felix

The student 'news'paper of **Imperial College London**

Guardian Student Newspaper of the Year 2006, 2008

Issue 1,417 Friday 28 November 2008 felixonline.co.uk





Inside

Page 3 -It's coming!!



Centre Page

Clubs and Socs -Panto time!



Page 30

Technology -**Affordable Gadgets**



Varsity Build Up -The Medics' point of view



Page 37

news.felix@imperial.ac.uk



News

News Editor - Kadhim Shubber

Being the best of the best

Daniel Wan interviews this year's Guardian Journalist of the Year and editor in chief of last year's felix Tom Roberts

t's the morning after last night's Guardian Student Media Awards ceremony, and triumphant ex-Editor Tom Roberts comes down to the *felix* office to gives us his views on the past, present and future for felix and himself

Were you shocked and surprised by last nights results?

I'm incredibly shocked we won. I thought we were going to get columnist and magazine but not the newspaper one, maybe I'm just being a pessimist. And then for me to get the student journalist was even more shocking because I wasn't even nominated in any of the categories.

You clearly must have done something right with the paper for them to notice you. Has it sunk in yet?

Not really, and I'm not sure when it will. Probably when I start the internship it'll sink in, but I mean I'm at a science college, I shouldn't be winning

Did you have journalistic ambitions before you started felix and has this award spurred you on to continue professionally?

I did have ambitions. Yes I'm doing a physics degree but I love English. I love reading, I did English literature at A-Level and I wanted to keep my writing skills going. And I enjoy writing for people, to entertain them so when I started a TV Editor it gave me the chance to do all that and flex my writing muscles so to speak. As I've worked my way up the ladder, I slowly realised that I wanted to this. The first day I walked through the felix door to ask Rupert Neate to work on TV, I knew I wanted to be the editor for some reason, that was a really eerie feeling. I didn't want to do it straight after my first year, so I waited a year and was made Deputy Editor in about that?

I had ambitions from the beginning of how I wanted the paper to look, and I think I achieved that, but I don't think you would ever believe that you could win the awards

I don't think I will ever forget felix, especially not now. It's been such a large part of my university life, how

How did you rate yourself against the other papers that were in the newspaper of the year category?

I can't remember most of them right now. We get Varsity sent to us every week, as well as Cherwell every now and then and we all like reading them. These are very good newspapers from good universities that I respect and the fact that we beat them, especially being a science college which doesn't have an English degree is great.

If anything it's a testament to you guys, I mean you're the volunteers, you come in spending your spare time to get the paper done, I'm simply here to hold you all together. A huge amount of credit has to go to you guys.

Do you think the culture and the fact that we are all volunteers doing science degrees that are keen to write for felix helped at all?

I do. If you look at the photo we took at the end of the year, the sheer number of people in there shows how much of a group we were. That one photo says it all really, and especially if you look at the outtakes on *facebook* you'll see us all jumping on each other and just having a good time.

You've taken a bit of a step back this year in your involvement with felix to focus on your studies. One thing you have been heavily involved with is one of felix's magazines, Another Castle. Can you tell us a little bit more

Another Castle is the new gaming magazine. Gaming is one of my main hobbies. I'm a massive geek who likes playing computer games all day! We're producing three this year with the first one coming out on the 12th

> If you're into computer games and we have got an interview with Peter Molvneux who is a big name in British computing games.

Are you looking for another award next year then?

Ha, maybe. We'll have to wait and see, I don't want to count my chicks before they hatch. It would be quite novel for the Guardian to recognise a gaming magazine but we'll have to wait

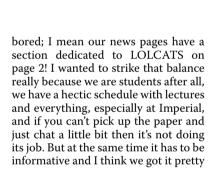
How would you compare felix this year under Jovan, to how you were doing last year?

Yeah I think he's taken over the mantle well so far. He's kept the style the same which I think is good, I was reading the comment section last week and it is lively as ever, most notably this Imperial Girl, she's creating quite a stir. I think that's good for the newspaper even though I do find her a slightly peculiar but there you go! But yeah I think the paper's looking good this year.

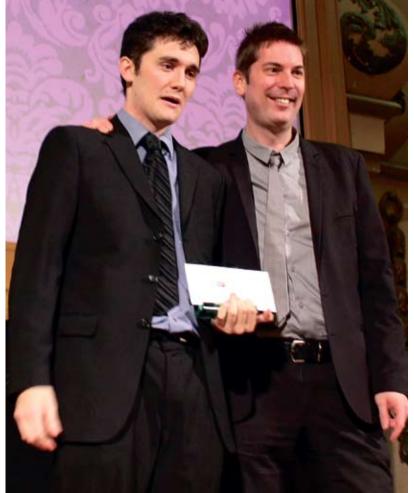
Rupert Neate's *felix* a few years back also won the same prize, but they were very different papers. How do think the judges viewed the changes in the paper?

It's interesting because felix changes a lot each year, for some reason we almost have a tradition here that the design has to change. It's stayed the same this year, which I think is a good thing.

In my year of *felix* I drew upon the influences from Rupert's year as well as Andy Sykes' year. The news stories were more investigative, akin to Rupert's year, although we maintained the balance that Andy kept as well as



I'll still be around to pass my wisdom on, and if you ever want to come for



Tom Roberts looks shellshocked as he receives his Student Journalist of the Year Award on Wednesday

It was quite surreal to see Andrew Neil say that 'we like their quirky style as well as their willingness to take risks, especially with their front page'. At that point I think the penny dropped and we couldn't believe it.

Your humour was distinctive last year and it seemed to have filtered down though the section editors as a whole. Do you think it worked quite well for the

That was my intention all along (laugh). I wanted something that you could take seriously but at the same time you wouldn't be mindnumbingly

U is

1010111

much right last year.

Well congratulations again and good luck on your 7 week

felix 1,417 Friday 28/11/08



Felix, Beit Quad, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB. Tel: 020 7594 8072. Fax: 020 7594 8065. Printed by The Harmsworth Printing Ltd, 17 Brest Road, Derriford, Plymouth. Registered newspaper ISSN 1040-0711. Copyright © Felix 2008

Felix was brought to you by:

Editor in Chief: Jovan Nedić

Copy Editors Louise Etheridge Jonathan Lloyd-Williams Catherine Lau Sasha Nicoletti

Daria Nakariakova

Politics Editors: James Goldsack Katya-yani Vyas

Science Editors Mićo Tatalović Daniel Burrows

Business Editor Luke Dhanoa

International Editor Hassan Joudi

Deputy Editor: Kadhim Shubber

Arts Editors Caz Knight David Paw **Emily Wilson**

Film Editors Zuzanna Blaszczak Jonathan Dakin

Food Editors Rosie Gravburn Afonso Campos

Technology Editor Richard Lai

Coffee Break Editor Ravi Pall

Fashion Editor Dan Wan

Associate Editor: Gilead Amit

Music Editors Peter Sinclair Susan Yu James Houghton

What's On Editors Rachel D'oliviero Lily Topham

Nightlife Editor Catherine Jones

Puzzles Editor Charles Murdoch

Clubs and Socs Editor Alice Rowlands

Sports Editors Jack Cornish Mustapher Botchway





felix scoops top prize at student

media awards

This year's Guardian Student Media Awards were certainly eventful, especially for the members of the *felix* team. The nominations for the awards were released at the start of term, where it was revealed that felix was nominated for the coveted student newspaper of the year category, which was won two years ago under Rupert Neate. I, sci*ence*, the science magazine of Imperial College and a sister publication of *felix* was nominated for the magazine of the year award, whilst everyone's favourite Angry Geek was nominated for the columnist of the year award.

This year's awards ceremony, held on the 26th November in Shoreditch Town Hall, certainly had the cream of the crop, with 800 entries being whittled down to 5 per category. After enjoying the free champagne, canapés and the obligatory chit chat with the other students, it was time for the awards to begin.

The competition in each category was strong, all of the Imperial entries facing stiff competition, with felix being up against Nouse from the University of York and Varsity from the University of Cambridge. However, before the winner of this category was announced, it was first the turn of Live! in the student website of the year award, which they won last year. Unfortunately *Live!* was unable to make it two in a

News Correspondent

If you've ordered a bottle of Magners

from the Union bars since the start of

term, vou may want to stop reading

here. felix can report this week that

Imperial College Union has knowingly

sold an excess of Magners Irish Cider

The mass order of 330ml bottles was

made prior to Freshers' Week for the

special promotion offering a bottle for

£1.50 plus a free half pint plastic glass.

However, the Union obviously over-

estimated the number of bottles they

were able to shift, and left with an ex-

students without notifying them.

predicted expiry.

that has passed its best before date.

row and the title was passed on to cherwell.org, University of Oxford. Once the winners had left the stage,

it was then time to find out who would be named columnist of the year. Although Angry Geek didn't win the award, he did come runner-up, with the judges saying that "he was clearly capable of showing a little bit more than just sheer anger." For obvious reasons Angry Geek himself wasn't there to collect the award, instead a member of the felix team went to collect it on

Next it was the turn to find out what the judges had to say about I, science. Again, there was stiff competition in this category as all the other publications were multi-category magazines. However, it was *I. science's* ability to "engage an audience who would not normally be interested in science" that really impressed the judges, and as a result was awarded the runner-up position in the magazine of the year

The eventual winners were Quench from Cardiff University who were so overcome by the award that one of their members fell over, although that could have something to do with the free champagne available earlier in the

uninformed students

After the members of the Quench team had left the stage, it was time for the grande finalé and the naming of the student newspaper of the year. Nerves were slightly settled after Nouse from

poured into pint glasses, and reserved.

This member of staff in question then

underhandedly told our source of the

situation on a strictly need-to-know

basis, and the bar staff were not openly

Our source also revealed that in an

attempt to sell off the bottles as quickly

as possible, they were used in Snake-

bites, the popular half-beer/half-cider

drink amongst students. This com-

promise was not communicated to the

Many students have found out in the

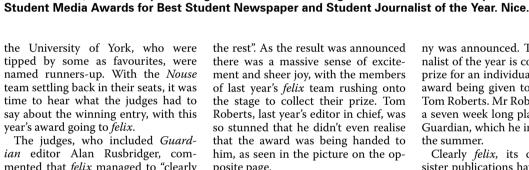
past weeks from friends working be-

hind the Union bars, and are annoyed

they were not informed beforehand.

cess of bottles that only sold out this One regular customer described the the situation.

told in private prior to serving.



Wait a minute, those two pieces of glass have our name engraved on it. Oh wait, they're our Guardian

named runners-up. With the Nouse

say about the winning entry, with this

ian editor Alan Rusbridger, com-

mented that felix managed to "clearly

engage its audience, with well thought

out news pieces and a quirky sense of

Union's actions as "substandard", and

felt that their own Union should be

on their side and not underhandedly

trying to sell them unfresh drinks. An-

other student had noticed the refusal

to sell Magners bottles in their bottles,

felix contacted Magners Irish Cider in

Clonmel, Ireland and told that they did

not "condone" the Union's actions, but

the Union had abided by the law. They

the situation and the circumstances in

of print, *felix* was also unable to get a

but had 'thought nothing of it.'

The judges, who included Guard-

year's award going to felix.

The *felix* team barely had time to sit down and celebrate their award, when humour that made it stand out above the final winner of the awards ceremo-

ny was announced. The student journalist of the year is considered the top prize for an individual, with this year's award being given to felix's very own Tom Roberts. Mr Roberts has also won a seven week long placement with the Guardian, which he intends to do over

Clearly felix, its contributors and sister publications have very big shoes to fill this year, something which they are definitely planning on doing in the hope of a similar result next year.

Out of date Magners sold to | Imperial 'disappointed' with the cut in Foundation Year programme posts

Jovan Nedić over the issue, with Najette Ayadi Editor in Chief O'Donnell, Imperial College School

ing an even harder task of getting jobs within their own foundation school at the end of their degree.

Professor Derek Gallen, National Director of the UK Foundation Programme Office said "the UKFPO, under the direction of the MMC Programme were extremely keen to learn more of Board (England), has requested that which the bottles were bought so close each Foundation School in England reto their 'best before' date. At the time duces the number of posts they offer on the online recruitment system by comment from the Union regarding six. This is because the total number of applicants has fallen short of the total number of posts, which means some posts will be unfilled. The shortfall in applicants disproportionately affects the severely under-doctored areas of

The best way to address this shortfall England so that the effect of the shortfall is minimised. There are enough posts still available across the UK to ensure that all eligible applicants who don students have felt hard done by meet the person specification will be placed. It is predicted that, based on year, 62% of Imperial final years were the first choice preferences nearly 90% of applicants will still be allocated to their first choice foundation school."

Schools have raised their concerns released on 6th January 2009.

of Medicine Students' Union Vice President (Careers & Alumni) saying that "Imperial College students are disappaointed with UKFPO's recent announcement regarding the loss of FY1 prorgammes. We are concerned with the implications of this loss and concerned with what this means for us and our neighhouring London medical schools. London has the most over subscribed medical schools in the country and for a reason. One third of all medical students are at a London medical school and any FY1 programmes we can secure are welcomed and wanted programmes. What we really need to know now is the impact of this directive and how many of our students are now not going to work in the foundation school of their first choice.

ULU MedGroup, the collaboration is to remove a number of posts across of the five London medical schools, met yesterday to discuss their response to the MMC programme board.

This is not the first time that Lonthe national application process. Last allocated their first choice post, compared to the 92% UK national average. Imperial is hoping to see a change in Several of the London Medical these results when the allocations are



the bar' by another member of staff, What a fresh pint of Magners should look like

inhabits the

centre of what

must be one

found outside

statistics module

of an A level

exam paper."

of the most



Comment, Opinion & Letters

Letters may be edited for length and grammar purposes

Let us know your views: comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Views on these pages are not representative of felix



s you may have noticed. the Guardian Student Media awards were this week and we did erm, very well. But it got me thinking: what is it that makes a good newspaper, or for that matter, what do people consider to be good media?

Outside the student environment there are a myriad of media outlets, each targeting a different audience. When you look at people in the café you will see that even though there are many national newspapers out there, the printers have decreed it so. Coneach person has their own taste. As Gilead put it last year in one of his columns, a person can be defined by the paper they read.

So, as I say, this got me thinking: how can the Guardian determine which of the many student newspapers out there is the best? I believe, as I pointed out during my campaign, that students want a mixture of the serious and the light-hearted. felix doesn't exist to feed the egos of the writers it has working for it. but to inform and entertain the students that it serves.

Last year the paper was very good at students at Imperial.

to: they look at the paper in the boxes and can immediately relate to the big picture and the headline on the front page. It's different, and it works! Yes we have been changing the appearance of some aspects of the newspaper, and the reasons were explained last week, but there is no need to copy what oth-

Speaking of change, come the new vear some of you might realise that fe*lix* will be slightly different. The size of the paper will change, mainly because sider vourselves warned.

But, once again returning to the question at the start, what does make a good newspaper? My main aim is to keep you guys happy; if you like reading the paper every week, take the time to do the puzzles, to read the comments and reply, or to read the whole thing and point out the mistakes, then we are clearly doing a good job. I'm sure if students outside Imperial read felix, then a majority would say that it wasn't to their taste, and it wouldn't be because the paper is written to suit the



Clearly Tomo knew what made a good newspaper

getting the news across, as well as doing several investigations and features, but what it lacked was the light-hearted aspect. I know it, you know it and even vour lecturers know it because I've seen them pick the paper up on a Friday as I deliver them: the paper is also there to keep you amused during those long Friday afternoon lectures.

The fact that so many students and staff do read the paper (and this can be munication course, which is the best in proven thanks to the number of com- the country. So, rather unsurprisingly, plaints we got when the paper was not up to standard) is surely a testament good and clearly the Guardian thinks to the quality of the paper. However, is that what the Guardian looks when they decide the eventual winner?

Every week, we get a sneak preview of what some of the other student newspapers are doing (some of them is in the same category as magazines even send us a copy!) and every week I hear people in the office come up and say 'Oh I like how they've done that, we should do the same, or 'why can't we make our section look like that?' My response is simple, why should we? We have developed a style, a style that people at the college can relate

hear you ask. Well, the same can be argued there. There is a larger variety of magazines than newspapers in the world, simply because each magazine targets an even smaller group of people. I, science is a fantastic magazine that caters to the very large science community at Imperial, and it is written by students from the Science Comso. But there are others who don't believe that a science magazine belongs in the Guardian category because it is not all-encompassing. Surely, by the sheer fact that our one topic magazine which cover a wide range, means that we are doing something right, no? But

But what about the magazines? I

this is just self-assurance. For now, we'll carry on going as we have been, and if you guys out there don't like something, or think the paper can be improved, drop us a line. We are here to inform and entertain.

What makes a Angry Geek makes it big, and steps up to defend the cat



'There's a tendency with felix to criticise it, mock it and generally laugh at it. People are very unappreciative of the hard work the editors and writers do"

money? Sure, the sack, yeah, that's just my Guardian Student Media award, right. Yeah. Just a token gesture, you know. Obviously it's very nice of them, but I'm big time now. I'm co-writing Elton John's obituary and shit like that. Yeah. Yeah. Some kid named Rowling came, asked me for some tips. Said she's a big fan. You know how it is. Hell, I don't even write this column any more, it's all ghostwriters from Fleet Street.

If only, eh? Clearly, not much has changed since The Guardian decided to bestow upon me a distinctly regularsized cheque. I mean, the guy who outdid me didn't get a comedy-sized one either, but he managed to bag a lump of glass with his name etched into it, so I'm a little bitter. But really, things are still the same. Although Tomo Roberts' newfound love of hookers, cocaine and interviews with Time Magazine are beginning to clog up the felix office a little. Sellout bastard.

Despite the fact that I'm thoroughly pleased that *felix* itself got the recognition it well deserves, I'm feeling a bit distanced from mass media as a whole this week. In between bouts of 2am Left4Dead, I've finally chanced upon the superb graphic novel Watchmen due to become a movie sometime next year. It's a really gripping work, with a lot of plot gubbins that I certainly don't want to spoil for you. However, I would like to mention one of the enduring questions it poses, about the duty that those in power have to the vast, idiotic

The drop in VAT this week was quite clearly a very simple attempt to make people feel better. We might be quite thick as a public, but we can do basic arithmetic – a 2.5% saving on a three quid food bill is unlikely to make your

have a bowel condition and a wallet ating panic among a large section of made of sponge. And really like sandwiches. But subconsciously, we feel a bit happier. Prices stay steady for a month or so, no miniature price hikes on butter and bread and those other weird things that newspapers always cry about. It was, unusually for the government, a good move.

But that wasn't good enough for Mister Media, because he felt the need to explain to everyone that they were being duped. The Metro, for instance, gleefully sprayed their usual standard of bile into my lap on the tube this week, declaring that the change would 'do nothing' and that it was just a publicity stunt to make people feel better.

Well bugger me with an egg whisk. We can't have any of that shit. Making people feel better? When's that ever helped a society! I mean, it's not like the majority of people are gibbering morons, entirely guided by the television into a mass panic. It's nothing like that. I mean, the media's been calming people down just fine, why would the government need to start getting involved! The bastards! Everyone panic, the government's trying to make you

So I got angry for a bit, and tore through a few telephone books, that sort of thing. Jeffrey Archer called up to ask for me to proofread his latest novel, and I was just really rude to him. feel bad. But then another thought occurred to me, as I reflected on the last year of felix and recalled the infamous 'gagging' issue that changed the felix logo to this day. The paper was silenced, ostensibly for the common good, and most us were up in arms about it. Oppression! Gagging! We must dissent! Et cetera.

So on the one hand, I'm clearly very frustrated that bearded men in small waistcoats are tapping away and cre-

the population. But on the other hand. stopping felix from saying what it wants feels like the trapping of something very rare and special. Naturally, most of you are extremely condescending about felix anyway, and wouldn't consider it on the same level as a 'real' paper, even the toiler-paper-with-photos-on that is The Metro. So maybe for you, the dilemma doesn't exist. But reconciling these two examples was hard for me, and remained so until I heard news of the Guardian Student Media Awards.

Friday 28 November 2008

There's a gap that needs to be bridged, then, between these two examples. There's a tendency with *felix* to criticise it, mock it and generally laugh at it. People are very unappreciative of the hard work the editors and writers do – with myself firmly excluded here, as all I do is write eight hundred badly structured words and leisurely email them in once a week, while the real work goes on late into the night in Beit Quad. Yet they do this work primarily to entertain you, to inform you, rather than from some grab for fame and

I think sometime this year we, as a student body, should work to free little *felix* from his ball gag on the cover. Because the wafer-thin sheets of congealed human suffering that are sold at newsstands each day aren't worth your time; they're cynicism in ink and paper form, a horrific cycle of information and misinformation, all aimed at keeping your money and attention dancing around. But felix; felix is different. Student are different. And, I hope, you are

I'm not, though. So it's back to writing my autobiography and making top hats out of twenty pound notes. Now, where did I put that acceptance speech for the Nobel..



eyes widen and wallet swell, unless you He's angry. And he's watching you.

what that means; I'm still working on ing about the shrubbery, may I just say form of headgear would find its way on to the old luscious tresses, spittle would fly, heart rates would rise, and my father would make sure the hat would be ripped from the aforesaid l.t. With almost Sophoclean irony, today I remain headbare whereas my father owns a dark green alpine homburg. With a feather. My only reason for not disowning him is that he never actually

In short, thanks to my monastic up-"The cartoonist bringing and the elephantine dimensions of my frontal lobe, I have no bowler to help me pass unobtrusively down the streets of the City, no boater to oversee my footloose frolics through the days of Spring, no top hat for the countless glamorous evenings I never get invited to, no beret or deerstalker, no fedora, ten-gallon or trilby. My remarkable Venn knotted and combined locks remain vulnerable and open to the elements, as Nature doubtless intended. diagram layouts Not owning a hat is, in my opinion,

a relatively minor failing. Men without hats have gone on to achieve great things – albeit with slightly colder ears than their appropriately accounted cousins. At this moment, however, I do wish I owned one. Nothing fancy: a tricorne or a panama, say; a coronet or a sombrero; or, to tread the slippery heights of multiculturalism, a Shtreimel, a fez, a busby, a Santa hat or turban. If only I owned one of the above then I would, logically speaking, be in a position to remove it.

don't own a hat. I never have. Partly because the size and As it is, I doff all of my hypothetical shape of my skull makes any sort hats. All of them – from my kepi to my keffiyeh, my newsboy cap and my miof cranial accessory irredeemably silly and partly because I tre, my cardinal's zucchetto, my Native was brought up in a household where American headdress, my mortarboard, the general belief was that the sort of my dunce cap and my tam o'shanter. people who wore hats were the sort of To put an end to this circumlocutory people that needed to. Don't ask me nonsense and stop pointlessly flagellat-

it. Suffice it to say that every time some that I bare my head with respect to the political cartoonist. The political cartoonist inhabits the

Gilead Amit, as opposed to his avatar, has no hat

centre of what must be one of the most remarkable Venn diagram layouts found outside of an A level statistics module exam paper. No one else in any of the three professions he belongs to needs to work so hard on the fast sell. No artist needs to capture a moment in time so economically; no international analyst is expected to make his commentary fit in a blank space left over between a crossword and a fashion review, and no humourist needs to get a topical joke across in the fraction of a second reserved for the cartoonist. Granted, an image is worth a thousand words: but according to that exchange rate a single line drawn by David Low, Sidney Strube or Ranan Lurie is worth ten to a hundred of your Earth words. When was the last time you were able to draw a line that conveyed as much? When was the last time you were able to write a line that conveyed as much?

Certain moments that have occurred within my lifetime - certain attitudes. sentiments and atmospheres - will forever be represented in my mind by a political cartoon. Anyone unfortunate enough to have taken the tube with me over the past year and a half will have felt me pin their struggling arm to the side of the carriage, seen me gleam at them with my wild and bloodshot eyes and have experienced my helpful gesticulations as I attempted to recreate for them what has to be my favourite 21st Century cartoon thus far.

A rendering of a work of art in any other medium is always bound to be massively anticlimactic. And while I am sorely tempted to embark on a verbal description of page after page of my favourite political caricatures, I will limit myself to this one.

Morten Morland, drawing for The day Season AD 1914", with a skeleton Times four days after the 7.7 bombking wrapped in a thin sheet, emergings, depicted a Muslim man in reliing from his coffin-shaped caravan to gious dress, with a white tunic, a beige take a brisk swim in a river of blood. tagiyah cap and a long black beard David Low is the Second World War in nervously perched at one end of a row my eyes, and in the eyes of many who of seats in the Tube. At the other end lived through it. of the carriage, passengers are huddled For sheer succinctness, power and together for protection, shivering with

The build up to the First World War for me will always be summed up by Tenniel's 'Dropping the Pilot' and Francis Caruthers Gould's 'The Holi-

fear, holding their newspapers up over

their faces as makeshift shields. In the

cavernous empty space between them

are written the three words: Mind the

humour, you can't beat the political cartoon. When opening any newspaper that has a cartoonist on staff, examine their work. Those small monochrome or colour images are probably the densest sections of the paper, with the weightiest messages packed into the smallest volume. Simultaneously, however, they are also the lightest and most easily digestible.



I'm not jealous of Angry Geek. Not even slightly.

As an alumnus of Imperial I had the pleasure of attending the City & Guilds decade reunion luncheon today, at which I was also fortunate enough to pick up a copy of the current felix

Firstly, I would like to say what an excellent occasion the C&G reunion was - a real pleasure, and my thanks go to all those involved in the organisation. Secondly, I have to congratulate you on the standard of felix - the production quality clearly puts to shame some of the efforts during my time at the college.

Sadly, however, I am obliged to find a bone to pick - inevitably (as I'm sure your postbag is bulging on this subject) Yasin Fatine's 'Ranting Cubed' column. If one is going to write such a diatribe, and proudly claim within that it is per fect and without error ("Go ahead (you won't find any!)",) one cannot complain too loudly if one's bluff is called. To take the most jarring example, I sincerely hope the irony in the statement "the thing that I was most appalled with was the amount of spelling and grammatical mistakes" was intentional - Yasin must surely be aware that mistakes are discrete and countable. Secondly, his use of 'St. James's Park' as an example of incorrect grammar in public use is baffling; the assumption must

but of course as any fool knows, both 'St. James' 'and 'St. James's' are equally acceptable, if stylistically different.

