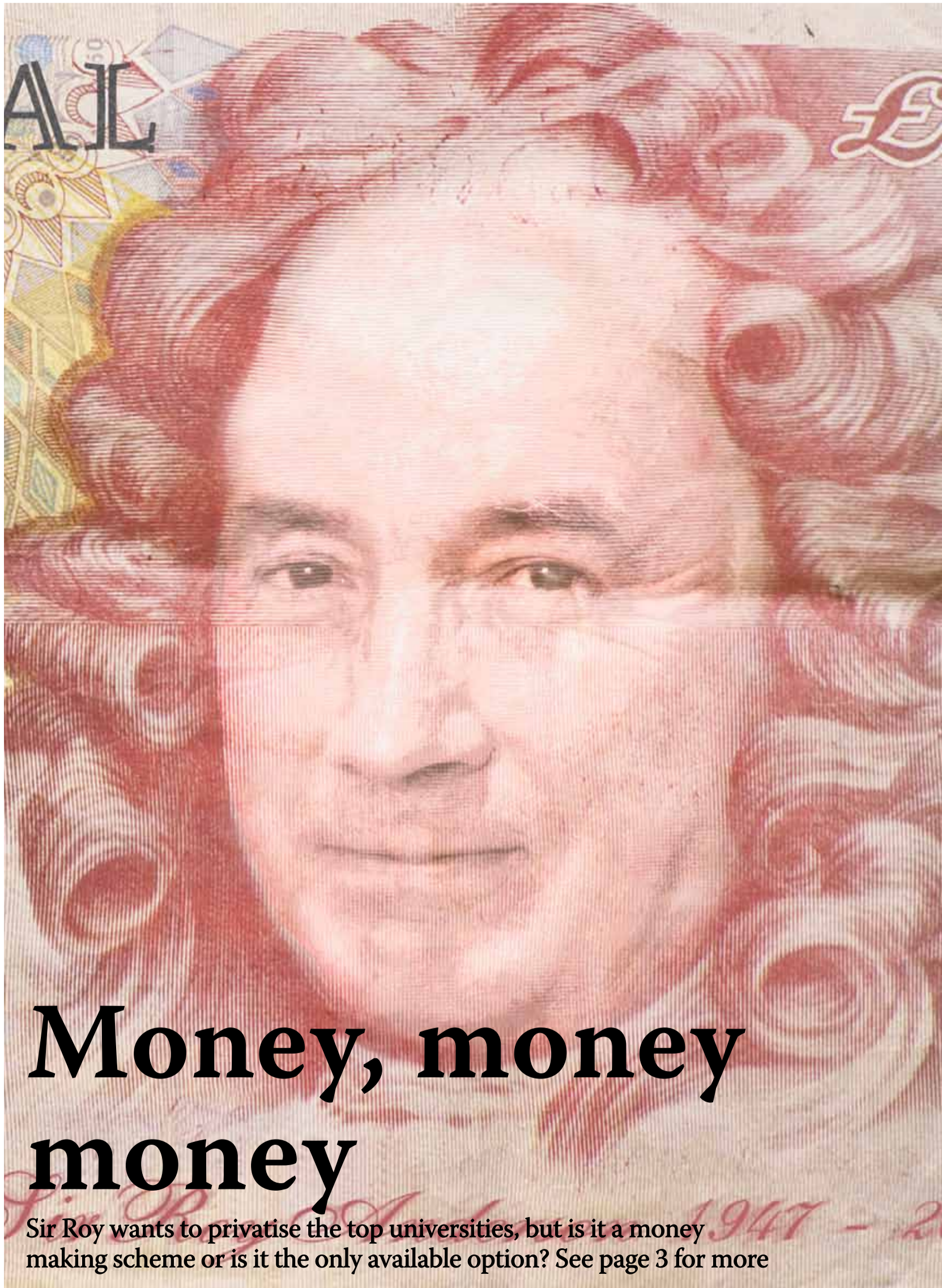


felix

The student 'news'paper of
Imperial College London

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Money, money money

Sir Roy wants to privatise the top universities, but is it a money making scheme or is it the only available option? See page 3 for more

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Humanities protest deemed a “Great success”

Kirsty Patterson
Live! Editor

Despite the event occurring mid-exams, today's protest gathered around 150 students at the Faculty Building to deliver the message 'give us back our humanities' to Rector, Sir Roy Anderson.

Cries of 'Roy, Roy, you take our fees. Give us back our humanities!' echoed around College at lunchtime as over 150 students gathered on Queen's Lawn to begin the protest against course cuts in the Humanities and Languages Department. Protest Organisers, Ossain Hynes and Daniel Burrows, lead the vibrant 'mob' to the Faculty building to hand in the petition with over 900 names. The protest was organised in response to the announcement that a 60% cut is due to be made to the offering of the Humanities and Languages teaching, losing four languages and all lower level qualifica-

tions in the remaining four. Security were out in force and the Faculty Building was immediately locked down with noone being allowed to enter or leave. ICU President, Jenny Morgan, infiltrated the building with her nifty swipe card access and persuaded the guards to allow Burrows to enter and hand over his petition. Morgan told Live!: 'I practically had to beg for him to be let in. They were worried we were going to throw eggs or something.' Live! is sure the most violent and competitive act carried out by this group was choosing Kadhim Shubber's chant from a list of proposed battle cries on the facebook group.

Burrows informed the crowds that he would keep them informed through the facebook group and later sent a message describing the event as a 'great success'. Professor Charmain Brinson, Programme Director for Languages, expressed her gratitude to the students who took part in the protest

telling Live! that 'in a global university and a global society it is misguided to cut an international language like Japanese and Arabic completely. This seems an undue amount of cuts to be made on one small group.' However she remains hopeful that the protests will help towards finding a more positive outcome.

Neither Rector, Roy Anderson, nor any other member of staff from the Faculty building came out to speak to the protestors but there was plenty of interest from people staying behind the safety of the Blue Glass. A cheeky wave from Morgan to the fourth floor indicated that at least one person from the Rector's Suite had witnessed the protest and the crowds disbanded, feeling they had achieved as much as they could for today.

Find out the students reactions at live.cgcu.net



The protestors begin to gather on Dalby Court



The damage is done

Dan Wan
News Editor

It has been three weeks since an anonymous member of the Humanities staff secretly ushered an internal Staff Consultation Paper into our hands down in the felix office. As I took the story to write up for that week's issue, I was ignorant to the potential uproar it has since caused.

Momentum started gathering when at the same time of that felix issue's release, I received an email, again from an ambiguous signatory from the Humanities staff. It told me of the impending cuts also. However, this email was addressed to seemingly everyone the Humanities Department had on their database. A personally written email to each and every student that had taken up a language course in the last few years would surely evoke, at the very least, a sympathetic response to all the members of staff that will lose their jobs due to these cuts.

The protest that occurred today, in my mind, would be the true testament to the will of Imperial's students. I'm glad to say a really decent number turned up. It could have so easily fallen flat on its face, like the countless number of house parties I've tried to organise via facebook.. There weren't 1000 + people there, but definitely enough to make their well-delivered chant of "Roy, Roy, you take our fees, give us back our humanities" audible from across campus.

So, at this stage of the proceedings, it is the Humanities staff and students versus the College uppers. The Humanities staff are primarily concerned with the job losses their department will see, and have firmly peddled the 'without languages, your employability will be reduced' notion onto the mass of students. The students have seen

sense, and responded. The sad case is, I really don't think College will budge, considering the fact they basically made their minds up in May 2008. In all honestly, their "strategic aims" idea makes sense. A degree should compose of relevant but extensively covering modules, but I honestly think languages can be a part of that. College need to learn that you cannot give a lollipop to a baby and rip it out of its mouth once it is enjoying it.

If they claim the cuts are not financially driven, they need to provide new alternatives to replace the items being cut out of the programme. If the students just see cuts, they feel deprivation. Implementing cutbacks but filling those gaps with something else may go some way to ease some students' reaction to the alterations. Saying that, it's too late for that. The ball in bouncing in College's court, to make an official statement on their own accord; either to announce that they are sticking with their guns, or hopefully, listen to the noise being made in the last three weeks and announced revised plans for the Humanities programme.

If I was an upper member of staff within College, I would make sure that the newly revised Humanities programme for next year is a result of a student-College compromise. Sir Roy Anderson said he wanted to bring Imperial into line with Oxford and Cambridge in terms of student satisfaction. Though even further damage has been done to student satisfaction over this debacle, it is imperative that he recovers some of this with a revision of the cutbacks. Otherwise, no matter how 'world class' our institution is academically, we will fall further back on every other part of university life.

Imperial College to be privatised?

Jovan Nedić
Editor-in-Chief

Sir Roy Anderson, Rector of Imperial College, has recently told the *Evening Standard* that he would like to see the top UK universities privatised, effectively creating the UK equivalent of the US Ivy League. He told the *Evening Standard* that:

"If you take the top five universities, they have enormous potential to earn income for Britain. How best to do that? My own view would be to privatise them. You don't want to be subject to the mores of government funding or changing educational structures."

This is not the first time that the Sir Roy has brought into question the capability of the British Government to manage the British universities. In his

interview with *felix* back in February (Issues 1,424 & 1,425), Sir Roy was already questioning the areas in which the government spends their money and the lack of financial support the higher education sector receives from them. He told *felix* that: "Let's just say that there are three or four areas of government expenditure where a lot of money could be saved." When probed a little further, it was found the automotive sector was one of the key areas of government spending, but since then the money going there had been cut.

Following on from that, Sir Roy went on to say that: "Well there is a lot of spending in certain areas where it is not immediately clear that it is what the world needs at the current point in time. What we need are some technological solutions to some really urgent

problems and that includes alternative sources of energy, and in the interim before those arrive, we need solutions to carbon absorption."

Sir Roy expressed similar thoughts to the *Evening Standard* saying that in his opinion Higher Education is "a product that Britain does superbly" while the government spends too much time and effort supporting "dying industries such as car manufacturing". Clearly Sir Roy is proud of what Imperial has to offer and believes that more should be spent on research and development. Back in February, he told *felix* that the UK government gives one of the smallest amounts to R&D out of the G8 countries, yet firmly believes that R&D is "crucial in developing sophisticated high-tech manufacturers and industries" and that they are a solution to

both "socio-economic and technology problems."

One of the solutions that Imperial has employed over the past few years has been to bring in more and more international students who are willing to pay in the region of £15,000 or so a year to get a degree from Imperial College. Currently UK students pay around £3,000 a year to study at Imperial which has generated an imbalance between the cost of training a UK student and what the government give which Sir Roy describes as "problematic".

This new move by Sir Anderson is seen as a method of solving the financial problem that currently exists, the question that is constantly hanging over the average student is: how much?

Currently, the view from a lot of Rectors and Vice-Chancellors is that the tuition fee cap placed by the government is stifling and that it needs to be changed, with many of them calling for the cap to be raised to £6,500 a year. However, if the move was made to privatise these universities, which also include Oxford, Cambridge, the London School of Economics and University College London, then there would be nothing stopping them increasing the fees for both home-grown and international students. As a response to the possible higher tuition fees, Sir Roy has indicated that there would be scholarships and bursaries set up to aid the gifted students.

This method of supporting the bright students is not a new one. Sir Richard Sykes mentioned a similar thing

to the BBC back in 2002 where he told them "if, for example, the fee were set at £10,500 ... then £16.9m would be generated if 30% of students paid full fees and 70% received bursaries." It was an early indication that there stood the possibility of Imperial having a bursary scheme to aid the incredibly gifted student, something that the current Rector also seems to favour.

A method for solving the financial problem and the constant constraint by the British government has been in the air for quite a few years. If a university chose to privatise, they would effectively solve both of these problems, however, what impact will this have on the student body? Will the universities have to make a compromise between the quality of the students they admit and the those who have the money to pay for the education? Where will the money initially come for the "scholarship endowment" that will "continue to take people from all walks of life" as Sir Roy put it? Or, is this just a way of generating as much money as they possibly can from students who are already struggling to cope with the financial constraints?

Finally, is this the only solution available? If the government is standing firmly on having 50% of students between 18-23 in higher education, then they will need more universities that will spread the money available to them very thinly. If they are unwilling to change on this, then do the top-end universities have any other option available to them? At the moment, they certainly don't think they do.



Sir Roy Anderson and Sir Richard Sykes: great minds thinking alike?

Hiding from the truth

Imperial students show a mixed set of reactions as newly formed PASS society hold awareness week on the 1989 Tiananmen Square incident

Gilead Amit & Andrew Somerville
Associate Editors past and present

Posters raising awareness about the 20th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square protests have been slashed by disgruntled students whilst on display in the Sherfield building.

The exhibition, by the Imperial College Public Awareness and Social Service Society (PASS), is currently on display outside the Great Hall in an attempt to educate the student body about the events of Tiananmen Square in 1989.

The vandalism was discovered on Tuesday morning, less than 24 hours after the exhibition started. Several posters were slashed with a sharp implement, presumably to show displeasure at the choice of subject matter, despite a specifically dedicated posterboard for students' views and comments.

Keith Hariman, the President-elect of PASS, told *felix* that the society had no political agenda and was simply trying to tell a story which has dominated modern Chinese history.

One of the comments posted in Mandarin said that the majority of non-Chinese students passing by would 'think that China really is that scary'. Another insisted that the members of PASS should be 'proud to be Chinese', and asked them not to 'de-

stroy the vision of Chinese unity in the public arena.'

Official Chinese policy since 1989 has been to cover up the events of '6-4', a date the rest of the world associates with the infamous Tiananmen Square massacre.

