tour)

MTV's Pimp my ride UK 



(BBC Radio 1xtra)

Joe Ransom **FABRICLIVE.**

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Chill out and play games
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Bar Shisha 



...plus a Casino with roulette
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A free Smirnoff with mixer plus
a free Shark vodka cocktail on entry

The Union advises you to drink responsibly

WWW.TIMWESTWOOD.COM

It's a Bling thing...



Friday 7th October
£8 Entry
Student ID required
R.O.A.R

Freshers' Week 2005
Wednesday 5th October

**SPORTS
NIGHT**

20.00 - 01.00



Jo O'Meara (SClub7)
Sports Night residents

Playing the best in party rock...

**MISS K
WAY WAY
ROCK CITY**

Bouncy boxing & Inflatable Fight Club in the Gym...

Bar Shisha

Chill out and play games
with Bar Shisha in the
UDH...

**£1 a pint for Carlsberg, Tetley & Cider
all night in all bars!**

The Union advises you to drink responsibly

imperial
college
union



Entry £5 R.O.A.R
Student ID required

Dear Miss Confidentiality...



Hi kids, welcome to uni! Now the fun starts, but fun spawns problems. I'm here to help you with all the worries you might have about life at uni and beyond. Please don't hesitate to email me, agony.felix@imperial.ac.uk. I look forward to hearing from you!

Miss Confidentiality X

Dear Miss Confidentiality,

I don't know what to do. I've fallen in love. No its not a good thing. He's a geek, I mean a proper NHS specks geek! I'm a cool chick, not conceited, just you know... normal. I obviously haven't acted on these feelings yet, what would my friends think!? What should I do, do you have any tips on how to fall-out-of-love?

Jill, 18

Dear Jill,

Have you ever thought that perhaps fairy tales do come true and that this could be your frog and with one kiss he may turn into a prince charming? However in this case instead of being the princess who may have just found her happy ever after you're in total danger of becoming the wicked witch! So what if he wears NHS glasses, and is a geek, babe you're at IC what were you expecting?? Sorry I don't have any magic potions around this week to make you fall out of love, it's just not in my job description. If you're really that embarrassed by his glasses and evident geekiness, either try a makeover, or dump the guy. You both will probably be better off. If you really care about him and want to make amends, I'd start being more fair and giving him a chance, maybe things will work out and you'll learn to ignore the geekiness within. Then again don't forget that freshers' week tends to heighten emotions, then things will just fizzle out, you can go your way and he can happily hop along his.

Dear Miss C,

I've done something a little stupid. You know everyone says that when you go to university you can reinvent yourself. Well that's exactly what I did. I'm pretending to be this druggie muso. The idea was to create this image that would attract the girls, look at Pete Doherty and Kate Moss. The thing is I'm not really like that at all, I'm actually quite a shy geeky guy. I don't know what to do I've

kinda gone too far, and don't know how to backtrack, everyone will think I'm a weirdo. Any ideas?

Matt, 19

Dear Matt,

Oh dear, what have you got yourself into? Now you say you've done some dumb thing, just how dumb I'm wondering? If you've become some hardcore druggie and are regretting it and want to get clean, there's plenty of help available, the national drugs helpline for one! Just remember when temptation strikes, its always best to *just say no!* Don't stress. Or if you ended up with a room full of groupies and did something you regret? It's easily sorted, unless you now have a stalker, in which case I'd advise a restraining order. If you've not quite gone that far and are just regretting the transformation? Well mate there's only one option, turn back to who you are. Your first mistake was to reinvent yourself, the only time turning into a stranger will attract girls is if your James Bond, and only Sean Connery can really pull that role off. The best thing to do is to put it all behind you and be who you're comfortable with. Blame it on the booze if you must! One of the best things about uni is that it is a pick and mix of all sorts of people, and I'm sure that you'll find friends' amongst the great variety of different sweets. Don't worry about people finding you weird, everyone's different, and I'm sure they'll give you a chance and find out you're a great guy who just went slightly off the rails, but hey everyone's allowed a mistake, don't punish yourself too much and just get back on the uni train!

Hey Miss Confidentiality,

I've got an itch, an itch down there. I'm scared it might be an STI. What should I do?

J

Hey J,

Well well well, look who's been misbehaving! Umm, I'm not really qualified to tell whether that itch down under, is just because you've been too busy during fresher to shower and so are just plain gross or whether you've caught something from someone, no judgment I promise. I think the best thing is get down to the GP, or the NHS walk in centres and get some tests done. Or if you're feeling really open I'd try chatting to some of the IC medics around. Now to be helpful I might just give you a few tips on what to do in future, it doesn't take a genius, whatever and whoever you do, try and stay clean, it'll defiantly help you to attract members of the opposite sex, and secondly... use protection, I hate to sound like your mum, but still, it's you who's gonna suffer, that and whoever else you've been fooling around with, I'd watch out for angry ex partners banging down your door!