In any event, as they say in Private Eye, I shall of course be cancelling my subscription, just as soon as I have ob-

Keep up the good work.



be that he is criticising the use of the Yasin lies defeated on the ground possessive apostrophes following an s, after a brutal verbal assault

A pedant, **Tim Walls** writes | **A. Hannan** responds to Felix Whitton

approve of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it" (PF Boller's 'They Never Said It: A Book of Fake Quotes, p124). People promote what they hear as fact either due to sheer ignorance, malice (deliberate misrepresentation) or misconceptions (they could be lies which go on to become perceived truths). Misconceptions are formed from the ideas which permeate through the education system, the media and statements of politicians (spin or propaganda), these then form concepts which become beliefs. So you go on to believe that if you hate what a person says, you will still

oltaire never said "I dis-

let him say it, i.e. it's a concept. Voltaire (pen-name of François-Marie Arouet, anagram of the Latin spelling of 'Arouet'), was an Enlightenment thinker whose ideas have shaped liberalism and hence capitalism. Voltaire had a few things to say what would about economy and trade. Alongside other fathers of capitalism like Adam cause an Smith, David Ricardo etc., Voltaire's words have also become sacrosanct alternative and worthy of quotation; quotations which go on to become State laws or idea to even

Last Thursday (at a talk organised register?" by the Islamic Society), Tarek el-Diwany (author of 'The Problem with Interest') quite clearly put forward the Shariah-based Islamic solutions to dealing with economics. Whereas

statements of Enlightenment thinkers The week before el-Diwany's talk become law for capitalists (and then get refuted, but we'll ignore that part), el-Diwany showed how statements of the Prophet Muhammad (salla-Allahu-'alaihi-wasallam) became law for Muslims, such as using gold and silver as

"If a nation is nourished on a diet of ignorance, malice and misconceptions, at a talk organised by the Ahlul Bayt Society, Rodney Shakespeare (professor of economics) also exposed the fallacy of interest-based economics. He showed that not only does interestbased finance add 50% to the price of world trade, it is highly inefficient. In this case, it is malice (from financial authorities), which prevents the public from seeing an alternative. I don't think I need to prove to anyone the failures of free market capitalism; just ask the families who have had their houses repossessed, they'll tell you. And the bankers who used to work for Lehman Brothers, they'll second that opinion.

Capitalists effectively conclude that man does not deserve life unless he contributes to the production of commodities and services. Communists (and the different flavours of socialists) strive to achieve real equality through the individuals and deny man's natural instincts; an impossible hypothetical assumption and not an alternative.

What isn't clear is whether Islamic (Shariah-based) solutions will ever be seen as an alternative. But how can they be? If a nation is nourished on a diet of ignorance, malice and misconceptions, what would cause an alternative idea to even register?

The severity of the economic crisis should remove the blinkers from those who unthinkingly assume capitalism or communism are the only valid sys-

comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Caz Knight 'philosophises'



"We need to stop tolerating and start embracing, loving and learning more about those different from us. "

s far as I can see, this country's government has a huge problem ahead of it in addition to the seemingly more pressing ones such as the economy and healthcare. For years Britain has been a country of promise for many abroad who seek a better life for themselves and are prepared to toil at the expense of their dignity and a decent wage - a lot more than can be said for many of Britain's own citizens. I admire these people who lead a life I cannot even conceive, as I sit here in my comfy flat free from the grind of employment, idling the day away after my lectures, languishing, writing and what I like to call philosophising. I need to embark on this opinion piece with extreme caution, lest it be taken the wrong way and I get marred with the wrong label.

I know the government meant well when they tried to inject this utopian ideal into British life but this notion has gone horribly, horribly wrong. What it has come to mean is many different cultures living in their own little corners, going about their business all the while trying to tolerate each other.

Tolerance is another value Britain loves to celebrate thinking that is a good thing. It isn't. Tolerance breeds ontempt. It grits its teeth and bitches about you when your back is turned, "I will put up with you but I won't do a thing towards trying to like you or even understanding you". So, on the surface the government has fulfilled its ethical duty by encouraging a tolerant, multi-

Britain in 2008 is anything but Westminster's daydream of that pan-cultural society they envisaged. Little is done towards integrating people into British society: having Diwali posters in tube stations simply just isn't enough to eliminate these racial barriers and make Britons more savvy to the ways of our new friends. Nor will Notting Hill Carnival suddenly bring many cultures happily together. 363 days of tension-woven tolerance builds up and manifests itself at the end of those 2 days, which are otherwise a glorious affair and a chance to stuff my face with deep-fried Jamaican dumplings.

Anyone not of British extraction feeling anger or victimisation are well within their rights given the huge amount of ignorance that comes from many Britons. I look with disdain on anyone who condemns immigrants for 'stealing' all the jobs, leaving nothing but the more menial ones: the jobs are there, go and get them and make something of vourself! Better work flipping burgers than on the dole. A friend of mine who was on the dole reacted with indignation when I suggested he try McDonald's as a stop-gap until he found something more suited to his abilities. (Perhaps not applicawouldn't know, obviously.)

On a walk through Bishop's Park the other week, I saw a Muslim man kneel on the ground and begin to pray at his designated time. I admired his lack of self-consciousness and his faith and wished I could approach anything with that steadfastness in life. A group of children stopped and stared and gawped, totally baffled by this scene and I was reminded of the level of misunderstanding, especially among vounger generations who should be used to cultural diversity.

The problem the government faces is unraveling this self-induced situation where people of different backgrounds live and lead their lives in isolation from each other. One cannot send everyone back to their respective homelands at the peril of human rights and further economic collapse. Stay the way we are, and we are nothing more than a time bomb until the next civil war rips us apart. The problem is so large because most people are not interested in other cultures and are much happier associating with their own kind and to hell with integration. Comforting to hear is that Boris Johnson plans to tackle this by holding less cultural events aimed at specific ethnic minorities, instead having events which emphasise how all our cultures are interlinked.

We need to stop tolerating and start embracing, loving and learning more about those different from us. My last sentence seems a little naive, but if people's attitudes changed towards what multi-culturalism stands for, then maybe minorities would not feel oppressed and not feel the need to form gangs and shoot people. (Gross over-simplification, I know.) However, even if we reach this new level of cultural symbiosis, the government still needs to think fast about immigration and the fact that physically, there will just not be any room left in which to



One way of bringing different cultures together... maybe not for everyone though

Body mods are purely for looking cool says Calliope

cle under the right name, and maybe even with a actual gender..

I love body mod. I mean, really, really love it. Not just tattoos and normal piercings, but all the crazy stuff most people consider going too far surgical modifications, tongue splitting, dermal anchors, microdermals, implants, scarification – I even think suspensions are cool (for those of you who are mod purists, yes I know some of those are technically piercings.) I'm not saying I'd get everything on that list. There is such a thing as knowing what suits your body; in the same way as vou don't wear a circle skirt if you have 'powerful' legs, you don't get 30 facial piercings if you have elfin features; but just in general I think body mod on the right person in the right

down to fashion. I do not agree with getting your body modded for the sake of fashion. Period. Mods are not a fashion statement; they are a permanent thing, which is either expensive, dangerous and difficult, or worse, impossible to completely remove. Piercings leave scars. Laser tattoo removal leaves hideous marks everywhere, and converting them rarely works out. Anything more serious than that is pretty much forever. Going into a studio for something you think is pretty when you're 16 and regretting it the rest of your life is idiocy. I have never had a piercing I didn't seriously think about first. I still have no tattoos because I'm still working out who I want to do them, and saving up for the best artist I can find, who'll do the style I want. These things are not fashion and neither should cosmetic surgery be.

If you're a happy, comfortable person who is fine with their body and wants

"If you're horribly insecure, or look at yourself in the mirror and hate what you see, modifying will never be a permanent solution"



On the other hand, the other day I vas talking to an old friend of mine who was considering getting a breast ugmentation, and I was arguing veemently against it. She's gorgeous. She doesn't need bigger boobs, she ooks absolutely stunning the way she is. In fact, she's been one of my beauty idols for a long time - when we were small, I always wanted to look like her. Cosmetic surgery makes me very uncomfortable - I don't like the idea of altering your body just to fit in with the ideal of how society thinks you should look. She looked me up and down and replied "So why do you get pierced?"

I have to admit, for a minute or two there, she did have me. Body mod is body to change the aesthetic appeal, and anyone who argues otherwise is in denial. Implants - shaped silicone surgically inserted under the skin to make a shaped bump on the surface – are even generally made out of a similar stuff to the silicone implants used in breast augmentation. It seems really hypocritical to be pro mod and anti cosmetic surgery. Especially given the huge fashion for tattoos and piercings, of 'alternative' people.

This is where I start to realise why ter than silence. Email calliope206@ one is ok and the other isn't – it comes googlemail.com with support.

the new surgery OR mod because you've genuinely thought about it, think it looks cool and are fine with it being that way for the rest of your life, go for it! If you're horribly insecure, or look at yourself in the mirror and hate what you see, modifying it will never be a permanent solution. I hate to be one of those people who go around telling everyone to look at their inner beauty and embrace their flaws - everyone has fat days. But believing that your bad body image days will vanish forever if you can just look more like your favourite ideal - whether it's Dita von Teese, Britney Spears, Agy or Squeak, is just plain dumb. Sort out your image as it is before you start trying to change it.

Incidentally, if you're interested in body mod, I know I'm not the only person who'd like to see a body mod section in *felix*. It's not fashion. There's loads of stuff we could write about where the good and bad studios are located, what the different types of modification actually are, costs, specific artists, design ideas, even the culture behind body mod. Our emails have been completely ignored – even and the increasingly large subculture a polite rebuttal with an explanation why we've been rejected would be bet-

mostly browse felix in that intermittent, anonymous space between morning classes and afternoon essay/class, munching, somewhere in the library café after snatching a copy from that space by the door. The first few pages tend to be news bits and lengthy columnist ramblings, enough to get me mildly lethargic and skimming over the rest of the paper with its nice mix of thoughtfully written articles. Although I am regularly amused by the Angry Geek, to whom I give the honour of seeking out first in the mess of columns.

I see Imperial Girl has come under fire of late for a) being too femininely fluffy and b) having the nerve for swiping her own precious column space in felix for such writings. Meh. Imperial Girl, I could join in with the rest throwing bored jibes at you, or just shrug and say that there's a reason that most men despise Sex and the City, and therefore it's not surprising that in a male dominated university and newspaper, most appear to despise your column when all vou're writing is just what most of the girl-girl conversations in the JCR are full of. Instead, let me offer myself up for sisterly sacrifice. Readers, the likes of Imperial Girl might be just right for this paper, if you give her more of a chance. Someone else could be even more nuts

Like myself.

I'm not a hot, young, single undergraduate anymore. I am in fact an anonymous postgraduate, the kind lurking within less well-known chunks of the university, in a fairly well-trodden relationship. More clearly, I've got three compulsory classes a week, tons of reading to do, plenty of time to be worried about not schooling myself damn well hard enough, and lots of wondering about how a relationship is meant to change as it ages. Yep, in- he ever comes in and gets it - no, no,

doctrinated geek girlfriend, that's my mustn't nag, mustn't accuse, what I alternative label. And I'm aspiring to have now learnt from this mature 16 turn into an old housewife, it seems. month-long relationship is that a real Last night, lurking in my too far-away relationship is surely about comproprivate housing, I attempted to singlemise...). My own plate is somewhere handedly cook a roast chicken dinner amongst the clutter of the kitchen with all the trimmings for my long-Many hours later than planned and nursing extremely painful burns while surreptitiously quaffing the accompanying red wine from the bottle, the

countertop, with a few viciously splattered blobs of mashed potato swung off the spoon, vegetables boiled to hell until they gave up, and some shreds of meat that look like they were pulled from the roast chicken by hand. They were, in fact, in between hopping about waving my pre-scorched fingers vigorously in the air and trying not to swear To mark for my efforts, I've got one within earshot of no one in particular. It wasn't all my fault- the chicken was partly spoiled after sitting in the fridge

for five days and I'd already had to snap

the raw legs off it with my bare hands

stuff this page into your coat.

Carol' about surplus population.

absolutely fine.

tions, the endless musings and inces

er men than you or I. Wise men that

I perfectly intend to do all possible to

remove from power in the next Gen-

eral Election, after which I shall duly

spit upon the corpse of their principles

Ah, I appreciate that I am assuming

and hack off bits of too-soft fat in a one-handed way that would make my dissection supervisors of yester-degree cover their eves in pain, then cook it vehemently beyond recommended roasting time.

But at what point had roasting a chicken become on par with a night such as 'Go out and get wonderfully, resoundingly smashed with friends'? Just what the hell was I doing? I looked at the one well-arranged plate with a calculated 80% chance of not giving Boyfriend food poisoning. To compensate for the extra wetness of the vegetables, I'd sprinkled gravy granules straight on the plate and then spent a few minutes pounding them with a fork to make them stop looking like pellets of grey rat poison (I swear they with? More half arsed horoscopes?

Viscount Kensington thinks

everything is absolutely fine

weren't, honest) and more like, well, gravy. My vision blurred: I saw a frozen pizza instead, like the other three he'd already bought at the time when I laid hands on the chicken and then eaten singlehandedly. Why. Don't. I. Just. Buy. Pizza. For us. Too? My mind

I'd said it was because of the credit crunch, but now I realized that I was just another woman, mad on the power of ostensibly making her own choices. vowing never to be like her mother whilst being exactly like her, trying to resurrect and remake the memories of the crappy parts of her own childhood, making a civilized roast dinner by herself (Boyfriend defensively playing Warhammer 3000 in the next room, vowing he didn't know a thing about roasting chickens), for absolutely no bloody reason whatsoever. It seems I am not yet a fully grown woman. I'm just another hybrid of girl and the nostalgic memories of her mother. In more accurate terms, I'm a slave to my own nurture and upbringing. Genes don't make you aspire to good roast dinners in your very early twenties.

Boyfriend surreptitiously hid his own full plate for later disposal, possibly full of wine or, more likely, fearing the overcooked, oversoft chicken. I slid back to my chair to pretend to write my essay and instead write this sorrowful lament.

Readers, be thankful you still have someone young, single, sweet and female to write columns full of wonderings and romantic dabbles for you, instead of the rantings of some wild inscrutable postgrad kept woman hack. If you're male? Just accept that some really do think like Imperial Girl and turn the page if it gets too painful. Come now, don't look like that. What else are they going to fill the space



Old Imperial Women isn't her mother yet: she can't cook chicken

EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION

WIN HUGO FRAGRANCE GIFT SETS COURTESY OF HUGO URBAN RULES CONCERT, FEATURING **SUGABABES**

The UK's biggest ever girl band, the Sugababes, who have notched up a whopping 10 million record sales, will be headlining the nationwide music programme from HUGO Fragrances that uncovers and invests in new talent. Heidi, Keisha and Amelle are perfect ambassadors for HUGO URBAN RULES. The winning artist will not only have their music professionally produced and released but they will be performing live on stage before the Sugababes at the exclusive London showcase event at Cargo, which is filmed and later broadcasted on MTV.

To celebrate this event HUGO Fragrances are delighted to offer two lucky readers the chance to win either HUGO Deep Red gift set for the gals or HUGO Green for the guys.

Deep Red is a distinctive, seductive scent for the woman who insists on wearing a fragrance that is consistent with her values

Hugo Green is the clean, simple choice for this next generation

To enter just answer the following question, just:

Name all three members of the Sugababes.

For more info on the HUGO URBAN RULES campaign and how you can get involved, log on to www.hugofragrances.com



you have a coat there. If you are lacking I will credit one, then permit me a pompous chuckle, a miserly humbug and a recitation of a line from Dickens' 'A Christmas you with more ambitions than Enough with the tangents, the deviasuicide and sant ponderings and infernal considerations! I am going to assume that get on with the you, reader, are not homeless, are not starving, are not sobbing into your pillows to the music of some dark and mirthless artist. I will credit you with mirthless artist. I will credit you with more ambitions than suicide and get on with the damn point. Everything is on with the damn point. Everything is absolutely fine." The economy is shepherded by wisfrom the vantage point of some fiery equine paid for by the exploitation of

Afghanistan and Iraq are probably but a few days away from blooming into paradises of freedom, prosperity and peace. It is said that you reap what you sow and we sowed cluster bombs the harbingers of hope.

Why, already from Iraq we are reaping an awful lot of oil, which, being traded in Euros, is leading to copious amounts of the weak Pound Sterling inundating my already burgeoning

In truth, we must confess that across the world there are a great many other issues that may seem to detract from few people are starving. Some are sick. Others are a trifle beneath the poverty line. There are a few trivial matters like

Really, in the grand scheme of things, these people are somewhere else; they are not here. If they were here they might eat my horse, like those chaps across the Channel so often do. Smuggling their foreign selves into my estates and cooking my prize stallions. It is intolerable. It ought to mean war.

No matter. You are fine. I am fine (and wealthy). Everything is absolutely

FROM HUGO FRAGRANCES!

term boyfriend and I.

realization comes.

Why, why, oh why?

several times microwaved, very prettily

arranged plate (designation: Boyfriend)

on the table. (Ready for presentation if

male, today's non-conformist "Freethinker".

Politics

Politics Editors - James Goldsack & Katya-yani Vyas

politics.felix@imperial.ac.uk

A new era dawns for a divided Cyprus

Rodothea Americanou discusses and provides analysis on Cyprus' problems and their consequences

became an independent the 16th of August 1960. The Constitution of the Republic was composed in such a way that it would safeguard the values of both communities inhabiting Cyprus, the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot, by providing them with equal representation in the government. A Treaty of Guarantee was also signed which gave power to Cyprus, Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom to intervene in order to maintain the basic provisions of the Constitution and the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Cyprus.

However, keeping up to the provisions of the constitution proved to be difficult quite early on, resulting in recurrent demands for amendments to the constitution. Inevitably, tension built up between the two communities which subsequently erupted in a series of violent acts all over the island on 21st of December, 1963. By 27th of December, the UN Security Council received a complaint by Cyprus which claimed that Turkey was inappropriately intervening in the country's inter-

The Republic of Cyprus nal affairs accompanied by aggression. 20th of July, 1974. Following the first people being forcibly expelled from Turkey though, denying the charges, maintained that the Greek Cypriot political leaders had tried for more cessful military intervention. The UN than two years to diminish and virtually eradicate the rights of the Turkish

> Ten years of disputes between a proportion of members from both communities followed, climaxing on 15th of July, 1974. A coup d'état was brought on in Cyprus by the Greek Generals (Greece was under a military junta from 1967-1974) and a group of Greek Cypriots who favoured union with Greece. The coup was directed against the democratically elected government of the island but the attempted murder of the state's president Archbishop Makarios failed.

> Cyprus was caught in turmoil for five days, with the head of state being an un-elected president positioned by the coup leaders in power. The coup d'état was followed by Turkey's military forces intervening under the pretext of the Turkish Cypriot residents of the island being threatened by the coup's leaders. Turkey took control of the North of the island and established Turkish Cypriot rule on these areas by the evening of

stage of the invasion, Turkey continued to seek control by a second suc-Security Council called for a ceasefire and laid the basis for negotiations between Greece, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

By the time that ceasefire was applied, 36.2% of the island was occupied

Archbishop Makarios returned to his legal position and the main political figures of Cyprus initiated attempts to drive the illegally stationed Turkish troops out of Cyprus. In 1974, the UN voted for resolutions demanding the immediate withdrawal of the foreign military forces from Cyprus (Res. # 353) and the European Commission on Human Rights issued that Turkey was guilty of violating six articles of the Eu-

ropean Convention on Human Rights. The consequences of this military intervention are still haunting the Cypriots (both Greek and Turkish) even today. The Turkish troops number about 35,000 soldiers on the island with the total population of Cyprus being about 800,000. The peace operation, as being quoted by Turkey, resulted in 162,000 to locate and exhume human remains

their homes. These people became refugees in their own country and were displaced from their towns in search of a safe ground controlled by the Republic of Cyprus government. These people comprised 70% of the inhabitants of the now occupied part of Cyprus. These people are still denied access to their rightful property and are unable to act against the illegal foreign land-developers exploiting their native

A more tragic side of the invasion (stemming back from the era of intercommunal disputes) is that of the missing persons. About 1474 people (both military personnel and citizens) were captured or disappeared during the invasion period. Persistent efforts from the Republic of Cyprus government following several UN resolutions for locating these persons have been made. Since 1963, Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot families have been looking for their loved ones, some with success, but the majority of the missing people are thought to be dead. For the past 5 years, the two communities have joined forces and a program was set up

graves in order to establish the exact fate of these people. Furthermore, significant cultural

heritage sites in the occupied areas have been vandalised. Unique archaeological artefacts from all the historical periods of the Cypriot civilization - including sculptures, ceramics, figurines, manuscripts and other works of art - have been stolen and were illegally exported for trade in the international market and to private collectors. In addition, a significant number of churches were converted into mosques and stables, and several of them were demolished, despite their historical value. For example, the Church of the Avgasida Monastery in Famagusta which dated to the 15th century has been demolished and many Byzantine era icons have gone missing.

The problems are not only faced by the Greek Cypriots who possess official citizenship of the Republic of Cyprus. On the 15th of November, 1983 a new state was declared to be formed in the occupied part under the name of Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). The TRNC is only recognised as a sovereign state by Turkey. Following this unlawful creation of the TRNC state in the north, the Turkish Cypriots do not have the opportunity to engage in international trade nor political, cultural, and athletic organisations. People who live in the northern part have to endure these embargoes that have been imposed by the international community, as the UN recognises that the legitimate authority on all the parts of the island is the officially elected government of the Republic of To make things worse for the Turkish

Cypriots, Turkey has adopted a policy of importing a large number of Anatolian colonists for settling in the occupied area. This has resulted in a change of the demographic character of the island. The statistical data on arrivals and departures of Turkish Cypriots compared to the ones for Turks from Turkey indicated a significant emigration trend of the indigenous Turkish Cypriots. The Turkish Cypriots are systematically being outnumbered by the incoming, illegal colonists from Turkey. Turkish Cypriots are emigrating as a result of the unemployment and the social and economic deprivations. It has been estimated that 58,000 Turkish Cypriots (out of a population of 116,000) have emigrated since the invasion. The Turkish Cypriots have therefore become a minority in their

Following the Anan Plan, rejected by the Greek Cypriots, that proposed a solution for the problem (Greek Cypriots claimed that it was arguably insufnew set of talks between the president of the Republic of Cyprus, Demetris Christofias and the Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat have begun. The two politicians are now carrying the burden of the previous unsuccessful attempts for finding a solution that can be implemented in reality without causing injustice to either of the two communities.

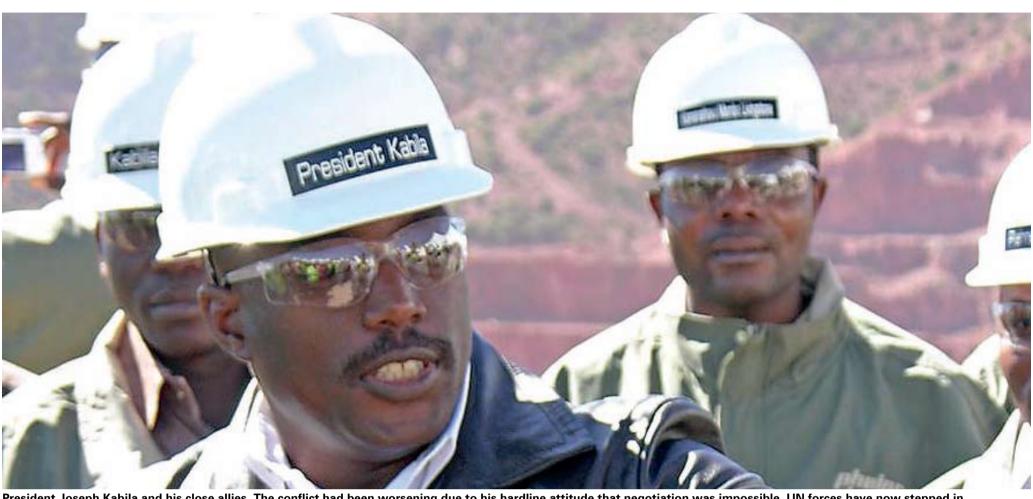
However, both of them expressed good will and declared that significant positive progress will be noted by the



President Demetris Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat shaking hands in a promising gesture of good will.

Rebels withdraw in DR Congo

Katya-yani Vyas, reports on the developments in the Congo Republic as the army general is replaced



President Joseph Kabila and his close allies. The conflict had been worsening due to his hardline attitude that negotiation was impossible. UN forces have now stepped in.

times: never long out of the news, we have grown accustomed to hearing about the various dramatic events that have shaped its recent history. The latest developments have seen a series of defeats against rebels in the east of the counmy's chief of staff. This news followed statements from the advancing rebels who are loval to Tutsi Leader, Laurent Nkunda, that they would be withdrawing from two fronts to facilitate the creation of humanitarian corridors.

President Joseph Kabila decided to replace General Dieudonne Kayembe with General Didier Etumba, citing the "urgency of the situation" as the reason. "Kayembe has been removed. I guess the president wants to change the dynamics after the losses," was the reaction of a source close to the President. It would appear that Kabila is taking steps to ensure that the circumstances improve, so perhaps more changes are to come. Following a number of chaotic army retreats from advances by Nkunda's rebels, the decision is most definitely not one that has caused surprise.