Thursday the 4th of June marked the 20th anniversary of the Chinese democracy movement protests for all but those who are most affected by it. In an attempt to prevent people in mainland China from hearing the story, access has been blocked to the websites Twitter and Hotmail, as well as a number of blog hosts.

External newspapers have also been affected, with some papers either blocked or interfered with in an attempt to prevent news from reaching the Chinese people.

Though the government's stance is unflinching, the mainland Chinese students at Imperial are expressing any of a number of distinct views. Keith Hariman tells of many Chinese and foreign students thanking him for organising the display, believing that the world deserves to be educated.

There are a few, he admits, that adhere to the headline patriotic view that the students were to be blamed for stirring up trouble and killing soldiers. It is people like this, he supposes, who ripped the giant crosses through the posters early last week.

A view he has heard more often,

however, comes from those Chinese students who are afraid of portraying a view of China divided. Putting Chinese criticism of China in the public domain, they claim, weakens the perceived solidarity among Chinese students. Another handwritten poster in Mandarin echoed this view, urging members of PASS to 'stop creating troubles within the campus [...] Our country is prosperous, and we should be proud of it. But if our country is humiliated, then so are we.'

Keith finds this 'love it or leave it' attitude hard to understand. "The British have condemned their slave trade", he pointed out, "and the Australians apologised for massacring the Aborigines. Why can't our great country face up to its history?"

Those Chinese students who strongly believe that the 1989 government was right in its actions will be difficult for PASS to win over, but those afraid of breaking Chinese solidarity can be reassured. The worry for many of them is that the rest of the student body will be too quick to jump to anti-Chinese conclusions, without taking the time to get to know the issues.

In an attempt to prevent such apathy, the posters will be up for most of the coming week, and members of PASS are almost constantly present to answer questions and provide translations of some of the Mandarin text appearing on the wall.



One of the many posters that had been cut with a massive 'X'

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LOICATZ



OF THE WEEK

The world beyond college walls

USA & China

While General Motors (GM) has declared itself bankrupt in the United States, its operations in China are going strong.

The collapse of GM in May 2009, despite the efforts of the US government to keep it afloat, is probably as big a deal as the collapse of Enron in 2001 or Lehmann Brothers in 2008. A symbol of globalisation and American economic power, GM employs a quarter of a million people in 140 countries.

The Detroit-based firm is dropping several unprofitable products in order to emerge as a leaner company. This includes its Hummer brand which the Chinese manufacturing firm Tengzhong has signed a tentative agreement to buy.

Additionally GM's China operations are not affected by its bankruptcy status, so it continues to operate profitably there, enjoying a 33% rise in sales since the beginning of this year and even planning to open a new factory. The thirst for new cars is still strong in China where most people will be first time car-owners, which has caused automobile companies to flock to the booming market in recent years.

Australia

Australia is launching a formal inquiry into violent attacks on its Indian students.

While crimes like robberies and assaults are not uncommon on the streets of Victoria State, the country's Indian expatriate community of around 200,000 (90,000 of whom are students) believe an unusually high number of the crimes are racially motivated. Comments from the Indian Prime Minister Singh, and a protest attended by thousands of Indians in Melbourne got that point across.

Some observers have said that because most of the violent crimes were suffered by Indian students working part-time as salesmen or taxi-drivers, it is symptomatic of feelings of economic insecurity among locals. But others have argued the crimes are being committed by ordinary opportunistic gangs making money, and that there's no need to jump on the racist bandwagon.

The inquiry will determine the extent of racism involved and recommend actions for the government to take.

Germany

Three US soldiers have died in a car accident on a German autobahn (motorway).

Another two soldiers were also injured when their rented Audi drove off the side of the road. All five belonged to a division that had just returned from a 15-month deployment in Iraq.

The first doctors on the scene suspected that alcohol may have been involved. The soldiers were on a reintegration program designed to help them adjust to life after combat deployment, in which alcohol abuse is a known documented problem.

The United States has several military bases across Germany, including as part of NATO, ever since the end of the Second World War.

Lebanon & Iran

While not known for its democratic institutions, on Sunday 7 and Thursday 12 June the Middle East will be watching on as Lebanese and Iranian citizens respectively vote in significant elections.

In Lebanon the parliamentary elections will be a showdown between the two main coalitions, dubbed March 8 and March 14 after two gigantic rallies which took place in 2005. But reducing Lebanese politics to two broad coalitions is perhaps the over-simplification of the century. The tiny country on the Mediterranean Sea is a cocktail of ethnicities, religious sects and political interference by foreign states which was once lethal as the 1975-1990 civil war testifies to.

Meanwhile in Iran the seat of President, the official head of state, is up for grabs. Current President Ahmadinejad is campaigning for re-election against two reformist candidates: Mir-Hossein Mousavi and Mehdi Karroubi.

With US President Obama's shrewdly timed visit to the region this week, it is another vital cross road on the story of the Middle East's political landscape.

Edited by Hassan Joudi & Raphael Houdmont

More election results than you can throw a stick at

Alice Rowlands

Election fever well and truly hit the students of Imperial this week when almost 2% of students raised their heads from revision for long enough to elect current Sabbaticals Hannah Theodorou, as Equal Opportunities Officer, and Mark Chamberlain as council chair. Chamberlain had a tough fight to succeed the Little Guy with Big Ideas, beating Jamie Henry by only ten votes.

Joseph Freer successfully fought off RON to become Community Action Group Chair for the coming year, pledging to make CAG 'flourish' and move beyond 'the Sunday soup run'.

RAG chair was won by Alexander Dahinten, who, for a week last term, was known as the dishiest clown on campus. Dahinten's main pledge was to avoid another 'Dashless' year with the introduction of a RAG dash organiser. Rumours that the felix team are already planning ways to 'miss-place' incoming editor Dan Wan through clever use of the RAG dash are thought to be unfounded.

Ali Mozaffari narrowly defeated RON to become Welfare Campaigns officer, using his manifesto to proclaim: "This is for my CV" and "I come up with around 5 ideas a week, admittedly these aren't all relevant to the welfare of Imperial College students, but I believe that approximately 10% of these ideas could be implemented on campus". With promises like that, students can expect particularly strong welfare representation this year.

The newly formed position of Inter-



Alex Dahinten and Mark Chamberlain both got elected

national Students' Officer was, somewhat embarrassingly, unfilled with the only interested candidate 'forgetting' to put themselves up for nomination.

Aside from the Central Union Officer Elections, the Graduate School Association elections took place with a surprisingly high 1% turn out. Returning officer Hannah Theodorou remained up-beat however, telling felix: "While the turnout was disappointing, I think we have an excellent committee that will take the GSA from strength to strength next year."

Ali Mozaffari will chair the GSA joined by Stefan Nubert as treasurer

and Patrick Wray and secretary.

Neki Patel was elected Physical Sciences Postgraduate Representative and Shuoqing Cao as Engineering Postgraduate Representative.

The GSA elections left a number of positions unfilled; Business School Postgraduate Representative, GSA Activities Co-ordinator. GSA Postscript Editor, Life Sciences Postgraduate Representative and Medical School Postgraduate Representative. Anyone interested in filling the remaining positions should contact the returning officer Hannah Theodorou at dpew@imperial.ac.uk



Letters to and from the Editor

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

Letters may be edited for length and grammar purposes

Views on these pages are not representative of felix

Good on you Diane Abbott

Dear Editor,

I have been a silent observer for the past one year or so in the university campus and the label given by the Hon. Diane Abbott M.P. to this university is justified to some extent. "Apartheid" is escaping the views of the professors and other members of the alumni because all of them are busy in the rat race to complete their tasks and achieve their set objectives. The society at large has lots of loopholes to defend their selfish behaviour and segregation into own taste groups; and even if a lonely soul does try to join or mingle amongst them he is called "pushy" or even some people ideologically is that "dogs and cats don't mix".

Universities were established to solve problems like apartheid or any other related ethnic minority issues attached to such type of social confrontations. If the educated people do not practice tolerance, equal treatment, equal opportunities, then who will? The universities should try to inject this vitamin of "peace" with awards of degrees and doctorates in excellence of subjects examined. Multicultural educational institutions need to have flexible, openminded professors and staff rather than colonial type majors who ruled with fear-of-the-master philosophy. Thus treating the ethnic minorities in a negative manner can only result in a negative impact on the university. By Newton's Law, to every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

Because the graduates are at the mercy of the university, so they play dumb hence I wish to congratulate Hon. Lady M.P. Diane Abbott to raising shy-hidden student's secrets and taboos which all add up to their imposed stress obstacles.

Regards

Anon.

Pie charts were misleading

Dear Editor

I'm afraid the pie charts used in the story about the MP Diane Abbott's apartheid comments in page 5 of last week's felix were a case of misleading statistics, albeit unintentionally. The pie charts show the proportion of home and international students at Imperial College and LSE, and the continent of origin of those international students. Using this 'evidence' you then proceeded to diminish Mrs Abbott's argument of too much white people and too few black people at the two universities.

Without trying to second guess Mrs Abbott's intentions too much, she probably doesn't care much for international students. What her comments were really talking about were home students, the 52% blue chunk for Imperial College and 30% for LSE. Your statistics were analysing a different issue to the one Mrs Abbott was rambling on about, namely the entry of black students from UK schools to top

universities which a lot of her work as an MP involves.

While I am disgusted at Mrs Abbott's use of the word apartheid its helpful to use relevant statistics - even though they may be hard to find - so the reader can compare like with like rather than be misled, which statistics can all too easily achieve.

Regards

Hassan Joudi

.....

Dear Hassan

The article was based around her use of the word *apartheid*. We looked up several definitions of the word, all of which stated that it was "An institutionalized regime of racial segregation or oppression, in which crimes against humanity are committed with the intention of maintaining one group's racial dominance." It is very easy for people to associate the word *apartheid* with the regime in South Africa where the blacks Africans were oppressed and attacked by the white Africans, however, the word can be applied to any race of people, whether they be oriental, hispanic, slavic, celtic etc..

The pie charts were there to support our claim that there was no clear apartheid at either institution, based on the definition of the word that we had found.

I too am disgusted by the her use of the word *apartheid*, and it was the main reason that we ran with the story.

Kind Regards

Jovan Nedić
felix Editor-in-Chief

We are ever vigilant about fluent speakers

Dear Editor,

I was saddened to read in the Times Higher Education Supplement that Imperial is massively cutting back its provision of languages and humanities tuition.

The opportunity to broaden study options was one of the reasons I, and I'm sure many other IC students and alumni, chose to go to Imperial. Engineers and scientists at other universities tend to just get a handful of frankly boring management courses. As a practising engineer I can confirm that the wide opportunity to study languages and humanities produces more rounded graduates better equipped to fulfill the leadership roles required in today's multi-disciplinary and multi-functional workplaces. It's something I've always considered just as important as the wide range of student clubs, societies and sports.

Language tuition is also essential to widen students' opportunities for a year abroad or overseas internship. Many of my friends at IC were able to pursue these. In every case it contributed much to their personal development. Most had not studied the language before university and would therefore have been excluded under

the new plans.

Imperial's provision is, I believe, unique for science students in the UK; but not amongst the Ivy League institutions that we now know the Rector is so keen to emulate. It's perhaps worth noting that the condemned Roman History module was introduced at IC in 2005, in response to MIT announcing that it was their most popular option amongst their engineering students.

Perusing felix online I was surprised to see a comment that languages are seen as a soft option. That might be true of a small number of students who cover up their existing language proficiency but it's an extraordinary generalisation to make. I'm sure most students whose natural talent is in numerate, scientific disciplines find both language and essay-type subjects difficult and hard work. Certainly I found my French, Italian and political philosophy courses much harder than any engineering module. I know it's been a couple of years since I graduated but we always used to consider the management courses as the noddies ones: does anyone seriously think "accounting" is even in the same league as "fluid dynamics"?

I know protests have been planned. I hope IC students are able to reverse these plans and the College is able to find a way to keep humanities and languages alive.

Regards

Mustafa Arif
DoC / EEE 1999-2003
IC Union President 2003-2005

Statement from the Rector:

Sir Roy Anderson provides some context to Imperial staff about the recent media coverage over his recent statement to privatise Higher Education

Colleagues may have seen reports in the media over the past few days stating that I wish to free the College from government control. To actually do so would require a proposal, a debate and a decision within the College and at its Council that has not taken place. The media's emphasis is inevitable but the headlines obscure the real debate I am calling for, which I hope to explain here, and have consistently stated in recent press interviews.

As I have said in Q&A sessions with staff (<http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/rector/yourquestions>) at Hammersmith and Silwood in the last week, the College is facing very tough economic times. We are going to see significant cuts in UK public expenditure on science and higher education in the coming years, which will be felt for a long period hereafter. Imperial must argue forcefully against these cuts being applied equally across the sector and in particular to the detriment of the UK's world class universities.

In addition there are three key issues we must confront.

We must have the freedom to need to set our own fees for all our courses. The value of an Imperial degree is not reflected in the income we receive. A serious debate about student fees is re-

quired and we have to raise its visibility. However, in any changes proposed, we must be absolutely confident that they would not deter prospective students who would flourish at the College. I have repeatedly stressed we are committed as a College to encouraging students from any background and to try and prevent financial circumstances acting as a barrier to entry to Imperial.

Secondly, we must seriously consider the opportunities open to us on the global stage. In the growing demography of highly qualified potential students from overseas, in particular China and India, there will be a huge demand for British universities to provide their high quality education to the world.

Thirdly, and touching on a matter flowing directly from Imperial's founding mission: universities are the source of discoveries that, if commercialised, can be used to assist the UK economy in its recovery. When this country is crying out for a long-term industrial strategy, and our universities are placed so well to support this through the supply of people and ideas, we cannot stay silent and must position ourselves to influence thinking.

