



felix

The award-winning student
newspaper of Imperial College

"Keep The Cat Free"

Issue 1,457

felixonline.co.uk

12.03.10



A rivalry renewed

As the Medics take on College once again, *felix* previews Varsity 2010

NEWS

News Editor Kadhim Shubber
news.felix@imperial.ac.uk



News

Elections 2010: The latest news from the Sabbatical Elections

See pages 4 & 5



Business

Racing towards excellence: Muzaffer Khan interviewed

See page 11

Arts

Not all about science: A full review of ArtsFest

See page 12

Varsity

Medics vs. College, it's Varsity time again: Previews, full lineups, and interviews

See page 32-40



Are we saying 'bye bye Wye'?

Alex Karapetian

Dr Terence Kealey, Vice Chancellor of the University of Buckingham, approached Imperial with a proposal to reactivate the Wye Campus, which has been inactive since teaching ceased in 2009.

Live! (live.cgcu.net) reported that Dr Kealey was interested in setting up a new private University and has since mentioned using the Wye Campus as a potential site. Should plans move ahead, the resulting University would be an extension of the University of Buckingham, which is currently the only privately funded University in the UK. The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference and schools such as St Paul's and Eton are deliberating over the plans for development.

The plan was described by High

Master of St Paul's, Martin Stephen, as an "embryonic version of Harvard and Yale", stating his enthusiasm to support the project should it be financially suitable. Live! reporters approached Dr Kealey, who explained: "a group of Wye alumni have approached me to ask if Buckingham would be interested in helping develop the Wye campus. I therefore wrote to Sir Keith asking if we could discuss this. He has agreed to meet me shortly, and his correspondence has been unfailingly courteous which, in the face of the press coverage, I very much appreciated."

Statistics from The Independent show that the general cost of setting up a University is £200 million, but the plans to extend the University of Buckingham with the Wye Campus suggest a cost of only £25 million. The tuition fees are proposed to be around £10,000, £2000 higher than

Buckingham's annual fees, suggesting that the Wye Campus will be an "elite" extension.

Plans, however, are not yet final, and Dr Kealey was reported to have told Live! that "the Wye campus belongs to Imperial and until I have spoken to Sir Keith and ascertained Imperial's plans for developing its own property it would be impertinent of me to say anything more."



University of Buckingham Vice Chancellor Dr. Terence Kealey wants to use Imperial's unused Wye campus as a base for a new uni.



A beautiful garden at Wye: Probably still not enough to tempt the average Imperial student away from Quake II

felix 1,457

Felix, Beit Quad, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB. Tel: 020 7594 8072.
Fax: 020 7594 8065. Printed by The Harmsworth Printing Ltd, Northcliffe House,
Meadow Road, Derby, DE1 2BH Registered newspaper ISSN 1040-0711.
Jigsaw font by typotheque.com.
Copyright © Felix 2010.

This issue of *felix* was brought to you by:

Editor-in-Chief
Dan Wan

Deputy Editor
Kadhim Shubber

Deputy Editor
Gilead Amit

Copy Chief
Sasha Nicoletti



Assistant Editors
Jovan Nedić
Charlotte Morris

Online Editors
Ravi Pall
Chris Birkett

Fashion Editor
Kawai Wong

Clubs and Socs Editor
Alex Kendall

Politics Editors:
James Goldsack
Katya-yani Vyas
James Lees

News Editor
Kadhim Shubber

Business Editor
Sina Ataherian

Comment Editors
Ravi Pall
Charlotte Morris

Puzzles Captain
Sean Farres

Feature Editor
Afonso Campos

News Reporters
Rox Middleton
Joanna Cai
Alex Karapetian
Alice Rowlands

International Editor
Tom Greany

Science Editors
Brigette Atkins
Nathan Ley

Arts Editors
Caz Knight
Rosie Milton
Lucy Harrold

Chris Darby
David Paw
Renny Norman
Holly Farrer
Rox Middleton
Matt Colvin
Lizzy Griffiths
Ayyub Kamaludin
Jamie Beal
Richard Howard
Stefan Zeeman
Sahil Chugani

Layout Editor
Carlos Karingal

Technology Editor
Samuel Gibbs

Nightlife Editor
Charlotte Morris

Photography
Ben Smith
Alex Karapetian

Music Editors
Kadhim Shubber
Alex Ashford
Luke Turner

Sports Editors
Mustapher Botchway
David Wilson
Indy Leclercq

What's On Editors
Rachel D'oliviero
Lily Topham

Catnip Editor
Rhys Davies

Coffee Break Editor
Charles Murdoch

Travel Editor
Dylan Lowe

12:03:10

Imperial field trip to grand final



Alex Karapetian

The fifteen teams which made it through to the regional semi-finals of the BP Ultimate Field Trip challenge (reported in *felix* earlier) have been reduced to five for the Grand Final, two of which are comprised of Imperial students.

Hot Carbon (Tom Wesby, Carmen Pinto-Ward, Miriam Wright) and Meltdown (Lizzie Riley, Chris Hunter, Ben Said) are the two teams of second year IC students in the Grand Final. Upon learning they were through, Hot Carbon commented they "feel a real sense of achievement and fulfilment" and that "it'll be exciting to see the re-

sults of [their] hard work".

Meltdown remarked that as second years, they were "honoured to have been taken seriously by experts in the field and would love to see [their] idea take off".

They were thrilled to have got so far and to have "gained valuable research and presentation skills" by undertaking the project.

The grand final, to be held on the 12th of April in South Kensington and hosted by John Humphrys, will see the teams presenting their solutions, demonstrating their videos and being subjected to a live Q&A session.

The panel will include BP and industry carbon reduction experts. *felix* wishes the IC teams the best of luck!

Tighter than ever before

As College rugby catches up with the Medics this season, will the Medics be able to topple College overall at Varsity 2010 next week?



Medics 2009 team captain Dan Neville kisses the urn of Michael Jackson as JPR Williams looks on. Bloody Medics....

Dan Wan Editor-in-Chief

The age-old tradition of Engineers and Scientists hating Medics will be renewed once again next Wednesday when Varsity 2010 kicks off.

In its 7th year since inception, Imperial College vs. Imperial Medics have fought for boasting rights every year on the sports field across several sports. This year, an unprecedented ten sports will decide if College are still sporting superiors to their Medic counterparts across four venues, including a new venue for the flagship game, next Wednesday.

The Medics are looking to finally break College's six-year unbeaten run at Varsity, but this may prove difficult. In the past couple of years College have won comprehensively overall, finishing 14.5 – 8.5 ahead in Varsity 2008 and then went onto improve score difference in 2009 with a 14.5 – 7.5 win.

This year, Badminton Mixed teams have been introduced to complement the tradition Men's and Women's varsity at Wilson House.

Despite College's dominance across the majority of sports, the JPR Williams prize-winning game has always been out of College's reach. The JPR Williams cup game is contested between College Rugby Men's 1st team and Medics Rugby Men's 1st team, and the Medics have won every year since 2003. The closest College have come to lifting the trophy was in 2008 when they forced the Medics into extra-time at 19-19. Despite a battling display which saw Wales and British Lions 70s legend and Medics alumnus JPR Williams commend the College team after the game, the Medics scrambled a 22-19 win after converting a penalty in extra-time.

The Medics got back into the swing of winning comfortably last year with a 15 -7 win.

College Rugby Men's 1st team captain James Petitt envisages this year's JPR Williams match a much tighter affair.

"I'd say the gap between us [Medics and College 1sts] has certainly narrowed over the last two or three years. Last year the Medics proved that they were still top dogs," he said.

If this season's meetings between the two sides is anything to go by, he will certainly be correct. Two matches between them have been played this year and for the first time in years, College beat the Medics last November. They couldn't quite do the double over the Medics however and drew with them

"The Medics are looking to finally break College's six-year unbeaten run at Varsity, but this may prove difficult."

in the reverse fixture in January; a result that meant the Medics won the league and return to Premiership next year.

Andrew Mowat, Medics Rugby 1st team captain agrees the battle will be close next week, but is unconvinced that College can finally topple the Medics' Varsity crown.

"What has gone before is of little relevance.

"The first fixture against the College brought a reality check as we turned out a weak performance and deservedly lost to the better team.

[The results this year] have simply confirmed that the game will be a tight affair."

Varsity 2010 will test if College 1st team's luck has run out as this rugby season comes to a close. The task will

be made even harder as they look to deal with the loss of Tom Carroll, their influential inside centre, but Petitt knows that if they are to complete this season successfully, one that saw them finish second in their SE1A league to Medics, it will be their own doing on the night.

"The lads have worked incredibly hard this season and are ready to top it all off, knowing full well that the only thing stopping them from the big win is their own mistakes."

Mowat rallying call is more of a mission statement and he gives off the impression nothing other than a win will do.

"The varsity match is the pinnacle of our season. It means a lot to the players to be involved and competition for places has been intense. Our aim is simple. To win, preferably within the confines of normal time, and retain the JPR Williams cup," he demanded.

The match will take place at a larger venue than in previous years. London Scottish's stadium Richmond Athletic Association Ground has been replaced by London Welsh's Old Deer Park for the JPR Williams game. Old Deer Park stadium lies about a kilometre up the road from Richmond Athletic Association Ground, but Head of Sport Imperial and principal Varsity organiser Neil Mosley promises the night to be "the biggest varsity ever."

He sees varsity as something to savour. "We've got 10 sports and a great new venue..It really is unmissable for all Imperial students. If you have not experienced the special varsity atmosphere before make sure you don't miss out," he said.

Varsity kicks off on 17th March at 10.30am at Ethos and Harlington with Netball 4ths and Hockey Women's 2nds opening the day's events at the respective venues. Badminton will take place at Wilson House sports hall, whilst the day will be capped off in Richmond at Old Deer Park when Rugby Men's 1sts go to battle at 7.30pm.

The world beyond College walls



Sweden

US authorities arrested a woman who called herself "JihadJane" over a plot to kill Swedish artist Lars Vilks. The woman, Colleen LaRose, was arrested as seven others in Ireland were also arrested in connection with the plot.

LaRose, 46, converted to Islam, fashioned her "JihadJane" pseudonym in YouTube videos and apparently had visited the region of Sweden where Vilks lives. Vilks controversially drew depictions of Mohammed in the manner of a roundabout dog, which is a popular form of Swedish street sculpture. These drawings were rejected from two Swedish exhibitions for fear of extremism, which then led to a debate in Swedish media over freedom of expression. Several newspapers went on to publish Vilks' work, sparking international fury, particularly in the Muslim world. Vilks is now living in a state of high security, and carries an axe for extra protection.

Somalia

A United Nations Security Council report has found that nearly one-half of all food aid sent to Somalia does not reach those for whom it was intended.



Nearly £330m worth of food is sent to Somalia each year through the World Food Programme. The report alleges that this aid is hindered by the programme's reliance for distribution on what it calls a corrupt group of cartels. The authors of the report call on the U.N. to open an investigation into the programme's operations in Somalia and to rebuild them. One distributor has been accused of staging hijacks on his own delivery trucks, stealing food from these vehicles, and then selling this food on the black market. A large part of the problem with the programme seems to be driven by Somalia's lack of political and military structure which makes donated food distribution by honest organisations difficult or impossible. Somalia's government is reportedly planning an offensive, headed up by General Mohamed Gelle Kahiye, to control Mogadishu. Kahiye's position until a few months ago was assistant manager at a McDonald's restaurant in Germany, but he is reportedly held in high repute by Somali soldiers.

India

India's upper parliamentary house voted to reserve one-third of all national legislature and state assembly seats for women. The vote took place on Tuesday and was passed 186-1.

The bill was first introduced in 1996 and has been somewhat controversial ever since. India's first female Prime Minister was elected in 1966, and its first female President and female Speaker of Parliament were both elected last year, but women represent only ten percent of the legislature. This week, members of various parties who believe that the bill has not gone far enough to benefit minorities, Muslims, and lower caste peoples withdrew themselves from the coalition government and were forcibly removed from parliament. This development has threatened to bring the coalition's lead to a very narrow majority, which could possibly threaten the passing of other important bills. Critics claim that the mandatory seats will favour wealthy women over poorer minorities. The bill does not take effect until ratified by the lower house, approved by fifteen of Indian states, and also signed by the President.

By Tom Greany

Allegations of candidate misconduct raised

Rox Middleton

Rumours have been circulating this week about one of the candidates in the Union elections, Andrew Bromfield, after an anonymous email was sent to editors of Imperial student media, supposedly from a member of the Union's casual staff. The self-styled 'mole' claimed to represent the majority of Union casual staff when they said they felt it "would be an outrage if Andrew Bromfield were to win the election". Bromfield is one of two candidates running for the role of Deputy President – Finance & Services which entails responsibility for day to day financial administration, budgetary queries, collating student feedback and coordinating the Summer Ball.

Although the message was entirely anonymous and the claims that Bromfield was "continually... abusive and aggressive" were entirely unsubstantiated, a report was also leaked of an incident in which Andrew Bromfield was ejected from the Union premises last term, for being verbally and physically abusive. The incident occurred in November last year just after midnight, when Bromfield was seen to strike another man in Da Vinci's. When asked to leave, Bromfield refused several times and was eventually physically removed. While door staff attempted to take back his pewter tankard in order to retrieve his

ID card, he ran back inside and was once more carried out while he tried to punch and kick the staff.

Two Senior Union stewards provided statements on the case but these were later simultaneously withdrawn, although they did confirm that Bromfield had been involved in an 'incident'. Bromfield has responded to the email and the leaking of the report and claims that parts of the report are fictitious and written vaguely so as to imply the worst about his behaviour. He concedes that the bar staff "were angry with [his] lack of cooperation that evening" but denies that the incident was as portrayed. He points out that although he struggled against being carried 'unceremoniously' out of the Quad, at no point did he try to cause physical harm to staff, and the verbal abuse cited was limited to calling one steward 'idiot', for which he has since apologised. Bromfield also pointed out that one member of staff that night was opposing candidate Ravi Pall, although he did not accuse his fellow candidate of underhand tactics. (For the record, this report has not been influenced by Pall's involvement with *felix*.)

Further rumours have been spreading about two other candidates running separately who, it is alleged, stole wine from a Cheese & Wine evening organised by Imperial College Cheese Society on March 5th last year. Live! (live.cgcu.net) reported this week that each of the two walked into the

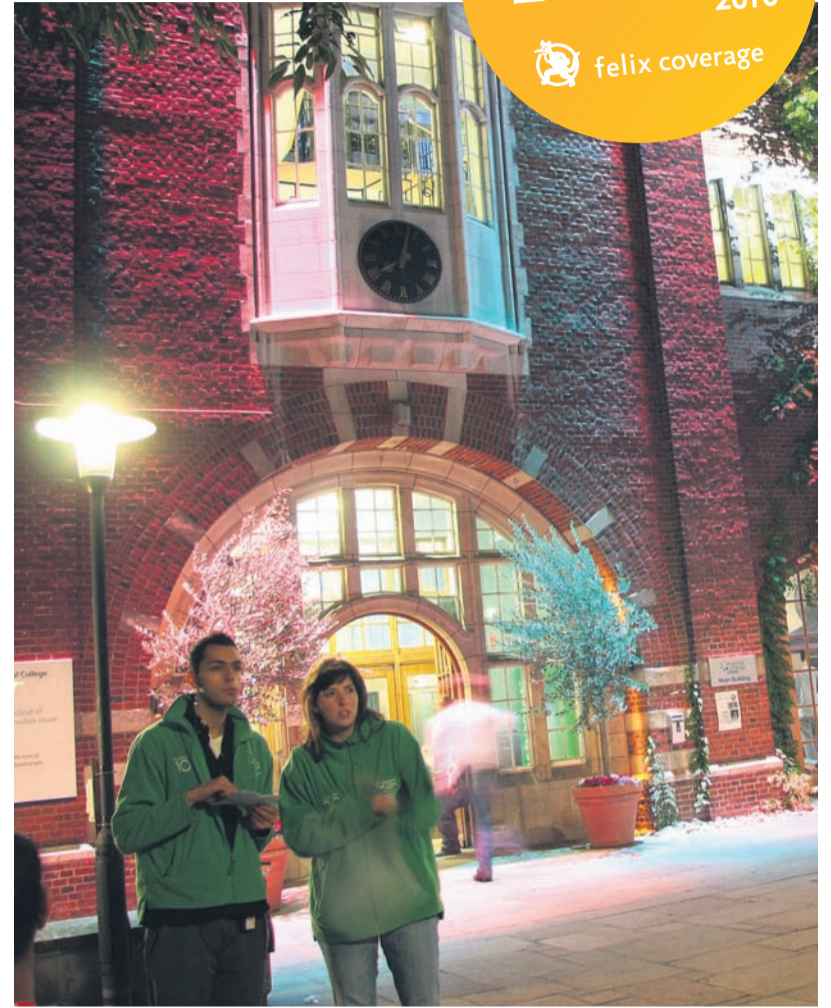
Fairtrade Fortnight event on separate occasions during the evening without paying and were seen to take bottles of wine. These bottles were apparently later found in a Physics lecture theatre. It is claimed that both candidates returned again later in the evening and were verbally abusive, one was also allegedly physically violent. After security was called, the pair were removed from the Huxley building. If true, these allegations bring into question the suitability of the candidates for sabbatical positions.

Cheesesoc was unable to comment on any rumours about the event according to Union election rules, and comments on the Live! website all suggest that the story's bias is the result of mudslinging by friends of opposing candidates.

Voting is still taking place online for sabbatical positions until 11.59pm Saturday, via the Union website (www.imperialcollegeunion/elections).



DPFS candidate Andrew Bromfield is said to have verbally abused several members of staff, then was subsequently 'physically removed' from the premises



Casual staff at the Union are integral to running events nearly every night

Sabbatical
Elections
2010

felix coverage

Barely anyone turns up to new format Hustings



Anyone that isn't a candidate or campaigner here? No? Oh

Dan Wan Editor-in-Chief

Hustings were largely unsuccessful this week as the Union tried to ramp up election-fever. Voting opened this past Tuesday and this coincided with the poorly attended second round of Hustings held at the Southside Social Space.

The first round of Hustings took place at 6.30pm Thursday 5th of March in da Vinci's bar; this venue has traditionally been host to the second round of the election's Hustings in previous years. Hustings are public forums where all the candidates running in the election have the opportunity to present themselves and their campaign to the adoring public.

The newly-formatted second round of Hustings took place this past Tuesday (9th March) to an audience largely made-up of campaign teams and not the Freshers which the Union had targeted. It is particularly embarrassing for the Union as they had told candidates to remove Hustings details, such as time and date, from their campaign material because they feared attendance at Southside Social Space would go beyond a recommended 120 capacity. This was aptly pointed out, albeit with a hint of sarcasm, by Presidential hopeful Alex Kendall after the question: 'What would you do to improve Hustings?'

Opposing candidate Chris Darby refused to point the blame at the students for the poor turn-out.

"People have been asking me all week when they can come to hustings so I don't think they really are apathetic. I don't think there is that much apathy, people did genuinely want to be here," he reckoned in response to a question that enquired into the candidate's thoughts on general student apathy at Imperial.

The event was restricted to residents of Southside, Eastside, Garden and Weeks halls but failed to attract numbers into double figures.

The Returning Officers' red faces started to complement the lucidly bright pink T-shirts the current sabbatical team were wearing on the evening. Even though the proceedings were delayed and the Southside Social Space seemed relatively occupied first year audience numbers peaked at around five midway through the evening.

Another Presidential candidate, Serge Vasylechko, saw the lack of advertising and the esoteric nature of the Union as the main problems, and suggested further reformatting of the election process as the solution.

"All this year's candidates know each other so not enough people are getting involved. We need better advertisement," he said. "I'd hold a proper debate in the Great Hall [for Hustings]."

Hustings in da Vinci's last week was

the usual rowdy affair with heckling throughout. However, Presidential candidate Stan Tarasov described the experience as "underwhelming" and expected "banners and chanting".

RON, Re-open Nominations candidate, stood strong throughout the proceedings and poked plenty of holes in candidates speeches and answers to the audience's questions.

It has been a tough week for those involved in the Imperial College Union Elections with allegations of misconduct by several candidates flying around College.

felix also decided to retract statements from last week's issue after the suggestion by Returning Officer John James, though it is now the Union's turn to face the flak after something went very wrong with their 'fresh' approach to election hustings this year.

Voting is still open, but closes at 23:59 Saturday the 13th of March.



Returning Officer Daniel Hill oversaw a well organised event on the night, but attendance at Southside was extremely overestimated

Civ Eng Dept defy College with MOLE

Matt Colvin

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering has come under heavy criticism this week after it was revealed that its students were forbidden from participating in a college-wide questionnaire. Taught postgraduate students were not allowed to take part in the online survey MOLE (Master's Online Evaluation) during the 2009 Autumn Term. In addition to this, it has also been shown that the department declined the opportunity to send results from TOLE (Tutorial Online Evaluation) to personal tutors, the intended subjects of the survey.

MOLE and TOLE, which both run for the first time during the Autumn Term of 2009, have been designed to collate the opinions of students regarding educational aspects of university life and, in doing so, improve the quality of teaching across the college. MOLE includes questions for taught postgraduate students to answer anonymously, relating to the content of course modules and the quality of lecturers themselves, alongside the relevance and timeliness of coursework feedback. This survey is identical in questions and format to SOLE (Student Online Evaluation), another newly introduced survey which represents the undergraduate students of Imperial College. TOLE questions undergraduate participants on the quality of their per-



The Skempton Building, where the rebellious Civil Engineers are rising against College's barbaric MOLE ruling

sonal tutors and tutorials in general. The results from TOLE, again anonymous, are typically sent to the individual members of staff concerned so that they can efficiently receive feedback and respond accordingly to it.

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering has stated that the surveys, recently rewritten by College statisticians in order to improve validity, are "statistically invalid", and have insisted that their own teaching survey is of better quality and statistical relevance. Professor Susan Eisenbach, Dean of Learning and Teaching, informed the department when they announced their plans that if MOLE was not implemented then at the very least their own survey questions and subsequent results must be sent to College Registry. This was requested in order

to ensure that the department was complying with basic quality assurance procedures. The department has, as of yet, not satisfied this wish and with only a short period of time until the next Spring Term session of surveys commence, it is widely acknowledged that the likelihood of this happening is small.

The issue has raised some concerns regarding the representation and welfare of students in the department. Jonathan Silver, the current ICU Deputy President (Education), believes that the department's refusal to cooperate with the college has several "negative implications" for students and staff alike, stating that, "[The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering] think they're too special to allow their students to do the Autumn

Term's MOLE". Elaborating on the department's choice of gravitating away from the use of college surveys, Mr. Silver claims that, "this disenfranchises the students, who miss out on the most important way of giving teaching feedback, and disenfranchises the staff, who will be at a great disadvantage when applying for promotion, without the survey evidence of being a good lecturer." Also discussing the issues surrounding TOLE, Mr. Silver comments that 'there is little or no point in the survey at all if the results never come back'.

The Autumn Term 2009 MOLE survey saw a 35% turnout of taught postgraduates across the college departments, excluding Civil and Environmental Engineering, while the Autumn Term 2009 TOLE saw 44% of undergradu-

ates across Imperial College as a whole take part. Civil and Environmental Engineering in fact had an above average turnout for TOLE with 47% of its undergraduate population (equating to 178 students) providing opinions on tutorials, yet with these results never reaching the intended targets. This renders a significant aim of TOLE ineffectual; the aim of communication with staff and subsequent evaluation and improvement within the department. Although the main areas of concern that surfaced from the results were found to be in the departments of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Mr. Silver states that, "it's still a great shame that the feedback never got [to personal tutors]".

Despite the unwillingness of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering to participate in MOLE, discussions are ongoing between Professor Eisenbach and Professor David Nethercot, the head of the department in question, with regards as to whether the department will consider taking the opportunity to participate in the Spring Term 2010 MOLE, which is currently scheduled to take place during the remaining two weeks of this term. It remains to be seen whether the department will continue to rely solely on itself in order to gauge the satisfaction levels of its taught postgraduates, and whether it will continue to restrict feedback from undergraduate students.

DPE candidate withdraws from Elections after real job offer

Dan Wan Editor-in-Chief

Benjamin Stubbens, a candidate for the Deputy President (Education)(DPE) position has officially withdrawn from the Sabbatical Elections 2010. This comes after he was offered a graduate job by prestigious automobile engineering company Rolls Royce this past Wednesday (10th March).

News broke late on Wednesday evening, two full days after voting had opened at 00.01 Tuesday. His withdrawal leaves Meera Ganeshadevan unopposed for the DPE role.

Stubbens was unapologetic as he announced his withdrawal to *felix*.

"So, it turns out Rolls Royce want to offer me a job. In such a turbulent time in the graduate job market I took a decision at the beginning of this year that if I did get any decent offer from any decent company with any decent reputation I would be crazy to turn it down. I hate to tell you that I am indeed not crazy and will be accepting this job," he explained.

Some may see him as turning his back on the Union, but he explains that the guarantee of securing a future for himself was too much of a temptation when pitted against the uncertainty of winning the sabbatical position for



Ben Stubbens (left) at Hustings with ex-opponent Meera Ganeshadevan

Deputy President (Education).

"Although I want to work as a sabb in the union making real changes to students' experiences throughout their time in uni, the job on offer is in the exact area I want to work, and at the end of the day I have to be selfish and do what's right for me," he said.

"I'd like to think I've already made a big difference to many students in the Faculty of Engineering, but especially the Aeronautics Department where I've whinged and moaned for far too long! I know that I was more than qualified to take on this role and know that I would have made a lot of positive changes to the way students are represented throughout IC," he continued.

Regarding the rest of the election, he warned that "the role of DPE is no place for amateurs."

Now Stubbens has officially withdrawn his name from the elections, he has put his support behind the RON campaign.

He continues: "That is why I would encourage you all (well, at least those of you who haven't voted yet) as strongly as I can to vote RON and re-open nominations for the summer term. This way, students who actually care and will make a difference can have the opportunity to run. Is your education worth such a big risk not to vote RON?"

Ganeshadevan's only comment was "DEARY ME! [sic]"

Varsity hero JPR Williams given 17 month drink-driving ban



David Harrison

Welsh rugby and British Lions legend JPR Williams has pleaded guilty of drink-driving charges, resulting in a 17 month driving ban.

It has been additionally reported that in an attempt to interfere with the breathalyser, he sucked copper coins which he refused to remove several times whilst being held in a police car.

