



Silfest targets smashed
Silwood Park festival
surpasses charity target

Industrial interviews

The first in a new series of monthly features: **Page 7**

Mascot mischief rages on

The Imperial College School of Medicine look on as Royal College of Science Union Scientists capture their Phoenix mascot head and hold them to ransom. **Page 6**

Guardian awards shortlist Felix

Felix has been shortlisted for student publication of the year for the Guardian Student Media awards of 2011 along with two Imperial contributors after submissions were made earlier this summer. **Page 3**

NSS lowers Imperial ranking

Imperial's low student satisfaction ratings cause further decline in university rankings. **Page 4**

Business School hands out iPads to new intake

Sophia David

Imperial College Business School is welcoming its first students of a new Masters programme and providing them with a free iPad 2 with which to carry out their studies. The programme leaders of the MSc in Strategic Marketing are scrapping the traditional paper-based learning and teaching methods and pioneering a novel approach centred on the use of digital and social media.

At the start of each lecture, QR (Quick Response) codes will be used, allowing students to download the PowerPoint slides directly to their iPad. Apps such as GoodReader, iAnnotate and Evernote will also be used to facilitate note taking.

Students are being asked to carry out their research and coursework using sites such as Posterous, Facebook and Twitter, work which will be facilitated by the iPad. Coursework will involve building websites, creating wordpress blogs, making applications and filming videos via iMovie.

An online “Communication hub” has also been created for the course that allows students to ask questions
...Continued on Page 3



ARTS



Feeling the heat with some South American salsa **Page 14**

GAMES



OnLive at the Eurogamer Expo **Page 20**

Jonathan Peek



It can only be Welcome Week

En Garde! Freshers' Fair a success as the cat proves itself handy with a sabre **Page 8**

FASHION



The latest accessories under review: **Page 21**

HIGHLIGHTS

Competition

Win a Foldi LED Lamp!

Right, so it's an LED lamp that costs £70. Who doesn't want that? I could find countless ways of using that, other than the recommended ones (working at your desk). It's as if you've got the lighting of a football stadium in your hand or something. To win, send an email to felix@imperial.ac.uk letting us know **who won the Oscar for Best Director in 2010**. **Hint:** the answer is on this page. Yes, I am insulting your intelligence – and what?



Last week's winner

Congratulations to Jeremy Neale, who wins last week's grand prize of a £50 Sudocrem goody bag, you lucky, lucky person

Competition crazy

Even more prizes... excellent!



Extra prizes is in no way heinous

Now you're settled back in, why not take a look over there to the left? That's right – we've only gone and bagged ourselves a competition column. There's no excuse not to send us an email and win one hot piece of tech, aw yeah.

Since we're in such a prize-addled mood, now might be a good time to mention the glorious return of the infamous FUCWIT Puzzle League on Page 33. Prizes and eternal glory await those brave enough to enter!

iCU Cinema returns



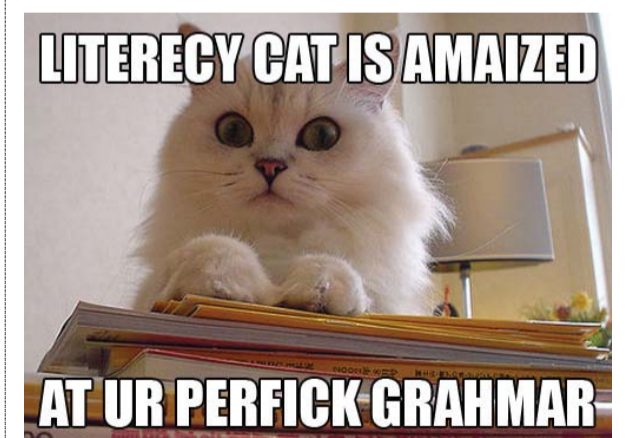
Lights, Camera, ... er, hold on, let me grab my beer ... Action! If you thought that going to the cinema would be as expensive as front-row seats at a Madonna gig, you'd be wrong. As wrong as the decision to give Kathryn Bigelow the Oscar for Best Director (come on, the smurf version of *Dances With Wolves* was wayyyy better).

Imperial College Union has its own cheap-as-chips cinema, right here on campus, and next week we're showing *The Inbetweeners Movie* and *Friends With Benefits*, back-to-back, on two freakin' nights (holy hot sauce Batman, shit just got real...).

We're showing the movies from 18:30 on Tuesday and Thursday and it's a piddling £7 for both movies (less if you want to watch one/if you buy membership.) Be there, or Justin Timberlake and Milas Kunis will be totally unimpressed.

For more info, head over to www.icucinema.co.uk

Lolcat of teh week



Editor

FELIX

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Special thanks: Slobodan Radosavljevic

New age of learning

Scheme aims to harness latest technology



Business school students rejoice upon receiving extra exposure to Apple gadgets

...Continued from Front Page and discuss topics with lecturers and other students, as well as share files and videos. It is also hoped that the feedback time from lecturers to students will be reduced, enhancing student satisfaction.

Behind the development of this new course is its Director, Colin Love, who explains that “instead of just being a marketing programme where we trot out all the standard books”, the Business School has attempted to “turn it around into being something that focuses on the latest technology, communication techniques and social media networks.”

“Marketeers cannot underestimate the power of the digital and social media age. If you looked at the users of Facebook as a population, they would represent the third largest ‘country’ in the world. Customer experience on here can make or break a brand overnight and our teaching reflects this shift,” said Colin Love.

“We want our students to understand everything about these new and rapidly changing technologies and how to make the best use of them, and a large part of that is immersing the students in that world from day one.”

Ludovica Arci, a student on the

programme, told Felix that “the whole class is extremely happy about this ‘gift’, especially because we do not have to give the iPads back.” She also added that “the iPad is much more than a gift from Imperial College but it is a real revolution and a new way of conceiving the educational system.”

Colin Love believes that the MSc in Strategic Marketing “will equip students with the marketing skills that are immediately relevant for companies, business leaders and entrepreneurs around the world.” Applications for next year’s programme open in November.

Felix nominated for Guardian Student Media Awards

Alex Nowbar

Felix has been shortlisted for Student Publication of the Year in the Guardian Student Media Awards 2011. The other finalists in this category are Cherwell (University of Oxford), Mouth (Kingston University), River (Kingston University) and York Vision (University of York). In addition, 2 of the 5 nominations for Digital Journalist of the Year are Felix contributors: Dylan Lowe and Jake Lea-

Wilson. The winners will be announced at the Awards ceremony in November.

Last year’s Felix Editor-in-Chief Kadhim Shubber (right) expressed his delight following the announcement: “I’m really happy that we’ve been nominated. Felix has been nominated four times in the past six years, so I think we’ve got something to be proud of. I want to say thank you to everyone who contributed last year; this nomination is a recognition of their tireless efforts.”



Kadhim Shubber rocks the mic

Imperial College
London

student bloggers wanted!



Are you a keen and creative writer? Maybe you always have a camera handy to capture the moment? Simply send us 600 words about your start of term experience, whether you are a fresher or a returning undergrad or postgrad.

Alternatively, submit a photo-blog entry about Welcome Week – don’t forget to add captions!

Send your submission by **noon on Monday 17 October** to studentblogs@imperial.ac.uk



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studentblogs](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/studentblogs)

Sponsored Editorial

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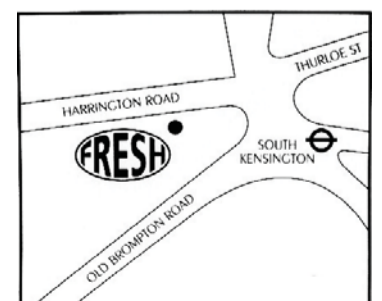
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NEWS

News Editors: **Sophia David**
Alex Nowbar

news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

In Brief

Silfest surpasses charity target

Matt Colvin



This year's Silfest committee

Saturday 16 July saw Imperial's Silwood Park campus in Berkshire play host to this year's Silfest, with the annual independent music festival raising enough money to buy two cows.

Silfest, or the Silwood Festival was first held in 1999 and has since become an entirely student-run event. This year's festivities included a full line up of bands and DJs as well as fete-themed entertainments.

Silfest 2011 supported the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT), in particular their Chiltern Chalk Grassland Project. The project concerns the management of the increasingly rare habitat of chalk grassland.

With an original target to buy one cow to help graze chalk grassland sites, the amount of money raised from the festival led to the purchase of two cows instead.

Two of Silfest 2011's organisers, Rosie Burdon and Mark Ramsden, hailed the event as a "massive success".

"A capacity crowd of 500 people rocked up to see 12 bands and 3 DJ's ... from 12pm until 4am the next morning. The pick of the bands were Kentish Fire, the fantastic headliners Alphabet Backwards, The Winter Olympics, and our very own MSc Men and Late Night Munchies." **Matt Colvin**

Student satisfaction hits tables

New emphasis on NSS sees Imperial fall 11 places

Maciej Matuszewski

Imperial has dropped a stunning 11 places in the Sunday Times League Table for 2012 entry, published last month. The College is now ranked fourteenth in the UK, behind institutions such as the University of Exeter and Newcastle University. This is the first time in fourteen years that Imperial has not been in the table's top four. This drop has been attributed to a change in the methodology of compiling the table, which has also seen King's College London slide from tenth to seventeenth place and the University of Edinburgh from fourteenth to twenty-seventh.

The table no longer considers universities' student/staff ratios, instead giving greater weighting to the results of the National Student Survey (NSS) and the number of students unemployed six months after graduation. Graduate employment now contributes up to 200 points to each institution's score and the first 12 NSS questions; relating to "the teaching on [the] course", "assessment and feedback" and "academic support"; contribute up to 250 points. Out of the 168 institutions participating in the NSS Imperial is ranked 102nd, 163rd and 130th in each category respectively.

