

# felix

The student 'news'paper of  
Imperial College London

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## Summer Ball line-up released

Union finally starts to listen to its students about entertainments,  
but why has it taken so long? See pages 4 & 5

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# A Second Life for Imperial medical students

**Dina Ismail**  
News Correspondent

Imperial College third-year medical students are taking part in a pilot program that allows them to practice diagnosing and treating patients- all in the virtual world.

The prospective doctors are treating virtual patients in Second Life, a 3D internet world where users live and interact through online alter egos, called avatars. It is however far from playing out long held fantasies of being a doctor in the world of ER or Grey's Anatomy. Instead, it is a step by step exercise in patient care and treatment management.

A virtual hospital has been set-up and designed to look like Imperial's own real-life facilities where everything is made to mimic the actual experience of being on a hospital ward. Even online versions of members of staff bear an eerie resemblance to their real-life appearance.

From the comfort of a classroom, students can log into the virtual medical world and transport their avatars to the computer-generated hospital. There they check in at a reception desk, put on an access badge and pick up their assignment to begin work. If an assignment takes place in a respiratory ward, students have access to recordings of real-life patients' breathing to help with their diagnoses. And if it is decided that x-rays are needed, they can stroll down to the radiology department and order them. The idea is to think through the tests and treatments in the same way that a doctor would and reinforce lessons about responsibility and hospital protocol. Students even have to virtually wash their hands before visiting a patient, otherwise their investigation is halted and they lose points. If advice, help or



How attractive do you think the real medic behind this avatar is?

a friendly chat is needed, students can communicate with their professors and other colleagues within the world through their avatars.

As enjoyable as playing doctors may sound, this game-based learning does not aim to replace traditional face-to-face training or the experiences gained from walking the wards of real hospitals and interacting with real patients. The 3D virtual world cannot replicate or convey real human emotion, distress or suffering nor teach how to effectively deal with it. And apparently avatars can't be killed. In the world of Second Life there is even a simple mute button that can be clicked to silence any peo-

ple you may wish to ignore- if only real life were that easy.

Although the program is not part of the medical school's official curriculum quite yet, in the future, educators see it as a new way of learning for students that also taps into their sophisticated and savvy computer skills.

"The aim is to develop a more engaging learning environment" said Maria Toro-Troconis, a senior learning technologist. "You'd like to say this makes learning fun and easy," says Jenny Higham, head of undergraduate medicine. "[but] at the end of the day, there's still a basic requirement to learn the facts."

# News in Brief

## Green Week competition winner

The winners of Imperial College Union's 'Greening Imperial' competition are announced online today, with two students sharing the £1000 prize. The judging panel consisting of estates staff, the College's new Program Director for Corporate Social Responsibility, academic staff, Deputy President (Education & Welfare) and the RCSU President who part-funded the competition made the unanimous decision to award the prize to two research students, Adele Peel and Steven Johnston for their practical approaches to making Imperial more sustainable.

Adele's idea tackled student halls, proposing a competition between halls to reduce their energy use and waste production. Steven focused on the disposable paper cups available from catering outlets across the College, with a three-step approach to reducing the number we use as well as recycling the ones handed out.

The People and Planet Green League 2009 will be announced in the Autumn term.

For more details visit [imperialcollegeunion.org/green](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/green).

## ICU RAG Mag: Funny and Free!

Funny and Free! Well that's not the complete truth but it's definitely funny. The ICU RAG Mag, a time honoured student joke book, is re-released today. Funded by advertising revenue the magazines make money for charity by readers donating their coppers to a RAG tin. These can be found in either the union shop or union bar. If it makes you laugh, donate! This year's charities are Barnardos, Shelter and the Rainbow Trust. Any students wishing to nominate a charity for next year are welcome to fill out the form on the inside back cover and post it in to the RAG pigeon hole in the SAC.

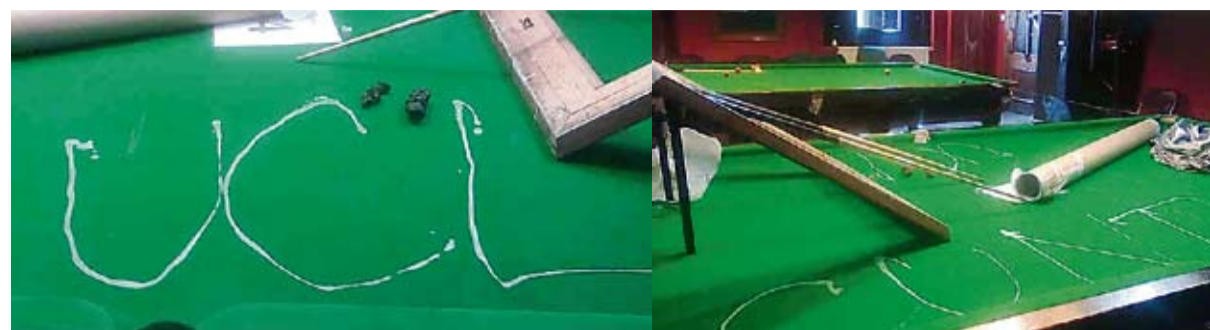
At Imperial, RAG Mags have been produced for at least the last 20 years. Previous magazines feature jokes which are unpublishable by today's standards, with one magazine even being banned for sale around college! The initial cover this year was itself refused for being too risqué. Who says you can't publish jokes about a certain MP who was caught in an expenses scandal?

ICU RAG Mag, entertaining students for 20 years - pick up your copy along with the Felix from points around college today!

## Swine Flu hits the World, hard!

It's pretty hard to avoid all the commotion about Swine Flu as it has appeared in the media all over the world. If you were worried about it, College have set up a website with up-to-date guidance for staff, students and visitors: <http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/alerts>.

# 'UCL' shits all over Imperial



**Dan Wan**  
Editor-in -Prowling

After years of Imperial shitting all over 'UCL' in the league tables, 'UCL' have finally 'shat' back in a fashion befitting to their intellect, and the only tables involved were snooker tables.

During the closing days of the Spring term, the Union snooker rooms were broken into and heavily vandalised; including the deposition of faeces on snooker tables. The tables and walls were also targeted. Graffiti included several ambiguous but aggressive messages, such as "fuck off" and "c:nt". To whom these messages were targeted is still not clear, but it is thought that the unruly depictions of genitalia are to provide clues.

A carefully constructed structure made of broken snooker cues, triangles and a chair was also erected on top of an uncovered snooker table. Its delightful centrepiece featured an impressively large piece of excrement. The owners were seemingly so pleased with their creation, they decided to sign their name beneath it; the letters 'UCL' were found painted onto the table felt with an unidentified white substance, thought to be paint or glue. After a month of headstratching, *felix* have finally identified the meaning of the letters as Bloomsbury Community College's lesser used name of 'University College London'.

However, Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) Lily Topham, has raised her doubts that the defacement was work

of UCL students.

"I'm doubtful as to whether it was actually UCL or our students trying to put the blame on someone else - there is absolutely no solid evidence to suggest who it was." Miss Topham duly noted the absence of 3rd floor video surveillance.

"This incidence has highlighted the problems with security - particularly on the upper floors of the Union, because, although the Union has investigated available CCTV footage and questioned stewards on duty during that night, there is no CCTV on the top floor of the building and during busy nights it is very difficult to track every person in the Union building who takes it into their head to do damage." She also reassured us that the Union Building's security was also under "whole-scale review" for the new term.

The faeces was thought not be of human origin, and is reckoned to be sheep's, by the well-proven investigative method of scratch'n'sniff. After extensive examination of Beit Quad CCTV however, there were no sightings of any farm animals within the Union compound.

The snooker rooms, which are found on the 3rd floor of the Union Building in Beit Quad, were thought to have been infiltrated between 22:30 and midnight after a play held in the Union Concert Hall on the 20th of March.

A witness to the aftermath voiced his concerns with the motives of the vandals. "It is immensely worrying on two levels. Who's carrying around a

bag of shit purely to deposit its contents on a table? If not, who would bring a poor farmyard animal into the depths of London and have it shit all over a snooker table?" Another student, who wished not to be named, also described the Union's third floor as "smelly as fuck". *felix* concurs with both witnesses. The damaged snooker tables have since been relaced with new felt. Topham assured that the damage would not be inflicted on the Snooker Club financially.

"As soon as the scene was discovered we informed the club and to ensure that they wouldn't suffer materially from these actions. The Clubs and Societies Board had unanimously voted to fund the refelting of the vandalised snooker tables from Contingency, however, Sport Imperial very kindly offered to help as well, so my sincere thanks to Neil Mosley [Head of Sport Imperial] for his support."

Topham went on to condemn the people responsible for the vandalism "Whoever did this needs serious psychological counselling if they think that was they did was funny or acceptable behaviour."

At the end of the Spring term, another similar incident occurred in the inflatable laser quest in Beit Quad, where it was found that an individual had left some excrement in one of the corners. As a result, the attraction was shut early so that the problem could be dealt with.

Thus far, the Union is dealing these as two separate incidents.

# The world beyond college walls



## France

President Sarkozy has opened an exhibition containing ten projects by international architects which outline their vision for Paris in 2029.

Sarkozy's grand plan is for a greener city, and the ten options include radical ideas like a monorail network, recycling stations buried beneath parkland and local power generation.

Nicknamed the "City of Light", Paris is usually defined as everything within the périphérique or ring road, giving it an official population of two million people. But the French capital is surrounded by a plethora of suburbs and towns administered by separate county councils and inhabited by a further six million people.

Pressure has been growing to merge some of the neighbouring councils together into something akin to the Greater London Authority for London's eight million inhabitants. While Sarkozy is pushing for this, he is opposed by the Socialist Party which is in office in most of the councils and which support the decentralisation.

## USA

David Kellermann, acting Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of US mortgage giant Freddie Mac, was found hung in his basement after apparently committing suicide.

41-year old Mr Kellermann had worked for Freddie Mac for 16 years, beginning in his mid-twenties as a financial analyst, and rising through the ranks of the corporation. The death was reported by his wife at their home in eastern state of Virginia.

Freddie Mac is a private corporation that deals with financial services, namely owning or guaranteeing mortgages. In September 2008, to prevent it from collapsing, the US Federal Government took over control of the corporation, and appointed Kellermann as the CFO. But recently Freddie Mac's losses have spiralled out of control, and Mr Kellermann's colleagues reported that he had been working long hours.



## Russia

NATO and Russia have restored formal diplomatic contacts, eight months after they were suspended over the five day war with Georgia in August 2008.

The 28 members of the NATO military alliance met with a Russian envoy in Brussels on Wednesday 29th April. A NATO spokesman said that disagreement continued over Russia's invasion of Georgia (which has been promised NATO membership), and NATO's planned military exercises there next month. But significant progress had been made on the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty, which aims at limiting the number of tanks and other conventional military equipment between the Atlantic and the Ural mountains.

NATO decided to gradually resume its ties with Russia, especially on issues such as nuclear non-proliferation, the war in Afghanistan, and the fight against terrorism, but emphasized that neither should shy away from issues on which they fundamentally disagree.

## South Africa

Jacob Zuma is expected to become South Africa's next president on the 6th of May, after his party the African National Congress won 66% of the vote in the general elections.

A controversial figure, Jacob Zuma is a former guerrilla fighter and was an inmate at Robben Island prison alongside Nelson Mandela. For years he has been embroiled in legal battles on allegations of corruption and fraud, which have only recently been dropped - on a technicality.

Despite his many flaws, Mr Zuma is undoubtedly a man of remarkable qualities. And qualities he will need if he is to lead a country which contributes a third of the 48 sub-Saharan economies' GDP (Gross Domestic Product). Too many African countries have collapsed because of leaders who view government as a means of accumulating power and dispensing favours. Mr Zuma needs to show that South Africa, a beacon of hope for a continent of a billion souls, can still lead the way.

Edited by Hassan Joudi & Raphael Houdmont

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**LOL FLU**

**OF THE WEEK**

# Trial opens of murdered Imperial UROP students at the Old Bailey

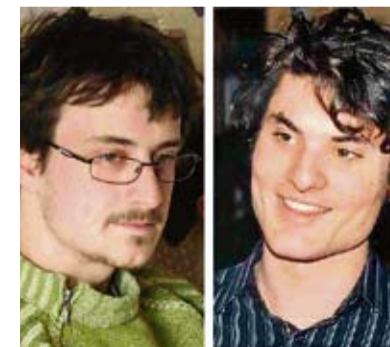
**Kadhim Shubber**  
Deputy Editor

The trial of two men accused of murdering French students Gabriel Ferez and Laurent Bonomo has begun at the Old Bailey.

Dano Sonnex, 23, of Peckham South London and Nigel Farmer, 33, of no fixed address are charged with murder, arson, burglary, false imprisonment and trying to pervert the course of justice. Both men deny all charges although Dano Sonnex has admitted one count of robbery at the victim's bedsit on the date of the murders.

Gabriel Ferez and Laurent Bonomo, biochemistry masters students from University of Clermont-Ferrand, had almost completed a three month research placement at Imperial College when they were murdered at their bedsit in New Cross.

The court has heard that the students were awoken by intruders at 5:30am on June 29th last year, held for approximately two and a half hours and murdered when Mr Ferez's card was swallowed by a bank machine. Prosecutor Crispin Aylett QC said "to



**Laurent Bonomo and Gabriel Ferez had been on a three-month research placement at Imperial**

take revenge for the fact they had been unable to steal money from Mr Ferez, both men were murdered in a way that can only be described as inhuman."

Later that night, the flat was set alight. A man was spotted fleeing the fire by next-door neighbour Curtis Cronin. He shouted "I've got you" at the man, meaning that he had seen his face. Mr Cronin later provided an e-fit that closely resembled Mr Farmer. The trial continues at the Old Bailey.

## In the papers

### The Independent:

"The jury was told that both Sonnex and Farmer had a history of similar violence. Mr Aylett explained that Sonnex had a previous conviction from 2002 when, aged 16, he stabbed another youth three times in a row over a car."

### The Guardian

"...Farmer, who was suffering from burns to his face and hands, announced: "I just killed two fucking people in New Cross."

### The Times

"Jurors were told to brace themselves for the photographs of what was found at the flat by firefighters when it was set ablaze the night after the murders"

# Official line-up for the Summer Ball announced

## Union finally listens to its students, but why did it take so long and are our students going to be at a loss? Editor in Chief, Jovan Nedić, finds out

After countless surveys and input from students, it seems that the Imperial College Union Entertainments Department is finally listening to the people it serves, the students.

Back in October 2008 (Issue 1,411), *felix* carried out a survey to review the success of Freshers' Week and also got some idea of what the students really wanted from the Union. One of the biggest results from the survey was the fact that students would much rather prefer to see a live band over a live act. The other big result from the survey was that a whopping 83% of the students told *felix* that it was the people and not the acts that make the night, with one student commenting that "I didn't really care who the acts were, it was Freshers' Week, I would have gone along anyway." Another result that came from the survey was the cost of the tickets for the big blow-out finale on the Friday of Freshers' Week, with 70% of the students questioned thinking that the £14.50 ticket price was too expensive for what was on offer.

The general consensus amongst the student body was that for any big event, whether it be Freshers' Week, end of term Carnival or the Summer Ball, people are going to come along no matter who the acts are, and if they're going to pay a fair bit for their ticket, they want something good. In the recent International Student Barometer survey, Imperial was rated bottom for entertainment enjoyment out of all the Russell Group universities; even below our own Medical School. A problem that seems to have been occurring over the past few years is that there has been little input from the student body into what they want in terms of entertainment from their Union, or what could be even more worrying is that their input has just been ignored.

It does seem, however, that they have finally started to listen, with the Easter "Credit Crunch" Carnival being a prime



Students at the Survivors Photo from last year's Summer Ball

ample. The theme was elegant to say the least: keep it simple, keep it cheap. This is exactly what they did with tickets only costing £5, no major headline acts that would cost several thousand pounds and, as expected, the Union was full with around 1,200 students having a great night. Following on from the success of the Easter "Credit Crunch" Carnival, it seems that the Union has decided to yet again listen to its students.

This year's Summer Ball, which takes place on the 20th June, promises to be a great hit with acts that will satisfy a vast range of students. The ticket prices, however, are more than last year, with ICU commenting that "Ticket prices this year have risen owing to several factors, costs of organising the event have risen, bearing in mind ticket prices for the event have remained static over the past two years. In addition, this year we have also applied a more rigorous budgeting process for the event, taking into account more realistic costs than in previous years and this has highlighted the need to increase ticket prices to avoid incurring a financial loss on the ball."

It is also reported that Imperial College have made some generous contri-

butions to the Ball this year, including £13,000 for general costs, the College catering department donating around £2,000 and Commercial services donating nearly £10,000 to cover the cost of hiring the marquee after it was found that Outreach, who normally split the cost of the hire, pulled out in the last minute.

The organisers of the Ball have put on three separate entertainment sections this year; the live music section will be in the Beit Quad where there will be bands playing from 20:00 onwards. On the Live Arena, the headline act for the evening will be Athlete who will be playing a one and a half hour live set, with Rosie & The Goldbug and Tape the Radio as the supporting acts of the night. Joining them will be the eventual Battle of the Bands winner as well as Jeff Automatic from Club NME.

As usual, there will be a selection of drum and base acts with Pendulum (El Horner DJ Set) feat. MC Jakes being billed as the headline act in the Dance Venue. Other acts include Chase & Status feat. MC Rage, Scratch Perverts, Killa Kela and Interlope (LIVE) that will be playing you into the small hours of the morning.

Finally there is the Cabaret Stage

which will host a variety of live performances which include the Globe Girls and Imperial's very own Jazz Big Band. Headlining the Cabaret stage this year will be Noel Fielding and Dave Brown, better known as The Doctor and the Pencil. The duo from the hit TV show *The Mighty Boosh* have joined forces to bring you a live show that is certain to have you rolling in the isles.

As well as live music and DJ sets, the Summer Ball will also have other attractions to keep you entertained into the small hours of the morning, such as the Giant Fun Fair and of course the survivors breakfast and photo.

The line-up for the Ball is meant to be a close guarded secret to ensure maximum impact, however, rumours of some of the acts have been circulating after a few of bands advertised the event on their website. Athlete have even been telling their fans on their website that "Although the event is aimed at students of the college it is not an exclusive gig and tickets are available." This has left several students worried that there will not be enough tickets available for Imperial students, however, a statement sent by Imperial College Union stated that "As a result

of an increased capacity, which allows for 1000 extra attendees than we have ever sold before, we don't foresee that any IC students will be unable to purchase an entertainments ticket due to an external customer taking that place. In addition we are monitoring ticket sales closely throughout this period to ensure that if we are approaching capacity that the ability for externals to purchase tickets will be removed."

Several students were also concerned as to why the line-up wasn't announced earlier so that they could take advantage of the early tickets, to which ICU replied "We have withheld the line-up until this point as we awaited a full set of contracted acts. In previous years we have released acts based on provisional contracts and we have been let down. We have attempted to avoid a situation where tickets have been purchased based on a line-up which is not 100% certain, to avoid disappointment."

"We don't foresee that any IC students will be unable to purchase an entertainments ticket due to an external customer taking that place" - ICU

"In addition we aim for students to make their decision to attend the ball based on a line-up in it's entirety and not on single acts. We have worked hard this year to ensure that there is a wide variety of entertainment on offer, hopefully providing something for everyone. We have based many of our decisions for this year's line-up on feedback gained from the Trading and Clubs & Societies surveys, particularly in relation to having a live arena for the first time."