This sentence comes just days before Imperial College's Varsity 2010 kicks off; the prize-winning game is named in honour of Williams as he was also an Imperial College School of Medicine alumnus.

The JPR Williams cup match sees Imperial College rugby men's 1st team take on their Imperial Medicals equivalents. Imperial College have never won

the title that JPR Williams traditionally hands over to the victors himself.

Blood samples taken from Williams showed that 142 mg of alcohol was present in 100ml of blood, nearly twice over the legal limit (80mg)

Williams was on his way home from Old Deer Park, home to London Welsh and the same venue in which the Varsity finale will take place on the 17th of March.

Williams had an illustrious career in international rugby spanning 12 years after his first appearance for Wales in 1969. He is also a qualified doctor, who graduated from a founder college of Imperial College School of Medicine in 1973.

His solicitor said that "he hopes some good will come of today and that others, both young and old, will not follow his example and will refrain from drink-driving."



Angry Geek isn't always in love with science



"I can't imagine waking up everyday, walking through the corridors of Imperial and not feeling like you're part of something"



I've just taken a table in my local Starbucks to find a half-eaten shortbread and a mostly-full mug of brown slop left on the table like an offering to the god of feckless, uncaring shits. There's about four pounds worth of food and drink on the table, and I'm going to throw it away. The couple who were sitting here before me were planning some grand trip out to Vietnam, talking about how badly they needed the break and how it would do them good. I'm feeling quite tired of people today. Moreso than usual, I mean.

It's no secret – insofar as a man who writes behind a pen name every week can have things that aren't secrets – that I dislike people with more money than sense. I find it hard to relate to people who come to one of the finest scientific institutions on the planet merely because they want a pent-

house flat and a Mercedes one day. I can relate to people wanting more of things, or a good life for themselves, but over time it becomes more and more obvious to me that most people are here for one thing and one thing only – themselves.

I read the superb and entertaining Logicomix a few months back – it's a comic book charting the life of Bertrand Russell, his forays into mathematics and logic, as well as providing a discussion about scientists and the passion that drives them. Almost every academic that I've met at Imperial, at PhD level or higher, has some equivalent of that drive within them.

I can't say I do all the time. That's just not true. Only the other day I was carving "NEWTON IS A BASTARD" on my arm with a rusty biro, and I can frequently be seen outside the Science Museum holding a plank of wood with

a nail in it. I don't like science all the time.

But I can't imagine coming here and not really caring for it at all. I can't imagine waking up every day, walking through the corridors of Imperial and not feeling like you're part of something that's more than a payroll system. Yet I'm amazed at how many people do just that – how many people who, upon graduating, will go straight into a job in consultancy, or finance, or trot over to a business school somewhere else in the city. I know people who will graduate and enter a job earning three times what a PhD student earns. They'll walk into Starbucks, order a load of food even though they don't feel hungry, and plan ways to excrete all the money that pads out their body instead of a soul.

Long-term readers might remember the death of my grandfather a while

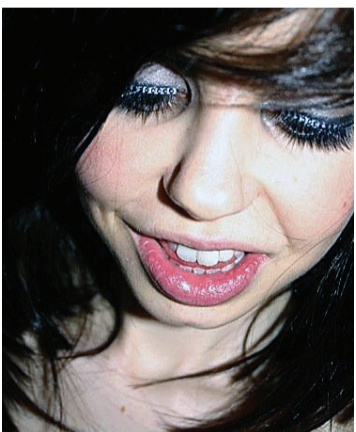
back. In the time since then, my father has followed suit into the grave. The old man was an interesting guy. He had one GCSE, and did the same job for all forty years of his working life. He drove me through my time at Imperial with constant encouragement, inquisitiveness and passion. Despite having no contact with any form of science since he was a teenager, he felt a sense of pride when I spoke to him about what I did. He saw Imperial as I do – as a place where people go to do something more than nine-to-five.

Whilst writing this, a few of the more cretinous students from my course have staggered in, ordered the manliest coffees they could think of, and are sitting loudly sharing stories about interviews and contacts and their glorious futures. I can think of at least four or five passionate, intelligent students who have been thrown

out on the street in the last twelve months because they couldn't find the money to continue their studies. The testosterone party being thrown just a few tables away from me will collectively earn more money in the first few years of their working lives than those students will throughout their entire existence.

This column is supposed to entertain you. I try to summon up as much bile and venom as I can every week in the hope that I'll make my analogies offensive enough to raise a smile when you're sitting in the JCR. But some weeks the bile rises up a bit too far and I catch myself in it too. When they got the blues in the fifties, they'd crack out a harmonica or something twee like that. I think I might visit Skempton and knock up a few smoke-bombs for next week's Goldman talks instead.

Jess Wade gets pulled by the police... Why?



"Terrified, I explained my case. I was trying to avoid the cars. I was trying to keep everyone safe"



So we save £69 a month by not taking the tube. We're always five minutes late, our hair is always poking in strange directions, and we wear neon jackets when there isn't a Klaxon in sight. The rain doesn't scare us; we just carry a plastic bag and a spare pair of socks. And, oh, don't sit there; I need that seat for my helmet. Half term is no longer a crush in South Kensington tube but a clear road, we get excited by gears and merino wool and the boys can wear leggings without being

laughed at.

As I exited Hyde Park last week, laughing at the queue of four-by-fours trying to do the same thing but with infinitely less style and a huge carbon footprint, I felt pretty good. I wasn't burning fossil fuels, I hadn't had to sit next to someone eating an Egg McMuffin, and in minutes I was going to be safely inside Imperial. My poor bicycle was going to be left to face the elements whilst I dried off and carried on with the day, terrified of the window and the clouds outside.

I saw the police car before I ran the 'red'. Sure, it was a traffic signal, one that I chose to fail to comply with. But I made it! I was on Exhibition Road, singing 'You Got The Love' (this is the only line I know) and I was going to be early for labs. Oh no, the car behind me is next to me. What a... "Errr, could you just pull over miss". Are.. you..joking? It was raining badly now, and although I was only a road away from essentially a sauna (to my runny nosed imagination at least) I felt like I was miles away. Actually, I thought we

were going to go down to the station.

Terrified, I explained my case. I was trying to avoid the cars. I was trying to keep everyone safe, me, the drivers, the dog walkers, the horse riders. No, I didn't see the other cyclists waiting. No, I didn't catch the BBC expose that morning on the lycra louts ruining our capital. I was putting on an anorak and tucking my thermals into my waterproof trousers, sorry.

What a fine error that was. He took my Imperial ID card out of my ruck-

sack cover for me, my skiing gloves having the dual features of making me look like a hit man and radically reducing the use of my fingers. He took my address (every single respectable adult I've told since has said I should have lied) and left me in the gutter, to get covered with the grime of SW7 and a nice pair of waterlogged socks. I watched him pull away, £30 better off, staring at his sat nav, on the look out for his next prey. He probably has us all tagged.

It was a very slow journey home.

Rhys Davis admits his soft-spot for the Tube



"The sacred rules of the Underground which must be obeyed, are that you don't move, you don't talk and you especially don't breathe."



I have a tendency for liking things other people don't.

James Blunt, for example. While other people might sheepishly admit to liking Goodbye, My Lover or 1973 after much persuasion and arm-breaking, I'll happily confess that I've bought both his albums and am anxiously waiting on a third. Egg mayonnaise as a sandwich filling is another. Way back in primary school, none of the other boys and girls wanted to sit near me at lunchtime. They all thought – and hoped – that I was dying of some atrocious bowel disease. Even the teachers gave me a wide berth.

Another thing close to my heart is the London Underground.

Now, for someone who lives in London, and thereby uses the Tube, this might seem like a very strange thing to say. They say that the one reliable thing about it is its unreliability, that the only time the trains run on time is when you're running late, and that

they run a timetable you can set your calendar to. But I don't care. I like the London Underground and I'm not afraid to say (write) that.

Perhaps I should explain:

For one thing, when you travel on the Underground, you're not just travelling through space – you're travelling through time! (And faster than the usual one second per second) A good example of this is the Jubilee line. Start off at Stanmore in the wilds of Middlesex, a fairly ordinary station with a penchant for crosswords. By the time you reach Westminster, you've arrived a hundred years in the future (though, paradoxically, still twenty minutes late). With polished steel and glass abound, and strange doors between the platform and the trains, it's the perfect setting for a cautionary tale of dystopian woe. Keep on going to Canning Town and, like the scientist from The Time Machine, you've travelled too far in time. The majestic, Orwellian architecture

has been replaced by simple concrete blocks while Morlocks and the driverless tin cans of the DLR skulk nearby.

There's also the aspect of travelling itself. Everyone assembles on the platform, the train arrives, doors open, the masses pile in – then silence! The sacred rules of the Underground, which must be obeyed, are that you don't move, you don't talk and you especially don't breathe. You're permitted to read the Metro or even a paperback if you had the foresight to bring one but heaven help you if you dare start to laugh. Everyone retreats inside themselves like a clutch of socially inept tortoises. John Donne wrote that no man is an island; maybe so, but there's a very interesting archipelago chain in the next carriage.

I actually find this rather amusing. For reasons even I don't entirely comprehend, I have found myself riding the rails in quite bizarre apparel; a vampire, a gangster and – worst of all – a tree, among others. I can tell

by the way the other passengers furiously bury their heads in The Evening Standard that they are worried about me and my mental health. But it's simpler than that – they've acknowledged my presence and I find my existence ratified. It's rather nice actually, to know I exist.

But I think there's a lot of potential on the Underground. More than three million people travel on the Tube every day and most of them do...nothing. Just think of what could be accomplished with three million idle minds; professors and plumbers, bankers and buskers, solicitors and shop assistants. We could solve the conundrums of our age: global warming, the middle east and why exactly toast seems to land butter-side down.

And Transport for London seems to be cottoning on to this as well. I saw a poster in South Kensington Station the other day of Gandhi with the quote, "There's more to life than

increasing speed." The idea behind this was to provoke a philosophical reverie in commuters. And I strongly believe it will. That, or a murderous rage from passengers on the Circle Line.

But what I love most about the Underground is the mystery of it. Of all the time we spend in those carriages do we consider what's on the outside? It's a brave new world on the other side of the Perspex, of disused tracks and abandoned stations, forgotten improvements and remembered sewers. What I wouldn't give to go exploring down there, late at night after the trains have stopped. Who knows what I might find? I'm still banking on the outside chance that there's Nazi gold in a boarded-up station on the Piccadilly Line.

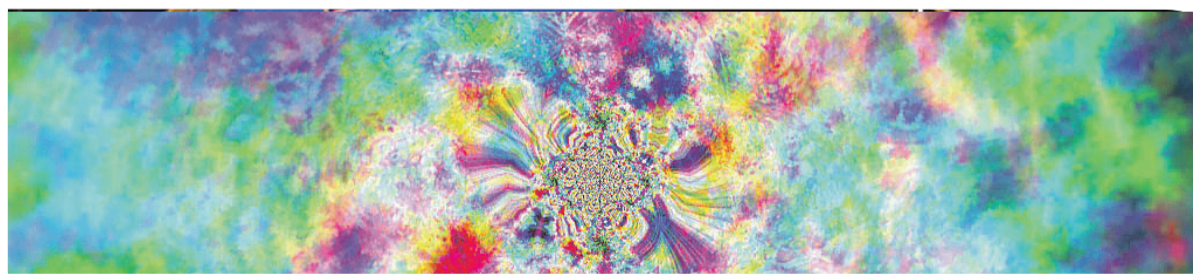
So I reiterate. I love the London Underground. Time-travel, philosophy, adventure!

Just try getting any of that on the No. 10 bus to Hammersmith.

Gilead Amit would discuss apathy, only...



"I hope that my friends will forgive me for setting the bar so high above the Union's"



The night before writing this, I went to see MTSoc's production of 'Hair' in the Union Concert Hall. And for your sake, I hope that the night after reading this you go see it yourselves. I realise, of course, that by indulging in such a shameless plug I leave myself open to charges of nepotism and insider trading. I cannot deny my heavy involvement with the dramatic side of life at Imperial, and I like to call myself a friend of many in the show's cast. But if there is any double dealing going on in these column inches, and if there are any interests that I am deviously trying to promote, then those interests, devoted reader, are yours.

The opening night performance I attended was possibly the most powerful

and moving theatrical experience I have enjoyed since coming to London three years ago. I hope that my friends in the production will forgive me for setting the expectation bar precariously high above the Union bar, but I know from painful experience that I can't be sued for expressing a personal opinion.

Some others, I know, came out of the auditorium mildly impressed. Many emerged with the feeling of an enjoyable evening well-spent and there may have been one or two who would have preferred to be elsewhere. Mainly among the technical crew, I'll wager.

I cannot, of course, speak for you. You may love it, you may hate it, you may walk out halfway through the performance or skip down the aisle strewing flowers to

the cry of 'make love, not war.'

Now I have given you the legally mandated space to form your own opinions and indeed eagerly invited you to do so. There is now no power in the world which can stop me from saying that the experience played chords of unbearable plangency on the sleep-deprived and malleable clavivona of my emotions.

Art has the power to inspire and intimidate in equal measure. And for understandable reasons, it is often artwork in one's own medium of choice that improves technique and encourages creative growth. On rare occasions, however, even the most reclusive kayaker charting his own course along the creative gulf stream will come across detritus jettisoned from some other artistic craft. And

the collision can be difficult to handle.

As an occasional writer, I use words and, once in a while, the odd dab of punctuation to lighten the monotony. Powerful tools, you would be tempted to think. Direct hand-me-downs from Shakespeare by way of Keats, Wilde, Shaw, Nabokov and countless others. If the Old Testament's account of Genesis is to be believed, these are tools which predated and indeed generated the cosmos. Not bad equipment for an artist.

But then I turn the radio on. Or I catch the end of a trailer advertising a new film. Or I stroll through an exhibition at the Barbican. Or I sit in during the opening night of a stage musical.

One's own tools fade into insignificance when confronted with a supreme

emotional experience. There is nothing you can say, no words you could write, no pictures you could draw which rival the message carried by a simple tune. No music which can recreate the impact of the most delicate marble figurines.

The original GPS coordinates on this piece were set to bear left through a contemplative account of the '60s hippie movement before turning right in three hundred metres to a discussion of modern apathy and stopping in front of your final destination to urge you to vote in the ongoing Union elections. But I have lost faith and interest in the power of language, and have neither time nor space to indulge you even if I wanted to.

Whatever you do, Go Vote. Then Go to see Hair. I'll see you there.---

Sabbatical Elections 2010



Have you voted yet?

Voting closes 23:59 Saturday 13.

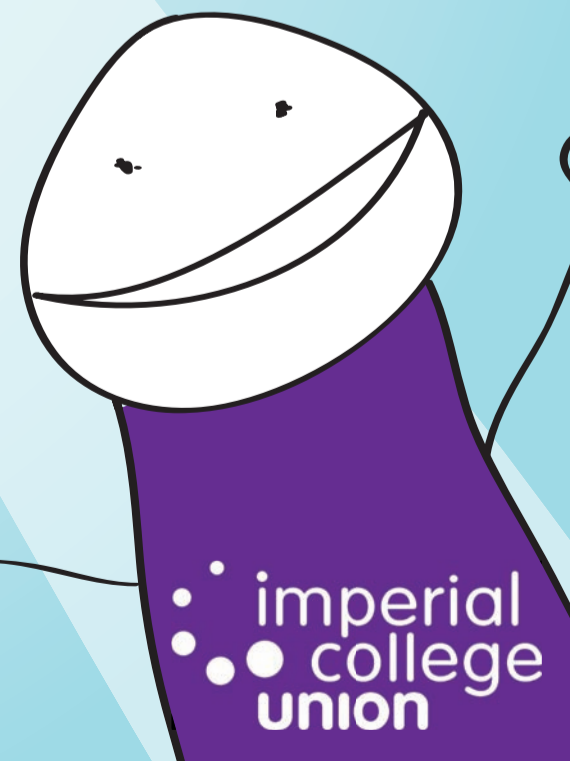
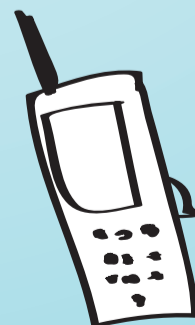
Head online to vote:

imperialcollegeunion.org/elections

Or use your mobile to vote using this link:

bit.ly/voteicu

Or scan this QR tag
with your phone!



imperial
college
union



Antimatter research strikes gold this time

Miriam Frankel

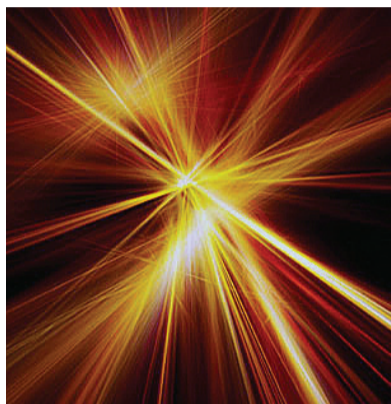
The most expensive substance ever produced by mankind - antimatter - will be easier to make in the future. All it takes is a short-pulse laser and some gold.

'Antimatter' certainly has a mysterious ring to it - no wonder it's a popular theme in science fiction. In "Star Trek", it is antimatter that powers the space crafts, and in Dan Brown's recent best-seller "Angels and Demons", antimatter is stolen from CERN in order to create a bomb that can destroy the Vatican.

But antimatter is not just science fiction; it actually is being produced in small quantities at laboratories like CERN, using huge particle accelerators. It is claimed to be the most expensive material ever produced, with an estimated cost ranging from 25 billion up to 60 trillion USD per gram, depending on the type of antimatter created.

What researchers have been waiting for is a cheap, simple method of producing greater quantities of it - and they may not have to wait long. Last year, a research team from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California was successful in creating a large number of antiparticles by simply shooting a laser through a gold foil. And by improving their method, this year the team is hoping to create even more.

Antimatter is composed of antiparticles, in the same way that normal matter is made up of particles. Antiparticles are simply regular particles with an opposite charge. The positron, for instance, is the antimatter companion of the electron. But, as soon as an antimatter particle comes into contact with a regular particle, they are converted into pure-energy radiation in a process called annihilation.



The Livermore researchers discovered that, when shooting a short-pulse laser through a millimetre-thick gold foil, electrons from the material are released. The laser accelerates the electrons so they move around at very high energies, colliding with the particles in the foil.

The collisions cause the electrons to lose energy, which is given off as radiation. In the end, this radiation gets transformed into positron-electron pairs due to interaction with the gold nuclei. This process is simply the reverse of annihilation, and is called pair production. In that way, over 100 billion positrons are created using simple laboratory tools. "This is far more than has ever been detected in laser experiments before," says Hui Chen, the Livermore physicist leading the team.

In order to detect the antimatter particles, the researchers used a regular electron detector. Since positrons are just electrons with an opposite charge, the detector could easily be converted to register them.

The results of the measurements were published in *The Physical Review Letters* last year. This year, the team is hoping to create even more positrons: a second measurement using a

slightly different experimental setup is underway.

Very little antimatter has been created in the laboratory so far. In fact, even if all the antimatter that has ever been produced in accelerators around the world were annihilated with normal matter, the released energy couldn't even power a light bulb for a day.

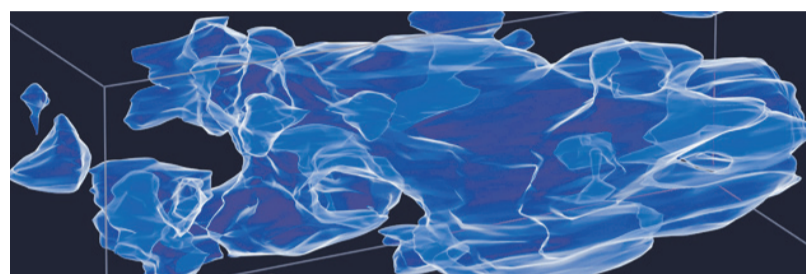
More is certainly needed - scientists think that antimatter may even have practical uses, for example in the future in astrophysics and medicine. Another possibility further down the line is to create a gamma-ray laser based on the induced annihilation of electron-positron pairs.

Antimatter researchers face fascinating challenges. The universe, as we know it, is composed of far more matter than antimatter. This is very puzzling, since current theory says the two should have been almost equally abundant at the time of the Big Bang. But if that is true - why didn't all particles annihilate each other immediately in the early universe?

Scientists have speculated on the causes of this so-called asymmetry since it was first discovered, but it has remained one of the greatest mysteries in physics to date. Peter Beiersdorfer, a Livermore physicist working with Chen, has high hopes about the experiment's use in understanding the asymmetry: "By creating this much antimatter, we can study in more detail whether antimatter really is just like matter, and perhaps gain more clues as to why the universe we see has more matter than antimatter".

Hopefully, the upcoming Livermore experiment will produce more antimatter particles than the previous one, and offer deeper insights into the asymmetry problem. It seems that in order to understand the matter from which we emerged, antimatter really matters.

Exploding stars throw new light on dark matter



3D map of the large-scale distribution of dark matter in the observable universe

Miriam Frankel

The unusual shape of so-called dwarf galaxies has long been a mystery to dark-matter cosmology. But research recently published in *Nature* has now revealed the missing piece of the puzzle: exploding stars.

The star-studded sky may look dazzling, but most of it is composed of invisible matter. A successful theory of cosmology, known as the "Cold Dark Matter (CDM) model", states that 85% of the universe's mass is made up of an invisible, cold, and unknown substance called 'dark matter'.

According to CDM theory, a galaxy typically forms as a spinning halo of dark matter pulls in surrounding material to its core - resulting in a bulge of stars and dark matter at the galactic centre. But dwarf galaxies lack such a lump, and have for this reason posed a threat to the theory.

"It was definitely a red alert kind of threat," explains Fabio Governato of the University of Washington. "The inability of the [CDM] model to reproduce the properties of dwarf galaxies might have required changing Newtonian gravity [...] or required different properties for the dark-matter candidate."

In the end, it was exploding stars - supernovas - that saved the day for cosmology. Governato's research team showed that winds generated by supernovas near the center of a dwarf galaxy can 'push out' the matter surrounding it. When this effect was added to the CDM model, super-computer simulations could finally predict the shape of dwarf galaxies.

Supernovas cannot, however, disturb the massive centers of large galaxies. Dwarf galaxies are different because they have such a low mass - their gravitational pull can't overcome the outward flow of matter generated by the supernova winds.

The new computer model has successfully matched several observations of dwarf galaxies. "The ability to match multiple observations is a crucial test of models such as ours, and gives us much confidence in our results" says Chris Brooks of University of Central Lancashire, UK, who was part of the research team.

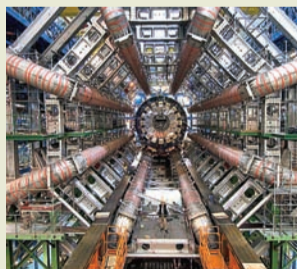
The next challenge for the team is to use the model to more accurately reproduce bigger galaxies, such as our own Milky Way.

It looks like scientists may still be in the dark concerning the nature of dark matter - but at least they are now more convinced of its existence.

In brief

LHC to shut down

The Large Hadron Collider is to close down to repair mistakes that were created during its construction. Dr Steve Myers of CERN told the BBC that the collider will close at the end of 2011. "It's something that, with a lot more resources and with a lot more manpower and quality control, possibly could have been avoided but I have difficulty in thinking that this is something that was a design error," he said. The collider is expected to reach world record power later this month at a power of 7 trillion electron volts (TeV), as it attempts to replicate the conditions from the beginning of the universe.

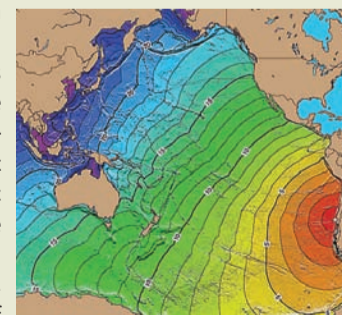


DNA from extinction?

For the first time, ancient DNA has been extracted from the fossilised eggshells of birds, from which it is hoped that information will be extracted as to their physiology, diet, and also how they went extinct. DNA has been collected from fossilised eggshells of birds that died thousands of years ago, the oldest being that of an Australian emu that died around 19000 years ago. This is the first time that scientists have succeeded in extracting ancient DNA from fossilised eggshells. A technique called confocal microscopy was used which enabled researchers to see exactly where the DNA is located inside the eggshells. It is then hoped that the total DNA make-up of an organism (the genome) could then be extracted and sequenced. Eggshells from both the Little Bush Moa and the Heavy Footed Moa were estimated to be older than 3000 years, but attempts to collect DNA from a 50,000 year old flightless bird failed due to excess degradation.

City moved by 10 feet

The city of Concepcion in Chile has been translated 10 feet to the west thanks to the huge earthquake that struck near Maule (incidentally the fifth most powerful since seismic measurements began). The event, which was measured to be of magnitude 8.8, also shifted other parts of South America as far as the Falkland Islands and Brazil. The impact caused on February 27th was measured by comparing precise GPS locations from before the event and after. Santiago had moved 11 inches southwest, and even Buenos Aires - 800 miles from the epicentre - moved an inch.





Clegg offers £2.5bn to improve schools

James Goldsack Politics Editor

Leader of the Liberal Democrats, Nick Clegg, has asked head teachers to "raise their game" in exchange for a proposed £2.5bn funding. Nick Clegg has called on schools to reinvent the curriculum, raise results and close the attainment gap between rich and poor, an important step towards equality.

In a speech at the Association of School and College Leaders conference, Nick Clegg promised to find "extra funding, even while elsewhere there are cuts". However, in return the "greatest expectations" will be placed on schools and head teachers. The Lib-

eral Democrats are proposing a pupil premium system where an average of £2,500 would be attached to each pupil from a disadvantaged background

"Money and freedom in return for high expectations and more ambition"

and go directly to the school they are attending. This money would be on top of the existing education budget, leading to an overall increase in education spending. In contrast, the Conservatives have proposed a similar system but using money already in the education budget to fund it, effectively only redistributing existing funds.

A report by the Institute of Fiscal Studies suggested that pupil premium schemes would lead to budget cuts in a significant minority of schools un-

"We will be more ambitious about the number of young men and women leaving school with good results"

less extra money was attached. In the Liberal Democrats' plans, the premium is funded from outside the budget.

This may lead to increased cuts in other areas as set out in the party's current plans.