Universities can also gain up to 50 points or lose up to 55 points depending on answers to question 22, relating to overall satisfaction. While the overall weighting given to the NSS is greater than last year the answers to questions 13-21, concerning "organisation and management", "learning resources" and "personal development" are no longer considered. Each University can receive up to 1207 points, with Imperial receiving 832 and Cambridge, which is ranked number one, receiving 1004.

Other league tables have also seen a drop for Imperial. Nationally it has been ranked tenth by the Guardian (down from seventh) and fourth by the Times Good University Guide

Sean Gallagher



A birds eye view of the South Kensington campus

(down from third for the first time ever).

The College has, however, gone up from seventh to sixth place in the QS World University Rankings, which take less account of student satisfaction than the UK tables. In addition, the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2011-2012, published yesterday, have seen Imperial rise to eighth position globally – up from ninth last year.

Union President Scott Heath has called the drop in the rankings "worrying". In his official blog Heath writes that the Union is taking the situation very seriously and that he is drafting a document, due to be released on Monday 10 October, that will outline what "should be done to increase student satisfaction". He has already called for the College to produce "new guidelines to improve the pace of feedback across the board" and work to improve participation in the Student On-Line Evaluation

(SOLE) as well as the NSS. He has also urged "the College to roll out our recommendations universally; as opposed to allowing each Faculty to individually uptake changes at different paces" and to treat "students as colleagues, not as customers".

Heath, however, admitted that the Union also has a large part to play. It has already begun to restructure "the Representation & Welfare Board, in order to facilitate the sharing of best practice, bring issues to the Union's attention more rapidly and provide a better forum for discussion". The Union will also advise the College "on how to better provide Feedback" and will contact the other "Russell Group Student Unions to see what systems they have implemented". Heath hopes that these actions "will bring into place better student satisfaction and help restore our University to the rank it fully deserves in the UK tables".



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NEWS

In Brief

Stolen medic mascot scandal

Alex Karapetian



Luke Kanczes, President of the Royal College of Science Union (RCSU) successfully stole the Imperial College School of Medicine's (ICSMSU) Phoenix mascot head earlier this week with RCSU Vice-President Paul Beaumont in a mascotry scandal which continues today. The RCSU President explained that they "saw the chicken head carelessly tossed aside on the Queen's Lawn", posed as freshers to distract the medic manning the RAG stall and took the mascot.

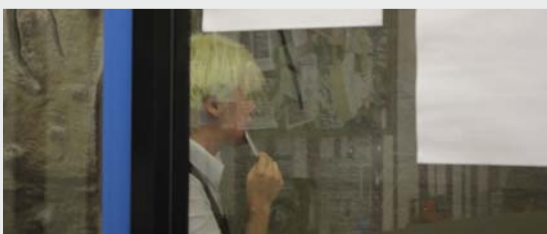
He continued that the medic mumbled, "that guy just stole our head" and that they had to "dodge several rugby lads" to escape. It is claimed that the medics, "unable to understand the difference between Science and Engineering", went to the CGCU office as their first port of call.

ICSMSU's President, Suzie Rayner, responded that they are "highly disappointed in the poor manner the head was stolen", adding that it has had "enough abuse from non-medics at Varsity" resulting in damage to its right eye. "It is questionable whether this constitutes mascotry when they don't have the full mascot". The RCSU's demands included a £200 donation to RCSU RAG, the ICSM President streaking in Beit Quad with only the Phoenix head on and a department-wide email stating that "RCSU is better than ICSMSU".

During the Freshers' Fair, this medic-friendly reporter was targeted by medical students and the Felix Cat head was stolen. Although swiftly retrieved with aid of the ICSMSU President, she sympathised but commented "the medics have taken to stealing mascot heads in retaliation. No head is safe, as the Felix Cat discovered."

Union President Scott Heath describes mascotry as an "adults' game of hide and seek" aiming to "humiliate those unable to protect their mascot" and to "gain a charitable contribution". The rules have been historically laid out and the mascots are open to theft by faculty unions only.

Alex Karapetian



ICSMSU President Suzie Rayner, powerless to retrieve the mascot head from the RCSU office

Warning over campus thefts

PC Nigel Lewis reports on college security concerns

Imperial College is a fantastic environment in which to study and most staff, visitors and students will never experience crime whilst on the campus. However, some will and it is my job to deter crime, provide crime prevention advice and investigate reported crimes, along with my colleague Community Support Officer, Paul Stratford. Imperial College has an 'Open door' policy and some non-sensitive areas are unlocked during working hours and accessible to the public. This affords unhindered passage for all but can attract criminals. Keeping your property with you at all times is probably the best way of keeping them safe. I often walk around the campus and see laptop computers, mobile phones and bags left unattended, not just inside the buildings but also in the garden areas. The in-house security team are very effective at collecting these items and storing them in the security office, but some are stolen. This can lead to a complete loss of a student's work, which can be devastating. The same advice is pertinent to offices: if you keep your laptop computer or digital camera in the office, ensuring it is under lock and key is the best way of keeping it safe.

If you use your pass to enter a door, please check the identity of anyone following you



A genuine police warrant card with imprinted braille

in. They won't mind showing you their pass if they are genuine. There have been instances recently when students have assisted someone entering a restricted area by opening the door for them. The person they let through was there to steal property. Don't be the one to let them in.

There have been some recent incidents when

students have been stopped by people in plain clothes pretending to be police officers. The students have been searched and made to hand over property. If a police officer stops you and shows you a police warrant card, please check the following: the warrant card wallet is black. Inside the wallet is a silver badge on the left with a small slip of silver metal which has braille on it. A Metropolitan Police warrant card (left) is blue, white and red. The words 'POLICE OFFICER' are at the top printed in Red. If you are unsure dial 999 or get someone to dial it for you and ask for the police. They will confirm if the person is a real police officer. The police will never ask you for PIN numbers for bank cards, you should never reveal these to anyone.

You can security mark your property, or register it on the Immobilise website (www.immobilise.com). If you would like help or information about this, please contact me.

If you would like to contact me directly, in confidence, for advice, information or to arrange a talk for a group, please email police@imperial.ac.uk.

PC Nigel Lewis is the Imperial College Police Officer. He is part of the Knightsbridge & Belgravia Safer Neighbourhood Team based at Belgravia Police Station.

Felix Summer Ball survey results reveal students' concerns with event

Common complaints centre around format change, though funfair is praised

Deepka Rana

"Errrm...where were all the people?" was one of the many questions asked after last year's Summer Ball. With less than half the expected turnout and a 6-figure loss, it will come as no surprise that the initial results of the Felix survey are looking rather bleak.

As Felix reported previously the Summer Ball generated the largest loss in recent memory, with the key cause involving high expenditure on musical acts and a low turnout. The Union claimed that there were "many unforeseen circumstances that contributed to the lower than expected income". The Union also stated that the loss would not significant impact on the Union's activities. A statement which Michael Foster, this year's Deputy President for Finance and Services stands by.

The Felix survey confirms that there were indeed many reasons for the lack of attendance, a frequent complaint being the price of the ticket and what students perceived they would be getting for it:

"Waste of money for something that didn't seem value for money", "I didn't see the Sum-

mer Ball as value for money, £40-45 for the festival set-up where food wasn't even provided? No chance." These were both anonymous comments posted by Imperial students in the survey.

A lot of complaints were directed towards the festival format, a change from previous years, which angered many students, in particular those in their final year. "...It sounds like it wasn't much of a ball, just standing in a crowd in the rain wearing normal clothes?! To celebrate the end of our time at Imperial, we don't really want big-name bands. We can go to a music festival for that. The summer ball should be about having a special evening with our friends, celebrating and dancing" suggesting that the Union "should just get a DJ, make the tickets more like £20-25

The Union has "not made any decisions regarding the 2012 Summer Ball yet"

(or otherwise include dinner) and ask people to wear formal clothes."

Other complaints included that the event was "too spread out", the "music catered to a minority of people" and the timing, with some undergraduates still working towards exams when the Ball took place. Expressed in true Imperial style, this student maintained, "Revision must take priority".

However there was also some positive feedback to be found in the survey results such as the performances by Nero and Chase & Status, which were much appreciated in the Great Hall. Also many students were very satisfied with the prices of food and drink on the day, adding that the "free funfair rides were genius".

The mixed reactions for the Summer Ball raises questions as to how the Union will take the feedback on board and organise this year's event. Michael Foster stated that the Union has "not made any decisions regarding the 2012 Summer Ball yet", including whether to collaborate with other universities again. A full report with the financial breakdowns will be provided to Council in due course.

Features Editors: **Katy Bettany**
Stephen Smith

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FEATURE

Interview: Dr Martin Dare-Edwards

Alice Yang bring us the first in a series of monthly interviews with some of the UK's premier industry leaders.

A world leader in petroleum additives, Infineum is a 50/50 joint venture between Shell and ExxonMobil creating products used in 1/3 of the world's vehicles. I interview Dr Martin Dare-Edwards; the company's UK Country Manager with nearly 30 years experience in the industry after graduating and completing a PhD in Chemistry at Oxford University.

Tucked into the green suburbs of Oxfordshire lies a small cluster of buildings, home to one of the most successful petroleum additives companies across the globe. Dr Martin Dare-Edwards himself greets me apologetically for the modesty of the site explaining that at Infineum 'we prefer to impress with our technology, not our buildings'.