It is an often-overlooked fact that the UK is excellent at providing higher education. It is an industry worth £45



Sir Roy Anderson

billion to the UK. The fact that we have four universities in the world top 10 underlines Britain's standing. To harm these 'brand leaders' would be to hurt the whole sector.

The UK's leading universities should be properly supported and nurtured; if they can't be, we should debate whether they should be set free. But doing nothing would imperil a unique culture and an international asset. My responsibility is to lead the College through this period of economic difficulty and to build a platform for its future success, and in doing so I believe we have much to offer the UK.

As ever I warmly welcome your comments direct to me at rector@imperial.ac.uk.

Hannah Theodorou discusses Humanities



The last week or so has seen a flurry of interest in humanities teaching at Imperial following proposed changes to the department's delivery of teaching. I believe there have been some misconceptions amongst students following the release of this information, including the process of the review and the reasons behind it and I feel it's my responsibility to shed some light on them. The decision to review the activities of the Humanities Department was originally made in May 2008 by the Strategic Education Committee. The aim was not to cut courses, save money

or remove jobs but to provide some rationalisation to the way we deliver the various courses. Money wasn't a driver - at this point we were blissfully unaware of the financial turmoil that was to come. Availability of classes had been determined by sporadic demand. The growth was uneven - we don't currently teach Level 1 and 2 French, but do so for Spanish for example. There were also disparities across the College which needed to be addressed in light of the College's intent to make all courses Bologna compatible (transferable across Europe). When I first heard of the review around Christmas it was already common knowledge amongst the Humanities staff and the academics in Engineering and the Natural Sciences. By this point most of the information gathered for the review panel, which consisted of both academic representatives and humanities staff, had been collated and a set of recommendations drafted. These encompassed issues ranging from the role humanities plays as part of undergraduate degrees, provision for Postgraduates, ECTS scores and the structure of the College day which currently includes protected lunchtimes for humanities teaching. The release of this information following Senate has seen the formation of facebook groups, petitions, national press coverage, letters to Felix and numerous emails popping up in my inbox suggesting that on this occasion I have not been representative of student views which I fully take on board.

Contrary to popular belief, the discussion about the place of Level 1 and 2 languages as credit courses has been a debate that has been rumbling for years. However, this was the first time it had been put forward for a decision. Senate is designed to be the ultimate representative body - if a proposal falls here then it won't be implemented. When the paper went to Senate there were some comments but in the end the proposal passed with little objections from the academics. The only way students are going to win the argument that Levels 1 and 2 should be kept as credit courses is if the academics (who, in addition to the Student Union, are there to represent your interests too) turn around and say they value the part they play in their degree courses. It's not a message I have heard loud and clear so far. Many students and languages staff have called the other cuts arbitrary, as we see some languages disappearing from the credit programme altogether. Far from being arbitrary cuts, the reason Italian, Russian and Arabic will no longer be offered for credit is because they are currently only taught at Levels 1 and 2 only (apart from Russian which extends to Level 3). Teaching hours for credit are also decreasing, the reason being the Languages staff have said this will not compromise the teaching.

If employability is the most important attraction for students who come to Imperial, the College's educational strategy needs to focus on this. Feedback from employers has been that

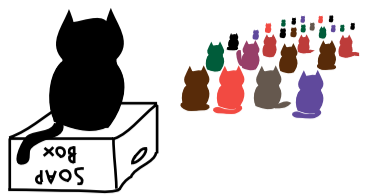
despite the excellent academic calibre of our students, they simply aren't performing sufficiently well at interviews and assessment centres. It sounds harsh, but sometimes we're not viewed as team players or good communicators. Language skills are, of course, invaluable in a global workplace. However, employers are looking for advanced-level European languages as a whole, not pre-GCSE. The ability to communicate to a wide range of audiences, and understanding the wider social implications of the work that we do by all of our students by integrating this into the undergraduate programme has long seen to be of utmost importance, particularly at institutions with a strong Science and Engineering base where we were traditionally trained to be knowledge focussed instead.

Don't get me wrong - I understand the important role that Humanities has played in a lot of your university experiences and employability isn't the only reason students choose them. On a student experience note, Imperial has to set priorities that they believe and understand to be important to our students. Students fit into the setting of this agenda, through representation on College Committees and other means such as national and internal surveys well as other things we don't immediately appreciate such as letters to Felix. From first hand experience, your concerns are being listened to.

I do believe that further tweaks could and should be accommodated, but I

don't think the answer is fighting for everything to be saved with no other reason than 'because we want them'. In an ideal world, we would continue to let students study any language that they choose for free but in an unstable financial climate we have to set priorities. I feel that sometimes Imperial makes life difficult for itself on occasions - I believe the expectations of our students exceed those of most other British universities. When we started charging for laundry in halls, in line with every student residence in the UK, it upset scores of students. It doesn't necessarily mean that it was the wrong thing to do. Residences didn't respond to requests to revert to the old system. Instead, they listened when we asked for an extension to the drying time and increases in the number of machines available in certain halls. Other things I do think we take for granted, such as unprecedented free access to a gym which most Londoners would kill for are only fully appreciated when we are threatened with their removal.

In summary, I'm open to hearing your views and I will pass them on as long as we have our own feasible recommendations. The first step is a discussion at our Student Union Council on Monday the 8th of June at 6.30pm in the Union Dining Hall which all students are welcome to. If you can't make it, carry on sending me emails (dpew@imperial.ac.uk), posting on facebook and Live and writing to felix I look forward to engaging with students on this debate.



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

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

Valerio Chang's humble opinion on the BNP



"Unlike what other people say, I don't think the BNP is racist, or white supremacists, I just think their policies don't make sense"



I know that this isn't a very academically solid definition, but I think I remember something about molecular Diffusion and Entropy talking about reaching an equilibrium. As scents diffuse and heat dissipates from a point source, the nature of things in the universe is that a spread of entities is unstoppable till an optimum point is reached, and any effort to restore order is futile in the long run.

"Committed to stemming and reversing the tide of non-white immigration and to restoring, by legal changes, negotiation and consent the overwhelmingly white makeup of the British population that existed in Britain prior to 1948."

It also claims that it does not regard whites as superior to other ethnic groups. The party claims that preference for one's own ethnicity is a part of human nature.

3) What is a place of ethnic origin? Where in Africa do you place a 'African', does one go to Bagladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka or India? And what if they don't speak the language nor have family ties there?

that anyone can enter my country. According to Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, citizens may not be forbidden to leave their country. I shall set a precedent where a similar provision is set regarding entry of non-citizens.

Taken this analogy to immigration policy, I can only interpret the policies of the British National Party as being unnatural and against the laws of nature.

Restricts party membership to "indigenous British ethnic groups deriving from the class of 'Indigenous Caucasian'". The BNP also accepts white immigrants that are assimilated into one of those ethnicities.

4) Science and personal experience tell me upbringing and environment determine the behaviour and character of individuals, not race.

Everyone will be welcome to Valerioland, and those who deserve it will be allowed to stay. To make sure people contribute as much as possible, and the welfare system will be reformed to give aid to people deserving it.

Deserving is an earn merit, not a birthright is the BNP claim: their flyer claim that the British have the right to Britain (and not immigrant) by citing Trafalgar, Dunkirk, Falklands...what logic is that? Does America have the right to Iraq and Afghan mountains?

Love versus atheism? Caz Knight decides



"Love comes in many forms [...] many will have experienced at least one type, although it is Eros that is the most idolised"



In my last year at school, Richard Dawkins came to give a talk. I don't recall the subject of his talk but it was illuminating and got the intellectual juices flowing nonetheless.

sought after and ethereal things in our world if one is to go by painting, poetry, prose and the hoards of internet dating sites promising the stuff. It is the thing which keeps us from despairing and keeps us persisting, a thing of comfort or maybe of immense pain.

wards to talk, listen, comfort and enjoy time with that person we have chosen. I have always wondered about Dawkins' wife - both of them, for he got divorced from the first one. If your husband firmly believes that we are only here as a result of our genes' insatiable drive to persist and that the whole purpose of our existence is to produce offspring, then that does not leave much room for any fanciful notions such as romance and reasons for spending a fulfilling life with someone.

I was raised a Catholic and so I have a sort of 'instinct', which has been instilled in me by my parents, that there is something greater at work, something going on behind the scenes. Or perhaps it is arrogance on my part and I refuse to accept that I am only flesh and bones and blood and a few chemicals that are released at convenient times to make me believe I am angry, sad, and joyful or in love.

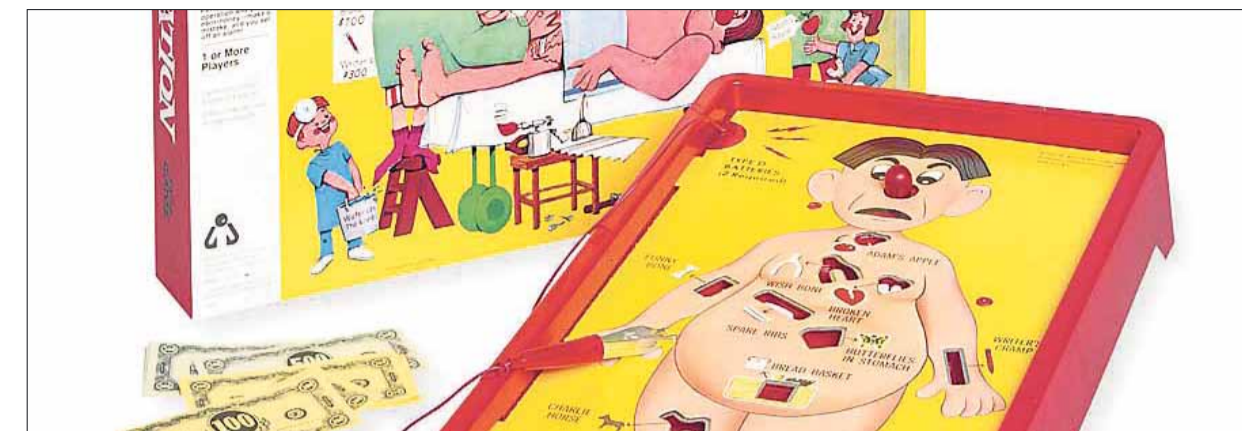
the body when our senses behold the one we love, but why should a scientific explanation extinguish any possibility that something deeper and unexplainable is going on?

comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Rhys Davies looks at the body bits of IC students



"I've often seen Liver talking with Mouth behind Stomach's back; I think they're planning on downing a bottle of whiskey"



The Medics are wrong. At least when it comes to organisation of the human body. You've all seen those posters in the back of GCSE Biology of a man stripped to his, as per your teacher's persuasion, skeleton, muscles, or hotpants. Some of you may even have seen those wonderful Halloween props, the model skeletons. But I have come to realise that the human body, or mine at the least, is something far stranger.

anatomy and physiology, humans are, in fact, a loose collection of autonomous organs, arranged with no particular care, and held together by wallpaper paste. Perhaps I'm generalising... Below is a brief summary of my abnormal physiology. If you're interested in a Nobel Prize, or perhaps just a movie and dinner, please get in touch (rhys.davies08@imperial.ac.uk).

It may have been transplanted into me from someone with free money - it's oblivious to the entire Sainsbury's Basics range. Stomach's neighbour is my liver. Befitting a student, its favourite past-time is getting totally sloshed and hang the consequences. Fortunately, Stomach is his designated driver, which explains why I'm not on life support right now with alcohol poisoning. I've often seen Liver talking with Mouth behind Stomach's back; I think they're planning to down a bottle of whiskey when he's not looking...

tempt to move anywhere prompts cranky groans from them. Why go to lectures? They grumble, you'll just be back here again anyway! They are particularly frustrated after a session at the gym. They are not against exercise as a rule; they just think it's for other body parts.

should sleek and focussed, proving the Riemann hypothesis effortlessly, even when hungover (Bloody Liver!). The reality is not nearly so flattering. Brain is a bundle of neuroses, psychoses and overdoes, with the consistency of rice pudding. He's plagued by OCD, ADHD, SAD, PMS, SIADH, ABC and many other acronyms. Over-excited by all the shiny things that London has to offer, the poor dear finds it impossible to focus on anything long enough to get anything done. His trains of thought are from Hornby. This is partly why Stomach is in charge - he doesn't have a concentration span equal to that of an amnesiac goldfish.

Instead of the "classical" models

a particular grudge against Snakebite.

By contrast, my legs are much more laid back. Actually, they are so laid back that they border on comatose. Any at-

And lastly, there is my brain. The reason I'm here today and the supposed mastermind of the whole operation. The mind of an Imperial student

will be there waiting for me...

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$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + V(x)\psi = E\psi$$

Interior Traces: The Drama of Brain Science

James Wilkes

When the first anatomists lifted the brain out of the skull, they profoundly changed our understanding of its relation to the mind. Today, imaging technologies allow us to observe the structures of the live brain in incredible detail, and link its activity to thoughts, feelings, and actions. This has already changed how we think about ourselves, as newspapers report the discovery of areas of the brain apparently responsible for everything from optimism to religious belief.

This scenario is exciting, but raises serious questions about how we want to use and regulate these technologies. On the one hand, our ability to diagnose and treat mental illness and brain damage should improve beyond recognition. On the other, the use of brain scans in interrogation, or to predict future criminality from a particular pattern of brain activity, is troubling and far from unimaginable. Indeed, a commercial company in the US has already tried to bring fMRI 'lie-detection' evidence to court, despite concerns from scientists about its reliability.