Even though the line-up this year is considered to be the best in recent years, several students have wondered why it has taken so long for the Union to listen to them and if they will do in the future. Only time will tell.

# ATHLETE



Since their debut album 'Vehicles & Animals' in 2003, Athlete have been at the forefront of the UK's indie rock scene playing to crowds around the world.

Their first album was met with critical and commercial success producing singles such as 'You Got the Style' and 'El Salvador'. For their second album 'Tourist', Athlete scored their biggest hit-to-date 'Wires' which went on to win a coveted Ivor Nevello award for Best Contemporary Song. 'Beyond the Neighbourhood' was released in September 2007 reaching number 5 in the UK album chart and spawning the hit single 'Hurricane'. They are currently working on their fourth studio album and are about to embark on an intimate UK tour ahead of its release.

# PENDULUM (El Horner DJ SET) i.e. not a live set... AGAIN



# NOEL FIELDING & DAVE BROWN

Noel Fielding, star of the BBC's *Mighty Boosh* and his Gorilla costume-toting friend Dave Brown are here to offer a roller coaster trip through their unique minds! Noel and Dave explain more: 'The Doctor came to London from Eastern Europe in 1876, he rode into town on a mule dragging a half man half pencil behind him on a pencil case the size of a hospital stretcher. The pencil woke up with no recollection of the great journey, frightened, incensed and slightly jet-lagged he ran straight to London Zoo and skewered a pack of rare monkeys making the worlds largest marmaset kebab.' That clears that one up then! Expect great comedy, superb music and much laughter.



Chase & Status Killa Kella Scratch Perverts

# Student bands to play with top acts at Summer Ball

Jovan Nedić Editor in Chief

Deputy Editor of *felix*, who's claims his favourite artist at the moment is Laura Marling.

Jazz and Rock Society, in conjunction with Imperial College Union are hosting a Battle of the Bands competition, with the eventual winner playing alongside with Athlete, Rosie and the Goldbug and Tape the Radio.

This move by the Union is seen as a positive one, with ever increasing student input to the entertainments that are provided at the Union.

The competition will consist of three heats, held on the 7th, 14th and 21st May, followed by a final on Friday, May 29th. A top selection of judges will be at the event deciding on the different winners, these include; Hannah Theodorou who is Deputy President (Education & Welfare) and a massive fan of Goldfrapp, as well as Kadhim Shubber,

Each battle will start from 19:00 in dB's, entry will be cheap and there will be a raffle at the end where the first prize will be free tickets to this year's Summer Ball. The bands will be playing a mixture of covers and their own songs throughout the night so there will be something for everyone. There might also be a possibility of selecting one of the finalists from the runners-up by means of an online vote.

So if you are interested in having a direct input into what you listen to at the Summer Ball, then go along and support your favourite band, either that or bribe the official judges. I hear the Deputy Editor has a particular liking for Innocent Smoothies and chocolate Brownies!

# IC Big Band win Gold Award at National Festival

Jon Dennis

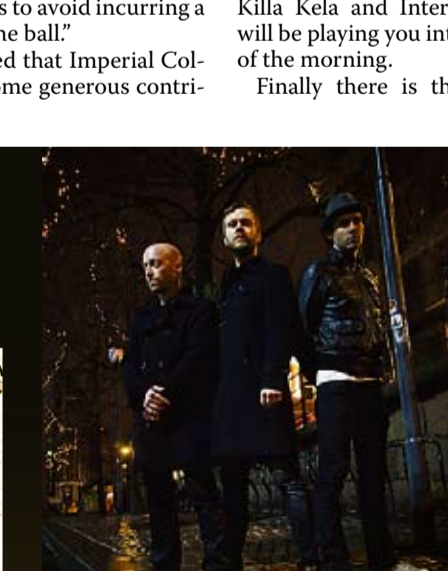
Having wiped the floor with the competition at the regional heat of the National Concert Band Festival, the Imperial College Big Band travelled to the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff to play in the national finals of the festival over the Easter break. Despite having to catch a coach from college at 7am, the band were in fine form under the direction of Andy Simm, opening their set with Tom Kubis' up tempo tune, 'On Purple Porpoise Parkway'. The band captured the essence of Don Menza's classic, 'Groovin' Hard', and the set ended with Pat Metheny's technically intricate 'The First Circle', which allowed the sax section to indulge in some jazz flute playing that would put Ron Burgundy to shame.

Despite tough competition from other regional winners the band were presented with a gold award, the only group in the 'open big band' category to do so. The judges praised the band's tight ensemble playing, commenting that the set was a 'most enjoyable performance' and one they 'would happily have paid to see'. The soloing interplay of saxophonists Jamie McDougall and James Trippett was described as 'lovely', whilst Chaz Keiderling and his horn were commended for reaching an 'appropriately timed climax' that put a smile on the judges' faces.

This outstanding result shows the IC Big Band to be one of the top university big bands in the country and is the crowning achievement of a successful year for the band. Having enjoyed the unique cultural experience that Wales has to offer, the band will be taking their award-winning jazz on tour to Berlin in September. Their next performance will be in the MDH at the Summer Ball on 20th June, and promises to be one of the highlights of the ball. Recordings from the competition and other information is available at [www.icbigband.co.uk](http://www.icbigband.co.uk).



There's always one person that decides not to look at the camera



Rosie & The Goldbug Tape the Radio Jeff Automatic

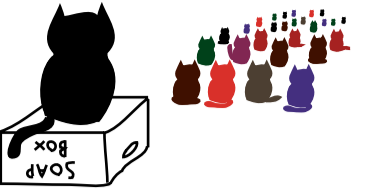


Globe Girls

# LIVE ARENA

# CABARET

# DANCE STAGE



## Comment, Opinion & Letters

Let us know your views: [comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk)

Letters may be edited for length and grammar purposes  
**Views on these pages are not representative of felix**



### The pillars of university life. Chapter One

**Jovan Nedić**  
Editor in Chief

The summer term is finally upon us; it is a time of behavioural change, locking yourself away into a room with as little distraction as possible so as to optimise revision. For some, it is the final leg of their university life whilst for others it is only the beginning. Either way, the end result is the same; pure relief that it is finally all over.

As I now personally reach the end of my fifth year at Imperial and look forward to employment, I couldn't help but look back at the major aspects of my university life. As I see it, there are effectively five aspects, or pillars, to any student's life at university and if any of these pillars fall, you time will be a long and arduous one. Education, Clubs and Societies, Finance & Services, Housing and Entertainments. Some of these are clearly interlinked and dependent upon others, but the point stands, if

one of the categories has a problem, you will notice it.

Seeing as the first story of this year is about entertainment, let's go with that one. After a hard days work in the lecture theatres and labs, or even after a hard fought sports fixture or concert, the students need a place where they can go, relax and have a good time. The most obvious choice for this is the Students' Union, but the problem is, as many students have pointed out time and time again, it's rubbish!

To me, it seems that the Union has had a communication problem with its students. I'm sure that numerous attempts have been made and I am sure that students have given their input, but is it just me or do they not seem to listen? Freshers' Week and the Summer Ball will always be busy, no matter what university you go to in the country, yet even though they know it is going to be busy, they still manage to get

"Let us really hope that this new change of direction is a positive one"



things wrong. The acts don't reflect the general population of Imperial, when they do try, the tickets are considered to be expensive.

I'll be the first to give credit where they deserve it, and for what they did at the Easter "Credit Crunch" Carnival, they definitely deserve it. There were no big name Radio 1 DJ's costing thousands of pounds, there weren't extravagant decorations and they offered something for everyone, all for a low price. The result, a packed Union, which would have happened anyway, full of people having a good time, enjoying the music and the company of people they were with. The result for the Union, a healthy profit margin.

Why has this taken so long for them to figure out and why was it so difficult? I know for a fact on the Tuesday of Freshers' Week, the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) Lily Topham, wanted to have a showcase of the dif-

ferent arts societies of the Union. The result there was a very full Union with people having a fun time and again the Union making more profit; more profit than Tuesdays from previous Freshers' Week. Yet she was met with several obstacles from the Union who didn't think the quality of the acts would be good enough! How wrong they were!

The initial outlook for the Summer Ball looks promising, yet again it seems that they are taking on board what students have wanted for some time. Variety! They have several live bands, actual live bands, not like last year when they advertised that The Klaxons were playing, only for students to later realise that it was a DJ Set. What was the point of paying so much money for one member of a band to play a DJ Set, what was accomplished?

Overspending the entertainments budget for the Ball by around £12,000 and making a total loss of around

£8,000 for the whole ball, that's what. An even more interesting question is how have they managed to stick to their budget this year, which was similar to last year's, and somehow get a better, wider range of acts for the Summer Ball?

The credibility and popularity of any venue is mainly based on word of mouth, and having people tell you that the Union is a rubbish venue to go to as soon as you arrive won't help at all. At the same time they haven't been seen to be doing much about it and have carried on regardless of what students say.

Let us really hope that this new change in direction is a positive one; one where they listen to the students and give them what they want and not simply do what pleases them, and then maybe, just maybe, we can have a Union where the students will be proud of going to.

## Annabel Slater has a bone to pick with The Rogue



"Girls, we need to take a look at ourselves too- apparently we all look like we've been made over by mentally defective makeup artists!"



Imperial full of plain Janes with delusional perceptions of self-worth, shallow brains. So says the Rogue, quickly assuring us that he is not some careless student hack in the Comments section, spouting a sexual frustration induced harangue that insults almost everyone here at Imperial. No, he has a wise commentary to deliver, based on carefully observed field evidence which one can and has witnessed every day. Apparently, Imperial's womenfolk need taking down a peg. Especially, he stresses, the main breed- the plain girls (again, the Rogue can help you out here- they're the ones who aren't "follically challenged" by which we can only presume means bald or bushy haired, or have kind of symmetrical faces, or don't have the body of a fat child). They're too proud. Nauseating. Supercilious. Full of undeserved confidence.

The Rogue reports how if, as a humble student, you catch the eye of a passing female student, the stranger will do one of two things. This is very important, so it was printed in bold type.

One- she will walk past without noticing (Oh! She did NOT... what a stuck-up bovine!), OR, two- she will glance at you, hold your gaze for a little too long (probably pretending to wonder if she knows you, ha!) before embarrassedly glancing away, "self-disapproving and annoyed that she isn't more of a bitch". You know, I can really sympathise with her, what girl "doesn't" wish just that, when she makes eye contact with a stranger? Like, duh! The horror! The sheer nerve! A deplorable sense of self-importance, indeed, when a girl you don't know either walks past you or LOOKS AT YOU and then WALKS PAST YOU. What kind of creatures are these?

Having pointed out the nauseating shortcomings of the average Imperial female, the Rogue generously tosses out a noble concession. Clearly, this sort of criticism cannot be laid on every Imperial girl, he adds halfway through his pontification (I can nearly use big words as well as he can), having previously and suitably established that all of Imperial's womenfolk are egotistical,

that supercilious girls with borderline trainwreck bodies are being increasingly witnessed every day at Imperial, that their unattractiveness only makes their behavior all the more appalling, and that girls who were bullied in high school should seriously think about whether they deserve to be confident at university or not (they don't, he reassures us). No, the responsibility for the creation of these deluded creatures lies with Imperial's male student desperados, who first encouraged these bloated egos. Why, in a spot of healthy, sneering dB's voyeurism the Rogue and his similarly shrewd male friend observed a "moderately attractive" girl dancing with a group of "disgusting" male students (possibly perverts too, in the Rogue's words), then receiving some 'nauseatingly insincere' attention from one of them in the hopes of getting an accidental shag. Of course, he failed, because he was one of those lapdogs that the Rogue is not. Meanwhile, the girl, like the rest of her vile gender, subconsciously "congratulated herself on the hollow offer of casual sex" and

filled up her ego some more.

The Rogue concludes that this fun little story illustrates his central thesis- that the way in which men and women react to each other has degenerated appallingly in Imperial, although by the end of his article, he's suddenly attacking the superficial male as the creator of these Frankenstein she-monsters, as well as the original concept of airheaded, power tripping, borderline fugly females. We're just two completely different species, aren't we? How else do you explain the reeking air of superiority that the Rogue's keen and fair senses detect from Imperial womenfolk? No doubt, articles like the Rogue's can help us all get along when we have to. So come on- don't you realize that Imperial is apparently some godforsaken establishment where almost all the men are desperate, and all the women stuck-up? Being at Imperial, you see, has utterly destroyed their desire of "a meaningful platonic relationship". Appallingly, most of them are shallow, undesirable creatures to boot! Take those awful women

down a peg. Quick, male students, step back and take a good look at yourselves to check you're not becoming a lapdog. I'm not sure how- probably, it involves not being nice to girls, especially those who aren't even pretty enough to deserve it. Girls, we need to take a look at ourselves too- apparently we all look like we've been made over by mentally defective makeup artists! But what do I know- I mean look, I'm a woman and I'm even writing into Felix to comment on the Rogue's so intelligently written piece. The Rogue's already laid it all out, without having to answer the begging question of whether he actually has any female friends here, or just the moronic caricatures he nurses in his head. I'm just making sure everyone understands his message, I don't even have a cool nickname. And just look at me. Chances are, I'm just a typical Imperial girl. One of those typical deluded, once-bullied girls, validating my gargantuan sense of superficial self-worth with the regular attention of desperate males, and by nabbing a bit of print-space...

[comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk)

Comment

## Dylan Lowe finds kindness in a 'treacherous' world



"There is always a motivation behind every deed of kindness... sometimes it was because we had something they needed"



Whenever I turned my attention to the 'dangers & annoyances' section of my travel guide, I knew I was heading towards a very wrong direction.

Hustlers? Faux guides? Pickpockets? Robberies at knife-point? What was I even thinking in the first place?

Not that my past experiences helped: trust me, I have long since lost my innocence to this ruthless world. To this date I still refuse to let a stranger into the one-metre radius of my baggage, and find deception in every unrecognisable face. Paranoia? No my friend, vigilance. And, to a certain extent, snobbery.

Surely, strangers do not deserve your individual attention, let alone your individual sympathy. Especially when, as they attempt to explain their hardship, the meanings are lost in translation. So why not despise them? To sum it up in one, typically-English, phrase - bloody

foreigners'.

I soon found myself at the mercy of these 'foreigners'.

To participate in an activity that is hitchhiking, one must step into a stranger's vehicle with all of his cynicism and distrust cast aside. The fact that the driver has cared to express interest on some stranger's welfare is an unambiguous indication of kindness. Similarly, they have as much to despise against foreigners as we do; still they dispel cultural differences and commit their act of charity.

And there should be no scepticism on this 'charity' - it doesn't necessarily include a sinister element. However the movie industry decides to portray hitchhiking, Anna and I weren't escaping convicts, and the drivers who picked us up certainly weren't serial killers. Here is the proof: I have made it back in one piece.

Thanks to the media, our society seems to be swathed with a swarm of sad faces or mourning gowns. When

the pages of your newspaper are brimming with negativity, one can't help but re-modify his perspectives of the world according to this pessimists' model. But then, as human nature dictates, we thrive on gloom.

After all, pain is more deeply felt - and inflicts more emotions - than the process of healing. Away from the media coverage and computer screen, I took it upon myself to search for and experience genuine kindness first hand. What I found, as I tread my path, was the joy of discovering displays of compassion from the most unlikely of places.

The formidable appearances of several drivers along our way would have repelled us from accepting the rides. Chris initially emanated the impression of a Mediterranean miscreant; Barrie with his Mohican hairstyle appeared rascal-like with sadism lurking behind his eyes. Both turned out to be the nicest individuals I have ever met.

Rather than taking advantage of our innocence, like their fellow countrymen would, the Romanians in Valdemoro (Julian & Lorena) had spent a staggering twenty Euros on a pair of complete strangers.

There is always a motivation behind every deed of kindness. In hitchhiking terms, many of the drivers who picked us up craved for the companionship, a break from long periods of isolation. Sometimes it was because we possess something they need, for example a better map.

It may be spiritual rather than materialistic - sympathy, redemption for one's previous wrong-doings, repayment for others' displays of kindness, even the mere satisfaction which comes with being charitable.

There is no such thing as absolute selflessness; selflessness will always be tainted by at least a small smudge of selfish mindset. Yet, the simple act of generosity as motivated by mostly selflessness is, as quantified by our cynical society, most noble indeed.

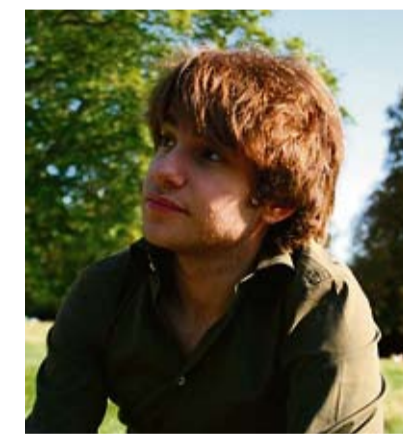
Hitchhiking, I discovered, brings the best out of this generosity. We have been fortunate to have received from individuals not because they had so much to give away, but rather the contrary.

Whether the manifestation of generosity may be materialistic as money, refreshments, or something as subtle as space, privacy, or most certainly their time, many of which our Samaritans lacked, they were still willing to give to a couple-in-need.

Lorena emphasised how much generosity and hospitality she had encountered and received when she was herself travelling. As though in debt, she felt it was her morale duty to repay the kindness by becoming benevolent and generous herself. That way, she believed, was the only way to overcome the 'treachery' that enshrouds our lives.

I hope I have now repaid this kindness by shedding some optimism on this sceptical world.

## Afonso Campos likes clapping and being locked in



There's something I have wondered about and only just very recently manage to experience - lock-in at a pub."



There's something quite special about doing things that the great majority of people never actually get to do. It's not necessarily because they're exclusive or open only to an elite and select group of few who have somehow, magically acquired invitations to these not-even-that-glamorous happenings.

For the most part, these things are best when they are very low-key rather than elaborate spectacles including dancing mexican midgets in ill-fitting cashmere underwear and stick-thin catwalk models carrying trays filled to the brim with intricate canapes of crap you have never even heard of or could even fathom eating, like domesticated ferret covered in bacon, cut into thin slices and dipped into a bath of pink gold.

One of these things is being backstage at the end of an incredible play. There is an inexplicable and splendid beauty about the theatre that you just can't find at the movies.

The ovation and the actors covertly shedding a tear, the scenographers smiling timidly, the directors oozing a radiant love for their craft, the audience shouting a courageous and mighty "bravo", the lights slightly dimmed, the echo of the endless clapping - the finale of a fantastic play is one of the most amazing experiences one can go through. It's borderline impossible to stand on the sideline and not feel like you are in one way or another part of this great machine where the boundaries and truth are too indistinct to make out.

As you peer through the sides of the great stage and for a brief moment, one

of the actors turns back and your eyes fatefully cross, it all becomes evident. All the people on stage, all the people in the audience, and yourself, you are all there opposing realism and supporting art for art's sake. While experiencing this from backstage is pretty magical because you are privy to the hard work that goes into making it all happen, it is just as satisfactory to experience this from the audience. If you have never had the fortune to live through a scenario in the likeness of this one, I urge you to seek one soon.

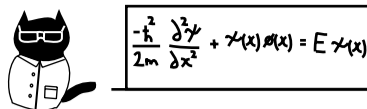
the shuttered windows of your local as you stumble back to the bus station in a sort of drunken stupor.

Inside it you witness a scene that you wish you could be a part of.