Dear Miss C,

I'm a fresher, who came to uni being the envy of all her school mate when they heard about the boy to girl ratio. Only I find myself severely disappointed. Where are all the

hot guys hiding, or am a doomed to spend 3 years in geekland? What do you suggest?

Cathy

Dear Cathy,

Welcome to the real world? Didn't it seem slightly unrealistic that fate could hand you a 2-to-1 guy to girl ratio and a roomful of fitness to take your pick from? Take those rose coloured glasses off sweetie, its time to face facts. Unfortunately you're not the first to have these opinions and no you won't be the last. Bear in mind IC is known more for its brains than its brawn which isn't necessarily a bad thing. Hey it give you a chance to either practise your feminine charms, if you haven't already got them perfected or make some really great mates who are guys, giving you a chance to get closer to solving the mystery that is the male mind. Give the guys a chance, they aren't that bad and maybe they just haven't shown off their true Adonis like qualities as they lost that tan by spending all their time in library. I spy a makeover on its way, what better way to relieve your frustration than by shopping? What I will say is, that even in a roomful of geeks you will always find a diamond amongst the rough, just get ready for some competition, because most of the female IC population will be charging the same way you are. Remember alls fair in love and war.

Dear Miss C,

I've moved into flat with some friends from halls. My flatmates are great friends, but bad flatmates. I mean they never pitch in with household chores leaving me with a clogged sink full of dirty dishes and nothing to eat off unless I spend hours scrubbing. I think what bugs me most is though that they also never buy any toilet roll, and use all of mine, it's beginning to drive me crazy and I've only been living with them a few weeks, what do you suggest?

Nisha

Dear Nisha,

Firstly? Calm down and breathe, it's only been a few weeks. I'm guessing that you haven't tried talking to them about it? The thing is that if you continue to do their washing for them and buy them toilet roll, they probably won't see a problem, it's just like being at home, you may have just found yourself appointed flat mum. If you keep going this way whilst silently plotting their demise, things aren't really going to get much better. The best thing is to try setting up a cleaning rota and make everyone pitch in. No one like chores unless you're a close relative of Mr Muscle but hey it's better than living in a room full of empty beer cans and month old MacDonald's. If you guys are really as close as you say then I'm sure they'll understand and will make some changes. If not, you could always go army camp on them giving them one plate, one fork and one knife each until they get the point. You could also try using toilet roll as an accessory to your outfits, that's way you always have some around when the need arises.

Mystic stars

Libra (Sept 23rd – Oct 22nd)



Still dreaming about that cute mathematician, why wait? Instead of milling around queen's lawn, why not ask this friend to lunch? JCR a nice place to start.

Phrase for the week: Light up your talents and 'showcase them'. **Most compatible signs this week:** Aries, Leo and other Libras. **Lucky item:** sellotaped glasses

Scorpio (Oct 23rd – Nov 21st)



Temptation to blow your student loan on booze may seem hard to resist this week but priorities need to be assessed. What are you waiting for? Get down to the union! Its freshers.

Phrase for the week: Fix it and move on. **Most compatible sign this week:** Taurus **Lucky Item:** IC swipe card, and gum!

Sagittarius (Nov 22nd – Dec 21st)



Want to become more than just lab partners? Well this is your week as the relationship elevator is going up. Make the most of that Bunsen before the flame burns out.

Phrase for the week: Tolerate and then say nothing 'at this time'. **Most compatible sign this week:** Aries **Lucky item:** goggles

Capricorn (Dec 22nd – Jan 19th)



You've never been one to give much attention to karma, preferring to rely on fact, well fate blind eye has opened, and its focused right on you, expect the unexpected.

Phrase for the week: Caution has its place but balance is always welcomed. **Most compatible sign this week:** Leo **Lucky Item:** Anything Irish

Aquarius (Jan 20th – Feb 18th)



Now is the perfect time to fall in love. If you're single, put yourself out there. If you're not, things could be getting hotter as the cosmic forces have cooked up a spicy recipe guaranteed to increase the heat.