"If you want to have a varied career, go into industry"

The interview is conducted in the James Watt Building, which Dr Dare-Edwards refers to as his own, having led its construction of £20m. The building is split into mirroring quarters. 'It's open plan and also egalitarian, which means that everyone is equal, except for this glass front' signalling to the glass planes separating (yet giving a full view into) the connecting laboratories.

'At Infineum, what we're doing is to try and reduce the environmental effect of transportation now with the internal combustion engine, rather than waiting 30 years for the technology of

electric vehicles and fuel cells to finally kick in.

What we sell to our customers, the oil companies, is an additive package containing up to 50 different chemical components in a concentrated form which when you take the package and pour some into oil, it makes a lubricant.'

He translates this for me, since my brain has long forgotten all its chemistry, by comparing the process to the making of tropical fruit juice cordial. 'Imagine for a moment if you buy it from Tesco, you pour water in and you have something drinkable. We make the cordial, but the cordial itself is made up of a number of different components; mango, pineapple....'

As I finally begin to nod in comprehension, he explains the process in more detail. 'What these laboratories are developing is the individual tropical fruit juice types in a concentrated form. They are detergents, to keep the engine clean; dispersants, because there are particles that are created during the operation of an engine, including soot, and anti-oxidants to try and avoid the degradation of the oil and anti-wear additives which go onto the surface of the metal, so when the pieces of metal come into contact it reduces the tendency of the metals that adhere to each other.'

Realising that chemistry is not strong subject for me, Dr Dare-Edwards suggests we move away from the labs and into a meeting room as I inquire into his day-to-day activities.

'I maintain the integrity of all of the operations on this site. All of the contracts for running the site are under my responsibility. At any point in time, if any of these facilities are not available, then the whole operation grinds to a halt very quickly and on the research

end of the business, some of the time scales we work on are very tight.

I happen also to be a member of the technology leadership team, also known as the Global R+D leadership team, which is important in ensuring the way the projects are selected, prioritised, and that the way they are conducted is as effective as possible.'

Having graduated with a First Class Honours in Chemistry from the University of Oxford, yet now being in such a managerial role, I wonder if he ever misses the safety glasses and white coats. 'I did miss it to start with. One of the main reasons why I took up to do a scientific degree in the first place is that I am a curious person, I want to understand why and beyond that, I wonder if it can be made better than it is currently. If I worked in a finance house, just managing money, I wouldn't gain the same pleasure as I do now. However I've been very fortunate to still gain some of the excitement from discovering things, but I don't actually have to get my hands dirty so to say. The closest thing I do to practical chemistry is cooking at home.'

"State the obvious and question the given truth"

Upon the subject of his PhD, which he also took at Oxford, I ask why it was he chose to do one as opposed to entering the industry directly. 'I didn't know what industrial research was like; I was never introduced to it at university. I think the largest problem is people just don't know what's out there. I went to do a PhD because at that particular time I might have imagined I wanted to become a university professor.'

On applying for fellowships, Dr Dare-Edwards came across Shell and describes to me how this proved to be life changing. 'If you stay in academic research you typically have to stick with the subject you already started working on whether you like it or not, or else you can't get funding. In the industrial, world people will harness you on the basis that you have a track record of being able to learn something quickly, get it right, do some research and get an outcome. They tend to take a calculated gamble in putting someone in a role they can't do yet. The academic world would never do that.

Infineum



Infineum campus, Oxfordshire

In the academic world, the chicken has got to come before the egg.'

Shell gambled on him to the tune of £110,000 to study the behaviour of lubricants in a working lubricated contact, the resulting research earning him a prestigious academic award.

'If you want to have a varied career, go into industry,' he advises as I wonder how it is he gained the large variety of business management skills he has harnessed. 'Shell had a management in research course to help you understand people management. It taught me what was necessary to motivate people and manage their performance. This provided a good foundation.'

Beyond the Infineum campus, Dr Dare-Edwards is also Chairman of the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (Oxon-LEP) and the Oxfordshire Innovation and Growth Team (OxIGT), both of which give advice and support to local businesses, helping them to develop.

I question whether or not the government cuts have then in fact hit Oxfordshire and its local support projects. 'Government cuts are a big issue in various regards; infrastructure, even the provision of skills, apprentice places and so on are all affected by

government cuts. So at the same time the government wants the economy to grow, a number of the features that it hopes to grow have been taken away.'

After such a successful career, and now in a demanding role he obviously enjoys, I ask Dr Dare-Edwards what advice he'd give to our readers. 'In terms of what you can control, undergraduates should find opportunities to visit industrial research activities in the UK and see what it's about.'

Also, it would be useful for people to recognise what business management is actually about. It's not all about just managing financial affairs; there are people in there and new ideas to be fostered. The sourcing of money and how to turn those ideas into something practical is itself very interesting and will intrinsically benefit from somebody who's had a scientific background.'

Before ending the interview I ask Dr Dare-Edwards what lessons he has learnt from his experiences and what he looks for when employing people. After a deep thoughtful silence he replies, 'I like people to be curious, state the obvious and question the given truth because what you've always told to be true might not be.'

Alice Yang



Dr Martin Dare-Edwards

WELCOME WEEK

THAT WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS...

Send us your own images of Welcome Week!

Matt Colvin



And the award for luckiest fresher of the week goes to...

Matt Colvin



Freshers lining up at FiveSixEight, the longest student bar in London

Jonathan Peek



Try your luck with the Felix Cat – go on...

Miles Robertson



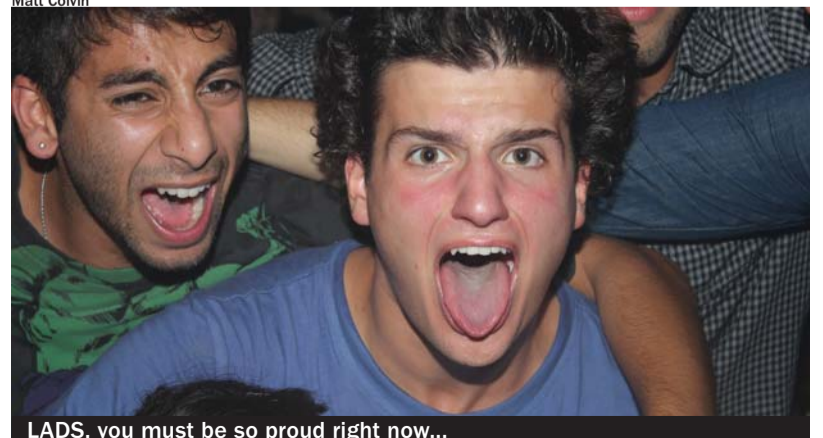
Introducing freshers to the all-consuming Rubik's Cube

Miles Robertson



What a massive tool... interesting spanner too

Matt Colvin



LADS, you must be so proud right now...

Interested in Photography?

Then we need you! Email felix@imperial.ac.uk

Elections 2011

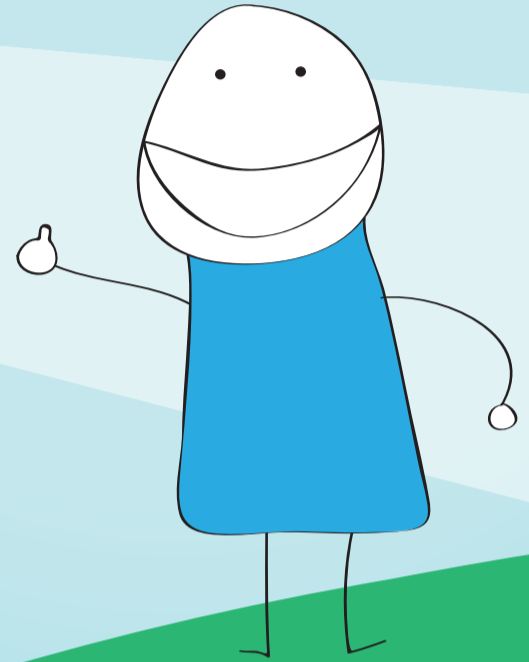
Your Union starts with your year rep and ends with the President.

Positions up for grabs:

Year Reps

Council Members

- **Faculty of Engineering:**
4 x Undergraduate;
3 x Postgraduate.
- **Faculty of Natural Sciences:**
4 x Undergraduate;
1 x Postgraduate
- **Faculty of Medicine:**
2 x Undergraduate;
1 x Postgraduate
- **Non-Faculty** (eg. Business School and Humanities):
1 x Postgraduate



**Nominations close
14 October at 00:01.**

Voting 17 - 20 October.

imperialcollegeunion.org/elections

Changes to the Bar Nights

Over the summer, we at the Union have made some changes to the way bar nights are organized and run. Some of you may already have heard about these changes. However, there is a lot of rumour and innuendo floating about, so I thought I would take this opportunity to clarify what the changes are and why we've had to make them.

In the past, we have run bar nights by selling kegs directly to the group organizing the night. These were sold at just above cost price, and the intention was to give student groups a chance to give their members cheap drinks and raise some money for their club. However, this approach is no longer sustainable. Firstly, we were losing money every time a bar night was run, as the keg price did not account for various

staffing costs, including the (often quite significant) cleaning costs. Secondly, in order to comply with our new Responsible Retailing of Alcohol Code of Practice, we need to avoid practices that encourage excessive drinking. As clubs were charged for any opened kegs, regardless of how much had been drunk, this encouraged people to finish off what remained, even if they had already had too much.

Instead, we have come up with a system whereby the price of drinks can be reduced, while making sure the bar night doesn't lose money for either the Union or the club. Clubs can now order a bar tab at a 10% discount: this saving can be passed on to club members or used as income for the club. The tab would then normally be accessed with tokens

provided upon purchasing entry. With any bar night, there is now a limit on how many free drinks come included, as stated by the Code of Practice – only eight units (roughly four pints) can be given for free.