These were the kinds of issues that Louise Whiteley and I wanted to bring to a wider audience. We agreed that the question of exactly when and how we ought to look inside people's minds is one that we should discuss as a soci-

ety. And we decided that the best way to do it was through radio drama, creating a series of short narratives that translated these abstract philosophical questions into concrete scenarios that people could relate to.

The stories that we chose to focus on involve two characters, a middle-aged woman who develops a brain tumour that causes changes in her personality, and a young man with psychopathy who comes into conflict with the law. By imagining the experiences they might have had in 1906, the present day, and in 2030, we were able to explore how our society is changing in its ability to understand and cure brain disease, but also in its attitudes to criminality and madness. And projecting into the future, we were able to imagine some of the advantages, but also some of the worrying possibilities, that the brain science of tomorrow might bring.

Interior Traces is being broadcast on Resonance 104.4fm, with two shows still to go on the 5th and 12th of June at 3.30pm. We're also going to be at the Secret Garden Party Festival from the 23rd – 26th of July. Visit our website, www.interiortraces.com, to find out more and join in the discussion.

Louise Whiteley is a student on Imperial's Science Communication MSc course, and James Wilkes is a PhD student at the London Consortium.

New incentives to encourage chlamydia testing

Jessica Bland

"Do you fancy a free drink?" Why of course I do. Why else would I have just walked into the Union Bar. "Well, you'll have to take this test first." OK, but why do I need a plastic pot in order to take a test. "It's a Chlamydia test." Oh right, I see.

The NHS in West London's Chlamydia screening programme is targeting 15-24 year olds. One in 10 of which, when tested, are infected with the disease. Over the last month it stepped up a gear with the MAYbe advertising campaign and celebrity endorsements. You can even get a £10 HMV voucher in return for a home testing kit. Just go to <https://www.check-kit.org.uk/>.

It might seem like Chlamydia is just a public health issue. We know how it works, how to treat it and now we just need to stop it spreading. But this week a group of UK scientists published research showing how these bacteria can still surprise us.

In Sweden in 2006, a new variant of Chlamydia appeared: one that was invisible to the tests used at the time. The new study reveals why this happens.

A single bacterium grew without

part of the DNA code normally found in the plasmid – floating DNA not part of the bacteria's chromosomes. This bit of code was exactly what Swedish labs used to test whether an infection is Chlamydia or not.

"It turns out that this piece of the DNA is not essential to the Chlamydia. Therefore, an accidental deletion of the DNA won't kill the bacterium, but it will stop it being identified," explained Helena Seth-Smith, from the Wellcome Trust Sange Institute.

She said that they had never seen this kind of mutation before. Most cell mutations occur because of interaction between bacteria. But Chlamydia grows inside human cells. And so, bacteria have little chance to interact with one another.

The new type of mutation is a warning for tests on other bacterial infections. If the bacterium of another disease undergoes a similar test, "it's possible that another chance deletion could make that bacterium invisible."

The researchers also identified what they think are the essential parts of the Chlamydia DNA. These make more reliable targets for diagnostic tests because if they mutate the bacterium is



Actors Anna Turnland, Nick Romero, and Michael Roberts perform Episode 2 of Interior Traces at the Wellcome Collection on the 7th of May, 2009. Episode 2 is set in 1906, and follows a psychopath called Mick, and his encounter with an asylum doctor who is convinced that he is 'criminally insane'.



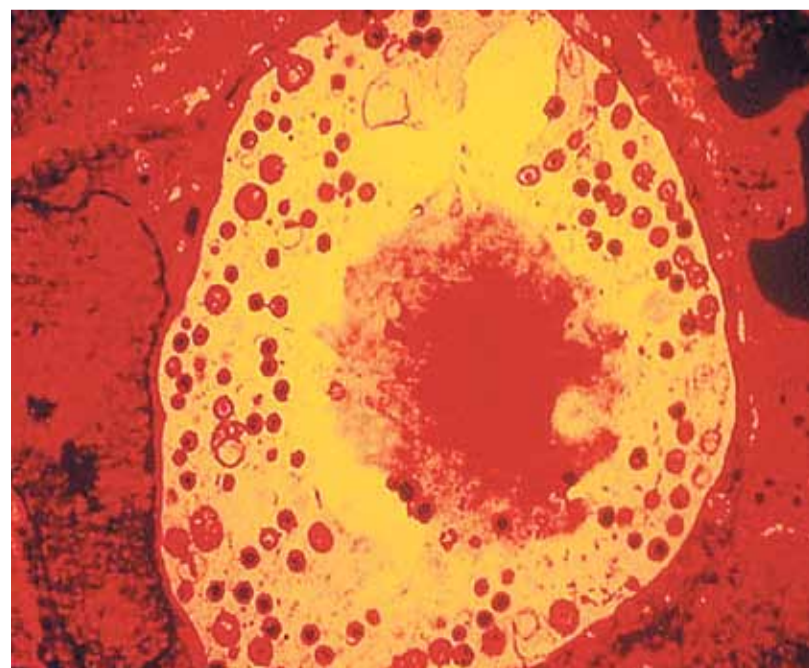
Musicians Carla Rees and Oliver Coates

unlikely to survive anyway. Seth-Smith is hopeful that future tests will be better designed as a result.

This new research shows just how much we can still learn about diseases we thought we already understood. And it shows how useful these lessons can be for keeping the diseases under control.

Of course, public awareness drives are necessary. And maybe screening campaigns will help London lose its label as the UK's 'Chlamydia capital'. But the lesson from this study, is that Chlamydia is not just a public health issue. Good public health policy still needs to be backed up by good, detailed genetic research.

Chlamydia close up: a bacterial infection which is usually passed on during sex, it is the most common STI with up to 70% of those infected having no symptoms.



Music helps stroke victims' visual awareness

Olivia Sharp
Science Correspondent

Music stirs the emotions, inducing a kaleidoscope of feelings in a person, be it blissful reverence from a Handel Mass, or subdued melancholy from one of The Smiths' odes to the futility of existence.

The profound effect of music is commonly agreed, but what if you were told the emotions music induces can improve the way your brain functions? Neuroscientists from Imperial College and the University of Birmingham are looking into this phenomenon, studying the effect of pleasant music on patients who have lost part of their visual awareness through brain damage caused by stroke.

Impaired visual awareness or 'neglect' affects as many as 60% of people who suffer a stroke to the perioral cortex on the right side of their brain. It causes patients to neglect the left hand side of their visual field. In extreme cases, sufferers might dress half of their bodies, and eat only the food on the right side of the plate.

Previous studies have shown a positive attitude can improve the efficiency of cognitive processing; the research team used this as inspiration to see if positive emotions caused by music might help stroke patients improve their visual neglect. Three stroke patients who suffer from chronic visual

neglect took part in the study, and were asked to pick some of their favourite music. A popular choice was country and western singer Kenny Rogers, who has since publicised the research on his website. The patients' visual awareness was tested by asking them to press a button when they could see a red light appear. All participants saw an improvement when they heard a favourite tune. One patient noticed the light in 65% of the cases when his favourite music was played; compared to just 15% when there was no music or music he did not like.

So what is happening in the brain when a good feeling seems to make the visual neglect much better?

Dr Pia Rotshtein from the University of Birmingham was a researcher on the study, and admits they are not entirely sure of the connection - "there is a theory, but this is really handwaving." She explains, "Visual neglect is an attentional problem, its not that they don't have the visual information, it's just that it doesn't reach their consciousness. There is a metaphor that says visual attention is like a spotlight. You can move the spotlight in the environment, you can light specific objects and see them much clearer. You can tend to a very local area in your visual field, or you can attend, like, broadly."

"The theory suggests that if you are in a positive mood, your visual attention is broader, you attend to a larger envi-



The scientists are thinking about calling the discovery 'The Kenny Rogers Effect'

ronment. So we thought to ourselves this is a possible explanation.'

Using MRI scans to monitor brain function the team also found pleasant music stimulated the frontal region of the brain, responsible for emotion and

decision making, to help the region of the brain affected by stroke.

As Rotshtein puts it, 'once you're in a good mood, you have the frontal cortex being recruited to help the perioral cortex, to kind of kick it and get it

going.'

When asked if they are recommending the treatment to doctors, Rotshtein replies, 'I think music is generally good for everyone right? You don't need science for that!'

Model predicts juvenile raven behaviour

Jacob Aaron

Gangs of teenagers roaming the land are generally bad news, but not when it comes to ravens. Juvenile ravens hunting in packs have gotten some scientists very excited, as this behaviour was predicted by a mathematical model before ever being seen in the wild.

Dr Sasha Dall lectures in mathematical ecology at the University of Exeter, and in 2002 set out to solve an evolutionary puzzle: why do young ravens share their food? Natural selection tells us organisms should only help themselves and their relatives. It seems that no one told the ravens.

Typically, juvenile ravens spend their winters drifting in and out of communal roosts. They scavenge for food, usually sheep carcasses, by themselves. Having found a tasty meal they return to the roost and recruit other ravens for a feast the next day. These shared dwellings can house up to 100 individuals, but they don't stick around. Each bird will move on every few days to another roost and likely won't encounter their former roommates again.

"From an evolutionary perspective, this is a bit weird," says Dall. The ravens are unrelated so will not pass on their genes by helping out others. They also don't encounter the same individuals often enough to build up a sense of co-operation. Using a technique called game theory, in which many different strategies are played out, Dall built a model to explain this unusual behaviour.

The favoured hypothesis amongst ecologists was roosts act as a kind of "information centre" to the advantage of all the juveniles. Individual birds are unlikely to find a carcass by themselves, but if every bird shares informa-



Just like students, juvenile ravens live communally

tion about food locations then they all benefit.

Dall's model showed that this strategy emerged naturally when ravens try to maximise their access to food. "In the long run, they find more carcasses than they otherwise would," he says. Bringing a few friends along also allows young birds to chase off any adults who might lay claim to carcasses in their territory.

Problem solved then - except the model didn't provide just one answer. "I did manage to predict this typical behaviour, but my model came up with another evolutionary stable strategy," explains Dall. According to the model, gangs of juvenile ravens should also fly around looking for food together, and never roost in the same place twice. But no-one had ever seen this kind of behaviour.

Perhaps this would have been dismissed as purely mathematical curi-

osity, if weren't for Jonathan Wright, professor of biology at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. Wright was studying a large raven roost in North Wales when he noticed that the juvenile birds were organising themselves in to hunting packs, just as Dall predicted.

"I was surprised to discover that this behaviour had been observed somewhere," says Dall. The variables used in the model, such as the size of the ravens' search area, matched the real world exactly. The two scientists wrote up their findings in a joint paper, published earlier this year in the journal PLoS One.

So what will Dall turn his mathematical predictions to next? "The evolution of animal personality differences," he says. Dall plans to investigate why animals of the same species behave differently within social groups. Perhaps game theory has the answer.



The Colours of Nature: Ed Sharp took this photo in Boracay, Philippines. Boracay, the Philippines: Getting a tow from another boat through the strong currents provided the perfect photo opportunity with the sunset in the background'



Tackling mental illness through art

Emily Wilson goes to her favourite London museum, the Wellcome Collection, for two exhibitions that offer contrasting views of mental illnesses and how they can affect, and be affected by, the arts

Currently Wellcome are displaying two exhibitions side-by-side on mental illness. This is a tough topic to take on, and the two exhibitions do so in polar opposite ways and to quite different levels of success.

Madness & Modernity focuses on the interplay of art and mental illness in Vienna around 1900. This struck me as a weirdly narrow scope for a major exhibition, reading like the title of an obscure PhD thesis. It includes the architecture of sanatoria, artists' interpretations of the mentally ill and art produced by the mentally ill themselves. The exhibition space is smoothly designed, arranged with thought, logic and precision. The use of architectural shape and design is a consistent underlying theme. The layout and structure was so elegant it was almost art in itself. As always, the exhibition space and indeed the whole of the Wellcome Collection had some pretty vicious air conditioning. This is pleasant when you arrive out of the hot summer sun, following a sticky tube journey, but less nice an hour or two into your visit and you're shivering. I suppose it does add to the atmosphere of this particular exhibition.

It kicks off with a film walking us around Narrenturm, a Viennese sanatorium known as the "Tower of Fools" and now a museum. This is a wonderful start to the exhibition, taking you round and round the circular corridors in a way that tricks the mind. Its ambient clunking and breathy whir can be heard across the gallery, keeping it very slightly sinister.

Fans of Sigmund Freud may find Madness & Modernity worth a look.

That's the era of psychiatry we're talking about, and his name gets banded about throughout. There are some odd little objects from his study on loan from his London museum. They're quirky and pleasant to look at, though I don't entirely see their relevance.

The exhibition as a whole isn't as sickening or disturbing as I had expected, though the electrotherapeutic cage raises a shudder, as do some photos of patients with physical deformities taken by Jean-Martin Charcot. The final section on 'The Patient Artist' is an uplifting highlight containing the charming drawings and scribbles of Josef Karl Radler, confined to a private Viennese asylum. Ornate and fascinating, they have intricate details and sad faces in ink line and crisply used watercolour.

It's difficult to draw a verdict on this exhibition. It's well put together and informative but I don't really see the point of it. It doesn't tackle any issues or offer a substantial enlightenment. It selects a period of cultural and social history and picks out a few relevant artifacts without offering an underlying theme or take-home message. It's nice to look round but wouldn't be worth travelling to see in its own right.

What makes your trip worthwhile is Bobby Baker, performance artist and mental health patient, and her incredible drawings. This delight leaves the more traditional Madness & Modernity display of fact and artifact in the dust with its bright, light and funky journey through Baker's dealings with the mental health system.