You see people holding lit cigarettes indoors, pints flowing past legal selling time and maybe half a dozen faces having a laugh and talking about an obscure and random topic like post-modernist Italian cinema or the fall of calligraphy as an everyday art-form or something equally befuddling to your brain. You desperately want to be part of it but you do not belong to this secret society for you do not work at any establishment where lock-in happens; nor do you actually know anyone who works at a pub that could potentially invite you.

Well, you might know someone, but they hate you because you have never

been invited for lock-in by anyone and hence will not invite you. It's that dreadful cycle where you think you have no way in, similar to that whole "in order to get work experience you must have work experience" conundrum. Quite recently however, I have been fortunate enough to have been in many lock-ins at a really fun pub in Tottenham Court Road, and it is every bit as good as I imagined it to be. Besides the paramount pleasure of being able to smoke cigarettes indoors through the night, I was inundated with good conversation (of which I understood a fair amount) and made even better friends. I am thankful that there is someone in my life who has noticed that something like that would be an easy way to break my monotony and make me happy. If you ask nicely, I may bring you along next time I go.



# Wind cars: future of motoring?

Mićo Tatalović investigates the past, present and future of wind-powered cars.

What if cars could run on wind power alone? Britain is at the cutting edge of wind-powered car technology. British Greenbird has just set the land speed record (202.9km/hr) for a wind vehicle on 26th March, whilst Ecotricity, a British energy company, is sponsoring the revamp of the Lotus Exige sports car into an all electric vehicle powered by wind-generated electricity.

But this is no recent development. Back in the 1970s, when the last fuel crisis hit western economies, the Windmobile ("land sailer for the highway") featured on the cover of the 1976 issue of Popular Science magazine. This amazing vehicle could be powered by wind on the highways alone, or could use wind to extend the range of its electric motor. Like the Greenbird, Windmobile could run on wind already available in the atmosphere alone. For most cars though, especially within the city, the wind is not fast enough to power them. Windmobile could use its smart design to aid its movements and so extend range; the Popular Science article reported. The designer's view was that placing a similar sail on personal vehicles could extend their range up to 40% as well. The plans were in motion for a four-seat family Windmobile, but the economic forces precluded this green technology and as soon as the oil prices were down again, the Windmobile was buried in history.

Several other patents have been filed since the 1970s for using wind energy for fuelling cars. Many of these are based on the simple observation that at high car speeds, the incoming wind speed is also quick and could generate electricity. Now the skeptics could say that most of this incoming wind is generated by the car's movement in the first place, which is true (unless you live and drive in windy areas used by the Green Bird), but the fact that this wind energy is going to waste still stands. So, many patents are based on internal wind turbines that capture much of the incoming wind which use it to generate electricity and so extends the car's range. This works in much the same way as regenerative braking; it is the recycling of waste energy rather than creation of energy anew. (Another way around the fact that a lot of energy is expended by cars just to push the air around themselves, and so is lost on drag, is to design cars so to minimize the drag – this is the idea behind Aptera electric car now on sale in California. With its light and streamlined body Aptera is very reminiscent of the Windmobile.)



Some other wind-powered vehicles from the Wind Energy Events' race Racing Aeolus 2008, and a streamlined Aptera electric car (top right).



The newest development in this area is RoarMaxx's Formula AE sports car designed by two enthusiastic high-school students who decided to design a car that would recapture some of the wind energy. The "energy lost under the friction of the air will be recovered through aerodynamically optimised intakes, which force air into the turbines like fans that will spin brushless synchronous alternators recovering a predicted 20-25% electrical energy which will then get stored in Ultra-Capacitors for immediate usage. Four strategically placed air flow recovery systems will be installed around the vehicle, but their intakes will not be obvious because the body work design will incorporate them in a way that's very pleasing to the human eye; an important key factor in vehicle design."

Like the later version of Windmobile, this car will also incorporate roof-top solar panels to extend the range a further 15-40%. The combination of such 'airflow re-capture energy' and a sail that would generate energy from the true wind (the one not caused by the vehicle's movement), might one day lead to an all wind-powered electric

car. The technology is probably already all there, buried in unused patents, but there are no economic incentives to develop it. A more realistic way of using wind to power cars is to harvest wind from the grid, and then charge your electric car from that grid. In this way you use clean wind-power to power your electric car. This is exactly what the new development by Ecotricity is trying to do. The project of turning a Lotus Exige into an electric sports car is reminiscent of the Tesla Roadster, an electric sports car from California. The founder of Ecotricity, charismatic entrepreneur Dale Vinci, disappointed with slow rate of electric cars coming out of the major car manufacturers, got a team of experts together to build a competitive alternative. Important as it is to replace internal-engine cars with electric ones, this will only reduce carbon emissions if the electricity powering these cars comes from clean energy, and wind is an excellent solution, says Vinci. In the meantime, events where wind-powered vehicles race (such as Racing Aeolus 2009 in Netherlands) are attracting more publicity and more interest from teams from around the world.



Wind powered Lotus Exige.

These are vehicles like Greenbird, that are "powered only by nature" and are "part aeroplane, part sailboat and part Formula One car". So the future looks bright for the wind-powered electric cars.

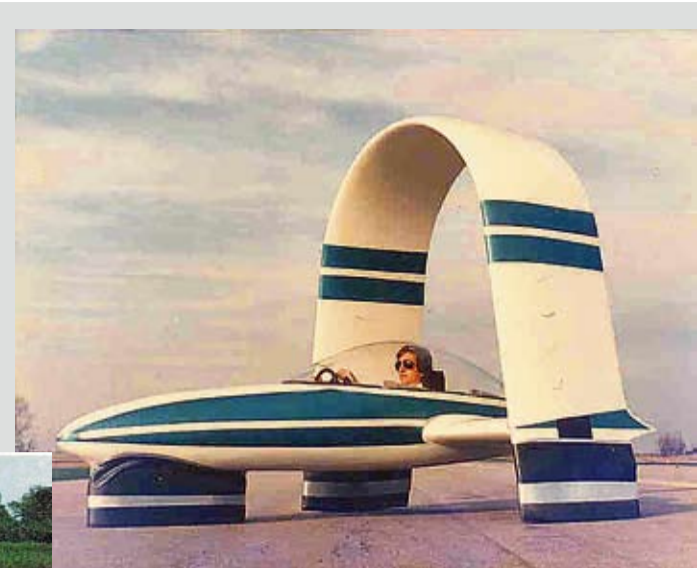
More information on the following weblinks:  
<http://www.formulaae.com>  
<http://www.windenergyevents.com/>  
<http://www.greenbird.co.uk/>



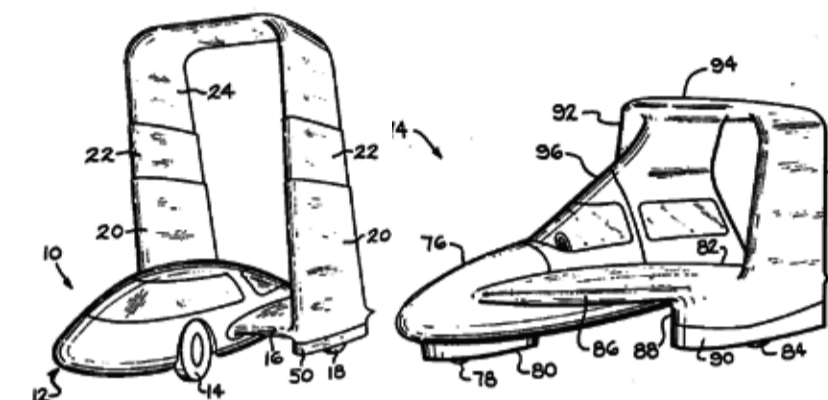
RoarMaxx's Formula AE (alternative energy) with solar panels and windflow recovery system installed to maximise its range and efficiency.

## Windmobile

Windmobile was tested by Popular Science's writer in 1976. It was found to go up to 47mph in side winds of 12-18mph on wind power alone. The vehicle used its electric motor to get up to the speed of 30mph and then on windy highway the wind-only propulsion carried on. With crosswinds of above 9mph the Windmobile runs on wind and can reach 62mph. Popular Science described it as being like "some kind of space capsule out of a Walt Disney movie". Later version had solar panels on top of the arched canopy (bottom right).



British Greenbird wind-powered race car sponsored by Ecotricity.



Sketches for some of the patented wind-powered commercial car ideas.

# Imperial students build an electric sportscar

Andrew Hadland  
Science Correspondent

Louis Palmer, a Swiss school teacher became somewhat of a celebrity after touring the Planet with his Solar Taxi: a solar powered electric vehicle, last year. He has now organised the Zero Emissions Race which will see 6 electric vehicles racing 40,000km around the world, across 6 continents, all in 80 days!

His electric car for this race is being built by Imperial College students. The team have called themselves Racing Green Endurance (RGE), and will be the only student led team in the whole event.

The project started as an auto-

nomo off-shoot to the already well publicised Racing Green initiative, but it is independently backed by Imperial College and the prestigious Energy Futures Lab (EFL).

Although RGE is still in its early days, the project only having started in mid-January 2009, much has already been achieved. They have secured the use of a sexy Radical SR3 Supersport car, from Radical Sportscars, to modify for the race. After much research and calculation, the optimum batteries, supplier and packager have been found.

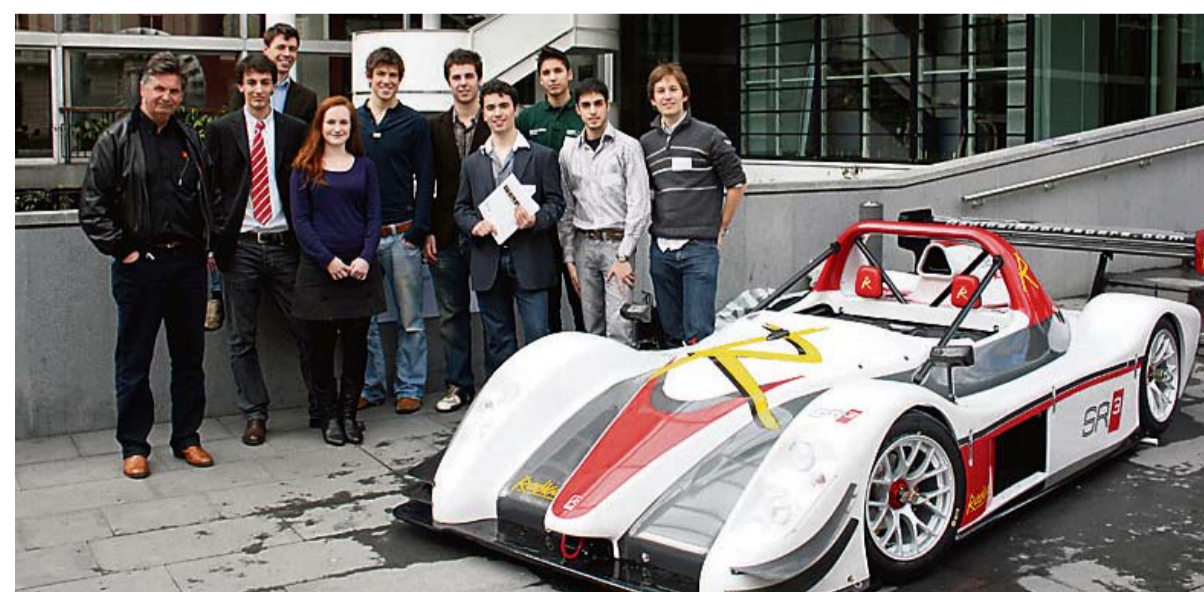
Furthermore, the team has been established from students across a number of departments, including Mechanical Engineering, EEE, and Sustainable Energy Futures, ensuring

that the best talent is used to bring RGE success!

The team faces significant technical challenges in modifying the SR3, including: raising the suspension from its current race configuration; and implementing a completely new and bespoke electric drivetrain that can cope and excel during the rigours of this epic endurance event.

The vehicle will be designed and built over the summer of 2009, ready to start racing in Copenhagen at the UNFCCC summit in December.

Their progress can be followed via their website at [www.racinggreen-endurance.com](http://www.racinggreen-endurance.com), which is frequently updated with the latest news and information.



Imperial College's Racing Green Endurance team with their new toy, a sportscar they are turning into an electric car for the December's Zero Emissions race around the world.

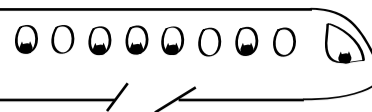
## Around the world in a solar car



Cells based on silicon technology To view the SolarTaxi video, click on to [www.sunedie.com.au](http://www.sunedie.com.au)



Louis Palmer went around the world in his Solar Taxi. He still uses it to drive to work. His new quest to raise awareness about electric cars is to drive the electric sportscar designed by Imperial student team RGE.



# A hitchhiker's guide to hitchhiking

Dylan Lowe recalls something beyond thumbing his way from London to Morocco: the personal challenge, the encounters and people along the way, and a sense of self-discovery

Sunrise was finally upon us. It was better reflected by the increasing influx of traffic heading our way rather than the morning temperature. I observed Anna from afar, now that she had returned to her spot by the junction where traffic from the lorry park lived. She was complaining to me about the cold; I don't blame her. My palm seemed to be fixed in its thumbs-up gesture not because of my enthusiasm – it was simply frozen.

Something was going terribly wrong. It didn't matter if the roundabout had directed the traffic into different directions, one heading to Zaragoza/Madrid and another into Barcelona – there were hardly any vehicles going southwards. For those that were southbound, the mercileous junction presented little room for stopping. The wait continued.

I went over to Anna and gave her a cuddle, just for the sake of salvaging our morale. She was ready to give up and more keen on using public transport. With sleep deprivation kicking in, I feared that I would soon snap myself.

How had we managed thus far? Anna and I had set off from Clapham Junction four days ago, accepted a lorry ride to Portsmouth to catch a ferry bound for Caen, blitzed through Northern France until Brive, where our luck expired. From there we inched to the south of Toulouse. Rested, we attempted a border crossing via Andorra only to find the mountain passes gridlocked with snow; several short hitches and much walker later we wound up in the Spanish Pyrenees. Our fortune returned with a ride that took us across the mountain range by nightfall. Having slept rough in a car park in the lorry park just outside of Lleida, Catalunya, we hoisted the cardboard on the fifth day hours before the sun was even in sight.

Not that me and Anna were the only ones partaking in this bizarre, if not insane, endeavour. Being the 18th of its kind, the charity Link Community Development (LCD) – it does work in

African countries to improve standards of education – has hosted the Morocco Hitch every year since its creation in 1992. Apparently, hitchhiking almost penniless across the continent to the African country closest to the UK would be an effective fundraising mechanism: at least a thousand of us did buy that concept, raising over £300,000 in the process.

It all started when a certain Miles Glanfield brought news of this event to the conversations of Selkirk Hall's 3rd floor kitchen. "Challenge yourself to it" was my first reaction. Granted, this is no London Marathon, or anything remotely as physically demanding. But, as we found out soon enough, it is actually our mentality that is put to the test.

**"Whenever our fortunes took a detour it did send us crying for anti-depressants"**

We had previously found ourselves wanking to rainwater seeping through our tent; three hours of thumbing later our chances of getting a ride was slimmer than that of us dying of pneumonia on the spot. We were drenched to the bone. The invitation to travel by public bus was too hard to resist. But, staying true to our personal challenge, our endurance put up a good fight and won over the temptation.

Almost two hours had passed since sunrise. Still nothing. A little earlier I had run into trouble with the police: for treating the police like a taxi service. I was reminded just how spoilt a pair of hitchhikers we were to begin with – our longest wait on the first two days lasted no more than half an hour.



I can't recall doing anything involving that much unpredictability in my life (albeit a mostly uneventful life). We could enjoy a glorious moment as we breeze through hundreds of miles, but whenever our fortunes took a detour it did send us crying for anti-depressants. But it is not without its positive outcome – it served as a reminder to us to treasure every of those 'glorious moments' with awe and appreciation.

It has even more to do with human interaction. When one gets an insight of the lives of one's Samaritans, it sets this personal enlightenment from that experienced by travelling on public transport. For once, I felt privileged to be part of a stranger's voyage, share our varying objectives and destinations yet ostensibly heading towards the same direction. In an increasingly frigid world, immersing into the everyday lives of

Chris the Portuguese marine-turned-trucker, Barrie the Anglo-French cook, Martine the geography teacher, Julien & Laure the nomadic hippies and Roman the crane driver was no everyday occurrence.

(Special mention to the French businessman who scared us shitless by graphically depicting what would happen if the Toulouse nuclear power plant explodes – even I, with my minimum knowledge on the French language, understood what he was saying. We bore with his banter as he took us 20k across the outskirts of Toulouse.)

Speaking of frigid, I had now begun shivering in Lleida. My patience was wavering. Then my eardrums shook over varying objectives and destinations yet ostensibly heading towards the same direction. In a seemingly vain attempt, deterred by my many failures on a similar effort, I raised my 'Ma-

drid' sign so that the *conductor de camión* could see. His gesture in response, I swore down, must have been a hallucination.

So I approached him. "¿Va usted a Madrid?" "Si." ("Are you going to Madrid?" "Yeah.") "¿De verdad?" "De verdad, tío. Puedo tomarte a Madrid." ("Really?" "Really, bruv. I can take you to Madrid.")

Upon hearing the news, Anna displayed her talents as a dancer by sprinting and leaping into me in a celebratory hug – the exhilaration beats watching a similar scene from *Dirty Dancing*.

That exhilaration is what found throughout the trip: it gives proof that, the bitterer a situation gets, the tastier the sweetness when it bears fruit. Wetness, coldness, sleeplessness, we endured them all – the belief that our frustration would soon end, and tables



The old town of Foix, just north of Andorra

would turn, kept us going. Just like the monstrous queue to a rollercoaster ride, it was all part of the suspense.

Our driver, who introduced himself as Amadou, kept to his word: with his two new companions he now roamed the autopistas that led us inching towards Madrid. Only one small problem though: of Malawian ancestry, he spoke extremely little English. The same situation would have baffled many hitchhikers who, some of them had confessed to us, relied entirely on English to get them through the continent.

Fortunate for us, Amadou was fluent in both Spanish and French; unfortunately for me, Anna had fallen asleep at the back, leaving me to fend for myself with my patchy GCSE-standard Spanish.

**"Just like the monstrous queue to a rollercoaster ride, it was all part of the suspense"**

Not saying I dreaded exposing my unfamiliarity with the language: they love it when they see you try, don't they? Quite so. My enthusiasm to generate conversation with Diego, the window salesman who took us across the tunnels from Vielha to Lleida, kept my phrasebook glued to my hand. Until the awkwardness – and the dark – got the best of me, and I stayed quiet for the remainder of the ride. I managed to describe this unease to Amadou, who seemed to have sensed the novice in me anyway without saying.

One hour of endless conversing later, he remarked that I hadn't once used my phrasebook – he was flattering me. But then, as 'sleeping beauty' found consciousness and tuned in with a now French-speaking Amadou, my head was able to interpret bits of the dialogues from a language I knew little of; similarly, after we had parted ways with the trucker, Anna expressed her amazement on her ability to uphold a discussion on politics and life using her meagre post-A Level French.

I then remembered what Diego had mentioned a day earlier. "A practicar/aprender (una idioma), viajar" – in order to practise/learn a language, travel.

Too true.

We stopped at a petrol station *en route* to refuel. As we clambered back into the truck I looked through the windscreen. My heart almost stopped at the sight – a vehicle bearing the insignia of the *Guardia Civil* (Spanish paramilitary police) had pulled into the station. I certainly didn't forget that carrying more than one passenger in a lorry isn't exactly legal in Spain. As I feared, we came under their scrutiny. Unwittingly I had left my cardboard perching behind the windscreen, though upside down; a civil guard squinted to read the sign ("charity hitch") while Amadou convinced the other that Anna and I were his friends rather than mere passengers (not entirely untrue).