When we sat down to update the policy, we identified cheaper beer and fund-raising as the main reasons for running a bar night (as well as the social aspect). We therefore think that this idea allows clubs to fulfil one of these goals. It will be difficult to do both, as the sums don't add up, but we hope that this provides a way for student groups to run bar nights in a sustainable way so that neither the Union nor the club loses out.

See more on this on my blog at imperialcollegeunion.org/blogs.



your SABBATICALS

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Keep up-to-date with your Sabbaticals at:
imperialcollegeunion.org/sabbs

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SCIENCE

In brief

This week the winners of the 2011 Nobel Prizes were announced. The coveted award honours men and women from around the world who have made outstanding contributions to physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and for work in peace.

Physiology or Medicine

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2011 was divided, one half jointly to Bruce A. Beutler and Jules A. Hoffmann “for their discoveries concerning the activation of innate immunity” and the other half to Ralph M. Steinman “for his discovery of the dendritic cell and its role in adaptive immunity”.

Between them, Beutler, Hoffmann and Steinman revealed how the innate and adaptive phases of the immune response are activated, giving us new insight into disease mechanisms and opening up new ways to treat infections, cancer and inflammatory diseases.

Physics

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2011 was divided, one half awarded to Saul Perlmutter, the other half jointly to Brian P. Schmidt and Adam G. Riess “for the discovery of the accelerating expansion of the Universe through observations of distant supernovae”.

In 1998, Perlmutter, leading the Supernova Cosmology Project, and Schmidt and Riess, leading the High-z Supernova Search Team, all published papers that revealed something extraordinary about the universe: it was not only expanding, but the rate at which it was doing so was accelerating. Since then, physicists have tried to make sense of this discovery. They call the stuff responsible for the acceleration “dark energy”, but its nature is still a mystery.

Chemistry

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2011 was awarded to Dan Shechtman “for the discovery of quasicrystals”.

The atoms inside a quasicrystal are packed in a pattern that cannot be repeated. Before Shechtman’s discovery of these strange crystals using an electron microscope, chemists believed that periodically repeating patterns were needed in order to obtain a crystal.

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Distant stardust found

Transiting planets reveal dust in far away planetary systems

Kelly Oakes

In early October this year, there were 687 confirmed discoveries of planets outside our solar system. This number is growing almost daily and as it increases we can begin to dig deeper into the details of these planets, known as exoplanets because of their “extrasolar” nature, and explore their properties and those of the planetary systems they exist within.

A paper, to be published in *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, announcing the discovery of “stardust” in two exoplanet systems is a step forward in this direction. The dust was found in planetary systems hundreds of light years away from Earth.

Alexander Krivov, the lead author on the paper and an astronomer at the Friedrich Schiller University Jena in Germany, believes the dust formed within a debris disk. Debris disks are common features in planetary systems. Our own solar system has two: the asteroid belt that lies between Mars and Jupiter, and the larger Kuiper belt that extends outwards from the orbit of Neptune.

Debris disks are thought to be left over from the formation of a star and its planets. The first step in the formation of a planetary system is the creation of a protostar at its centre. Around the protostar is a disk of matter, out of which planets begin to form. This happens when chunks of the matter in the disk begin to stick together, attracting more matter towards them through gravity. Eventually, enough matter is gathered to form a planet. The stuff left in the disk continues to orbit the young star and becomes a debris disk.

Krivov believes that dust forms when rocks in the debris disk collide. His team are the first to find this “debris dust” in a system dis-



Artist's impression of a debris disk around a star with exoplanets

covered using transiting planets.

There are several ways of detecting exoplanets. One, known as the transit method, involves measuring the amount of light coming from a particular star that astronomers suspect has orbiting planets. When a planet passes in front of the star, as seen from Earth, it creates a small dip in the amount of light we measure. One such dip could easily be explained away, but a series of dips that occur periodically can mean only one thing: an exoplanet. The transit method is capable of measuring the density of exoplanets and, by extension, their size.

The fraction of planetary systems that can be studied using the transit method is small because Earth, the exoplanet and its star must be perfectly aligned for it to work. However, because of the extra information that can be gleaned this way — namely the size of the planet — it is still a useful method.

By using the transit method, Krivov and his team were able to find debris dust by looking for the telltale increase in radiation caused by the star warming up the dust and the dust then radiating this heat. The astronomers see this as a radiation curve above the radiation curve of the star.

Ritalin brings you around faster

Tom Phillips

Massachusetts Institute of Technology neuroscientists studying the effects of anaesthesia on patients at Massachusetts General Hospital have found that Ritalin, a drug used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), could help bring patients out of anaesthesia almost immediately.

Published in the journal *Anaesthesiology*, Emery Brown and colleagues found that anaesthetised rats injected with Ritalin were brought out of anaesthesia faster. Anaesthetised rats given Ritalin were revived in an average of 90 seconds. Rats that were not given Ritalin took 280 seconds. The researchers hope that this effect can be replicated in

humans so that patients spend less time in a groggy, disorientated state.

After a procedure is completed, the anaesthesiologist stops administering anaesthetic to the patient. The patient takes around five to ten minutes to regain the ability to breathe unassisted but remains confused and disorientated for up to two hours.

It would be better if doctors were able to bring patients out of anaesthesia more quickly so that they can make important and informed decisions after their operation. Ritalin increases the amount of dopamine in the brain and improves focus and attention in ADHD patients.

A similar effect is observed in anaesthetised patients. Ritalin awakens the parts of the brain

responsible for decision making faster than they recover unassisted.

Bringing patients around more quickly also means that patients spend less time in costly operating theatres — even a small time saving of ten minutes per patient will reduce costs significantly over the course of a year.

Unfortunately, some patients experience unwanted side effect with Ritalin, such as hyperventilation, hypertension and nausea. However, Zheng Xie, assistant professor of anaesthesia at the University of Chicago, expects that it will be possible to design other drugs that have the same effect as Ritalin.

Brown and co-workers are currently seeking approval for clinical trials.

SCIENCE

Cells captured in highest detail

Alex Karapetian

Researchers from Imperial College teamed up with the University of Oxford were able to reveal how white blood cells kill diseased tissue using deadly granules in more detail than ever before. The findings were published in the *Public Library of Science (PLOS)* and outline the use of optical laser tweezers and a microscope to be able to see the internals of white blood cells at the highest resolution ever.

The study involved white blood cells known as Natural Killers (NK) which play a major role in the rejection of tumours and infected cells. The research was led by Professor Daniel Davis from the Department of Life Sciences, who said that “NK cells may also play a role in the outcome of bone marrow transplants by determining whether a recipient’s body rejects or accepts the donated tissue.”

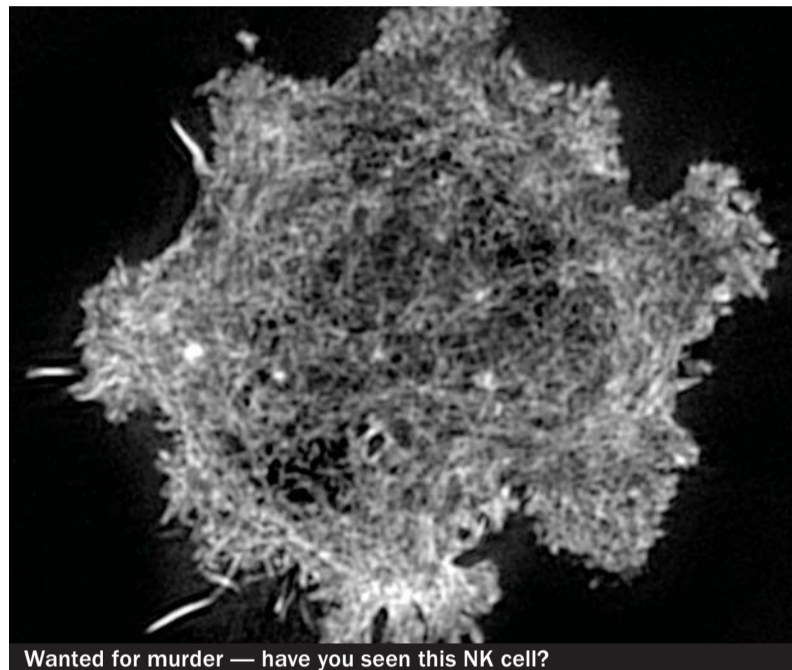
The results of this research will allow scientists to learn more about how NK cells identify which tissues to kill. “In the future, drugs that influence where and when NK cells kill could be included in medical treatments, such as the targeted killing of tumours”, Professor Davis added, “they may also prove useful in preventing the unwanted destruction by NK cells that may occur in transplant rejection or some autoimmune diseases.”

The research was conducted by using a novel imaging technique developed in collaboration with physicists at Imperial whilst using a super-resolution microscope at Oxford. An NK cell and its target were immobilised using a pair of laser tweezers so the microscope could capture the resulting action at the interface between the cells. Inside the NK cell, the actin filaments created a portal to which the enzyme filled granules moved towards, ready to pass through the NK cell in order to reach and kill the target.

Dr Alice Brown of the Department of Life Sciences at Imperial said that “these previously undetectable events have never been seen in such high resolution.” She was one of the researchers who carried out many of the experiments involved, adding “it is truly exciting to observe what happens when an NK cell springs into action.”