This exhibition of her doodled diary both acts as an in-depth commentary on the modern experience of mental illness and the failings of the health



A sample of the wonderful doodlings of the fabulous Bobby Baker. There's a whole room full of these!

care system on offer, and as a light-hearted jaunt on the funny side of going crazy. It's astounding how tender but in-your-face Baker is about her experiences. Interwoven are her family, work, daily routines, chats with her therapists and her days of darkness, self-harm and hallucination. Tears come to my eyes several times, notably when a finally recovering Bobby is diagnosed with breast cancer. However,

smiles and giggles appeared much more often.

I am a big fan of doodles and the doodlers who produce them, and I get excited when they pop up amongst more highbrow art. And here a whole gallery of doodles being displayed as the fascinating insight into the human psyche that they are was an utter delight. This is a perfect way to tackle mental health issues as well as entertaining and fas-

inating viewers. I strongly urge all to drop into the Wellcome and see this. It is, after all, completely free to do so.

Go for Bobby, but walk round Madness & Modernity on your way.

Madness & Modernity
Until 28 June

Bobby Baker's Diary Drawings
Until 2 August



This is a model of Narrenturm, a big spooky mental hospital in Vienna, now a museum. We like museums!



One of a series of crazy grimacing heads in Madness & Modernity

A bright red star over the USSR

Rosie Milton goes to see the 'Red Star Over Russia', temporary room in the Tate Modern

Red is recognised as a highly symbolic colour. In terms of emotions, it can represent the hue of passion, spirit and anger. Countries use red as national symbols: Japan has the red sun, Poland the red earth and Russia had the red star.

As part of the recent re-hang at the Tate Modern, under the display theme 'States of Flux' was a room titled 'Red Star Over Russia'. Here, eighty-five propaganda posters are on display, flooding the room with an electric humming of red, ornamenting the powerful subject matter. Red is also, as we well know, the colour of blood.

The history of these posters begins with the end of the First World War and the collapse of the once powerful and immensely rich tsarist regime. The October Revolution in 1917 was described by John Reed, an American journalist, as the "ten days that shook the world". During those days, the Bolsheviks seized power and Vladimir Lenin began to mould Russia into Karl Marx's socialist design of a unified, 'communised' state.

To generate public support, the printing presses were seized during the revolt and a river of newspapers, leaflets and posters made their way through the cities and towns – reaching out to the common man and woman with their bright colour and bold messages.

The Soviet poster has its own pictorial history and recognisable themes, from the repetitious duplication of photographs of Lenin, to the grotesque depiction of capitalists as fat cats and greedy golems – these posters embodied the art of propaganda in a rich visual way. The posters on display in the Tate Modern vary in examples of photography, architectural display, caricature and the abstract – sometimes an amalgamation of all those things. The colour varies also, mostly alongside monochrome – yellow, blue, green and above all, red.

One of the most striking was designed by Iosif Gerasimovich for 'The Mullah's Third wife', a silent film made in 1928. The poster depicts a beautiful siren, of an illustrated style very similar to the film posters of 1920s America. The woman's dress however, consists

of a structure of bold, colourful lines – suggestive of a garment, yet contrived figuratively, implying an illusion.

The story of the film, following the misadventure of a young woman in a man's world was meant as a criticism of the lack of freedom for women in the East.

Sadly, the same was true of Soviet Russia, even though those in power seemed unaware of this. The Soviet woman was granted the 'freedom' to work alongside Soviet man, yet the inequality arose when man, coming home from work demanded to be fed and cared for, refusing to aid in other chores such as cleaning the house and caring for children and the elderly. These the Soviet woman had to manage, without complaint, because of this gift of 'freedom' that a life of communism had blessed her with. We can see the Soviet woman worker in posters of the era – sometimes triumphant, her fist punching the sky in victory, sometimes bordering on the sexual – mouth parted, collar open – certainly an attractive image to both men and women to aspire to.

Finally, even more strangely – but common to Soviet ideals – as an androgynous sort of non-man, non-woman – simply a Soviet 'comrade', focused on the ideal of the greater good. The 'socialist experiment', as it was known, was just that – a theory forced into reality by a group of radicals who wanted the best for their people, but also who appeared to miss a fundamental step in the social evolution, as fundamentally laid down by Marx in his 'Communist Manifesto'. This being the fact that communism should be the next logical step after capitalism from feudalism. Russia had been largely feudal, with serfs serving their lords (and the tsar owning everything). What was to become the USSR – a huge expanse of Asia and Europe swallowed up by 'Matushka-Rus' – was far from being capitalist. Some of these areas, such as the more remote places of Siberia or even closer to home in Romania, are still struggling in the aftermath of communism from being cajoled into a socialist regime. A typical communist attitude was for '2+2=5'.

One poster from 1931 explains this: "Fulfill the Five-Year Industrial-Financial Plan in Four Years", typically hurrying physical progress without really considering mental growth. Wisdom of this kind led to expansive visions of futuristic cities and Vladimir Tatlin is one of the most recognised utopian constructivists. Edifices such as his 'Monument to the Third International' are well-recognised in the visual history of Soviet Russia, even though its construction never came to fruition (like many other towering visions, the basic needs of the people over-



"People and the army united"

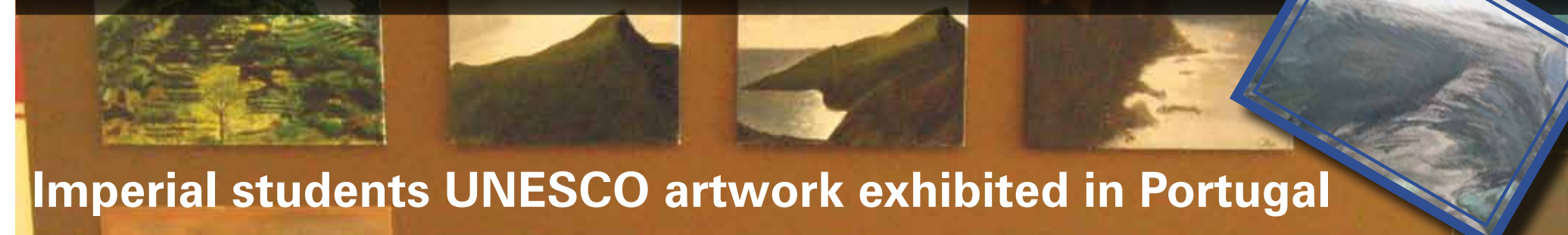
took). The aim seemed to be to reach for the stars, to outdo every other developed society with technology and man-power. Historian Boris Groys attributes this egotistical, phallogocentric thinking to a historical national paranoia of inferiority. Whether or not this psychosis still remains is something to contemplate.

It seems easy in retrospect to reflect upon the nature of communism as inherently flawed, but the truth is, those born into communism yearn now for

the time when they felt secure in the knowledge that someone was watching over them at all times (readers familiar with Orwell would shudder at the thought). Perhaps there is some sense in this sentiment however, in an age and so-called civilised society where babies are snatched from their beds and we fear teenagers more than any other.

At least in communist Russia they had goals to work for and a neighbour to watch their back.

Next week:



Imperial students UNESCO artwork exhibited in Portugal

Biochemistry boys relaxing in the sun

PHOTOGRAPH BY ZOË DOBELL





Nightlife

Nightlife Editor – Charlotte Morris

nightlife.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Oh yeah, I got Punk'd!

So you've never been to Punk? Charlotte Morris wonders why the hell not?



Punk: Small but perfectly formed

Just off Oxford Street, there are a number of little indie-electro havens ready for you to discover. We've all been to The Roxy, but Punk seems to be completely undiscovered by the majority of Imperial students.

This rather small but friendly little club was an excellent choice for our Monday night out, a drastic improvement from the Tiger Tiger days of first term and freshers' week. With drinks promotions, such as £2.50 for a single vodka/whiskey + mixer and an entry fee of only £5, it's perfect for us skint students. And students it was full of, just not Imperial ones.

The music played was not what you might expect given the name of the club, and there was nobody sporting a green mohawk, covered in tattoos and

piercings. Instead, the Punk DJs gave us an eclectic mix of electro-indie; from brand new chart hits such as La Roux 'In for the kill' and Metro Station's 'Shake it', to electro (mostly Justice) remixes of pretty much anything, anything you can dance along to. They even managed to throw in some classic Prodigy and RUN DMC towards the end of the night and kindly managed to refrain from playing The Killers, Vampire Weekend and all the other indie cheese that everyone knows the words to but we can all live without.

The words I'd use to describe the interior would be 'small but perfectly formed'. It's stylish decor and a dance floor that you don't stick to makes you realise why Punk charges you £15 to get in on any other night. And yes, it was rather small in comparison to Fab-

ric, Koko and such-like, but bigger definitely doesn't mean better in this case. The small size of the place just added to the friendly, inviting atmosphere of the place.

Of all the clubs I've been to in London, this is the only one I can honestly describe as friendly. Everyone seemed to be simply out to have a good time, no snobbery, no dodgy looks. I could stand to queue at the bar without going insane because the people around me weren't trying to crush me against it or shouting in my ear. I didn't even mind sharing my cigarettes with those 'social smokers', because they actually were being social. In fact, one of the highlights of my night was talking to new people, either at the bar or in the smokers area (which was a small stretch of pavement across the street,

and my friend was sick on it - how eminently doesn't mean better in this case. We were sat outside, getting some air when some guy comes up and asks to borrow a lighter, we oblige and he proceeds to tell us his life story. Annoying, you might think? No, it was hilarious. It was the first time I'd heard a story that had no point to it and I didn't care about since I read Jade Goody's obituary. I find it very rare in London when people will approach you and start talking complete rubbish to you. The story he told ended with 'And then I moved to London, I think, I don't know why. Actually, where do I live?' I couldn't help him answer that one, and my friend was in hysterics, so we returned to the dance floor.

Granted, there were a few indie-Cindys, who, unfortunately, got in the way when Topshop on Oxford Street

was projectile vomiting, and also a few of the type of guys who wear black-rimmed glasses on a night out even though they don't need them to see, which I personally find slightly insulting, as I do have to wear glasses in order to see, and those little red marks I get on the side of my nose after having lab specs over my prescription glasses actually HURT! So lets not take they piss guys, eh? If you don't need them, don't wear them.

But you are going to get those people at any indie night, anywhere in the UK. And a Punk you can kind of let that go, because the majority of people were really fun, and that made the atmosphere so enjoyable. We had a great night there, I'd definitely recommend it. So I'll see you there next Monday, yeah?

Regent Street or Camden?

Regent St might be expensive, but Camden Town will give it a run for its money on cocktails

Sketch

Sketch, situated on Conduit Street, just off Regent Street, is possibly one of the most expensive and exclusive bars I have yet visited in London. And if you're up for rubbing shoulders with the A-list celebs then I guess this is as good a spot as any, with the likes of Pixie Geldof and Nick Grimshaw, among other London socialites, frequenting both the cocktail bar and the (extortionately priced) restaurant.

I have to say, the best thing about this bar would have to be the toilets. I know that very few people start a review by talking about the quality and cleanliness of the toilets, but these have to be seen to be believed. The stairs up to the toilets look as though somebody spilled a giant bottle of red nail varnish all over them. Once inside the toilets, they're dazzling; covered in diamanté and mirrors, they were immaculate. There was also a woman dressed in a French Maid's outfit, standing to give me a hand towel. As I took the towel from her hand, I thought to myself, 'Have Bob Geldof's children ever picked up a hand towel for themselves? I doubt it.'

Enough of toilets, the decor in the rest of the bar was similarly grand. The Parlour bar is kitted out with as much modern art as four science students could possibly cope with. Yet we sat

there and admired the art and the fabulous interior design of the bar from our comfortable armchairs and chaise lounges.

The cocktails were of excellent quality and table service is always a bonus. The cocktail menu could have been more extensive; cocktails need not be limited to those which are made with champagne. And the champagne content was definitely reflected in the price; around £12-£15 per cocktail and £21 for a bottle of (very average) wine. And yes, I know you're wondering, it was the cheapest on the menu, and the wine prices rose pretty steeply after that.

A spot of people-watching revealed that the people surrounding me were not what I had previously expected. Instead of the trendy 'I-can-never-be-too-rich-or-too-skinny' girls which can be expected at bars such as Mahiki's, we got a few slightly-too-old and slightly-too-Botoxed blonde women. In place of the popped-collars of pink polo shirts below spiky highlighted hair, we got tired-looking thirty-somethings, still wearing their braces or waistcoats from their day in the City.

However, watching them was quite entertaining, and I could go back for more, if somebody else was paying.

55 - Bar



Fifty-five bar, a couple of minutes walk from Camden Town tube station, is quite a contrast with Sketch.

Busy and noisy, there were no celebs present, or bankers; they were replaced with students and people dressed in slightly more 'alternative' attire. As it's just around the corner from Camden High Street, it's also off the beaten tourist track, which is always nice when you're so close to the tourist haven that is Camden Market.

The best time to head to fifty-five bar is early. We went on our way to Koko, but it would probably be better to go there after a day shopping or wondering round the market, as they have a brilliant 2-for-1 offer on cocktails, which are not very expensive to start with. At under £7 for a cocktail (which is two cocktails between 6-8pm), fifty-five bar is great value for money, and the cocktails were surprisingly good.

There are a number of cocktail bars, which are much closer to home, that probably charge around the same price for a cocktail; you could easily compare them to fifty-five bar, the likes of B@ one and Suburban. However, the quality of cocktails at these places leave a little to be desired. Fifty-five bar, on the

other hand provides excellent quality cocktails at a very reasonable price. The staff were very friendly, accomplished jugglers, and also surprisingly helpful, advising us on what to choose and explaining how they use egg whites to balance the flavour, blend the drink and add body to it, while adding a foamy head for aesthetics. You learn something new every day.