Under the current system, schools get money for the deprivation levels in the local authority area rather than within the schools themselves. Under this system, state schools in affluent areas get a small amount of money. In these areas, people can afford to send their children to private schools, leaving the less well-off constituents of the area to go to the underfunded local state school.

Mr Clegg told the conference he wanted Britain to be a place "where it is no longer possible, on a pupil's first day of school, to predict how well

"Extra funding [for education], even while elsewhere there are cuts"

they'll do simply by asking them how much their parents earn".

"So, a deal between government and schools: Money and freedom in return for high expectations and more ambition.

"We will give a level of freedom you haven't known for decades. But, in return, we will place the greatest expectations on you any government ever has.

"One - we will expect you to transform the curriculum, so that it is rich, relevant and stretches the brightest pupils while elevating those who struggle.

"Two - we will be much more ambitious about the number of young men and women leaving school with good results.

"Three - we will expect you to close the gap between poorer children and their wealthier classmates, a gap which entrenches inequality in Britain today."



Clegg's education election pledges

National Curriculum replaced with more flexible Minimum Curriculum Entitlement.

Incorporate GCSEs, A-Levels and vocational qualifications into a General diploma, giving students more choice.

Scrapping tuition fees for all full and part-time students studying for their first degree, fully costed over 6 years.

Education Freedom Act to prevent Whitehall meddling in the day-to-day running of schools with independent Education Standards Authority.

This week

Economic storm not over, warns Brown

Gordon Brown said the worst of the recession is over, but our economy remains "fragile" and could be undermined if the Conservatives' spending cuts are introduced too quickly. The Liberal Democrats say the economy is in too bad a state to start cutting public spending and government support for business and jobs must continue. The Tories have said the biggest risk to an economic recovery was Mr Brown staying in power and that the key is to act to cut the deficit to begin straight after the election. Gordon Brown also announced a pay freeze for all senior public servants.



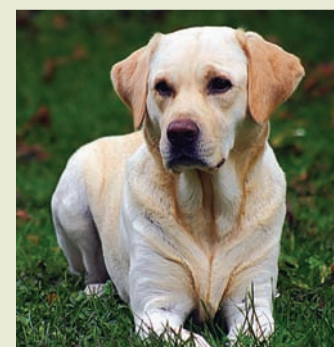
Hague vows to return UK to world stage

Shadow foreign secretary William Hague said the UK's economic and diplomatic power has steadily reduced under Labour and the UK risked "retreating into its shell". Mr Hague argued the UK's international economic status was "diminishing" under Labour and the UK risked dropping out of the list of the world's top ten economies by 2015. With regard to Europe, William Hague said the Tories would seek to play a constructive role on issues such as trade, the environment and energy security.



Swiss vote "no" on labrador lawyers

Voters in Switzerland have rejected a recent proposal to introduce a national system of state-funded lawyers to represent labradors (pictured), amongst other animals, in court. Animal rights groups proposed the move, but the proposal was rejected by around 70% of voters in a referendum. Opponents, including the Swiss government, had argued that Switzerland did not need more legislation. Switzerland already has some of the strictest animal welfare legislation in the world.





Muzaffar Khan to talk at ICFS lecture

Successful financier, entrepreneur and philanthropist Muzaffar Khan will deliver a talk this Tuesday on his life coaching work with students and professionals. The talk will be hosted and organised by the Imperial College Finance Society

Next Tuesday, Imperial College Finance Society (ICFS) will be welcoming Muzaffar Khan to talk to students about a number of interesting projects that he is currently engaged in. Muzaffar is Principal and Board Member of Space Energy AG, a company with an ambitious aim to develop Space-Based Solar Power satellites that generate and transmit electricity to receivers on the Earth's surface. This fits well with his extremely confident and ambitious outlook on life, which he has tried to pass on as a mentor to a range of people of diverse ages and backgrounds. Many of us remember his most successful case, Jan Sramek, from last year's popular 'Inside Trading' panel organised by ICFS.

The two of them have recently published a book called *Racing Towards Excellence*. This is a common sense-based guide for individuals, especially young people and students. It deals with academic, career, financial and personal success, as well as factors that may prohibit this. The clear, simple language and structure of the book is supported by new results from emerging sciences, especially behavioural psychology and neuroscience. Many

topics are covered, with broad concepts ranging from the importance of love to ways of inspiring oneself.

The book then deals with more specific issues, ranging from physical wellbeing through networking to making the most out of leisure time. One of these sections in particular – "Mentors and Buddies" – benefits from the relationship of its two co-authors, and the insight that this gives to both of them. Some reviews have been impressive, whilst others have questioned the ability of Jan Sramek as a final year undergraduate student to be offering advice on life. Muzaffar explained that this misses an important point, which is that the life experience comes from him and not Jan. What Jan brings to the book is a great personal example of how far using the experience of a good mentor can take you.

Muzaffar's own background started in finance. He then developed his interest in environmental issues and so got involved with a green charity, before entering the highly risky field of carbon trading before a market for the asset class had even been established. In conjunction with these business activities, he has also maintained a long-term interest in mentoring. His CV is extensive, and you can find out more

about him at muzaffarkhan.org. Last week he sat down with *felix* to discuss how each of these varied interests began, as well as the ideas that are important to him and guide his current goals.

Back in 1993, Muzaffar and two of his brothers were heading towards successful careers, having achieved strong academic results. Their other brother however, was struggling at school. The four of them were boarding in a British school whilst their parents had to live abroad. This gave Muzaffar, the oldest of the four, a great amount of responsibility for the others. When the school talked to him about his younger brother's struggles, his lifelong commitment to mentoring began. That brother ended up at the prestigious University of Edinburgh, and many others followed him in benefiting from Muzaffar's mentoring over the years.

Muzaffar plans to return to Imperial on 18 May to discuss his Space Energy company, but the talk this Tuesday will mainly be on another project, which is Alchemy Ventures.

This is his attempt to encourage children from underachieving schools to aim high and aspire towards some of the successes that are discussed in *Racing Towards Excellence*.

Will the talk be worth going to?

Aside from Muzaffar's record of supporting young people as they progress academically and professionally, there is another good reason to attend this talk. Last year, *Racing Towards Excellence* co-author Jan Sramek, who is a trader at a leading investment bank, participated in a trading panel event. Jan's articulate sharing of key insights helped make this one of my favourite ICFS events of that year. Since Muzaffar has been described as Jan's mentor, he will also have useful and interesting ideas to share.

The panel last year shared many valuable pieces of advice. Some of these were new to most attendees. But just as important were the many reminders of things that most people probably know but do not consistently factor into their decision making. For example, they reminded us that company cultures vary greatly, so it is important make sure you work somewhere that is suited to your personality. This may seem obvious, but for instance at that time I assumed that firms in similar industries share similar cultures. One panel member, Ben, explained that this was not true: whilst he loved where he worked at the time, staff at his previous employer made him eat Big Macs until he got sick, just for laughs.

The panel also helpfully shared a good reading list for students looking to enter the financial industry, or go into business in general:

- *Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowds* - published in 1841, this book on people's irrationality contains one of the earliest histories of financial market crashes.

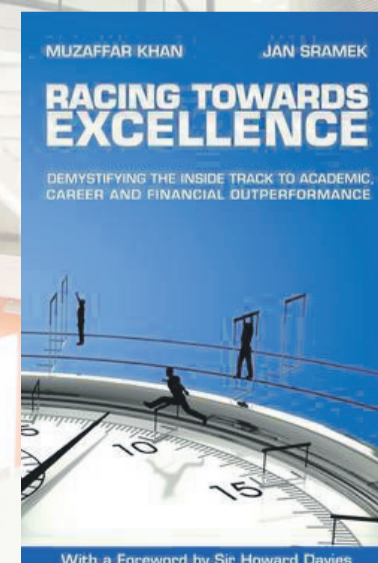
- *McKinseyQuarterly.com* - A great business magazine by the world's most prestigious management strategy consultancy, available free online.

- A few well-received and easy-to-read "insider's guides" to the world of finance: *Inside the House of Money*; *Barbarians at the Gate*; *Liar's Poker*; *Traders, Guns and Money*; and *My Life as a Quant*.

- They also recommended some reading on asymmetric information in markets, formal logic, and cognitive science. They suggested *The Paradox of Choice* as offering a good insight into how people actually make everyday economic decisions, rather than how they do it according to numerical models.

- I am fairly sure that if the talk was held today, *Racing Towards Excellence* would also make it on their list:

This talk by Muzaffar on the 12th will of course be very different. It will cover more topics, offering a variety of anecdotes and lessons learned from an interesting life in business, politics, and philanthropy. His message is worth hearing, and certainly differs from a typical self-help talk. The talks will however, share in common an aim to get students to think about high-powered jobs in the city, Muzaffar will explain why and how it is possible to succeed in finance and other areas, using examples that range from the general, such as Muzaffar's philosophy on life, to the specific, such as UNICEF's list of key life skills.



If you attended the trading panel event, you will likely remember Jan Sramek, Muzaffar's co-author. Growing up with modest means, Jan now works for a leading bank. He credits advice included in his book account for some of this success.



Never too cold for culture!

Caz Knight Arts Editor

Apologies for the absence of my editorial column this term from *felix* arts. Life as an Imperial College Business School Masters student is not the languid time that life as an undergrad at Imperial was! Nevertheless I have been continuing with my layout duties and making sure that our writers are being sorted out with free tickets to plays and galleries so that they can review them for our reading pleasure.

While my writing may have taken a back seat these last few months to make time for a course I have actually paid for, I have still been getting my regular cultural exercise, albeit predominantly from the comfort of my couch: reading!

My latest obsession at the moment is Russian literature. I think people are either ignorant of what the Ruskis have to offer or else they are put off by the sheer size of stalwarts such as *War and Peace*. While Tolstoy's most famous work is still sitting unopened on my bookshelf, I have devoured *Cancer Ward* by Solzhenitsyn and *Crime and Punishment* by Dostoevsky already

this year and I can not overemphasise just how spectacular the latter is. Yes, it is deep and dark and brooding- a tale giving an account of the psychological workings of a half crazed, impoverished student as he plans, executes and deals with the consequences of a murder. I read it in under a week, so gripping it was.

Most of my equally over-worked peers lament the fact that they no longer have time to indulge in reading other than that for dissertations and essays, but when one manages to find the time, once realises how beneficial it is to give ones eyes a rest from staring endlessly at computer screens. So please send us your book reviews of anything you may have read, high-brow or not.

Before you go on to enjoy this week's arts section I would like to offer a humble and profuse apology to **Bernard Pereira** who wrote an excellent review of the Donmar Warehouse's **Seranading Louie** for Friday 26th February's *felix*. Due to a mix up, the review originally stated that it was I who had written it, but it was, in fact, Bernard. Apologies Bernard. Keep writing!



I got all the girls I got all the girls..... Imperial College's very own gyrating Belly dancers

Would you like to swap π for Puccini?

Seb Junemann reviews an Imperial arts explosion featuring sexy, gyrating Belly dancers and the Mario tune

Imperial College Union's annual Festival of the Arts, or "Artsfest", is an event that seems to pass much of the student body by. After all, Imperial is a collection of engineers and scientists who spend their days in dark labs or huddled over a keyboard or fiddling about in a workshop; why should such brilliant minds bother themselves with such trifling nonsense as music, dance and drama, and lower themselves to the level of an arts student (hack, spit).

Perhaps it's such a misguided attitude that meant that the Artsfest Showcase concert, in the Great Hall last Thursday, saw such a disappointing turnout. With enough seating for over 500, less than 20% of which had bums on seats, the ratio of participants to audience was close to 1:1. There's some Maths for those of you who somehow prefer Pythagoras to Puccini.

The concert, for the bargainous ticket price of a fiver, gave a platform for a broad range of the Union's arts clubs and societies to show what they were all about. These students, bucking the aforementioned trend, showed exactly why arts at Imperial are worth your time and interest with a showcase that had something for everyone and demonstrated a flair for creativity in their

routines, arrangements and artistic decisions.

From the orchestral and instrumental camp, we had offerings from Imperial College String Ensemble (ICSE), Windband and Classical Guitar. ICSE demonstrated exactly how an ensemble adept at classical music can appeal to an audience of geeks by taking us through a fun medley of retro video game tracks including *Zelda*, *Pokémon*, *Tetris* and *Mario*. Windband appealed to the movie buffs with a beautiful, spine-tingling arrangement from *Pirates of the Caribbean*, perfectly conducted by Gilly French. Classical Guitar's piece, imaginatively entitled "Medley of pieces we like", was excellent and showed off the tremendous skill of the small group of performers with a stunning performance that nicely rounded off the first half of entertainment.

There were two dance groups in the showcase – Bellydancing and French Modern Dance. Bellydancing completely disproved any notion I ever had about Imperial being a place devoid of beautiful and sexy women. Their two routines showed off that these girls were talented as well as fit, flexible and fun. Worth the ticket price alone. French Modern Dance are three of my

least favourite words. However, I really enjoyed their routine! It was intelligent, creative and well executed. Yet another example of talented performers getting out there and entertaining the audience whilst enjoying themselves at the same time.

Filipino Martial Arts and Wushu presented two outstanding, but very different, martial arts demonstrations. Filipino Martial Arts, accompanied by a thumping drum and bass track, staged a number of sparring sessions with a wide range of weapons which segued into a demonstration of beating off muggers with whatever you have to hand – umbrellas, belts, scarves, newspapers, cups of coffee. A high energy and highly skilled performance. Wushu's demonstration was a more traditional demonstration of skill, balance, elegance and finesse performed with jaw-dropping precision. The passion, skill and drama from both demonstrations firmly confirmed their place in an event dedicated to the celebration and performance of art.

One of the highlights of the showcase, for me, were the Techtonics. A twelve-strong, male, close vocal harmony group, these guys sum up what arts at Imperial are all about – taking an idea and making it a reality, execut-

ing it with flair and fun. Less than two years ago, students Christian Carter and Ed Brightman decided that they wanted to set up an a cappella group, found ten willing recruits and made it happen. Their performance was hugely entertaining, as the guys confidently worked the audience, enjoying every minute of it and producing a fantastic sound. I will definitely be making the effort to see this group again.

The show was rounded off in style by a performance from the Musical Theatre Society who gave a sneak preview of their upcoming production of *Hair*, which, by the time this goes to print, will have been on this week, Tues 9th – Sat 13th March. If this preview was anything to go by, the Union Concert Hall is in for one of the best performances of a musical from one of the strongest casts I've seen in years. The hippy rock musical, *Hair*, sees the company tackling the iconic show complete with 60's-perfect costumes, fantastic vocals, top choreography and, of course, long, flowing hair. Don't miss it.

The whole showcase was held together by the excellent comping of Billy Feenan. Completely at home on the stage and well clued up on the different acts performing, Feenan was the perfect ambassador for the talent on

display in this concert. As he observed, the importance of Artsfest cannot be understated for Imperial students – after all, at a dinner party or when networking with future contacts, a discussion on the Large Hadron Collider is never going to be as interesting as a discussion about art, dance, music, or martial arts.

The arts are crucial for the students of Imperial. As important as it is to further your studies and research, the arts clubs and societies are a place that welcome students with one major thing in common – the desire to participate, have a go and enjoy yourself. Imperial harbours a huge amount of talent; a fact that couldn't be made more clear by the performances at the Artsfest showcase. With groups that not only perform to a high standard but have a great time doing it, it's no surprise to see the same faces coming back to the societies year after year. And it's why I, although no longer a student, will continue to come back and enjoy the talent on offer. Don't make the mistake of missing it whilst you're still a student. Swap your keyboard for one with black and white keys, your labcoat for a black belt, your Schrödinger for some Sondheim. You'll thank yourself in the years to come.

Wait for me and I'll wait for you...

David J Paw exorcises his English Literature demons with this wonderful rendition of Beckett's classic play



Two tramps, Vladimir and Estragon, wait in a blasted, seemingly postapocalyptic wasteland seemingly devoid of any other life. It could be the aftermath of the Blitz (Godot was written in the Fifties) or a natural disaster. The raw material is there and as with the best plays, each production can breathe new life into it with its own cultural and political context. In this case, Haiti could easily spring to mind.

What are they waiting for? They're waiting for a chap called Godot. Vladimir and Estragon may have a long and storied history, such is the comfort and familiarity of their relationship. But they wait from morning to evening. Each evening at the height of their anticipation, a young boy appears for a brief period offering only the most sparse information regarding Godot's whereabouts, and when Godot fails to show up, they return the next day with the promise of the titular character's appearance. It happens again the next evening with a simi-

lar sequence of events - it is said that *Waiting for Godot* is the only theatrical production in which nothing happens - twice.

And what do the main protagonists discuss while they wait? Not much, admittedly. Such is the ease of Beckett's dialogue it could easily pass as banter to the casual listener. So what is the point of *Waiting For Godot*?

As many of you who studied English Lit at school may recall, Godot was a standard text at many schools. For some reason my teacher, the affable Ms Shepherd, went for Coleridge or Carol Ann Duffy or something of the sort. It felt interesting at the time, but not the canonical and epic prospect something like *Godot* or *The Wasteland* might have presented. Having said that, most of my friends who studied these said the texts usually left their English classes in full FML mode.

So let's sum it up so far - there are a total of five characters, there's no plot, the setting is epically depressing and nothing happens - twice. So why would you want to see it? But seeing it people

are, and in droves. Beckett's formerly (and still) obscure play has been running at the Theatre Royal Haymarket for coming onto a year now and has attracted the talents of Patrick Stewart, Ian McKellen and, er, Matthew Kelly. It has been accepted into the establishment.

Historically elusive and baffling, breathtakingly minimalist yet achingly rich, *Waiting for Godot* has been considered almost universally one of the greatest theatrical accomplishments of the last century. Why?

The brilliance of Beckett's play is that it is both non-specific and incredibly concrete, endlessly elusive and yet universal. With this quartet you feel the play's realness: they're not trying to embody metaphysics, they're acting people - people like ourselves who continue to wait, even as we ponder what we're waiting for. People have interpreted the setting as a kind of metaphysical state of purgatory, with the titular character the resident deity of sorts.

Some have interpreted an underlying message that waiting - for God, for release, for absolution, for resolution, anything - is futile and that life is for living, not waiting. These are all mostly speculative and Beckett himself has said that audiences and critics often overanalyse his, and the play's, relatively straightforward intentions.

Ian McKellen's Estragon and Roger Rees' Vladimir are a joy to watch. Of course, the majority of audiences will recognise McKellen from his film work but this is not the first time he and director Sean Mathias have worked together on the stage, having previously collaborated on *Uncle Vanya*, *Dance of Death* and *Aladdin*. A Bolton native, he reverts to a distinctive Lancastrian drawl as he conveys a character so affable and charming, yet so irascible, mercurial and perhaps above all, confuddled.

Rees' Vladimir is the rock of the play, drawing patience and resolve with a soothing gentleness and warmth despite a mounting sense of desperation that is repeatedly extinguished, albeit temporarily. Matthew Kelly's Pozzo is wonderfully exuberant, an explosion of colour and sheer physicality in the stark and confined world Mathias paints.

This is a *Godot* that is full of compassion and pathos. Other reviews have lauded the performances of individuals while deriding the play's accessibility and humanity. But Mathias has achieved a considerable feat in making something previously relatively elitist and obscure appreciable by the average individual while maintaining the integrity of the original.

If the intention of all art is to communicate an idea, a vision, a mark, a scar, then surely artistic and commercial success is ideal?

Regardless, if you're a serious theatregoer, you'll probably have already seen it. If you only have a casual interest in theatre, *Godot* is not the impenetrable lump you may have expected. Hurry though. The run ends in early April...



Imperial College
London

Wednesday 17 March

Varsity 2010

sport Imperial

New Venue for JPR Williams Cup Match
Old Deer Park, home to London Welsh

Day matches at Harlington, Wilson House & Ethos

imperial
college
union



Imperial
Medicals vs Imperial
College



Tickets on sale now from £8
www.imperialcollegeunion.org/varsity

Colin Firth takes a look back at his life in a *Single Man*

A Single Man

Director Tom Ford
Screenwriter David Scearce
Cast Colin Firth, Julianne Moore

John Park

Tom Ford, the world-renowned fashion designer most famous for fishing Gucci out of bankruptcy, steps behind the camera for the first time to create a work of art, beauty and nostalgia. Pre-conceptions that can usually arise about a first-time director who used to be a fashion designer – beautiful costumes, sumptuous music, overdone visuals, good-looking actors – do make their standard appearances but with *A Single Man*, Ford goes a step further, exploring social division, prejudice and solitude.

Told from our leading protagonist's point of view, George (Colin Firth), an English professor in Los Angeles, is planning to commit suicide after realising that with the death of his lover Jim (Matthew Goode), his life is not worth living anymore. He has a gun prepared, has written all the goodbye letters, and has sorted out his finances. All he needs to do is to get through the day, teach his class, have dinner with his close and possibly only friend Charley, (Julianne Moore) and then it's goodbye cruel world.

But not everything goes quite according to George's perfectly laid-out plan. An intrigued student Kenny (Nicholas Hoult) takes peculiar interest in George, an attraction that seems to involve fascination for both academia and sex, and this leads to several, lengthy discussions about life and its surrounding moralities. He has curious encounters with a male prostitute, Carlos (model Jon Kortajarena), and

Who is Tom Ford?

Born in Austin Texas, 1961, Tom Ford started his career acting in television commercials. Although getting a degree in architecture he eventually settled into the fashion world rising to the top of the business. *A Single Man* is his directorial debut after leaving the fashion house Gucci.

his neighbours that make him question his decision to end his life.

George is alone, living as an outcast and Ford makes sure that we see this in as many different ways as possible. He's an English man living in America, he's all alone in an empty glass house and he's a gay man living in the 60's. Firth, in the role of his lifetime, gives a magnetic performance and does not falter for one minute. He is quiet, yet subtly powerful, perfectly reflecting the character's on-going grief and frustration towards his empty life that seems to have no hopeful future. The awards buzz is certainly well-deserved.

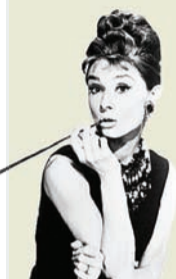
The supporting cast also does an equally phenomenal job. Moore is on faultless form as the sad, alcoholic loner who is so miserable that she considers having a fling with George who she knows is gay. She tries to mask her fear and worry with endless booze, a perfectly decorated house and heavy

make-up but in the end nothing lasts forever and she's back to her depressed self. Moore captures the struggles and weaknesses of her character and keeps up flawless chemistry with Firth. Goode finally lands a role where he can put his good looks to fine use as George's young dead lover. George's flashbacks including Jim show how happy and content our protagonist was as a result of this one man and we can all understand why. Their scenes are intimate, sweet and at times, quite comical. Hoult, a dedicated student full of talking points, intelligent views and a genuine interest towards George, has a young, fresh charm that sets a clear contrast between Hoult's and Firth's characters.

Ford dazzles us with his confidence in using various visual techniques. His bold use of colours showing sharp contrast shows both the grim, grey 60's, as well as the more detailed, fashionable interiors and atmosphere of the more flamboyant, fun-loving characters. His frequent use of zoom-ins skilfully adds something more erotic and intimate to the narrative. Combine that with some slow-motion filming and the effect is doubled. Does he rely on this too much? Perhaps. But this certainly isn't all style and no substance.

A Single Man may sound like a complete downer, but under Ford's steady, beautiful direction and anchored by strong performances from the cast, this goes beyond the sad, tear-jerking message of loss and tragedy into something more meaningful, exploring life and its worth. An emotionally alive picture from an ensemble of artistic talent, this moving experience should not be missed.

What was fashionable in 1961?



Smoking



J.F.K



Elvis



The Oscars Breakdown



You might recognise this man, it's Neil Patrick Harris! I admit I had to go on IMDB.com to find out he is. Apparently he starred in *Starship Troopers*, remember? His song and dance routine was an enjoyable start to the ceremony. [Ed. -IT'S BARNEY]



Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin literally descended to host the Oscars. Their partnership was a bit hit and miss but some well aimed Jewish jokes about *Inglourious Basterds* had the audience in stitches. 'The Motherload!' Steve Martin exclaimed to the audience.

Penelope Cruz, looking as gorgeous as ever, presented the first major award of the ceremony - Best Supporting Actor - to Christoph Waltz for his brilliant performance in *Inglourious Basterds*. Unfortunately, Tarantino's WWII set revenge fantasy failed to pick up any other accolades it might have justly deserved.



The incredibly adorable Zoe Saldana came on stage with Bafta winning and Oscar nominated British actress Carey Mulligan to present an award. Best Original Screenplay went to *The Hurt Locker* and Best Foreign Film to *The Secret in Their Eyes*.



Mo'Nique took the second Best Supporting Acting statuette for her intense performance in *Precious*. *Precious* also took home the Adapted Screenplay award as well. We then witnessed a bizarre dance sequence set against the music of the five films nominated for best score which eventually went to *Up*.



Before the important awards were revealed we had the annual 'in memoriam' slideshow. Fariah Fawcett, one of the original Charlie's Angels was controversially left out whereas Michael Jackson was unusually included as he is a musician and not an actor. Long overdue an Oscar, Jeff Bridges was ecstatic in receiving his Best Actor award for his tender portrayal of a down and out singer in *Crazy Heart*. Sandra Bullock then took to the stage to receive her statuette for her first Oscar nomination and win for Best Actress. She also received a Razzie Award for worst actress.



As the ceremony drew to a close and the clock ticked towards 5am in England, the anticipation for the last two awards - Best Director and Best Picture - rose to a climax. This was not James Cameron's night and Kathryn Bigelow took two Oscars home for her intense Iraq set war drama *The Hurt Locker* which won 6 awards in total.

MUSIC

Music Editors: Alexandra Ashford, Kadhim Shubber & Luke Turner

Online Editor: Christopher Walmsley

music.felix@gmail.com www.felixmusic.tk



Abbey Road... Just Let It Be

Luke Turner Music Editor

Lady Madonna, children at your feet. For me, Abbey Road Studios is the Lady Madonna of the music industry, not only because, grown from it, was the immortal piano riff that The Beatles recorded there, but also because it's the house piano available, for the fortunate enough to venture inside, to let their musical minds race on the same black and white keys that graced the touch of Lennon and McCartney some 40 years earlier. This phenomenon is both historically significant, and in current use, blessing every pianist with its stories, which is exactly the way things should be.