Eventually we had once again evaded arrest. Maybe I should stop forgetting that the continental folks tend to be more lenient on crimes petty as illegal hitchhiking on a French motorway, or pitching tent on private land, or kipping tramp-style in a car park without shelter?

A lot of people believed that hitchhiking was all about getting from point A to point B with zero expenses, save the energy and effort of raising your thumb long enough to get yourself picked up – I had been one of them. I was especially ruthless with the planning: my emphasis had been on my destination, Morocco, rather than the process of getting there. As much as I hate to admit it, I was wrong.

Should I have kept up with that attitude I would have missed so much detail in the fabric. In my urgency to reach Morocco I have made decisions that could have potentially hastened or slowed down our progress. For instance, my stubbornness prevented us from travelling towards Bordeaux from Périgueux (just west of Brive), a route that would have saved us days of misery and pointless wander; that said, both Anna and I had agreed with hindsight, it would mean sacrificing the memories of moments and encounters we now share and cherish.

Two pieces of memory we would never trade in for a faster track occurred soon after Amadou had dropped us off in the suburbs of Madrid and led us to the train station (fine, we cheated a little bit). As we waded through the streets, I couldn't help but feel the sentiment of the tri-colours (Anna being white, me being yellow and Amadou black) striding across a country renowned for its racism – this metaphor reflected the tolerance and kindness we enjoyed. For once, my cynicism crumbled in defeat.

The other occasion took place in

Valdemoro, a vibrant town south of Madrid. We had arrived at the *Repsol* in search for a hitch down to Algeciras ferry port, preferably from any of the many lorries lodged by the petrol station. Perhaps we didn't have any preferences at all, since we were in no position to bargain when the entire Spain had plunged into an Easter traffic lockdown.

Soon enough, after spending overnight at the station waiting and resting (hardly), the futility became clear. We devised a plan: we would stay in Valdemoro for a day before making another attempt to hitchhike. Julian, who ran a night shift behind the tapas bar, offered us a ride into Valdemoro town. Unbeknownst to us, the hotels declined any check-ins before 12pm; and so for four hours, we took pleasure in Julian's hospitality at his flat.

**"I believed that hitchhiking was all about getting from point A to point B with zero expenses...I was wrong"**

Came noon, and Julian's Romanian housemate Lorena emerged from slumber and aided our search for cheap accommodation (Julian was still asleep). The pair took it upon themselves to judge that we were too famished to continue our hitch – we devoured at their expense (including Anna's very first *chocolate con churros*). When I attempted to pay, Lorena grimaced and tapped her cheek.

"This (gesture) means you're hurting my feelings," she explained. "You're my guests – allow us to look after you."

The Gatwick Express was in full swing with a pledge to deliver us to Victoria Station within 30 minutes. My shoulders felt uneasy without the weight of my rucksack; but I was relieved. Anna was busy texting her boyfriend, with news of her arrival from Morocco and flirtatiously stressed how much she missed him. A sign bearing 'Clapham Junction' sped by – I was reminded how Chris the Portuguese trucker had clogged up the entire cross-junction by stopping to pick us up, and grinned. Now things have finally come to a full circle. I found myself asking whether I would dare to go hitchhiking again.

*Quizas* – perhaps.



Come rain...



Or come shine



Valdemoro petrol station, our one-time bedroom



The happy hitchhikers at Plaza Mayor, Madrid

*This article is dedicated to Chris, Barrie, Martine, Romain, Julien & Laure, Diego, Amadou, Julian & Lorena, as well as any unnamed individuals who had offered us a hand along our hitch to Morocco. Also to Miles, to whom I am grateful for introducing me to this event of a lifetime.*

**Interested? Contact me on [travel.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:travel.felix@imperial.ac.uk) for more information on how to take part in the Morocco Hitch, or more about it from an ex-hitcher's perspective. Alternatively go to <http://www.lcd.org.uk/events/hitch> or become a fan of LCD on Facebook (search for LCD's Morocco/Prague Hitch).**



Me and Romain the crane driver



From right: Anna Salmon, my hitch partner, Laure & Julien the hippies



Our destination: Djemaa el Fna, Marrakesh. Stay tuned for more on this journey as I review aspects of my encounters in Morocco over the next few weeks!



# Vegans may actually be OK

Afonso Campos  
Food Editor



Another term, another rampage of food sections to keep you well-fed and your tummy happy through a period that cannot be easy on any self-respecting Imperial student who wants to come back to university by the end of a glorious fun-filled summer. Sometimes I catch myself thinking that I am not that student, and that with something resembling a frail certainty, I might actually be that kid you heard about once who got kicked out for failing his exams. Immediately, upon this thought, I get up, look at my books and fall into a deep hatred of mathematics and physics, and gracefully recommence this cycle of pathetic self-loathing that is not the most conducive to effective study.

I do not help myself in this aspect one bit though. This easter holiday, I decided shun revision for a while and go to New York City for about one week, and foodies, let me tell you, what a holiday that was. Not only did I venture there with some great friends, despite the food experience not being everyone's favourite gourmet extravaganza, it was without the shadow of a doubt, a pornographic feast for my palate and taste buds. None of it was guilt-free and I must have put on more weight than I care to think about, but it was worth every gram and every cent. Two dining

experiences stick out however.

The first one, was right before a Ra Ra Riot gig at Webster Hall. We were taken to an incredibly small establishment that goes by the name of Artichoke. There was a small queue forming outside, and inside there was no seating area and just barely enough space to order what was described to me as New York City's best slice of pizza. These gigantic pieces not only filled me up, but were without a doubt worthy of the hype. If you are in the City soon, please, do yourself a favour and indulge in these blasphemously delicious slices (artichoke and spinach recommended).

The other restaurant was something unlike anything I have tried before. Foodswing's, a vegan joint in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Despite walls covered in the usual hippie PETA propaganda and lies, the food was shockingly good and interesting. Bacon cheeseburgers, milkshakes and cheesy fries are not exactly the kind dishes one would expect at a place where the thought of even touching an animal is enough to sicken the waiter. Through clever use of tofu and flavourings, we were presented with something that not only resembled meat, it tasted quite similar if not oddly better. The buffalo faux-chicken wings were to die for and the peanut-butter 'milk'shake was galactic. Try these if you go.

# A students guide to wine

David Stewart gives his oneology views on the grape



I'd tried the stuff before being an undergrad, of course, but the main use of wine in social situations was, as far as I and my friends were concerned, the optimistic choice of parameter for a pay-off function of drunkenness with constraints on time, cost and maximum disgustingness of the intoxicant.

Beer didn't really cut it; you can try to get drunk on beer if you like (and many do employ this method to great effect), but you are fundamentally limited on volume. The human stomach can take two pints. Even if you can cue up a third somewhere else in the system, at a paltry 5% alcohol you need at least two hours of fairly committed effort to get (un)acceptably sloshed.

Spirits are a step too far, though. Large amounts of gin, for instance, are notoriously bad for emotional stability: next time you're around a(nother) girl give her loads of gin and see what happens. To reach a tolerable level of drinkability in Scotch, you need to spend at least twenty quid a bottle, then you'll only end up giving most of it away and regret the whole sordid affair the next day with the feeling that someone had pumped mercury into your ears while you slept. And whatever anyone tells you, vodka is disgusting.

With wine on the other hand, a bottle can be polished off within about fifteen minutes -- then it's simply a matter of fine-tuning. There's also the downability factor: if you find yourself invited to 'save the queen' (a penny) when tossed

into a glass, you'll find it's possible to accomplish this without too much of a judder. All in all, wine is a drunkard student's best friend.

As utopian a symbiotic relationship with wine it is that I describe, there comes a point that 'drinkability' becomes a less compelling factor. In short, you realise that you're one of (a) a ponce, (b) old, (c) rich or (d) orally fixated. At this point wine becomes a rather more fascinating subject. You literally find yourself reading the wine articles in the Guardian magazine. What could possibly drive one to such despicable extremes?

Depends whom you ask, really. To the French (who are usually fairly convincing in matters of the taste-buds) a wine is its personality. It has to be a strong personality: recognisable and in a clear tradition. To many an Australian, wine is a commercial product, which can be done badly or well and they don't put too much stock in the Old World voodoo. To many an American, a wine is as good as it is big -- high alcohol, high concentration and served in a nice big heavy bottle.

Well, whatever the motivation, different wines do taste different and where you have differences, you have differences of opinion. Noticing these differences can be great fun. If you're a fan of white, try the following experiment. Get a friend. Go to the bar. One of you get a glass of Chardonnay (oaked if possible) and the other get a glass of Sauvignon Blanc. Swap the glasses about a

bit so you don't know which is which. Swirl the liquid in the glass a bit. Taste them both making sure to smell while you drink. These two grapes usually produce wines which are poles apart: one of them will be more neutral, tasting of melons, apricots, possibly a little butter or vanilla, depending on how it's made -- that'll be the Chard. The other will taste of grapefruit, elderflower, passionfruit, possibly a little cat's piss if you know that smell or even B.O. -- that'll be the Sauvignon.

It's fascinating isn't it? The recipe after all is essentially the same: grape juice left to go bad. But what's your favourite? Once you can answer that question, you're half way there. And once you're over the threshold, the possibilities are endless. A wine is after all a function of a huge number of parameters: grape variety, soil composition, total rainfall, total sunshine, ripeness of grapes at harvest, wine-making techniques including optional secondary fermentation, lees-stirring, oak ageing, bottle ageing... the list is endless.

The result: you have every taste from chocolate pudding to smoky bacon crisps to tinned asparagus to treacle tart with custard. All you've got to do is think about what you're drinking (and possibly spend a little more than 3.99 - say 4.99 to start with - see how you go).

Here are some cheap but good suggestions from the best place which is close and cheap: Waitrose.

### White:

Robert Mondavi - Woodbridge Chardonnay 06 £6.99 (Oaky, exotic, yet restrained)  
Cardeto 2007 Orvieto Classico, Umbria, Italy £3.79 (Light, perfumed, typically Italian)  
Joseph Leitz 2007 Riesling Pfalz, Germany £7.99 (German wine can be dry and zingy)

### Red:

Classic 2007 Côtes du Rhône £3.99 (Spicy, light, yet warm)  
Salduba Garnacha 2007 Cariñena, Spain £4.99 (Fat, chocolatey, fruity)

# Why ME ? Why HERE ? Why NOW ?

Rediscovering the meaning and the purpose of your life

Do you ever hear a quiet voice in your head that says, "Why am I doing this... what am I doing here... why AM I here?". This is the sign that you have still not yet discovered the purpose and the meaning of your life.

The answers are of course always within us but we don't know why we cannot hear them or see them! If you didn't already know the answers you could not create the questions!

Tonight Mike George will erect some signposts to the answers that we all know but forget, as he guides us through the 'Big Question Jungle' to find our own answers. Including

- What am I Missing and WHY? - Is it time to call off the search?
- What's the Point and Why? - Is there really a reason to be here?
- Where to Next and Why? - Is the future so important it has to consume our life NOW?



Mike George is an author, international speaker and spiritual teacher who has been teaching meditation and spiritual development for over twenty years. He brings together the three key strands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century - spiritual/emotional intelligence - management/leadership development and continuous learning. His publications include Learn to Relax and The 7 AHAs of Highly Enlightened Souls and Don't Get MAD Get Wise.

Monday 9th March 2009  
Time 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Venue: Rydges Kensington Plaza, 61 Gloucester Road SW7 4  
For Further Information - www.bkwsu.org/kensington or www.bkwsu.org.uk; Mobile 07931 705 548  
Free of charge. Registered Charity No.269971



# CAMDEN CRAWL '09

## Ravi Pall kicked the Camden Crawl in the teeth, then ran away!



Threatmantics  
★★★★☆



Count + Sinden  
★★★★★



James Yuille  
★★★★☆



King Blues  
★★★★★



Yeah Yeah Yeahs  
★★★★★



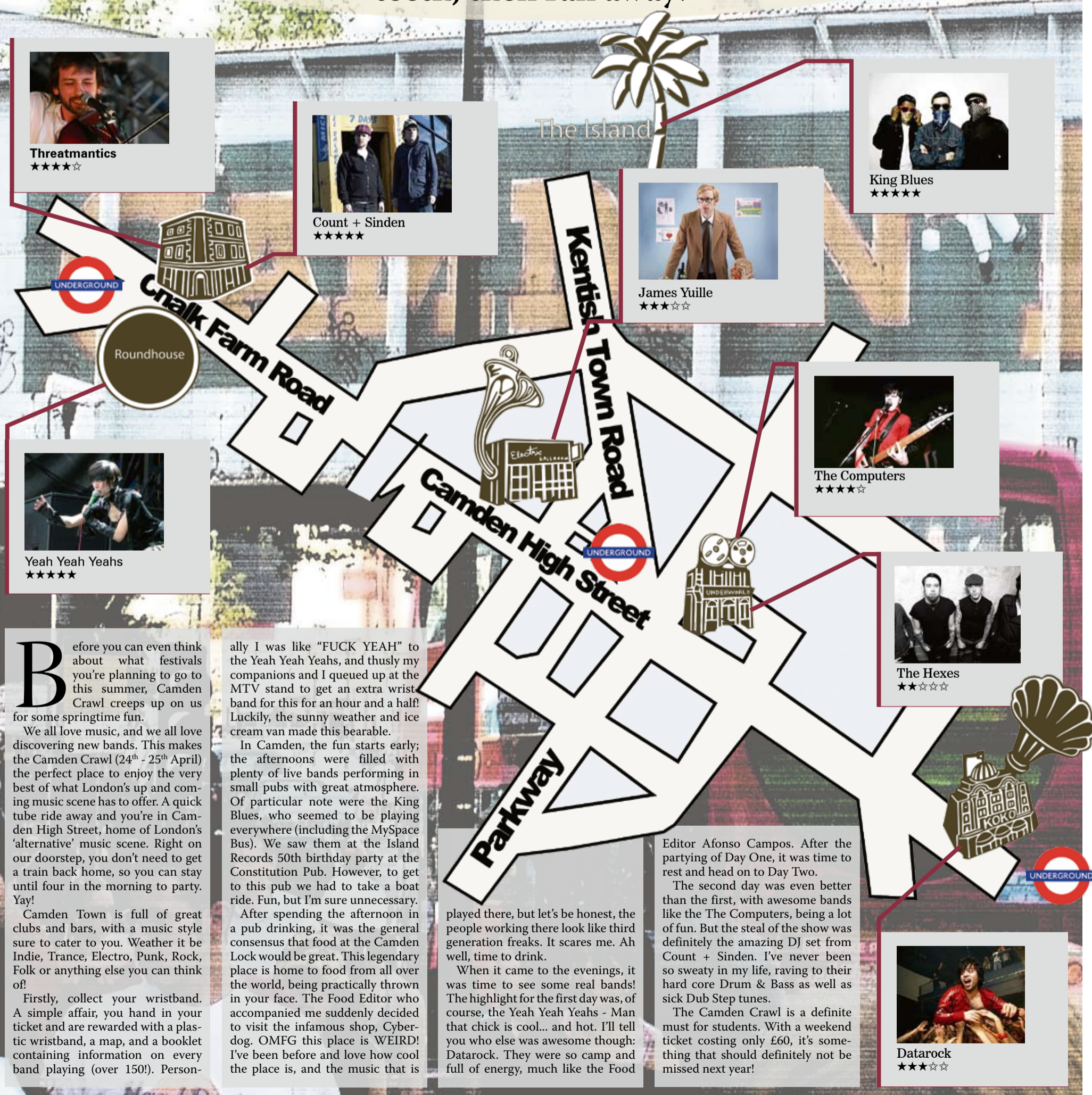
The Computers  
★★★★☆



The Hexes  
★★★☆☆



Datarock  
★★★★☆



Before you can even think about what festivals you're planning to go to this summer, Camden Crawl creeps up on us for some springtime fun.

We all love music, and we all love discovering new bands. This makes the Camden Crawl (24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> April) the perfect place to enjoy the very best of what London's up and coming music scene has to offer. A quick tube ride away and you're in Camden High Street, home of London's 'alternative' music scene. Right on our doorstep, you don't need to get a train back home, so you can stay until four in the morning to party. Yay!

Camden Town is full of great clubs and bars, with a music style sure to cater to you. Weather it be Indie, Trance, Electro, Punk, Rock, Folk or anything else you can think of!

Firstly, collect your wristband. A simple affair, you hand in your ticket and are rewarded with a plastic wristband, a map, and a booklet containing information on every band playing (over 150!). Person-

ally I was like "FUCK YEAH" to the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, and thusly my companions and I queued up at the MTV stand to get an extra wristband for this for an hour and a half! Luckily, the sunny weather and ice cream van made this bearable.

In Camden, the fun starts early; the afternoons were filled with plenty of live bands performing in small pubs with great atmosphere. Of particular note were the King Blues, who seemed to be playing everywhere (including the MySpace Bus). We saw them at the Island Records 50th birthday party at the Constitution Pub. However, to get to this pub we had to take a boat ride. Fun, but I'm sure unnecessary.

After spending the afternoon in a pub drinking, it was the general consensus that food at the Camden Lock would be great. This legendary place is home to food from all over the world, being practically thrown in your face. The Food Editor who accompanied me suddenly decided to visit the infamous shop, Cyberdog. OMFG this place is WEIRD! I've been before and love how cool the place is, and the music that is

played there, but let's be honest, the people working there look like third generation freaks. It scares me. Ah well, time to drink.

When it came to the evenings, it was time to see some real bands! The highlight for the first day was, of course, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs - Man that chick is cool... and hot. I'll tell you who else was awesome though: Datarock. They were so camp and full of energy, much like the Food

Editor Afonso Campos. After the partying of Day One, it was time to rest and head on to Day Two.

The second day was even better than the first, with awesome bands like the The Computers, being a lot of fun. But the steal of the show was definitely the amazing DJ set from Count + Sinden. I've never been so sweaty in my life, raving to their hard core Drum & Bass as well as sick Dub Step tunes.

The Camden Crawl is a definite must for students. With a weekend ticket costing only £60, it's something that should definitely not be missed next year!

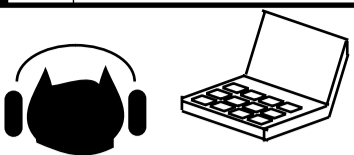
# Imperial Mixed Lacrosse

ULU Cup and League Winners 08/09

PHOTO BY WILL BREKEY







# The Gadget Show Live '09

Richard Lai travels north to check out the TV show's first ever exposition.

Many people might not have watched *The Gadget Show* before, due to the poor national broadcast coverage of Channel Five (unless you're watching on Freeview, cable or satellite), but the program and its enthusiastic presenters (who were at the show too) are adored by a strong fanbase.

Being my third electronics show of this academic year, and especially having been to the massive CES in January, I really wasn't expecting much excitement from *The Gadget Show Live*. In fact, I only found out about it right at the beginning of the Easter holiday, and was told it would be the TV show's first ever attempt at hosting such expo. And boy, what a great start!

With all the tickets sold out early, it was not surprising to see long queues at the entrance every now and then. I went on Sunday which was apparently quieter but still fairly populated. It was also nice to see my old pals from previous shows surrounded by big crowds, namely Pacemaker and DIGISKIN.