And the flavours of the cocktails were well balanced, and very enjoyable. The variety on the menu meant that you could stay there all day and not have the same thing twice, except you would, because you liked it. They had everything from your classic 'Black Russians' to 'FBI's'; a lovely mixture of Finlandia Vodka, Baileys and Ice-cream (best for after dinner).

The relaxed atmosphere was reflected in the interior decor, comfy leather sofas and stools next to small wooden tables. The low lighting allowed candle-light to flicker off the posters which decorated the deep-red coloured walls, posters of rock bands from the 70's and 80's. They had the same bands playing in the background; mostly a mixture of brit-pop with classic rock from the 70's, 80's and 90's.

It was an excellent venue for pre-lash and I will definitely be heading back next time I'm in Camden.

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Battle of summer trousers - women

For the majority of us who haven't a pair of Elle Macpherson legs, good news! Bid farewell to spandex leggings if you worry about molten plastic on thighs. There are indeed options to sweatless chic! **Kawai Wong** and **Gabby Gentilcore** reports.



Eye Sore

My eyes! My eyes! It is always good to experiment... Spandex though, belongs strictly to the swimming pool. Taking off your clothes while peeling off your skin is not a very nice thought. Stick to cotton leggings instead.



Jumpsuits

They are fab. No more fashion faux-pas days when you have a jumpsuit in your wardrobe. One minute before your 8:30am tube departs, you no longer panic as you open your wardrobe door. You swap "Omg, what should I wear?" to a gracious Audrey Hepburn



like motion, slowly slip on the beautiful one piece, grab your bag (possibly a summer basket from Primark, from £8), slip into those summery studded flat sandals (I love you, Balmain. But if you're on budget, Peacocks do nicely studded sandals from £10). OK, thirty more seconds to spare: grab a few wooden bangles from your accessory



drawer (none of that £200 a piece Louis Vuitton resin bangle business. Go to Claire's or Primark instead...). And who says a jumpsuit has to be that black and white animal print one from H&M - you'd walk down the street and ten other girls will be wearing the same. A few denim jumpsuit have been



spotted on eBay. Go for a nude/acid wash colour - bound to be a hit! Note: the jumpsuit should never be worn with a belt in the middle. Unless you want to look like Madonna from the '80s. Accessorise with a chunky collar necklace, a tailored jacket or statement making shoes instead. Heels + jumpsuits = Perfection!



Ripped Everything

Is your dog having a great time abusing your clothes? No worries, encourage him! One thing though, you want the rip to look natural, not fresh out of the canine/scissors land. Ripped jeans: use sand paper instead of scissors. Make sure you wash the ripped jeans twice to enhance the natural junkie effect before you strut



on the streets. Ripped tights: get at least 80 denier tights to enhance that ripped effect, available from H&M from £5. You don't want holes in your tights like the lady in the purple poncho above, you would only look like you'd just tripped and fallen on your knees. So put down your knife or scissors now. The best effect can be achieved by a key. Run the key vertically along your leg



and pull the tights apart horizontally. You can then achieve the rotten effect ala the RayBan wearing fox above. Have you also seen the holed leggings from either H&M (£8) or American Apparel (£32)? Ok, go to Primark, buy a pair of leggings a size bigger than normal (so the fringes will flap as you wear them), get a pair of scissors, cut only half as deep. Pop them into the washing machine and voila!



Peg

Although they don't appear to be the most flattering of shapes, when styled right and worn with confidence, they can make you look effortlessly chic. Team with a pair of ballet pumps and dark glasses for a Parisian inspired, daytime look. For the evening, all you need is chunky heels.



Harem

Yeah, I know what you're thinking: "soooo last season!" What I'm trying to illustrate is that with the right top and the right jacket, you'd look just as fab. One thing with harem is that you never wear a loose top - you'd just look like a walking sack of potatoes. Not good.

Coffee Break

coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk



We all love exams.

Ravi Pall
Coffeefreak Editor

Apologies for not updating the FUCWIT last week. As we all have exams on Jov (your editor-in-chief) took over. And by taking over, all he managed to do was cock up. Also, looking at the chart, Dr. Science! has jumped into P2 in the individual league. He actually is a real Doctor of Science too! If you gave him a pint he would definitely down it. Lad.

Please note that for the "Spot the guy who just finished his exams", there is a picture of the same guy twice. It's not an error, and it is definitely not because we ran out of other pictures to use. He just has a cool beard.

Anyhow, seeing as I'm writing this in the early hours of the morning, and it's the middle of the exam period, I thought it would be a nice idea to remind you loyal followers how much I (and I assume you also) love exams. NOT! At this point I would like to mention that I know this joke is in bad taste, however, I couldn't care less. I like bad jokes and will endeavour to continue using them. Back to the matter in hand; we all hate exams. Well at least anyone who isn't a moderately socially excluded human being (people who work hard, it's not meant to be an insult so roll with it). They come at the worst time of year (summer), and an-

ny the comfortable life you were just getting used to. By this I mean, you get used to the sun and nice weather, and then you have to spend all day inside revising, or writing for felix. Then the biggest annoyance is your lecturer sets you a curve ball of an exam and you do horribly bad in it. Not nice for all the suffering you have been through right? Now let me tell you Imperial College Exam maker guy who also happens to pick the dates and times of exams. Let me tell you a thing or two about how to set exams. Firstly they should be in the winter, when the weather is shit, and sitting inside and drinking hot chocolate while revising is a nice thing. Secondly make all exams in the afternoon. How many students do you think wake up in time for a 10AM exam without being tired? None, that's how many, well except people who sleep properly. That's a different matter, isn't it? Wait no. Last of all make the exams easy enough so no one fails if they've done just enough work to cover the course. Thus failing those who have done nothing. Now my lesson is over, exams will be held 9th December, 6pm. Fail to turn up and I won't care. You won't fail though. Last of all check out the mega photoshopping skills on the £50 note on the front page. twitter.com/D00SKI

Battle of the Silvers...



Cheyenne

Known for: Being a pornstar, oh yeah she is, well was... who cares!

Starred in: Freshmen Fantasies to name but one

Played by: Cara Fawn

Other appearance: She featured in the N.E.R.D music video "Lapdance"

Interesting Facts: Cheyenne has appeared on the dating show "Shipmates." On December 12, 2005, she was involved in a serious car accident resulting in severe fractures across her skull, below the brain, and behind the eyes. Due to internal bleeding in the brain, she was airlifted to a trauma centre in Englewood, Colorado. As of June 2006, Silver began using her real name, Cara Fawn, in her professional career as a mainstream non-pornographic actress, and also became co-executive producer of the Villikon Chronicles: Genesis of Evil.



Long John

Known for: Being the pirate, fictional yes, but a pirate non-the-less

Appears in: Stevenson's Treasure Island

Played by: Tim Curry in the Muppet's Treasure Island, but has been played by a whole host of actors

Other appearance: Tim Curry has also played the awesome role of Frank Inferta from the Rocky Horror Picture Show! WIN!

Interesting Facts: He was ship's quartermaster under the notorious Captain Flint. Silver claims to have served in the Royal Navy and lost his leg under "the immortal Hawke". He was said to have been the only man whom Flint ever feared. According to Stevenson's letters, the idea for the character of Long John Silver was inspired by his real-life friend William Henley, a writer and editor.



Jonathan

Known for: Using his seduction powers to beat off the competitors in the race to become Deputy President (Education)

Appears in: Guildsheet, that's the Engineers magazine, heard of it? Course you haven't!

Played by: Himself, didn't really think this through...

Other appearance: Sinfonetta or some sort of musical playing orgy group

Interesting Facts: Credit where credit is due, he did beat off some stiff opposition. Both of the other candidates were strong contenders but it was Silver's seductive poster that lured in the helpless girls. Just look at the picture he submitted. But then again, he is no porn star and he is certainly not a pirate, therefore he is not a lad and does not win.

Graphic Dingbats 1,434

Hi guys! A one on two switcher-roo here. All this week's dingbats are depicted through the medium of mathematical graphs. The clever ones amongst you should uncover a song title. Well done to **Team Shotgun** who were the winner of last week's dingbat foray.

Areas of the world in which rocking has been reported



Assessment of those whom Beelzebub has put the devil aside for



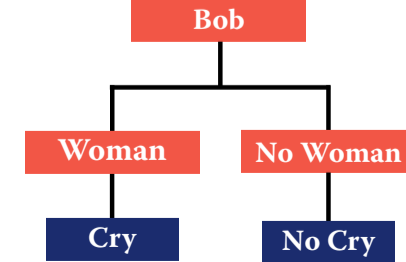
Typical Scottish proposal for falling down at your door



1,434 Solutions

- 1. Ice cube
2. Close harmony

Marley tears-to-female relationship



3. Grandstand

- 4. Water hose
5. Three wise men
6. Glass half full

Spot the guy who just finished his exams



With exam time drawing to a close for many people, (well me at least) the union will see its fair share of chunder and passed out people. In order to encourage you to drink responsibly, each

week we will be on the look out and run a "spot the guy who finished his exams" competition. It might not always be the obvious one... This also is FUCWIT-eligible so send those answers in!

Hangman

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Humanities protest turns violent

- Students set fire to the Faculty Building
- Rector missing, presumed anxious and tired

Allegedly... What began as a peaceful protest quickly got out of hand as angry students charged into the Faculty Building slaughtering all inside before setting fire to the building. It is rumoured that several high-ranking officials managed to flee the massacre including Rector Sir Roy Anderson and Pro-Rector Julia Buckingham (to put this into perspective, our university is called Imperial, the Pro-Rector is called Buckingham and her boss is a Sir... right.)

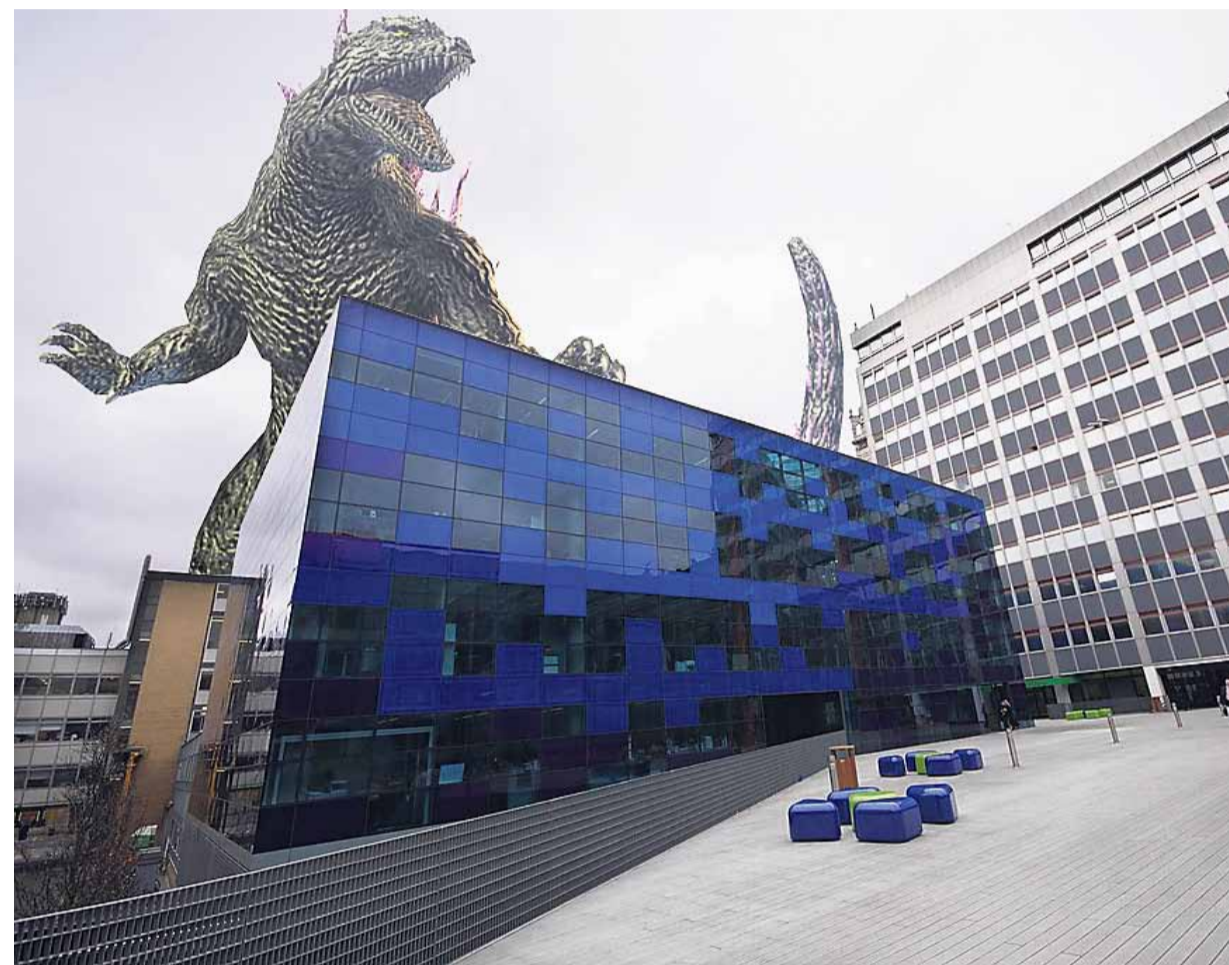
The students, led by the ruthless Ossian Hynes and Daniel Burrows (most commonly known by the moniker 'The Butcher'), began the protest on the Queens Lawn before marching on The Blue Cube chanting "Roy! Roy! You took our fees! Now give us back our manatees!"