The distance between an NK cell and its target when in contact is only about a hundredth of a millimetre across and the actin proteins and granules continuously change position until the target is killed. As a result, the super-resolution microscope had to be able to capture in such a frame rate and with such detail in order to successfully reveal their activity.

On the use of the microscope technologies developed with the Photonics Group, Professor Paul French from the Department of Physics at Imperial said “using laser tweezers to manipulate the interface between live cells into a hori-



Wanted for murder — have you seen this NK cell?

zontal orientation means our microscope can take many images of the cell contact interface in rapid succession”, providing an “unprecedented means to directly see dynamic molecular processes that go on between live cells”.

The method used maximises the amount of light captured from the cells allowing for super-resolution 3D images at twice the normal resolution of a conventional light microscope. Professor Ilan Davis, a Wellcome Trust Senior Fellow at the University of Oxford, involved in applying such techniques

to cell biology research, said that their “microscope has given unprecedented views inside living NK cells”.

Funded by the Medical Research Council, the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and a Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship, the study also won a £150,000 award from the Rector’s Research Excellence Prize for high academic achievement in research with significant potential. Both Professors Daniel Davis and Paul French have Wolfson Royal Society Research Merit Awards.

Aboriginal Australian genome sequenced

Kelly Oakes

An 100-year-old lock of hair has helped scientists to unravel the movements of early humans on their journey to Australia. Scientists have obtained a genomic sequence from the hair, donated in the early 20th century by a man who was an Aboriginal Australian.

The genome reveals that, while we knew when humans first arrived in Australia, our knowledge of how they got there was a bit more patchy. An international collaboration of scientists, involving researchers at Imperial as well as University College London and the University of Cambridge, worked on sequencing the genome.

There is strong archaeological evidence to suggest that humans were in Australia 50,000 years ago. The new genome reveals that Aboriginal Australians are descended from humans that left Africa between 62,000 and 75,000 years ago, long before the humans that modern Asians and Europeans descended from left.

The previous most widely held theory was that all modern humans come from a single wave of migration out of Africa, but the new findings show this not to be the case.

New sequencing technologies have made it easier to sequence and compare the genomes of individual people from geographically distinct populations, enabling scientists to work out more about the movements of early humans than ever before. Dr Francois Balloux, who lead the UK team on this project, said: “The science of genomics makes a unique contribution to our understanding of when and how humans colonised the world.”

The genome shows no genetic input from modern European Australians. It supports the idea that present-day Aboriginal Australians descend from the first humans to occupy Australia and means that they represent one of the oldest continuous populations outside Africa.

Professor Eske Willerslev from the University of Copenhagen, who led the study, said: “While the ancestors of Europeans and Asians were sitting somewhere in Africa or the Middle East, yet to explore their world further, the ancestors of Aboriginal Australians spread rapidly; the first modern humans traversing unknown territory in Asia and finally crossing the sea into Australia. It was a truly amazing journey that must have demanded exceptional survival skills and bravery.”

Scientists’ responsibilities outlined

Alex Karapetian

The General Assembly of the International Council for Science (ICSU) have recently recognised guidelines regarding the responsibilities and universal values which should be considered by scientists.

The new wording of the Principle of Universality of Science, a prerequisite to membership of the ICSU family and the underlying foundation of their statutes, outlines the need for scientists to pay attention to their duties as well as preserving scientific freedom.

The ICSU was founded in 1931 and has a global membership of national scientific bodies and international unions, focusing on areas including planning and coordinating research, science for policy and strengthening

the Universality of Science.

Bengt Gustafsson, Chair of ICSU’s committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the conduct of Science (CFRS) said that “the balance between scientific freedom and responsibility is not always easy to get right, but awareness of its significance and of the value of ongoing dialogue must be maintained within the scientific community.”

On the explicit inclusion of responsibilities as well as freedoms to the Principle, he said that “ICSU has emphasized that this balance is critical both for science and society.”

The new wording of the Principle was approved at the end of September at the ICSU’s General Assembly in Rome. The Principle now states that “the free and responsible practice of science.. requires responsibility at

all levels to carry out and communicate scientific work with integrity, respect, fairness, trustworthiness, and transparency, recognising its benefits and possible harms.”

The Principle continues to maintain “freedom of movement, association, expression and communication for scientists, as well as equitable access to data, information, and other resources for research.”

The CFRS was also involved in the organisation of the second World Conference on Research Integrity in Singapore last year, from which the Singapore Statement on Research Integrity was presented to the Assembly in Rome.

The statement emphasized good scientific conduct and the need for honesty, accountability, professional courtesy and fairness in working with

others.

In addition to the notion of responsibility, the Principle promotes freedom by equal opportunities for access to science and, in addition, opposes discrimination based on factors such as “ethnic origin, religion, citizenship, language, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability or age.”

Gustafsson added that “there are continually changing challenges to the freedoms of scientists, and an increased onus on the scientific community to articulate and embrace its responsibilities.”

“Given the unique position of scientists as the gate-keepers of new knowledge in today’s knowledge societies, respect for these values is critically important if confidence in science is to be maintained.”

**Want to write for
Felix Science?
Email us!**

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COMMENT

FELIX

Just how important are league tables?

Earlier this month it was revealed that Imperial College London had slipped eleven places in the Sunday Times University League Table for 2012. With such a dramatic fall from third to fourteenth position nationally, this is undoubtedly a cause for concern.

Yet if one considers the latest results from the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, released yesterday, Imperial finds itself in comfortable territory. The university currently sits in eight position globally, and takes third place nationally, behind Oxford and Cambridge. Clearly, there is disparity between not only these league tables, but also many others.

If it is a case of UK-only league tables placing a greater emphasis on student opinions, as stated by the Union President last month, then should we even be paying attention to world rankings and drawing attention to our significant success while they fail to fully gauge the university experience?

Naturally, league tables are not to be balked at, though at their heart a great gap is widening – that of consistency. As it stands, prospective students eager to assess the merits of individual universities are invariably swayed by the allure of league tables. The varying ranks of universities such as Imperial across a variety of well researched though contrasting tables can easily serve to complicate and hinder potential applications.

Equally, the sudden drop of an institution such as Imperial with comparison to other, perhaps more favourable league table results, may lower the credibility of such tables in the eyes of the reader.

The Union President's pledge to work with the College to improve student satisfaction as a result of the sudden fall must be welcomed. Any attempt to improve the admittedly poor results of this year's National Student Survey (Imperial stands at 163rd out of 168 UK institutes with regards to student satisfaction) will obviously reap the benefits.

Nevertheless, the league tables system is inherently confusing and when the future of your own higher education is at stake, clarity is precisely what is needed. Separate tables do serve a purpose of providing genuine comparison between institutions, though it is dangerous to place full trust in their varying criteria or conditions.

There is no denying that Imperial has a problem with student satisfaction that it must attempt to tackle; equally, there needs to be a firm examination of the league table process, before they become an arbitrary ranking wholly dependent on publication.

A True Dichotomy

Don't find yourself stuck in No-Man's Land



Sam Horti

When facing a dichotomy, it often takes only a small amount of creative thinking to find a secret, third option. Some people will use this tactic unknowingly when their religious beliefs are called into question, especially when the question posed is: "Are you a theist or an atheist?" The secret, third option in this case is agnosticism, which, in the case of this question, is a nonsensical answer.

The irrelevance of such a response to the question posed is something that often goes unnoticed and unchallenged. Of course, agnosticism as a concept has no intrinsic connection to the question of the existence of God, and can be defined only as "not knowing". It in fact relates to an entirely separate dilemma, forming one half of another dichotomy with "Gnosticism".

The truth is the distinction between atheism and theism leaves no room for a middle ground. Not even the most skilled of verbal contortionists can slide themselves between the two without ignoring the most basic rules of the English language. A thorough understanding of the terms at hand is at the crux of the issue and, when achieved, forces those who have previously dismissed the choice to come down on either side of the non-existent fence, on which they have been previously content to sit.

A "theist" is someone who believes that a God (or Gods) exists. Definitions will occasionally include the belief that the universe was created by this God (or these Gods), although such additions are superfluous to this discussion. The concept of theism is, in general, well understood and is not the primary source of confusion as far as this issue

The concept of theism.. is not the primary source of confusion



At the World Championship Adam was arrested for indecent exposure

goes. That mantle is taken up by atheism in almost every case. The prefix "a" is of Greek origin, and denotes an absence of, a lack of, or simply "not". Taking this into consideration, it must be conceded that atheism is not a belief, as it is so often professed to be. It is merely a lack of belief. It is nothing other than an absence of theism.

The fact that we even have a word for this kind of disbelief is simply a sign of the historical prevalence of the belief in the existence of a deity, and is nothing other than a direct consequence of the fact that belief in God itself commands its own label. The reason that we do not, for example, have a word for disbelief in the existence of less popular beliefs, such as unicorns, Bigfoot, fairies, or any other fantastical creature that you can care to imagine, which, by the way, could easily be believed on nothing other than "faith", is simply the result of the absence of the word for positive belief in these things (you may argue that "stupid" may suffice in each case). Without theism, no one would be labeled an atheist.

A more useful question than the one I asked in the first paragraph would perhaps be: "Are you a theist?" If you answer in anything other than the affirmative, you are an atheist, and this includes those who "don't know". This is the point at which agnostics have a choice to make. The choice is not, however, between two viewpoints. There is only one viewpoint to consider.

If you do not identify with theism, you are an atheist. The separate question of Gnosticism opens up a long and arduous debate, which requires confrontation of many contentious issues pertaining to the meaning of knowledge and our ability to acquire it. I often find that agnosti-

If you answer in anything other than the affirmative, you are an atheist, and this includes those who "don't know".

cism is a rather useless term to include in discussions due to these contentions. This discussion, I'm sure you'll be relieved to hear, is for another day.