What made *The Gadget Show Live* so unique were the many special features not found in most of other electronics shows: the spectacular stage shows at the "Gadget Show Super Theatre", the "How To Theatre" where independent experts teach you how to get the most out of your gadgets, and the many hands-on opportunities with gadgets as small as webcams to as big as a fighter jet. Yes, they somehow managed to land a Red Arrow in the convention hall, courtesy of the RAF. No test flights though, sadly, but there was a "Gadget Test Track" where I test-drove an awesome electric bicycle.

Even though the show was mainly for companies to promote their products, *The Gadget Show Live* had a dedicated area for antique computers and mobile phones from the last thirty years, courtesy of The Centre for Computing History. Most machines were switched on for attendees to play with, the most popular ones being Atari's Pong, the Apple II and the original Sony PlayStation. It was every gadget-lover's fantasyland.

There is no doubt that I'll be back next year. Keep it up, guys!

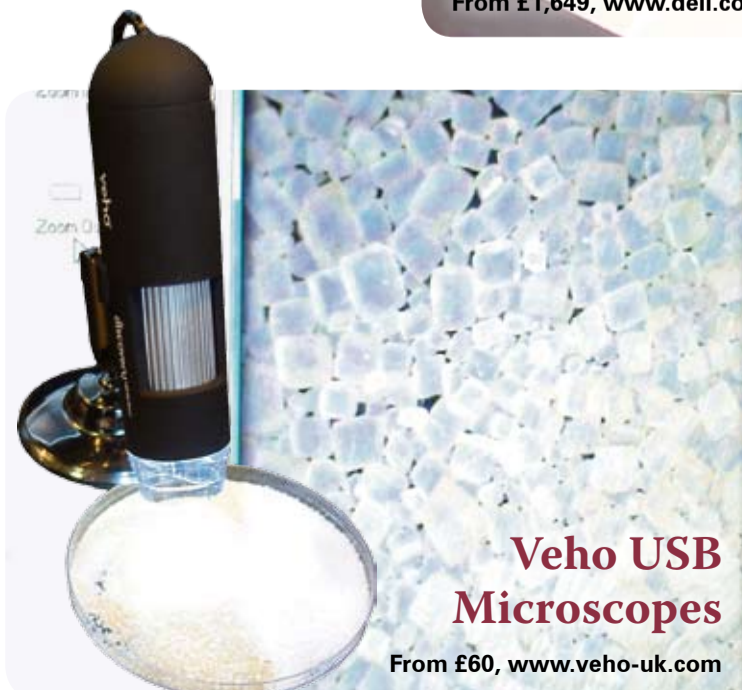



**Dell Adamo**  
From £1,649, [www.dell.co.uk](http://www.dell.co.uk)

To my surprise, PC World had a pretty impressive-looking stall at the show, but it wouldn't change my distaste of the chain store. They did, however, showcased the Adamo, a new premium line of laptops from Dell.

This MacBook-like laptop recently caused some stir in the computer industry because of its diamond-studded price tag. Since last Saturday, PC World started offering the said laptop for just under £1,700, but eagle-eyed readers might have noticed that you could save £50 if you buy direct from Dell's website. What a bargain!

Don't have high expectations though: this 64-bit Vista, 13" portable only has a 1.20GHz CPU, 2GB 800MHz DDR3 RAM, 128GB SSD and just a 1-year "Premium Warranty Support". The build quality and weight (1.81kg) could be better for the price too. If you've just won the lottery as well, go for the £2,249 model (1.4GHz, 4GB RAM).

**Veho USB Microscopes**  
From £60, [www.veho-uk.com](http://www.veho-uk.com)

If you don't have any spare USB ports on your computers, you should look away now: Veho is a UK company which specialises in interesting USB products. The most interesting one was their USB Microscope line (pictured left), starting from £59.99 for their VMS-001 model (1.3 megapixels, 20x-200x magnification). Their more expensive VMS-004 (£69.99) features a more powerful 20x-400x magnification, but the 2-megapixel resolution is only achieved by interpolation.

Another special product from Veho is the "muvi" (pictured right), which is officially the world's smallest camcorder. This £80 tiny package has a 2-megapixel sensor, and comes with a 2GB microSD card (about two to three hours of recording). You can upgrade it to 8GB maximum too.



**Veho muvi**  
£79.99, [www.veho-uk.com](http://www.veho-uk.com)



**ReVoMaze**  
£69.99, [www.revomaze.co.uk](http://www.revomaze.co.uk)

This could well be the puzzle of the year: the objective of the British-made ReVoMaze is to guide the shaft out of an internal maze (no map given, of course), and if you fall into a trap you must start from the beginning again. The idea is that you have to memorise the path, and then work on the speed.

I had a go on the blue one - the entry model - and had no success. If your memory and speed is better than mine, you can then upgrade to the advanced green model which has just come out. Three more harder models will be released throughout the year.

Part of that slightly large price tag actually goes towards an accumulating prize fund for the national ReVoMaze competition. To enter, all you need to do is visit their website and register your unique number etched on the shaft. So far they have gathered just over £2,170 in the pot, which will be shared between winners of each of the five categories at the live event. Surely one of them should be a bright student from Imperial?

**RoboSteel**  
£5-£5,000, [www.robosteel.com](http://www.robosteel.com)

The expo wasn't just about electronic gadgets, as shown by these amazing metallic sculptures from Robosteel. This 20-year-old family business uses only recycled metal for their assemblage art, ranging from cute little WALL-Es to scary life-size Predators. They export to all over the world, and they do free shipping to the UK if under 20kg, so check out their website.




**NVIDIA GeForce 3D Vision**  
From £139, PC World

NVIDIA is about to launch their 3D graphics products in the UK. The technology is not as simple as you might think: the supplied glasses are actually battery-operated, and they respond to an infrared transmitter to flicker at 60Hz. You then need a 120Hz screen, so that the graphics card can display two offset images at the right timing (but only one port is required from the card). The glasses then block out one image at each flicker to create the 3D effect.

What you will see in PC World soon are some £330-£400 NVIDIA graphics cards that come with the 3D glasses and USB transmitter, along with a range of 120Hz screens. If you already have the NVIDIA 8800 GT or better cards, you can get the glasses and transmitter alone for just £139, but don't forget the screen!

On NVIDIA's website you will find a list of 350+ tested games, and around half of them are rated "very good", including "Fallout 4", "Left 4 Dead", "GRID" and "Mirror's Edge". Hardcore gamers should start saving up now!

**Ultra Motor A2B**  
From £1,700, [www.ultramotor.com](http://www.ultramotor.com)

Being a bloke, I am naturally programmed to like my big toys, and I think I've just found a new favourite. Of the many electric-bicycle makers in the show, Ultra Motor stood out with their A2B Metro - the world's only power-on-demand electric bicycle. The other electric bicycles only use the motor for assistance instead of acceleration.

Seeing that the show had a test track, I had a go on the Metro and loved every second on it. Controlling the acceleration was just like using a normal motorbike without the noise. The motor did respond with a slight delay, but the acceleration was quick enough to remove my slight frustration.

Apparently under power the Metro could travel up to 15.5mph, and on a single charge it has an unassisted range of up to 20 miles. However, if you do run out of juice you'll be pushing a 37kg bicycle on your own.

Such fun doesn't come cheap either: the A2B Metro will cost you £2,000, and even their power-assisted version, the A2B Hybrid, goes for £1,700.



**Live Luggage**  
From £295, [www.liveluggage.com](http://www.liveluggage.com)

Here's something handy for the regular travellers: a power-assisted suitcase. Sadly, it doesn't do the whole pulling work for you, as hinted by the company's motto - "because the world is not flat". What it does is when it detects that you're going uphill or up the stairs, the motor will kick in to assist you. On one charge it can assist you for up to two miles. Available from John Lewis in June with a five-year warranty.



**Cigstar**  
From £34.99, [www.cigstar.co.uk](http://www.cigstar.co.uk)

Smoking is bad for you, m'kay? Well, it depends. Regular smokers might want to consider the realistic-looking but much healthier electronic cigarette from Cigstar. You will still be getting your doses of nicotine tar, and they come in many flavours too (tobacco, Marlboro, menthol, chocolate and vanilla). What's best is that each £1 capsule is equivalent to 15 to 20 cigarettes! The £35 starter kit will therefore last you for a while with its 6 capsules.

Even though e-cigarettes sound dorky, you wouldn't see the difference: the head glows gently when you inhale, and you puff out what appears to be smoke - it's just water vapour! This means you can now "smoke" in non-smoking areas!

There are no health issues to worry about: the e-cigarette has been tested by New Zealand's Ministry of Health, and apparently soon to be confirmed by the NHS. We will also try to get hold of one for review, so stay tuned!





Fashion

Fashion Editor – Dan Wan & Kawai Wong

fashion.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Jaeger man in conversation

Harold Tillman goes through the past, present and future of his fashion diary, as well as giving insights into building a fashion business during a Design London event. *felix* Fashion Editor **Kawai Wong** enquires further

It is hard to imagine the suited and belted multimillionaire wearing a pair of punk platform shoes. But it is true that he was once so fond of them back in his fashionista days. The wise and charming businessman speaks of getting into fashion as if it is the most natural progression for him. His father was an apprentice at Burton, and the family went on to start a small textile workshop in London. Mr. Tillman followed his father's footsteps in fashion and spent two years at the London College of Fashion.

After graduation he took an internship with Lincroft on Savile Row, sewing suits for customers who were 30 years his senior. In his spare time, he would shop for cheap and stylish clothes on Carnaby Street in London. He then started to design his own clothes and sell them in the tailor shop as well as taking them to Kings Road. As his designs gathered popularity, his ambitions grew and he eventually took Lincroft onto the London Stock Exchange, at the tender age of 24.

As a young boy, Mr. Tillman would walk around the Jaeger shop on Regent Street with his parents. He adored the designs. Jaeger was in deep trouble in the late 80s, losing £12 million before being put on sale in 1990. Mr. Tillman acquired the company, it had to have it, he said. Under new establishment, Jaeger immediately cut its losses to £3.5 million the next year, and has seen operational profit of around £1 million in 2008.

When Mr. Tillman took over the company, he recognised the main rea-

son for its failure; Jaeger was too quick to reinvent itself, and had lost a lot of its original supporters. After he gaining control of the company, he put Jaeger back in tune with the designs that have made the company famous. A lot of fans have since re-embraced the brand. Mr. Tillman then went on put out a new line, Jaeger London, to attract the original fan's daughters. Jaeger Children is now on the drawing board, an attempt to attract the grandchildren as well.

How does Mr. Tillman position Jaeger in the current economic climate? "I'd like to call it a downturn, not a recession," he smiles. He sees the downturn as a chance to create more opportunities, a chance to focus on giving customers what they want.

"Although it might seem like people are spending less, they are actually investing in quality products." He believes that the quick-buy philosophy cannot last forever, and the best combat strategy is to keep up the qualities of his products.

The secret behind Mr. Tillman's success is "belief". He believed in his vision and went ahead to design his first collection when he was doing an internship at Lincroft. The creative and producible collection enabled his first commercial success. Although it might come as a cruel fact for some cutting-edge designers, commercial success usually stems from authentic products that do not lose their "commercial flair", with products appealing to the mass market in its own niche.

Mr. Tillman thinks that designers should focus on their ability to build

a collection. The cross between creative design and entrepreneurship can cause a designer to lose his flair. Forming business collaborations is the way forward.

When asked how to find the suitable business partner, Mr. Tillman admits that there is no perfect formula. He also understands the difficulty for designers starting up their new businesses. As a London College of Fashion graduate, he has pledged £1 million to sponsor 10 MAs every year at the LCF. In addition, as a chairman for the British Fashion Council, he has pioneered a BFC fashion fund with Vogue to support designers financially and to give them business mentoring.

Top fashion journalist Hilary Alexander was suitably frustrated with the locations of the shows during the Fashion Week. She missed enough shows last season that she wrote on her blog to vent her disappointment about the impossibility of getting from shows to shows across central London and Paris. As the top man of the BFC, Mr. Tillman has announced that the London Fashion Week tent is to be moved from its current location at the Natural History Museum to the Somerset House next season. He hopes that the larger venue can accommodate the majority of the catwalk shows.

It is without a doubt that London has become one of the most interesting and successful fashion capitals in the world. The two designers that have collaborated with the global high-

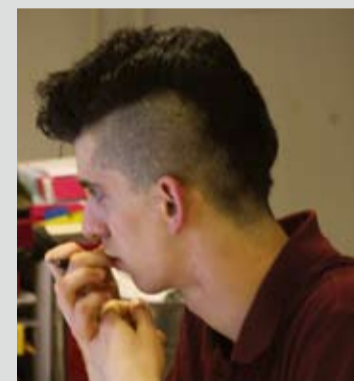
street fashion house. H&M, in the past two seasons were both British - Stella McCartney and Matthew Williamson. The February London Fashion Week has also seen a record attendance. Mr. Tillman believes that the brilliant British talents have attracted more fans to the UK's fashion industry. The forward thinking fashion mogul hopes that the BFC can acquire a more respectable stature in the UK and that also it will become an organisation which receives the same level of professional recognition as in other countries such as France and the US. With some government support, there can perhaps exist a thriving garment manufacturing industry here, just like Italy.



## SICK



**Cooler Bag**  
Forget Louis Vuitton. Forget the it bag everybody seems to be carrying. Pop a beer in there to help relieve revision stress. And it also keeps your notes and textbooks cool. What more can you ask for? The best summer accessory!



**Deputy Editor's Hair**  
There has been some distress within the general College population of late. I put it down to daily sightings of a lanky Eastern European-looking rapist on a Vespa. Oh wait, no, we're mistaken. It's just Deputy Editor Kadhim Shubber and his newly acquired hair style. He either used to be cool or now is just too cool. Home-styled it may be, but the jury is out on the shaved sides of his head.



**Lady Gaga on Jonathan Ross**  
Did anyone see this? It annoys me because she has enough musical talent to be successful, without all the "I'm cute and pissy, love me, love me please" shit. There's too much to be annoyed about individually, so here's a list: the teacup, the eye-watering fringe, the post-it note dress the piece of sellphane on her head, and, and, the 'I'm too damn cool for light mockery' attitude. SHIT.

## SHIT



# Clubs & Societies

Clubs & Socs Editor - Alice Rowlands

Is your club cooler than the cat that got the cream? Write to us.

clubsandsocs.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Islam Awareness Week 2009 -The Five Pillars

Some of you were in on it. Many of you experienced it. Now, Saira Wariach will let you all find out what The Game was all about as Islamic Society host their Islam Awareness Week

The 2nd-6th March was Islam Awareness Week at Imperial. There were stalls throughout the week offering henna, calligraphy and just a little enlightenment as to what was REALLY going on. 2009 saw a fresh approach to this annual event. Each pillar of Islam was uncovered as the week unfolded:

### Monday - Declaration of Faith

We started the week with the first pillar of Islam – Faith in One God, and in Muhammad (Peace be upon him), his final messenger.

Resonating with Reason was a discussion panel of three student converts to Islam – all from very different cultural backgrounds. It aimed to retrace each of their individual journeys, while at university, that had led them to recognise this faith as their own.

The panel comprised of Nicole Ahmed, who found Islam at Imperial after being raised without a faith in a Bangladeshi family; Fatim Phang, a Chinese Malay, currently doing her PhD at Cambridge University; and Hamza Tzortzis, originally a Greek Orthodox Christian, who lectures internationally on Islam, philosophy and politics. The venue was packed, there were even people on the stairs (don't tell Health and Safety).

The audience raised their own questions during a very successful 45 minute Q&A session. Many stayed behind afterwards for refreshments and discussions with speakers and ISoccers

– which is what it was all about in the end. Conversation, education, and mutual respect; the perfect beginning to the week.

### Tuesday - Charity

A fundraiser BBQ for Save the Children was held in Beit between 4-7pm. As well as tasty food for the enjoyment of all students on campus, this provided a great opportunity to encourage students around campus to pose questions and learn about Islam from quizzes and discussion. Over 150 burgers were sold, and all revenue went to Save the Children. A lot of students even braved the rain near the end and had a great time.

### Wednesday – Hajj Pilgrimage

Malcolm X has been an inspiration to many revolutionaries over the years, and his life has been taken as a model for many ordinary people looking to change their lives and the community around them. IAW was a platform on which we brought the great personality to Imperial's attention, and what influenced him to develop such morals and values.

A talk on Malcolm X, highlighting the influence Islam had on the latter years of his life, after he had performed the pilgrimage to Makkah, was conducted by Sheikh Ahmed Babiki (who has recently been involved in similar events alongside Malcolm X's daughter Malikah Shabazz). He gave a brief overview of Malcolm's life before fo-

cusings in detail on some of the ideals for justice he so strongly held, bringing to people's attention the highly-prejudiced society within which he developed those ideals.

Free pizza was a great attraction and an opportunity for discussion, with about 120 people attending overall. People left feeling inspired, and curious; not only about Malcolm X, but about the teachings of Islam.

### Thursday - Fasting

As Muslims, we are obliged to fast for a whole month, Ramadan. During IAW, we challenged people to try fasting for a day, from dawn till dusk, and then to break their fast with delicious food, great company, an inspiring talk and entertainment. The event was publicised as 'Fast and Feast' and was held from 5.30pm in SAF.

The event started on time, with a turnout of about 150+, one of the biggest turnouts of IAW, about a quarter non-Muslims. Almost all the Muslims, and about 10 non-Muslims, took up the challenge and tried fasting on that day. Participants shared their experience and views about fasting, and improved their understanding. They learnt that it is not only abstaining from food and drink, but includes a more spiritual aspect, as well as self discipline.

The event continued with a talk by Imam Ajmal Masroor on the topic "The relevance of acts of worship in today's Society" and a performance by our very own Imperial Nasheed Group.



Before the event, the sunset prayer was held in congregation on the SAF concourse, and witnessed by many non-Muslims who were curious to see the final pillar...

### Friday - Prayer

The weekly congregational prayer was also held as usual, at Friday lunchtime, in the Union Building.

As the last day in IAW, Friday needed a spectacle. It had to encompass all five pillars from the week, yet still be less academic and more fun than the talks preceding it. It had to be a pantomime.

Or so they thought! The EndGame event was publicised as an 'evening of entertainment'. However, there was a top-secret performance kept under wraps until the show itself. The mantra of which was to truly surprise the audience, bending their perceptions while conveying the pillars in so subliminal a way that Derren Brown would be fooled.

The event proved successful. However, the details cannot be revealed in case the clamoured-for repeat performance is honoured. This is no hyperbole, the show is probably like nothing ISoc has ever done before... and was a mission well accomplished.

# Oh la la la la, it's Chalayan!

Vicki Masding risked her life to touch Hussein Chalayan's gorgeous designs at the Design Museum. You'll be glad to know she escaped alien abduction

Yo, so I went to the Design Museum; it was waste. I jest. But I seriously did go there to see the exhibition on fashion designer Hussein Chalayan.

I will say it now, if you want to see some gash, go to this exhibition. It also has video installations featuring Tilda Swinton, though thankfully not her gash.

Vulgarity aside, the runway show projected as part of the tour does show one piece where the model is wearing a hat; this hat looks like some kind of 1960's UFO and the dress she is wearing originates from said hat. The dress is subsequently abducted by the hat and the model stands naked in the middle of the runway while the other models parade.

Some of the clothes that did not remove themselves were simply divine (insert flamboyant hand gestures). There was one ruffled dress, entirely compact tulle ruffles. I had to touch it! I got told off for doing so, but totally



Alien abduction and lasers. Sci-Fi Society's dream girl.

worth it. However, my experience was somewhat tainted hence forth; due to the cripplingly fragile nature of my psyche being unable to brush off this micro-humiliation.