A government army base was seized despite promises from Nkunda that his insurgents would observe a ceasefire, a clear sign that they were not planning to conduct themselves in accordance with the Congolese government's rules. Congo's fractured army has also come into combat with the Mai Mai militia, a faction that are usually considered to be loval to the government, suggesting worrying splits in the national defence force. It has been in poor shape recently, affected by increasingly low morale, terrible discipline and allegations of corruption, an example of which is that four soldiers were recently convicted of rape, looting and deserting their posts. With these worrying facts in mind,

he Democratic Repub- it is not surprising that the President wishes to take drastic steps to quell the to meet Kabila and the Rwandan presi-

Perhaps, however, a solution is on the horizon. The government had been adamantly refusing to enter into negotiations with Nkunda and his allies, steadfastly denying that any means, other than the use of violence, would not be employed in resolving the situtry, necessitating the removal of the aration. This was a decision that led the British Foreign Office to announce that action groups in the area have written 3,000, a move that would facilitate an Lord Malloch-Brown, the minister for to World Leaders in an attempt to per-

dent, Paul Kagame, to discuss the violence, which erupted at the end of August and has displaced at least 250,000 people. Now, ahead of talks between the UN, the rebels and the army, there have been withdrawals from the east of the country, a possible move towards

At the same time, various community

Africa, would be travelling to Congo suade them to send more troops to halt the atrocities. They outline that the scenes being witnessed in the region are horrific, the worst that they have experienced in their troubled history. Civilians are executed on the spot and their corpses line the streets. This is an image that has caused stir amongst the world powers with the UN considering a French resolution to increase the number of troops in the country by improvement in peacekeeping efforts

So what should be expected for Congo in the coming months? A resolution to the conflict? This is an overly optimistic suggestion, the situation will ride out this brief lull in the violence and will deteriorate unless the UN, the army and the rebels find a way of negotiating so that a compromise is reached. "Never back down" is the ageold adage, one that has been used by Nkunda and Kabila, and one that nei-



Congolese children approach United Nation troops, a stark portrayal of the desperation of the citizens for the fighting to cease.

Science

Science

Science Editors - Daniel Burrows & Mićo Tatalović

science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Wildlife photographer of the year exhibit on display

Mico Tatalovic Science Editor

Just a couple of minutes away from the Imperial's campus, this year's Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibit in the Natural History Museum continues to amaze the visitors. Winners were announced recently and the exhibit is open until 26th of April 2009.

This year's overall winner was a photograph of a snow leopard, one of the rarest animals in the world. It took National Geographic's photographer Steve Winter ten months to capture three photos of this amazing animal, the other two photos were also higly commended at this year's exhibit. Whereas it took him almost a year to take only a few photos, the overall winner in the Young Wildlife Phtographer of the Year, Catriona Parfitt said she took thousands of photos at her three-week holiday in Africa. She then, for the first time send one of them to the competition and it became a winner.

Apart from rare animals such as snow leopards, this year's exhibition also features many human-like ape images that make one wonder about our attitude towards wildlife but also give a good starting point to thinking about

Luckily, if one starts pondering about whether we evolved from monkeys. for a better grasp of our evolution and natural selection just across the hall there is a new temporary exhibit about





Japan Car: are you ready for the future?

> Mico Tatalovic Science Editor

This Saturday a sleek new exhibit opens at the Science Museum: Japan Car - Designs for the Crowded Globe. Japanese have already had to deal with issues of over-crowding and pollution and this can be seen in their hightech green car designs. Director of the exhibit said that this exhibit "offers glimpses of the future" and this is especially true of Toyota's new concept i-Real (see picture to the right). i-Real sees a car as a mobile cell that interacts with the passenger and other vehicles and allows you to go "wherever you





One day we will all drive pimped-up wheelchairs everywhere

Podview

Felix Whitton reviews medical podcasts

British Medical Journal

An interesting interview with Dr Phil Hammond in a short podcast entitled We're British, we don't talk about sex" "sex" being a euphemism, in this case. for genital warts; so by doing that we've already gone and confirmed our Britishness, haven't we?). Dr Phil's recent article, published in the BMJ, about the hypocrisy of the NHS regarding the HPV vaccination – purporting to offer 'choice' while at the same time denying it by offering only one vaccine, produced by our favourite evil pharnaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline caused a bit of a fuss in the medical ommunity, so he defends his thinking to BMJ editor Rebecca Coombes. Is this another case of government pandering to big-pharma? We can't be sure, but their woefulness in dealing with the situation lent a hand to the Daily Mail's ongoing campaign of vitriol against all things NHS-v and good. http://podcasts.bmj.com/bmj

The Lancet does a nice series of 10minute weekly podcasts summing up health news and research around the world. Each week a different guest discusses a particular issue, ranging widely across themes such as malaria funding, global health policy, and cutting-edge research on MS treatments. Web editor Richard Lane presents, and his guests range from the engaging to the fantastically dull. A good way of keeping up to date with medical news, if you can withstand the tinder-dry

http://www.thelancet.com/audio

Medical Matters - Podcast of the

We couldn't have a Podview without a Radio 4 entry, and as usual Auntie is head and shoulders above the rest. Well-chosen stories introduced with a sense of humour - David Brent talking, wince-inducingly, about race: "You are half-and-half, aren't you?"; "Mixedrace, yes"; "That is my favourite. That's the melting pot, please" - lead on to discussions on issues like the phenomenon of 'colour blindness' in US children, who refuse to mention someone's race when it's different to their own. We also get a round-up of current news, for example the new Mental Health Act coming into force this week what will it mean for psychiatrists and patients? - plus a disturbing trend of suicides among ageing South Asian women in the UK. If you're not keen on the specialist nature of the other podcasts, but still like to keep abreast of health news in society, this comes

http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/podcasts medmatters



Darwin's Big Idea

Last week Natural History Museum opened its doors to another one of exhibits dedicated to celebration of 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth and 150th anniversary of the publication of his notorius On the Origins of Species in which he presented his mechanism for how evoluion works: natural selection.

The exhibit is organised so that visi-

Mico Tatalovic tors can re-trace how Darwin came to his conlcusions and the ambient lighting and sounds of tropical birds all add to the experience. Where the exhibit maybe fails is in the lack of modernday examples of evolution and more recent discussions of evolution and its mechanism. It is also too quiet about discrediting creationism, leaving it to a single, rather boring video. All in all though it is an exciting and insightful exhibit to visit. It runs until 19th April





SciNews in brief

Chloe Sharrock runs through some of this week's headlines

Ray of hope for deaf

American researchers are working on a new implant that hopes to provide deaf people with better hearing than that currently achieved using cochlear implants.

Research on guinea pig cells showed that nerves in the ear can be stimulated by infrared light, as well sound, leading to an electrical signal being sent back to the brain. Infrared stimulation leads to as sharp information quality reaching the brain as that produced by sound in hearing guinea pigs.

Dr Claus-Peter Richter, from Northwestern University, Illinois, is now working on producing fibre optic devices for use within the inner ear and is hopeful of a possible device being developed at some point in the distant

Garlick chemical treats diabetes

A study published in the new Royal Society of Chemistry journal Metallomics has announced the success in using a garlic chemical to treat diabetes types I and II.

Scientists in Japan found that when a drug based on a chemical found in garlic was taken in tablet form, blood glucose levels were reduced in type I

The drug is based on a vanadium-allixin compound that in previous work has successfully been used to treat both types of the illness when injected.

With sufferers of type I diabetes currently having to take daily insulin injections and type II diabetics treated with drugs causing unwanted side-effects, the researchers are keen to expand their work by testing the garlic chemical drug in humans.



ful as a roast dinner accompaniment.

Following an American plea for advice on cooking the dish, the RSC sought advice from some of its thousands of members who work in the food and drinks industries.

"Cooking is chemistry in the kitchen la," a Yorkshire scientist confirmed.

The RSC will next year be publishfood campaign.



The Royal Society of Chemistry has ruled that Yorkshire puddings must be four inches tall for them to be success-

and one has to have the correct formu-

ing a leaflet advising how to make the ideal Yorkshire pudding as part of its



Test tubes – don't listen

By any other measure

Creationist rant: "My ancestors were not apes!"

Droning on and on What an awful Bohr.

Scifaiku and Sci-kuTM

felix brings you science haiku

To taunts. They're just trying to

By Alice Waugh

A quantum kitty Would purr as strangely.

By David K. Wall

Rave on, monkey-boy.

By David K. Wall

Mars probes disappear Tabloids say aliens are Holding them hostage.

By David K. Wall

Talking about the atom

Repulsive pole! You give me but half

By Steve Brunt

My red, ripe tomato has altered genetics.. What smells like fish?

By Bob Wakulich

I have posted my Findings on a friend's web site So I must be right

By David Emigh

Uncle Henry's wife Broke her hip. A victim of Auntie gravity.

By Gary Hallock

A voice on the phone. A symmetrical body. Are you free tonight?

It's not where you started, it's where you're going that matters. Just another day at the office for a high performer.

Choose Accenture for a career where the variety of opportunities and challenges allows you to make a difference every day. A place where you can develop your potential and grow professionally, working alongside talented colleagues. The only place where you can learn from our unrivalled experience, while helping our global clients achieve high performance. If this is your idea of a typical working day, then Accenture is the place to be.

Graduate careers in consulting

For people with the right intelligence and personal qualities, there's no career quite like consulting. Our clients include many of the world's largest organisations, so you'll be working on some of the best projects around. In return for tackling complex problems with ingenuity, you'll get continuous training, both formal and on-the-job to enable you to do your

job well. If you're genuinely interested in business and technology, with typically a predicted or actual 2.1 in any degree discipline and 320 UCAS points or equivalent, prepare for a future where high performance is all in a day's work. And, you'll be rewarded well, with a salary of £31,000 plus an additional £10,000 bonus.

Visit our website for more information on graduate careers in consulting.

Accenture is committed to being an equal opportunities employer.



Visit accenture.com/ukgraduates

Consulting • Technology • Outsourcing

Arts

Culture & The Arts

Arts Editors – Caz Knight, David Paw and Emily Wilson

Budding culture vulture? Write for us. arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Right off the Richter Scale

Caz Knight Arts Editor

Havward Gallery let me experience two extremes of art; the ostentatious and the modest. Paying ten pounds gets you access to both the Andy Warhol exhibit and Robin Rhode's lesser known one. I am a great fan of Warhol's work, more from an aesthetic perspective than the themes his work stands for or what he means by them – as shallow as that may sound. Warhol's fascination with fame, social issues and interpersonal relationships is a marked contrast to Gerhard Richter (whose most recent exhibition is reviewed here, by me) who shuns interviews and giving psychological insight into his work. The great, multi-talented Goethe also took this approach and let his art do all the the other hand, lives on this exhibition of personal history and emotion which she intertwines with her art. It is hard not to see a Jocks and Geeks social strata emerging in the art world with a section of artists striving for fame, fortune and recognition and others who go about their business doing art for

Back to my experience of Andy Warhol which was predominantly a homage to the artist rather than an exhibition of his works, although there was a wide range of his creations including never-before-seen photographs and the only ever collection of

all his films in one space. My ears and eves were overloaded with sounds and colour and garish décor only helped to highlight the sort of riotous experience which would have been had if one were a regular at his studio the Factory, home to amphetamine use, sexual experimentation, cross dressing, hangers-on, silver filled helium balloons (one of the best features of the actual exhibition) and, of course, Warhol's

Perhaps it was a clever move by the Hayward or mere coincidence that Rhode's Who Saw Who is situated after the Warhol collection and couldn't be more of a contrast in experience. At least half the size and devoid of colours other than black or white we never even get a glimpse of the artist's face despite him appearing in many of his talking instead of him. Tracy Emin, on stop-frame photographs. Admittedly, it is no surprise that Rhode appears more down-to-earth than one of the most well-known artists of our time: maybe Rhode will reach those epic proportions in years to come! My more detailed experience of that subliminal exhibition of Rhode is also reviewed

Emilie Beauchamp reports back smugly after missing nothing at T.S. Eliot's esoteric and intense The Family Reunion. A far cry from highbrow verse. Eddie Izzard's stand up comedy is scrutinised by Thomas Weight, who is eager to see whether Izzard is up to



Stone Flag (2004) - Part of Robin Rhode's Who Saw Who at the Hayward Gallery

Who Saw What?! Banksy, watch out

Caz Knight discovers another artist to add to her list of favourites at South Bank's Hayward Gallery

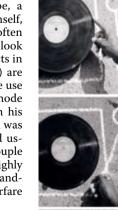
obin Rhode: Who Saw above the jamboree of the latest Andy Warhol exhibition. For an artist with an aliquot of the fame and reputation of Warhol, Rhode certainly goes a lot these stop-frames (drawn or real) are further in terms of beauty by his sheer

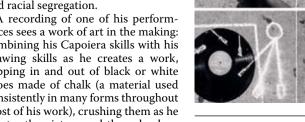
Growing up as a 'coloured' in Johandrop and subject matter.

Here is a collection of Rhode's work from 2002 to the present day which includes photography, drawings, performances (recorded) and interesting outside installations. The white walls drawing skills as he creates a work, make for a perfect surface on which slipping in and out of black or white to place his predominantly black and white pieces and photographs which consistently in many forms throughout are arranged in islands of nine or more most of his work), crushing them as he with the effect of a flip book. As our creates the picture and then clambereyes wander from frame to frame, the ing on his hands, lest his feet touch the sense of movement is easily appreci- floor, to the next pair! able. In all these 'Storyboards' Rhode

has used the most basic material avail-Who is a cool, calm haven able to him: an urban landscape, a piece of chalk or charcoal and himself, to create still scenes which are often funny and always original. If we look carefully we can see that the objects in touched with symbolism; from the use of black chalk to the fact that Rhode is clad in a white boiler suit with his nesburg. Rhode was exposed to gangs face in a mask in Stone Flag which was and rough neighbourhoods which are realised in his mother's back yard usan influential factor in the aesthetics of ing a piece of bent pipe and a couple his work right down to the simple use of bricks. The urban settings are highly of colour and materials, urban back- reminiscent of London's own landscapes also prone to gangs, warfare and racial segregation.

A recording of one of his performances sees a work of art in the making: combining his Capoiera skills with his shoes made of chalk (a material used





"Robin Rhode: Who Saw Who' at the Hayward Gallery, until The smaller, second room, in phase-December 7th. Student entry is £6 contrast to the main room, has black walls and a Mussorgsky piano suite playing as part of another one of his recorded performances. The texture of his photograph Keys, the lacquered black of the background and his dinner jacket sleeve contrasted perfectly and starkly to the white, granular surface of the chalk pieces on which he 'plays', is

nothing short of stunning. It would be possible to take in the ing or message in his art were we not — while he is at it! This truly is something South African who had grown up in one of the most dangerous cities in the world. (Oh, and the names of a few of the works – Blackhead, for example – give a very gentle, subtle reminder of some of the themes.) Whereas most an interesting way and getting up to modern art strives to ram home a po- high jinks. This is, without question, litical (or other) message, be as controversial or as overtly emotional as possible, it is very refreshing to see Rhode in his own world here as he creates

something he loves. A common theme in all his photographs and performances is that he

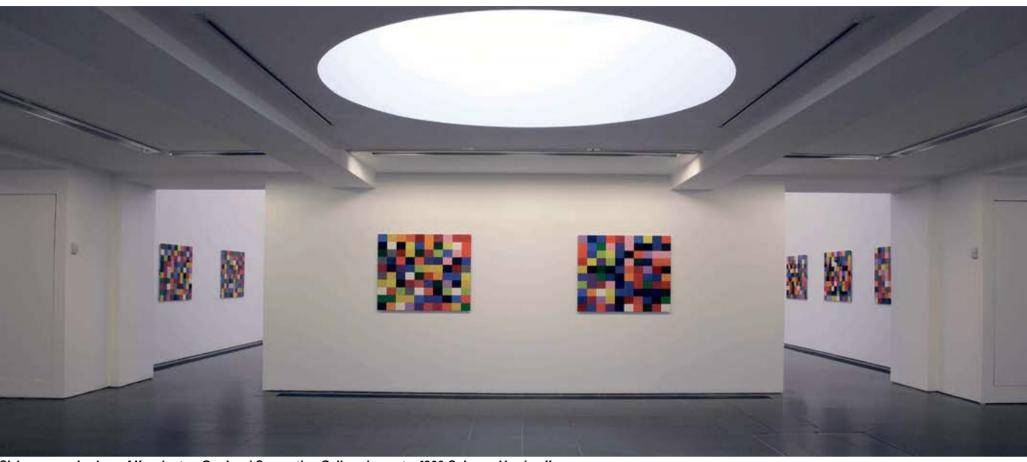
keeps his face covered either by averting his face from the camera or donning some tights over his face burglarstyle. This down to earth characteristic pervades in all his pieces right into the atmosphere of the whole exhibition Rhode strives to come as close to his art and the process of his art as possible by drawing an object and interacting with it - "find a wall and make a drawing without getting arrested". Here whole collection blissfully unaware of is an artist who quite clearly loves what any "ulterior motive" or hidden mean- he does, does it for him and has FUN privy to the fact he was a half-black special in an art world so often dripping with pretension.

It is tempting to use phrases like "South African Banksy" but that would undermine Rhode as he achieves so the best art exhibition I have seen in London for as long as I can remember and its comparatively small size is perfect and will not leave you drained and resentful like a lot of the other larger ones which just try and cram too much

arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Hypnotised by giant Rubik's cubes

Caz Knight finds beauty, intrigue and a lot more than meets the eye in Richter's 49 paint shop colour charts



Sick panoramic view of Kensington Gardens' Serpentine Gallery, home to 4900 Colours: Version II

is regarded as one of the most important German artists of our der that he was selected to redesign and reinstall the main stained glass window of Cologne Cathedral, which had been destroyed in WWII and had made done with a plain sheet of glass ever since. Based on his 1974 painting 4096 Farben (4096 Colours), the abstract design is composed of 11,500 individually blown glass squares in 72 colours which fill the window space. Richter began experimenting with colour charts in the mid 60s where he used charts from paint shops as a basis for paintings made up of simple squares of colour.

And so it is also for his latest exhi-

Serpentine gallery. The collection has Richter first started using this-prebeen specially designed by Richter to fit the gallery's interior layout and wall space, also bearing in mind its tall ceiling to floor windows which provide a sharp contrast between rural park landscape outside and vivid, Rubikscube like works inside.

Based on 4900 Colours, the second version was created using the same computer generated approach to devise how the 100 squares were ordered to make up each of the 49 large panels using a selection of 25 colours. All that was left for Richter to do was hand paint each square in the prescribed order and erect each panel. By rolling a dice the element of chance was relied upon again when deciding the order and orientation in which to hang

determined colour order to eliminate artistic whim thereby bringing all concentration onto what we receive visually as opposed to sub-visually, i.e. hidden meaning or message. His approach rejuvenated the me-

dium of painting in an era where it was thought almost extinct. Ever the taciturn artist, reluctant to provide insight into his works, 4900 Colours: Version II stays true to his style as it presents us with cubes of lacquered colour in each panel. It takes a good five or ten minutes to warm up and start shirking the idea that these paintings are utterly devoid of imagination and interest given that they are essentially of the same

bition 4900 Colours: Version II at the each panel. It was during the 60s when amuse yourself – letting the Imperial

logician within take over –by trying to find patterns in colour order and frency you are definitely getting more than what you didn't actually even have to pay for: the exhibition is free! (In one painting he uses three of each colour save for dark green of which there are four squares)

Of course, there is no defined pattern to find as the colour order was randomly generated, but try all the same. Alternatively find inner calm through gazing at the colours and use it as a new-fangled way of meditating, just a suggestion. There is also a certain uniqueness in taking in all this loud modern art malarkey, turning around and beholding some autumnal park scenery better fitted to a Roman-

One must also remember that the frepromises to be ground-breaking.

quency of each colour, whether darker or lighter ones predominate and how they are grouped together has a great effect on the overall impact the panel will have. Some look 'darker' than others despite the fact each colour's tonal intensity is identical to prevent any one colour standing out.

Five minutes or less is all that is needed to pace around the space but 4900 Colours II is worth a glance at if only to submerge yourself in another bright kaleidoscopic environment, hitherto possibly immured only with things of a scientific nature.

Sadly, this article was not published in time for you devoted arts fans to read before the end of the exhibition but the subsequent Indian Highways at the Serpentine from 10 December

Izzy any good after his American tour?

Thomas Weight goes to see Eddie Izzard with high expectations. No cross-dressing this time, though

ddie Izzard is one of the with a roaring ovation from a house British stand up comedy. have made it big in the US, co-writing appearances from Ocean's 12 to The Stripped to sell-out audiences.

greatest success stories in packed with die-hard fans, though this time not cross-dressing as with previ-Since his critically acclaimed ous shows. After the disappointment shows throughout the 90's he of his last show, Sexie, expectations is now one of the few British comics to were high for him to make a return to form. After a slightly apprehensive and staring in the series The Riches, start it seemed that Izzard was a little as well as numerous blockbuster film out of touch with his London audience. He is a performer known for his comi-Chronicles of Narnia. After a five-year cal take on intellectual subjects, though break, he has now returned to the UK his opening comments on the recent off the back of a 34 date American tour election of Obama were not only light performing in his new stand up show on gags but on insight as well. This would be a recurring theme through-Monday night's show was the first out the evening with constant pleas used in the London shows is to that in in a month-long London stint at the that it is now Europe's chance to make the American tour, as the slightly hesi-Lyric Theatre and fans will not be dis- a daring and bold change for the better. tant delivery would suggest that there appointed to hear that Izzard's origi- Unfortunately this never progressed nal mix of meandering whimsy and beyond the suggestion to "make shit has yet to get used to. There was an at one point with some utterly shamestream-of-consciousness delivery has happen". It would be interesting to awkward few minutes of empty stage less plugging of his recently cancelled on eBay range from around £1 to not changed a jot. He took to the stage know how different the material being while Izzard fetched his new iphone, show The Riches, co-staring Minnie

were substantial alterations which he

its light sabre sound effects. The men-very much his home now. His musings tion of Darth Vader got a cheer from on why God created the world in six old fans but it did seem to show a lack days and personification of the appenof substantial material from such a vet- dix were just some of the many true to eran comedian. However, as the first form routines that he is capable of prohalf progressed and Izzard grew in ducing, riffing through these themes to confidence we saw a return to the Ed- conclusions that only he could reach.

die we know and love. The second half opened where the material. Though there was almost no imals, religion and science, the thread of gags flowed and the audience were drawn into the remarkable atmosphere Izzard is capable of producing. This bubble was unfortunately burst Lyric Theatre, Shaftsbury Avenue,

to do nothing more than to show off Driver, reminding us that America is

The show ended with the now obligatory encore that comes with all big first left off, with much more substan- name stand ups, and though it never tial routines and more challenging reached the dizzying heights of his late 90's peak it is hard not to delight deviation from the usual themes of an- in having Eddie back on this side of the Atlantic doing what he does best.

Eddie Izzard is performing at the

14 felix Friday 28 November 2008

Arts arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Family misery brought to life by stunning verse

Emilie Beauchamp is not defeated by T.S. Eliot's emotionally overwhelming play, The Family Reunion

sence, Harry finally rebirthday and reveals his the family also hides its own demons"! Sounds familiar? At first sight, such a play's plot does seem like a déjà-vu: concentration is not maintained, many individual surrounded by even more can be missed. mysterious secrecy. Typically these plays evolve into an ascending series of discoveries for the trepid audience; either well-realized and spectacular, otherwise rather platonic if the information is not well-disseminated. To ter-life; sins and expiation of sins. Put which category does 15-17 - Arts.indd, by T.S. Eliot, then fall into? After some might not even be interested in such thought, The Family Reunion ought to matter: Christian spirituality served be put into the first rather than the sec- in dramatic verses... Not for theatre ond category, but for different reasons then one would expect.

For starters, The Family Reunion is a verse play. Written in poetic dramatic style, the lyricism of the lines is spec-characters of Harry and his aunt Agtacular. Distinguishingly emotional declarations are followed by expressive and poignant speeches with a surprismaking the play anything but platonic. been recognized for his Shakespearian dramatic style infused with Greek tragedy staging techniques. Therefore, his plays include many choruses and "apartés", increasing the drama but also informing the audience of important information taking place outside of the scene. While his style is very classical and even conservative, Eliot explored common themes for his contemporaries. The play, written in 1939, portrays dral, The Cocktail Party and Waste an upper-class family stricken by their Land. Presented as the centrepiece of own misery, a subject of much appeal for all crowds at the time. In this sense, Eliot used real and accessible settings to bring poetry to the wider public.

While T.S. Eliot's approach seems to serve verse drama through the best means, his style does sometimes be- excellent picture of how British literacome overwhelming, as tirade after tirade of over-emotional confessions are followed by more theatrical statements. At the end of the almost 3 hour play, one can be quite proud to have picked up all the clues displayed in the **10th of January. Tickets range** exchanges – and looking around me from £15 to £29.

fter eight years of ab- not all of the spectators had. What is more, The Family Reunion was written turns to his ancestral during Eliot's phase of reconversion to home for his mother's Christianity and it is only at the very end of the play that its true meaning darkest secret... only to discover that can be understood. This means that the spectator is left in limbo for most of the third quarter of the play and that if the eternally-unsolved mysteries of an hints that are central to the conclusion

It also means that the play leaves a gulf between the worldly matters approached at the beginning and the spiritual themes with which it ends: life, death and the passage to the afmore simply, many audiences today

However, the play is particularly appropriate for those ready for a good dose of theatrical discourse. The lead atha, played by Samuel West and Penelope Wilton, are fantastic orators, very well-spoken. And verse drama, as one ing array of vocabulary and stance, can imagine with the above description, is not the easiest dialogue to pro-In fact, T.S. Eliot, who was awarded the duce... The rest of the cast is also very Nobel Prize for Literature in 1948, has experienced and gifted, without which talent the play would not have been so

T.S. Eliot's unique style makes him one of the greatest literary figures of the past century. To celebrate the author, the Donmar Warehouse presents a festival in tribute to him until the 17th of January 2009. Other plays being staged include his most famous: Four Quartets, Murder in the Cathethe festival, The Family Reunion is a specimen of a play worth discovering, with a cautionary label for theatre firsttimers. While it cannot be said that the piece reflects the society of its time because of its singularity, it presents an ture can be diverse and original.