The 'so-called' manatees which provoked the protest are two 80 year Biology professors who went missing 3

weeks ago after using the old College crest on official documentation.

After a tense 5 minutes camped outside the Blue Cube, protestors became agitated and began throwing glass bottles and eggs at the building. The Rector himself came out to intercede with Ossian and 'The Butcher'. The conversation, the content of which is unknown, seemingly aggravated the situation as Ossian appeared to kneel the Rector in the balls, sending him fleeing back into the building. Hangman's expert lip-reader has examined footage of the conversation but has only been able to interpret the phrases "Bloody Communists" and "I'm totally going to kneel you in the balls".

With the College administration in ruins and its leadership either dead or in hiding it remains to be seen what government will emerge in the wake of the events. It is rumoured that Mr Burrows is set to announce a new era of violent geekdom later this week.



Mmm I think we've mixed up our stories...

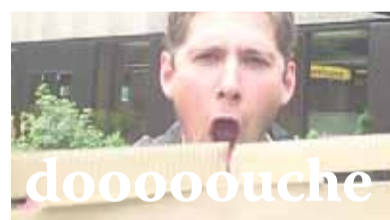
Election results: exclusive!*



douche



douche



doooooouche

Allegedly... Out of the 20 or so positions up for grabs in recent Union elections (*Ed: we're not sure what the exact number was mainly because no one cares*) only 10 of the positions were filled, leaving plenty of CV filler left lying around unclaimed.

The candidates (people who have finished exams and have nothing better

to do) also included two Sabbatical Officers. Mark "stick a finger up my bum" Chamberlain and Hannah "Sharing is caring is shagging" Theodorou won the Chairman of The Broad (council) position and some welfare thing respectively, leaving other candidates wondering where it all went wrong for them (hint, no-one likes you).

When asked about their success, the Sabbs said that: "This is a time for

change. Gone is the era of douchebags running the Union and bringing its reputation down to the gutter."

Adam Gill, the douchebag in the middle, ran on a campaign on having "5 or so good ideas a week" some of which might be related to welfare (yes, the cuntbag who does satire better than Hangman is now your welfare campaigns officer...
**it might not be an exclusive, sorry.*

Union catering refuses to serve Editor

Scandal continues to dog Union catering in the latest twist to the food quality saga. The Editor, Jovan Nedic, was refused service during lunch at the Union with catering staff citing a number of reasons, including:

- Writing negative stories about Union food
- Thinking negative thoughts about Union food

as well as generally being a cunt.

Jovan a.k.a. Jov-face, little willy Magee, the Serbian bare-naked-buttocks, is apparently livid telling Hangman "Everything I've printed is the bare-naked truth. If you can find any errors in any issue of *felix* that I've printed as Editor then my buttocks aren't bare-naked".

Catering staff defended their decision but took issue with Jovan's accusations saying "I think he's misrepresented Union catering completely.

We didn't simple refuse to serve him. In fact we served him 34 times in two hours. We didn't serve him a 35th time because we ran out of food (high-quality food mind you), he ate it all!

Hangman's nutritional expert corroborated catering's version of events saying "A man of Jov's size could probably eat 34 plates of food. However, who the fuck would eat 34 plates of anything the Union serves?"

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

felix Sport has a quick Q&A with Adam Freeman-Pask

When did you first get into rowing and what were your reasons?

Started at Windsor Boys' School when I was 14, for all the usual reasons like, it got you out of classes and was really good fun messing about on the river.

Did you have any other sporting ambitions as a child?

No, not really I was generally pretty average at sports although if "avoiding the ball during a rugby match" was a sport I would be pretty damn good at it

Why did you come to Imperial instead of some of the other big rowing universities?

What other big rowing Universities?

How helpful have ICBC been in nurturing you progress?

Extremely, the Coaches are superb. One of them even has an Olympic Gold medal, the rowing facilities are the best in the country.

How difficult was it to juggle academic work and rowing whilst you were here?

It is always hard to fit in academic work when you're tired or have been travelling around the country but without doing something other than rowing it would be quite a dull existence.

How confident were you about getting any sort of medal before the race?

I knew it would be a challenge even to make the A-final (top 6) as on paper I had not beaten many of the guys before. After my first race, the heat, I finished 4th and I thought I was in for a shit weekend in Spain but I had a confidence boost duffing up some of the weaker competitors in the reperchage that same afternoon and the next day I was on a mission to turn it around.

How did you feel once you had won it?

Well I am very chuffed to win my first senior international medal, it goes very well in my otherwise empty trophy cabinet.

Do you have aspirations for the Olympics in 2012 and do you plan to move up into the 4 man and 8 man boats?

Of course 2012 is the main aim, for me in the lightweight category there are six seats, a double and a four. Those being my options I need to move out of the single at some point.

Moving away from the rowing side of things, this is a question that we have asked previous sports persons that we interviewed. Should sports clubs

at IC aim for performance or participation?

Well I think everyone should enjoy sport and not have to endure the pain of high-performance. I mean I love doing others sports as well and I generally suck at most of those. However at IC, given that there has been such a history of rowing success and its ideal location and set up, it would be a pity to let it go to waste.

Who is your favourite sports-person

In rowing it would have to be Alan Campbell, he is the men's heavy weight single sculler (sorry Steve), I have been a fan of his for a long time, he trains hard and parties even harder. At the World Cup Regatta I got to be room mates with him, probably the highlight of the weekend, eclipsing even the medal winning moment.

At outside of rowing it would have to be Jenson Button - the man's on fire!

If you couldn't row at Imperial, what other sport would you do?

Table football in the union bar

Anyone you want to personally thank or add?

I think a big thanks to Sport Imperial for developing the rowing at imperial and also providing me with a scholarship

PHOTO BY PETER SPURRIER OF INTERSPORT IMAGES



Adam Freeman-Pask with his bronze medal from Spain

Imperial College London



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Don't mess with biologists

Allegedly Hangman Editor

History is littered with the corpses of dictatorial ambitions, foiled by seemingly innocuous errors or misjudgements. Perhaps if Hitler hadn't diverted the Luftwaffe from targeting RAF bases then the Battle of Britain might not have ended in our favour. Perhaps if Napoleon hadn't decided to march into Russia then his empire may have been preserved. And if the Rector Sir Roy Anderson hadn't united teaching staff and students (his two greatest enemies) alike in opposition to the disappearances of Henry Pritchdiddle and Simone Dinklefiddle, biology professors with expertise in the field of manatee research, then perhaps he wouldn't have got kicked in the balls (see above).

Ultimately there was no need for such heavy-handedness so shortly after taking power. 1 year into the job, Sir Roy had not yet managed to assert himself and solidify his base.

His predecessor, Sir Richard 'Dickbird' Sykes was certainly hated, but he commanded such fear that he could act with almost complete impu-

nity. He delivered economic prosperity and as payment he took political freedoms.

Sir Roy couldn't claim credit for Imperial's economic success and as an outsider needed to win over his administrative staff. To assert his authority I would have advised taking on the biochemistry students. With no official departmental representation they are in a word, defenseless. Stamping on the biochemistrical face would have elicited little protest from the rest of the student body who for the most part look on biochemists as pitiful sub-humans. (*Biochemistrical is not a word! - Ed*) (*Shutup! p.s. I fucked your mom - Hangman Ed.*)

But alas, Sir Roy mistakenly took on the biologists and has paid the highest price. Whether he will be found in the ruins of the Blue Cube, having come to the same end as Adolf Hitler or if he is in exile and destined to the same fate as Napoleon is as yet unknown.

Either way, the old adage that history repeats itself has been proven. Next dictator on the hitlist. Kim Jong Il, we're meeting on the Queen's Lawn and marching to Pyongyang. Come!

ICHC finish off year with high

Jack Cornish
Sports Editor

The 2008/2009 season has proved to be one of the most successful in recent history, with the return of the Men's 1st XI to the top South-East BUCs league accompanied by storming performances across the club. The addition of a Men's 5th XI next year demonstrates the thriving club atmosphere encouraging more and more people to join every year. With the season almost over and only a selection of Indian teams left to play on tour, the annual President's day was held last Saturday. The day is a chance for the old-boys and girls to return to Fortress Harlington and play some hockey, drink some beer and catch up with old friends. The current members also play an important role in organising the day and provide the opposition!

The day started with a showcase match between the Club-Captain's XI (led by Chris Baker Brian) consisting predominantly of leavers, who played

against the President's XI (led by Mark Robertson) who were all old-boys. The game took a flying start, but soon went to a slower pace! First blood went to the older generations in a slick move which left some unfit, mid-exam students looking less like young fit whipper-snappers and more like beer drinking, bar hugging fatties. The pace once again picked up and younger generation fought back with a goal from leaver Lawrence. It was to be the only one from the Club-Captain's XI however, and by half time the score was 2-1 to the President's XI. A short half time talk and re-hydration was followed by an intense second half which saw the youngsters dominate for the majority of the time, but the lack of the final finish proved costly. Many chances went wide and increasing pressure on the old-boys half saw a break away from them result in a quick and well worked goal. 3-1 was the final score and for the first time in many years the old-boys man-



The girls tuck into some Croft's Pink Port - lovely with lemonade over ice while basking in the sun!



Hockey, beer and a bouncy castle - why wouldn't the President and baby Lucas Robertson smile!

aged to conquer over the young-ones!

The rest of the day saw the whole club and all old-boys and old-girls get involved in a 7-a-side mixed competition. Teams from the West Country, Links, Windy Millers plus the Surfing Old-Girls Squad took on the like of Royal College of Science, City and Gilds and Royal School of Mines. The competition looked tight and with the sun continuing to beam down all teams were suffering the premature summer!

There was some rest bite however - shade in the form of a bouncy castle, drink in the form of beer and food provided for all made the day far more manageable! The group stages saw some fantastic goals and some horrific banter from the side lines, and the final standing saw teams equal on points. As stated in the rules a boat race decided the team's fates...the results being that RSM would play Myra's Team while Links would play Windy Millers in the semi finals. Both games proved close

but Links and RSM triumphed and clashed in the final. Links were confident with a haul of 1st XI players from previous years plus their secret weapon - Truffle Shuffle! However, RSM had fielded a non-drinking team of tuned athletes who took the Links Club to the cleaners. Game over. RSM win both the President's Trophy and the prestigious intercollegiate cup presented by Stephenson back in the 1950s having beaten both C&G and RCS!

The President was happy with the day as were his wife and son, Lucas (pictured left). The Old-Boys saw glory over the younger fitter and better looking current IC members while RSM dominated the tournament!

The club now looks forward to the tour of a lifetime to India and are preparing for next year which will be bigger, better and more successful than ever! Interested in joining the club? We cater for any standard, any age and any amount of involvement...see you there!



Kathleen Duclos (left) and her teammate after their win

International Success for IC Riding

Chloé Sharrocks

Following on from a successful BUCS season, Imperial College Riding Club took their competitive edge to a whole new level when they were won an international competition.

After receiving invitations to compete at the CSI** de l'X competition at Ecole Polytechnique near Paris, Imperial sent three of our most experienced show-jumpers: André Wilmes (captain), Kathleen Duclos and Trisna Tungadi.

As the only British representatives, in a competition otherwise dominated by French riders, the pressure was really on. In the end our three riders were split into two teams: André and Trisna together, whilst Kathleen was put on a 'mixed team' with a French rider. André jumped a lovely clear round to put the ghosts of his BUCS Nation-

als show-jumping round behind him, but sadly Trisna had problems with the mare she rode. Despite the horse being called Jumper, Trisna fell to the same fate as one of the French riders who rode the same horse, being thrown off and deposited onto the floor. Ever the brave rider, Trisna clambered back on (twice!) and finished her round to prevent elimination.

With André and Trisna's chance of winning now looking very slim it was all down to Kathleen who thankfully seemed to have luck on her side. After securing a perfect clear round and her teammate knocking only one fence down, they finished in eventual first place. Despite her French-Canadian nationality, Kathleen stood proudly on the winner's podium to the British National Anthem, to receive her rosette. A fitting end to one of the riding club's most successful seasons ever.

Senior medal for IC rower

continued from back page

at the World Cup Regatta will certainly increase in chances of selection into the Great Britain squad for lightweights event this year, and there is a strong chance that he might be selected for the Olympics in 2012.

Responding to the success at the Regatta, Erica Thompson, Captain of ICBC, told felix that "We are all very proud of Adam's achievements, and he is an inspiration to all of us who see him training hard at the Imperial College boathouse day in, day out."

She went on to say that "The presence of such a high-achieving student athlete in the club spurs everyone on, including a number of our promising younger rowers who are likely to be key performers not just at ICBC but also in the GB U23 and senior squads in the coming years."

Neil Mosley, Head of Sport Imperial, said that he was "delighted" at Freeman-Parks achievement and that he was a "fantastic ambassador for Imperial". This is one of the biggest sporting achievements for an Imperial sportsman for some time and he is certain to appear in the headlines in the future.



Reaching the end of the race

felix Sports awards are just around the corner

Jovan Nedić
Editor-in-Chief

The end of the academic year is fastly approaching as is the end of the sporting season and as we did last year, we will be giving out our very own awards.

The categories for this year can be seen in the left hand column and we have decided, in the interest of fairness, that for the felix Sportsmanship award, which we give out to the most socialable club, that we will let you, the readers, decide who deserves it the most.

So if you think that your club has been the most sociable one, email sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk with the club of your choice and we will get the club some drinks (probably a keg of beer, but we'll see how generous we feel!)