Phrase for the week: Avoid 'gullible' energies **Most compatible sign this week:** Cancer **Lucky Item:** red jumper

Pisces (Feb 19th – Mar 20th)



Things may seem hectic, especially having to fend for yourself, reacquainting yourself with the washing machine. Simplicity is the key, so remember to separate your colours from your whites

Phrase for the week: Take it 'day by day'. **Most compatible sign this week:** Aries **Lucky Item:** key ring

Aries (Mar 21st – Apr 20th)



Flatmate been acting a little strangely recently? Its' probably a love affair gone awry. Set your sights further, think adventurous thoughts. Be spontaneous.

Phrase for the week: finish what you start and start big things with optimism. **Most compatible sign this week:** Gemini **Lucky Item:** fluffy kangaroo

Taurus (Apr 21st – May 21st)



This week is a great week to expose yourself (steady on!) to others points of view. Think before you speak and all will go well. Otherwise you may end up getting more than you bargained for.

Phrase for the week: Plan it now. **Most compatible sign this week:** Aquarius **Lucky item:** scissors

Gemini (May 22nd – Jun 21st)



This week is a chance for you to shine. Do what it takes to show off the assets that make you special, and make the most of freshers'. Who are we to judge? Go get 'em!

Phrase for the week: Contribute and then say nothing **Most compatible sign this week:** Libra **Lucky Item:** a mirror

Cancer (Jun 22nd – Jul 22nd)



You want to make the final decisions in your life. Should you reveal your true feelings to the hottie across the way? The stars urge you to prise yourself away from the computer and take some action.

Phrase for the week: Do it 'by the numbers'. **Most compatible sign this week:** Virgo **Lucky Item:** drumsticks

Leo (Jul 23rd – Aug 22nd)



I spy with my lil eye an eventful week coming your way. Romances, drunken antics, new friendships and the like. Be warned though, it may not last as the cards show a stormy time ahead. Will it rock the love boat?

Phrase for the week: If you don't ask, you'll never know for sure. **Most compatible sign this week:** Aries, Libra, Virgo and Leo. **Lucky Item:** whitening toothpaste.

Virgo (Aug 23rd – Sep 22nd)



You feel as if you're on an emotional roller-coaster this week, don't try and jump off halfway through the ride. Enjoy it for what it is who cares if freshers' flu is the result, you only live once.

Phrase for the week: Respect carries weight. **Most compatible sign this week:** Taurus **Lucky Item:** paracetamol



The Descent

Imperial Cavers Plumb The Depths

Jarvist Frost

Over the summer, Imperial College Caving Club went to Slovenia on expedition. Camping with special permission in a national park at 1880m, eating dehydrated food cooked with snow melt, we have worked with the local Slovenians to discover over 17km of cave during the last decade. This is a short description of a single ten-hour trip amongst dozens that went on during that time.

Once you start abseiling, all the unease drains away as autopilot takes over; but if you do look down – there's simply nothing to see but the vertical wall disappearing into the distance, the depths being simply too great for your light to penetrate. After some twenty meters down, you come across a rather startling discovery – the enormous tennis-court of a ledge that you had been happily standing on is nothing more than a rock-bridge; a random assembly of boulders that fell from the roof aeons ago and wedged themselves together halfway up the pitch.

Further down I came upon a junction in the ropes. The old rope starts a trail that leads down vertically another 600m, past two abandoned campsites, before zooming North in undulations that takes it below & beyond the neighbouring mountain chain – three years of effort to explore its full extent. I took the sideways fork – bouncing myself diagonally across the rock in a style that earned this new development the name 'Kaptain Kangaroo'.

After a few more hours of meandering, gradually getting deeper as we stomped along passages and



abseiled into small chambers, we had reached the pushing front; a rope disappeared through the floor where a team had been a few days previously, but the rock corridor that led of horizontally had never been visited.

Easily passing along the passage and down a few climbs – we were eventually paused by the presence of a triangle of black space in the floor needing a rope. A natural limestone sofa had formed next to this drop, which we took turns to rest upon while the other was hammering the rock. There was a lot of quartz in this limestone, each blow threw off a shower of bright red sparks.

Anchors driven into the rock, knots tied; I abseiled down into a chamber

with a beautiful mud floor – cracked up & lifting in enormous curled dinner plates of dried clay.

Waiting to leave on the rope, I looked around once more at the chamber. The delicate floor had fallen fowl of our heavy wellies and abrasive knees, it may take the retreat of the glaciers of the next ice-age before it reforms. We leave the rope in situ – a potential passage leads off higher up, but its never certain whether future teams in future years will ever find the motivation to come back – an interesting, but modest, branch line in one of many cave systems on that mountain alone. Nearly a thousand miles away, a mile up into the air, deep within a mountain, that rope is hanging perfectly still in the dark.