The "T.S. Eliot Festival" is on at the Donmar Warehouse until the



Gemma Jones as Amy and Penelope Wilton as Agatha in The Family Reunion

An invitation from SIFE Imperial

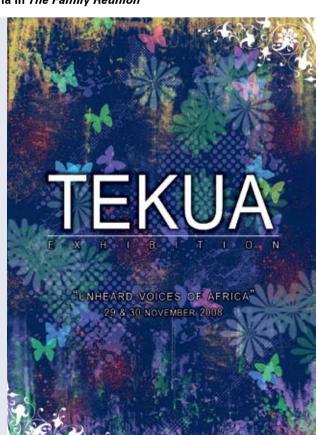
We are inviting you to visit 'Unheard voices of Africa', showcasing an intriguing blend of styles and unique mediums - highlighting the versatility of minds and the talent of the TEKUA students.

At the exhibition you will have the oppurtunity to purchase paintings, sculptures and made jewllery. to the betterment of TEKUA school

With the funds raised from this exhi-bition we plan to enhance the living and learning conditions of the chil-dren of the school.

29 & 30 November 2008 Room 301, Royal School of Mines 14.00-20.00

We look forward to seeing you all there.





The fantastic orator Samuel West, as Harry





Film Editors - Zuzanna Blaszczak and Jonathan Dakin

film.felix@imperial.ac.uk



tory of film would go as over-the-top gestures of the first acfollows. 28th December 1895, basement room of the Grand Cafe in Paris becomes the 'official' date of the birth of cinema and the series of one minute short films created by the Lumiere brothers make up the first movie screening. We will not go into details here and so we ignore the fact that this was not the first screening of a moving image, and the fact that Edison's kinetoscopes played films at a small price we know. Incidentaly, Griffith, togethof one nickel already in 1894. Moving on. It took only about ten years for the cinema industry to transform from a sally formulaic movies we are served in period when films were one shot features maximum one minute in length, with a static camera placed like an audience at a play, to a point where the movies, apart from being silent and in black and white, were not much different to what we can see now. Apart from continuous technological im-

in their structure because of one man. He wanted to be a playwright. His goal in life was to touch on as many political, social and moral issues in his creative work as possible. Ironically, the person who completely mastered the film form was the person who pronounced that 'any man enjoying such a thing [cinema] should be shot. Between 1908 and 1913 D.W. Griffith directed or supervised over 450 films, shaping the basic elements of film making into the language that has served cinema for the last 100 years. It's thanks to Griffith that actors now look natural when acting, that they act interesting article on its own.

provements which brought the film

format ever closer to its present form,

the movies of the 1910s are so similar

with restraint rather than using the tors. It's thanks to Griffith that films consist of shots put together in such a way as to mirror the process in which thanks to Griffith that something like 80% of movie shots are close -ups. He was a person to single handedly create the classical form of narrative cinema which today we are so trained to detect and immediately fall for and which, for most of us, is the only form of cinema er with the studio stystem that evolved in the 1930s is to blame for the univerthe cinemas right now.

The foundations of film syntax have been laid fairly rapidly and proved to be very lucrative, bringing the movie industry vast amounts of money. Thus when sound and image were finally successfully synchronized at the end of the 1920s the studios were laregly reluctant to make a move from the silent movie form that has been mastered to make a profit to films incorporating sound and dialouges. The conversion seemed to involve too many imponderables and went against the 'no risk' policy of the studio system. Yet Sam Warner persuaded his brother to go for it and invest in the Vitaphone disc system. The consequent commercial success of The Jazz Singer in 1928 signified that the sound era had dawned and other companies instantaneously followed suit; the conversion process costing the industry over \$300 million.

And so we arrive at the 1930s and the beginning of the Golden Age of Hollywood. But that story will make for an

The early years of Never been scared?

Probably not if you haven't seen the newest bone-chilling horror from the director of the 90s indie classic Full Moon Rising.

Quarantine ★★★★☆

Director: John Erick Dowdle Writer: John Erick Dowdel et

Cast: Jennifer Carpenter, Steve Harris, Jay

Jonathan Dakin

Filmed in 'shaky camera' with the premise of being a documentary, Quarantine opens with two television reporters, Angela (Carpenter) and her cameraman Scott (Harris) walking around a fire station. They plan to follow the firemen for a night to give their viewers a taste of what really goes on in the fire service. After seeing Angela slide down the fireman's pole several times, and flirt with fireman Jake (Hernandez), the station is quickly called to a local block of apartments, where a woman has locked herself into her apartment. After finding her they quickly realise that she is infected with a deadly virus, as do the outside policemen, who trap everyone into the building with the zombiefied victims. Cue long dark corridors, out of focus camera work and scary looking zombies who soon turn nasty, splattering blood and original ways. Will the survivors ever escape? And what exactly is the virus that is infecting everyone?

When the film eventually gets into its stride, it never stops. Building up nervous tension and fear, and then letting it explode into horror style jumps and leg snapping gore, Quarantine is a really good chiller-thriller with plenty



of blood splattering to appease horror fans. Although it is a remake of the Spanish film REC, Quarantine is one adaptation that deserves to be treated Boasting an incredible (though some-

as well as its original counterpart. times annoyingly) realistic performance. Jennifer Carpenter delivers a solid and scene-stealing role, carrying the audience along with her as she runs, screams, and freezes with fear. How would you act if zombies were chasing you around a dark block of flats? She perfectly captures how most people would react to this unreal situation, and this heightens the

The action sequences are very effective: this film is not for the squeamish as the blood and body parts fly at the camera thick and fast, one brilliant bit involves the cameraman using his own camera to bludgeon a zombie to death. Pretty grisly stuff, but also

Ouarantine will keep you on the edge of your seat, but will also have you not done for cheap laughs but for real terror. Sometimes the camera work can get annoying, mainly because a professional cameraman would not be so out of focus and shaky, but once you get used to it you get immediately sucked in, finding yourself wishing he would turn it certain wavs so you could get a better look at the

As a horror fan, I am usually disappointed with what film makers have to offer, but Quarantine is a highly effective and enjoyable film, and would definitely recommend it to horror fans, as well as anyone who is up for being scared: and I mean really scared. But if you leave the cinema and find yourself looking over your shoulder, and then sleeping with the lights on, don't say I didn't warn you.

Remarkable success of *Twilight*

Director: Catherince Hardwicke Writer: Melissa Rosenberg Cast: kristen Stewart, Roebrt Pattinson, Cam Gigandet

After her mother remarries, Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart from *Into the pened*) is send to live with her father in only to those of them that tend to prothe rainy town of Forks, Washington. In a town with a population of 3000 than your average 'prom queens'. And she quickly becomes the 'local news' at her new high school but soon finds out that the mysterious and dazzlingly critisize. If you let yourself accept the beautiful Cullen kids have a monopoly on the school's gossip. Sharing a desk with Edward Cullen (Robert Pattison simplest form, Twilight becomes surfrom Harry Potter and the Goblet of prisingly enjoyable. The film is well Fire), Bella rapidly comes to understand the all-round interest in the Cul- noving breaches of time or space conlens, herself being drawn to the intel-tinuity; it has a nice flow to it. The acligent, witty and impenetrable boy that tors, though not remarkable, do a very the movies that are made are made.

sees straight into her soul. When she connects his superhuman strength and speed, his cold hands and his shunning of sunlight to the old vampire legends spread by the local Indians, it's already too late; the forbidden love affair between a vampire and a mortal has by now begun. But Edward is not the only vampire for whom Bella's scent is an irresistible primal pull, it attracts three hunter vampires, who unlike the Cullen family don't mind feasting on hu-

this could appeal to anyone but girls claim themselves different and smarter yet, I can't bring myself to say the movie was bad. There's nothing I can openly story as just that, another story whose aim is to provide entertainment in the structured, with no plot holes, no an-

been very well cast, with Pattison looking every bit the alluring and dangerous vampire (he got all the girls in the audience screaming during the screening). This is mainly thanks to the costume and make-up artists who manage to make the Cullens visibly stand out without resorting to using fangs and long dark coats. Also worth mentioning is the scenography; filmed in the gloomy and moss abundant rainforest of the Olympic Peninsula the set-I really don't see how a plot line like ting for the film is a character in its own right. The one thing that I would Wild and more recently What just hap- aged thirteen to seventeen, and then, have really liked to see more of is charstory-line was immaculately adapted from the book, the psychology of the characters is rather hard to decipher. Although Bella's gradual deepening of

> feelings towards Edward is easy to follow, Edward's behaviour is confusing. Millions of American delusional teenagers flocking to the cinema meant that *Twilight* earned \$35 million | who helps her move her cattle. Tipped on its opening Friday. Compare that to the \$27 million scored by *Quantum of* | had its fair share of controversies, the *Solace* and you have the answer to why main one being the casting of the lead-

Coming Out Soon



Jonathan Dakin out half way through shooting, leaving

This new Baz Luhrmann (Moulin acter development. As much as the has been heavily promoted, and heavily praised. Starring Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman, Australia is about an English aristocrat Lady Sarah (Kidman) who fights against English cattle barons trying to steal her land, joining forces with a rugged Australian Drover (a person who moves livestock across long distances, played by Jackman) as an Oscar contender, Australia has long as you can sit through a good two ing man, as Russell Crowe dropped and a half hours of yearning passion.

Jackman to be replaced last minute. Will this love story be a success Rouge, Romeo and Juliet) period epic Think Gone With The Wind with cows, deserts, Japanese bombers and evil English people. If you like director Luhrmann's other works, as well as long epic historical love stories (e.g. Cold Mountain) then this film should be for you. Hopefully a film about his homeland should not be as sickeningly patriotic as an American film, although I am still unsurprised to see us English as the villains. But with a (relatively) good director, and a strong cast, Aus*tralia* should be an enjoyable romp, as

Christmas Ball 08

Friday 19 December, 20:00 - 04:00

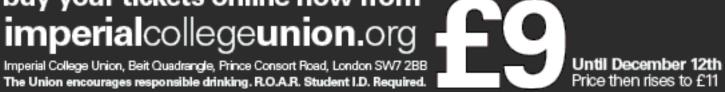


- Free mince pie and mulled wine on entry. (while stocks last)
- Father Christmas with his sexy elf helpers!
- Bucking Reindeer game.
- Festive cheer throughout!

GET YOUR EARLY BIRD TICKET NOW! Tickets go up to £11 from December 12th **Buy online now!**

buy your tickets online now from imperialcollegeunion.org

Imperial College Union, Beit Quadrangle, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB





Live music mania...

We all like a bit of live action, so this week, we deliver Hot Chip, Goldfrapp and Ani DiFranco for your pleasure

Hot Chip Brixton Academy ****

Hot Chip are a brainy electro-pop guintet, with four out of the five members being Oxbridge graduates. They have been on the scene for a while now, formed in 2000 and now three albums down the line, they are on the road again, touring along the country and showing that you can be both intelligent and play equally good music.

It was almost midnight before these guys emerged onstage. We were presented with a bizarre circus figure who appeared in front of our eyes, a sore sight indeed. This could be noone but Alexis Taylor, the frontman of Hot Chip, wearing his trademark nerdish spectacles and sporting a rather in-your-face garishly-coloured robe which, thank goodness, he shed off later on in the show to reveal more acceptable and less alarming stage-wear consisting of plain white overalls.

It was inevitable that the anthemic 'Over and Over' was going to be on the ecstatic agenda for this cracking live set. The crowd reached their climax of the evening for sure on this wild, extreme energy bulldozer. Cacophony reigned recklessly, whilst adrenaline pulsed through our veins as the flashing lights lit up the entire stage in a epileptic, chaotic demeanour.

'Ready For the Floor' was also on the bill. If you haven't checked out the video, well, you are missing out on something that is just beyond strange, with false teeth, weird women that appear to have been cut half due to the clear

to dodge sticks that poke out at them. Crazy layout, crazy costumes and crazy colours. Completely bonkers. It's all

Another prominent crowd-pleaser

was definitely one of the highlights of the show- 'And I Was A Boy From School.' This swoonsome song has a fantastically gripping tune which is melancholy in sound vet simultaneously catchy and even at times joyous and hopeful. The amalgamation of Taylor's somewhat poignant vocals with Goddard's baritone in this tune lead to an oddly touching effect. The strong pulse that ran through this number is again highly hypnotic; the texture builds up as more instruments are added layer by laver before the vocals kicks in. Teasing and wetting our appetites for sure. The chorus had the entire Brixton crowd singing 'We try but we don't belong.' It is safe to say that Hot Chip are no longer outcasts in life now that they've gained wide recognition and success across the UK as well as most of the globe and are reaching more and more new audiences by the day.

Amongst the tracks that they played that night included their new song, 'Alley Cats', a soulful, slowish, euphonic number, a track likely to feature on their forthcoming fourth album, which they plan to record soon. What Hot Chip does best is texture and good melodies and this song epitomises both key aspects. Likewise we were delighted by another slower track: the ambiguously titled 'Playboy.' Do the five of them look like playboys? We don't think so. They should just stick to their music for the

'One Pure Thought' was dominated by the repeating mantra - 'I won't be on my way' with dynamic beats and a confusing mesh of electronic sounds choice of backdrop as well guys trying providing a rich, polyphonic-textured,

The band showed off their repertoire of stuff with 'My Piano,' an upbeat slinky number heavy on the synthesizers and keyboards with short bursts of piano chord stabs to amplify the jilting rhythm. 'No Fit State' taken from their second album 'The Warning' was a classic belter-'We caught the fire but the body escaped/

Love other people but I don't know their names. What peculiar lyrics, ringing of some truth though.

The show was not complete without a spectacular combination of laser beams and dramatic use of glittering disco lighting which tantalisingly conveyed the hectically exhilarating atmosphere.

The band finished their set with their fiendishly compelling, mellow version of Prince's classic 'Nothing Compares 2 U.' Well, for that magical epoch, nothing could have compared to Hot Chip and their maverick musi-

The show was overwhelmed with the euphoric atmosphere, compounded by the release of a dozen or so enormous balloons into the buzzing crowd towards the end of the set. The eager crowd jumped up like a bunch of five year-olds fighting for lollipops, everyone was reaching into the air, either to the music or lured by these crazy floating beauties. With some luck and maybe some tall genes, we got to be little kiddies again, happily playing in the playground that was Brixton. A fabulous show that thoroughly entertained with the invigorating energy and infectious enthusiasm that exuded from the

Top notch action from these Oxbridge alumni. Boffins they may be, but they sure can churn out some decent original stuff, doing it with style.



Goldfrapp glitters at Brixton

Goldfrapp Brixton Academy ****

I expect there are a lot of you who, like me, were rocking out in your bedroom at 15 to the thumping electro-clash tunes of Black Cherry and later Supernature, customising your T-shirts and wearing fishnets in a vain attempt to be even a little bit as cool as Alison Goldfrapp. But eventually, probably, we all chilled out and started drinking tea and watching the news before bed, and these CD's ended up in a box in the loft along with those Boyzone albums we never admitted to owning. (Hopefully, a similar fate befell the fishnets...)

Even so, if this does sound familiar, then this year's album Seventh Tree will have been regular ear-candy since what is being said; Yes, we've mellowed its release in February. Its tracks have out, but it's still okay to go crazy for the the same electronic energy as those new wave raucous hits like 'Twist' and we loved in our teens, but it's calmer, 'Strict Machine', and to dance like a lumore subtle and less brash. Basically, it's Goldfrapp, but grown up.

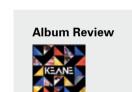
The live show was incredible. The so easily just-a-bit-too-big-and-impersonal Brixton Academy had been transformed into a mythical and magical wonderland, the stage sprawled with fairy-like musicians dressed in white playing almost every instrument imaginable, a choir in cult-esque animal masks and centre stage was a kind

Alison appears barefoot amid screams from the audience, managing to look effortlessly breathtaking in what seems to be the top half of a clown's outfit made from a bin-bag and some glittery pompoms. Her silky, liquid vocals fill the stage and the punters look on in awe as their undeniably impressive set unfurls.

'A&E' is piercingly beautiful, 'Number 1' is sweet and personal, 'Caravan Girl' is uplifting and 'Happiness' is... accompanied by four bouncing dancers in pastel-coloured, hairy jumpsuits. It's all very theatrical, all a bit odd and all so Goldfrapp.

The audience clap madly to the beat of 'Train' and I suddenly realise that the maypole has lost its ribbons and become, well, just a pole. Out come the dancers in bikinis with wolf masks on.. it's weird, and disturbingly sexy, but by the chorus everyone around me is going mad and I think we've all realised natic to 'Ooh La La'. The show was a perfect mix of their

newer work and a re-visitation of their more in-your-face dance tunes. It was like reminiscing with an old friend (albeit a much more successful and attractive one) who is classy and modest, but with an unashamedly wild side who makes you feel okay - nay, proud- of that 15 year-old inside you who loves to let it all go. All things considered, it was definitely a show worth seeing.



Friday 28 Novmber 2008

Ani DiFranco

The Forum

music.felix@imperial.ac.uk

The fabulously charming Forum used

to be a cinema, built in the 1930's, but

has been rendered as a considerably

grandiose musical venue in the last fif-

teen years or so. The powerful yet inti-

mate stage has been testament to many

well-established artists strutting their

stuff on stage, with the likes of Jamiro-

quai, Robbie Williams, Travis and Van

Morrison on the performance bill. Fol-

lowing this tradition of having a highly

talented line-up, this time around with

Ani DiFranco, we could expect noth-

ing but the same electric, intimate and

intense aura all around. Looking in

either direction, we were treated with

the lavish architecture and décor that

complemented the intricate lighting,

the stage that was bathed in beautiful

blue hues that sent out a serene seem-

ingly mysterious vibe, a premonition

for the startling performance that was

The turnout was to be expected,

there were an eclectic bunch of people

of all ages and of both genders, which

comes not so much as a surprise really

as DiFranco has such a wide diversity

of fans with her music crossing many

genres. No doubt there are legions of

fans across the globe, some liking her

folky style, others maybe the rocky in-

fluence or even the jazzy feel that she

incorporates into her music. It's terri-

bly hard to pigeon-hole her as being of

any particular genre, so with DiFranco.

you get variety, and that is what makes

her stand out and probably the key to

her success in carrying on being well

received for two decades now. An in-

credible woman who knows how to

capture and recapture audiences again

Before DiFranco came on stage, the

to follow.

Perfect Symmetry

For their third album released back in October, Keane have definitely changed their tact, venturing into new exciting sounds. With a departure from their previous pretty piano-pop style, 'Perfect Symmetry' sees Keane experimenting with a more varied instrumentation, featuring appealing electronically-based sounds. It includes the Anything' as well as the appearance of of tasty synths, all in combination with the fifth track-'Perfect Symmetry,' we string arrangements and tinkerings see Keane's trademark piano arrangeof saxophones and the musical saw. ment. 'I wish we can make sense of Overall, fans will be greatly pleased to what we do.' These guys turn to phisee such a divergence. Believe it or not, losophy in this intoxicatingly lush, methe experimental flair

'Spiralling' into the deep abyss of pummels through the entire track, driv-albums.

ing it forward, sending delicious tingles down your spine whilst the blaring

The second track tells the story of dreams, we hear echoes of The Killers with the use of synthesisers in the prelude that builds into a choral climax. Grippingly, we hear the lead vocalist Tom Chaplin's gorgeous voice soar-'I dreamed I was watching young lovers

In 'Better Than This,' the syncopated rhythm is joined by a picked guitar hook, something novel, giving the whole piece an upbeat, bouncy feel. Pleasantly playful and light. When Rice hits the high notes, we are definitely reminded of the legend that is Justin Hawkins from The Darkness. How we miss those rockers...

We see the synths feature in the sonic soundscape in 'You Haven't Told Me you living for? ... [Some may] find life is unkind and over so soon.' It is imlyrical and musical ambition, we hear possible not to say that Keane have a Keane emerging from a 1980's synth- tremendous gift for writing splendidly pop influenced style with sheer mas- provocative and moving lyrics, they tery. This anthemic odyssey explodes really do possess lyrical prowess that at the word go, the 80's booming beat has been manifested through all three

keyboard fires off in the background.

dance' yet 'The Lovers are Losing.'

coming through once more.

DiFranco picks up her guitar and mixes politics with music

ling, the world is your stage.

mentation allowed the vocals to soar

The night's success has to be also

attributed to DiFranco's trio backing

band; they did their customary excep-

tional job, with Alison the drummer,

blazing away with the suave beats,

Todd the double bassist and keyboard-

ist, adding warmth and strength in tex-

ture with the strings and last but not

the least, there was Mike who added saccharine tinkering on various per-

cussion instruments such as the metal

Several songs from her new album-

'Red Letter Year' were given a twirl

throughout the course of the evening.

With the song 'Red Letter Year,' the

strong sense of rhythm was conveyed

through the almost waltz-like beats

and the repetitive heavy instrumenta-

tion. In contrast, 'Present/Infant' was

given a touch of tenderness, DiFranco

was neatly embraced by the tranquil

aura of contentment, a testimony to

her loving bond to her daughter and

her lyrics defining her intact feminist

Smiling all the way, DiFranco's trade-

mark blistering guitar audacity was

acutely demonstrated in most tracks

that were performed, especially in the

anti-war protest that is 'Alla This,' - 'I

won't support the troops, cos every last

one of them's being duped, it wasn't

just Ani, the guitar did a fair share of

Before the curtains were drawn, the

ideals in the wake of motherhood.

xylophone and marimba.

freely, exhilarating indeed.

hum of expectation was in the air, the

crowd having been treated to the fan-

tastically ferocious Hamell on Trial

and the delicate folk-acoustic set by

DiFranco certainly can have her pick

when it comes to doing live shows,

with a twenty year career to look back

on and seventeen studio albums in the

bag, the possibilities for the set-list are

countless, so most likely, she played

what took her fancy that night and

went for it with much passion, fire and

maybe a little tenderness in some of the

slower, more soulful tracks. No matter

what, the adoring fans would certainly

not hold a grudge against her for not

playing their favourites because, with

such a collection, you could not miss

Ani Difranco is someone who is not

afraid of speaking out. Being some-

one who feels strongly about politics,

a topic which features frequently in

her songs, we were given a blast of her

discontent towards the current admin-

istration in the U.S, her expectations

towards the elections and her explicit

inclination towards the Democrats

during the intervals between the songs.

Who can blame her? It's the right time

that America had some change with

the first black man in history to ever

become president. God bless America.

DiFranco had many lovely goodies in

store for us. We were again charmed

with some of her old artillery like the

breathtaking 'Overlap' which had the

audience singing along and clapping

their hands enthusiastically. The shim-

mering guitar loop, showering of the

vibes in conjunction with the laidback

drumming complemented Ani's soul-

fulness, casting a deeply chilled, blissful

spell throughout the whole auditorium. Likewise, in the upbeat 'Both Hands,'

what stood out the most was the re-

freshing quality of Ani's vocals, playful

and heavenly harmonising. 'Imagine

That' saw DiFranco carving crushingly

sweet and flowing melodies, 'Imagine

And the rest of the world of course.

out on something that you loved.

Anais Mitchell.

introduction of guitars, incorporation new wave guitars. Unsurprisingly, with ninth track 'Pretend That You're Alone'. Coldplay are not the only ones to have lodic piece- 'Who are you and what are wholesomely replenishing our hunger

With 'You Don't See Me,' again we cannot but be obliged to compare these guys to The Killers, with the moody soundscape and the underlying synthesisers and piano accompaniment. The brilliance of this track is empha-

and range in the vocals. 'Again and Again' has us reminiscing at the quaintly bewitching and dynamic sound that was their debut album 'Hopes and Fears.' But with a twist to it, as we hear the synth-pop influence

sised by Chaplin's amazing intonation

The pace dwindles in 'Playing Along.' The change of palette sees sprinklings of mesmeric repeating electric guitar refrains and a sirenesque mixture of distorted sounds at the end. We should all 'turn up the volume until' we 'can't even think

Simple piano chords with hints of hip-hop beats help accompany 'Love is the End' is the sentimental ultimate track of this wonderful concoction of varied soundscapes. The melody is achingly wistful yet delightfully beautiful, Chaplin's soulful vocals for pure quality singing. Breathtaking. Heavenly. Words are not enough.

The palette used for this album is painted with powerful shades of all colours that are provocative and exhilarating. Bold, extravagant and evocative, Keane has achieved something that is tantamount to 'perfect'ion! revelation.

that I'm on stage' she coos, well, darshe had only just added the finishing touches to. It was a bouncy, light In contrast, DiFranco belted out 'Nahearted, warm melodic piece that polean' with much gusto, the melodihad a Mediterranean feel to it, with a cally meandering verse leading to the constant cute xylophone refrain runcrescendoing chorus, delivering her all ning through that gave away to a fuller and deeply sustaining the word 'Natextural, coquettishly sensual, instrupolean, as if her whole might dependmentation interlude from time to time, ed on the emotions that were conveyed ultimately, this carefree number pleasthrough the deliverance of these three antly filled the night with completesyllable. The simple chord strumming ness. One could not forget that her on the guitar and not so full instrusignature percussive finger picking was

We will be correct in saying that Di-

on show again for this number. Spicy

Franco has stamped her trademark in the music business, not only does she leave a lasting imprint with her music by producing a CD every year, but when it's given to us live, we will definitely take, take, treasure, and there's no stopping. She is still one of the most energetic and enjoyable acts ever to grace a London stage, being a small woman with just an acoustic guitar and her valuable vocals, together you get a mighty musical force that is awfully difficult to contend with. Expect to see her career continue to flourish and maybe we will see her in UK. Again.



If you haven't listened to Keane's new album, just go and listen to it!