You could well be an "agnostic theist", which would mean you have a belief in God, but do not claim to "know" that a God exists. Be that as it may, I would hazard a guess that the label "agnostic atheist" would in fact best describe most agnostics. This would satisfactorily illustrate a state of not knowing whether a God exists and believing that we cannot possibly know either way, or, as you so often hear, a state of mind in which the subject "doesn't care" about the question enough to have a belief about it.

The key thing to recognise, in my opinion, is the discrepancy between two issues that are only loosely related: one about belief, and one about knowledge. This means that agnosticism is indeed a viable position, but you must not fall into the trap of thinking that this answers the main question about the belief in a God. As an agnostic non-theist, you may be reluctant to associate yourselves with the group that all have two horns and a tail, but don't let this reluctance or any social stereotype get in the way of what is the plain and irrefutable truth. An atheist you are.

Have your say on this article at felixonline.co.uk

Love arguing? Yes. Good. Why don't you email us and join in a head-to-head. It's like fighting, but more passive aggressive. The topic for next week is: Should the 50p tax rate be abolished?

COMMENT

Fun in the Sun



Rhys Davies

Reflections on an annual form of torture ...

Did you have a nice summer? You did? That's nice. As for myself, I, like many people travelled far away for a spell in prison. Alright, it may be more accurately described as a holiday in the sun, but as I lay there on my sun/cell-bed, I couldn't help musing over the similarities.

For one thing: getting there. Tenerife is a little farther afield than Strangeways and Benidorm is more than a few stops on from Broadmoor, but you still need to get there. Be it on an armoured bus with the fug of resignation in the air or a Boeing 747 airplane where the disparate smells of boiled sweets, sun cream and baby vomit diffuse together, travelling is never a wholly delightful experience.

Once you arrive, nothing changes. After a bureaucratic check-in, you are shown to your room, which contains a bed and a bath and/or sink. Whether or not you have the furnishing of a truly enlightened society such as tea-making

facilities depends on your connections. You will meet most of the other tourists/in-mates in the exercise yard. Whether said exercise involves a cheeky dip in the pool or breaking rocks with your fists is up to your own individual tour rep/guv'nor.

In both situations, you quickly lose track of time as the days blur into one repetitive tableau. Your only way of marking the time, and primary form of entertainment, is scoring the days into your bedpost. Either way, you will count down to your eventual return to civilisation and normalcy.

Most days pass in a blur of confusion and fear. As you find your table in the dining hall, you wonder if that's an onion ring on your plate or maybe squid (or something with even more tentacles). And next to it, the mayonnaise – is that genuine or have the guards ... spat in your food?

The nights bring little relief. More often than not you are afflicted by cruel and unusual punishments. These can

take the form of a risky, risqué affair in the showers around a bar of soap or an ABBA tribute act in the lounge bar. To this day, I don't know which is more horrific.

Some people patiently see out their sentence by reading a few books and dreaming a few dreams. Others try to obliterate themselves in brightly coloured alcohol and fast, meaningless sex*. Others become so institutionalised that once they leave, normal life is so frightening for them that they quickly return to the warm embrace of cosy familiarity. Recidivism is as much a problem in Gran Canaria as it is in Belmarsh.

Very few dare abscond from their imprisonment. I was only able to escape and bring you this article by tunneling through the wall behind a poster of Rita Hayworth.

**Sex, in this usage, can include evening-long games of Gin Rummy*

“And next to it, the mayonnaise – is that genuine or have the guards... spat in your food?”

Another year of undue praise!



Angry Geek

To those of you starting a new chapter of your lives at Imperial this month, welcome. This is the only paragraph you're getting dedicated to you for the rest of the year if I can help it. Breathe it in. I'm here for you. I care. Listen to these words of encouragement and sympathy. Your life is hard, but well done for making it this far. All of those exams you had to do, poor little you. It must've been really hard to coast on the back of natural ability, copious amounts of privately funded education, or an impeccable national education system. Congratulations for being you. Pats on the back all round.

Right, done. Normal service resuming - welcome back, shitsacks. Everyone happy to be back here, are we? I do hope not. I hope it's sapping your very will to live just dragging your pathetic, decaying brains along Exhibition Road and up to the gates of the college. Yeah, that's it. Cry a bit. Well up a little as you remember what coursework submission smells like on a Monday morning at 10am. Weep into this jar here so I can massage it into my gums later for sustenance. It's another academic year, sweet cheeks.

It's a great time of year. A time of

year when my social media feeds fill up with messages from Imperial graduates 'jokingly' discussing how long it is until they can retire from the shitty, money-fuelled job they took as soon as they could leave Imperial with a 2:1, whilst I can enjoy sitting in the JCR, slowly watching the day-by-day decline in the parabola defining the smiles on first year faces. The season of 9am lecture starts in the ball-aching cold. I chuckle not because I innately hate humankind, but because I'm tired of having Imperial pander to its students so readily.

The way first-years are treated defines Imperial's attitude towards its students. They're praised for having gotten so far, for gaining entry to one of the top universities in the world. It's talked about as if most of the students actually worked for their qualifications, as if the majority of Imperial undergraduates gave a shit about their subject or their results. It's amusing, as well as being incredibly heartbreaking. As an institution, we couldn't give a monkey's wankbucket whether or not we create the scientific minds of tomorrow. We care about two things - getting the best students on day one, and pumping out the highest earners

on day three hundred and sixty-four. The former ensures the latter, and so we raise our standards of entry, sit back and relax. Who cares what happens in the intervening years? As long as the statistics come out right and the league tables say what they should, then we're golden.

I'm feeling generous this year so let me toss in a free extra paragraph for new starters. Imperial contains some of the most amazing research, inspiring teachers and incredible resources you will ever have access to. The path of least resistance will put you in contact with almost none of this. Cruise through, hit those pass requirements, and spend the rest of your days drinking yourself into oblivion, and you will leave as an Imperial graduate to applause and deep, meaningless respect from everyone around you. Engage with your subject, talk to people that interest you, and find out more about why you came here in the first place, and you'll leave in pretty much the same circumstances. But you'll be a different person. You're paying a lot for the chance to spend four years at this place.

Read online at felixonline.co.uk

“Normal service resuming - welcome back, shitsacks”

Tim's PolitILOLz of the week



Recently, Silvio Berlusconi (as no-one calls him) has been on top form in terms of scandal. He has had so many trials in his time that it's actually hard to keep track. Currently, he is involved in four separate trials; three for corruption and tax evasion, one involving being blackmailed by a pimp - in which he is not the defendant (that's probably the most unsettling part).

Gianpaolo Tarantini is the man allegedly running a prostitution ring that Berlusconi regularly used to obtain girls. The trial centres around recordings that Tarantini secretly made of Berlusconi. There are too many great quotes to fit here, but as the 80s song goes I'll hit you with my best shot.

Berlusconi called Angela Merkel an “unfuckable lardarse”. Good to know that those words have a direct Italian-to-English translation.

After insulting the Chancellor of the country that's about to bail out Italy, he decided to insult Italy. He referred to it as a “shitty country” saying he wants to leave. Then defended this remark by saying it was the sort of thing you say late at night when you are relaxed. We all know how he gets that “relaxed” and if that's what he's like when he's relaxed, what the fuck is he like when he's agitated?

He also claimed he was the PM in his “spare time”. Contradicting the earlier claim that he was the “Jesus Christ of politics” who “just kept giving”. Maybe by giving he meant either giving prostitutes semen onto their faces or a lot of money for sex. He gives that a lot. Perhaps he's trying to kick-start the economy by getting the prostitution profession back on its feet.

He bragged about his sexual exploits saying: “Last night I had a queue outside the door of the bedroom ... There were 11 ... I only did 8, because I could not do it anymore.” He is a man, so is prone to exaggeration. He even actively picked less rounded numbers.

At one point he turns to the pimp and says: “the pussy needs to go around”. Now I'm starting to think that he was actually just writing rap lyrics at the time that quote was taken.

ARTS

Poems for the Week

An Imperial Student's "Love Poem"

by Osas Omoigade

I mean, the two of us go together like stress and strain
But sometimes I just don't understand you
scramble my brain
It's worse than trying to solve Schrödinger in 3D
Perhaps I make too many assumptions, could the
problem be me?

I could swear you were staring back at fresher's
fair
We shared a heated gaze enough to ionize the air
And I estimated our distance to be under a metre
But like an incident X-Ray my gaze diffracted two
theta

Then all of a sudden I was surrounded by mates
They created a gap between us like two capacitor
plates I tried to shoulder through them but they
gave me no room
And I was too scared to shout and cause DB to
breach the vacuum

Then I could only see you in the distance walking
out of my midst
Like the rest of stars in the universe experiencing
red shift
Although unlike the other stars, you're the
Sun within call
And perhaps, I will see you Friday night at the
Fresher's Ball.

Felix Arts is constantly looking for new poets. If you want to see your work appearing here, do get in touch. Additionally, those interested in joining Poetry Society, contact Osas, either by seeing him on Friday night at the Freshers' Ball, or alternatively email him at osamudien.omoigade@imperial.ac.uk.



A warm welcome back from ARTSOC! We have the pleasure to present you all with very special offers of discounted musical tickets!

Oct 12	Phantom	£25.00
Oct 14	Best of Broadway	£5.00
Oct 18	Mamma Mia	£20.00
Oct 20	Legally Blonde	£20.00
Oct 24	39 Steps	£10.00

Tickets of the shows above will be sold in the first ARTSOC meeting.