There is a case to be made for preserving this marvellous creation behind glass frames and velvet rope so that what has occurred within those four walls is remembered forever. However, it is not a marvellous building, it's a relatively average building for its surroundings in St. John's Wood. What has made it the beautiful landmark that it is are the things that have happened within. As I see it, there is the potential for far more incredible music to come out of what has become known as Abbey Road, and surely, the best way to have its history remembered forever would be to have history continually being made there.

Although it's best known for much of The Beatles' work, it should be known, as of the date that EMI was formed and the studios became the centre of rock music in 1958, musicians such as: Cliff

Richard, Pink Floyd, Radiohead, Stevie Wonder as well as everyone involved in the recordings 'Live From Abbey Road Studios', have been key in making Abbey Road the legend that still turns its cogs.

As a nation, it has to be said that there is poor effort put in to cherishing our musical heritage, if any at all. The Hacienda in Manchester - gone, the Astoria in London - gone. Cavern Club in Liverpool - a carpark, the Marquee Club in London, once the musical home of The Who - cleared for restaurants and apartments. What has this world come to? It may not be as old as the Colosseum or as grand as the Houses of Parliament, but in terms of having a direct influence over a large amount of people across the UK and the world alike, Abbey Road wins.

Abbey Road was recently cast under this shadow of uncertainty for its future, like many before it. February of 2010 brought us the news that EMI had placed the studios up for sale due to increasing financial issues, causing huge controversy over the protection of Abbey Road Studios. When news of luxury apartments and a chance that Andrew Lloyd Webber might buy surfaced, there sprouted a sudden change of heart by EMI. Deciding to keep the studios, with a little help from its friends, Abbey Road Studios will live on as an active recording venue, waiting to pass on the gifts that it has shared so many times before, held within its four walls, to the future of music.

Local Natives

Kadhim Shubber ditches revision for a night with Peggy and Local Natives at the wonder that is Heaven

Exams are only about 6 weeks away and so I was seriously considering staying at home on the night the Local Natives wowed Heaven nightclub. Instead, I grabbed my coat and leapt out of my front door and forgot revision in a flourish of academic irresponsibility. My serendipitous reward? The musical joy of Peggy who happened to be supporting that evening.

I felt vaguely uncomfortable because it's probably about time that Peggy Sue's musical career finally took flight and moved firmly out of the realm of lowly support acts. If you didn't already know, Peggy Sue are 2 girls and a chap who play drum-heavy, accordion-infused folk music and they play it damn well.

But they were only the tantalizing appetizer so let's zoom quickly on to the main dish. The Local Natives are an L.A. band with a fantastic debut album called "Gorilla Manor", who have been compared with Fleet Foxes; which is about right; take Fleet Foxes out of the woods and throw them on to a sunny drive down to



They're local, native and lynching their bandmate.

the beach, and add in a load of toe-tapping and hey presto, it's The Local Natives. But to be more serious, the comparison with Fleet Foxes really comes from their use of multi-layered vocals to create beautiful, entrancing harmonies. Fleet Foxes do it with a very folk and country angle whereas The Local Natives aim in an indie direction.

Ultimately, the prevalence of these combined vocals mean that the band stand at the front of the stage four-abreast (with the drummer languishing unseen at the back) and belt out their lyrics as one, with no one band member taking the traditional role of frontman; which isn't so bad in my opinion. The set-up gives the band a very strong presence that complements their powerful sound well; they physically fill your vision and their sound envelopes your ears.

But I'm not describing some loud hardcore metal band or a DJ with the bass turned up too high; the intricacies and deft little turns that litter their songs aren't overwhelmed. In addition, they move well between their few upbeat tunes and their moody, chilled out songs where they excel. So in summary, they were damn good, so good in fact that even the stony-faced Hugh Crail was compelled to whoop and cheer; which is saying something very powerful indeed.

Local Natives
Heaven
February
★★★★★

BEACH HOUSE
TEEN DREAM
SUBPOP
ALBUM



It's not often that you find a band who, on their second album released a better record than their first and who then with their third album, blow all their previous efforts out of the water. But then it's not often that you find a band like Beach House who have so rigorously defined their own sound and then worked tirelessly to bring it to perfection. Which is what 'Teen Dream' is: perfection. It transports you to a dreamy world of past loves and lost childhood friends. Every song seamlessly plays as part of the whole record but are simultaneously complete structures of their own. I could write columns and columns about this album, it's the best record that I've heard in a long, long time. - Kadhim Shubber

SENNEN
AGE OF DENIAL
HUNGRY AUDIO
SINGLE



Now this I might actually listen to again! In an age where apparently everything needs to be shocking to be worth listening to, this will appear plain and boring but I like it. No surprises, no auditory pain just easy-listening dreamy pop-rock. With you is the track of the album!

- Emily Beech

STATES OF EMOTION
FIGHT THEM ON
THE BEACHES
SINGLE



Whiney indie drawl is a fair description. An introduction by Mr Churchill does not improve my opinion of them. Despite this lots of people will like them; Zane Lowe named it the 'Hottest Record in the World Today'. My love for Zane Lowe is not enough to convince me....Next!

- Emily Beech

THE SMOKING
ROLO SHOW
ROCKET
SILENCE
ALBUM



With 20 members, at times this album is a little disjointed with so many styles attempting to find an outlet. Some amusing song titles, 'As in Uffish Thought', compliment the very strange sounds perfectly. QOTSA but much weirder is my diagnosis, slightly folksy spaced out feel. - Emily Beech

JASON DERULO
JASON DERULO
WARNER BROS.
ALBUM



Popular with MTV and previously at number 1 in the chart, Jason Derulo is producing music for the masses who apparently like it! It is catchy as sh*t and will have the club singing along to every track. In fairness he is talented enough to create songs that will have half the population pinning him to their walls while the other half wish they had never heard the f*cking song. - Emily Beech

Most listened to this week by Felix Music members on last.fm

1. Bloc Party
2. Florence + The Machine
3. Radiohead
4. Muse
5. The xx
6. Foo Fighters
7. Gorillaz
8. Yeah Yeah Yeahs
9. Daft Punk
10. The Beatles



Bloc Party are number one, they're lots of fun, now they've begun, not being outdone, in the long run, I want a caramel bun. - Luke Turner

Tubelord get cosy at The Borderline

This is Tubelord fever as **Katie Clemence** tells us of their Borderline gig and cracks Joe Prendergast like an egg in her refreshing interview

Tubelord Band Bio

Tubelord formed in 2006 as an alternative rock band in Kingston upon Thames. Having been described as 'pop songs for rock kids', Tubelord signed up to indie label Hassle Records and released their debut album 'Our First American Friends' in October of 2009.

Having strong roots in pop music, the trio are set to conquer far and wide with their alternative power pop, maths rock!

It was a blustery Monday evening when I went to see Tubelord. You may not have heard their music, but murmurs about this band are spreading, and the rumours are all good. Needless to say, the gig had a lot to prove.

It turned out we weren't on the guestlist- a good start to any night. Fortunately, a combination of good looks and charisma allowed us to blag our way in for free. The venue, the Borderline, felt like a good place to be even as we entered. The room was buzzing with excited energy, and one of the support bands, Tall Ships, were already playing. Grabbing a drink, we were treated to the second half of their set. Due to the shape of the room, the gig felt very intimate, and Tall Ships played on this by talking directly to the audience, interacting and making everyone feel involved. Their music was dreamy and synth (admittedly like a lot of new bands) but the set was also good to watch, with the instrumentalists frequently swapping- playing each

others' instruments and surprising us. I think the nicest thing about watching this band was that everybody seemed to know the words to the songs, many of which were chantlike and easy to sing along to. The music encouraged an intimacy within the audience, who were a lot friendlier than your standard gig attendees.

So Many Dynamos were the next support band, all the way from St Louis, Missouri. I didn't warm to them as much as to Tall Ships, partly because their cyclic, thrumming, dance style music and the singer's accent reminded me of when I used to listen to We Are Scientists, who used the same kind of repetitive song formats in their music. On the plus side, the songs sounded very polished, even as a live performance- also I was very, very pleased when I realised this band's name was a palindrome. I hope you are too, after you read this and look back at their name to check I'm telling the truth.

So, on to the main event. Tubelord

opened the set with the first track from their album, starting with a mesmerising chant which then explodes into a frenzy of post-hardcore guitar. It was a good start because everybody knew the breakdown was coming and the excitement was tangible- I'm pretty sure some of the more bulky males were drooling with the thirst for mosh.

This song was a good opener- it prepared the audience for the nature of Tubelord's music, which is quick-changing and unpredictable, keeping us on our toes and anticipating what was to come next. Tubelord built on the intimacy created by the support bands- I was particularly captivated by a chant-like sequence during the song, which had me wishing I knew the words. The set continued in this whirlwind fashion and pretty much everyone was enjoying themselves, especially the band. Particularly notable was lead guitar/singer Joe Prendergast's dancing. I'll call it a cross between squat thrusts and doing the twist- he got really into it during the more impassioned guitar solos.

One thing that was a bit of a shame about Tubelord's gig was that it was impossible to dance along to unless you knew the songs really well. You can tell that they have obtained

large amounts of joy from the sheer obscurity of the time signatures in their songs- you can't simply dance in a 1,2,3,4 fashion and, to the ear of a dance music fan, the songs might sound slightly awkward. That's perfectly okay though, because this music is made to be listened to and appreciated for its musical value, and for me that overshadowed the fact that I was bobbing around erratically in an attempt to dance.

The standout moments from the gig were when they played Night of Pencils (check it out), and the song Cows to the east, Cities to the West, a quiet ballad amongst their many fast-paced songs, with brilliant use of the glockenspiel.

Overall the gig was really enjoyable- The support bands were above average, I got to go backstage, and I got to see Tubelord, who are now one of my favourite new bands.

Tubelord
Borderline
February
★★★★☆

Katie Clemence catches Joe Prendergast, lead guitar and vocalist from post-hardcore math rock band Tubelord, for a sneaky interview one fine Monday evening in a dim alleyway

KC: I'm going to start the interview on a serious note- what is your favourite dinosaur?

JP: Um... got to be triceratops.

KC: Good choice. Right, so before you decided to wanted to be a musician and in a band, what was your ambition in life?

JP: I never decided that, or I don't think it's happening... my ambition is, um (*long pause*) to not... be a bricklayer?

KC: That should be fairly easy then?

JP: You say that, but it seems to be the easiest route to go down

KC: Well, I'll be a civil engineer, so I'll know whether or not you achieve that!

JP: I'm fine with you bossing me around and telling me how to lay bricks!

KC: Okay. So what would you say is your role in the band aside from the instrument you play?

JP: Well, Dave (drummer) has this thing of being really regimental about everything, and he says we're 'directors of the company'- the band company, that is. So he says I'm artistic director and I just go with that. Oh, and I'm the abrasive person, I suppose. With Dave.

KC: Two abrasive people- that's a hell of a lot of abrasion! For the folk at Imperial who maybe haven't heard you

before, how would you describe the sound of your band?

JP: Ah... Not very dubstep-ey- we have bumslaps on the album! We have bumslaps! Yeah, we do!

KC: Is that your description of the sound then? Bumslaps?

JP: It literally is! Bumslaps! When we were recording it we thought, ah man, if anybody comes in right now, they're gonna be faced with me and Dave bending over with a microphone. It's in the song 'Your bed is kind of frightening.' Yeah, you can't quite get it, you sit there trying to clap it with your hands, trying to figure it out, but you can't quite get that clap going. *<claps>*

KC: So, you have to spend a lot of time together as a band- has anyone got any odd habits?

JP: Yeah, Jamie complains about everything. Dave constantly talks about needing to have a wank. Oh and Sam has wheat intolerance! He just gets really sleepy. And he's always eating sandwiches!

KC: Anyway, so the band uses a lot of different time signatures so you must have had quite a musical upbringing. Did anyone play any hilariously embarrassing instruments when they were younger? Like the piccolo?

JP: Dave plays viola- he's been playing it since he was about 4. He should be really awesome- he was playing it regimentally for a while. I didn't have a musical upbringing. The way it goes

is, I write a song, Dave goes 'you're a bastard, that's 5 and it should go into 7 and it doesn't work' and I say 'I have no idea what you're talking about!'

KC: So will you tell us why you named the band Tubelord?

JP: No.

KC: Is it to do with Youtube?

JP: Definitely, probably... no. You were so close!

KC: Another quick question- do you like pokémon?

JP: Ahhhh. Yes. I got them into our new song! Join the Abra Kadabra *<starts singing>* I like your questions, they're refreshing!

KC: What are most questions like? Interview me in the style of a generic interview!

JP: Ok I have a normal question to start with: Noodles or sauce? What are they on about noodles or sauce?!

KC: Finally, in a battle between Charizard, Venusaur and Blastoise, who would you be backing?

JP: At first, Blastoise because it begins with a B. Then maybe Venusaur, but then I'd think Charizard's quite good, but then I wouldn't want the one that Ash has, so probably Venusaur. But yeah. Blastoise is good. But who's to say I told the truth in any part of this interview?





When Paris becomes a bore

Kawai Wong Fashion Editor

So often it is said excitement isn't an element in the Parisienne look book this season.

Designers head for the safe options en masse, sticking to minimalism, hour-glass silhouettes and pretty accessories. Chloe, Celine and Stella McCartney may well be condensed into one house, after all, these three have a closely woven history. Stella used to be head of Chloe, succeeded by her then assistant Phoebe Philo. Phoebe Philo then took over Celine a season ago. Louis Vuitton has shown the most unimaginative collection to date. The 50s look - Grace Kelly style - no more, no less.

John Galliano has run out of juice, the new show is a compilation of all the good old shows - Dior re-ran the equestrian theme from its Haute Couture collection. Galliano's own brand is a mish-mash of his old flame of Czar glamour and clown-like brilliance.

The exhausting week culminated in Chanel going nuts, putting Yetis on an iceberg. A real iceberg shipped all the way from Sweden to Paris. How do the Chanel people solve the logistics problem involved in negotiating a melty mountain through the notorious Pa-

risian traffic? But then it's hard to take them serious with a fur bodysuit that makes you look like a mountain bear...

The real question is, can we blame the designers? The designs were penned at the height of a global recession. Champagne is less frequently swigged; a night-out becomes a night-in. Sellability becomes directly proportional to wearability. While a full-on grasshopper inspired dress dazzles at a party, carrying on with daily activities is a completely different story.

Fashion is like restaurants, one of the hardest hit industries when the economy goes south. Whenever money can be saved, why spend an extra penny? People automatically go for safer options, for example, versatile skirts that can be worn Monday through to Friday, and a £30 saving from the dry cleaners.

Coats that are good quality and can be passed down from generation to generation will prove a good investment too. So look at Burberry, Hermes, Chloe - millions of different styles of jackets and coats.

If you can count all the peacoats you have seen this season, the drinks are on me!

McQueen's Last Show



Alexander McQueen's final presentation migrated from its original venue of La Conciergerie - Lee's favourite place - to Hôtel de Clermont-Tonnerre, an estate owned by the brand's parent company PPR. The fashion show has been reduced to an intimate presentation for selected members of the press and buyers. The 16 designs were penned by Lee McQueen, and were about 80% finished at the time of his untimely death. The collection was inspired by the angels and demons in the dark ages. The jacquard patterns were plated with gold; the fabrics were heavy to achieve a 'statue feel'. This collection will only be available bespoke for private clients. As the final model marched down the hall, she murmured 'There's no more.' And indeed, the presentation became the last chance for fans to mourn the tragic loss of a true talent.

felix Make Up and Beauty Lesson One - Primers

Charlotte Morris and Kawai Wong

Ok, so we've all heard of primers. Do they really enhance your looks, or are they just a useless waste of money? All major cosmetics brands now produce a range of primers, from Mac to No.7, and you can pay as much or as little as you like, but is it worth it?

What are Primers?

Primers are usually silicon-based gels or creams. You put them on before you apply your foundation. Many of them are SPF15, so they protect against the harmful UVA and UVB rays that age skin.

Why do you need them?

The first reason you'll need them is that they help your foundation to stay on for longer. Secondly, they smooth out the skin, so that the skin has an even-texture. Finally, they even out the skin tone, neutralising red areas or dark circles under the eyes. They are especially good for people with oily and combination skin, as they tend to reduce the shiny, oily appearance of those problematic areas, like chins and foreheads.

How do you use them?

Primers can be applied in a similar way to liquid foundation. Smooth a thin

layer on your face with your finger, motion downwards, going in the direction of growth of your facial hair.

Which one should you go for?

Although the idea of primers is a fairly new concept in the world of make-up and beauty, there are a fair few on the market, so which one is right for you? The award-winning Smashbox Photo Finish Primer (£30/27.5ml, Strawberry NET Cosmetics) is oil-free and suitable for all skin types. It sinks in easily on the skin and feels gorgeous. A more accessible, middle-priced option is bareMinerals Prime Time foundation primer (£18/30ml, House of Fraser). It is made by the people who advocate 'natural' make-up. It's fragrance-free, with no preservatives or fillers and contains extra vitamins to enhance your skin's natural health. This is the perfect option for those who have blemishes or sensitive skin. And if you're counting your pennies this term, like me, you can go for No.7 Colour Calming Primer (£10.25/40ml, Boots). This primer is available in lavender or green colours, and is designed to counter any colour imbalances in your skin tone. The lavender colour works against yellow, sallow colour tones, and the green is made to counteract red pigments in the skin, and each are aimed to brighten the skin, and also work excellently as primers.

SMASHBOX
PHOTO FINISH

£30/27.5ML



The product is white but as you apply it on your skin it goes clear and it gets absorbed quickly. It leaves a thin layer of satin-feel base. The skin looks healthy and make-up stays on all-night. 2 pumps are enough to cover your whole face.

NO 7
COLOUR
CALMING
PRIMER

£10.25/40ML

This is slightly harder to apply compared to many other primers. Its texture is thicker and gooier, but when a sponge is used, the primer actually goes on fine. This primer is drier compared to others, but this is due to its oil absorbent property, so it's

BEARMINERALS
PRIME TIME
PRIMER

£18/30ML



Keeps foundation smooth and in place all day. Prime Time definitely helps make-up look better. This primer helps get rid of the look that the powder is simply sitting on the skin. It is non-greasy so it feels comfortable to boot.

perfect for oily skin and make-up can stay for hours. However, if your skin tends to get dehydrated easily, this may not be the perfect solution for you. The dry texture of the primer can cause make up to crumble and crease. So, know your skin type!



News Strip

YSL Sues the Guardian Over Stefano Pilati's Racist Comment

YSL and its creative director Stefano Pilati are suing the Guardian UK for €150,000 each for criminal and civil defamation. The newspaper quoted a comment that Stefano made to the Washington Post: 'You can't find [black models] that are beautiful and with the right proportions'. He went on to say, 'My fit model was a black model. When I wanted to translate what I put on her, it was a disaster. It would need 13 times more work in the atelier...'. The article, entitled 'America's new vogue for black fashion is all due to Michelle' was originally published in the Observer, the Sunday paper of the Guardian. The web entry has since been removed. YSL and Stefano Pilati claimed that the quote was not being used in the right context. Stefano never denied making those comments. The comment has caused a storm in the blogosphere, with Stefano Pilati being branded as a 'modern eugenicist'.

Enchanté, Paris Fashion Week Summary

The month long fashion marathon has finally come to an end. Spanning half the globe, the fashion packs finally arrived in Paris, the city of glamour. **Kawai Wong** counts the prêt-à-porter collections that open eyes.

Celine



Creative director Phoebe Philo has sent the fashion world into a tweeting frenzie. 'Want want want', 'love love love' – all lustrous adjectives were used in multiples of three. What she's really done was to have a nip here, a tuck there. A traditional peacoat is given an unusual opening, a turtle neck is given a roll up, a sheepskin cloak is given a gold buckle. The clothes aren't earth-shattering but combining comfort and that edgy chic; words cannot describe the genius of the whole experience.

Givenchy



Undoubtedly wearable, silhouettes that will most certainly inspire Zara's in-house designers. Collection consistency is out of the window, as a few pieces emulate Maison Martin Margiela; a few look similar to the mosaic motif used in last season's Balenciaga. A few even incorporated the Imperial China's underwear look, with what looks like the traditional paper cutting technique. If you're taking anything home, take the minimalist peacoats in scarlet, shiny gloves in patent leather.

Giambattista Valli



A collection of what Giambattista does best: 1. Turning women into beautiful swans with tulle ruffles 2. Giving young women this jaunty frivolity in floaty silk 3. Producing show-stopping red carpet contenders. The final exit saw a black mermaid in a dinner jacket and a see-through bra. The dress, made entirely of black feathers. My heart just stopped.

Yves Saint Laurent



Nuns walking out of a nunnery on a rainy day, in PVC capes and a goldie-looking chain with a YSL silhouette. A pure and fervent YSL look, and a pair of arm length fuschia gloves is hidden beneath the angelic white cape. Catholicity is gradually replaced by a burst of colours, blue satin, bright green and sea urchin yellow. All very elegantly done indeed, as you can expect from the house of Yves Saint Laurent. Models are all Caucasian, as you can expect from the 'eugenicist' Stefano Pilati.

Hermes



The French firm - which is more renowned for its Birkin bag now than the silk scarves that once propelled it to fame - has come up with a new way to generate a new set of avid followers. Mini birkins that can fit a BlackBerry, a few coins and not much more are set to become one of the hottest bags on earth. The collection draws reference to Margritte's Son of a Man. Models don leather suits and bowler hats. Should there be more female bankers in the boardroom?

Gareth Pugh



The Pugh woman this time is a tough futuristic soldier, uncompromising, cold. Chevrons all point to the face with the models wearing deadpan expressions and a dark aura above the brows. Models were tucked and bound into leather boots and highly structured chevron padded jackets. The show culminated in a floor-length frock that drew 20s reference and decorated silver chains that sway as you walk.

Giles Deacon



Another British crown jewel – Giles Deacon – also shows in Paris. Giles continued to exact the subtle decorations in his designs, this time with cloud like edges. The clothes are girly and in a fluro, as well as candy-floss, palette. Mildly 60s influenced and many bra top tu-tu dresses. Bags take centre stage - from last season's dinosaur bags to this Totoro's soot ball! Cute and huggable ball of desire!

Talbot Runhof



Johnny Talbot and Adrian Runhof have created a gothic-but-cute collection with brocade fabric and tulle material that the duo became adept at using after designing for the Dortmund Opera House. Ruffled layers of tulle were strengthened and made the complex structure of the finale dress possible. What are the boot holders doing tho?

Balenciaga



Without a doubt Nicolas Ghesquiere, the house's creative director, has renovated the legendary house. A futuristic theme connects last season to this. While many houses played it safe, Balenciaga became the only house that braved novel silhouettes - box shape, with bulky arms and straight waist; sports style cinched waist. But how wearable, really, is a bullet-proof style jacket?

Do you know...



that Nicolas Ghesquiere has shown the red card to Carine Roitfeld and her team, the ever so lovely editor-in-chief of Vogue Paris. Balenciaga has refused to lend anymore clothes to the magazine as well as withdrawing all advertisement. WWD asked Carine to elaborate, she replied, 'We're blacklisted. It's too bad, it's a beautiful house and it's French. I hope that it's not forever.'



Want to get naked to publicise your club or society? Apply at felix@imperial.ac.uk



CAT-NIP

Text in to 07832670472

Email in at catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Tweet @felixcatnip



**CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?
WHO IS GOING TO WIN VARSITY?
IC OR MEDIC SCUM?
JOKES, LETTERS, OPINIONS – WE WANT THEM ALL!**

Email: catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Facebook: Felix Fan Page

Text: 07832670472

Twitter: @felixcatnip

Your Craziest RAG Moments

Last year, I swam in the Serpentine. Was in bed later that week with Typhoid. Maybe the two were connected?

Second Year

We chased after Boris Johnson. He shook my hand!

First Year Chemist

I was flash-mobbed by 6am underground commuters laden with loose change. I saw Death!!

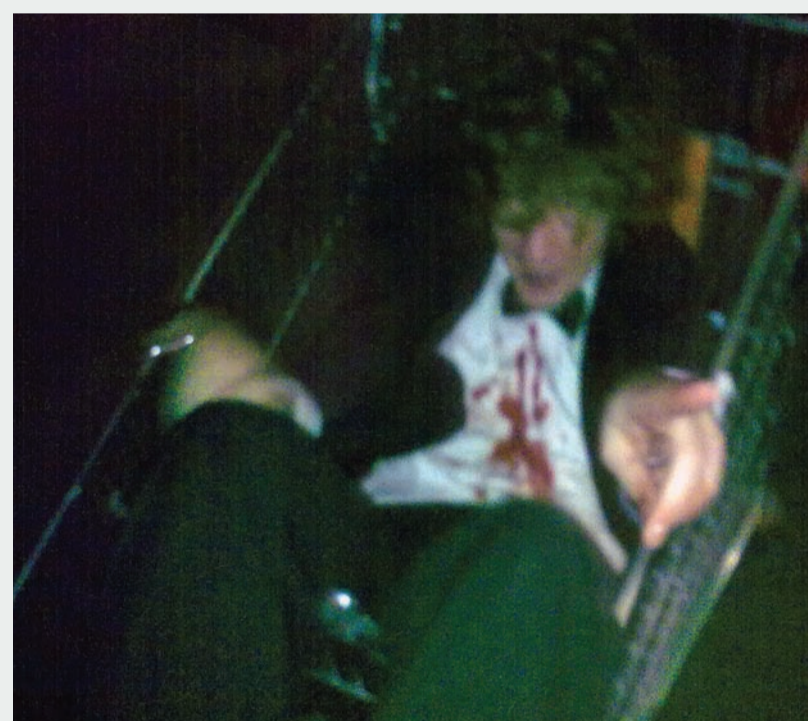
Third Year Medic

Drunken-Mate Photo Of The Week



Drunks are famous for the double-standard. Take this guy, for example. Haagen Dazs for a snack-cum-hat and tea-towels and kitchen chairs for a bed.

Got a picture of your mate being an absolute waste of oxygen? Well, get your camera out and email your drunken mates to catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk



What is that mysterious stain? Red wine? Ketchup? Blood?! All are possible at black-tie event. Less easily explainable is the shopping trolley from Sainsburys.

Senders must have permission to use submitted photos and accept full responsibility for them

Aunty McPickle loves a morning coffee, but it's got to be fresh... real fresh.

Dear Aunty Mcpickle,

I recently caught my mum making a tasty frappe for breakfast. The only thing is we have no milk and she's been nipple dribbling lately. Am I to think the worst?