Single Review The Hours release: 8th Decembei

Sarah-Emily Mutch

"See the light" is a not too timely release from The Hours, an indie rock seven -piece whose first album was released last year to critical acclaim. However could have done so much more. It's like if the first single of the second attempt taking the first bite of a sandwich and is anything to go by they have firmly thrown themselves in the pit-marked "One Album Wonders." It's so repeti- could be entirely unsatisfying. Only tive that if you haven't seen the light by time will tell.

the end of this seven-minute epic then you really are dead. The sound is the same: huge, echoing

and faintly mournful but it doesn't flow anywhere like "Narcissus Road" or "Ali in the Jungle". Ant Genn, a successful producer and Martin Slattery, jazz pianist, who have worked beside their fair share of big names between them, fail to emulate or exceed the great music they've helped make. Moreover with Damien Hirst, their friend, creating the album art, and Flood (U2, Sigur Ros...) producing the ensemble, they getting only the lettuce. There could be some meat in the next bite or it all



Hot Chip, five brainies who are masters of electro-pop. Nice sunglasses, a change to the ususal nerdy specs of maypole with... antlers.





nightlife.felix@imperial.ac.uk

A little voice, but lots of spirit(s)

Nightlife Editor CJ reviews a charity fundraiser featuring Biffy Clyro, Friendly Fires and Frank Turner

Mencap Little Noise Sessions ★★★★☆

Union Chapel, Islington

Best: Magical atmosphere Worst: Uncomfortable pughs. Price: £44 with proceeds going towards The Mencap Arts Awards

n the nightlife sec-So maybe a haunted church are a strange choice to review? This low volume gig was a unique night to remember, raising funds for a very

The Mencap Little Noise Project are a series of fundraising events in aid They provide grants for local art projects involving people with learning disabilities. As Andy Kee, an artist and youth worker puts it "As arts develop so do people'

Why was there so little volume? Despite the great acoustics in the chapel, local council imposed noise restrictions limit output to a paltry 85 decibels.

Each night there have been unique acoustic performances from the likes of Glasvegas, Kasabian and Razorlight. On Wedsnesday 12th November headliners Biffy Clyro returned to the Union Chapel, with Friendly Fires and Frank Turner in support. Last year Biffy Clyro made an strong impression in this venue, singing acapello from the pulpit. They were understandably keen to return, describing it as one of "best acoustic type shows we've done. Very

On first impressions, St Alban's Friendly Fires were a strange sight. Dressed with more than a hint of irony, shirts were tucked into chinos and side partings smoothly drawn. Boring great cause. first impressions were quickly cast aside by some amusing showmanship . Friendly Fires singer Ed MacFarlane minced charmingly on stage, somewhat resembling the animatedness of

You couldn't help but smirk, watching them writhing around in their preppy clothes like innappropriately slutty cub scouts (See photo montage).

The highlight from the electro-pop outfit was the recent, superior single "Paris". You could tell the audience were actively restraining a secrete urge to let go and manically dance on the pughes. In all honesty Friendly Fires have too much zeal to be wasted in the of the Mencap Arts Awards Scheme. acoustic format. I recommend seeing them perform at the Brixton Academy next February for the Shockwaves

It was clear who was in their element that night. Headliners' Biffy Clyro epic stage presence stole the show. Like a group of friends gathered around a camp fire, they had a humble, peaceful spiritual presence. The audience were captivated throughout. Nothing could have been more intuitively right. The huge acoustic sound resonated through the vast gothic spires. I felt the bass vibrate through my feet. A throughly well produced acoustic set.

Set list-wise they opened with "Living is a problem because everything dies". New song "God & Satan" premiered that night, but they refused to utter the title in a place of worship.

Visually the Union Chapel made a magical venue, with full on gothic Victorian architecture imaginatively uplit casting ghostly shadows. Biffy Clyro connected with the audience and it was a beautiful, unique event for a

Friendly Fires are playing the Brixton Academy on Saturday 21st February as part of the Shockwaves NME Awards



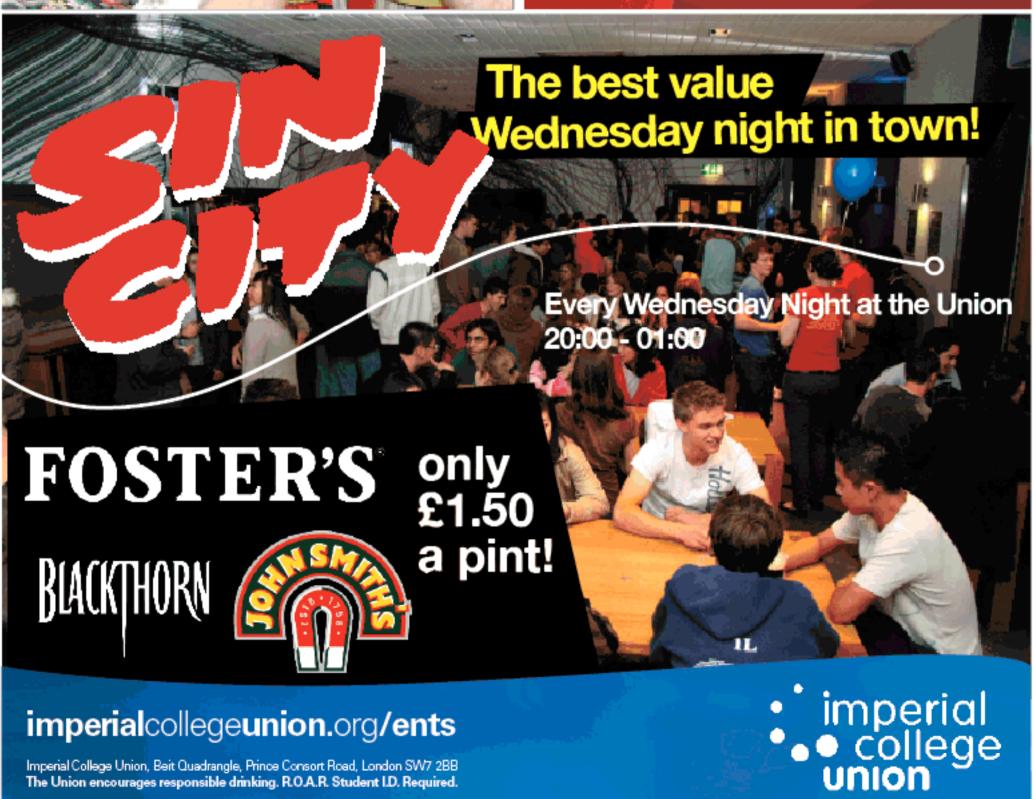




S.H.A.G. FINALE







24 felix Friday 28 November 2008



Fashion

Fashion Editor – **Dan Wan**

fashion.felix@imperial.ac.uk



The boy done good

Daniel Wan Fashion Editor

was going to comment extensively on the last three weeks' of fashion happenings, but other news a little more important, and I reckon relevant, turned up at the felix offices late last night.

Last night gave evidence that the combination of passion and sustained hard work pays off. Last year's Editorin-Chief, Tom Roberts, triumphantly walked out of the Guardian Student Media Awards clutching the Student Newspaper of the Year Award he richly deserved.

The *felix* team worked immensely hard last year, and there is nothing I can put in print to describe exactly how pleased I am that *felix* has got the national recognition it deserves from Tom's editorship. It's an even better feeling knowing we achieved this through our own passion entirely.

What I mean is, writing for *felix* was never toil, or 'real' work. We are all engineers, scientists and medics whom have already signed away our immediate futures into fields so far from journalism. In charge, was a geeky Physicist already in question. We have no Jour-

nalism or English courses here. Yet, we managed to beat off numerous other publications produced by journalists, design artists and literature students.

So, it all comes down to a mutual passion for writing. Through passion, came dedication. Through dedication, came hard work. And through hard work, comes rewards. And Student Newspaper of the Year is only a fraction of ours. The rest of our reward is from you, the readers. The sense of pride seeing students value your work within their busy week is something no Guardian Award can give.

Saying that, this award sets a benchmark for the newly assembled team this year. By no means is it impossible to repeat the achievement. The paper is picking up speed as the academic year unfolds. So boys and girls, let's set award-winning *felix* cat free once

Have a little gander at the interview I held with Tom in the News this week, and laugh at his funny, yet accomplished, face of confused terror as he collects his award.

So much for a Fashion editorial then.

Ramblings of a Fashionista

Vicky Masding acutely suffers from 'Beit Syndrome', so *felix* stays away and lets the horrifically inane ramblings commence

irstly I would like to warn you – this article may be rambling and incoherent in style. This is in part due to a distinct lack of research and Beit syndrome: the inability to write articles or do anything productive. Ever.

Rest assured, in no way does this correspond to a diminishing passion for clothes. Far from it, I spent my weekend shopping! 'Spent' of course being the 'ha-ha' obviously operative word. I had planned on buying a new bag, or at least something that would not make my lecture notes look like waste by the end of the day, and possibly a dress. However, I came back with two tops, a cardigan, one skirt, one hat and two pairs of sick shoes!

"Fail!" I hear you cry. To which I reply with withering enthusiasm "your face is fail." Others of course would hi-fric-kin-five me on the success of my trip. Such a loot!

As we roll on a few weeks and I finally have the bag! However this is a mini-saga in itself, so much so it warrants column inches. I will now paint you the picture.

I have been shopping for hours, it is dark and raining and I have scuffed holes in my slouch boots — so I have

ask the sales assistant to restate the price and then calmly back out of the purchase. My approach was somewhat different. I instead remained cool and just bought the bag. I guess the lesson here is: look at the tag that corresponds to what you are actually buying. The End. And FYI the bag and I will live happily ever after.

Needless to say many other purchases took place and chip-and-pin machines were fucked good and proper by my debit card.

In other news, in an attempt to sabotage the studying of a friend, I went on his laptop and began asking his opinion of women's clothes. This did successfully distract him (lols). The premise of "the game" (OMFG - I just lost the game) was this; (OK. I will give you a minute to console yourself about losing the game. Right, a minute's up.) each page displayed a variety of dresses and he was made to say which ones he would like to see a girl in. Of course he picked the waste ones. This could of course highlight that I am not dressing to maximize my appeal to the opposite sex. Alternatively he probably just has no taste, but has what I like to call 'waste-taste'. But it's always interesting to ponder, do you dress to get some?



I will pause the story there to acknowledge the fact most people would

ally purchasing an £80 real leather bag.

Forget diamonds, shoes are a girl's best friend

Swiri Konje was unimpressed with September's London Fashion Week. One designer restored her faith in fashion that day; Rohan Anthony Clarke's illuminating collection of romantically inspired shoes

SLOANE RANGER. Rohan takes vou

on a different journey depicting the

vibrancy of both sides on his centre

With Rohan Anthony Clarke, there is

no rush; each woman's stride should be

Sloaney or not? Needless to say these

shoes make a statement about where

you come from. Of course sloaney girls

usually dress with a slightly scruffily though with expertly made up faces; a

look which I like to call 'The Bedroom

Look'. That doesn't mean it is their

evening look. Oh no, they transcend

into expertly coiffed looking girls tip-

ping it up with expensive classy shoes.

Rohan shoes show you what class is all

about, appropriately termed British nostalgia. Those cowgirl boots discern

the hardworking form the lazy bum-

mers! What's more? These range of

POSH or NOT? Think posh on a night

out hanging on her man's arm, cam-

taken purposefully and confidently.

OANE RANGER _

ver wondered about the history of the shoe? Where and why it was made? It was first used by the Greek followed by the Romans. In the early Christian days (third century), they were worn by women to cover the feet replacing sandals.

In the 1600's it became FASHION. It became a commodity- quality, design, extravagance all part of the deal. Just think of those different styles, shapes, constructions, decorations etc.

Fashion in now expressed in different ways through gender, age, economic strata and social echelon of its wearer.

"In every step she takes a trail of fire follows her. With every stride she navigates, there is no one beside her. A fortuitous wall serves simply as a paper kite punctured by a lethal heel....."

Rohan Anthony Clarke is a shoe designer that takes a romantic view of shoes. Ladies, isn't that just what we need?

At the London Fashion Week September 2008, the Spring and Summer collection of clothes were not very inspiring as I went through the stalls. Accessories on the other hand took a leading edge. Rohan's stall got me arrested in my tracks: The colours, the style, the design. But most of all, the shoes had a history.

London with its distinctive area was his muse, creating shoes with a variety of London areas in mind.

delicious creations: (from top left clockwise) The Clerkenwell, The Sloane Ranger, The Brixton, The

A mixture, blend, of east meets west ranging from THE BRIXTON, to lick the pages please.

Roxy and The Beauchamp. Try not envy and every guys wet dream.



some of Rohan Anthony Clarke's delicious creations: (from top left clockwise) The Clerkenwell, The Sloane Ranger, The Brixton, The Royy and The Beauchamp. Try not

THE BEAUCHAMP.

THE CLERKENWEL

Otherwise known as 'Little Italy', this should begin to give you an idea of what this collection looks like; Originality, signature elegance, and most of all attitude. This high heeled peep toe shoe boots which are now the fashion rage gives you a specific look; that of custom- made fluid sophistication. It is a show off piece which shows off individuality and uniqueness.

THE ROXY

What shall we call this? They are not shoes, not boots, not sandals but a mixture of both; Perhaps Sandal Boots? The picture tells it all - Brash, bold and beautiful.

HE BRIXTON ,

Think trainers + heels + colour and finally style = rock chic trainer heels. That is the formula for Rohan's Brixton. Oh yeah, they're 'Brixton' but don't you go thinking "gosh, who wears this in Brixton?" As well as being extremely dangerous, Brixton also has brought forth the unique arty type. Like who? Now think Sharon Osbourne rock chic Numero Uno. Yeah, these trainer heels are not what she might wear now, she being old, but 10 years ago these would have been her favourite. What have we learned from this? Yes, trainers too can be classy.

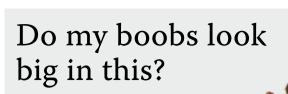
Next week, watch out for Part 2 of this article, where we get to speak to Rohan himself.





Food Editors - Afonso Campos & Rosie Grayburn

food.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Rosie Grayburn Food Editor

fter loathingly seeing my hard-earned holiday income go to waste on over-priced rent last year I decided to hoard a little for myself and pop over to the freezing shores of La Belle France to Lille on a quickie 24-hour trip for the Christmas markets and Moules. The briefness of my trip means my stomach capacity is limited, but I will be back in time for a full 12-hour stint of lab reporting on

After their lunchtime gorging of Moules-Frites, cafés and restaurants all around the city display mounds of mussel shells outside their doors to brag about how much they sold during that day. I wonder if we should start to do the same with our crisp packets, pie dishes and coke cans? Not quite as organic as Lille's waste, but I'm sure Tracey Emin would submit it for the the other. Turner Prize

I have now started arming myself with heavy objects every time I watch the telly in the hope I might see Kerry Katona's bloody Iceland advert. "CHICKEN TIKKA LASAGNE: ONE POUND!" Fooking hell. Kerry, I think that's fusion food taken a little too far. Can you imagine it?! Gently spiced chicken tikka smothered in a thick, gloopy white sauce layered between egg lasagne sheets: this is not just shit food – this is fusion food.

Anyhoo, in this week's food page I have adapted the food to fit the cold, frosty days we are having. Being a hardy northern lass, nothing pleases me more than coming in from -5°C out-

quacamole on the side.

2 spring onions, chopped

Anything else you fancy

A handful of grated cheddar cheese

A pinch of chilli flakes/fresh chilli

Serves 1

both sides.

side [in August] and gobbling down a hefty portion of stew. Hence, I have included my Goulash recipe which most definitely warms you right to the core. Be warned: the portions are massive so feel free to adapt the recipe to suit the size of the mouths you are feeding. Goulash is one of those stews which takes time, care and attention so for the impatient amongst you I have also included a quicker alternative to the toasted sandwich for munchies.

If eating in ain't your thing, I've included two eateries for your delight. Som Tam House is a mouth-watering Thai restaurant on Askew Road near Hammersmith and Shepherd's Bush. We used to live along Askew Road and it is a very confused area. It is hemmed in by middle class paradise at the BBC White City on one side and the multicultural, bustling Goldhawk Road on

The outcome is a fabulous range of restaurants with different cuisines but all at very student-friendly prices. Give Adam's Cafe a try for bucketfuls of Moroccan tagine or Bridge that Gap for a builder's fry-up.

Whilst you're all freezing your balls off in this Arctic weather, why not be ironic and have some frozen yoghurt. Snog is a cool place to hang out. For the winter season they have added hot toppings to their menu so shut up, tuck in and enjoy it.

Apologies for the Nigella-esque picture this week. The new look 'sideshot' editor photos mean I look like I have had a breast augmentation. Answers on a postcard.

Duesadillas

Make a pile of these for a 'light' lunch. The ingredients given are for

a simple quesadilla, but feel free to add anything you like to the mix.

For something more even substantial, add some refried beans and

Place one tortilla on a hot, dry frying pan and put all the other ingre-

dients on top, ensuring the cheese goes to the edges of the tortilla.

Place the other tortilla on top and cook for one minute. Flip over the

quesadilla and cook on the other side for a further minute, until the

cheese is melted. The quesadilla should be brown and crispy on

Remove from the pan and use scissors to snip into quarters. Sit and devour. I can eat one portion in one mouthful – there's a challenge.

2 tortilla wraps (on offer in Sainsbury's at the moment)

Nigella can't say no



Som Tam House ★★★★

131 Askew Road, W12 9AU Phone: 0208 749 9030 www.somtamhouse.co.uk

Best: Classic Thai food Worst: Toffish BBC types hanging out after work...wah wah wah. Price: £15 per head

s a tenant in quiet, residential West London, Askew Road appears normal on the outside: the Co-op, Chinese chippie and five pubs... But when you look more closely at the restaurants along its length, there are some discreetly disguised gastronomic gems: Adam's Café, the wonderful Moroccan eatery; made bread is warm and crisp; and the tiny Thai restaurant Som Tam House.

The two cooks at Som Tam were made to perfection here, of course!

Sumi, the Iranian where the freshly-

In keeping with the quiet neighbourhood, Som Tam House is cosy, warm and inviting. The staff are suitably attentive and the eccentric owner has a large wardrobe full of gaudy Hawaiian shirts which add to the otherwise muted colour scheme.

trained at the famous Blue Elephant restaurant in Fulham and it shows in the exquisite food. The portions are satisfyingly large and full of fresh ingredients. Be warned, however: when the menu says "hot" they really mean it. While you're here you have to try the restaurant's namesake, Som Tam. Som Tam is a green papaya salad which is

In the window of the restaurant are

displayed the customary reviews from various free London papers. One of them is particularly interesting. I am in two minds over Nigella Lawson – I admire her womanly power over a TV camera but her forwardness does make me cringe. "Squeeze the icing gently over the smooth surface... oops! I got some icing all around my perfectly made-up lips." [Follow speech with much licking of fingers.] Beside this qualm she has very good taste in Thai restaurants.

Nigella apparently frequents Som Tam when she's filming her series. She is quoted as saying the sticky rice is "to die for." I tested said rice to see if her theory was correct. Yes, she is but I have trouble visualising how she would eat this in her sexy, sexy way.

Unless you are on a date and have to concentrate hard on maintaining eye or leg contact with your partner, the other customers at Som Tam are very interesting to watch discreetly. The place seems to be jammed with tables of high-powered BBC-types popping in for tea on their way home to their perfect dwelling places in Ravenscourt

Amusingly I notice they always 'forget' to remove their work ID badges. They go through 3 courses and 2 bottles of wine with BBC emblazoned across their chests, just so the other diners don't disregard it. It all adds to the charm of Som Tam House!

If you're thinking of visiting Som Tam, it even fills up during weekdays so do book ahead if your party number is more than two. Takeaway is offered but you miss out on the comforting atmosphere and charm of this little gem. Who would turn down amazing Thai food with the added bonus of possibly sitting on the spot where Nigella parked her perfect buttocks?



Serves 4 very hungry people

900g braising steak (from a butcher expect to pay

2 tsp caraway seeds (optional)

2 red chillies, chopped

1 garlic clove 2 tbsp paprika

1 carrot, diced 1 stick of celery, chopped

I parsnip, cubed 10g parsley

2 potatoes, cubed

1 tomato 3 tbsp tomato puree 1 green pepper 50g plain flour 2 tbsp egg

If you're ever hungry in Hungary, they will plonk a bowlful of this spicy stew in front of you. It's similar to a bog-standard English winter stew with added kick from paprika, chilli and caraway seeds. There is really no need for extra carbs in the form of bread because all you need is right there in your bowl. This is comfort food at it's best. Phwoai

Soften the onions in the oil then add the steak. Cover the pan and simmer for 15-20 minutes.

Bash together the caraway seeds, chillies and garlic into an amalgam then add to the pan with 250ml water. Cover again and simmer for 40 minutes. Give it a stir then add the paprika, carrot, celery, parsnip and parsley. Cover and simmer for 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, make the 'noodles': form a dough from the flour and egg then pinch/roll into vague long shapes. Finally add your noodles, potatoes, tomato, puree and green pepper and boil for the last 15

You've created a monster. Eat it – it's yummy, like.

Friday 28 November 2008

Do you remember your first Snog?



SNOG ★★★★☆

food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

32 Thurloe Place, South Kensington ifancvasnog.com

Best: Yummy, scrummy frozen yogurt for the same price as Haagen Daaz Worst: Yummy, scrummy frozen yogurt and not a lot else. . Calories: 78 calories for a small tub (if you're interested) Price: £2.85(small)-£7.95 (very large); 65p toppings

omeone has invented an addictive substance that has no negative side effects. My dealer is in South Kensington and my drug is frozen yogurt. Before you all faux-vomit in disgust, let me tell you a little about SNOG.

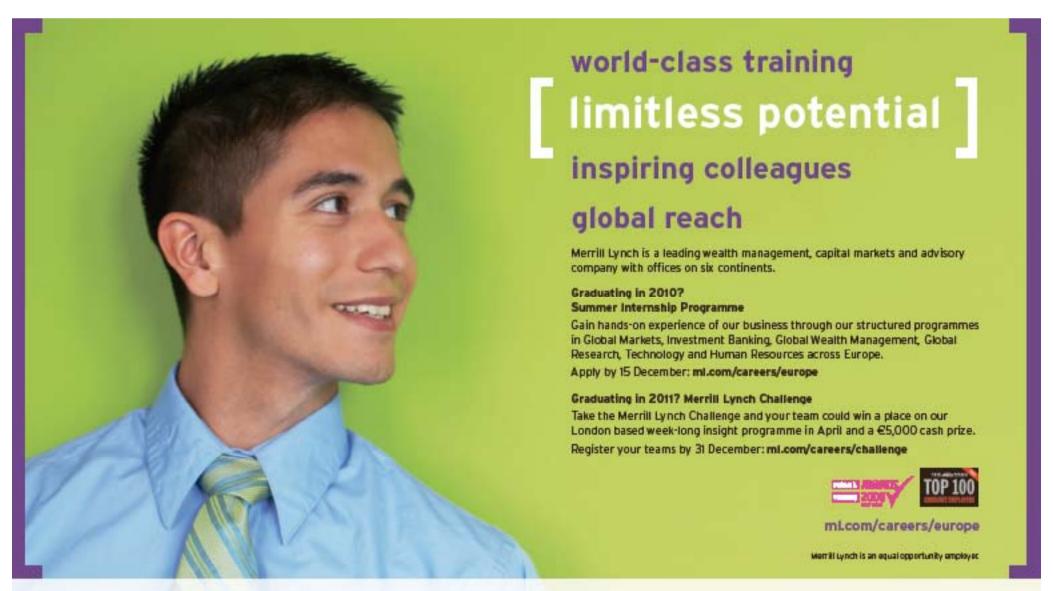
Before I had my first Snog, I had preconceptions that anything that was healthy and sweet must taste like shit. I admit I was wrong. Frozen yogurt rules. Snog serves two flavours of frozen yogurt – green tea and natural and there is a large variety of fruity and cake-related toppings to go with

them. Both yoghurts are moreish and so refreshing that you can just sit in the café all night and order rounds and rounds of the stuff. Frozen yoghurt is the perfect antidote to sitting at home and getting through tubs of Häagen Dazs or Ben and Jerry's (depending on what's on offer in Sainsbury's).

If you were wondering why on earth I would try to sell a frozen yogurt shop to you in the middle of winter, you would definitely benefit from their 'Winter Wonderful' warm toppings. Try a Natural Snog with a shot of expresso or an apple crumble topping.



The gorgeous staff are the second best thing at Snog







Technology

Technology Editor - Ravi Pall & Richard Lai

felix@imperial.ac.uk



douche bags

Richard Lai Technology Editor

u just can't avoid them they're everywhere! As we speak I have two items being sold on eBay, one of which is the lovely Sony Ericsson Xperia X1 (as much as I love the phone, money does come first). It was pretty obvious that the phone was going for at least £400 at that time, but I had this one douche bag who had the balls to ask, "Would you sell this for 210 pounds including delivery?"

Then I had another one who first buttered me up with "I like how you describe the phone" and "your confidence in accepting personal collection inspires me that you are a trustful seller", followed by a slightly more sensible offer of £300. Sorry, but the buttering up just ruined it all.

And literally just now a buyer by the name of "big.oisimpson" offered to buy my phone in person, and I am not making this up! For some strange reason he insisted on paying me via PayPal before collection, instead of paying by cash which would save me the PayPal fees. Also I fear his PayPal payment might, for some reason, become void afterwards. Anything could happen, right?

I swear I've never encountered that many weirdos outside Engadget - a respectable technology blog which has comment sections flooded with posts like "FIRST!!!!!111!" and "APPLE RULEZ". Shut up already! The number of Apple fanboys there is definitely nothing to joke about. Someone please

get those kids out of their basement. There is definitely a trend of online anti-socialism going on here, some sort of new-found disease like the online-gaming addiction. I've tried to imagine what the equivalent rehab training camp would be like (yes, they do have such camps for Warcraft addicts in China), but the only cure I can think of is to just dump those idiots on Mars and make them build houses for us. Now let's see who'll build the 100th house FIRST!!!!111! (Only if they manage to sort out the oxygen problem

On a more serious note, lately everyone seems to be down with the flu, and I might have caught a bit of sore throat from my flatmates too (cheers!). It made me wonder: if we can remotely control a robot on Mars, how could it be that we have vet to defeat the annoving viruses on our own planet? Perhaps Biology really is the hardest subject on the campus? Well, at least that's where most of the hot girls are too (ladies, please note that I didn't say 'all of'); in our Information Systems Engineering group we literally have zero girls, so perhaps some of us are already on the right path to become genuine, hardcore engineers.

Either way, please don't send us to Mars with those Internet douche bags. Well, not me anyway - I'll say behind to exterminate the remaining trash-

Oh, and the Star Trek trailer is great!