Date: October 12, 2011 (Wednesday)

Time: 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Venue: G65 SAF Building

¡Sabor Sabor!

Get a taste of South American salsa, Ozy Shyne style

Anastasia Eleftheriou

One roof, three party rooms, four teachers, five DJs and hundreds of guests make for one of London's most interesting dance events. It takes place every first Friday of the month at Firefly Bars & Restaurants across London, and for those that prefer to have a warm-up before the event, dance classes are held beforehand at a small extra cost.

One of the main organizers, Ozy Shyne, confessed that "we share our experience and music in the most friendly way to make people happy. We work hard to keep up to date and be good DJs. The love we receive from the people is what makes us get better every time."

Ozy has been a choreographer since 1996 and for several years he has worked with some of the biggest artists from all over the

world through his experiences as a professional dancer. Trained in contemporary dance, and former World Hip-Hop Dance Champion, he has given a new dimension to salsa classes since his arrival in London in 2008.

Ozy's colleague and organizer at Sabor, Dani K, an innovator in the salsa scene, promises to show you another way to appreciate salsa dancing. His main quality as a dancer

is interpreting the music appropriately, whilst making his partner feel comfortable and relaxed.

Dani suggests that "for students in London, as well as surrounding areas, it is the best opportunity to get out of campus and not only practise your moves but learn more moves and experience a friendly environment full of music laughter and dance."

The next opportunity for salsa at Sabor is tonight (the 7th) at 10pm, but if you can't make it you have until the 4th of November to practice your moves. So, come with a good company or alone (if you want to meet new people there), bring your smile and good mood and dance the night away!

Advance tickets £6; £8 on the floor; £2 for dance classes. Find out more at <http://www.danihke.com/sabor.html>

"We share our experience and music in the most friendly way to make people happy"



Ozy Shyne sez "Hey!"



"Please come."



"Or I'll be sad."

Rivers of London

Ben Aaronovitch's new work brings magic to the police

Ian Green

A deft mix of police procedural and urban fantasy, Aaronovitch's **Rivers of London** follows Peter Grant, police constable in central London and all round nice guy. After coming across a voluble witness to a murder (who himself is already dead), Grant is plunged into the magical and twisted underside of the city and apprenticed (in more ways than one) to England's last wizard, Inspector Nightingale. Together they must attempt to hunt down a vengeful spirit that threatens to bring chaos to the city whilst avoiding the wrath of varying Chief Constables.

This book has such potential that it is hard to accept it as what it is; a light hearted, well-plotted, well-written adventure story. The problem lies in a lack of exposition; the titular 'rivers' are the god's and goddesses of the Thames, a wonderful idea sorely lacking in any pursuance. A few brief historical allusions to the more obscure subterranean rivers are never expounded upon, so that the reader finds himself in the awkward position of wish-

ing for just a little more. Yes, there are vampire nests in Purley and graves in Covent Garden and improbable names all round, central London wonderfully evoked as it rushes by, but so little is explained it is infuriating.

The central plot is well carried off and certainly enjoyable, but so much more is dangled in front of the reader and then snatched away; the sequel is almost worth buying simply on

"A long series is clearly in the offing and the author does not want to show all his cards just yet"

the off chance the motivations and histories of certain characters are. The other area in which this novel falters slightly is in its attempt to cater to adult audiences. This essentially means a reasonable volume of gratuitous violence and

some sheepish sexual references, all done with schoolboy awkwardness and lack of finesse. Aaronovitch seems unwilling to commit to full blown adult sex and violence, falling back to pre-watershed levels of innuendo (if not gore).

Rivers of London is a good read, enjoyable, and certainly better than much else out there. It is tightly plotted and welcoming, and it is only afterwards that you feel a sense of disappointment. A long series is clearly in the offing and the author does not want to show all his cards just yet, which leaves you wanting someone who had more cards to begin with. For adult 'urban fantasy' go and read King Rat or Kraken by China Miéville or American Gods by Neil Gaiman, titans who Aaronovitch cannot yet match. Rivers of London is entertaining and readable, with a good premise and reasonably sharp execution. What it lacks in depth it makes up for in pace, and there is always the hope that the world built here will be expanded on more fully in the first sequel, Moon over Soho.

Rivers of London is out now in paperback. Moon over Soho is out now in hardback.

Bobby, what's the French for maths?

The worlds of mathematics and art collide at a not-so-novel Parisian exhibition

Will Prince

There ought to be a word for that moment when, as you're reclined in blissful peace an arm's reach from a trashy novel and an iced drink with the Mediterranean sun beating on your overworked, pasty body, you realize that you haven't got any material for Felix next week. My best attempt has four letters and begins with 'f', but I'm sure the Germans must have got a better compound word for it.

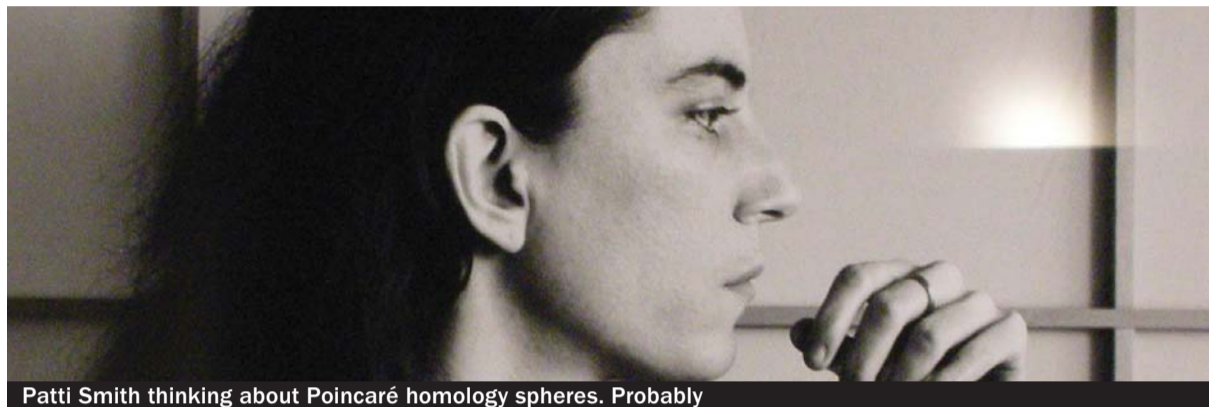
Irrespective of whether they do or don't, it's the French who've spared my first week blushes. The Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain plays host later

“Michael Atiyah might be convinced to represent punk rock through topological K-theory”

this month to an exhibition entitled, deep breath, wait for it... Mathematics. Whilst I'm sure you all view Felix Arts as a vehicle for escape from an Imperial routine so saturated with scientific ideas it would test even Brian Cox's enthusiasm, stick with me a paragraph or two more.

Enigmatically subtitled 'a beautiful elsewhere,' the project has paired up renowned mathematicians with a handful of the gallery's past collaborators and set the latter the slightly hackneyed challenge of representing the abstraction of maths through art. Cue the likes of Patti Smith and David Lynch in the blue corner, Michael Atiyah and Alain Connes in the other, together trying to assemble a jigsaw with pieces from two completely different sets.

Regrettably the Felix budget didn't stretch to the pair of Eurostar tickets, let alone the time machine, I would've needed to see the exhibition that opens in Paris in three weeks myself. However after close inspection of the press files from my Hammersmith bedsit, I get the sense I could have a not too dissimilar experience



Patti Smith thinking about Poincaré homology spheres. Probably

at the interactive kids' floor at the Science Museum.

David Lynch's structure housing an audiovisual installation charting the major developments in the history of mathematics (its shaped like a zero! The ingenuity!) sounds more like a grandiose learning aid than an artistic exploration of mathematical beauty. The curators trumpet their real-time displays of data from the Planck space probe and the LHC at Cern as tan-

gible examples of real, live science, but the mental image it evokes more closely resembles teletext than a window into the beauty of science.

But as the sun lounger beckons me back to the poolside, there are some positives that can be drawn from this year's first slightly pessimistic preview. Whilst C. P. Snow, who so bemoaned the death of the polymath in the modern age nearly a century ago, still turns in his grave, we

can all live in hope that one day rather than Patti Smith being asked to express maths through art, Michael Atiyah might be convinced to represent punk rock through topological K-theory. And until then, I guess the best place to understand the beauty of maths, and science as a whole, is studying at you know where.

Mathématiques, un dépaysement soudain opens at the Fondation Cartier in Paris on October 20.

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Shireen Quli Khan – Clinical Research Assistant

Andrea Goldstone – Clinical Research Nurse

**Department of Allergy
Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Trust
and NHLI Ethics' Committees
Fulham Road, London SW3 6HP**

The research has been approved by the Brompton Harefield & NHLI Research Ethics Committee

TECHNOLOGY

Tech news and reviews

Steve Jobs passes away



An announcement made by Apple during the early hours of Thursday paid tribute to Steve Jobs, who passed away surrounded by his family at his home. Apple's co-founder, chairman and former CEO was a powerhouse whose drive pushed computers beyond the hands of researchers and hobbyists into the home and our daily lives. His work at Pixar took high-quality animation into mainstream cinema, giving us hits such as *Toy Story*, *Wall-E* and *Finding Nemo*.

In recent years, his leadership at Apple has made the world's most valuable brand, synonymous with high design principles and a focus on user experience. Not content with the massive success of the iPod, he led development of the touch-based iPhone and the iPad, which revolutionised their respective markets. Despite his passing, his influence on technology will be felt for decades to come.