Onwards, you are transported to a

world of cone heads dressed as puritanical executioners, or at least I think that is what the designer intended to conjure, alternatively... I am wrong.

Another interesting dress I felt compelled to touch, (this was prior to the "excuse me, please do not touch the garments" episode, while I was on a fabric induced high) was a rubber dress. It appeared to have been moulded while under some extreme G-force, forcing the rubber to ripple backward as if the dress were liquefying off the mannequin. Apart from these, his most publicised crowd pleasers are the LED dress and the mechanical transformer dress. That should make some Mechanical Engineers jizz in their pants.

After marvelling at dresses with built-in neck rests and an entirely carpeted coat you are led to the video installation section. This would be the point where my appreciation and tolerance for modern art falters slightly. People seem to get tied up in their own head

with this preoccupation for being odd or kooky. The screens show the aforementioned art-house-actress-turned-blockbuster-sellout, Tilda Swinton. She plaits her hair. She unplaits her hair. She washes her clothes. She looks in the mirror. These images are juxtaposed with a seemingly unrelated dialogue discussing human DNA. I think it was meant to distort my perspective and provoke self reflection.

From the quest for identity to Urban Outfitters?! Yes, it is that small a leap. Hussain Chalayan has put out a ready-to-wear line of uniquely constructed garments currently stocking at UO, so go and piss your money up the wall there, I do all the time. I love that place.

I fear I have belittled this mans creations; in fact I love them all. If I could personify and romance them, I would. Basically, go to the exhibition.

**Hussein Chalayan exhibition at the Design Museum runs until 17th May. You have two weeks.**

# A successful term for Imperial's Dance Company

Claire Stanley reviews the overwhelmingly successful term for Dance Company, with prizes, dancing and celebrations galore, what more could you ask for?

What a month February was for Dance Company! Two competitions, a guest performance and eight awards....

The competition season started two weeks ago when five dance teams travelled up to Loughborough University, amidst snow-covered fields, to strut their stuff at the Loughborough Dance Competition 2009 for the very first time. Full of anticipation and high expectations, our beginner ballet, beginner tap, advanced ballet, contemporary and jazz dancers took to the stage to dazzle more than 20 universities in front of a 400+ strong audience.

Competition was fierce with such a high level of dancing on display, but that did not distract us from our goal. After a long, exhilarating day and having taken part in the Nokia Tube Dance

at lunchtime, our efforts were certainly rewarded. Our sparkling, sophisticated beginner tap dancers and beautiful beginner ballerinas (choreography by Fumiyo Nakagawa and Louisa Brown respectively) both pipped the post winning first place in each of their categories. Additionally the elusive advanced contemporary entry (choreography by Elisa Bellomo) and the talented advanced ballerinas (choreography by Louisa Brown) were awarded second and joint third place respectively. The high energy, star-struck, advanced jazz dance (choreographed by Hildur Einarsdóttir) just missed out on a place in the highest subscribed category of the competition.

After such a successful day at Loughborough spirits were high for the Edinburgh Dance-Off, a competition that Imperial has made their mark on over many years. Here, we saw the arrival

of our sixth dance team, the sexy advanced tappers (choreography by Zoë Dobell), to form our biggest ever dance troupe of 37 dancers! Having danced to the highest standard, the audience (and I) were wowed by Imperial's melange of acts.

This was reflected in the judge's decision to award first place to Imperial in the beginners/advanced ballet and contemporary categories, and second place to beginners tap. But the celebrations did not end there – two of our very own dancers, Elisa Bellomo (winner of 'Best Dancer Award 2008') and Alvaro Feito Boirac, took to the stage to perform the last act of the day, their original guest piece based on a tale of two lovers.

After such an ecstatic day, our celebrations commenced with food, drink and laughter, and continued by boogying late into the night!



Top: Advanced Contemporary Team. Below: Advanced Jazz Team



coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk



I got paid for a haircut!

Ravi Pall
Coffee Break Editor

Kaplowowow!!!! Term numero trois is here. Let's be honest here this term is going to be hella ma busy for you guys, exams are coming in left, right and centre. I was walking in the park the other day, and Whammy I was hit by an exam. Seriously there must be a better way to assess your academic ability than a few hours bunched together at the end of the year, which won't even cover all the material you've learned! OK now for a joke.

"Thanks to the credit crunch, the value of Pi had fallen to e."

I know, I know, that was pretty lame, but how else am I supposed to break up the tension. This joking about the credit crunch does lead my nicely to tell you about my latest adventures. In case you haven't guessed from the column title, and picture, you favourite felix editor (that's me, and yes I'm being big headed) has battled with scissors...

and lost. That is to say my hair failed to break the metal blades and thusly I have had my hair cut. Well as the tale goes, my mother bribed my to cut my hair. How? Well let me first tell you that for the last two years (the time my hair has been long) she has with out fail hated my hair. She made sly comments, like "you look like a homeless man!" or "you'd look so much better without all that hair!" To be honest she was right, but being the rebellious individual that I am, I never listened to her. Well one day she was so annoyed that she said "If you cut your hair, I'll buy you a whole new wardrobe." Now this sounded like a good deal to me. I needed new clothes, and I have no money. The answer seem obvious, and as you now know, I did it. One day I decided to go to a place called Pimps and Pinups. Now this place was unreal cool! With the words "do whatever you want" I let the hairdresser go wild on my hair, and now I look like this. Best of all they supplied my with beer while they cut my hair. Now I don't know if it's because I haven't had my hair cut for a long time, but this has never happened to me before. Top Score!

twitter.com/D00SKI

Battle of the Carters



James Earl

Known for: 39th President of the United States

Known as: Jimmy Carter

Awards: Nobel Peace Prize (2002), Presidential Medal of Freedom, Grammy Award for Best Spoken Word Album (2007) plus many more

Spouse: Rosalynn Smith Carter

Interesting Facts: As President, Jimmy decided to put a stronger emphasis on human rights; he negotiated a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt in 1979. His return of the Panama Canal Zone to Panama was seen as a major concession of U.S. influence in Latin America, and Carter came under heavy criticism for it. Carter is a member of The X-Presidents, a superhero team from the Saturday Night Live TV program.



Shawn Corey

Known for: Hip-Hop

Known as: Jay-Z

Awards: Eight Grammy Awards including Best Rap Album and Best R&B Song

Spouse: Beyoncé Knowles, lucky git!

Interesting Facts: On February 1, 2008 it was announced that Jay-Z would headline the 2008 Glastonbury Festival. Tickets failed to sell out with 100,000 being sold - out of a possible 137,500 and as the festival sold out in 2 hours the previous year critics blamed the choice of a hip hop artist as opposed to a rock band as the main problem. Oasis' Noel Gallagher criticised the organizers of the festival for scheduling Jay-Z as a headliner for the traditionally guitar-driven, stating "If it ain't broke don't fix it."

JUST IN CASE YOU DON'T GET IT, THIS IS A JOKE!



Beaker

Known for: Being a well known character from The Muppets.

Awards/Banter/Personality: None

Interesting Facts: In a 2004 Internet poll sponsored by the BBC and the British Association for the Advancement of Science, Beaker and Dr. Bunsen Honeydew were voted Britain's favourite cinematic scientists. They beat Mr. Spock, their closest rival, by a margin of 2 to 1 and won 33 percent of the 43,000 votes cast. He also bares a remarking resemblances to Christian Carter, Imperial College Union Deputy President (Finance & Services)



Christian

Dingbats 1,430

Well, some people bothered to do these last term, and as it's revision and my tits have fallen off due to boredom, I thought I would crack out some more. This week's exquisite mix are all based around music, so they are pretty simple. I will offer bonus points if you send in an interesting fact with your answers. Well done to Team Shotgun.

All correct answers should be sent via electronic mail (or carrier pigeon) to sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk. Or better still come and see us down here in the felix office in the West wing of Beit. It's close to the bar, full of Imperial's hot girl fraternity and we are quite possible the coolest club about. Well much better than the rowers. But that is stating the bloody obvious really.

1,429 Solutions

- 1. Lighten up
2. Spinal column
3. In the middle of something
4. Get over it!

- 1. PRETTY
2. ySTUCKou
3. SUGAR
4. ROclockCK
5. Witho\_t

Scribble box

felix FAIL! Which felix editor has FAILED his week?



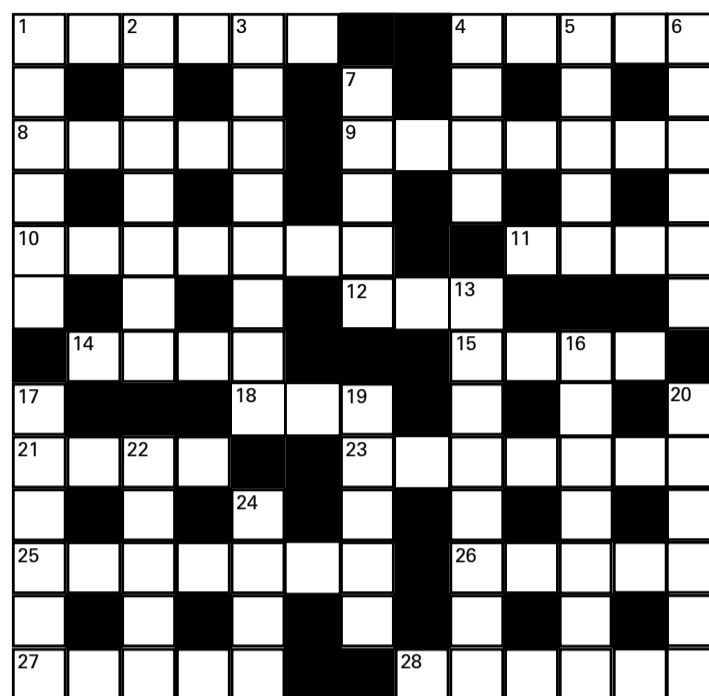
This weeks epic fail belongs to Fonzie. What did he fail at? Work. As of writing it is Monday afternoon, and we had both agreed to come in to the felix office to do a bit

of work for the newspaper, however Fonzie managed to sit down, procrastinate for 20 minutes and then leave. No work done

what so ever. An epic fail he thinks. Worse yet the reason for leaving is because he wanted to go with his better half to get bicycle light. WHIPPED!!!

sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk

A Quickie (Crossword) 1,430



- ACROSS
1. Predicament (6)
4. Grass (5)
8. Old Testament figure (5)
9. Mischievous (7)
10. Inundate (7)
11. French cheese (4)
12. Hill (3)
14. Of the ear (4)
15. Rim (4)
18. Container (3)
21. Weapons (4)
23. Smoothing out (7)
25. Conspicuous (7)
26. Race (5)
27. Follow (5)
28. Loves (6)

- DOWN
1. Ordinary (6)
2. Examine (7)
3. Teach (8)
4. Exchange blows (4)
5. Put off (5)
6. Girl's name (6)
7. Exhausted (5)
13. Relapsed (8)
16. More dirty (7)
17. Riff-raff (6)
19. Dens (5)
20. Way out (6)
22. Funds (5)
24. Destiny (4)

Solution 1,429



Scribble box

Congratulations to Möchten sie mein Mannschaft for coming first. They seem to be doing well! More effort everyone else! Also, we need a new Quick Crossword setter, if anyone is interested email sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Horoscopes. These will be offensive, deal with it!

The truth about Imperial's IDEA League exposed, plus a few extra thrown in there for good measure



Aquarius

As a last gasp blow out before our exams you decide to lash it up in Germany. Unfortunately for you after a big night out on the town you wake up in the morning feeling not so good. Fearless, you power on with your day. A trip to town sees four vomits, the winner being in the middle of the busy town square, into a bin, with the Rozzers driving past. Nice.



Pisces

This week you will play a bit of mixed football. After a bit of rumble-tumble you take an unusual attraction to a long haired male on the opposing team. After a few beers that night you are bish-bash-boshing it on the lawn. Well. I say lawn, really I mean the middle of a football field in clear view of everyone. You is classy love!



Aries

You and your boyfriend are trying for a baby. I hope. If not how else can you explain the need to go for a session in an 'empty room'? It was most unfortunate that a couple of builders walked in on your moment of passion, disrupting the whole thing. You disgust me... in fact I have a little bit of vom in my mouth.



Taurus

So you are a medic. And a rower. I think I have found the worst combination of human being possible. I pity the scum that decided to pro-create and produce you. You spout shit about how buff your rowers look, then go on to tell everyone how good you are at rowing. You must admit that you are not really that good, just a fucking idiot.



Gemini

This week you decide that the usual casual racism will not sit with your new cool kid image. Walking back one night you stroll into a Turkish babbie joint and racially abuse all the staff. Touché. However I feel that the presence of the Five-O fucked you over a wee bit and the resultant criminal record will hamper your ability to actually get a job.



Cancer

I feel that since the sad demise of the ray of sunshine that is Jade Goody this Horoscope should be hers for evermore. After all, never in my life have I seen such a chavvy-looking pikie mother-fucker. If they do [God fucking please NO] make a film about her worthless inept life please tell me, and hand me a knife so I can kill myself.



Leo

You've been in the library for so long that you are starting to halousinate. You look around and everyone has suddenly aged, growing so much 'facial hair' that they could all be Hagrid, but in fact it's just a 'revision beard'. Here's a tip, a few random pubes on your face does not constitute a beard. FACT! Get rid of it you muppet!



Virgo

This week you find that you are the child of a sperm donor. As the law now allows you to find out the father, you feel you must. Unfortunately for you it turns out that the phrase 'donor' is a little loose when used in this situation. It turns out that your father is unknown as your mother was gang raped late in 1986 by 10 youths. Ha fucking ha.



Libra

You have a confession to make, and it involves a girl called B...rd. You think that dangling your penis through her letter box late one night will impress her. You couldn't have been more wrong. Her Staffordshire Bull Terrier has a problem with the postman, so the outcome of your penis was a foregone conclusion. However on the plus side, you got a pity date. Pint?



Scorpio

This week's going to be one to forget. That exam you spent ages revising for... well guess what? You failed. Miserably. You know that girl you've been pining over? She's off with another fella. You know those parents that you think love you? Nope, you're adopted. Why don't you do yourself and society a big favour and go jump in the Thames. No-one will care.



Sagittarius

So your department took down their model answers to past papers because the lectures are too fucking bone idle to bother about thinking up new questions. WELL FUCK YOU. It's never going to work as the model answers will always be found from someone in the older years and distributed about the whole department. I hope you die from materials overexposure.



Capricorn

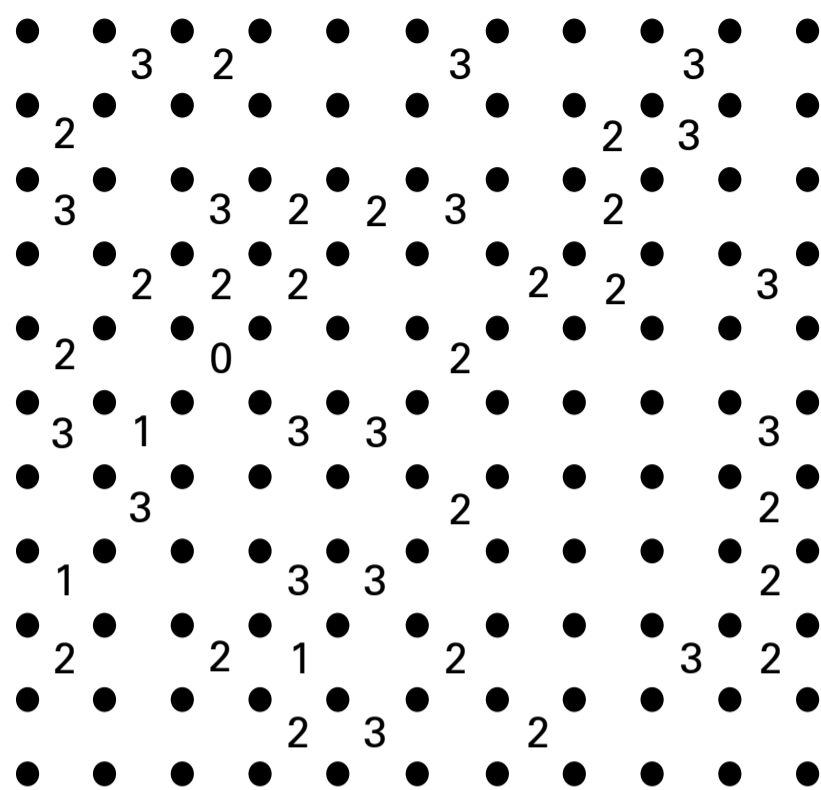
You have a confession to make, and it involves a girl called B...rd. You think that dangling your penis through her letter box late one night will impress her. You couldn't have been more wrong. Her Staffordshire Bull Terrier has a problem with the postman, so the outcome of your penis was a foregone conclusion. However on the plus side, you got a pity date. Pint?

FUCWIT League Table
Teams:
Möchten sie mein Mannschaft? 341 Points
Team Shotgun 314 Points
Team What What 48 Points
Team Dirty Medics 23 Points
Individuals:
Giramundo 88 Points
Hringur Gretarsson 60 Points
Jonathan Phillips 18 Points
Thomas Dinsdale-Young 16 Points
The Felix University/College-Wide Invitational Tournament League is new and improved. There are now prizes for both the winning team and the winning individual.
Basically, you get points for doing all the various puzzles and challenges, and at the end of the year, the winning team and the winning individual will win an iPod nano! The scoring is as follows:
5 points for the first correct answers for Slitherlink, Wordoku, London Underground, Mentalist Maze, Nonogram, Riddle me This, Dingbats and Quickie. 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!

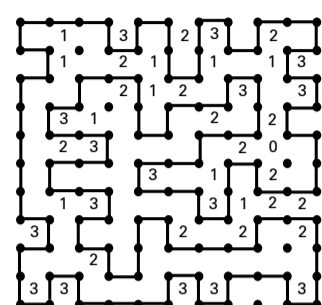
Fun & Games

sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Slitherlink 1,430



1,429 Solution



Möchten sie mein Mannschaft won. Did you know that the plastic sheath about the ends of shoelaces are called aglets? No? I just thought that was an interesting fact and wanted to share it.

How to play:

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.

# Wordoku 1,430

	R			P		O
S			Y	E		F
		X			R	
	E		P	Y		O
O	S					R
		Y		O	R	E
		P			E	
	Y		E	X		R
E			R			O

Scribble box



1,429 Solution

T	W	R	I	E	N	S	A	P
N	S	P	T	A	W	I	R	E
I	A	E	P	R	S	T	W	N
W	E	N	R	S	T	A	P	I
A	R	T	W	P	I	N	E	S
S	P	I	E	N	A	R	T	W
R	T	W	N	I	E	P	S	A
E	N	S	A	T	P	W	I	R
P	I	A	S	W	R	E	N	T

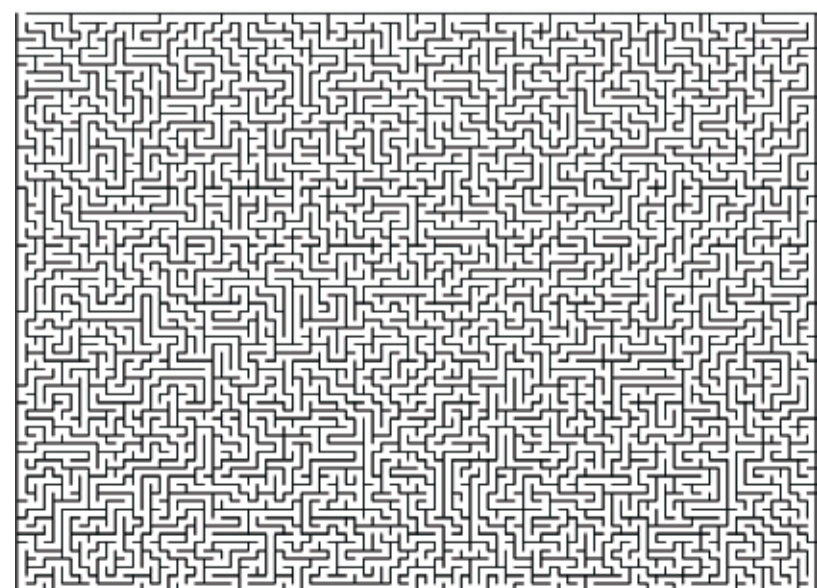
Möchten sie mein Mannschaft were again the winners of this amazing puzzle. I want to say well done and carry on, but I would rather say "can anyone else be bothered to do these?" as I am getting rather peeved with them.