Check out this weird yet beautifully-

designed point-and-click game:

http://amanita-design.net/

医全球医外癌

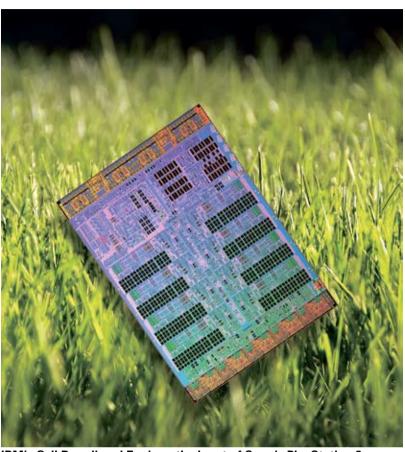
0.00

Last.fm

Weekend Timewasters

Internet PS3 is so underrated

IBM's "Inside the Cell Processor" lecture last week explains it all



IBM's Cell Broadband Engine - the heart of Sony's PlayStation 3

ver wondered why Sony's PlayStation 3 is so expensive? Well, my friend, I'd like to tell you that it's actually an underpriced supercomputer. No, it's not just about its Blu-ray playback feature - it's the Cell processor which makes the PS3 your home

Last week EESoc invited John Easton, Senior Consultant of IBM Systems and Technology Group, to talk about the Cell Broadband Engine (Cell BE, in short) technology. His emphasis was that in the past business establishments were competing over the number of pieces of technological equipment they possess, but today it's a totally different story: technology has become part of commodities and to be able to trade faster you have to look into "doing something you could never

According to Easton, the current latencies in the trading arena are counted in milliseconds, and each can cost about \$55,000 (which is eleven vears' worth of a Home student's undergraduate tuition fees). Methods to keep such latencies down were very different even just five years ago: the performance-constrained market meant that companies relied on scaling to drive performance and drive down cost; today, the market trend indicates that there will be no more space for data centres in London in the next ten years, which is why IBM believes that innovation is the new scaling.

However, the concept of the Cell processor started way back in 2000, when SCEI (Sony Computer Entertainment Incorporated) approached IBM for an engine that would make the PS3 future-proof from day one, and about 1000-times faster than current consoles. From that point onwards, SCEI, Toshiba and IBM formed STI - a joint technology development alliance on the Cell BE, and in September 2006

- the first commercial product utilising

the Cell BE, followed by the highly-

anticipated PS3 in November.

The current generation of Cell is essentially a 90nm nine-core chip with ten threads, clocking over 4GHz with 100 GFLOPS in labs (the PS3's Cell is clocked at 3.2GHz). Instead of using the traditional scalar code, Cell is programmed with the more complex vector language (known as array programming), in order to achieve a higher level of parallelisation. This is essential for heavy encoding/decoding and compression/decompression in signal processing, digital filtering, Fast Fourier Transform, advanced video rendering and many other real time processing tasks.

Easton provided some very interesting examples of Cell applications, with the first video being of a medical computer tomography (CT) scan of a human heart. It seemed to be an ordinary animation, but then we were told that with a 3GHz Wintel box, such 3D rendering from 313MB of raw scan data to just five 1MB slices would take about a hundred seconds, which is not very

16 hours to process that); but with four Cell blades a sequence of fifteen samples can be rendered to an even higher resolution in less than one second! Another video rendering demo was of a terrain rendering engine (TRE),

good for the average high-resolution

CT scanning of 3000 slices (the cur-

rent Siemens Somatom 64 takes about

which showed the performance difference between an Intel-based machine, a G5-dual-CPU one and a Cell machine: Intel's video was still rendering the landscape within the first few frames, then the G5 gave a jumpy animation, and finally the Cell gave a smooth visual flight over the mountains.

Easton then played a recorded video of a life-like Ferrari car rendering, demonstrating IBM's Interactive Ray Tracer (iRT) running on fourteen Cell blades which, as the name suggests, is able to change a render interactively in real time - a feature that is very important for movie productions and product video demos

Toshiba has also been making use of the Cell BE: back in CEATECH 2005 they showcased their "Magic Mirror". which virtually puts makeup on you as well as changing your hairstyle. Today we have the SpursEngine - a derivation of the Cell BE, running on just four cores and clocked at 1.5GHz peaking at 48 GFLOPS, and is already featured on selected Toshiba laptops for hand gesture visual recognition.

Of course, we mustn't forget the PS3, the power of which has been harnessed by Stanford University's Folding@home, a distributed computing project for studying protein folding

As of 25th November 2008 the PS3 has provided 38.9% of the total TFLOPS with just over 58k active CPUs - a very impressive ratio compared to Windows' mere 5.26% over 235k active CPUs. And of course, you get to play games with stunning graphics and physics on the console!

When asked if NVIDIA's GPGPU (General-Purpose computing on Graphics Processing Units) is seen as Cell's biggest competitor right now, Easton simply admitted that it is definitely more powerful than Cell is intended to be (as proven by Folding@ home statistics: 42.2% of TFLOPS from 16k active CPUs), but for programmers the GPGPU is harder to work with; the only real fear will be Intel's Larrabee GPU, due out in late 2009. Don't worry though, IBM, as the PS3 will keep us happy for many more years.

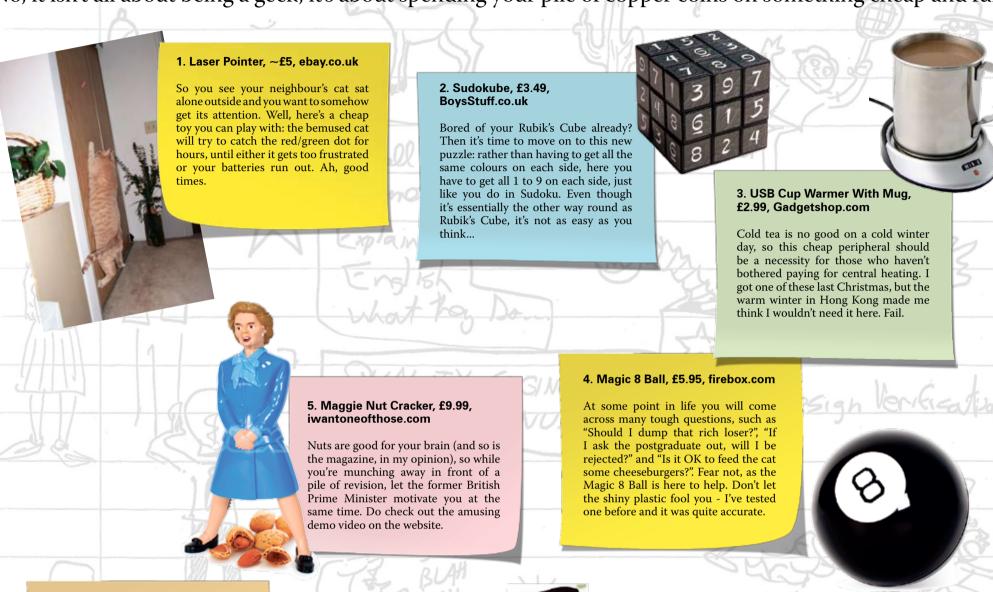
SPECIAL GENERAL PURPOSE PURPOSE FPGA DSP NVIDIA Intel **IBM Blue** GPGPU Larrabee Gene Cell

IBM launched the QS20 blade module Easton's placement of Cell on the purpose-speciality line

Technology felix@imperial.ac.uk

Ten affordable gadgets that you should get...

No, it isn't all about being a geek; it's about spending your pile of copper coins on something cheap and fun.



6. Powerball, from £7.99, Play.com

Here's another one for the balllovers: the gyroscopic exercise tool strengthens your arm muscles and fingers by exerting centripetal force, while you practise your wrist action. I strongly recommend getting the £14.99 model which has an LCD speedometer - everyone will be wanting to take up the RPM challenge at parties, and it also provides great visual entertainment



Lakeland.co.uk

As dumb as it may sound, this baby does work fantastically! Here's the list of food that you can cook with one in a toaster: toasted sandwiches (obviously), non-soggy eggy bread, scrambled egg, burgers, fish fingers, omelettes, salmon fillets, etc. And the best thing is cleaning is just as easy as using the reusable bags!



8. Dippy Egg Set, £7.95,

I smiled when I saw this kit, as earlier this evening my flatmate, Guto, was preparing Eggy Soldiers for supper (I know). The set comes with a cute microwave egg boiler (which also has a pin to prick the raw egg shell) and a handy soldier cutter, just the perfect combination for a quick, lazy meal. You should add this to your Christmas list!



10. SanDisk Ultra II 2GB SD Plus USB Card, £7.49, Play.com

must thank my flatmate, Jon, for this suggestion: if you have a digital compact camera, chances are you are using an SD card. Annoyed with the camera's USB cable or external card reader (stupid MacBook...)? Now you can just plug this odd memory card straight into the USB port!

9. Glowrings, £5.45, RVOps.co.uk These mini glowsticks contain the

radioactive tritium (don't worry unlike radium it's completely safe and housed in a very tough case) that will continuously glow brightly for ten years, very useful for marking your camping kit and keyrings, as well as luring fish when you're out night-







This is a quality weekly podcast

reviewing the latest movies, comics,

video games and TV shows.

Watch video game reviews done Listen to music for free on this onous animation: http://is.gd/rN0



with minimal breathing and hilariline jukebox, as well as finding out

what other artists you may like.



Is your club cooler than the cat that

clubsandsocs.felix@imperial.ac.uk

got the cream? Write to us.

DramSoc: 'Tis the season for a Panto

Tosin Ajayi tells *felix* about DramSoc's latest production—Robin Hood, the Pantomime:



These crazy kids are practicing their sword fighting; you should practice yours too if you go and see their performance - it's a Pantomime so that means audience participation

brief look over previous DramSoc productions reveals some impressive and ambitious fare: Christopher Hampton's Les Liaisons Dangereuses, Tom Stoppard's Arcadia, Brian Friel's Translations, even outdoor Shakespeare Performances of Much Ado about Nothing and the magical A Midsummer Night's

All these have shown a Drama troupe with taste, class and theatrical nous. So you'd be forgiven for asking, upon seeing the poster for our latest offering: Robin Hood: A Pantomime, 'Why the hell are you staging a pantomime!?!?' I'm the producer, and I was asking that very question when we decided to.

However, after reading the script, getting a cast together and working on some of the craziest technical challenges we've had recently, it all began had to be inventive, especially when to make some sort of surreal sense.

ry men, robs from the rich to feed the poor, splits an arrow in half at a tour- In the end, as always, the final proda corrupt monarch, Prince John, who has taken rule of the country while his older hands really have come together Brother King Richard is away. Also, – as you can see from the picture above most of the tales of his heroism centre around conflicts with the Sheriff of stage and off. We all had tremendous Nottingham, and he invariably gets the fun, and come next week we know you lovely Maid Marian, who has no choice will too.

but to swoon in his Manly arms.

Er... yeah, our story is a bit different: you'll recognize some things: we have a Robin Hood, a little John, a Maid Marian, a Wilhelmina Scarlet (yep, you read right) and a gaggle of Merry Persons. We've got robbing from the rich to give to the union of disgruntled workers, we've got Maid Marian seducing Robin into stealing so she can rob him and head for a life of freedom in Paris. What we've got is whole lot of fun.

As the director says, this presents a totally different type of acting challenge to what we've had in the recent past. And the peculiar performance requirements of a panto have proved fun for the actors to get their teeth round. One thing we can guarantee, that as the audience, you will be participating.

On the technical side, with a scene change seemingly every 5 mins, we've designing one scene that has 4 visible Robin Hood is a story so worn over rooms on stage at the same time, with you could tell it in your sleep. A hero of characters switching between differ-English folklore, he has a band of mer- ent rooms. Theatre is a hard mistress

nament, and is a thorn in the flesh of uct proves to be worth all the sweat. The cast of freshers, first timers and

- to produce a great atmosphere on

felix asks Kristen Farebrother: Who are DramSoc?

What do DramSoc do?

DramSoc usually put on around 4 plays a year, two in the first term and one in each of the remain-

We have recently also started putting on smaller productions in the second term, tied to the acting from 2 pm to 5. Anyone can show up for a trial

Aside from the regular workshops, we also provide a number of one-off workshops, aiming to develop skills in anything from stage fighting or improvising to how to direct or produce a play.

Members also get opportunities to design, build hair and makeup, lighting, sound or stage management for the plays for the more technically minded.

If that isn't enough, DramSoc are also regularly contracted to provide lighting, sound or other technical support for a variety of events in and around the union and college (both for clubs and societies and for external organizations hosting events in

Are most people experienced before they join

DramSoc?

We get a mixture of experienced people and those new to theatre. There's something for everyone; people with less experience quickly learn from those who have been involved for longer. Passing skills on is an important part of the society, and we believe that the best way to learn is to do, so everyone is given the opportunity to be involved as early

How are plays chosen?

DramSoc holds a play proposals meeting on a Tuesday (advertised on our mailing list). Two weeks later, the committee hold a play choosing meeting and 'dress' (i.e. paint) the sets, or to help out with to review all the proposals made and decide upon the one we feel will be the best for the society to

How do people get involved with DramSoc? DramSoc have a long tradition of meeting in the union bar every Tuesday evening from around 7:30. This is a great way to get to know the past and present members of the society - even those who have graduated still come back every week (and are often roped into helping with the shows).

DramSoc's production of Robin Hood is showing in the Union Concert Hall from Wednesday 3rd to Saturday 6th December at 7pm. Tickets are £7 or £5 with a student card.

Director of Robin Hood, Kristen Farebrother talks to Tosin Ajayi about DramSoc's latest production

Why a pantomime?

Recently, DramSoc has put on shows with a variety of styles; ranging from Shakespearean classics to the artistic Arcadia. These, of course, can be a lot of fun for actors and audiences alike.

With this play, however, I was aiming for something more like Terry Prachett's Mort – specifically, to have a large cast and for the focus of the play to provide light entertainment as opposed to the more serious drama of the recent past. Given that Mort was two years ago now, I felt that it was high time to head in that direction again.

Another consequence has been getting a lot of new actors involved with the society, which has been very good for us. And hey, it's Christmas. What better than a panto?

How did you come up with the idea to do Robin Hood?

I visited the girl who wrote the play - a good friend of mine - in Canada over the summer, and she was kind enough to show me a recording of the first production of the show. I fell in love with it then and

there, and made her agree to allow us to stage the first UK produc-

Knowing the playwright has had the secondary benefit that I've had a good deal more freedom to change bits of the script here and there, which I hope will translate to the show being that bit more alive for the audience.

This is the second play you've directed this term. Are you the only person allowed to direct DramSoc plays?

Ah, no, not at all. On the contrary, as the Acting Director I'm only supposed to step in and direct plays when no one else can be found to do so. Unfortunately, a lot of the long-term actors left the society all at once at the end of last year, meaning that the number of proposals was fewer than we might have liked. As a result, here I am directing my second of the two plays for this term.

There's a rumour flying round that this production of Robin Hood has no arrows in it. Explain yourself.

I think I'll just leave my answer to this: this isn't Robin Hood as vou've ever seen it before.

So can we expect anything different from what Wikipedia tells us about Robin Hood, then?

Hell ves.

Why should we come to see it?

Because it's going to be a great show? The comedy in the show is witty and intelligent without being difficult, and the cast has thoroughly enjoyed rehearsing the show, which in my experience usually translates to the audience enjoying it.

Pantomimes usually involve audience participation. Is this any

The audience is important to the show, certainly! There's plenty for them to get their teeth into - though you're going to have to come along to find out exactly what...

Isn't that risky? What if the audience doesn't interact At a panto? Please.

How did you start in DramSoc?

My first play was Mort. Basically, I just went along to an audition and got handed one of the lead roles... and DramSoc hasn't let go since. So, in a way, Robin Hood is a bit like revisiting my start in the society. Ah, memories... I hope it's the start of a good thing for all the new people in my cast, and for all of the people in the audience who've never been to one of our shows.

So round it up for us?

The show's going to be accessible, contemporary, entertaining

PASS volunteer to make a difference

Varun Sharma writes about the PASS summer trip to China

well deserved break from academics, schedcampaign, that is, student life at Imperial. For most, it also brings opportunities. Opportunities for work, opportunities for leisure and sometimes even opportunities for service to the underprivileged.

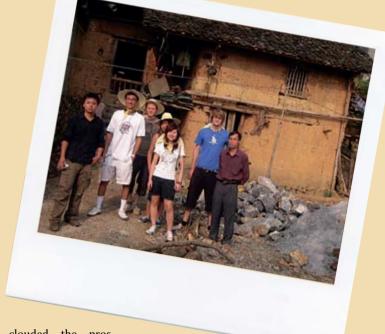
Such an opportunity this year was presented in the form of two journeys into the worlds of those who desperately need, but seldom receive. The journeys I refer to were the summer volunteering trips offered by Imperial PASS officially the Imperial College Political Awareness and Social Service

During the months of July and September this year, two teams of volunteers associated with PASS and a non-profit organization Po Yin Association originating in Hong Kong, set off with the desire to make a difference to the lives of those who have little. To bring them happiness, if only for a short while, but ultimately, to return hope to those who had none.

The first team ventured out to a village in the North-Western part of the Guangdong province in China on a 6 day visit, while the second team departed for a village in the neighbouring Guangxi province, for the duration of 12 days.

With the regions incorporating some of the poorest settlements in the country, the volunteers attempted to enlighten lives of underprivileged children, by imparting basic knowledge of the English language, at selected village schools in the respective regions. Using unconventional methods to "teach through enjoyment", the hope was to ease the children from the grim reality of their world, if only for a few hours, and allow them to rediscover their childhood.

Over the course the two trips, the volunteers immersed themselves in the same atmosphere of poverty stricken existence



pects of each one of these chil-

dren. Through a series of home visits the volunteers tried to share the weight of the adverse living conditions the children were subjected to and the adult responsibility which they were required to carry from such an early age. In an attempt to mildly ease their struggle the teams donated what they could to their households in the form of essential supplies.

The volunteering team visiting Guangdong concluded their experience at their village school by setting up a scholarship fund for the academically able while also providing monetary donations to the school for the improvement of facilities.

The teams also proceeded to visit historical and cultural points of interest. In Guangdong the volunteers visited the aptly named "underground galaxy", a series of subterranean geological structures created through natural geographic processes over

were also able to witnesses a cultural performance by the locals in the host county of Liannan Yao. While those present in Guangxi were privileged enough to be present during the mid-autumn (Moon cake) festival celebrations which take place throughout China in the month of September.

Upon leaving China the volunteers unanimously agreed that they were taking with them, a special experience which would allow them to view life with a new perspective.

PASS has organized and will be organising a host of fund raising events to finance their future humanitarian projects. As part of the fund raising initiative a "Charity Show" is being hosted in the Read Lecture theatre on the 9th of December, further details about PASS and their events can be found by contacting their President, Jason Lin, at hing.lin07@imperial.ac.uk.





coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk



everything

Ravi Pall Coffee Break Editor

his week has been exciting, hasn't it? S.H.A.G week has been a huge success, with Captain Condom (yours truly) dishing out many S.H.A.G. bags full of condoms and TLC lubricant. It was my birthday on Monday, messy times to say the least. Best of all, *felix* won student newspaper of the year! That's right, we are mega awesome. This time when I say it though, it is a undisputed fact. Sorry I am most definitely being arrogant. However I don't think I am being too unjust when I behave this way. I truly love felix, and like Kadhim Shubber's past comment piece, I thoroughly enjoy working with arguably the most creative and diverse people who attend Imperial College. Admittedly the student awards were for last year's collection of *felix* (well done Tom Roberts). but we have the potential and talent to

make this year even better. It really does amaze me how well a student newspaper can do, especially when you consider that all the contributors and editors are students them-

selves. They don't get paid, they don't get any benefits now that I mention it. They do get the satisfaction that their hard work in the field of journalism is read by the vast majority of the Imperial College populace. This includes not only the students, but staff as well.

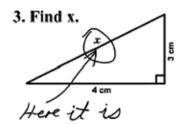
For me though, it is all about the small close-knit community formed by the felix team. The guys down in the office are all good friends, we all work together, drink together and even just waste about together doing nothing constructive. Kadhim hit it home with his love for *felix*, and I'm taking this opportunity to mirror his feelings. There is a lot of love in felix (not the sexual kind thank you... well maybe) and there is a lot more to give. I hope that anyone reading this will think to themselves "maybe I don't have to be the most intelligent or sporty person to be part of something grand and successful?" If you're one of those people, get a hold of us and join our team. We are constantly looking for contributors, editors, comment pieces, photos or anything else.

Stuff IC Students Like!?:)

9. Maths:

A controversial one here this week. but come on – we're at Imperial. Deep down inside we all have a fondness for Maths. It's not a full blown marriage, just a small crush, similar to the one you had on your French teacher and stay normal. It's just not.

at school. Unless she was ugly. Or old. Or a man. Or all of them. However if you actually do Maths the question has to be why? Ever met a normal mathematician? Nope, me neither: they're all nutjobs in desperate need of help and reintroduction to society. It's not easy to do that much Maths



Drink with me, I'm Snaky B

and this week I'm dressed as Jack Dee

me in my clever disguise?! I will put you simple people out of your misery. If you look very closely, under that drab Jack Daniels exterior it is still your beloved Snaky B. You see, I bet that made you breathe a sigh of relief. Panic is over, stop reaching for that comforting fag – your favourite Snaky B has not disappeared, I am merely disguising myself to hide from those pesky spies. They are everywhere, I tell you. Everywhere. They lurk on the dark street corners, under the benches and in projectors of lecture theatres. They have even sunk so low is safe while they are on the loose.

HAHA I bet you did not recognise that they have infiltrated your sanctum sanctorum - the Union. They come disguised as students sporting floorlength black (fake) leather coats and sour expressions, casually they strike up conversations with unsuspecting students. Do not be deceived, for despite their ordinary appearance, they are in fact passing information over to the other side. They are going to get me unless I remain in hiding. If you see me wondering the corridors of the college, please address me only as Mr. Jack D. I fear not for my own safety but for the safety of our country. Nobody



Photoshop Competition -8





Next week's RAW image for you to go wild. See www.felixonline.co.uk



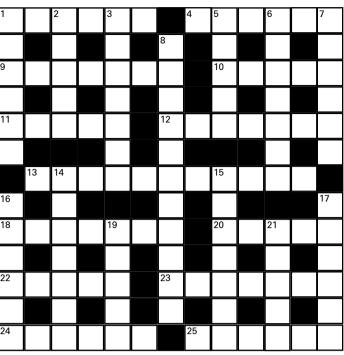
No one. That's right, no one entered. pen again. resolution photo to our website. We a few good entries.

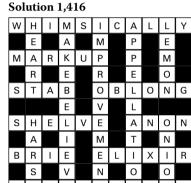
Why? I tell you why. With all the epic Keep up the good work, and please fails that've been happening recently. enter next week. With the amount of we were unable to upload the high failure from last week it'd be nice to see left? Freaking huge!!! Ah well I hope name and .PSD file and you'll be en-

Congratulations to this week's winner, are very sorry, hopefully it won't hap- This week's image is of Jovan Nedic. The high respicture can be found on-Again. He looks pretty drunk. How line. Click on Coffee Break in the secelse do you explain Karaoke? More tions tab. Email your entry to coffee. importantly how tall is this guy on the felix@imperial.ac.uk with your team you have fun this week.

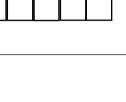
tered into the FUCWIT league.

A Quickie (Crossword) 1,417





Friday 28 November 2008



- 1 Insult (6)
- 4 Pests (6)
- 9 Bright pink (7) 10 German painter (5)
- 11 Rice dish (5) 12 Eternal happiness (7)
- 13 *felix* section (11)
- 18 Birthplace of the cravat (7)
- 20 Annual horse race (5)
- 22 Mature (5) 23 Live together (7)
- 24 Prove one's worth (6) 25 One of three comics (6)

DOWN

- 1 Reduce tension (6) 2 Epicentre (5)
- 3 Solidly-built dog (7)
- 5 Wise member of the community (5) 6 Sicilian wine (7)
- 7 Like everyone else (6)
- 8 Regular servicing (11) 14 Florid (7)
- 15 Substance used in chemical reaction (7)
- 16 Choux pastry with sweet filling (6)
- 17 Three-dimensional work of art (6) 19 Pre-nominal word (5)
- 21 Twill fabric used to make trousers (5)

Hokays. So we fucked up. Again. The more astute ones amongst you may have noticed that the clue for 9 across may have been missing. I did this as I didn't want Top of the Table to win. They did. Now I'm pissed. Next week I am going to print an invisible Quickie and lets see if you can still do it then. I think not. I may have also fucked up on clue 16 across... that was supposed to be 'potion' not 'portion'. However the upside is that I don't give a shit!

FUCWIT League Table

Shotgun 58 Points 56 Points Möchten sie mein Manschaft? Giramondo 19 Points Hringur Gretarsson 16 Points Team Rubbish 17 Points Team Turner Gobels 12 Points Yu-Xi Chau 10 Points Jonathan Phillips 10 Points Barbie's Castle 8 Points

Sorry for the lack of blurb here guys. There has been some team transfers, some re-branding and some total silence from teams. Top of the Table have joined forces with Martin 08' so that they have a cryptic crossword member and are now known as Shotgun. Mochten sie mein Manschaft are close behind them, eager to take the top spot away from them. A quick note, teams will only get three prizes, i.e. you can only have three members per team. This is just to stop everyone joining forces.

5 points for the first correct answers for Slitherlink, Wordoku, Photoshop Competition and Quick Crossword. 4 points for second, 3 points for third, 2 points for fourth and 1 point for fifth.

Double points will be awarded for correct cryptic crossword answers, because it's über hard.

Simple! Now then FUCWITs, send in your answers to felix@imperial.ac.uk or sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk. Go!

Horoscopes, the bread and butter of society

Gordon Ramsay likes to say 'fuck off'. We like to say 'fuck off' to helpful Horoscopes. So we did



Ahh dear sweet Aquarius, how welcoming is it to see your face? About as welcoming as Jade

Goody's shit in a jacuzzi, i.e. not very. Want to know why? I have to waste my time ranting on twelve separate subjects just for you to tell me that you don't like you Horoscope. Well I have news for you. I don't give a runny poo.