Katherine Thompson

Dear Katherine,

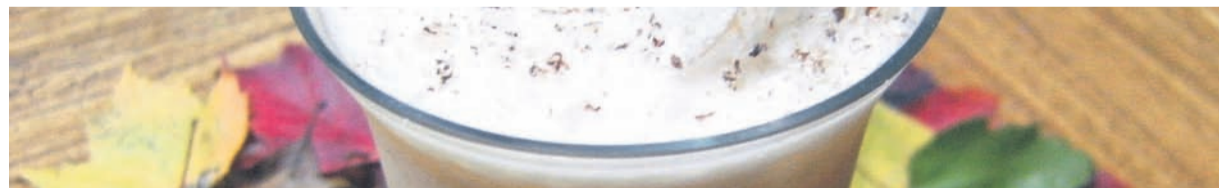
All I can suggest is that you sample the beverage before you speculate it's source. If it is mammary derived, it should be distantly familiar and have that tangy discharge after taste. I suggest you recommend your mum sees a doctor if does turn out to be her own produce.

Aunty Mcpickle xxx

Dear Aunty Mcpickle,

I seem to have contracted several STD's from a certain physics lab bench I dry humped last week. I have thus received several drugs to clear it up. On the day of collection, I stashed them away in a "man" bag and headed for the union. A medic bartender then found the bag and announced by Chlamydia shame. Everyone knows and the worst thing is I didn't even get them back. Will my shame ever die?

Seamus Sidy



Dear Seamus,

You have to start getting your life sorted out. Why would you carry such potential embarrassment to the union?

Learn your lesson and go back to the doctors and consider adding psychiatric medication this time.

Aunty Mcpickle xxx

Dear Aunty Mcpickle,

I was on a recent night out with a lot of friends and a couple of boys I was trying to impress. I ended up drinking a lot and squatting in the corner of the club. A nearby friend helped me up, but on this sudden elevation I was sick all over my naked boob. The photos are on facebook. How do I ever feel attractive again?

Much love,
Pip Slutens

Dear Pip,

Well.... Pretend it didn't happen and ease off the booze for a bit. Also take loads of drunken photos of your friends to balance things out for a while.

Aunty Mcpickle xxx

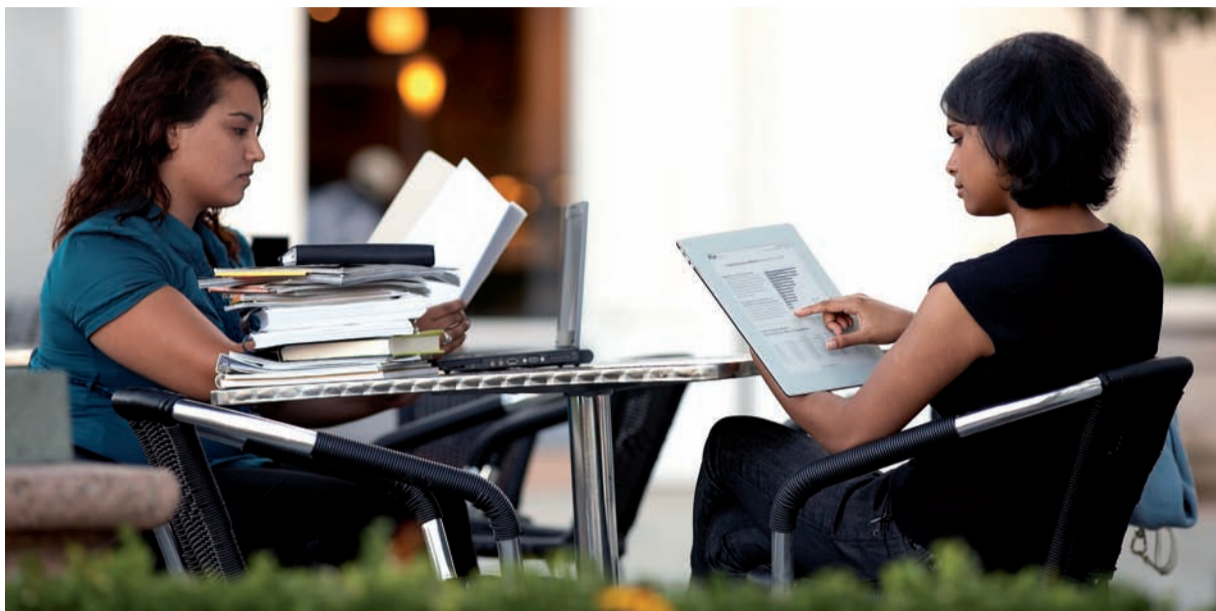


E-Ink not ready for prime time

Feroz Salam talks eReaders and how they're a couple of years ahead of their time

One thing that has been a staple feature of science fiction stories since the late 50's is the death of printed books. If SF authors are to be believed, books are eventually going to be phased out in favour of eBooks, and in the 21st century, major publishers and content distributors seem to agree. Both Barnes and Noble and Amazon have been aggressively selling their eBook readers, and even Apple's iPad was announced alongside a New York Times Reader app to make the online version of the paper resemble the real thing much more closely. Yet apart from relatively strong sales of Amazon's Kindle, the response to the concept of eBooks has been lukewarm at best. On one hand authors are deterred by the thought of piracy eating away at profit margins, while on the other, readers don't seem to be attracted to the prospect of buying an expensive device that has only one real function.

The price of your average eBook reader in its current incarnation is one reason why I don't consider them to be any more than a shiny toy for early adopters. With the 6-inch Kindle priced at a hefty £170, it's not the sort of thing you would pick up on a whim, especially on a student budget. Even at £170 you get little other than a reader. Most books are priced at upwards of £5, which means that a 20-book collection on a reader would cost as much as £270, a price which would probably buy you upwards of 75 used books in good condition, much more reading than I do in an average year. Some reader manufacturers have suggested that the devices could also replace printed textbooks, with the ability to annotate text making for interactive textbooks that hold all your notes. Yet e-textbooks can cost as much as £50 each; more than already overpriced paper textbooks. With the ability to only open one book at once, you can't exactly spread your books out over a



Look at you, peasant. With all your books and a laptop, oh how you live in the last century.

table either.

The problem with true eBook readers is that they are a few years ahead of their time. Although the cost of buying and using the Kindle or some similar device is high, the fundamental problem doesn't lie with pricing, but with screen technology. The Kindle and its brethren use a particular type of display, E-Ink, that's not in use on many other devices. The display technology is designed to mimic the look of actual print with high contrast and density, reduced eye strain created by the need for backlights and allowing for longer reading sessions. The catch? The refresh rate and lack of colour of current generation E-Ink severely limits the graphical capabilities of these devices, making them useless for much more than reading and light web browsing. Amazon's claim of '16 shades of grey' sounds like something out of a television advertisement from the 1940s. Therefore, current eBook readers will

never be able to play a YouTube video or render game graphics, making them oddities at a time when most devices are capable of handling a variety of media simultaneously.

Apple seem to think they have solved this problem with the iPad. The LCD screen can serve up any media you require, while the screen is just the right size for reading. Seeing potential to own the market, Apple has made a serious push into the eBook space, launching an iBookstore similar to iTunes, with works from most major publishing houses featuring on its shelves. Yet whether this gamble will pay off is quite questionable. I've tried reading eBooks on laptops for many years now and I can't stand reading more than a few pages of text at a time. I wouldn't mind glancing through a newspaper, but reading the entire Lord of the Rings trilogy on an LCD screen would probably blow my eyes out, if my Computing degree doesn't get

there first.

Will eBook readers eventually catch on? Almost certainly, as they should. The concept of a centralised bookstore that can distribute books over the Internet 24/7 without running out of stock is great. eBooks will last for longer and, as Project Gutenberg has proved, could well turn out to be a great way of preserving books for future generations. Yet before they can achieve ubiquity, the technologies they are based on have to improve drastically. E-Ink needs to become more versatile or be replaced with another technology, and varying book formats shouldn't mean that you are locked to a manufacturer for life, just because you started collecting books on one of their devices. Realistically, it will take at least a few more years before you see them on the bus home. If you hold off buying them now you'll probably get a much more mature and versatile device with a much smaller price tag.



Samuel Gibbs Technology Editor

Another week's flown by and bam, we're into the middle of March. This week saw a lot of car tech attention due to the Geneva Motor Show that's been going on. Most of the technology on show has been based around traditional hybrid cars, admittedly not from traditional hybrid manufacturers. Who'd have thought when Toyota first launched the Prius that the likes of Porsche and Ferrari would follow suit with high performance hybrids? Of course those in the know realise that having an electric motor is far from a disadvantage for potential sports cars, with maximum torque right from the get-go and carried through the entire range of acceleration. The problem lies in supplying the electric motor with enough power for any decent range.

This is why most hybrids currently run a conventional combustion engine with an electric motor tacked on for low speed, short range driving. Cars like the new plugin Prius drive with the electric motor up to about 23km with a maximum electric-only speed of 100kph. Once the battery is depleted, or the speed you're demanding from the car is greater than 100kph, then the petrol motor kicks in to power the car and recharge the battery.

This means that you haven't removed the petrol problem. Of course you can use biofuel or some ethanol based fuels, but it's still a carbon emitting fuel you have to use. Hybrids are going to be forced into the mainstream for larger engine cars in the next couple of years once the EU's emissions regulations kick in. But hybrid cars are holding back development of true, non-fuel dependent solutions. A poor stop gap in the progression of the humble car.

Weekly Wrap-up: A quick guide to the best of the rest you might have missed

Samuel Gibbs

Another week in Tech has flown by, but what have we got to show for it?

Well, have you ever wished you could fly? Not in a plane I mean, fly like Superman? Yeah, I have too.

Well I'm afraid it's impossible, but you can have the next best thing, the Martin jet-pack. The jetpack in question is

destined to be the first commercially available later this year, and at \$86000 it's not even as much as a fully spec'd Lambo. This personal flying marvel is powered by a 2L V4 two-stroke engine spinning two carbon-kevlar composite rotors, running on bog standard petrol with a flight time of 30 minutes. Now if that doesn't beat the pants off your mate's crappy sports car, I don't know what will.

You could be forgiven for thinking the OO HD wireless projector, crappy name I know, was some sort of spaceship, perhaps even something

out of War of the Worlds. Packing 1080p projection, an SSD, WiFi, Li-ion battery and internal decoders, this concept could be the all-in-one media sensation that you've been looking for. Mind you, if it ever materialises into the real world, don't expect it to come cheap. Guess it's the price you pay for function and beauty.

Sony's been busy this week building up the HD content on its Playstation Network with the announcement of all six major movie studios coming on board. 20th Century Fox, Walt Disney, Paramount, Universal, Warner Bros. and Sony's own Sony

Pictures Entertainment have clubbed together to make a massive 19 HD movies available for rent or to buy. OK, I might be exaggerating a bit, but it's a step in the right direction for all those wielding a PS3 right? Currently only available in the US, Sony's pushing for a UK, France, Germany and Spain release soon.

More car news this week from the Geneva Motor Show. Are you an Aston Martin DBS owner, who just wishes he had a smaller Aston for the city run-around? Well for the princely sum of around £30,000 you can have the Aston Martin Cyg-



net. Packed with features like a fancy iPod dock, leather interior and lots of chrome throughout, the Toyota IQ based Cygnet is your way of giving the finger to all those Mini drivers who think they're the dogs. Think I'll just stick to the DBS thanks.

Having shown the world the incredible faster-than-a-Carrera-GT 918 Spyder Hybrid concept, which we saw last week, Porsche also rolled out the insane look-

ing 911 GT3-R Hybrid concept. Porsche has ditched the battery for a flywheel, which is spun up to 40,000 rpm by the car decelerating. A generator turned by the flywheel then powers a pair of 60kW electric motors attached to the front wheels. The system incorporates a boost button like that found in the F1 KERS system, adding 160bhp for up to 8 seconds. Finally, a real turbo boost!





My Mongolian misadventures

A trip to somewhere a little different? **Peter Mason** brings tales from the remote corners of Mongolia

Setting: in the middle of nowhere. Green and brown grass in the foreground with hills providing the horizon in all directions. Clouds were not a common occurrence and this day was no different. Our journey was nearing an end as we were returning to the capital, Ulaanbaatar, to fly back home. Only things had suddenly got a little more complicated. Our present position involved a lot of mud, which had not been visible before, and a van that was not going anywhere fast. And did I mention that we were off-road on a two-wheel drive minibus?

Piling out of the bus to survey our predicament, silence fell as we surrounded the crash site unsure of what to do. Apart from the clothes and tents we were carrying with us, we had limited resources and options. Several phones materialised to check for signal but to no avail; who would you call anyway in an exotic country for an accident in the middle of nowhere? While we huddled around, helpless, I started to think about the other unusual times we had had over the past few weeks.

“Who would you call anyway in an exotic country for an accident in the middle of nowhere?”

We had arrived about three weeks previously with no idea of what to expect. Of course we had all read the *Lonely Planet* guide on the flight, but being in a new country was thrill enough that everything we had read flew out the window.

We only had two days in Ulaanbaatar before we needed to catch a train to our next destination. In search of a supermarket for food and supplies we ended up



finding out a lot more about the country we were now in. Standing in some sort of market square next to a main road while deliberating which street to head down next I found myself people-watching. The first observation was that a lot of people seemed to be driving large cars: in a short space of time we saw several *Hummers*, new *Discoveries*, and many other four-wheel drive vehicles. It turned out that petrol was dirt cheap, something like 12p per litre. The second observation was much more interesting; the pedestrians seemed to have no concept of ‘waiting’. A nearby news kiosk had a mob besieging it, every individual jostling to be at the front of the queue. A family crossed the road as soon as they reached the roadside without hesitation; the mother stepped out in front of the cars with her arm outstretched to stop the traffic, while her children walked casually across without breaking stride.

Our next glimpse of the local people came about a week later and about 400 miles away. This time we were midway through a five-day horse trek through some foothills and, on such rare occasion, we had had glorious sunshine and

blue skies all day until evening when the heavens had opened and drained its sewage. This put a dampener on the mood but the cards came out and Texas Hold'em was the name of the game. The evening was going fine but the rain didn't look like it was going to stop and we had dinner to cook – a laborious process involving lighting a fire (with some very wet wood), boiling the river water for a couple of minutes (without the fire going out), and then simmering the food for another 30 minutes while stirring continuously (in the pouring rain). After a very wet hour and still no success we decided to take a different tact. Some locals nearby very kindly allowed us into their yurt. Considering they numbered seven – including three generations – and us thirteen it was a bit of a squeeze.

“...the pedestrians seemed to have no concept of ‘waiting’”

We cooked on their stove and ate inside, probably making everything they owned very moist in the process. We were eternally grateful, being very hungry by this time, and I think they found the whole situation mildly amusing. Still very wet, but now much warmer and with appeased stomachs, we returned to our tents for some well deserved rest.

Another ten days or so later we wandered into a seemingly empty town as dusk began to fall. We knew where we were going but the emptiness was still a little unnerving. We had just completed a 100 mile walk over the course of 5 days, we all had blisters, we all smelt pretty bad (maybe that was the reason for the poor welcoming committee) and we were all too tired to care about anything but sleep. We had arranged beforehand to stay at the local school that was closed for the summer holidays. Twelve hours of deep and dreamless sleep later we

woke up. The town had clearly been up for some time already. People were everywhere, children playing football in what seemed to be the ‘main road’, the elderly standing and sitting on front porches, while the middle-aged wandered through the market that was seemingly raised out of the nothingness of the school's playgrounds. These were people who were much less accustomed to visitors, and this became increasingly apparent as we drew attention to ourselves. Many of them spoke no English and as a group we were linguistically ignorant as well, but we didn't need to understand them to see the gestures and glances being thrown in our direction. Soon there was a throng of eager faces around us, the women trying to sell handmade necklaces, the children wanting us to join them in a game of football. They were far too polite to reach out and grab us, but with an almost choreographed motion we were separated into those most likely to spend money, and those looking eager to play a game we recognised. It quickly became apparent that they were experienced in communicating with visitors; enough English to negotiate prices and, where necessary, exchange

rates, as well as a pretty accurate idea of what a ‘typical tourist’ would pay for their commodities. We learned from some of those with better English that the town saw at least a few visitors every couple of weeks, and that the school was a popular resting place for travellers during the summer.

A few days later we left that town, heading in the direction of civilisation again with the impression that our long journey was now approaching an end. We hired a couple of minivans to transport us without our bags on the roof and set off on the three-day drive across the countryside.

Under normal circumstances, the other minivan would have driven back to a town we passed earlier in the day for help. Unfortunately, as we approached the

“These were people who were much less accustomed to visitors, and this became increasingly apparent as we drew attention to ourselves”

town the local radio station broadcast a warning: the town had been quarantined to prevent the outbreak of something whose description we never managed to translate. Undefeated, we found a few pieces of wood and some ingenious ideas and, between the lever technique and the other minivan towing from behind, we eventually broke free. Sitting on the grass around the crash site, it was clear why the driver had been unable to avoid the accident – there had been no sign of the patch of ground being any different to the next. When we left it looked like we had taken a bath in it, and to look at some of us, that might not have been a poor assumption.





ICSO's 5 day dash to South Africa

Eleanor Berry and Hannah Short report back on 3 concerts at the 2010 Mozart Festival in Johannesburg

Never before has a musical society been given the approval of the Rector and all the heads of department to travel half way across the world for five days during term and give no less than three concerts, one of which was broadcast on national radio. At the end of January ICSO did just that on its whirlwind tour to the Johannesburg International Mozart Festival, South Africa.

Last year IC Symphony Orchestra was invited to play in the Mozart Festival in 2010. The orchestra's conductor and director of music, Richard Dickins originally thought the idea would be impossible and permission for the students to miss four days of college would never be given. Luckily the Rector agreed that the trip would be an amazing opportunity for us all. Thanks to the hard work of our excellent Chair, Treasurer and Tour Manager (Will Cowley, Leo Martins and Tom Budden respectively), as well as the festival administrators, the tour went ahead without a hitch.

Our eleven and a half hour plane journey (with a four hour stopover

in Paris) began on the afternoon of Thursday 28th of February. Thanks to the complementary drinks from Air France on both flights and their exemplary service we all made it to Johannesburg in good spirits, bar possibly the three people whose luggage was left in Paris and just made it to South Africa in time for our first concert the following day...

Throughout our time in Johannesburg we were looked after superbly by our host families – most of whom were members of a local choir run by Richard Cock, the festival administrator – who obligingly ferried us to and from our rehearsal venue and fed and watered us until we could take no more. The day we arrived in the country, after briefly meeting our hosts, we went straight into a rehearsal at our concert venue, the Linder Auditorium at the Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg. The next day – that of our first concert – most of us were up bright and early with our hosts visiting the local African craft markets to do some haggling or at some of the prestigious museums in the city, such as the Apartheid Museum and Constitution Hill.



ICSO perform in Johannesburg at the Linder Auditorium, Witwatersrand University.

The afternoon rehearsal was followed by a fantastic pre-concert dinner put on by the organisers of the festival for which we were all incredibly grateful. The first concert, with a programme of Elgar's "Cockaigne" Overture, Finzi's Eclogue for piano and strings Op.10 with soloist Malcolm Nay, Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March No.1 and Rachmaninov's Symphony No. 2 in E minor Op.27, went down exceptionally well with the audience – who even gave us a standing ovation after just the first half. Encores of Pomp and Circumstance, with audience participation, ensued!

Many of the members of the orchestra spent the night partying out with their hosts, most notably Sam Leveridge and others who were out celebrating his 21st birthday to the extent that he was unable to make the early start the next day for our safari trip to the Pilanesburg Games Reserve. Despite what was considered a late start for a safari by our guides (about ten o'clock in the morning by the time we got there) we were fortunate enough to see three of the Big Five game – elephants, lions and rhinos – and many other animals, not least of which were the giraffes, hippos and zebra. It was an amazing experience to see these animals in the wild. Once again in the park's shop we were all bargaining over the gifts we wanted to take home, before heading back to the park's resort for an amazing buffet lunch and a relaxing afternoon in the sunshine by the pool!

Monday brought with it another free morning with our generous (and very trusting!) hosts, one of which allowed some of the more senior medics in the orchestra to borrow their car so they could explore the city some more by themselves. A car in Johannesburg is unfortunately an essential, as they do not have a public transport infrastruc-

ture as in London, and in some areas it would not have been sensible to walk around as tourists. The afternoon rehearsal brought us our first meeting with the soloists for the evening, Lidia Baich (violin) and Matthias Fletzberger (piano), who were both without doubt fantastic performers. It was also a chance for the orchestra to get used to playing alongside a rock band, as the concert was entitled "Rock me, Amadeus". Another excellent meal was provided for the orchestra and we all got to watch the most amazing sunset over Johannesburg before going in to play. The programme consisted of Mozart's Symphony No. 5 and Symphony No. 37, followed by Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4 with Lidia Baich. The rock band then joined us to perform the andante from Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21 and then Saint-Saens' Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso for orchestra and rock band, arranged by Lidia Baich to round off the evening. Once again the audience loved the concert and, unbeknownst to the orchestra, it was in fact broadcast live on South Africa's Classic FM.

The members of the orchestra then spent their last night with their host families, giving gifts and cards and much gratitude. The following morning we set out for our final concert in South Africa in the township of Alexandra, just outside the city, in the local community centre. The audience consisted mostly of local school children who came up on stage to sit amongst the orchestra and got a chance to play some of the percussion instruments and to conduct. We played excerpts from most of our pieces, with Richard Dickins introducing the different instruments and getting them to play a little something to the audience. Highlights included a version of 'In the Jungle' for bassoon quartet and a mariachi band tune from the brass section. The

entire orchestra loved playing for the children and having them come and sit with them – one of the young girls was so good at conducting that we almost didn't need Richard for the rest of the concert!

Before heading back to the airport we had the most fantastic end to our tour in the form of a buffet lunch (once more paid for by the tour organisers) and pool side antics at the Johannesburg country club. Prizes were given out to the Tour Couple (you know who you are!) and Tour King and Queen amongst other things. The orchestra got an opportunity to say thank you to the organisers for our time in South Africa – Richard Cock, Florian Uhlig, Caroline Kennard and Samantha McGrath – and we even got an invitation back to play in both the Cape Town and Johannesburg Festivals next year.

There was not a single person who did not enjoy their time away; the trip may have been short but it was worth every moment and everyone is more than eager to go back. It is hard to describe just how amazing the experience was and how much fun everyone had just being away together on tour in a place so far from home. All we can do is to say another huge thank you to all the people that made the trip possible and looked after us so well while we were away.

If you would like to hear more of ICSO our next concert is on Friday 12th March at 8pm in the Great Hall, with a programme of Juan Pablo Moncayo's Huapango (for which we will be joined by IC Dance Company), Beethoven's 2nd Piano Concerto with soloist Shuang Wang (Medicine, year 6) and Holst's The Planets. Tickets are £3 in advance (£4 on the door) for students and are available from any member of the orchestra, or from the Blyth Centre. We look forward to seeing you all there!



A safari opportunity turns into an occasion for the cat to meet some bigger cats.

felix

The Sound of 2010
felix's alternative guide to who you'll be listening to
this coming year. see page 14

22-01-10

This week

paralel extremism

A never-ending buffet of laughs at IC?

Charlotte Ivison gives us a preview of ICDramSoc's upcoming production of Michael Frayn's *Noises Off*, a brief history of British comedy and interviews director, Fran Buckland

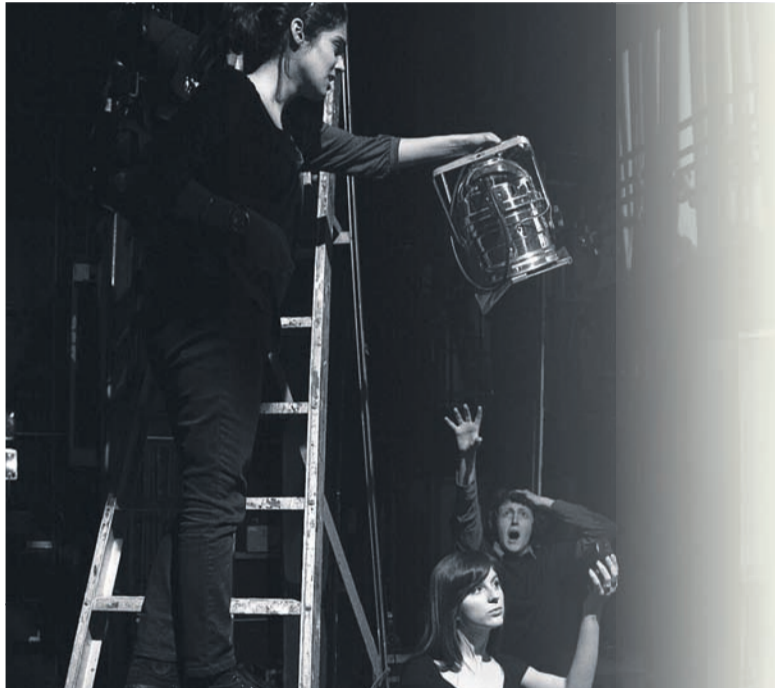
Noises Off began as an idea Michael Frayn, a British playwright, had whilst standing watching a performance of his farce 'Chinamen' in 1970. He realised that the play was actually funnier when watching it from backstage, and so decided to write 'a farce from behind' - *Noises Off*.

Since its conception in 1977, *Noises Off* has gone on to entertain thousands, being nominated for numerous Tony and Drama Desk Awards and causing one critic to say: "In Act 1, I laughed. In Act 2, I hollered, and in Act 3, I'm pretty sure I left a bit of lung on the back of my seat."

The plot centres around a troupe of professional actors who are doing a tour of the (fictional) show, *Nothing On*, a bad carry-on type comedy set in a country house and featuring scantily clad shenanigans, and uses the concept of 'play within a play'.

We watch *Nothing On* from both 'backstage' and front of house as the dysfunctional cast and crew (complete with love triangle) stumble through the tour. They may be professionals, but things soon start to unravel as off-stage chaos affects on-stage performances with hilarious consequences.

Act One sees the actors in a dress rehearsal the night before opening, still fumbling cues and forgetting lines, Act Two sees them performing in a matinee show in the middle of the tour, as personal conflicts lead to even more mayhem, and Act Three sees them



perform at the end of the tour, when everything has gone so wrong that even they have noticed, and try to cover it up which just leads to even more hilarity.