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](mailto:sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk). You will not get credit for just the word alone. It's not an anagram.

# Mentalist Maze...

Well done to Möchten sie mein Mannschaft blah, blah, blah. I hope you are enjoying these mazes I give to you each week, and if they are too hard for

any of you, please just come and let us know. You are supposed to be the cream of British youth, but every man has his limit.



# Nonogram 1,430

										1
		6	5	3	3	6	5	1	3	3
1	5									3
2	4	1								2
2	4									
3	1									
3	1	1								
6	2									
4										
3										
2	1									
2	2									

So it's revision time and here at felix we are providing you with as much material we can possible think of to make sure you all have enough stuff to get you through the tedious revision hours.

The Nonogram will count towards the FUCWIT League, which means the same rules apply. Send your answers in to the usual address [sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk). Answers will be revealed next week. Good luck!

How to play:

Nonograms are picture logic puzzles in which cells in a grid have to be colored or left blank according to numbers given at the side of the grid. In this puzzle type, the numbers measure how many unbroken lines of filled-in squares there are in any given row or column. For example, a clue of "4 8 3" would mean there are sets of four, eight, and three filled squares, in that order, with at least one blank square between successive groups.

## This week's texts:



07726 799 424

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

"Imperial babe' t-shirts on sale. Contradiction in terms surely?"

"To the second year physicist with the big mouth. Shut the fuck up! Think your name is sasha because everyone calls her a cunt behind her back."

"Union quiz: a true test of a man's iphone skills."

"Candy floss is gonna make a big come back soon. Panda porn is still struggling through the credit crunch."

"I believe your science correspondent is confused. CORE's anti-spintron indirectly stimulates seismic waves. It is in reality a vast communication network to permit Chinese students to coordinate their countrymen to jump at precise intervals to trigger the slowing of the planet's rotation."

# Going Underground

Congratulations to Möchten sie mein Mannschaft who were the first to get PADDINGTON sent in. Have you noticed how nobody talks to you on the underground, and if you do, they all look at you in a strange way as if you were a criminal. Anyway, give this a try.

Each letter in the alphabet is assigned a value, 1-26 (see table) and when added together for a specific word the sum equals the total shown. All you have to do is scan and send the Underground station that is hidden each week to [sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

BANK = 28 2+1+14+11=28. Job done.

So which London tube station sums to 102?

-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
=																									

# Hangman



## Surviving swine flu, avian bird flu and the apocolypse

Hangman Oh Hai Guyz!

You are doomed. Everyone who shakes your hand, passes you in the street, or even spies on you from a distance may give you swine flu. I don't need to tell you that performing fellatio on pigs is not a wise idea (The Food Editor might stop, if they fly away).

There are quite a number of other things that are likely to kill you before you manage to disappoint your parents by failing your exams and re-taking the year. The food at the Union, TER-RORISTS!, boredom in da Vinci's, the level of cringe in dBs and that guy in the Union Bar that graduated in 1978. Something that won't kill you is Hangman, so do chill out, just a little.

As you may have deduced, Hangman has returned. The last time that felix had the honour of Hangman's presence was in the Winter term and

we caused quite a shit storm. Some of humour it would seem is not appropriate for the eyes of some Imperial students. We had considered telling these certain people to do something sexual to their mothers but instead we did it ourselves. In any case, we will avoid the sort of crass humour that offended and we hope you will enjoy our offerings.

Well enough bullshit. Union entertainments have fallen squarely into the cross-hairs of the Hangman team so look forward to next week's Hangman Union ents special. In the mean time, here's a preview of next week's interview with the Union's Supper Happy Fun-Times Officer (she's in charge of making you smile):

Hangman: What's the purpose of your job?

Super Happy...: I try to get Imperial students laid but I usually don't get them further than a nervous "Hello?".

## Union bars to sell students Purely Indiscriminate Sparkling Substance

ХАНГМАН Eastern Blocker

Scientists from around the world converged to the Great Hall in early March to take part in the Ig Nobel 2009 Roadshow.

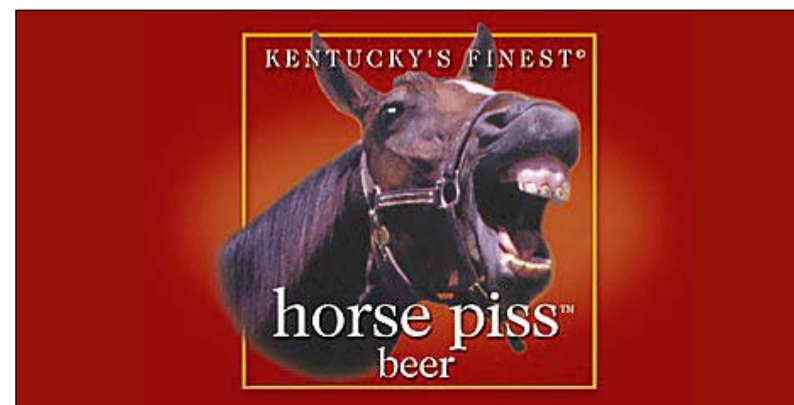
The Ig Nobel Prize is an annual award given out every October, the same time as the Nobel Prizes, to research that makes people think about the sciences. Commenting on the 2006 awards, Marc Abrahams, editor of Annals of Improbable Research, cosponsor of the awards, said: "The prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honour the imaginative - and spur people's interest in science, medicine and technology."

Previous winners of the award include Pierce Barnes, a research associate in chemistry at Imperial College, who in 2006 calculated the number of photographs you must take to (almost)

ensure that nobody in a group photo will have their eyes closed. Other highlights include Fiona Barclay who created the Periodic Table table.

A rather surprising entry into this years award came from Imperial College Union who entered a paper on lager. The study investigated under how many different brands they could market the same lager under in the Union Bars before arousing any sort of suspicion. It was found that they could market up to eight different brands, including one brand of wheat beer and one non-alcoholic brand. The beer that everyone has in fact been drinking is a special brand from Kentucky's finest brewery, however the Union refuses to release the name of the brewer.

Other highlights for 2009 include proof that dog fleas jump higher than cat fleas and that our perception of crisp-c crunchiness is influenced by sound-effects.



A strong contender for the secret Union beer

# New dinosaur discovered on the Isle of Wight

Chad Huleatt Palaeontologist

A new species of dinosaur, *Dragonos pyromanicus*, has been discovered by researchers on the Isle of Wight. Dental evidence showed that a specimen previously thought to be an Eoraptor was a previously unclassified genus of the Ornithischian order.

Radiometric dating techniques recently developed at the University of Bristol showed that the species lived well into the Holocene, outlasting all other species by 65 million years. It is not clear why the species survived the Cretaceous Tertiary mass extinction that is thought to have caused the extinction of all dinosaurs. Some estimates obtained from IridiumII/IridiumIII ratios place that date as little as 2.5Kya, or about 500 years BC.

Notable on the specimen are tool marks on the bones. Researchers originally thought that the long scratches were made by tools during excavation, but closer analysis revealed that the scratches were coated with a layer of silica, like the rest of the bones. Electron micrographs of the scratches reveal that they are very well defined, and do not resemble the more irregular scratches often found on dinosaur bones from the teeth and claws of predators of scavengers. A fragment of iron oxide was also found within the pelvis. According to Dr. Martin Bunt of the Natural History Museum the iron must have been introduced to the skel-



The real thing may not have been this epic

etion prior to burial.

Palaeontologists have struggled to explain apparent scorch marks on the teeth of the dinosaur. Professor Mark Allison of Imperial College London postulated that strong calcification of teeth can only be explained by exposure of the growing teeth to prolonged and intense heat. "The only possible source of the heat, as I see it, is internal, it almost seems as if the pyromanicus breathed fire".

Researchers are struggling to find the cause of death of *D. pyromanicus*. The bones show none of the telltale signs of

aging, such as poorly healed fractures of tumours that are often found associated with dinosaurs that died of old age. The tool marks and iron found on the bones has led Dr. Peter Sutton, of Imperial College London to suggest a human cause of death. Allison points out that the dinosaur lived well into the iron age, when the Isle of Wight was known to have been populated by people possessing the relevant knowledge for the production of iron weapons.

According to Allison, *D. pyromanicus* may be the first example of an extinction caused directly by man.

# Physics students nominated for Nobel Prize this year

Hudya Nikobolokov Foreign Correspondent

Students from the Department of Physics at Imperial College have been working on a project in an attempt to identify the problem with the latest class of Photon Torpedo's. The study is part of their third year group project and has led to their work being short listed for the Nobel Physics Prize this year.

The students from the Physics department have discovered that a phenomena known as "Long Anti Matter Exposure" has been causing problems with the detonation device in the torpedo, hence making it difficult for any destruction. In order to study the effect in more detail, they have built their own torpedo and have been closely monitoring the "Long Anti Matter Exposure" factor.

Over the past six months they have had the torpedo locked safely in the basements of Blackett next to the small particle collider under heavy guard, due to fears that members of the secret organisation, 'Junior Officers of the



Members of the covert JOKE squad just before the raid

Klingon Empire' wanting to steal it.

Problems, however, arose when the collider was in use which led to an interaction between the anti-matter in the torpedo and the collider. The outcome was the creation of a small worm hole in the basement which has led to several long haired, black-clothed, greasy creatures appearing in the Physics Department.

Nevertheless, the resulting creation of the worm hole, whether it was intentional or not, has led to the students being nominated for the prestigious award. The results are to be announced in Stockholm later this year in front of the King and Queen of Sweden.

# Imperial Devils take conference title en route to play-off final

<b>Ice Hockey</b> 2nd Division, Southern Conference	
Imperial College Devils	7
Cardiff Redhawks	1

Stephen Holland

The Imperial College Devils A team have won their first conference title and booked their place in the play off final for the national second division title. After their disappointing last place finish last season, the more experienced squad, further bolstered by the addition of a couple of gifted finishers, set out this season to avenge their battered reputation.

Cardiff, always the southern conference favourites, were unsettled after a rare 3-6 defeat to the Devils before Christmas. However slip ups against Oxford and Bristol in away games left the Devils one game behind the Welsh team going into their final match against each other. This match counted two-fold as the last match of

the Southern Conference, but also as the semi-final for the playoffs for the national division, in which Cardiff and Imperial were drawn against each other regardless of who finished first or second in the conference. So, a win from Imperial would ensure a place in the play off final, but only a win by 4 goals would take them to the national final with the Southern Conference snatched from Cardiff.

The game started hard with the Devil's defence and netminder placed under constant pressure, struggling to find a rhythm against the Redhawks onslaught. As the half-way point of the first period passed, Imperial started mounting their own attacks, which paid off when Tom Koch broke the deadlock 14 minutes in, assisted by Chris Clough.

Imperial made it harder for them selves when Chris Clough was then given 2 minutes for tripping. The team showed resilience however and Koch got his second goal while Imperial were down one man at 17 minutes, leaving the first period Cardiff 0-2 Imperial.



GEORGE GARNIER - WWW.GEORGEGARNIER.COM

Imperial Devils looking cool as ice after their win against Cardiff (yes it is a bit of a lame pun)

Imperial were quick off the mark in the second period, with Clough back on the score sheet 2 minutes in, giving the Devils an unprecedented 3 goal lead. This did not please Cardiff whose frustration was shown when Evan Juurako, the season's highest penalty taker, dropped his gloves to entice Imperial's Freddie Hellander into a fight, getting a 2-minute penalty for roughing. Player-coach Vince Miller further increased Imperial's lead, with an individual effort at 27 minutes. The disillusioned Cardiff side hinted at a fightback when

Alyn Wallace skated by Imperial's confused defence and scored unassisted making the score 4-1 to Imperial College. But after avoiding trouble earlier in the match, Freddie Hellander was given a 2 minute penalty for holding, leaving the team with potential trouble, eased slightly when Cardiff picked up their own penalty 30 seconds later, David Williams getting 2 minutes for high sticks.

The beginning of the third and final period saw goals replaced by penalties with Imperial's Paul Gilmartin and Ilya

Smirnov receiving 2 minutes for unsportsman like conduct and tripping respectively. However three quick goals in the final 8 minutes by Chris Clough and Tom Koch getting his third and fourth of the match, closed the door on Cardiff, with a final score of Cardiff Redhawks 1-7 Imperial College Devils. This 6 goal win gave the Devils their first ever conference win and first trip to the play off finals against the winner of Manchester and Huddersfield for the national division 2 title on 19th of April.

# Postman Pask delivers Imperial I to 12th

Christina Duffy

Stroke Adam Freeman-Pask was instrumental in leading the top IC crew to 12th position overall in the biggest head race of the season. The all-IC crew was comprised of four college freshers and finished second in the S2 category in 18:18.72.

Tideway Scullers' School I were the overall winners finishing in a time of 17:25.21. Sculler's crew included Alan Campbell (Olympian/Sculler's Head of the River Champion), Iztop Cop (Olympic Gold), Mahe Drysdale (World Champion, Olympic bronze), Olaf Tufte (Olympic Gold) and Ondrej Synek (Olympic Silver). Despite the hired guns the win is attributed to ex-Imperial cox Ali Williams who in a limited time transformed the single scullers into a crew of sweep rowers. Rumour has it they made the switch to sweep rowing as a result of becoming bored out of their skulls. The standard of competition in the HORR following an Olympic year is always toughest making Imperial's 12th place ranking even more poignant. The crew were satisfied with the result and Pask feels he's a really happy man.

IC I (Adam Freeman-Pask, Leo Carrington, Ole Tietz, Henry Goodier, Simon Hislop, Josh Yerrell, Dan Cadoux-Hudson, Danny Bellion) were coxed by Henry Fieldman (12th/409 overall, 2nd/81 in S2). The crew missed out on the University pennant to Oxford Brookes by 20 seconds. Brookes is one of the top-ranked university clubs in the country and have consistently been a thorn in the side of IC crews. Mike Zammit, John Davey, Andy Gordon) were coxed by Nicola Quinn-Pyatt and finished in 18:53.16 (8th/91 in

rial and their break into the first eight bodes well for the coming years. Head Coach Steve Trapmore gave an uplifting speech to all crews before individual crew chats: "You know what it's like, you've all done this race before", at which point Bowman Bellion revealed "Eh, well I haven't actually."

The crew set-off at number 2 following last year's strong performance from a crew featuring IC's George Whittaker, Freeman-Pask and Hislop, but was ineligible for the University pennant. Cox Henry Fieldman was ecstatic, if not incomprehensible with this year's result, "12th f\*cking place after an Olympic f\*cking year, with half the crew f\*cking freshers. That's f\*cking awesome man! FML!" The Henry Fieldman Express was in top gear coming through the final hundred metres and on-looking alumni on ICBC's balcony attested to "hearing the boat sing."

The upset of the day came with the defeat of IC II by the hands of arch-nemesis IC III who ranked 6 places higher (70th overall) than the second boat (76th overall). When crew selections were finalised for the race there was disappointment in the third boat as many felt they had performed better in training than those chosen for IC II. But the crew should have been delighted not to be banished to the second boat because as Dan Topolski put it: "There is no joy in coming second, because to be second is to be last." The second boat, or "banter boat" were out-gunned by the third who made a gallant effort in the black stallion Vespoli. IC III (Tom Bell, Tom Arnott, Gareth Brown, Kieron Docherty, Iain Palmer, Mike Zammit, John Davey, Andy Gordon) were coxed by Nicola Quinn-Pyatt and finished in 18:53.16 (8th/91 in



Cox: Henry Fieldman, Adam Freeman-Pask, Leo Carrington, Ole Tietz, Henry Goodier, Simon Hislop, Josh Yerrell, Dan Cadoux-Hudson & Danny Bellion

S3, 70th/409 overall).

IC II (James Wedlake, Will Todd, John Dick, Richard Winchester, Dom Meyrick-Cole, Adam Mayall, Adam Seward, Alex Gillies) were coxed by Connie Pidoux and finished in 18:56.63 (76th/409 overall, 8th/81 in S2). The crew were devastated by the result and were barely able to face IC III, whose delight could not be contained. It was clear when they came off the water that the crew was not pleased with their row. A steady rhythm could not be found and they had to bludgeon their way through the course. Will Todd and

Richard Winchester sought comfort in each other and disappeared after the race to be alone together.

In the novice camp, IC IV performed well. (Sean Delaney, John Beaty, Rory Fallon, Thomas Walshe, Benjamin Fahs, Patrick Hudson, Andreas Prosch, Alistair Larsson) were coxed by Deepika Reddy and finished in 19:37.87 (187th/409, 4th/60 in Novice category).

Thus ends the head race season and we can finally look ahead to regatta racing; an entirely different form of pain. Post race celebrations began in

Walkabout and all camps were satisfied after wins from both England and Ireland in the Six Nations Rugby. (Ireland became Six Nations Grand Slam Champions... England came second). London RC attracted a huge crowd of intoxicated rowers for the jungle-themed after party. Moshing, table dancing and naked swimming in the Thames all made for a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

The men's squad will have a brief respite from intense training this week before the entire club jets off to Italy on Saturday for Easter training camp.

## College Hardship Fund 2009

### EU and Overseas students

If you face higher than expected costs or a financial emergency, we may be able to help with a small grant from the College Hardship Fund.

Applications must be submitted by **08 May 2009**



**FURTHER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS:**

**Web:** [www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/finance/thecollegehardshipfund](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/finance/thecollegehardshipfund)

**Email:** [student.funding@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:student.funding@imperial.ac.uk)

**Telephone:** 020 7594 8122

## Imperial come 2nd in IDEA League held in Aachen

Continued from back page

ble-tennis battle kicked into full swing, Imperial Judo was showing the other three universities (Delft-Netherlands, Aachen-Germany and Zurich-Switzerland) a little bit of Imperial finesse, comfortably winning and boosting our confidence for the next day.

That evening was spent in the town, with most of "Team Fit" retiring early to prepare for what was to be a very tiring day, and the Floor Ball fraternity still very unsure as to the exact rules.

Thursday morning drew in, and after a decidedly less than adequate sleep on the gym floor, Imperial ladies took to the Floor Ball arena - still no wiser about the rules. The match was always going to be tough, but a 13-3 loss did not reflect Imperial's ability, likewise the men would struggle in the first two games. By the third and final game, however, the ladies had notched up a 3-2 victory over Delft, and the men were only 2-1 down deep into the second half also against Delft. Unfortunately, the keen forward Jack Cornish got 'hit on the head with the ball' whilst just having a casual jump. This was in breach of the rules and he was penalised with a two minute sin-bin; the only one of the tournament! This left IC with only three outfield players. They managed to hang on for that time, but didn't manage to win. However, the ladies' victory secured



Claire Taylor with support from Team Fit on the leg press challenge

a respectable 3rd place, considering the majority of the players had never played Floor Ball before!