To make sure that we get all the facts straight, can we ask you all to have a look at the league table on the right and point out any glaring mistakes that

we might have made.

The results of this year's awards will be announced in next weeks issue, as will the ACC colours, so keep your eyes peeled and find out which teams are the top dogs and which ones are the runts of the pack.

THE CATEGORIES

felixSport AWARDS

- Team of the Year
- Club of the Year
- Women's Team of the Year
- Men's Team of the Year
- Best Medic Team
- Sportsman of the Year
- Sportswoman of the Year
- felix Sportsmanship

Wooden Spoon Awards

- Worst Men's Team
- Worst Women's Team
- Not won a game
- Worst Club



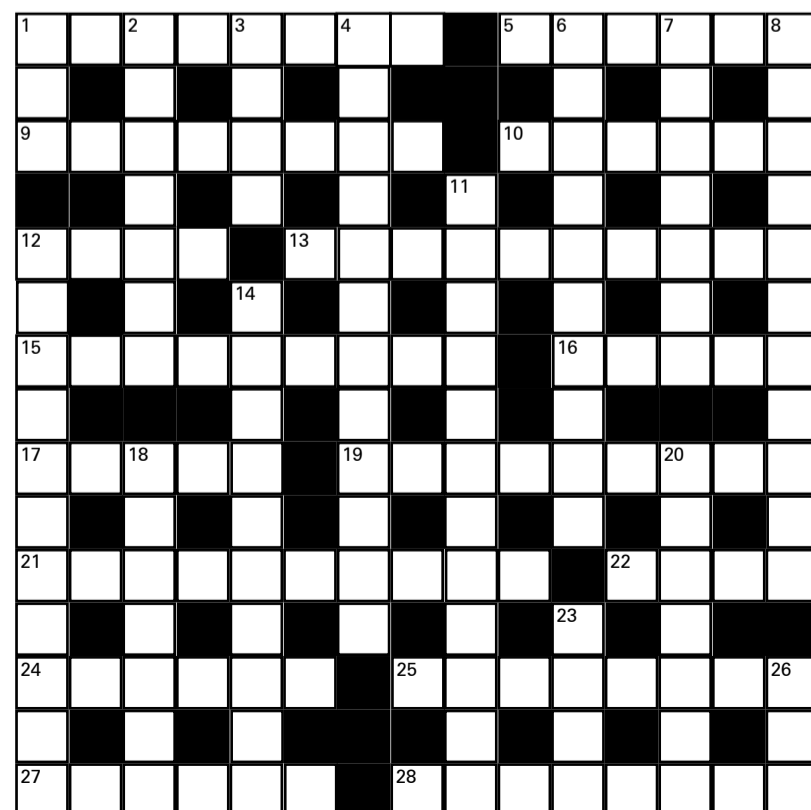
Last year's felix Sport Team of the Year: IC Men's 1st Squash Team

Sports league

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	%	FI
1 Tennis Men's 1st	12	12	0	0	105	15	90	100	5.00
2 Squash Men's 1st	12	11	0	1	51	9	42	92	4.25
3 Fencing Men's 1st	11	10	0	1	1457	861	596	91	4.18
4 Fencing Women's 1st	11	10	0	1	1445	1160	285	91	4.18
5 Lacrosse Women's 1st	11	10	0	1	162	43	119	91	4.18
6 Volleyball Women's 1st	9	8	0	1	17	3	14	89	4.00
7 Hockey Men's 1st	13	11	0	2	65	19	46	85	3.62
8 Squash Men's 2nd	13	11	0	2	40	21	19	85	3.62
9 ICSM Netball 2nd	12	10	0	2	452	226	226	83	3.50
10 ICSM Netball 3rd	12	10	0	2	444	225	219	83	3.50
11 ICSM Badminton Men's 1st	6	5	0	1	28	20	8	83	3.50
12 Table Tennis Men's 1st	15	12	0	3	163	88	75	80	3.20
13 Badminton Men's 1st	12	8	2	2	61	35	26	67	3.00
14 Netball 2nd	12	9	0	3	404	226	178	75	2.75
15 ICSM Hockey Women's 1st	14	9	1	4	65	29	36	64	2.21
16 Hockey Women's 1st	16	9	2	5	54	38	16	56	1.81
17 Basketball Men's 1st	11	7	0	4	780	709	71	64	1.73
18 Hockey Men's 3rd	12	4	5	3	23	30	-7	33	1.50
19 Hockey Men's 2nd	12	7	0	5	50	36	14	58	1.25
20 Hockey Men's 4th	8	4	1	3	19	23	-4	50	1.25
21 Badminton Men's 2nd	11	5	2	4	49	39	10	45	1.18
22 Squash Men's 3rd	7	4	0	3	14	9	5	57	1.14
23 Badminton Women's 1st	12	6	1	5	57	39	18	50	1.00
24 Fencing Men's 2nd	9	5	0	4	1100	947	153	56	1.00
25 Rugby Union Men's 2nd	17	9	0	8	358	334	24	53	0.76
26 Squash Women's 1st	12	2	6	4	20	32	-12	17	0.50
27 Basketball Women's 1st	10	5	0	5	453	425	28	50	0.50
28 ICSM Hockey Women's 2nd	11	4	2	5	27	43	-16	36	0.36
29 Football Men's 1st	12	5	1	6	25	29	-4	42	0.25
30 Tennis Men's 2nd	12	5	1	6	42	69	-27	42	0.25
31 ICSM Football Men's 1st	13	4	3	6	17	26	-9	31	0.15
32 Volleyball Men's 1st	9	4	0	5	10	10	0	44	0.00
33 Football Men's 2nd	11	4	1	6	24	35	-11	36	-0.18
34 ICSM Rugby Union Men's 2nd	16	6	1	9	271	244	27	38	-0.25
35 Rugby Union Men's 3rd	15	6	0	9	264	324	-60	40	-0.40
36 Tennis Women's 1st	10	4	0	6	44	56	-12	40	-0.40
37 ICSM Rugby Union Men's 1st	17	5	1	11	306	467	-161	29	-1.00
38 ICSM Rugby Union Men's 3rd	14	4	0	10	152	429	-277	29	-1.43
39 Volleyball Women's 2nd	7	2	0	5	13	16	-3	29	-1.43
40 Football Men's 3rd	11	3	0	8	18	33	-15	27	-1.55
41 ICSM Football Men's 2nd	10	2	1	7	13	28	-15	20	-1.60
42 ICSM Hockey Women's 3rd	9	1	2	6	11	39	-28	11	-1.67
43 Hockey Women's 2nd	11	2	1	8	10	46	-36	18	-1.82
44 ICSM Netball 1st	13	2	1	10	314	497	-183	15	-2.15
45 Football Women's 1st	10	2	0	8	11	34	-23	20	-2.20
46 Rugby Union Men's 1st	14	2	1	11	165	430	-265	14	-2.29
47 ICSM Hockey Men's 2nd	11	2	0	9	17	24	-7	18	-2.36
48 ICSM Hockey Men's 1st	11	1	1	9	18	45	-27	9	-2.64
49 Rugby Union Men's 4th	15	2	0	13	162	623	-461	13	-2.80
50 Lacrosse Men's 1st	8	1	0	7	40	114	-74	13	-2.88
51 Netball 3rd	12	1	0	11	127	452	-325	8	-3.25
52 ICSM Badminton Women's 1st	11	0	1	10	11	78	-67	0	-3.45
53 Netball 1st	11	0	0	11	220	428	-208	0	-4.00
54 ICSM Hockey Men's 3rd	5	0	0	5	0	15	-15	0	-4.00
55 Rugby Union Women's 1st	2	0	0	2	15	109	-94	0	-4.00

Crossword No. 1,435

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



ACROSS

- 1 Crop planted around two poles in Yorkshire town (8)
- 5 Put emphasis on strain (6)
- 9 Remove politician adorned with gold by art gallery (8)
- 10 Judge to be impure, somehow (6)
- 12 Demonstrate pig devouring last of mash (4)
- 13 Make an enemy of soldier, perhaps to be in pain (10)
- 15 Purging of emotions troubled archaists (9)
- 16 I'm surrounded by illuminated boundary (5)
- 17 Father has university in part of Indonesia (5)
- 19 How sniper fixed possession (9)
- 21 I admire Nan, converting to Apache, perhaps (10)
- 22 Boy has king's fat (4)
- 24 Warm amphibian loses tail next to pen (6)
- 25 Joined a motorcycle race and experienced pain (8)
- 27 Force queen to come between business and church (6)
- 28 Modest person polite after I left, showing cautiousness (8)

DOWN

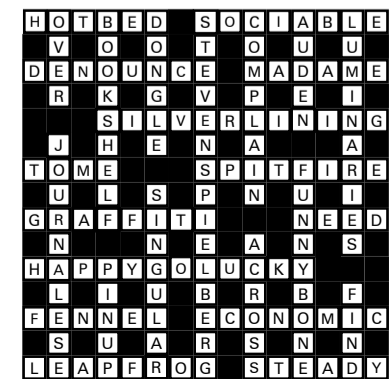
- 1 Snake worn around the neck (3)
- 2 Strike on harbour - there's a connection (7)
- 3 Sulphur devoured to eliminate hunger (4)
- 4 Rue earlier statement, as when consuming alphabet soup? (3,4,5)
- 6 Goalless draw between the sexes and the French with Conservative on the flanks - what silly behaviour (10)
- 7 Myelitis might involve preferential treatment for supposedly superior groups (7)
- 8 Hackneyed treatment of speedy otter (11)
- 11 Creating storm, in a teacup? (7,1,4)
- 12 Obsequious psycho ruined jape (11)
- 14 Resigned to its fate, college supports overweight celebrity of the highest order (10)
- 18 High honour conferred by colleague over a long period (7)
- 20 Godless English buried under uncultivated land (7)
- 23 Not good to have left without locks (4)
- 26 Deer to take drug (3)

Congratulations to Team Shotgun who were the first team to get the correct answer in this week.

It seems that their crossword solver has decided to get their thumb out their own arse and actually solve the cryptic crossword. Next week is the last one that will count for the FUC-WIT League, but until then, here is another one. Answers, as ever, in to sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk please. Good luck!

Crossword by: Sam Wong

Solution to crossword 1434





Bronze medal for Freeman-Pask

Jovan Nedić
Editor-in-Chief

Adam Freeman-Pask, a current Imperial College student, has won a bronze medal at the World Cup Regatta held in Banyoles, Spain.

The World Cup Regatta is an international race featuring some of the best rowing nations across the globe and it was Adam's first ever appearance on the senior scene. Freeman-Pask replaced Olympic Gold medallist Zac Purchase, who couldn't race due to illness, in the lightweight single scull race and went on to win his first senior medal.

In the final of the Lightweight Men's Single Sculls (LM1x), Freeman-Pask was up against some stiff opposition, including several Olympic medallists such as Denmark's Mads Rasmussen and Greece's Vasileios Polymeros. At the start of the race Rasmussen shot off to a commanding start with Polymeros close on his heels. At the halfway point, however, it was Italy's 33-year-

old Lorenzo Bertini who was in the lead and with 500m to go he had been taken over by Polymeros. In the final stretch of the race, Rasmussen had begun to fade which gave Freeman-Pask the opportunity to capitalise. At the finishing line, it was Polymer who went away with the gold medal, with Bertini getting the silver and Imperial's Adam Freeman-Pask getting the bronze.

Freeman-Pask described the whole experience as "pretty scary with all these big names. At the end [sic] really felt well. It was a really good learning weekend."

Adam is no stranger to rowing at a high standard and during his time at Imperial he has taken part in several GB training camps. Despite not being invited on the GB training camp this year, he managed to win the final set of the trials in a commanding style and has certainly caught the attention of the GB selectors.

His performance in the trials and

continued on page 23



PHOTO BY PETER SPURRIER OF INTERSPORT IMAGES

IC 8+ Win Forster Cup at MET Regatta

Christina Duffy

Blistering sunshine shone down on Eton's prestige rowing facility at Dorney Lake for the Metropolitan Regatta last weekend.

The regatta runs as two separate days of racing allowing crews to combine in different categories. For IC this was a chance to speed test the women's Henley crews and for the men to test some Henley Royal Regatta combinations. Overall squad performances fell well below expectation over with just one win for the men's Intermediate 1 8+ on Sunday.

The 8+ (Cox: Henry Fieldman/Danny Bellion/Alex Gillies/Adam Seward/Josh Yerrell/Leo Carrington/Henry Goodier/Tom Arnott/Gareth Brown) faced a straight final on Sunday evening allowing plenty of rest in preparation. There were several delays throughout the weekend of racing due to boats being unable to attach to the stake boats efficiently. Fieldman's vast coxing experience shone through as

he managed to attach the boat immediately: "Oh yeah! Ten out of ten for speed onto the stake boat!"

Inspired by the recent news about Freeman-Pask the crew shot off from the start taking ½ length on the field in the first 250 metres. Fieldman left no room for doubt about what he wanted the crew to do: "LEGS, LEGS, ON THE LEGS, LEGS!" This slightly upset Carrington as he has testified on many occasions that "All I want to do is sledge it." The 8+ finished in 06:19.33 a length ahead of Cambridge Composite (06:22.30) with Putney Embankment neighbours Thames and Vesta down the field over 10 seconds behind.

Drained from a weekend of crew let-downs Trapmore was close to tears with the win: "You have restored my faith in you."

The crew collected their gigantic trophy which Bruce immediately fell in love with requesting multiple photographs to be taken. "Guys that was awesome... if we could just go on to win Henley that would be great."



Doing the Trapmore: Men's Intermediate 1 8+ celebrate winning the Forster Cup at MET Regatta