CI: Why did you choose this play?

FB: I chose a play that people would want to come to, watch and enjoy – people can often be put off going to see theatre because they think of dusty

Shakespeare tomes or modeplays trying to make political statements, and *Noises Off* is nothing like either of these – it's just a bit of a laugh and good entertainment.

CI: What was your vision for it?

FB: *Noises Off* is very well written comedy and because of that, I didn't feel that it needed to be too "clownish" – the text is subtle and sarcastic

(we discover new jokes every rehearsal!) and so my vision was definitely to make the settings to feel as real as possible.

For the characters to be people who are so absorbed in their own actions that they don't realise how stupid (and funny) they look.

CI: How has the experience been for you - what advice would you give to aspiring directors?

FB: Plan ahead and make sure that you can trust your producer! To direct a show takes a lot of time and effort and it is really important that you keep in constant communication with everyone. It would be better to ask this question after the show, because a week before is always the hectic stage when you can't ever imagine the curtain going up successfully on the first night... but I'm really excited about it. This play is going to be great.

British comedic theatre through the ages

1535- Nicolas Udall writes the first English comedy, *Ralph Roister Doister*, a play about a bragging soldier who tells amazing tales of bravery, makes love to numerous women, freely offers to fight when there are no opponents, and flees when there are.

1592-1594- Shakespeare writes what is believed to be his first comedy, *The Comedy of Errors*.

1892- Oscar Wilde's *Lady Windermere's Fan* is first performed- a play which uses comedy to criticize the social codes of the time.

1930- Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence star in the West End in the Coward-written *Private Lives*, a comedy of marital complications.

1958 - Harold Pinter's first West End play, *The Birthday Party*, a 'comedy of menace', closes in less than a week, but goes on to be considered a classic.

1982- Michael Frayn's farce *Noises Off* opens in the West End.

Amnesty for Fair Trade Fortnight

Fair Trade Fortnight (22 February-7 March) has recently drawn to an end, and you may be familiar with the Fair Trade movement. It aims to improve the lives of producers in the developing world by paying them more, as well as promoting higher social and environmental standards. Where producers have in the past been exploited, Fair Trade aims to right wrongs and ensure producers are able to live well. A Fair Trade producer will be paid a greater and fairer amount for what they produce and proceeds from sales of this produce will also be put into community development – for example, scholarships and health care programs. Fair Trade certification also ensures safe working conditions, greater environmental sustainability and more of an opportunity for small producers to be heard. All sorts of goods have been certified as Fair Trade, from bananas and coffee to wine and handicrafts.

What you may not be aware of is how Amnesty International supports Fair Trade. Really, they go hand-in-hand – they are founded on similar principles of fairness and justice for all, even though Amnesty does not explicitly

campaign on behalf of the Fair Trade movement. For example, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which Amnesty adheres to and cites in many cases of human rights abuses, states in Article 25 that "everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family". While the low wages and poor working conditions provided by some unscrupulous companies conflicts with this fundamental human right, Fair Trade certification seeks to redress the balance by increasing wages and improving conditions. Amnesty's Demand Dignity campaign, against the human rights abuses that go with poverty and social injustice, is another example of a crossover between the principles of Amnesty and Fair Trade. Amnesty even sells items it rigorously certifies as being Fair Trade in its shop.

As part of a programme of Fair Trade-related events to tie in with Fair Trade Fortnight, Imperial's Fair Trade and Amnesty societies teamed up to put on a tea party. The evening began with a presentation on the Fair Trade movement, then moved on to the more pressing matter of food and drink. Copious amounts of tea, coffee and chocolate were served (all Fair

Trade, of course!) and party-goers were even treated to a fabulous view of the sun setting from the physics common room.

Money raised from entry fees were split between the two societies, helping the Amnesty society on its way to a spot on the leader board of Amnesty UK's Student Raise-Off, while a raffle of two hampers of Fair Trade goods helped to raise both money and awareness. Everyone enjoyed themselves a lot and the evening provided much food for thought (*groan*) - hopefully many more at Imperial will be inspired to "make the swap" to Fair Trade!



Faiths Unite for Haiti

In an inspiring display of interfaith action, dozens of students, representing 8 different faiths and philosophical backgrounds, hit the London Underground for the first event of Imperial Interfaith's Interfaith Charity Action Network (ICAN) initiative. Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim (Sunni and Shia), Sheikh, Christian (Catholic and Protestant) and Atheist students united for a common cause, collecting money for the DEC's relief operations in earthquake struck Haiti. From an early start at 8 in the morning through to gone 9 in the evening, 6 of TFL's stations were almost continually manned by enthusiastic volunteers and, 524 one penny pieces later, over a thousand pounds was raised for a great cause. Indeed several volunteers were actually approached by Haitians, who commended them for their efforts, giving a moving personal side to so impersonal a disaster.

This was the first of three interfaith events this month in aid of Haiti, still to follow are an interfaith sports night (with massive sumo suits!) and a variety concert. The organisers would like to express a huge thanks to all those involved in Wednesday's collection, hopefully the first of many successful interfaith charity events!



the easter carnival

friday 26 march 2010 | 20:00 - 03:00

Come, join us for our **last day of term spectacular!**

Inside

DJ Set by s

Jameela Jamil

Playing a great set of modern party tunes sprinkled with indie classics

Emma Harkness

Jeff Automatic (Club NME)

Catch the Easter Bunnies and get a free Easter egg!



Outside

Blast your mates in the multiplayer

laser Quest Maze

Strap yourself into the Human Gyroscope if you dare!



BUY ONLINE NOW

buy your tickets online now from imperialcollegeunion.org

Imperial College Union, Beit Quadrangle, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB
The Union encourages responsible drinking. R.O.A.R. Student I.D. Required.

£5

£7.50 on the door.

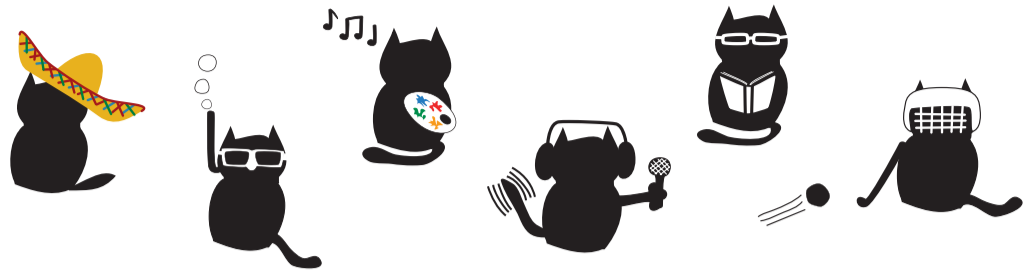
 imperial college union

What's on...

Clubs & Societies Calendar

Editors – Lily Topham & Rachel D'oliveiro

whatson.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Sat 13th March

Singapore Society Show

- ICSS presents 'Love, Actually Is...'
- 7pm, Great Hall, Sherfield Building
- £8 (All proceeds go to the MINDs charity in Singapore)

Musical Theatre Soc present 'Hair'

- 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall
- £5 students, £7.50 non-students
- Last night tonight!
- Tickets avail <http://union.ic.ac.uk/arts/mtsoc/tickets/>

Weds 17th March

Varsity 2010!

- All day, Ethos, Harlington, Wilson House and Old Deer Park
- The ultimate sporting event of the year - come and support either IC or the Medics!
- More info: www3.imperial.ac.uk/sports/varsity

LeoSoc Fine Arts Society Exhibition – "Is Life a Joke?"

- Running from 6pm today until 26th March
- Free! Blyth Gallery, Level 5 Sherfield Building
- LeoSoc explores the nature of existence, and the humour that surrounds it: satirical, twisted, or otherwise.
- More info: leonardo@imperial.ac.uk

DramSoc present Michael Frayn's "Noises Off"

- 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall, Beit
- Running from tonight until Sat 20th Mar
- Set amongst an exceptionally inept theatre troupe trying to put on a touring performance of a farce called 'Nothing on', this play has been described as 'the funniest thing written for theatre'.
- Students £5, Non-students £7
- Group discount avail: 20% discount for groups of 20+
- Tickets avail: www.dramsoc.org/tickets

To Do....

1) Train the new monkey....heehhee...

2) Send in your events!!

whatson.felix@imperial.ac.uk

(Club name & event, time, place, price, pics...) by end of Tues 16th March

Mon 15th March

Chamber Music Concert

- 6:30, Read LT, Sherfield Building
- Chamber Music Society present a varied programme of solo and ensemble chamber works for your enjoyment.
- Contact: c.music@imperial.ac.uk for more info

Thurs 18th March

Alt Music Society

- 5-7pm, da Vinci's Bar, Union
- Free for all. Members get their badges made for free!
- Design your own badges – pens and badge templates provided so create band symbols, write witty remarks or even just draw rude body parts!

DramSoc present Michael Frayn's "Noises Off"

- 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall, Beit
- Students £5, Non-students £7
- Tickets avail: www.dramsoc.org/tickets

Sat 20th March

ICSM Orchestra Spring Concert

- 7:30pm, St. Stephen's Church, Gloucester Road
- Students free plus free glass of wine! Others £6
- Programme: Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique, Bruch: Violin Concerto (Soloist: Mervyn Chong), Conductor: Christopher Gray

DramSoc present Michael Frayn's "Noises Off"

- 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall, Beit
- Students £5, Non-students £7
- Tickets avail: www.dramsoc.org/tickets

Tues 16th March

MSF Speaker Event – "Millenium Development Goal 6"

- 6:30-8pm, G16 LT SAF
- Free with refreshments provided!
- Chaired by Prof Alan Fenwick, with guest speakers: James Droop, Dr Sanjoy Bhattacharya, Professor Karol Sikora and Professor Peter Davies.

Wind Band Spring Concert

- 6:30pm, Great Hall, Sherfield
- Students £3, Non-students £5
- A selection of repertoire including Strauss: Overture from Die Fledermaus, Vaughan Williams: Toccata Marziale and medleys from musicals and films.
- Contact windband@imperial.ac.uk for more info

ICSM Choirs' Spring Concert

- 7:30pm, St. Stephen's Church, Gloucester Road
- Students free plus free glass of wine! Others £6
- Programme: Brahms: Requiem, Franck: Panis Angelicus, Cohen: Hallelujah, Sherwin: A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square
- Conductors: Matthew Murphy, Sarah Morton (ICSM Chamber Choir)

Fri 19th March

Hindu Society Sanskriti

- Doors open 7pm
- JCR, Sherfield Building
- Members £8, Non-members £10
- Join us for a mouth-watering 3 course meal and fabulous entertainment to mark the grand finale of Sewa Week 2010. All proceeds will be going to charity.
- Tickets are available everyday in SAF at lunchtime.

DramSoc present Michael Frayn's "Noises Off"

- 7:30pm, Union Concert Hall, Beit
- Students £5, Non-students £7
- Tickets avail: www.dramsoc.org/tickets

Sinfonietta Spring Concert

- 8pm, Great Hall, Sherfield Building
- Students £3, Non-students £6
- Conducted by Daniel Capps, programme includes: Sibelius: Finlandia, Puccini: Extracts from La Boheme, Mahler: Symphony No. 1
- More info: sinfonietta@ic.ac.uk

COFFEE BREAK

Coffee Break Editor Charlie Murdoch
coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Woman and 'Man flu'

Charlie Murdoch Coffee Break Editor

Meh. This week has been up and down. After a pretty amazing Friday afternoon/evening taking some pretty sexy pictures of my solder (lead-free I'd have you know), I hit the bar. And what did I find in the bar? Only a RAG/CGCU slave auction with free Sambuka on offer. Yes your eyes do not deceive you, free 'buca for shits sake! They were talking my language.

After deliberation with my gang (not the gun wielding hoodlum type gang, we're too pussy for that) we decided that 'buca time was now. And now. And now... I'm sure you see where that went. Anyhoo, I was auctioned off for the lofty price of £30 to spend an hour with a female I'd decided to avoid. Dealbreaker. Turned out to be a very enjoyable evening and considerably better than having to wear a Bikini at this Wednesday's ACC barnight, although I probably would have done that anyway if asked in the right way. If anyone else is interested in my company for an hour, mail to the usual address please.

But from there things started to go wrong. I contracted the worst of all

flu-type virus known man... that'll be the dreaded 'man flu.' Now this is an illness that the fairer sex have a very poor grasp of. Just because I am still up and walking does not mean that I just have a little sniffle and I'm acting like a big baby about it. Oh no. I am literally, as Bob Dylan so eloquently put it 'knock knock knocking on heaven's door'. I feel like death, got a temperature of 38.2, banging headache, sore throat, rasping cough and I'm knackered by 10am. Plus haven't had a beer for a f*cking week. But do I get any sympathy? No I just get told to man up, and that I'm not even ill. Man up? Man up? Surly the fact that I'm not lying in my bed watching so much daytime TV that I'm bored to the point of shitting myself just to liven things up proves manning up is well underway.

Whilst sometimes us men can, possibly exaggerate our trials and tribulations in order to get a bit of cheap sympathy, in reality we just want a cuddle, unless you are a hyper-man-man in which case the steroids are probably adding your mind. What you should do is spend a little less time popping willy shrinking pills. Just a thought.

FUCWIT League Table

Teams:	
Harry Potter Trio	218 Points
The Tough Brets	148 Points
The Cool Kids and Fergal	40 Points
Individuals:	
Matthew Colvin	166 Points
Sheryl	148 Points
Kelvin Wong	97 Points

The Felix University/ College-Wide Invitational Tournament League is new and improved, with an iPod nano for both the team and the individual with the most points at the end of the year.

5 points for the 1st correct answers for all puzzles on these pages, 4 points for 2nd, 3 points for 3rd, 2 points for 4th and 1 point for 5th.

Now then FUCWITs, answers to sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk. Go!

Solutions

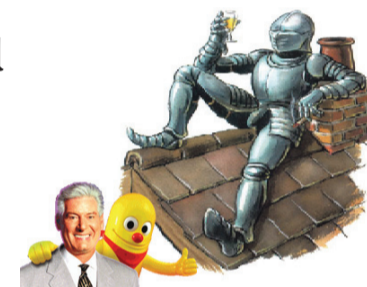


Cryptic Crossword

There isn't a cryptic crossword this week. Here is the solution (left) for last issue. Winner was: **Dr Science!**

Catchphrase!

Winner: **Dr Science!** Here is the solution (right).



(K)NIGHT ON THE TILES

Quote of the Week

Richard Armour: "Beauty is only skin deep, and the world is full of thin skinned people."

Wordoku 1,457

INTERMEDIATE

				BU			AC	
		OB		HI	BU	RO		
	BU		TY	RO			HI	
		PH	OB				AR	BU
		AC					IA	
HI	TY				AC	OB		
	IA			AC	OB		BU	
	AC	HI	BU				PH	
OB			HI					

EVIL

PH				IO					
	KO					KA			PH
			OB	IA	HA	PH			
OB		KO	KA	IA			IO	RR	
		KA	KO				IO	OB	
		IO	RR		OB	HA	KO		IA
				RR	PH	KO	IA		
	OB		HA						KO
							OB		RR

Solution 1456

R	I	L	W	T	O	F	D	H
O	H	D	F	L	R	I	T	W
F	W	T	I	H	D	L	R	O
D	F	W	L	R	H	T	O	I
I	L	O	T	D	W	H	F	R
H	T	R	O	F	I	W	L	D
L	D	H	R	W	T	O	I	F
W	O	F	D	I	L	R	H	T
T	R	I	H	O	F	D		
M	U	R	A	L	I	V	G	S
A	L	V	R	S	G	U	M	I
S	G	I	M	U	V	L	A	R
R	M	U	S	A	L	G	T	V
I	V	L	G	M	R	A	S	U
G	A	S	I	V	U	R	L	M
V	S	A	U	G	M	I	R	L
L	I	M	V	R	A	S	U	G
U	R	G	L	I	S	M	V	A

ORIGIN:

MISO
DESTINATION:
SOUP

Solution 1456

FAST
TEST via **FASTEST**
WEST (LS)
SLOW via **SLOWEST**

How to play:

Make a path from the origin word to the destination word by taking steps between words using one of the three following methods:

Letter Substitution: Substitute just one letter.

e.g. WORD -> WARD

Anagram: Rearrange the letters.

e.g. WARD -> DRAW

Wordslide: Replace the current word with a new 4 letter word from any 5+ letter word that contains them both.

e.g. DRAW -> WING (via DRAWING)

No consecutive steps may be made by the same method.
e.g. WORD -> WARD (by LS) -> WARE (by LS) would be **invalid**.

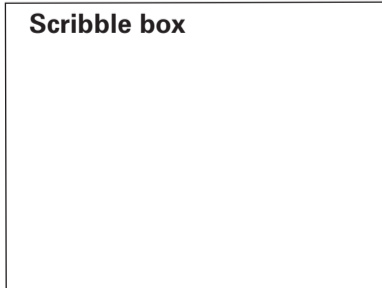
Points are awarded for the earliest SHORTEST valid path between the two words. Dubious words will be checked against the OED. Send your solutions to sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk.

How to play:

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

Evil Wordoku is exactly the same... only harder... and there's a letter missing... that MAY be a duplicate - just solve it like normal and insert the letter that you believe makes the word. And worth double.

Scribble box



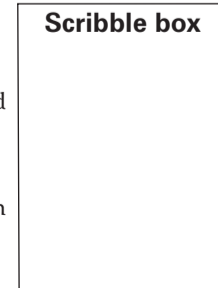
Winner:

Intermediate:
Lousie Parchson

Evil:
Matthew Colvin

Oh and 18 letter words this week it's going to be mental.

Scribble box



coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk

COFFEE BREAK

Nonolink 1,457

232322												
213131												
211222												
1221303												
312223												
221212												
323331												
4	2	3	3	4	1	1	8	2	1			
2	2	1	3	2	2	1	1	4	4			
1 1 1												
1 2 1 2												
3 1 2												
6 2												
2 3												
1 3 1												
3 5												
1 1 3												
1 2 2												
1 2 3												

Winner: Nonogram - **Flavia Tang**. The astute among you also recognised this was the same nonogram as last week and hence the slitherlink numbers were incorrect. This one's been triple verified! Please remember that solving and submitting the Nonogram half of this puzzle only is acceptable: points are awarded separately.

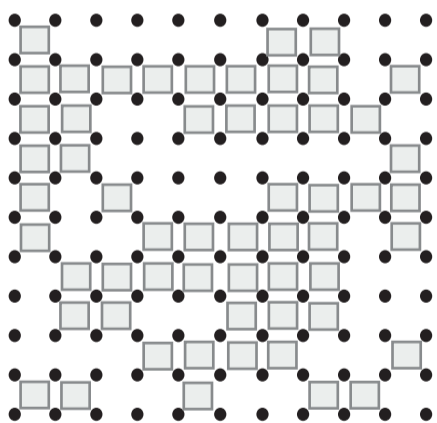
How to play:

The numbers at the side represent the size and order of blocks in each column and row. There must be at least one space between each block.

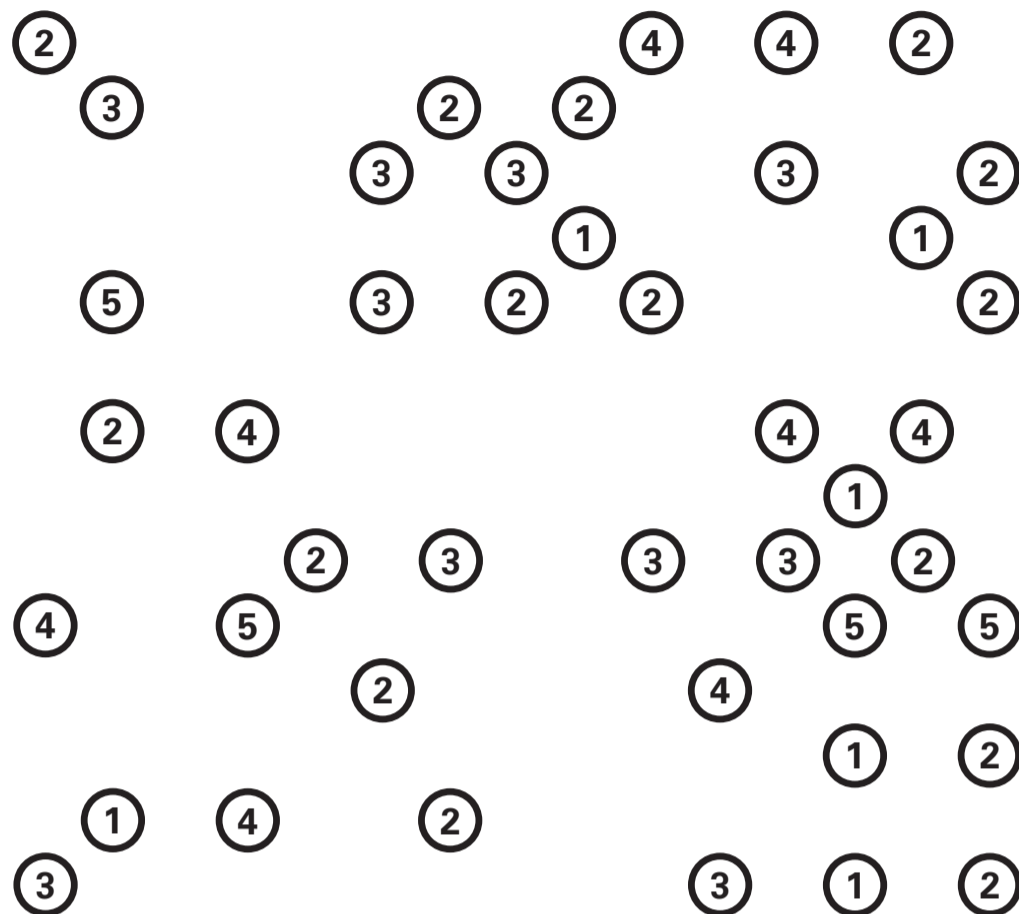
Then insert the numbers from the box in the top left corner into the unshaded cells and proceed as for a normal 'Slitherlink': All numbered cells must be surrounded by the corresponding number of edges. The solution consists of one continuous line. Any cells without a number can have any number of edges.

See last issue's solution (right) for more help. Send your solutions to us at sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Solution 1456



Bridges 1,457



No Cryptic Crossword this week so here's something different. (An idea borrowed from a 'Guest Puzzle' we printed several issues ago. If you would like to have your puzzles printed in *felix* send them to us at sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk and if we like them we'll print them!

How to play:

Connect all the 'islands' together by bridges running in direct lines, North, West, East and South only, with no more than two bridges connecting any two distinct islands. Every island must have a total number of bridges from it equal to the number on the island and bridges must not cross islands, one another or lead to nowhere!

felix
Lovestruck

07726 799 424

"To the brown-eyed girl with the beautiful smile who walked up to me and stole my bike: You didn't give me a chance. Could you please return it or let me take you out for dinner?"
Man With Hat

Late night footie tournament!

Last Saturday Ethos turned into a battleground. A total of 14 highly motivated teams consisting of 5-8 players each competed to become the first ever RAG Late Night Footie Tournament winner. Teams ranged from Futsal, ERASUS and "The Playboys" to Symphony Orchestra to name a few. The tournament started with some strong performances by The Playboys and Airborne Rangers, a team consisting of Imperial football players. The RAG All-Stars managed to scrape together a team consisting of 6 unfit, out-of-shape committee members. Irrespective of this, RAG managed to progress to the quarter finals by winning its only

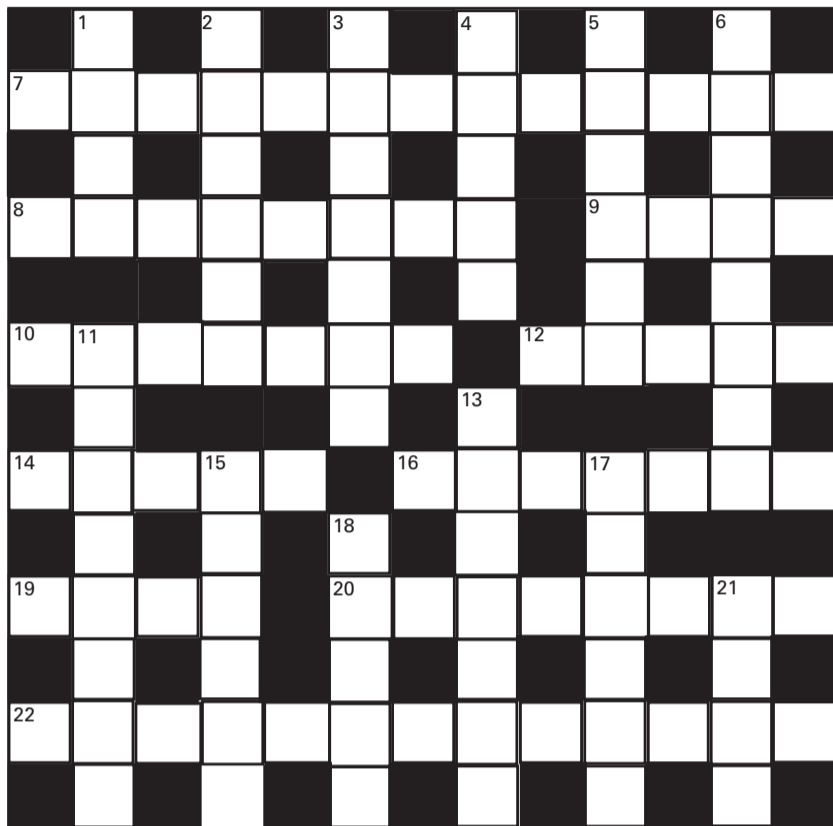
two matches (we were quite lucky with the draw to be honest)! A highlight of the night definitely was Symphony Orchestra's respectable defeat of Airborne Rangers by 5-1. Once the winners and runner-ups were determined, the quarter finals could be battled out. Some strong performances saw The Playboys, ERASMUS, Futsal and Airborne Rangers II progress to the semis. A rather weak performance by the ref, yours truly, played a large role in ERASMUS's win against Symphony Orchestra. Irrespective of this, the semi-finals were played and the final was determined: ERASMUS vs. Futsal. Even though ERASMUS had beaten



some strong opponents to get that far, Futsal was definitely considered the favourite. A very emotional final ended in favour of ERASMUS by 2-1. All the profits made will go to our four main chosen charities (Broadway, Barnardos, KCA and Children's Trust). Thanks to everyone for taking part and let's see if ERASMUS can defend their title next year!