The evening was then a classic, starting with a formal dinner at the premier University venue. The alcohol was certainly in abundance allowing spirits to fly high and friendships to be forged. To the amazement of Imperial, the scoring system had worked out in our favour and we had managed a commendable 2nd place overall! The champagne continued to flow on the tables of Team IC, before we were ushered to

the most prestigious club in Aachen. Celebrations continued into the small hours, but not without incident... but we certainly can't remember them!

The next day, IC clearly took the trophy for bar heavyweights, with many contenders for the top ten headaches. An enjoyable three days saw success, friendships and celebrations, none of which would have been possible without the backing of Sport Imperial and so a big thank you goes to them from all of us. We all look forward to Floor Ball next year.

## Imperial Boat Club enter Guinness World Book of Records, just

Earlier this year, Reporter wrote about the day the IC Boat Club broke a very special world record. Steve Trapmore MBE, Head of Rowing, describes the day.

"On 11 March I took a team of Imperial College Boat Club rowers to Dorney Rowing Lake, venue for the 2012 Olympic Regatta. Helped by coach Stu Whitelaw, we set out to attempt a world record for the fastest time a rowing eight can tow a water-skier over 100 metres."

The current record stood at 19.9 seconds, held by a French team. After a couple of failed attempts with celebrities, including ex Blue Peter presenter Konnie Huq, waterski professional

Stuart Marston took up the reins. Straight off, the Imperial rowers powered Stuart over a faultless 100 metres which we clocked at 19.3 seconds. Announcing the Guinness World Records adjudicator clocked the same attempt two seconds slower!

Trapmore went on to say that "After pointing out that we were perhaps more experienced at timing rowing crews, I invited the adjudicator to follow the attempt in the Sport Imperial truck rather than from a safety boat on the water. This did the trick, and although we timed the run faster, the official verdict was 19.58 seconds, breaking the previous world record by almost 0.4 seconds."



The rowers with Stuart Marston after they broke the world record

# Imperial fencing finishes off a brilliant season with a resounding win

Fencing	
Imperial Men's 1st	135
Bath Men's 1st	37

Indy Leclercq

"It's weird. Last year, we had finished all our matches before the Christmas break..." Our president, Chris Namih, uttered those words before we set off to Southampton at the beginning of this term for our last (postponed) league match.

Winning it made us undefeated south-east conference champions. It also meant that the season was still on for a while yet... Two months on, we had narrowly lost a BUCS championship quarter-final to Northumbria, and fenced our way into a playoff match for promotion into the highest league division in the country, the Premiership. Winning this meant fencing against the likes of Oxford and Cambridge (the top two teams in Britain) next year, and would give us the chance to start a rivalry with UCL (it's not that we don't like them, or think we're the better London uni, but I'm just saying...)

Our opponents were Bath, last placed in this year's premiership with a none-too-flattering record: just one win out of six matches played, and one walkover conceded. The team that turned up only consisted of three fencers! As we warmed up, many of us couldn't help feeling that the premiership was within our reach. Some



The Imperial fencers avoiding a lunge attack from the Bath fencer

club novices and friends, as well as the BUCS silver medallist women's team, had turned up to cheer us on; they got the win they were hoping for as Imperial dominated the match from start to finish. The sabre wasn't much of a contest as Jean-Romain, Naren, Wookie and Maiyuran made it 45-16; the foil even less so with Chris G, Namih, Little Ed and Indy getting a score of 45-8. Big Ed, Ale and Marcello rounded off the match with a comfortable 45-13 win in the epee. That was it, Premiership. Sorted!

Despite a slight anticlimactic feeling,

after what was our largest win of the year, we were still pretty chuffed at the season we'd had. The win was the cue for a whole evening of fun, as we went on to shave the president's hair off at finish. The sabre wasn't much of a contest as Jean-Romain, Naren, Wookie and Maiyuran made it 45-16; the foil even less so with Chris G, Namih, Little Ed and Indy getting a score of 45-8. Big Ed, Ale and Marcello rounded off the match with a comfortable 45-13 win in the epee. That was it, Premiership. Cheers guys, and see you next year in the Premiership!

# Dismal end to an abysmal season for both rugby 1sts

Jovan Nedić Editor in Chief

The end of the season couldn't have come any sooner for Imperial College RFU and Imperial Medicals RFU 1st teams. Both sides have had a difficult season in the BUCS Southern Premiership B, fighting for survival and pride.

Despite their best effort, including a nail-biting Varsity that saw the match go into extra time yet again, neither team managed to make a very successful season of it in the league. Both teams were, however, hoping for better success in the ULU cups, something which both clubs have managed to have a firm grip over the past few years. Imperial's 1sts managed to get a bye straight into the quarter-final of the Gutteridge Cup, a competition which they have dominated over the years and planned to do the same this year.

College managed to get a walkover over SOAS who were unable to field a team, which left on King's College

in the way of them and another Gutteridge Cup final. Having beaten King's many a time before in the competition, the side was ready for the match, however, it seems that the King's side wanted to get to the final more than Imperial did. The end result, King's beating Imperial and eventually beating Royal Holloway.

This was not the only success for King's College, as their own medical school, GKT, were yet again in the United Hospitals Cup against Imperial Medicals. The UH Cup is oldest rugby cup competition, predating the Calcutta Cup by four years, and the Medicals have been the holders of the prestigious cup for the last seven years. It seemed, however, that lady luck wasn't on their side either as their 1sts, 2nds and 3rds all managed to lose to GKT in the final.

Hopefully the new season will bring better fortune for both sides as they try to retain the former glory they once had.



IC 1st XV looking dejected after this year's closely fought Varsity

# At least we still have the Gutteridge Reserves Cup

Rugby	
Imperial Men's 2nd	20
UCL Men's 2nd	3

Scott Greening

In the twilight of what had been a successful season for the Imperial 2nd XV, the players were determined to seal a trophy, especially off the back of a huge and comprehensive 69 - 0 victory of Middlesex in their midweek league match. Despite having not played a game in the Reserve Cup so far, IC knew they were in for a stern test from what would be a dogged, albeit less talented, UCL 2nd team. Moreover, the 2s were now Imperial's flagship rugby team in all ULU competitions, given the shock exit of the 1st XV a fortnight ago.

In the pre-match huddle, Coach Brimah's instruction was to bring out the running game from the word go. Straight off the UCL kick-off the 2s ran their now famous Brunel ball; a strong crash up the middle from Adam Foley being followed by a burst up the blind side from Rob Dowden and China Lite. Imperial recycled well and soon earned a penalty inside the UCL 22, which, without any hesitation, was kicked for goal to put Imperial 3 - 0 to the good. Despite this electrifying start, Impe-

rial then stuttered. A workmanlike attitude from the UCL forwards coupled with some poor decisions with ball in hand led to UCL having consistently good field position. Fortunately, the UCL kicker did not have the same composure as his counterpart, and failed to capitalise on a penalty that was imminently kickable. Imperial then began to claw their way back to their early match form. Despite conceded the majority of the possession to their opposition, UCL never threatened, and soon the Imperial back three showed their class with some searing breaks from deep. On one occasion fullback and man-of-the-match Dowden made 50m in one break that markedly resembled a knife cutting through soft butter. Unfortunately, the supporting players failed to show the required slight-of-hand required to score the try that was deserved.

No matter; Imperial were now rejuvenated and had the ball deep in the opposition territory. A short chip from fly half Scott Greening, which was well pressured by Foley, forced UCL into conceding a lineout on their own 5m line. Following on from previous games, the Imperial forwards showed utter domination in the lineout, with the catch and drive resulting in Imperial's first try of the game; the ball having been put down finally by Ben Moorhouse. The wide conversion shanked; the

score was 8 - 0. Imperial should have carried this lead into the halftime interval, however indiscipline gave away a penalty that even UCL couldn't miss, allowing them to score their first points, leaving 8 - 3 as the halftime score.

The second half began in a similar vein to the first half, Imperial failed to exert their authority in the opening 10 minutes of the half, allowing UCL too much ball and then kicking away the possession they had. It was a moment of vision and opportunism that led to Imperial's second try. From a penalty in Imperial's half, rather than kick for touch, Greening noticed the UCL team idling, clearly trying to recover their breath. Greening took a quick tap and chipped over the static UCL line. Despite the covering winger and full-back the bounce of the ball was good and was caught by the chasing fly half. Despite bouncing off the attempted double tackle, Greening responding to calls from David Bowe and span the ball out to Lite to touch down in the corner. The wide conversion was again failed, leaving the score at 13 - 3.

From this point on Imperial oozed class and exerted their marked superiority. The whole team ran its pattern just as they had trained, with the forwards securing quick ball, and the backs running with pace and from deep. Lite made continuous breaks down the right flank, repeatedly out-

acing his opposite man, despite being "shown" the inside. Powerful runs from Imperials big boys, most notably Conan O'Rourke, made deep inroads into the UCL defense. After 10 phases of superb organisation and distribution from scrum half Penfold, Imperial span the ball wide through the hands, allowing Bowe to run through a gap so big he could have moon-walked through. This time the touchline conversion was successful, bringing the score to it's ultimately finality, 20 - 3.



Imperial's 2nd XV with the mighty Gutteridge Reserves Cup

# Imperial Immortals downed by vicious Cobra venom

George Barnes

Done and dusted. The Imperial College Immortals (ICIs) chalked up their first game of the season on Sunday. A fair crowd turned up to support ICIs battle against one of the UK's top senior teams, The London Cobras.

It was clear from the start who the pros were when on the first play ICI barely returned the kick-off for more than 10 yards before their wedge busters destroyed our feeble first wedge consisting of Quincy (No. 52), Mac (55), Jan (58) and Arthur (77) and totally flattened Big Geoff (88). The offence which was lead by Kennedy (9) were unsuccessful on their first drive and were forced to punt on the 4th down, which was returned for the first touchdown for the Cobras.

ICI were clearly rattled with no one

really ready for the brutal physical challenge ahead. It was not until the second quarter that they started to get their act together. The defence lead by Goose (42) started to bond. Big open field tackles came in from the two standout defensive backs Fisher (20) and Ramirez (25) with Quincy doing it for the D Line gave the defence some confidence.

The offence was able to feed off this success and with one of the last play of the first half, the O-Line of Sanches (78), Sikorski (68), Tovell (63), Mac and Quincy held strong and Kennedy was able to dodge a tackle and make our first ever 1st down, which considering the quality of the opposition was a huge achievement.

The second half began and the wedge seemed to have a new lease of life, holding form to allow a longer return.

Both the offence and defence worked tirelessly for the whole game with the home team picking up two more first downs from Newton (16) and Tino (81).

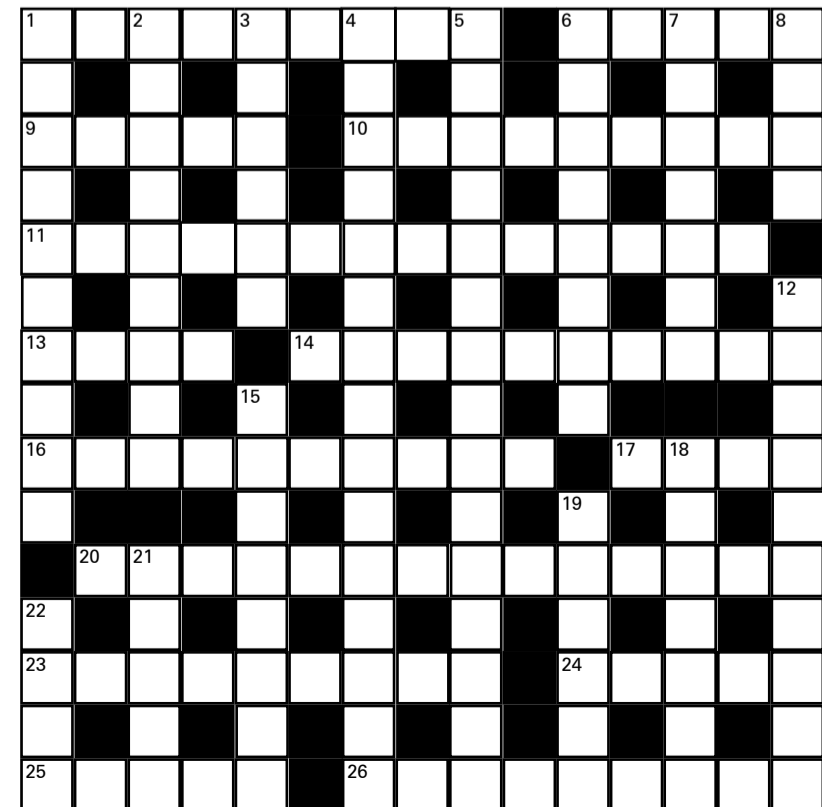
It is true that ICI were outclassed on the day but each and every player gave it their all and the experience gained from coming face to face with a team who only conceded 9 points in their 10 game regular season is priceless. The Immortals are now league material. So next year they look forward to games against other universities and hopefully making it to the play-offs.

Sadly we are saying farewell to a couple of members of the team. Thank you very much for all the hard work put in over the year from Stan, Ramirez, Binnie and Sanches. These places will need filling up next year so bulk up and get in touch!



The newly formed Imperial Immortals, Imperial's very own American Football team

# Crossword No. 1,430



### ACROSS

- 1 Area of London sounds as if it's constructed from beer (5,4)
- 6 Not a taxi heading west for philosopher (5)
- 9 King with fish wavers (5)
- 10 I tried hen, somehow acquired from parent (9)
- 11 Away in the company of senior teacher? Execute him! (3,4,3,4)
- 13 Returned competent from place of exile for 18's famous son (4)
- 14 Crazy man with biscuit used to break shells (10)
- 16 Indie band fail kosher test (3,7)
- 17 Poet banned, we hear (4)
- 20 I was lengthwise unfortunately, perhaps filled with Semillon (5,4,5)
- 23 Food provided by health centre in front of immigrant districts? (9)
- 24 Anna chooses to have a snack (5)
- 25 Extra snake with unusual tail (5)
- 26 Fix mother a part in complicated procedure (9)

### DOWN

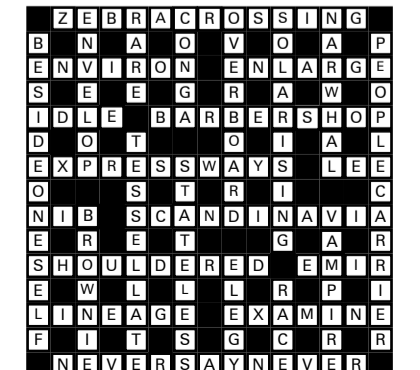
- 1 Puppet character from video game on the web, say (10)
- 2 Strangely fine story that can't be spoken (9)
- 3 Donkey to feel unwell in attack (6)
- 4 A member of school with an empty bottle - one in an unfamiliar situation (1,4,3,2,5)
- 5 Clannish genetic engineering might achieve this (6,9)
- 6 Oddly, Brit rota had many a celebratory event (8)
- 7 A platform for Felix perhaps to go on strike(7)
- 8 Poem in support of north point (4)
- 12 Quiet communist is to ask to make one vulnerable (10)
- 15 Scottish leader Edward has skin condition repaired (8)
- 18 Part of stoic Cajan turns up in Mediterranean port (7)
- 19 A long duration and, peculiarly, a schedule (6)
- 21 Difficult to keep ring in treasure (5)
- 22 Motorist's body found with silicon implant in eastern land (4)

Answers to: sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk

A new term, a new set of crosswords for you all to feast your eyes on. Congratulations to **Mochten sie mein Manshaft** who won the last cryptic crossword of the term, there were some very close seconds so the race is definitely on to get those big points for the FUCWIT League. Best of luck everyone!

Crossword by: Sam Wong

Solution to crossword 1429





## Imperial have a great IDEA

**Jack Cornish**  
 Sports Editor

The IDEA League is the collaboration of 'five leading universities of technology and science', and annually a sports event is held in celebration of the continued collaboration between the institutions. This year it was the turn of RWTH Aachen to host the elite athletes in a competition that was to feature Table Tennis, Floor Ball, Judo, and a Fitness Challenge!

The thirty plus Imperial participants had their first challenge even before the competition had started – remember your passport and get to Kings Cross International at 6am in time for the EuroStar. To everyone's surprise it was two senior members of the ACC that managed to fail at this, notably

this year's Hockey Club Captain and next year's ACC Chair!

All present and correct, the triple train journey to Aachen in Germany was followed by a festival atmosphere. Aachen's fantastic sports centre was based in the west of the suburban area with views across the historic spa city.

After an introductory lunch, many of the party chose to explore the town, only for a call to come thought that ladies were needed to play table-tennis. Teddy Middlebrook was selected as she had her own table at home, and Izzy Smith went along to join her as everyone else ran off. Results were rather better than expected with the men and women winning many games, but eventually coming 3rd. As the epic ta-

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## Kendo club find national success

**Tim Simpson**

As with all competitions the day starts with an ungodly noise- that of the alarm clock at an abnormally early time of the morning. On this day, the 4th of April and the day of the National University Kendo Competition, the alarm sounded about 4.45am. That is the spirit of commitment shown by your very own kendo club. By 5.50am the competitors were all huddled in Victoria ready for the first train of the day to Canterbury where the fight was going to be hosted by the good boys and girls of the University of Kent.

A smaller competition than last year, after Cambridge Kendo Club made a mess of the timings and enraged judges from as far afield as Japan, only 8 University teams were to take part. These included teams from Cambridge, Edinburgh, Oxford and UCL- so all our old rivals were back yet again.

However before the main competition there was the kyu-grade individuals for those lower down the food chain than the black belt ('Dan grades'). Six of our team went that show. Of special interest were two of last year's beginners and some of this year's club stalwarts, Benny Wong and Danny Mak.

Wong had some cracking fights which included the first having an encho (extra time, 1st score wins) that was at least double the length of the actual match itself. The star of this particular show, however, was Danny Mak. Mak managed to win three fights outright with a mixture of kote (wrist) and men (head) cuts before losing out to a kote from a 10 year kendo veteran who belongs to the Mumeishi club. That club, based outside of London, is rich in Japanese kendoka, and has our very own Yoda in residence, Yoshikawa-sensei, as one of their teachers.

Following soon after the kyu grade bouts were the Dan grade competition and the ladies competition (for all ranks). Imperial only had one competitor for each. Tin Wong was the man up against it all in the Dan grade competition but he came acropper with two men cuts received from a very athletic opponent. Rachel Soon tried her hand against two opponents both her senior in terms of experience but lost out to the eventual winner of the ladies fight, T. Volkata, from Edinburgh University.

After these warm up "exercises" the main competition took place. This involved 5 kendoka from each Uni team



**The Kendo team proudly adorned with their medals**

going to head-to-head in a set of individual bouts. Imperial's first match was against Oxford. Of the fights two were draws with Tin Wong and Christos Argyakis holding their own, whilst Ali Hammad and Daniel Mak won their tussles with a men cut and a kote respectively. The second set of matches

against Edinburgh went less well. Unfortunately Edinburgh's team of ninja (with two newly arrived Japanese kendoka, including a 5th dan) managed to overcome some spirited defences although notably Tin Wong managed to hold that bundle of vicious femininity, T. Volkata, to a rather respectable

draw. However, their performance was enough to nab them a spot on the winner's podium with a 3rd place. Not bad all in all especially after so little sleep. What happens when you hit a haggis with a shinai? Well, next year we are off to Edinburgh to try to even the score so maybe we can tell you then.