This week you make some really cool new friends that you really look up to. These dudes like to kick inflated pigs

bladders round. Obviously not when throwing glasses at houseboats, smashing up numerous pubs or chanting "you're a cunt". I would like to point out, with the upmost respect that no



It's going to be a fucking shite week for you. You will get a hockey ball in the face leaving you with stitches,

fuck up all your finances as you forgot to cash a £625 cheque from two months ago making you go over your agreed overdraft limit. The bank will then screw in charges and then steal your anal virginity too... for shits and giggles.

unecessarly printing the name of the Hockey Club in your "scoop" debate question? Oh and well done for pointing out the truth later? Or was it relying on *felix* to clean up your mess?...?

I don't care. If you are a Taurean you can fuck off. I'm not even going to get into an argument

with you as it's like

kicking a cripple- it's just not right. You have an IO that is only slightly above that of room temperature butter. I suggest you pop down to the ELC and get a Postman Pat singalong tape. Don't try and put it in the CD player.



In the famous words of Phil Collins "you're no son of mine." Good. I don't want to be your son. In fact there is a

rather long list of people I would rather have as my father before you, that list even includes Elton John and David Furnish... together... they will be rather embarassing. However Mugabe



Cancer

Who else has their homepage set to live?? No? Ah well... that wouldn't be

because it's a small insignificant forum that IUST FUCKS THINGS UP? Well done for

This week you cook dinner for your boyfriend. He sits playing Warhammer (fail) in the bedroom while you forget the

I would like to

King's College

Hockey Club's

This is precisely why Imperial chose to leave

the University of London – it's students like

these that we just can't be associated with. If

I was in charge over there at King's I would

bounce those fuckers right out of BUCS.

All the dudes are Virgoanites, look: Steve

are all Virgoanites and they're literally too

McQueen, Nelson Mandela and H from Steps

cool for school. In fact I'm off to find a pretty

rampage last week

in Hammersmith.

So you are a Virgo

Good for you. No

No swearing, no

abuse, no nothing.

Virgoanites rock.

really, that's it.

complain about

basics of cooking in the kitchen. Somehow you survive the meal (and a night with a boyfriend who plays Warhammer) and finish your *felix* column. You are later found chopped up in Beit. See! Horoscopes aren't 'half-arsed'.



To all you aspiring

Scorpio

investment bankers: it's not happening, give up. The token jobs have dried up

your time. It could be worse. You could have a Siamese twin brother. He could be gay. And you might only have one arsehole... Or have no mates at Christmas. Or be a Sagittarius. Or all of the above.



Sagittarius

You're a medic. If you haven't realised that yet, you're in for a rude awakening. There are peo ple waiting at every

street corner, eager to send you to hospital. There, the doctor has a black eye from walking around Hammersmith. You spend your life having nightmares about a Rainbow, a lepre-

Capricorn

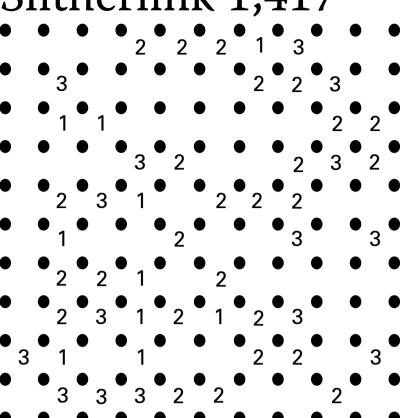
This week is S.H.A.G. week. However you slightly misinterpret the meaning of the week and think

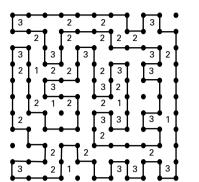
it's SHAG week... like a big week of 15 hour marathons that leave your penis so sore that you are beginning to think that you may have accidently slipped it into the George Foreman when cooking sausages. Pint?

34 felix Friday 28 November 2008

Fun & Games sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Slitherlink 1,417





Top of the Table won again. Will some of you get off your arses and complete this shitty Slitherlink, then send the fucker in. I don't mean to be grumpy, but I am so that's how it comes across.

It's quite simple, all numbers are in a cell and must be surrounded with a corresponding number lines. Lines cannot split and there can only be one continuous line. Any cells with no numbers can have any number of lines. Look at the solution above for help.

Freshly Squeezed!

Jumper Watch. A MechEng-er has been seen wearing the same grey zipup hoodie for literally weeks now. We know you own another jumper since vour foray into risqué navy last week, but you just couldn't say goodbye to good ol' grey. At least give it a wash.

Bear Alert. Two lovely ladies have already fallen prey to our resident grizzly's charms this week. Having started to roam farther than the borders of his well-trodden Polish territory, the Bear has now taken on higher aspirations. Earlier this week he was found advancing on Greece to sweep a red-booted beauty off her feet and become King. Our fickle ursine friend then set his sights on the RCC "secretary"... perhaps those knitted condoms will come in useful

Timber Ho! What is it about that humble wardrobe staple, the lumberjack shirt, that encourages such nauseating self-confidence? Rugby's Karaoke Cocktails provided one flannel-clad songstress with the

perfect opportunity to belt out an obviously well-rehearsed number. This casts a shadow on the good natured karaoke philosophy. Just don't do it. Another barn dance attendee decided to show off her Michael Jackson "here's one I prepared earlier" moves on Wednesday... not very sporting.

Wedding Bells. Having declared their love for one another on the gospel of truth that is Facebook only a matter of minutes into their first date, it is no surprise that the smitten MechEng refresher and saucy bisexual medic are taking things to the next level. This weekend he's meeting her parents to discuss marriage, dogs and the football team's worth of children they are planning to produce. And it hasn't been two weeks yet. Let's hope he doesn't let her paint his nails again...

Bye-bye to men falling off motorbikes. We know no one replied to your caption competition and that the Editor pulled it as a result. The embarrassment must be unbearable

Wordoku 1,417

	Т		Υ			С		
Υ		F		כ		Μ		
				Μ			ш	Υ
U		С					Α	
F		Α				\supset		Т
	М					Y		С
Ν	F			0				
		Y		Α		Н		0
		Τ			Μ		Υ	

1.416 Solution

1,110 301411011									
Ν	Α	Ι	Т	0	F	Е	R	С	
0	С	F	Е	N	R	Т	Π	Α	
R	Т	Е	Α	С	_	0	F	Z	
Т	R	N	F	Α	0	С	Е	-	
_	F	0	С	R	ш	Ζ	Α	Τ	
Α	Е	С	_	Т	Z	F	0	R	
F	0	R	Z	Π	ပ	Α	Т	Е	
С	_	Т	0	Е	Α	R	Ν	F	
Ε	Ν	Α	R	F	Т	_	С	О	

Wordoku is identical to Sudoku we've just replaced numbers with letters. Complete the puzzle and then send the whole grid to sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk. You will not get credit for just the word alone. It's not an anagram.

Yer yer yer. Top of the Table and top of my pissed off list won by finding the rather mature word 'FORNICATE'. Trust me it'll be back to the usual childish rude words this week but I ran out of inspiration. Like I have now Seriously I'm fucking grumpy.



07726 799 424

TEXT US! OR WE WON'T FEED THE CAT!

This week's texts:

"Yov, ure speling is ATROSIOUS. Noune can tacke Felics seriusly if u cant evin be boverd to spel proply. Wat ar u, a studint nusepapur or

"I think that article about the football club was a bit fishy. I mean, their 'captain' isn't even wearing a club tie on that picture."

"WTF? RCS Hockey? Who gives a shit? Hockey's a girl's sport and last time I checked, transvestites aren't

"Charlie my ACC vice chairy, I love you. Will you marry me? YOU BETTER SAY YES... if you fancy keeping your other eye."

Tamara asks: Does Magners Irish Cider have a sell-by date?



Lineker met her on blind date.

edged that a single man in possession of a good degree must be in want of a date. Having spoken to many of you around campus, I have found several lost souls confused about the idea of blind dating. I've decided to dedicate this week's column to this weird and wonderful

t is a truth universally acknowl-

In this time of desperation some of at the right side of the pillow is sufyou will be resorting to desperate and ficient and the whole hog of Burger niques. By being set up with a stranger cinema beforehand is superfluous to by your friends, or even worse - an ex, requirements. Blind dating is not for does it make you as brave as Rambo or you. For the rest of you, however, it is it just reckless? Of course admitting really is rather practical. Your friends to this particular habit can sometimes are probably just sick of your moping feel like social (Part of Speech: adjecabout in need of a good shag, spending tive. Definition: Of, characterized by, your time reading Jane Austen novels or inclined to living together in com- or playing on your racing computer munities. Synonyms: gregarious) suicide. All stigmas aside, the reasons this terests at heart. the collar are:

tickets/drinks and as you look around, hop and skip away from 'facebook-

you find yourself surrounded by knowing smiles and pitying glances.

2. Mystery date being a munter. 3. Mystery date does not fall madly in love with at first sight. Bloody rude. In my opinion, agreeing to a blind date

is not as desperate as Cosmo would have us believe. There are some among you for whom a weekly drunken shag and waking up squinting in horror some may think controversial tech- King and a trip to Fulham Broadway games and they do have your best in-

in their day and like Tamagochis, are still crucial. 1. Fear of being stood up - just imagine: set to become a thing of the past. In "Would you like to come up for some you have already bought the cinema the modern era when you are just a coffee/to see my collection of WW2

even have time to describe his wonderful sense of humour which completely detracts from the huge nose and acne. There are, of course, come serious advantages to this mild (in most cases) form of stalking, for example, discovering that you have actually met this person before and already know that you do not find the idea of another lengthy discussion of how medicine is only true profession which will take him straight on to the Fast Track to Heaven in the ery from aforementioned friends. You slightest appealing. On the contrary, know you'd do the same for them. it would be a shame to be put off by a Most importantly, don't forget to thank photo of him sporting fish net tights, a those friends (or that pesky ex who just bra stolen from a girl he secretly wishes can't seem to let you get on with your he could play hanky-panky with and a own life) when the blind date they so blonde synthetic wig. Maybe not. Per- thoughtfully arranged for you results haps, for a more open-minded and au- in a night of passion or even just an thentic dating experience it's better to evening with a person who does not dive in with minimal details: no phone stimulate your gag reflex upon setting number, surname or maybe even de- eyes on them. Gratitude is very importopic will get most people hot under Sadly, blind dating, just like dinosaurs scription. Gender, I should think, is tant. As is revenge in the event that

ing' the candidate before your friends

stamps?" Sex after a blind date is sim-

several weeks in a row? With S.H.A.G. week here, surely all of you are now armed with the means to have fun without the consequences resulting in alien discharges. Health and safety aside, you can do whatever you want, just be prepared for a week of mock-

ply not what one does. Is it? In our

liberal and democratic (as opposed

to liberal democratic) society is there

an issue of having some harmless fun

without a series of doorway kisses for

they set you up with a loser.

Got a problem, contact Tamara at felix@imperial.ac.uk

Friday 28 November 2008

Rugby 2nds outperform Portsmouth

Imperial Men's 2nd XV Portsmouth Men 3rd XV

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Scott Greening

From the kick-off, Portsmouth made a series of off-loads out of the tackle to rumble well into our half. At the breakdown, Imperial gave away the first of a series of stupid penalties, and the resulting kick to touch from the opposition fly-half immediately had us defending on our try-line. Again at the break-down from the lineout Imperial gave away another needless penalty, and Portsmouth caught us napping with a quick tap and go, resulting in their big No.8 crashing over the line. They converted, putting us 7-0 behind after just a matter of minutes.

The next 5 minutes proceeded with little incident. Imperial clearly had an ascendency in the forwards, possibly due to Niall informing his opposite man that he did, in fact, have AIDS. However we failed to produce any sort of continuity, due to a combination of sloppy hands and needless penalties. Then, with Imperial looking a little flat, Scott provided the spark needed to get the team going. With Portsmouth clearly wanting to mark Sasha the Basha at 13, coupled with the proplike nature of the opposition 12, a gap emerged in the 12-13 channel. Scott darted through with a big hand off to the slow inside centre's chest, then stepped through the fullback's weak tackle to score Imperial's first try. The conversion levelled the scores to 7-7.

Portsmouth soon began to reveal their game-plan. Their only big talent of note was the boot of their fly-half. More needless penalties had Portsmouth gaining territory for fun. Indeed, half-way through the first half, from a ruck just inside our 22, the ball was passed back to their 10 who slotted a drop-goal through the posts to put Portsmouth back in the lead.

It was at this point that Imperial started to come to life. Our ascend-

'Reach for the stars'. The song Chilli was certainly thinking of here.

phases together and made yards with ease. For the first time this season we

> til half-time, Imperial leading 10-14. Thus far the game had not been the easy game that many had anticipated, and there were some strong words from Malcolm and Andy MacFadge. We started the second half keen to show why we were a league above our opposition. Imperial started the second half in the same way the first half ended. The phases were all coming together and the backs were playing with confidence, skill and most importantly, penetration. The forwards continued to provide the quick-ball the backs needed to make deep inroads into the tiring Portsmouth team. Angus was popped to Fresher Rob (who had and debutant Miles rucked tirelessly just come on for Louie) who decided and always got to the breakdown first. the time was right to score a disgust another ten minutes for the score to from scrum-half Dave, and grubbered come. A quick switch of direction by the ball towards the try-line. Rob then Scott sent the centres driving towards outpaced his opposite man, fly-hacked more quick ball enabled Jack Goring ball and dived over the line. A simply to show his fly-half skills, and start a ridiculous try. 13-29. sequence of quick hands through the back line, finishing with Louis diving immediately set-up a backs move up over the line for his first IC try. Impe- the pitch. A big shout from Mo inside rial led 10-19.

snipe down the blind-side and touch-

down in the corner. Scott then made

the conversion look easy to add the ex-

tras. The score remained the same un-

opposition fly-half easily convertforwards enabled scrum-half Dave to ed to bring the score back to 13-19. A bit of quick-thinking saw Scott sprint to the half-way line and smack a drop kick over the recovering opposition, immediately putting Portsmouth under pressure with a lineout in their own 22. ÎC again stole the lineout, enabling Sasha to crash the ball up. The ball was shipped wide to Benjamin, who true to his French flair, sold a dummy before driving over the try-line despite the

best efforts of three tacklers. 13-24. Now Portsmouth were knackered, and it was simply a matter of time as to how many points Imperial could clock. A scrum in our own half was picked up by Fresher Dave at number 8, who sprinted blindside with deceptive speed to take us up towards the opposition 22. From the resulting ruck, the ball Imperial collected the kick-off and

Scott opened a massive hole through away, somehow breaching our defense the double tackle from the opposiat this point because Niall was cry- a sublime one-handed backhand pop next week!

to Benjamin who carved through the opposition. From the following breakdown, the ball was shipped wide to Rob Thomson who sprinted 50m to touch the ball down over the line. Despite being clean through, Rob continued the habit of the Imperial team who had clearly decided Scott needed to practice his kicking from out wide. All bar two tries during the game, every try was scored out on the touchline. Despite missing his previous three attempts, Scott learnt his lesson and expertly converted from the left touchline to make the score 13-36.

Sport

With only a few minutes left on the clock, Imperial still had time for more. Mo collected a kick over the top from Portsmouth. The on-rushing tackler received a ridiculous hand-off open-palmed punch to the face from Mo, who then drove Imperial forward with strength. The backs again setoff a move which tore Portsmouth to shreds, bringing us into their 22. A few forward rumbles later, Scott found himself with the ball just infront of the try-line. Some quick feet opened space for Scott to play scrum-half Dave in Despite the constant pressure, it took ingly good try. Rob collected the ball on the right touchline. The extras were missed, and the game came to close after an emphatic (in the end) victory, with the final score reading 13-41 to the line in midfield. From the ruck, the ball over the try-line, collected the Imperial. Kingston 1st XV await in the next round for what will prove a much tougher test.

The trip home was fantastic. A teamwide game of Edward Ciderhands emptied all commuters out of our carriage and enabled some prime team-bond-Portsmouth struck back straight which Scott duly penetrated. Despite ing time. An all round great day, which saw Imperial 2nd XV notch their third to get into the 22. The ref stopped play tion, Scott was able to off-load with victory on the bounce. Bring on Kent



ArabicSoc win!

Last Saturday the Overseas Societies Committee held their annual five-aside football World Cup tournament. Twenty one teams representing sixteen societies braved the freezing weather to turn up at Kensington Leisure Centre, to battle for the trophy. All the passion of the real World Cup was there along with diving, disallowed goals and contentious refereeing decisions.

After a slow start, trying to get groups and fixtures sorted out, the games began. Trying to fit thirty four group games onto three pitches is no easy task! Gradually though, results became to come through. The difference in quality between the teams was strangers in tracksuits being torn apart by well organised teams who train and play together. Most teams took it all in good stead, taking their victories and defeats with grace and humour.

Due to the odd number of teams taking place, the winners of the five groups plus the three best runners up passed into the quarter finals. They were Arabic Society's first and second team, Punjabi Society, Sri Lankan Society, Thai Society, Iraqi Society, French Society's second team and Cypriot Societies second team.

Arabic Soc 1 steam rollered Sri Lankan Soc 5-1, and Arabic Soc 2 beat Punjabi Soc 2-1. In a bad tempered match, French 2 made it past Cypriot 2 with a last minute goal to win 3-1. Iraqi Soc beat Thai Soc 3-1, to give the semi finals a distinctly Arabic flavour.

Arabic 1 beat Iraqi Soc 2-1, and Arabic 2 beat French Soc 2-1 to set up an all Arabic Society final. Plans for a third place play off had to be abandoned, as the French sulked off, awarding third place to Iraqi Soc by default. By now the games were being played under floodlights, and the temperature had dropped even further to close to

The final was perhaps not the dramatic affair that we had hoped it to be, but that is not to say that it was not competitive. Both sides clearly wanted to win, to secure bragging rights over the other half of the society. Arabic 1 raced into a 3-0 lead, before Arabic 2 made it back to 3-2 by half time. In the second half, Arabic 1 made it to 5-2, before Arabic 2 pulled one back. The final score ended as 6-3 to Arabic 1, who celebrated with the trophy

All things considered, the day went extremely well and most people enjoved themselves. As always, there must always be losers to have a winner, and things have to end in disappointment for most of the teams. Still, it was a fun if tiring day out, and the bar night at the Union afterwards was well

Rackets – the unknown game (to Imperial Students)

By the end of the first week of Fresher's (a few years ago now) I was sick and tired of explaining the game of rackets, therefore in the next few paragraphs I shall endeavour to describe this most

A bit of history....

In its earliest form during the 18th

Outside prisons and taverns, Harrow was the first school at which rackets was played, probably from the early 1820s when the schoolyard was enlarged. When the first Lawn Tennis Championships were played at Wimbledon later in the century, Old Har- they get the chance to go on court or rovian rackets player Spencer Gore even watch just experience the speed

Imagine a squash court, multiply it by 3, the service boxes are outside the two main playing boxes other than that the same markings as a squash court

ball is slightly smaller than a golf ball

1st XI opening batsman or the 1st pair

tennis that were upto the challenge.

However I would encourage anyone if

of the game, which I find is the addic-

and has changed in its content dramatically since first game was played (all still are hand made and cost roughly £9), details of which I won't bore you with but lets just say from personal experience when the ball is travelling prestigious of racquet sports. at over 120mph on the court it hurts when it hits you!

Century, rackets was played in the One of the main reasons of the open on the walls of the yards of the rackets population being so small, is two main debtor's prisons, the King's that bar for a handful courts in North Bench and the Fleet. Gentleman had America, the only people who learn to nothing else to entertain themselves play in the UK from a tender age of 13until they paid there creditors. Dickens mentions rackets in the Pickwick 13 schools in England that have courts. Papers, as Mr. Pickwick was unlucky Even within those schools not many enough to be put into the Fleet. play due to the demanding nature of the game (quick feet and excellent hand-eye coordination are key), from my own school generally it was the

would win the singles.

The court itself...

Imperial Players To my knowledge at this present moment, there are only 2 rackets players in entire university (and we used to and the 4 walls are made of stone. The play for our respective schools against racquet is styled on the old wooden each other not too long ago). If there squash rackets and is still wooden to- are any of you out there, please contact day believe it or not due to tension of me or indeed if you would like to try promise and Kendra was given a free ers. Cheryl made it up to the team later a cup of tea. Pay netted the last goal the string being far too great for any a new sport I would be most happy to role allowing her to push up to sup-scoring IC's fifth goal off a cross from a few minutes before full time. Final other material (even titanium). The show you this wonderful game.

UCL thrashed hard by ladies

Imperial Women's 1st XI UCL 2nd XI

The ladies 1sts had vowed revenge on a far from friendly group of UCL players after the rascals defeated our beloved 2nds earlier in the season. However despite the passion it was a slow start, great play by everyone's favourite Sloppy Seconds and MOM Stripper on the left encouraged a few attacks however it took a quick run by urban legend Praying Mantis to secure the first goal.

After that the shots began to flow, encouraged from the sideline by her new lover, Prince Charles was on fire, reaming the ball into the back of the net. Several goals followed with a deflection by fresher Sam and an unlikely slap by defender Token Lezza.

Even at half time when we believed we'd crushed the last of UCL's spirit a whisper of hope was heard, "they'll be tired in the second half and they won't want to win", suffice to say they weren't the sharpest pencils in the box. Unfortunately for UCL the pace only increased in the second half, with great goals from Slippery Nipple and Fresher

The final goal was a strong short corner which left the opposition in irretrievable goalless pit of doom. Not all good though, obviously thinking about the copious fines she'd collected over the last 2 weeks Stripper resorted to trying to knock herself out in avoidance, this didn't work but the technique was adapted to involve snakebite later that night. Silly rabbit, trix are for

The fact that gullible had been removed from the English dictionary earlier in the week also blatantly had an effect on the IQ's of half the team, as Stripper enquired exactly how Lep-

er shat on the pitch and also Praying Mantis' excitement at the arrival of a famous postman before the game stunned audiences pitch wide. However you don't need brains to play hockey and the superior fitness of the Imperial team showed through towards the end, either that or UCL (who coincidently arrived late) had spent too long in the pie shop before the game. Fines were dealt out at the union for DOD Slippery Nipple for finding herself on the floor with her legs open for the second time this week (anyone ever find those knickers?) and resident card collector Wide Open for something of a similar

Also special mention to the appropriately named Dominator for her successes on and off the pitch, (we all saw you sucking the face off ICHC's favourite serial killer). In conclusion a successful defeat, and the answer to the mystery who ate all the pies? Well, the ladies firsts can confirm, it was

RUMS feel ICUWFC wrath

Imperial Women's 1st XI RUMS Women's 2nd XI

IC Women's Football travelled to the UCL grounds last Sunday to face RUMS 2s in disgusting stay-in-bed

Following a slew of unfortunate results, IC were looking for a long deserved win. Starting with a 4-4-2 formation, Barbara Kiskovski and Lily "Genghis" Low were up front, with Yoke Thye and Pav S on the wings and

of a momentary break in the weather, Genghis Low provided the opening goal, smashing the ball it into the back of the net. The rain came back heavier than before a few seconds later but IC were not deterred and Genghis Low scored again, and then again, thriving off DD's crosses and through balls. A few minutes after Genghis Low got her hat-trick, Pav casually flicked the ball past the keeper and into the back of

The only players in the IC half for most of the first half were goalkeeper Emily and Cheryl who was acting sweeper. Right winger Yoke was feeling fatigued and switched positions with Cheryl but neither thought it crucial to tell the rest of the team causing confu-

Dehydys dribbled through the throng of RUMS players to put the ball in the goal. Lily scored again but by this time she was considered old news.

aging Yoke and played right back as Steph was shifted to fill the space in right midfield. Dina came on with a bang and soon enough was taking down a girl twice her size. After seeing Barbara take shot after shot and not scoring, she finally broke the dam and

The rest of the goals came from Genghis and Dehydys, who hit an amazing shot from the right edge of the 18 yard box. Marion had an impressive game with countless shots on goal but unluckily was unable to get



The ladies pose for the cameras prior to the match. Note carrier bag storing Emily's thermos flask full of tea

DD and debutant Marion Ferrat in cension which RUMS took advantage of. herself a debut goal. On the other side tre midfield. The back line consisted of They bounced the ball about a bit in of the pitch, goalkeeper Emily had an Laura, Cheryl, Kendra and Steph, and the IC half but to no avail since Yoke enthralling match, standing miles off Emily in goal. IC began the game with has the capacity to take on three play- her goal line whilst craving vocally for

port the midfield. Taking advantage Laura. Then a few minutes after that, score was 16-0.

Ask the captain -Dan Neville

Week 2 in the build up to 25th February 2009. This week, Mustapher Botchway interviews the Imperial Medicals rugby captain and wants to know how they do it!

Hi Dan, thanks very much for meeting us today. Firstly, can you tell us how you ascended from 1st year medical student to captain of the 1st team?

Well I didn't really have the best of starts in my first year as I was injured, but I managed to make it back in time for Varsity was included in the squad, which was great. We had a very good fly half in my second year and so I didn't feature that much, but he has now left and I just seemed to have slotted into his place. I had a solid season last year and was lucky to get voted in as captain for this year.

How has the start of the season been for you guys then?

We started off the season with a lot of injuries, but now we have settled and have a very good, young squad mainly comprising of players in their 2nd, 3rd and 4th years. We've really come together now and have won three out of the last four games beating UWE, Swansea and Imperial, and we are looking to push on up the league table.

Where do you see yourself finish ing this season?

Our league is very hard at the moment, there's no doubt about that. We're hoping to finish in the top half of the table, with the aim of finishing in the top three. But we will have to see how everything goes after Christmas.

Imperial Medicals have been in the Premiership for several years now, how do you think you are able to sustain such a high level?

We've always been a good side ever since the medical schools merged, and have always been in a high league apart from one year, which I think was in my first year, but we were promoted the year after. We're very lucky to have 6 years worth of students, so we have lowed the score a couple of weeks ago players that are that little bit older, to get close, we gave away a lot of pen-

are slightly stronger than some of our

A lot of it is really experience though. Because we have been in the Premiership for three years we know how to cope, we've learnt how to play in the league, learnt when to put the squeeze on teams. It is especially important against some of the big rugby universities such as Cardiff and Swansea.