A quickie (crossword) 1,457



ACROSS

- 7 Firebrands - Absorb ere slur (anag.) (6-7)
 8 Cadge, wheedle (8)
 9 WW1 poet (4)
 10 Surname of the Rain Man (7)
 12 Combine (5)
 14 Caspar, Melchior or Balthasar (5)
 16 WW1 poet (7)
 19 Boys with girls (2-2)
 20 Transitory objects (8)
 22 Military officer of food, clothing and accomodation - King of the 0.25s (13)

DOWN

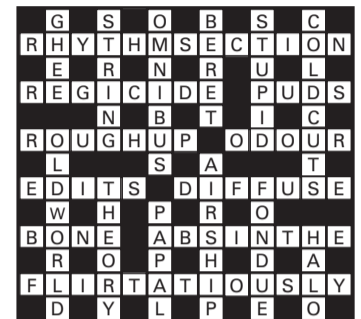
- 1 Drug-law enforcer (abbrev.) (4)
 2 Absorb (6)
 3 Fuck all (7)
 4 Classical epic poet (5)
 5 Not offshore (6)
 6 Broken chord (8)
 11 Comparably similar - Not just 1s and 0s (8)
 13 Japanese delicacy (7)
 15 Cow tits (6)

- 17 Subcontinental triangle (6)
 18 Hebrew festival (5)
 21 Lou ____, of The Velvet Underground (4)

Winner of this Quickie last week was **Dr Science!** Well done. This was quite highly contested last week, so keep those entries coming in! Been assured that it is an easy one this week, so you have no excuses.

Crossword by **Peter Logg**

Solution 1456



Scribble box

Get your horoscopes while they're still hot and tasty!

Unfortunately due to a shortage in funds this week the horoscopes were written by street urchins. Oh dear



Aquarius

YAY! You're broke. Isn't this lovely? Well it was, until you couldn't afford food anymore. Begging is probably the best

solution. You sit on a street in Whitechapel with your cap out. Unfortunately you drift off whilst still sitting on the street. You realise someone has run off with your money. You commit suicide, you miserable twat!



Pisces

You go for chlamydia testing at the Southside Social Space to get free boxers where they ask you to pee into

a cup; the twats from the health centre give you a used cup and you contract cat aids and die. Worse than that? They've run out of free boxers and you get one of those crap yellow t-shirts instead.



Aries

You have now contracted such a plethora of venereal diseases that you cannot physically have sex any more because

your penis is so swollen. You go to the doctor and they say they're going to have to take it off. NO! NO! Everything goes black. You wake up and look down. They took off your penis and put on a vagina instead. What the hell!?



Taurus

Perhaps prostitution is a good way of earning a living. Your sister's friend paid her way through university that way.

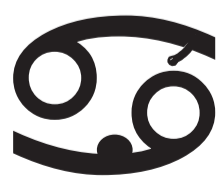
You adorn yourself in your most slutty attire and walk the streets in hope of earning a few bucks. A man takes you back to his place, but promptly kicks you out. "Thought you were a transsexual prostitute, but you're clearly post-op."



Gemini

You are running for DPFS but accidentally leave your computer on. You get facebook raped by

someone saying you embezzle money. You wind up losing the election and the top it off you are now under investigation by the CIA. Well, you hope so. Otherwise there is just a creepy man following you around...



Cancer

Perhaps if I make another inappropriate joke about having cancer there will wind up being a really bad shot at my

footwear here. You know, on second thoughts that was such a poor effort I should really make a deliberate effort to avoid the whole subject of cancer. Mmmm, I like unicorns, they're sooo pretty. And rainbows!



Leo

You're looking for accomodation for the next academic year; you happen to find a place on Cromwell road for a reasonable

price as the landlords say they'll partition the shit out of the flat for any number of people. Mass orgies ensue; you contract cat aids and die. Worse than that? You fail to pay your rent on time and Mr. Razin cuts your hand off.



Virgo

Fridays are never very good. Especially when you're broke and hungry. But at this point, having not eaten for a

week, you reach breaking point. You begin hallucinating that your lecturer is a chicken drumstick. You run to the front of the lecture hall, skewer him, and barbecue roast him. Yummy.



Libra

This week is looking good for you. You find £50 in a cash machine in Koko. Unfortunately the money belongs to a Thai ladyboy who

hunts you down and rapes you. You contract both Chlamydia and a rare breed of Thai cat aids. Due to a recent death at the Health Centre they no longer offer free testing, you never find out and die.



Scorpio

Wow, you're lucky! Especially as you have the same horoscope as me, the mysterious horoscope writer. This week you will find

yourself unexpectedly richer, you will also meet a handsome man and pass all your exams. Honestly, this will all happen. I consulted the stars you know, they never lie. What you read here is the absolute truth.



Sagittarius

Her eyes are like glistening diamonds in her moon-like visage. A curtain of lustrous auburn hair cascades down her shoulders.

How beautiful this perfect girl is, how you wish that she could be yours. But alas, it is not to be. For this beautiful girl you talk about is not just any girl. This girl whom you love above all others is your sister. Ew.



Capricorn

You consult a voodoo man about a pimple on your back. He tells you it is the spirit of someone whom you have wronged and

you must go and make amends for what you have done. The only person you wronged was your ex-boyfriend, you cheated on him. You explain the situation. He beats you with rotten vegetables until you're paralysed... ..Pint?

Hangman

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Varsity - "Lets do sport and get poon*"

*You won't get poon and even if you do, it will be Sainsbury's Basics poon: cheap with a funny after-taste

So next week yet another Imperial event to not give a shit about - That's right, it's Varsity! The bitter rivalry between scientists and Medics is ignited as teams of hot-headed degenerates line up to take battle in a variety of sports. Yeah, it's easy to make something sound exciting, like 'the ULTIMATE BIRO' or 'THE UNFORGIVING WHISK'. I can tell you right now that I have and will forever have more fun with my ultimate biro than I would watching a bunch of rowdy apes fumble about with a ball. This forced medieval antagonism is laughable. It's comparable to Romeo and Juliet - two sides hating each other, but not really sure why. At least Romeo and Juliet has a plot-line and duels to the death. Duelling is the sport of men. DO NOT MISCONSTRUE THIS WITH FENCING! I mean proper swords, with proper blood and proper screams of agony, not two guys in silly white suits

poking each other with bendy sticks. Pouring a pint down someone's shirt and then punching them in the face is hardly comparable to a well placed rapier-thrust to the abdomen. There are lots of people at Imperial I would love to see disembowelled. What, that shocks you? Nothing annoys me more than people telling me it's wrong to wish people dead. 1.8 people die a second worldwide, a couple more is barely going to make a statistical difference and if it's the only permanent solution to having to listen to egotistic stories about pounding that slutty fat girl from DB's, I really couldn't give a shit. Now if people have read previous Hangman articles I'm sure they will have noticed a distinct intolerance of the Imperial rugby team. In all fairness, you are cunts and that's not going to change, but we admire you for taking it light-heartedly. If truth be told, you are unanimously out-cunted by the football team. The reason Hangman

has strayed from mentioning them previously is largely due to the fact that the moniker 'The Rugby Team' has just become a collective term for anyone we find acting like a twat in the union. As Hangman strives for fairness and equality, it is only right that we conduct an unbiased investigation into who exactly thought it would be a great idea to strip down to their waist in dB's and proceed to slide, Klinsmann style, across a table covered in cider and vomit. Ohhh, it's the football team. What a hilarious stunt! It certainly impressed the surrounding crowd, well the surrounding football team. Everyone else just thought you looked like a twat. You know what would be funnier? how about you smash a few bottles across the table before you glide across gleefully like a retarded child on the back of a dolphin? Then, fingers crossed, you'll die and you won't get beer on my coat again. Like I say, 1.8 a second, I really don't give a shit!



TWATTER

[SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87](#)

Elections r lame. Cammy is a twat. And if Cammy wins he's probs gona make MCAT illegal

[Barack_attack_l33thaxor](#)

Wtf? Dat's weird cos he was constantly doin lines at paintball

[SexyOsama69](#)

Yeh he took off his mask and da marshall caught him with powder all ova his nose. He's been banned for life now lol

[SUPERACEGORTHEROAR87](#)

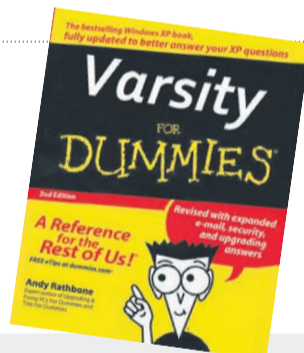
....Osie, you suicide paint-bombed the other team. You've been banned as well

[Cameron_DA_Maneron!!!](#)

Gor dyu mind runnin my campaign tonite? Just for tonite. I'm goin to shoreditch to get 2kg of plant fertiliser. my flowers r dyin ;)

Varsity for dummies 101

A full comprehensive explanation to each sport



Water Polo

- Thought this would be like playing normal polo but in a swimming pool
- Turns out there are no horses
- Water polo is shit



Football

- Kick ball
- Break knee
- Free kick
- Your knee is ok now
- You're a twat



Netball

- Throw a ball
- Try to catch ball
- Don't bounce it though, that's a mans job you silly, silly girl
- You have to get the ball into a net. But that net, not the other net. You have to use aim. You know what just throw the ball anywhere; you can't actually throw properly anyway can you?
- Customise t-shirt for optimum breast exhibition

Rugby

- Run with ball
- Run into someone with ball and fall over
- Drop ball
- Where ball?
- Huddle together and feel balls
- Kick big ball. Grab little balls
- Run into some more people
- Punch someone in the face



Badminton

- Tennis with a tall net
- Run about frantically
- Make an old traditional British sport look fucking ridiculous
- Make sure you're Chinese to win

Hockey

- Hit ball with sticks
- Discuss politics: Disputes settled on parental income



Basketball

- Be tall
- Tallest team wins....



Lacrosse

- This is a sport you will never need to care about



Squash

- Hit ball against wall
- Can't beat wall
- Lose
- Stupid game
- Find friend to play tennis with instead

VARSITY PREVIEW

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Squash Men's 1st

College



This season has been very successful for IC squash. Having been promoted into the top tier of BUCS competition last year, we've beaten the likes of Bristol, Loughborough, Leeds Met. and Birmingham 1st teams. We ended up finishing 3rd in the league and therefore seeded 3rd for the cup. We eased through the first round of the cup with a 5-0 victory over UCL. Next up was Loughborough in the quarters who were hungry for revenge after our narrow victory in the league. We managed to win the best-of-5 match with Peter Marshall winning the decider. This resulted in qualification the semi finals, with both the semi final and final to be played on the weekend of the 13/14th March.

I predict IC will be too strong for ICSM if they put out a full team. This said, I think ICSM will be competitive in the 1st team match with two players from the regular IC 1st team.

Harry Beeston IC 1st Team Captain

IC Squash Team:
James Simpson
Ahmed El-Refée
Lionel Ong
Chris Sgobba
Joe Prinold



Medics

The season started off with high hopes (a bit too high on my part) and a lot of positive attitude! My aim was to get promoted. Wishful thinking. We finished 4th in the table.

Apart from several bruises and aching legs, the season left with us some great memories: amazing coaching sessions from our coach Harry Beeston; lessons in sportsmanship and most of all team spirit at its highest.

This 2010, we aim to put up a great fight against the strong IC team. Luckily for us, we have pinched a few of their players. These are the medics at heart and have decided to back the ICSM team (to victory?). With home turf advantage however, it's anyone's game. But we hope it's ours!

Abhishek Kakkar ICSM 1st Team Captain

ICSM Squash Team:
Harry Beeston
Ismail Sharif
Mihir Desai
Omar Shaikh
Abhishek Kakkar

Squash Men's 2nd

College



This year has been a pretty successful one for the IC Men's 2nd team. In the ULU cup competition we made it to the semi-final, losing out in a close match with the Royal Holloway 1st team. In the ULU league we are currently sitting in 2nd place, with only our 1st team ahead. With only one game to go hopefully we can make it an IC one/two. In BUCS we were promoted last year up to the South East division 1 putting us in a tough league up against a number of 1st teams from other universities. However, we have finished in 3rd place which is an excellent result for us.

In Varsity this year we'll be hoping to beat the medics in style... without losing a single game!

Joe Prinold IC 2nd Team Captain

IC Squash Team:
Joe Prinold
Mike Gamblin
Hisham Shehata
Dillan Ganesh
Stephen Wall



Medics

Unlike the long standing 1st team, The ICSM squash 2nd team is a newly created and well oiled machine dedicated to a single goal - Varsity. The team has been gathered from across ICSMSC and led by Will Bermingham. Our reason d'être is simple - a respectable and hopefully entertaining Varsity performance, adding a little je ne sais quoi to the term "underdog"

W. Bermingham ICSM 1st Team Captain

ICSM Squash Team:
William Bermingham
Mike McEwan
Kushal Shah
Ross Mirvis
Sahil Dadia

Lacrosse Mixed

College



The mixed team (actually a mix of IC and Medic players) has had yet another storming season so far. An undefeated season so far with only a draw to blemish the record, the team won the ULU Challenge Cup for the 4th year in a row at the weekend. With only two league matches remaining we're aiming to finish on top of the ULU league for the second year running. Varsity creates a slight paradox of 'playing ourselves', which typically means a more relaxed/beer filled match than other sports may face. Medics will be hoping that a much smaller IC team doesn't all over them once again walk them.

IC Lacrosse Squad:
Ian Hunt
Lilly Couper
Dave Thompson
Tom Smith
Philipa Owens
Claire Scott
Damien Powell
Sam Sturge
Roz Gisbey
Lizzie Allen



Medics

ICSM Lacrosse Squad:
Lizzy Keeling
Aki Fukutomi
Chris Baldwin
Elsa Butrous
Izzie Brown
Leah Adler
Camellia Wong
Jeremy Webb
James Matthams
Joe Bacarese-Hamilton
Dan Taylor
Bex Singh
Abi Murugesh-Warren
Gaby Prager
Hannah Brooks
Annie Mondon-Ballantyne
Sophie Moin
Emily Murray
Dominique Finnegan-Parsons



Rugby Women's

College



Over the last season we have acquired a lot of new player's, which has been vital in enabling us to carry on producing a full team. Many of these player's have never picked up a rugby ball before in their life and this meant that we have been unable to produce many wins this season. However, with the end of the season drawing in there are a few more seven's matches coming up. This gives us the opportunity to make up for the losses, as we have the advantage in this field with the majority of our team being on the small side but faster as a result.

Varsity for us as a team will be different to many other sports as we normally play alongside one another, medics and non-medics, making it difficult to play aggressively against players whom we consider to be both friends and team mates. However, I hope that this first experience of sevens for the season will set most of the newbie's up with the experience for future matches.

Jasmin Hodgson IC Women's Rugby Captain

Imperial Squad:
Emma Banks
Signe Liepina
KP Sudhoff
Alexis Shih
Louisa Stokes
Annabel Dale
Margherita



Medics

Medicals Squad:

Jasmin Hodgson
Bryonnie Biddell
Helena Lee
Katherine Fox
Amani Chowdhury
Jessica Alcena
Murooj Abdi
Michelle Gatter
Seetha Muthalagappan

Last minute advice for Varsity

Daniel Taffard, Fitness Manager at Ethos, Imperial's state of the art gym, informs us of the services on offer as well as the latest trends in the world of Fitness

With Imperial's annual sporting event Varsity fast approaching, this edition's article will provide information including: why it is so important to warm up ahead of the game; evaluating the benefits of sports drinks and identifying if they can really help improve performance, plus lots more!

What you do just before a game can have a big impact on what you're able to do during it. Many athletes prepare for a training session by carrying out some routine stretching exercises, but it's important to remember that stretching helps to improve your static flexibility and may not do such a good job at preparing your body to move quickly and efficiently. Therefore, dynamic mobility exercises during your pre-workout warm up will prepare your body for vigorous movements. Most sports involve forceful, strenuous activity and mobility exercises stimulate your nervous system, muscles, tendons & joints in a very dynamic manner. Examples of these would be; half squats, side bends, ankle bounces & leg swings. A well prepared warm up session not only prepares the body physically, but also physiologically.

The warm up also plays a major part at preparing you psychologically. A well organised team, feeling confident knowing that you have had the time to physically & psychologically prepare, focusing on your individual role, will play a major part in the outcome of the game. From the perspective of the

opposition a well organised looking warm-up session can have already placed negative thoughts and energy, leaving them feeling defeated before the game has even begun.

A pre-competition meal is an important part of your preparation, however so is what you eat a week before! You should fill up your Glycogen stores, so you begin your competition with a full fuel supply! On the morning of your competition, you should focus on a meal high in Carbohydrate, low in fat, protein and fibre. Complex carbohydrates release energy slowly. Examples of these would be: wholegrain breakfast cereals, boiled rice, sweet potatoes & boiled pasta. Avoid simple carbs as these release energy quicker, but produce insulin, so therefore making you feel tired slowly. Examples of these would be; muesli bars, cakes & biscuits, cereals, puddings and soft drinks.

Make sure you are well hydrated before the competition having your last drink around 15-20 minutes before you start, drinking at regular intervals throughout the game.

Depletion of the body's carbohydrate stores and dehydration are two factors that will limit prolonged exercise. The recommendation of sports drinks is based on a number of factors like the type of sport the person is engaged in, its intensity and duration, athlete's nutritional status and many more. Commercial sports drinks that are hitting the market primarily consist of water, carbohydrate, and electrolytes (sodium, chloride, and potassium).

The need for sports drink nutrition also depends upon the athlete's dehydration status. There are sports that cause heavy loss of fluids and it is there where these sports drinks play a major role, preventing your body from getting dehydrated. Performance levels also tend to get adversely affected, owing to the depletion of the body's carbohydrate stores and dehydration, which takes place while carrying out sporting activities.

When sweating takes place during the performance of sports, it tends to cause loss of fluids and electrolytes (minerals such as chloride, calcium, phosphate, magnesium, sodium and potassium), therefore making the body dehydrated.

Dehydration if not taken care of, can take an ugly shape by causing circulatory collapse and heat stroke. This is where the benefits of a sports drink can be very well applied. When the fluid loss takes place in the body, it leads to impaired performance and the capacity for performing muscular work also deteriorates. Therefore, these sports drinks definitely aid in improving the performance level of an athlete, by acting as energy booster.

To make your Varsity day a winning one, make sure you prepare yourself not just on the day, but ahead of time. As mentioned, it is important to focus on what you eat, not just on the day, but a week before too! Start mentally preparing yourself during warm-up sessions & focusing on your individual role.

A well organised team is a winning one!

Football 2nd XI

Captain's Corner

Imperial College Football Club 2nd XI have as usual had to fight very hard this year. In both BUCS and ULU we have come up against high quality opposition and at times it has been a hard struggle. However the great character shown by every member of the squad throughout the year has been an inspiration. When you battle alongside good people it makes every defeat that much easier to take and every victory so much sweeter. We hope to roll into Varsity having secured safety in both leagues and celebrate the end of our season by once again savouring a win against our old rivals.

Damian Phelan, IC 2nd XI Captain

Waterpolo Mixed

Captain's Corner

Our season has gone pretty well so far, we have won all but two matches and are currently 2nd in the league. The men's BUCS team has been outstanding so far; is challenging for the BUCS cup in Sheffield this weekend. The women's BUCS team narrowly lost their semi-final. I think we have a pretty strong team going into varsity this year; we won last year's varsity by a 9 goal margin and want to rinse the medals again this year with a greater goal difference. We take Varsity pretty seriously, as it is never a good thing to lose to the Medics. It would mean a lot to win this, and should be a perfect end to a quality season for us as a team.

Ian Welch-Phillips, IC Waterpolo capt.

Badminton

College



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all players who have played in the BUCS 1A Badminton League. We did remarkably well this year, we came top of the league! We are now participating in the playoff and hopefully we will get promoted to the Premier League next year! We still have one match left, come on Imperial, we can do it!

Charles Hon, IC Men's Captain

First of all, I would like to say that we finished 3rd in Division 1A which is a very respectable result. After a long series of draws and losses, we finally pulled ourselves together and won the last two matches of the season convincingly. Varsity should be exciting this year as we have three freshers playing and for the first time there is also a Badminton Mixed match. Having just won the Premier ULU Mixed league, we are hungry for more matches, and hopeful and confident of continuing with our winning streak.

Laura Bethke, IC Women's Captain

IC Men's 1st squad:

- C. Hon (C)
- L. Ho
- D. Lee
- J. Chew
- Mingren
- J.Wong

IC Women's 1st squad :

- L. Bethke (C)w
- K.Wong
- D. Sham
- S.Omardeen
- J.Ho
- B.Wong

Medics



ICSM Men's 1st squad :

- S.Seng (C)
- B.Yang
- A.Hall
- J.Juillard
- Y.Jin
- A.Singpal

ICSM Women's 1st squad:

- L.Ah-Kye (C)
- W.S. Choong
- L.Wang
- T.Wong
- P.Garg
- L.Ganegoda

The team this year have done really well. We remain unbeaten at the top of the league and will hopefully get promoted into the above division.

We've had very close games with our rival team, KCLMS with whom we've drawn twice and have one final match up to go to decide the league. At varsity, historically IC have generally owned us, but this year hopefully will be different. We have a good run in the league and if we carry this through into this game, we can hopefully do some damage!

Steven Seng, ICSM Men's Captain

We've had a competitive and motivating set of matches this year, currently in a promising 2nd place in the league. With a close result in the BUCS tournament we were disappointed to not have won the cup but what's more important is that we've had an excellent season with improvements in our game and ready to do some serious damage next year. Last year's Varsity was close but unfortunately we lost. This year, let's hope the game shall turn in our favour!

Laura Ah-kye, ICSM Women's Captain

Rugby 2nd XV

Captain's Corner

Imperial College 2nd XV have suffered a string of very close defeats this season, meaning our current league standing of 6th is not very representative of our true ability. In fact, we are the only team in the bottom 5 with a positive points difference, showing just how close our losses have been. However, a strong performance in the Gutteridge Men's Reserve Cup final on Sunday meant we retained it for another year, so at least we will have some silverware. Having already beaten the Medic 2nd XV once this season and with both teams scrapping at the bottom of the league to avoid relegation, this match will be one to watch!

Tom Coggrave, IC 2nd XV Captain

VARSITY PREVIEW

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk


Football Men's 1sts

College



After a relatively poor 08/09 season, ICUAFC 1st XI have built a new squad which has achieved a lot this season. It took a while for the squad to settle and find its feet but it is now widely suggested amongst its opposition that at this stage of the season the 1st XI have developed to be amongst the best university football teams in London. After ruining the unbeaten records of SOAS and UCL, two of ULU's top three teams, Imperial have in hindsight rued their lackluster performances against the weaker teams in the league. With consistency the major area to work on for next year, Imperial will be looking to improve on their satisfactory 3rd place in BUCS 3A. The major success this year has been in the ULU Challenge Cup. A mouthwatering tie against League leaders LSE on 21 March will be the final game for Imperial to achieve some silverware this season. This year's Varsity is predicted to be a close affair after a marked improvement in the Medicals squad. Hopefully, Imperial will use their strength, speed & skill to overcome a disciplined and physical Medicals squad.

Mustapher Botchway IC 1st XI Captain

Other Squad Members:

William Swain
Nathan Ferrol
Thomas Fryatt
Romain Chauvet
Patrick McMullen



Medics

This season has seen the ICSMFC 1st team battle to the very end. Throughout the entire season the 1st team have shown that having enough heart and desire can earn you due respect on the football pitch. The season started slowly when many of the team's more experienced players were away on their elective periods. However, a young and boisterous team came away with some commendable wins against tough opposition, improving with every game. The second half of the season was when the team really got into its stride with a well earned 6 game unbeaten run. Courageous performances against teams in higher leagues showed we could compete at that level and spurred the team on further. With a previous game against IC 1st team narrowly ending in defeat on penalties Varsity is set to be a close contest this year.

Karim Amer ICSM 1st XI Captain

Other Squad Members:

Uzoma Nnajiuba

Basketball Men's 1st

College



This year has been very successful so far, and I am very pleased with both the new players who have joined the team, and the improved sense of team and club spirit. We are near the top of both our BUCS and ULU leagues, as well as finishing runners up in the ULU Challenge Cup. As one of the youngest teams in either league, these results are very promising, and we are returning nearly all of our players next year, when we aim to become the first Imperial basketball team to win both our BUCS and ULU leagues. In terms of Varsity, I would like to encourage as many Imperial students to come and watch what are undoubtedly the best athletes currently enrolled at Imperial. The Medicals do not have a very strong team, and so we hope to use the game as a showcase for our athleticism, solid team-play and enthusiasm for the game.

Nicholas Lutsko IC 1st Team Captain

Squad Members:

Yosuke Hamada
Jairo.
Cuartas-Molina
Iffy Obadeyi
Nick Lutsko
Mina Samaan
Will Vallas
Aleks Ponjavic
Cyrus Chan
John Yeats

Josh Allison
Bojan Tamburic
Fernando.
Pacheco-Monteiro
Johnny Kingsley
Rich Bargh



Medics

While this season has been frustrating, there have been many positives for this ever expanding club. With intentions to develop further and enter into BUCS next season we have much to look forward to. Varsity is always an occasion that we look forward to, with ICSM getting closer to that elusive 'W'. Hopefully this is the year. Nevertheless we will go out, play hard and enjoy the game.

Shammi Kakad ICSM 1st Team Captain

Other Squad Members:

Shammi Kakad
Ken Agu
Malek Al-Chalabi
Arun Anadakumar
Jacky Chen
Mavin Kashyap
Rajiv Krishnakumar
Honyee Lai
David Li
Yasser Magmoud
Pierre Morris
John Murray-Bruce
Christos Mylonas
Amir Nanneh
Tobi Obisanya
Ioannis Orfandis
Bo Osibody
Rasheed Rabiu
Sunit Raja
Nadeev Wijesuriya

Basketball Women's 1st

College



Overall we've had a successful season this year. Despite struggling with a few tough ULU league matches, we won all our matches in our division of the BUCS league. We hope to continue with a win in the upcoming Varsity match.