Brown on sport

Stephen Brown
Sports Editor

Greetings and a warm welcome to what promises to be another exciting year of college sport. For those of you returning I am sure you are all looking forward to catching up with team-mates to plot the downfall of those unfortunate enough to come up against the might of Imperial's sportsmen and women, aided by either rigorous training in our brand spanking new sports centre or just plenty of team bonding sessions in the Union Bar. I will not fritter away my inaugural column preaching to the converted so for those of you who are either new to Imperial or elected not to take part in organised sport last session I urge you to attend the freshers fair and sign up for whatever sport interests you. In addition to shamelessly cheerleading for IC sports teams part of my remit as sports editor is to extol the virtues of being a member of a club so here goes.

First and foremost being a member of one of our numerous clubs is one of the best opportunities for meeting new friends that college life will present. In general due to sports people being better balanced due to their wide range of interests they are far more fun than the students who could be accused of taking their studies a little too seriously. By all means work hard but ask yourself is getting straight A's really

worth being transformed into an introverted geek? In addition there is also the benefit of regular exercise. Your first year away from home will probably involve pigging out on junk and /or copious quantities of alcohol. I mean do you really want your friends back home to kit you out in a "I went to Imperial College but all I got was a fat arse" t-shirt next summer?

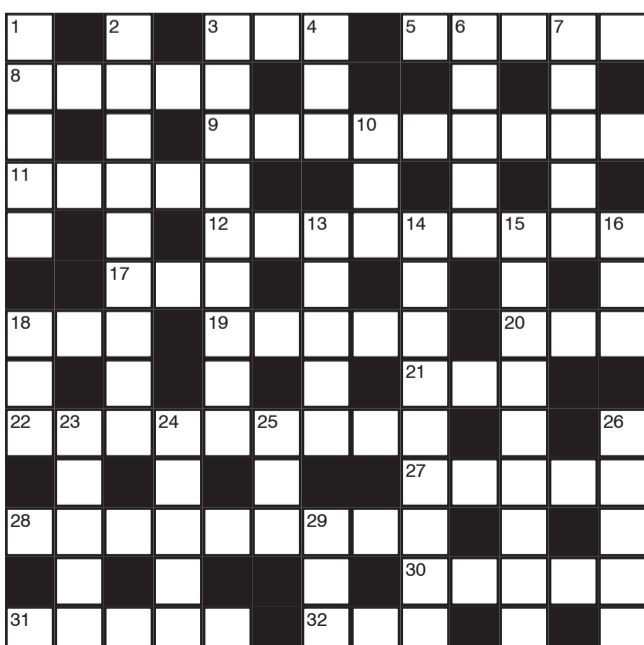
The other question some of you may ask is "am I good enough?" The answer is a resounding yes. All abilities are catered for from complete beginner up to outrageously talented so no matter where you are on the sporting spectrum you'll soon find your niche. One of the benefits of union-subsidised sport is you have the chance to try things that you may not have encountered before either due to the requirement for expensive equipment or just plain old regional unpopularity. Even if you only have a passing interest in a sport most societies run initial trial sessions so have a go and at the very least you'll be able to walk away knowing for sure that it wasn't for you.

So go forth ladies and gentlemen and sign up for your chosen cause. With any luck some of you may even feel the urge to share news of your exploits through the pages of this esteemed journal. Contributions to the above address please and best of luck in all your sporting endeavours.

Please send your sports reviews and reports to
sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Quick Crossword

by Turnip Henry



Across

- 3. Domesticated animal (3)
- 5. Computer peripheral (5)
- 8. Green, bitter fruit (5)
- 9. Greedy (9)
- 11. Audible (5)
- 12. Type of biscuit (9)
- 17. Piece of music (3)
- 18. Tin (3)
- 19. American state (5)
- 20. Rubbish receptacle (3)
- 21. Beer (3)
- 22. Voted in again (2-7)
- 27. Fishing haul (5)
- 28. Stellar explosion (9)
- 30. Tendon (5)
- 31. French headgear (5)
- 32. Creative expression (3)

Down

- 1. Crazy person (5)
- 2. Purveyor of justice outside the law (9)
- 3. Type of falcon (9)
- 4. Faucet (3)
- 6. Divination board (5)
- 7. Audible (5)
- 10. Cassius Clay (3)
- 13. Sunday lunch (5)
- 14. Tell everyone (9)
- 15. Freethinking lech (9)
- 16. Hotel (3)
- 18. Mangy dog (3)
- 23. Get away from (5)
- 24. Lord (5)
- 25. Hustle (3)
- 26. Shoulder covering (5)
- 29. Egg (3)