Does the 1st team have any aspiration to go further and perhaps aim for promotion into Premiership A?

That is definitely our aim, there is no point being in a league of you don't think you aren't going to win it. Like I said, we have a very good bunch of players coming through and definitely within the next two years I can see us pushing for promotion.

"We let the game against Imperial get close"

Moving onto Varsity, the College side gained promotion into your league and you mentioned that you played them a couple of weeks ago. How can you see the Medicals retaining their perfect win record against an ever improving College side?

Imperial have definitely improved over the past four years, there is no doubt about that. After playing them this season, it is clear that they raise their game for Varsity. I think we al-

have that little more experience and alties that we shouldn't have. I think we en tour of South Africa can only get better, but Varsity is Varsity, it will definitely be a close one.

We know the medics have won the rugby and netball matches. Why do you think the other teams aren't able to do the same?

I think the other sports have definitely improved, the hockey men's team have been promoted and have got better over the last couple of years, and I know they desperately want to win Varsity and believe they can do it. The same with women's hockey. Football I'm not so sure about. Imperial are very strong in a few sports, such as football and squash. It would be great to see a few more of the medicals' teams compete against IC and maybe make the afterwards as overall competition a little closer this

Imperial Medicals have won the **United Hospitals Cup for the past** 9 years now, more often than not playing against the same opponent. Do you not find it a little

The cup is the oldest in the world, so to just scrap it after 150 years of history is something I don't want to be involved with it. I'd much rather keep that going. There have been some great names that have played in that competition, such as JPR Wil-

Guys, Kings and St. Thomas are the main opponents we see every year, but still come out absolutely fired and pumped up for

it. It's the same with Varsity, we have to be strong and ensure a victory, because if we lost either, we would get rinsed and I certainly don't want that to happen.

I asked this question last week. What input have Sport Imperial have, if any, to your team and

tastic, in particular Nick Gore. They students have their own separate idenhave supported us, and whenever tity. The atmosphere is amazing and all we've had a problem, they've been able the different sports teams get on well to solve it. For example the first game together, and since they have come to of the season against UWE, I didn't study medicine they should play with realise that both teams played in a red the medical school sports teams, in my so nice. kit, so Sport Imperial kindly got us the opinion. Imperial blue kit to play in.

Moving onto the social side, especially in their later years. ICSMRFC go on several tours, can How do the students, particuyou give me a summary of what larly the rugby players, manage you guys have been up to? We've just got back from an unbeat-

maintaining the high sporting

over the summer. We also do an inter-year match, which was last weekend, as well as a this year we went to Birmingham. We also have the oldest rugby where we go down to

schools tour, where club tour in the world, Cornwall. The social side is a very important side of rugby, particulary with the medical spirit where we take our rugby very seriously, but

> It's very hard, let's put it that Basically, and I am finding this now as I'm in my fourth year of medical school, that you have to often reorganise things. So for example if you have to be in on a Wednesday to meet with your consultant because they are

only there on a Wednesday, you have

to try and re-organise to meet with

them on a different day when it is con-

venient for both of you. A lot of final years have to do that and try and make up the time elsewhere. There are times, unfortunately, when rearranging a meeting is not possible, as was the case this Wednesday, where two of our back row players can't play. One is a final year and has to do his shift in the A&E department whilst the other one had a presentation to give. Also sometimes if vou've got an away game, you can't afford to miss the whole of Wednesday. I think it's something that people have had to deal with for several years, there is always a way

versial

vou have to say

cal students who

to those medi-

are playing for IC

I think they should

play for the medical

school. Always! We've

from a history of St. Mary's,

teams?

Medical students are very busy,

This was bound to come up, but can you explain the whole light opera scene and are there any aspirations on the stage?

to get out of it and ways around it to

make sure that people can still play

Charing Cross and Westminster that That was something I dabbled with have been going for 150 years, longer than Imperial College. We may have and it had to be tried at least once, erm amalgamated and Imperial may have but not again. I did do drama for A I think Sport Imperial have been fan- their own sports, but I think medical level and came prepared at my interview because I knew they were going to ask me about it. But I did enjoy it, apart from the abuse I got on the last performance when the entire rugby club came and watched, which wasn't

> Similar sort of question to what we asked last week to round up, looking at other sports at Imperial. Let's just start with do you know what orienteering is?

to cope with the workload and I should know because I read it last week... but I can't remember!

FACT FILE



Name: Dan 'Bartos' Neville Team: ICSM 1st XV Rugby **Position:** Fly half **Date of Birth: 22/11/1986** Hometown: Portsmouth Course: 4th Year Medicine

Bartos as he is better known in the club, is a very talented fly half with a great eye for a gap and a remarkable ability to read the game. Bartarse is also guite the lad off the pitch and can always be found surrounding himself with the fairer sex. In his 2nd year he abandoned his testicles and learnt to sing for a light opera performance, which most speculate was due to the show's 75% female cast.

There is snow business like row business

Snow flakes cascaded down on the Shogun's windshield en route to the aptly named 2008 'Marlow Fours and Pairs Head'. Except that it wasn't in Marlow. it wasn't really a head race and scullers were also competing. ICBC had seven crews racing; two from the women's squad and five from the men's squad, all in coxed or coxless fours. Due to threats of flooding the head race was moved to Dorney lake and the usual 5

than 2 km long. The serenity of the Symmonds with cox Larissa Matley outside snow suddenly became less at- won the WS3.4+ in a time of 8:01.96. tractive when crews had to alight their vehicles and were disgusted when the realisation suddenly hit that what appeared like fluffy white snow was actually a cold grey slush that stuck to your face and dribbled down your neck.

Pre-race coffee could not be found and the caffeine-free crew had to race gle entry in the W.S3 4- category. The women's coxed entry of Louise Hart,

Two seconds was the losing margin

for both men's crews in the first division of racing. Fireman Sam Henry Fieldman coxed John Dick, Dom Meyrick-Cole, Tom Arnott and Will Todd in the S2.4+ category. They came second to Balliol College BC who finished in 7:10.4. Following the testosteronefor time only since they were the sin-filled performance seat 3 Meyrick-Cole was beside himself with excitement: 'I didn't know until after the race that I km head course was run in lanes less Ro Smith, Selina Graham and Chloe was racing with the same Will Todd

that won Henley and Pair's Head. He's 10 seconds later were Tom Bell, Brook such a man.' The other men's crew of McLaughlin, Iain Palmer and Josh Yer-Matt Lunt, Mike Zammit, Chris Polrell taking the runner-up position.

Friday 28 November 2008

The final win of the day went to Kieran Docherty, Leo Carrington, John Davey and Adam Mayall in the S3.4+ coxed by Connie Pidoux. Their closest rivals were Exeter university: 13 seconds slower than the IC crew who won in 6:35.23. Seat 3 Leo Carrington was dubious at the initial crew selection: 'With a volatile Scotsman at stroke I was expecting some mid-race shout-



Winning S3.4 - crew Alex Gillies, Richard Winchester, Adam Seward and Andy Gordon. The song 'row row your boat...' certainly doesn't fit the occasion. Maybe next time

Table Tennis

UCL Men's 1st Imperial Men's 1st

Michael Sathyendran

The starting line up was unchanged, with the exception of debutant Jeff Jia, who joined Eddie, Darius and Yan. Eddie got us off to a flying start with a stunning 3-0 victory over the UCL number 1. Darius did just about enough to win his first 3 matches.

The intensity of the match was such that Christian felt he needed to take a 1 minute time out (perfectly legal, but quite rare at our level of table tennis) after a bloody good point from Darius. Although the game had little bearing on the outcome of the overall result, it was the one which you could see Darius really wanted to win, and he did just that by taking it in the decider.

Eddie, meanwhile, was going about his business in typically economical fashion, steamrolling through his opponents. Jeff was having a very impressive first appearance, winning 3-1 and 3-0 respectively against the UCL 1 and 2. It was thus quite surprising that he lost against their number 3, but entirely forgivable. He did end the evening on a high by taking his final game in straight sets. And Yan, described as our "consistency man" by Darius, was stayed true to form with 3 wins from 4. UCL had a little consolation in taking the doubles but this was a good night for Imperial, and a much needed one.

Fixtures & Results

Saturday 22nd November

Men's 1s ULU 1-2 RUMS 1s ULU Men's 2s ULU 0-4 St Barts 1 ULU Men's 3s ULU 1-9 King's Medicals 2s ULU Men's 4s ULU 1-3 Royal Holloway 4s ULU Men's 6s ULU 2-2 Royal Holloway 6s ULU

Sunday 23rd November

Women's 1s ULU 16-0 RUMS 2s ULU

Monday 24th November

Women's 1s ULU 24-34 King's Medicals 1s ULU

Women's 1s ULU 1-4 LSE 1s ULU

Mixed 1s ULU vs St George's 1s ULU

Mixed 1st ULU 7-10 UCL 1st ULU

Wednesday 26th November

Women's 1st 2-6 University of Hertfordshire 1st

Fencing Men's 1st 124-101 King's College London 1st

Men's 1st 0-0 LSE 1st Men's 2nd 1-6 King's College London 1st Men's 3rd 1-4 Uni of the Arts 3rd Women's 1st 1-2 Royal Holloway 1st Men's 4s ULU 0-2 RUMS 2s ULU

Men's 5s ULU 2-3 Royal Holloway 4s ULU

Men's 1st 6-1 University of Hertfordshire 1st Men's 2nd 3-0 Canterbury Christ Church Uni 2nd

Men's 3rd 3-1 University of Sussex 2nd Women's 1st 2-4 University of Portsmouth 1st Women's 2nd 2-0 Buckinghamshire New Uni 1st

Women's 1st 8-2 King's College London 1st

Netball

omen's 1st 14-38 UCL 1st

Men's 2nd 5-37 University of Kent 1st Men's 4th 0-24 Buckinghamshire New Uni 2nd

Women's 1st 0-4 University of Sussex 1st

Table Tennis Men's 1st 11-6 LSE 1st

Men's 1st 7-3 Roehampton University 1st Women's 1st 4-6 University of Brighton 1st

Saturday 29th November Football

Men's 1s ULU vs Queen Mary 1s ULU Men's 2s ULU vs RUMS 1s ULU Men's 3s ULU vsn Royal Holloway 3s ULU Men's 4s ULU vs UCL 5s ULU Men's 5s ULU vs UCL 6s ULU Men's 6s ULU vs King's Medicals 5s ULU

Men's 7s ULU vs Goldsmiths 3s ULU

Sunday 30th November

Women's 1s ULU vs St George's 1s ULU

Women's 1s ULU vs King's College 1s ULU

Monday 1st December

in association with Sports Partnership

lock and Rob Tod coxed by Connie

Pidoux were defeated by Nephthys

In the afternoon's division three

men's crews were racing. In the senior

three coxless fours (S3.4-) ICBC had

two entries who finished in first and

second place. The winning crew were

composed of Alex Gillies, Richard

Winchester, Adam Seward and Andy

Gordon who clocked a time of 6:19.34.

who came home in 7:25.97.

Netball

Women's 1s ULU vs Imperial Medicals 1s ULU Women's 2s ULU vs King's Medicals ULU

Men's 1s ULU vs UCL 1s ULU Men's 3s ULU vs RUMS 1s ULU

Wednesday 3rd December

Men's 2nd vs King's College 1st Women's 1st vs Imperial Medicals 1st

Basketball

Men's 1st vs London South Bank 2nd Women's 1st vs Roehampton University 1st

Men's 1st vs Queen Mary 1st Men's 2nd vs UCL 2nd

Football

Men's 1st vs Brunel University 3rd Men's 2nd vs University of Greenwich 3rd Men's 3rd vs Roehampton University 3rd Women's 1st vs Roehampton University 1st Men's 4s ULU vs LSE 5s ULU

Hockey

Men's 1st vs University of Essex 1st

Men's 2nd vs Queen Mary 1st Men's 3rd vs University of Reading 4th Women's 1st vs University of Reading 1st Women's 2nd vs University of Portsmouth 2nd

imperial

Lacrosse

Men's 1st vs University of Hertfordshire 1st Women's 1st vs Royal Holloway 1st

Women's 1st vs University of Hertfordshire 1st Women's 2nd vs Imperial College 3rd

Men's 1st vs UWE Bristol 1st Men's 2nd vs Middlesex University 1st Men's 3rd vs Kingston University 2nd Men's 4th vs St Mary's University 3rd

Men's 1st vs UCL 1st Men's 2nd vs University of Hertfordshire 1st Women's 1st vs University of Reading 1st

Table Tennis Women's 1st vs LSE 1st

Tennis Women's 1st vs LSE 1st Men's 2nd vs Roehampton University 1st

Volleyball

Men's 1st vs University of Reading 1st Women's 2nd vs King's College 1st

Friday 28 November 2008

The debate continues... Tim Hartford-Cross says no to super-clubs

only a good social side but also a side that means experienced players and newcomers can play along side one another without the attitude of "I play 1st XI hockey ... I just happen to be good enough to be there!" which generally makes a newcomer think 'what an absolute twat who has his own ego firmly shoved up his own backside' and apprehensive about trying new sports. I should state my position at this juncture, having played for both IC and RSM. While playing for the RSM we had members of many other clubs and societies such as football, OTC and running give it a go, whereas IC has extremely rigid team boundaries where players within the club didn't even move between teams - god forbid newcomers try it out.

I'm an Engineer and I play RSM

opportunity for people with Imperialsized timetables the chance to try a sport without a huge commitment.

The smaller clubs generally play sport on alternative days to the IC clubs that play BUSA leagues, and sticking to what I know RSM hockey play regular Sunday mixed hockey matches whereas IC hockey play regular men's and women's Wednesday matches with the odd mixed hockey matches. This means a lower time commitment in the smaller clubs, and the ability to play another sport as well. One member of the RSM hockey team plays regularly on Sundays but also fences on Wednesdays for IC Fencing Club, that opportunity wouldn't be available to him if he were to join IC hockey.

The smaller clubs generally enjoy a longer history and older tradi-

hockey, so the faculty clubs are not tions, dating back to when the solely for faculty members and give the cal schools and Constituent (RCS, CGCU, and RSM) were entities. It seems that the spe tors agree with the previous attitude in turning IC into a c warehouse and scrapping an historical significance from lege. It seems that the larger would happily hand in their o

for some lovely blue shaded a branding. Medics need their own clu ly because of their crazy tin which means they can fit train social side around schedules with clinical and academic also means they can convenien socials in the Reynolds aroun they all live, and play at Chis stead of having to hike to Ha History, tradition and med aside, it is no coincidence th university in the country has medics sports teams.

The reputations of the clubs a way that attracts different people. I know, for instance, attitudes within IC Football tract people from joining. Seve are not big enough to enable who come to trials (usually end at least nine teams!). This is n thing but having an alternative ple who want to play occasion socially seems like a good allattitude that the union should ter all we are stakeholders in the so we should all be able to get

As for the money, union fund responds to the numbers of r and the number of leagues part of etc. so why should som benefit from union funding an not. It seems a little elitist, aft a students union not a sportir ess union.

The IC teams are overflow year as are the smaller club leading to the question which would the RSM players get the IC games from, 'cause the hell aren't getting more than time on the pitch.



	Team	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	Diff	%
1 2	Squash Men's 1st	6	6	0	0	26	4	22	10
2	Volleyball Women's 1st	5	5	0	0	10	0	10	10
3	Fencing Men's 1st	5	5	0	0		387		10
4	Tennis Men's 1st	5	5	0	0	41	9	32	10
5	Lacrosse Women's 1st	4	4	0	0	44	19	25	10
6	ICSM Badminton Men's 1st	3	3	0	0	16	8	8	10
7	Badminton Men's 1st	6	4	2	0	33	15	18	67
8 9	Hockey Men's 1st Netball 2nd	7 5	6 4	0 0	1 1	41	11 113	30	86 80
10	Squash Men's 2nd	5	4	0	1	17	6	11	80
11	Hockey Men's 3rd	3	1	2	0	6	2	4	33
12	Fencing Women's 1st	4	3	0	1	_	445		75
13	Rugby Union Men's 3rd	4	3	0	1	102		53	75
14	ICSM Netball 3rd	4	3	0	1	135		63	75
15	Table Tennis Men's 1st	7	5	0	2	77	42	35	71
16	Hockey Women's 1st	6	4	0	$\overline{2}$	25	15	10	67
17	Hockey Men's 2nd	6	4	0	2	25	15	10	67
18	Basketball Men's 1st	3	2	0	1	228	154	74	67
19	Fencing Men's 2nd	3	2	0	1	365	328	37	67
20	ICSM Hockey Women's 1st	4	2	1	1	18	10	8	50
21	Basketball Women's 1st	5	3	0	2	233	221	12	60
22	ICSM Netball 2nd	5	3	0	2	146	104	42	60
23	ICSM Football Men's 1st	5	3	0	2	10	9	1	60
24	Squash Women's 1st	7	1	4	2	13	19	-6	14
25	Rugby Union Men's 2nd	6	3	0	3		131		50
26	Squash Men's 3rd	4	2	0	2	6	6	0	50
27	Lacrosse Men's 1st	2	1	0	1	21	21	0	50
28	ICSM Hockey Women's 2nd	6	2	1	3	16	19	-3	33
29	Badminton Men's 2nd	4	1	1	2	15	17	-2	25
30	Hockey Men's 4th	4 4	1	1	2 2	7 16	19	-12	25
31 32	Tennis Men's 2nd	8	1 3	1 0	5		24 222	-8 -53	2 5
33	ICSM Rugby Union Men's 1st Badminton Women's 1st	6	2	0	4	22	26	-33 -4	3 3
34	Volleyball Men's 1st	6	2	0	4	4	8	-4	33
35	ICSM Rugby Union Men's 2nd	-	$\mathbf{\hat{2}}$	0	5	75		-51	29
36	ICSM Hockey Men's 2nd	7	2	0	5	12	10	2	29
37	Football Men's 1st	6	1	1	4	10	16	-6	17
38	Tennis Women's 1st	4	1	0	3	14	26	-12	25
39	Netball 3rd	4	1	0	3	48	106		25
40	ICSM Rugby Union Men's 3rd	4	1	0	3	27	98	-71	25
41	Football Men's 3rd	4	1	0	3	5	16	-11	2 5
42	Football Men's 2nd	5	1	0	4	10	22	-12	20
43	ICSM Netball 1st	5	1	0	4	120	198	-78	20
44	Football Women's 1st	5	1	0	4	9	20	-11	20
45	ICSM Hockey Men's 1st	6	1	0	5	11	21	-10	17
46	Hockey Women's 2nd	6	1	0	5	6	25	-19	17
47	ICSM Badminton Women's 1st	6	0	1	5	7	42	-35	0
48	Rugby Union Women's 1st	1	0	0	1	0	80	-80	0
49	Table Tennis Women's 1st	2	0	0	2	3	7	-4	0
50	ICSM Hockey Women's 3rd	4	0	0	4	3	29	-26	0
51	ICSM Hockey Men's 3rd	3	0	0	3	0	11	-11	0
52	Rugby Union Men's 4th	5	0	0	5	61		-156	
53	ICSM Football Men's 2nd	4	0	0	4	1	16	-15	
54 55	Netball 1st	6 6	0 0	0 0	6 6			-90 - 17 7	
	Rugby Union Men's 1st	O	U	U	0	65	242	-1//	U

Crossword No. 1,416

Imperial College player representing RSM in the 2008 Bottle Match

1 Consumes bread, gets flab, is shocked (13) 7 Milne has Roo and Owl name the first Jewish priest (5)

8 Mr A's thing: flexing muscle (9) 9 Ticked off (7) 10 Frank Sinatra, no longer a 'rat',

ACROSS

heads off ceremony (7) 11 Fervent belief I am God returned (5) 12 Central part of funeral march starts off a term wasted at my old

- university (4,5) 14 Burnt sienna desk without its first, natural condition (9)
- 17 Climbs with suckers, gets to hear part of big echo (5) 19 Possession, for a period in public
- school, brings joy (7) 21 A prize made to lose functionality 22 Wearing a bit thin, Over. I hear you

sing (9)

- 23 Quick silver I let go almost to completion (5)
- 24 Start-up corporation (13) island (7)
- 18 Rebuild icy port of a Mediterranean 20 Specific piece not found in literary

replacement for imaginary material

to marathon (7)

Sumerian text (5)

opposite (7)

confused (8-5)

to deal with (7)

genre (3-2)

skeet, somehow (7)

beings out worry (7)

3 Ancient Roman writes up early

4 Roman orator initially means the

5 Inside marquee, cast out pitchfork

6 Old photograph contains red-eye

8 Add water to make dry heat easier

13 Wild horse tugs man around (7)

15 The most eager get two points in

16 Avant-gardist urban development

17 After George I, royal robes use a

atop rug arrangement (13)

7 Clumsy deacon crept in, highly

Sincerest apologies for last week's 1 English stadium hosts furtive start mistaken letter. The more astute among you will have realized that neither Eu-2 Loss of memory affects men in Asia pee nor Subdracon are commonlyused words. Top marks to Jonathan

Phillips for his correct solution.

Hopefully, all should be well this week. I also cordially invite you to attempt the quick crossword in the Coffee Break section.

Have a good week

Enoch



felix sport

Send in your sport reports: sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk High resolution photos only



IC Gaelic smash Cambridge



You will have to ask the ICUGFC players to find the ball. After you have succeeded, try and digest the intricacies of the scorecard. Hint Imperial convincingly beat their Oxbridge rivals



e managed to create quite a spark by introducing the notion of 'superclubs'. Valid points have been made although in my mind there is definitely no place for any more. But wait, RCS hockey now exists!

Anyway, moving onto good news. The league table exists in full, there are six pages of sport and Wednesday was the biggest day of sport for Imperial ever! A huge number of fixtures were played, and Harlington was buzzing. Having interviewed Dan Neville this week, we can sense the Varsity rivalry and atmosphere is slowly, but surely starting to intensify.

In response to Tim's opinion on the 'superclubs' debate we would not like to keep dispelling the sometimes spurious claims, thus we will bring it to a close, barring one last response from

For both football and hockey there is movement between the teams. A no-

table example is with the football ULU cup winning side of 2006. 4 players of that side had come through the ranks starting in the 5th team. So to say there is rigid movement is quite debatable.

What we are trying to get as is that these faculty teams do no need their own society. They can easily be a significant part of their constituent club. If you say that you play for RSM hockey so you can have a casual game on a Sunday then why don't you join the hockey club and organise casual hockey sessions on a Sunday. With the size of these teams, you could experience improvements in the logistics of travelling to a hockey pitch.

In addition, having a faculty team where non-faculty players play is ridiculous. This reinforces the view that these teams should be part of their constituent clubs.

On a separate note, best of luck for next weeks games and we hope you enjoy your Christmas dinners/socials in the next few weeks.

Gaelic Football

Imperial Men's 1st 3-09 Cambridge Men's 1st 1-01

Andrew Lavery

Following two spirited yet unsuccessful displays against Bedford and Oxford earlier in the season the IC Gaelic Football took the trip to Cambridge this Sunday. Resting on their laurels may have had Cambridge the bookies favourite, but it was also to be their undoing as they were clearly unprepared for the blitzkrieg football that was in store for them.

The late withdrawal of Finian Mc-Cann from the team due to injury was cause for concern leaving Andrew Lavery to step into the overly large shoes in the midfield role with Sean 'U-turn' Cleary replacing Noel Ryan in defence, alongside Jamie Sanders - the baby face of the team fast creating a niche for himself in corner back. Though the pair were rarely tested, IC's full back line never looked liked conceding.

The game started sharply with IC gaining possession at the throw in. With an air of arrogance befitting the Oxbridge type, Cambridge looked lacksidasical in both attack and defence, and were soon stunned by IC's flamboyance and flair, snatching a goal and a point in the early exchanges.

Conor Taylor, who dominated the half forward line, supplied Frank O'Neill, in this the first of many well taken chances by the Naomh Bríd pair. Claiming a brace of points IC went 1-03 up to no score when Cambridge made their best effort of the half, still only resulting in a 45, which admittedly, was struck clean over the bar in a great display of kicking from the ground by the Cambridge

Imperial duly replied with the best score of the day. Winning possession in the half back area, Lavery combined well with Taylor, their swift passing on the right wing, running riot through the Cambridge defence. Midfielder Edward O'Hare was soon in on the act as IC continued to cleave through any resistance offered. With the trio completing at least 10 passes full forward O'Neill got himself in the right place and was given the ball with expectations of nothing less than a goal which he delivered; a full force drop kick from three yards into the back of the net. The half played out in much the same vein, with Cambridge attacks never even breaching the half back line of Donnacha Kirk, Pat McMullen and notably Club Sec Phil Jakeman, acquitting himself like he'd been playing GAA all his life - despite the headband making him look like Rafael Nadal a soppy fagel.

Ardent words from Lavery at half time left the team in no doubt of what we were about to achieve. A new club, in its first season, with only 30 minutes

separating us from a historic victory, not least over the prematch favourites and rivals Cambridge, meant IC retook the field with all the same verve and spirit of the first half. With the truly weak second half display against Oxford still echoing in our minds, the intervening weeks fitness training was evident as IC showed no signs of fatigue and continued to add scores. James Skeen, on loan from ICUAFC's 4th XI, managed to keep a clean sheet but for the horrific 'header' in the second half. On several occasions John McDonnell showed poise in retaining possession under pressure and was rewarded with a score of his own late on. Notching up some well taken points with fine shooting from play, Damian Phelan earned himself man of the match, quickly rescinded however when he elected not to head to the pub. 'Forgotten soldier', Stephen Gallagher of course got himself involved with a goal in the dying minutes from close range. Claims that he was only feeding of the scraps of other forwards were left unchallenged as Gallagher himself was unavailable for comment / not asked at the time of writing.

All in all a very successful trip was had to Cambridge with generous post match hospitality from our hosts. ICUGFC have got their first win under their belt and look set for many more successes to come in this season and the next. Next match vs. St. Mary's College this Sunday. Training continues Wednesday 1330 in Hyde Park.