Maria Daoud IC 1st Team Captain

Squad Members:

Maria Daoud
Hannah Darton
Hannah Barrett
Pavlina Tiktampanidi
Sheryl Liang
Ayida Leung

Aya Rebet
Nina Hartwich
Claire McNulty
Clair
Debouteiller



Medics

Last year we entered Varsity unsure about how the game would fare following the previous year's embarrassment of a three-fold defeat. However a smaller deficit last year gives us hope for this year's game. The historically uneven game turned out to be a well contested and more importantly boosted the team's confidence. The team has welcomed many new recruits who have become critical players thanks to coach Hannah Barrett. The team has worked hard all year with determination and a constant level of enthusiasm which has reflected well this season. Although league performances were tough due to the amalgamation of the two divisions, semi-finalists in the ULU cup is an achievement all players are extremely proud of. We are rapidly becoming contenders and hope that Varsity this year will allow us to showcase our new talent and hopefully take the win!

Anita Ponnuthurai ICSM 1st Team Captain

Squad Members:

Anita Ponnuthurai
Emma Amofo
Mira Pecheva
Denise
Osei-Kuffour
Rachel Carten
Joanna Kefas
Ka Ki Chow
Christina Lees

Hannah Barrett
Alexis Nelson
Mariam Akinpeju

VARSIITY PREVIEW

Netball Women's 1sts

College



Last season we were relegated from our BUCS league and finished in the bottom half of our ULU league. The first half on the season was unlucky. Although we very much had the talent within the team, a lack of training and experience of playing together meant we lost a lot of matches. The second half of the season has been more successful. We have improved as a team and are now comfortably beating teams that we had lost to at the start of the season. We are currently 3rd from top in our BUCS league and about half way up in our ULU league. As far as Varsity goes we have played and lost to the Medics twice this season. They have an advantage over us in terms of height and they have been playing together as a team for far longer. However, if we play our best netball, we are capable of making the match extremely close. At Varsity anything can happen, and we won't go down without a fight.

Carolyn Sharpe IC 1st Team Captain

Squad Members:
 Carolyn Sharpe
 Tamar Loach
 Nicole Evans
 Emma Gould
 Nina Davies
 Helen Gill
 Marie-Louisa Awolaja
 Jenny Munroe



Medics

Having such hard working and committed players makes my job as captain far easier, which is why we as a team have had such great success in netball this year. Considering the very high standard of netball this year, we've done really well in both leagues. Currently ranked 2nd place in ULU after only having lost 1 game, and coming 3rd in the BUCS league. We've also managed to get through to the ULU cup final after several challenging games which will be played on March 20th against Kings College. The highlight of the netball year as always will be Varsity which I'm very excited for. Having been triumphant twice this year against IC, I am confident we can continue our success and come away victorious.

Ffion Harry ICSM 1st Team Captain

Squad Members
 Ffion Harry (c)
 Beth Nelly
 Catherine Atkin
 Lindsay Hennah
 Hannah Ribbans
 Kandi Ejiogor
 Louise Thornhill

Netball Women's 2nds

College



ICU Netball 2nds has had an outstanding season, a compliment to both the new players who have joined the team and the last year's remaining team members. Team spirit together with great banter and truly talented members has been the key to success with a promotion in BUCS and what should have been a promotion in ULU. Only underhand tactics from some dirty medics hailing from another university, they all blend into one after a while, denied us what should have been rightfully ours. Bitter? Yes, just a bit. An earlier game in the season against the medics saw us fall by the way side in the 3rd quarter due to bit of mismanagement. Nonetheless, we are back on top form, pumped from the gym and a few heavy nights at the union, ready to take on the students from the polytechnic down the road.

Claire McNulty IC 2nd Team Captain

IC 2nd VII Netball Squad:
 Lucy Byrne
 Claire McNulty
 Bernice Cutler (c)
 Rachel Zaborski
 Sadie McNaughton
 Lorna Turner
 Jacqueline Fok
 Anna Haslop



Medics

Having been promoted in both our ULU and BUCS leagues after our 2008/2009 season; ICSM 2s netball had high hopes for making a dent in our new leagues. Nearing the end of the season; we are currently winning both of our new leagues, hoping for another double promotion and exceeding all my expectations as captain. We are also in the ULU Reserve Cup final for the first time; hoping for a win against GKT 2s. Of my 3 years on the team; this has been our most successful and ambitious season. With my team playing the best I have ever seen and with a win over IC 2s already this year, I am expecting another Varsity victory. I could not be more proud of my players and hope we continue our success! Bring on IC!

Julia Eddington ICSM 2nd VII Captain

ICSM 2nd VII Netball Squad:
 Emma Suttill
 Frances Dixon
 Sarah Tranter
 Sarah Zimmerman
 Charlotte Mansel
 Leah Jones
 Izzy McLuskie
 Caz Edwards
 Julia Eddington

Netball Women's 3rds

College



This season has been an encouraging one for IC 3s, having been promoted in our ULU league last year, we have managed to take to the new league, remaining high up in the tables. The most reliable team - turning up to every training, match and social, Netball 3s set an example to the rest of the club. The team have gotten to know each other well, both on and off court, enabling match performance to improve week after week. With more determination than ever, the girls are surprising themselves with their fighting spirit. Beware medics, this is our year!

Rebecca France IC 3rd Team Captain

Squad Members:
 Rebecca France
 Fern Gibbons
 Lucie Hazell
 Sarah Reed
 Rebecca Spriggs
 Alice Roots
 Nakai Jiriai
 Sarah Stevens
 Feroza Kassam
 Summer Mitchell



Medics

I am incredibly proud of what the team has achieved this year. We expected a tough time in BUCS following promotion last year, but victory against St. George's ensured we will stay up and are on track for a 3rd or 4th place finish. In the ULU cup we reached the quarter-finals, losing narrowly to a team in the Premiership. We aimed for promotion in our ULU league, although we haven't achieved this, we should finish high in the table. Our record against IC remains impeccable. We knocked the 3s out of the cup with a decisive 20 goal thrashing, and aim to better this at Varsity. One of my favourite moments of the season was beating IC 2s in the ULU league. It's very amusing when a team demands at the end 'how could you POSSIBLY beat us?' - although we didn't understand the surprise as we are a BUCS league above them and haven't lost the fixture since 2007!

Alexandra Perkins ICSM 3rd Team Captain

Squad Members:
 Jedda Oyenuga
 George Hart
 Roisin Dunwoody
 Sarneet Singh
 Megan Mackenzie
 Colleen McGregor
 Sarah Hancox
 Affie Etok
 Emma Horton

Netball Women's 4ths

College



Our season so far has been amazingly fun! We started off the year with a brand spanking new team who had never played together before, so while at the start of the year we tried desperately to remember how to play netball after having the summer off, we've all developed together as a team and now form a strong side who are getting stronger all the time. Last year our 4s were the only team to beat the medics so this year we're aiming to really wipe the floor with them, so watch out medics, we're coming to get you!

Amelia Al-Qazzaz IC 4th Team Captain

Squad Members:
 Amelia Al-Qazzaz
 Emma Oakton
 Jane Langdon-Davies
 Zahra Moledina
 Sihan Wang
 Aisha Patel
 Layo Delano
 Zoe Scheuringer



Medics

Having been promoted into a higher division in ULU at the end of last season we were all apprehensive about whether we could adapt to a much tougher standard of netball this year. Luckily, we have not been disappointed and will be finishing this season well within the top half of our new division. The season started with victories over LSE, Queen Mary's 3s and 4s, Royal Holloway and RUMS. To increase our number of fixtures, we have played a number of friendly matches against other teams. This included a nail biting 28-27 victory over GKT as well as wins against RUMS and St Georges. Our hope for Varsity this year, besides winning, is to play the best we have ever played and enjoy what will definitely be a highly competitive match.

Flo Chamberlain ICSM 4th Team Captain

ICSM 4th VII Netball Squad
 Flo Chamberlain
 Sophia Butt
 Charlotte Lake
 Kat Lau
 Mahua Bhaduri
 Nina Vasir
 Becca Le Vay
 Clare Hutchinson
 Niki Shah
 Nat Ilenkovan
 Charlie Stephens



Hockey Men's 1sts

College



ICHC Men's 1st XI have endured a tough season in the BUCS competition. After gaining promotion to the South East 1A league last year, they have come up against some tough opposition and have lost several extremely close games by very narrow margins. Progress in the ULU league and cup competitions has, by contrast, been much better, with the team through to the finals of the ULU Cup and in a strong position to retain their ULU Premier League title at the end of March. With only a small number of players departing this season, the Men's 1sts will be hoping for a swift return to the top of the South East structure in 2011. The Men's 1st XI will be expecting to retain their Varsity crown for the fourth year in a row, having already beaten the Medics on two separate occasions this season.

Christopher Baker-Brian IC Men's 1st XI Captain

Other Squad Members:
 Christopher O'Reilly
 Matthew James
 Graham Ridler
 Lionel Sumner

Medics



The season started well with a number of good wins which put us in a strong position in the BUCS league. Post Christmas our performance has not been as strong due to a number of player being absent for various reasons. However, we plan to remedy this with a strong performance at Varsity.

Edward Bray ICSM Men's 1st XI Captain

Other Squad Members:
 Alexander Baron
 John Chetwood
 Charles Miller
 Sam Patel



Hockey Men's 2nds

College



The ICHC 2nd XI are on the way to winning the ULU Cup and looking to finish in the top two positions of the BUCS league. The team will face the Medics for the fourth time this season at Varsity. IC won all three previous encounters - the last match finishing 4-3. Varsity promises a tasty display of intense Hockey. Men to look out for are: JD practising his golf swing at short corners, Maximuscle Bill pumped up in attack, Blackman Briggs pacing down the right side and Lazy Fresher Hunt throwing aerials in midfield.

Douglas Weber-Steinhaus IC 2nd XI Captain

Other Squad Members:
 Andrew Bromfield
 Ash Cooper
 Robin Fox
 Will Sharman
 Chris Vetter

Medics



Last year's Varsity was an embarrassment; losing 5-0 was not the way we wanted to see out the season. The humiliation of not even scoring a goal was too much and this year we aim to set the record straight. So far we have played IC 3 times in the regular season. We really tested them in our first encounter narrowly losing 2-1. In the second fixture we lost badly, 5-1 on a night reminiscent of Varsity 2009 where the medics were torn apart by an impressive IC team. Our final encounter was in the semi-final of the ULU cup where we matched IC over seventy minutes and into the final minute of extra time where we were beaten by an unstoppable goal. The last encounter especially shows that we really have what it takes to compete with IC and this Varsity will be no drubbing, not if the medic hockey boys can help it.

Shiva Radhakrishnan ICSM 2nd XI Captain

Other Squad Members:
 Uttaran Datta
 Prathiba De Silva
 Richard Hackett
 Shrawan Patel
 Jack Pearce

Hockey Women's 1sts

College



The IC Ladies 1s have been working hard, accomplishing a very successful season. In the ULU league, the team has won all matches played so far and stands with a record of 16 goals in 3 matches. More importantly, after comfortably beating the strongest teams in BUCS, the team has made the league so exciting that promotion will be decided on the last fixture of the season. Ladies 1s have good chances of getting promoted to the South Eastern Conference 1A, as we are facing Chichester 2s (team we've already trashed with a boring 12-0 victory). The IC Ladies 1s will be facing the medics at Varsity after having played them in the ULU cup final this Sunday. Playing a league above them in both ULU and BUCS, we will be looking to enforce our game from the beginning on both the final and Varsity. So watch out during Varsity, cause Sunday's results will still be in everyone's minds...

Victoria Galligani IC Women's 1st XI Captain

Other Squad Members:
Jessica Poore
Chelsea Wong



Medics



We've had a massive influx of new players into the first team this season, which has really helped to mix things up. It's taken a while for everyone to find their niche but with hard work and dedication we are capable of playing some first class hockey. Our new coach this year has helped us to focus on core skills and through his feedback and guidance we have been able to up our game, which should leave us in a strong position in our BUCS league. Varsity is such a highly anticipated game and year on year we have a tough match against Imperial. We relish the challenge of playing a team that is a league above us in BUCS and although we may enter this game as the underdogs, we will not stop fighting for the title until the final whistle blows.

Fiona Laird ICSM Women's 1st XI Captain

Other Squad Members:
Lauren Chalmers
Charlotte Richardson



Hockey Women's 2nds

College



Overall it has been a great season for the ladies 2s. After an initial slow start to the season we got into our stride and went on to enjoy a 10 match winning streak (which coincidentally started by beating the medics 9-2). It has also been a high-scoring season for us with 58 goals to date. We did well in BUCS finishing joint third, but our biggest achievement of the season is finishing top of our ULU league. Being in the same BUCS and ULU leagues as the medics, we have faced each other three times already this season and have won once and drawn twice. This makes for an exciting Varsity match and we will be looking for another win against the medics to end our season in style.

Carina Carter IC Women's 2nd XI Captain

Other Squad Members:
Madison Coke
Sheena Cowell
Ann-Marie Keane
Kathryn Leonard
Alice Rowlands
Rabia Zia

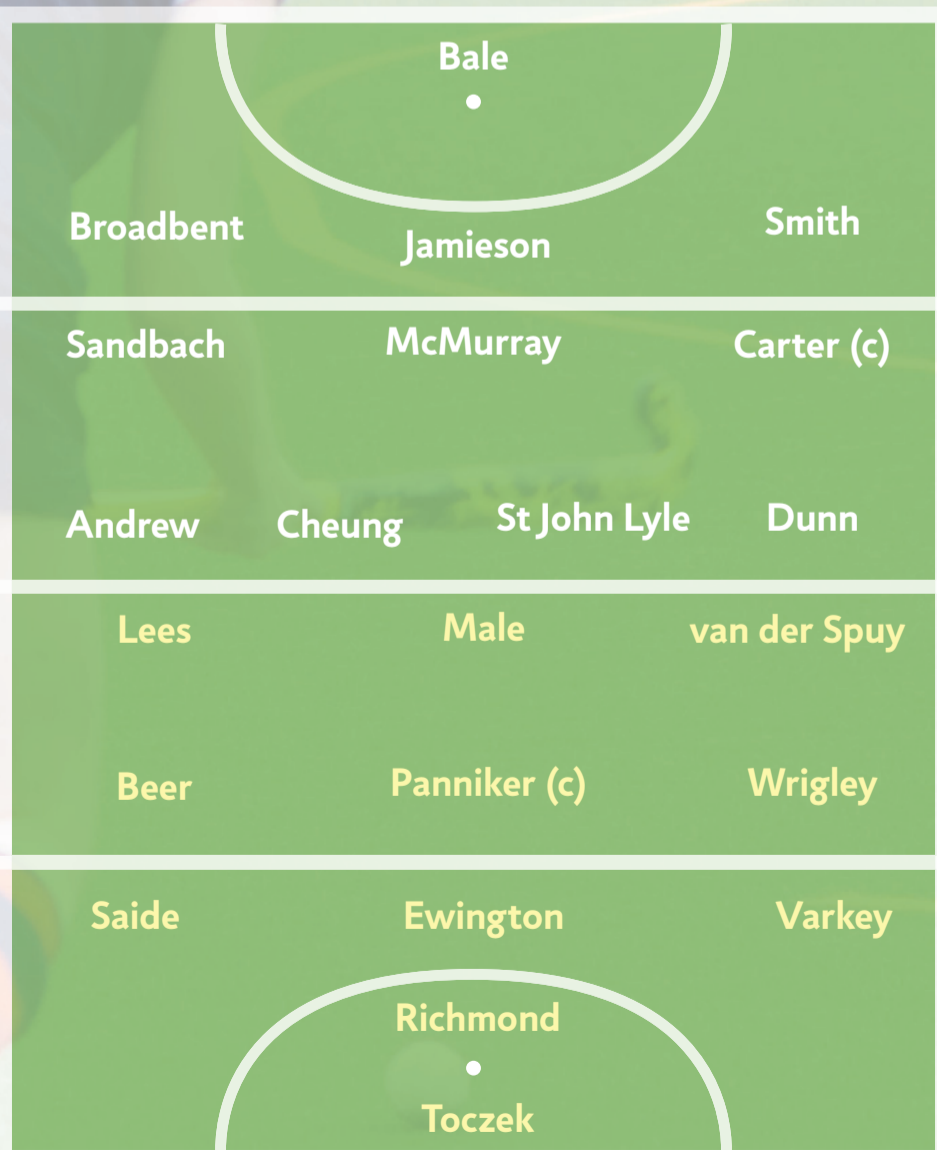
Medics



The Medics Ladies 2nd hockey team have had a good season. We're the first to admit that we're not yet (and never really will be!) hockey pros, so having fun is a big priority. Competing in the BUCS South Eastern League 5A and ULU division 3, there have been some fantastic wins and some losses. Whatever the outcome though, team spirit has been high and we've had plenty of laughs! We've also welcomed quite a few new players to our squad who have been valuable assets to both the team and the club. I'd like to say a big thanks to everyone in the squad, including this year's Varsity team. Following a very recent 2-2 draw against IC, we're as eager as ever and ready to fight for this year's Varsity.

Rachel Panniker ICSM 2nd XI Captain

Other Squad Members:
Charlotte Oliver
Elke Wynberg



Line-ups: JPR Williams Cup (Rugby Men's 1sts)

Imperial College



1. **J. Aldridge, 21, 3rd Year Biochemistry**
Jamie has gained 27kgs since joining university, benches 135kg and is proud of his 10.86s personal best in the 100m.
2. **T. Coggrave, 22, 4th Year Physics**
Since 2006, Tom has established himself as the 2nd team hooker for two seasons; but is now 1st XV regular
3. **C. O'Rourke, 20, 3rd Year Maths**
Callum is a strong mobile prop and also the joker of the team. His spur of the moment humour combined with vibrant ginger hair creates a hilarious mix.
4. **C. Esberger, 19, 2nd Year Physics**
Charlie leads by example, and his quick acceleration and deceptive pace make him an attacking threat from anywhere on the pitch.
5. **C. McGeough, 19, 2nd Year Mech Eng.**
Powerful in the loose and destructive in the tight, Chris, our William Wallace will ensure that they may take our lives but they will never take our Varsity.
6. **N. Johnstone, 21, 2nd Year Mech Eng**
Spawn of a Horse, Dog & Sloth; Nick has unnaturally large thighs, the ability to pee anywhere and an ability to keep its eyes in an indefinable state of open and closed.
7. **J. Pettit (Captain), 22, 4th Year Physics**
The Imperial College First Team Captain for two years in a row is an aggressive flanker who tends to do most of his talking on the pitch and is looking to win his first Varsity.
8. **C. Cotter, 20, 2nd Year Biochem**
One of the club's leading scorers Charlie constantly demands the best from himself & those around him.
9. **F. Chalke (Vice), 20, 3rd year Maths**
Freddie has enjoyed a successful career at ICURFC at scrum-half although he is a threat anywhere in the backline.
10. **G. Lane, 18, 1st Year Chemist**
Brought up t'up North, George has had a seamless transition from League to Union with his distribution and massive boot.
11. **J. Harris, 21, 3rd Year Mech Eng.**
Joe has started all but one game this season offering great pace and solid tackling, making him part of a dependable back three.
12. **A. Johnstone, 21, 4th Year Physics**
A late switch from hooker to inside centre to cover the loss of Tom Carroll, Alex's pace and direct running along side vocal leadership adds to a penetrative backline.
13. **D. Bowe, 20, 2nd Year Mech Eng**
There is no doubt pure talent flows through Dave's veins.
14. **L. Barnett, 20, 2nd Year Biochemistry**
Amid allegations of an affair with the team captain, Louie jumped inexplicably into the 1sts where he has cemented his place since.
15. **M. Joachim, 21, 3rd Year Systems Eng.**
Max has represented Germany U19s and U21s, and starts his third Varsity at full back.



Imperial Medicals

1. **E. Pickles, 21, 3rd Year**
Ed has put his injuries behind him and put in some tenacious performances this season.
2. **J. Fisher-Black, 21, 3rd Year**
Last year's Man of the Match at prop, Johnny returns this year to his more favoured position of hooker.
3. **J. Barosiak-Jentys, 27, PhD**
A player to have trimmed down since his last Varsity in 2008, 'Jez' is a busy PhD student with plenty of student rugby experience.
4. **M. Sarvesvaran, 21, 3rd Year**
A quiet academic, Matty spent last summer memorising Pi to 10,000 decimal places, although his surname still eludes him.
5. **A. Mowat (Captain), 23, 5th Year**
This year's captain got the season off to a smashing start with some strong pre-season displays from the second row.
6. **A. Hamilton, 23, 5th Year**
A Cockburn Scholar 'mutor' has invested money all in a live cow called 'Daisy'. 'Just you wait,' he said 'You'll all be laughing when I am munching down a succulent T-bone.'
7. **B. Allin, 25, 6th Year**
This year brings to an end Ben's long association with the Imperial Medicals student side. 'It is going to leave to a gaping hole in my Monday night schedule' he admits.
8. **C. Nightingale, 22, 3rd Year**
Craig is a multi talented individual who is keen to shake off his one dimensional image. He's good at bench, squat and dead lift.
9. **T. Maynard, 25, 6th Year**
"I'm trying to get through a whole season without taking contact. It is going to be difficult as IC have an aggressive defence."
10. **D. Neville, 5th Year**
A talented fly-half, Dan is still furious about doing his knee in just before the England Students trial earlier this season.
11. **R. Hutchinson, 22, 4th Year**
Rory has rationed his playing schedule this season, to just the Wednesday side. 'I like to devote Saturdays to my hair.'
12. **B. Davies (Vice), 23, 5th Year**
This year's vice captain, Ben should be playing in the Varsity match. He is not totally sure whether it is worth coming back from Mumbles for. "Yeah, I should be available."
13. **M. MacMillan, 19, 2nd Year**
'Mad Marc' has undergone a big positional change this season to outside centre this year.
14. **J. Sharples, 20, 2nd Year**
This prime stallion should be seen stretching his legs in this year's fixture.
15. **C. Nzekwue, 21, 3rd Year**
Chids is an elusive man. By this I do not mean that he is good at open field man. Simply that he never answers his phone.

11.
J. Harris

10.
Lane

13.
Bowe

15.
Joachim

12.
A. Johnstone

14.
L. Barnett

7.
Pettit (c)

1.
Aldridge

4.
Esberger

8. Cotter 2. Coggrave

5.
McGeough

3.
O'Rourke

6.
N. Johnstone

7.
Allin

1.
Pickles

4.
Sarvesvaran

2. Fisher-Black 8. Nightingale

5.
Mowat (c)

3.
B-Jentys

6.
Hamilton

14.
Sharples

12.
B. Davies

9.
Maynard

15.
Nzekwue

13.
MacMillan

10.
Neville

11.
Hutchinson

THEIR LEADING VOICES



JAMES PETTIT
COLLEGE RUGBY 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

ANDREW MOWAT
MEDICS RUGBY 1ST TEAM CAPTAIN

How has your season been so far?

We've had a strong year, not too much to complain about really other than a couple of slip ups.

What has your experience of previous Varsities been like? Is this your first as captain?

Previous Varsities have always been very loud. I never really remember much of the games I play in. But I do remember that we have lost three in a row while I've been here. I was Captain last year, it's hard work, but good fun.

How does this match differ from the previous head to heads this season?

I'd say the gap between us has certainly narrowed over the last two or three years. Last year the Medics proved that they were still top dogs; however we got one over on them back in November, and then we drew in January. We've certainly learnt a lot about each other with regards to how we play so in that respect previous games are a massive help.

How much does your course get in the way of rugby? (and not vice versa!)

All in all it's not too bad. If anything gets in the way of Rugby then I just generally kick up a big fuss and act like a bit of a dick until I get my way. Sometimes it works, but on reflection its has nearly cost me a few friendships. Perhaps I should think of another way.

Any thoughts on this year's 6 Nations?

Regrettably, I think the French will take this one.

Do you keep an eye on the other Varsity results, or is it all about the rugby? What's your favourite?

I'll have a look at all the results the next day, but generally I don't get to see too much of it. We'll wish the other Rugby guys good luck before they play and try and watch as much of them as we can.

Rumor has it that College have two new mascots (yes, more grown men in animal suits) for this year's Varsity... your thoughts?

Perhaps the most memorable moment of Varsity last year was when someone nailed the Medic mascot. The head went flying and everyone saw that inside was dazed medic girl. Sad, yet funny. The attempt to bring alive the Medic Phoenix just looked like a big chicken. A good rule of thumb is that if it needs explaining it's not cool.

Do you think Varsity is accessible enough to get the average student interested? A lot of people think paying 8-10 quid to see a match between university teams can be a bit much.

I certainly agree, I think it is a lot to ask. It's great that people come and watch, it really means a lot, but you can go watch Premiership Rugby for the same amount. I suppose the University needs to cover some of its cost and you get more than just a Rugby game for your ticket. I would be very surprised if the University turned a profit from days like this at the student's expense.

Last but definitely not least, what are your post-match celebration plans?
Reynolds Bar!

How has your season been so far?

Very good. We have secured promotion back into the BUCs premiership narrowly pipping Imperial College to the top spot. We suffered an early set back losing to our arch rivals at the beginning of the season but have gone unbeaten since.

What has your experience of previous Varsities been like? Is this your first as captain?

This is my first as captain. Last year is my only other experience of the occasion. It was an intense fixture which could have gone either way which made the elation of victory all the sweeter.

How does this match differ from the previous head to heads this season?

It's one match. What has gone before is of little relevance. We know we severely underperformed at the start of the season and have progressed steadily since then. The second fixture was a better marker as the game had a Varsity "Winner takes all" feel to it provoked by the league situation. They have simply confirmed that the game will be a tight affair.

How much does your course get in the way of rugby? (and not vice versa!)

It varies sometimes rugby is a welcome release, at others it can be a distraction. At the moment I'm delivering babies which is pretty intense so time management is reaching melting point.

Any thoughts on this year's 6 Nations?

Fairly disappointing from an English perspective. It is unclear to me whether we are underperforming or simply lack the calibre of player we once possessed.

Do you keep an eye on the other Varsity results, or is it all about the rugby? What's your favourite?

I'll be passing a cursory eye over the other results. Women's rugby was pretty entertaining last year.

Rumor has it that College have two new mascots (yes, more grown men in animal suits) for this year's Varsity... your thoughts?

I pity the guys who have to get inside those things.

Do you think Varsity is accessible enough to get the average student interested? A lot of people think paying 8-10 quid to see a match between university teams can be a bit much.

I wasn't aware of the price. That does seem a bit steep. Though the crowd can hardly claim not to have got their money's worth in the last two years.

Last but definitely not least, what are your post-match celebration plans?

Back to the Reynolds.....trying to plan such events is futile.





sport Imperial