Bringing daylight to your desk



You could win a Foldi! See Page 2 for details

Daylight's Foldi LED Lamp is exactly what it says on the tin. A desktop lamp featuring 30 LEDs to produce up to 1500 lux, the Foldi both dresses to impress and performs. Once you put in the batteries or plug it in using the supplied USB cable, you open up the Foldi and it immediately produces brilliantly bright light. It has green credentials too, claiming it uses 90% less energy than conventional bulbs. That's not all the Foldi has going for it though. Its name comes from the fact that it compacts itself when not in use. Open it up to get the lights themselves in the top part, and a stand in the bottom. So it will stay upright on a flat surface – perfect for desk use. So while the Foldi does perform well and is a quality product, it's not quite perfect. It seems large for what it is, and is pricey at £69.99. And when it's tethered to your computer, I don't know what it will light that your monitor won't. But if you're looking for a portable desk lamp, you could do worse than the Foldi.

Electricity through the air

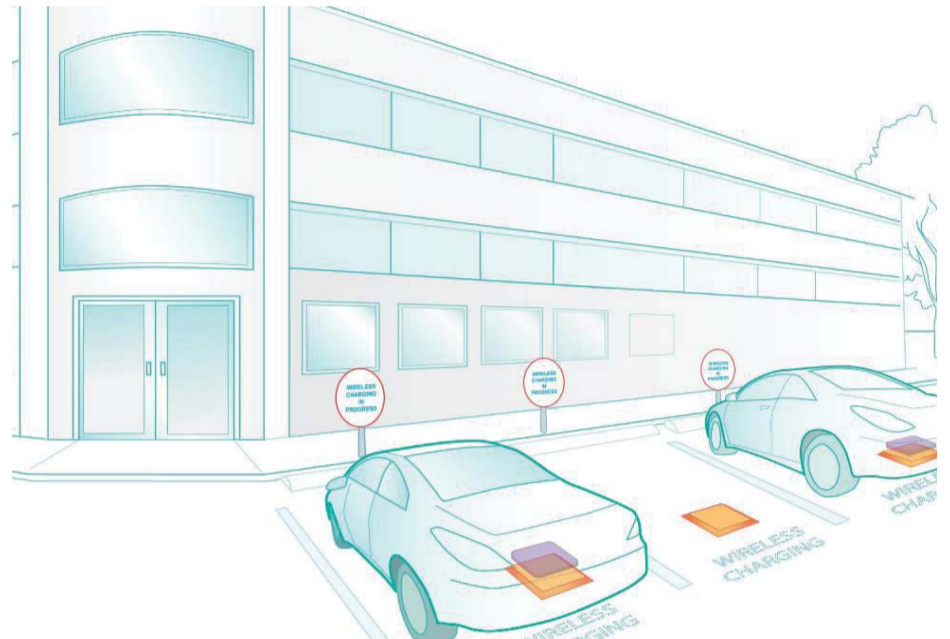
Chris Bowers

Cables, chargers everywhere. You've got one for your phone, another for your laptop, more for those multiple alarm clocks that get you out of bed in the mornings... The list goes on. And while we can transfer so much wirelessly these days – our keystrokes and mouse movements, our voices and even our internet – power is something still constrained to those same cables we seek to banish.

Well, mostly - charging by induction has been around for some years now. This technology (based on electromagnetic induction – using an electromagnetic field to produce a current in a nearby wire) is quite widespread, but also has a very short range. It's been the preferred charging medium for electric toothbrushes for as long as I can remember, and more recently it can be found on those "wireless charging pads". But the farthest you'll generally see it reaching is to activate RFID chips/NFC tags, and they only work from 2 – 3 centimetres away. Also, inductive chargers are usually slow and inefficient – not exactly desirable traits.

So for most applications, inductive power is next to useless. You don't want to have to sit with your laptop within 3 centimeters of your plug socket – it's just not practical. On top of that, most inductive chargers are attached to the power by a cable anyway, so you're really not gaining much. Enter WiTricity. As you may have guessed, the name derives from 'wireless electricity' and that's exactly what it aims to deliver.

Research into this technology started at MIT back in 2007, and was demonstrated two years later. Since then, not much has happened, but Toyota this year made an investment into the project. So hopefully we should be seeing some advances in it soon. In fact, in a statement made in the last couple of weeks, Toyota, Mitsubishi and the company behind WiTricity announced that they will be looking to use the technology



Wireless electricity? I'm counting down the days until we get superpowers

to charge electric cars wirelessly while parked. Already it seems WiTricity is being applied to real practical issues, which should really kick-start development.

But how does it work? Instead of induction, WiTricity uses electromagnetic resonance to transfer power wirelessly. No actual electricity is sent through the air, instead you have a transmitter and a receiver set at identical frequencies, allowing the transmitter to use magnetic fields to transfer energy to the receiver. Parts of it do sound quite similar to inductive charging technology, but the variances do make all the difference.

Indeed, WiTricity basically makes up for the other technology's shortcomings. Where induction has a debilitating short range, WiTricity has been proven to work at distances of between 3 – 5 metres, and even when something is block-

ing direct line-of-sight between the transmitter and receiver. Additionally, a spokesman for the company has said that, while 90% efficiency has been shown, they could limit transfer loss to a maximum of 3%. And with a quoted figure of 3.3 kilowatts of power being transferred using the technology, albeit over a smaller distance, it seems this technology has all its bases covered.

It all sounds pretty good, but there must be some drawbacks. Looking at those figures, it seems a careful balance between power and range must be achieved, so as to still be useful. And as much as the company assures us that it's perfectly safe, and all electromagnetic radiation levels fall safely under the FCC's limits, there will always be those who distrust it. All in all though, WiTricity looks like it could revolutionise the way we get power to our many devices.

iPhone 4S debuts to mixed reactions

Feroz Salam

Tuesday evening brought us Tim Cook's first keynote as Apple's outright CEO, but that wasn't the largest change as Apple turned away from its huge yearly update of the iPhone to instead offer punters an incrementally upgraded version, the iPhone 4S.

Key features on the new phone include an upgrade to the A5 processor found on the iPad, an upgraded camera, faster data transfer rates, as well as a new voice controlled 'assistant' Siri. With the exception of the new display and Siri the updates are all internal, providing snappier performance without much of an UI revamp.

Siri, however, proved to be the star of the show. The assistant, originally created by a company for the earlier iPhones (now purchased by Apple), attempts to intelligently guess your voice requests and answer your questions. Ask

it 'what's the weather like where I am now?', for example, and it should pull your location from the GPS, look up the weather for it and push out a weather forecast for you in a few seconds. It's an exciting feature, but it's not hard to imagine the ridicule that would be heaped on anyone poncing around London streets conversing with their phone.

Otherwise, reactions to the new iDevice were mixed. While Apple has managed to raise the bar in some way at every iteration of the iPhone, this update put it squarely where other competing Android devices have been for the last few months.

The fact is that after the minor price cut, Apple is competing directly with Samsung and Motorola on price, a position it isn't holding in any other markets. This is probably indicative of how important Apple finds it to get these devices into people's hands - with Android phones quan-

titatively outstripping iOS devices by a large margin, Apple will not want to lose out on the steady revenue stream of a strong app market.

Also worth a mention is Apple's refresh of the iPod lineup, which sees the Nano now available as a watch and the Touch available in both black and white with a storage upgrade to 64GB.

Given Apple's strong fanbase it would be foolish not to expect the regular queues for the 4S in a week's time, but whether you buy one of the new 4Ss or not will likely depend on where you lean on the Android/Apple debate. In case you're an Apple fan, this is probably a good chance to refurbish your phone to give it some top-notch speed and graphical goodness; in case you're not, look up the Samsung Galaxy S II for a similar specification at a similar price, or wait for Samsung's 'Something BIG' event next week, which will probably reveal the Nexus Prime in all it's cutting edge glory.

Politics Editors: **Rajat Jain**
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POLITICS

America's Tahir Square

The disgruntled left's great fight back

Stephen Smith

You may not have heard about it, but there is currently a mass protest in New York's financial district. Named #OccupyWallStreet after the Twitter hashtag, the protest against the banking industry started on September 17 and is scheduled to last until the protesters' demands are met. Accusations of police brutality, however, have turned #OccupyWallStreet into a spark that is lighting fires of protest across America and Western Europe. So what are the demands of the protesters? How far will the protests spread? And is this the start of a social revolution?

The protesters claim to represent "the 99%"; that is, the poorest 99% of American society. Loosely speaking, after the recession of 2007/2008, many billions of dollars of the American people's taxes were given directly to certain banks to save them from bankruptcy. These banks are now making large profits again, but the vast majority of Americans (the 99%) are worse off because of the bailout. The pro-

"A well-run campaign is more important than a good manifesto in gaining votes"

testers cannot understand why they should pay for banks to survive while huge cuts are made in welfare spending by the government.

In a more general sense, the protesters are disillusioned at the lack of democracy in their country. Obama promised "Change" that never materialised. If the Democrats behave in a way that benefits only the richest 1%, and the Republicans favour the rich more than the Democrats, what hope is there for the 99%? It is certainly fair to say that both parties are far to the political right of the majority of the people. #OccupyWallStreet is a protest at the fact US elections offer a choice between two evils, to the extent that the only way for an American to formally disapprove of their government is to not vote at all.

It is surprisingly easy to see how this curious balance of power came about. In recent years, the price of running an election campaign has soared: a well-run campaign is more important than a good manifesto in gaining votes. This has driven presidential candidates – desperate for the money to run a successful campaign – into the pockets of large companies and banks in search of corporate sponsorship. It is not a conspiracy between corporations and politicians (there is nothing sinister going on) – it is simply a rational consequence of the importance of money in today's America.

Accusations from the protesters that the real power lies with "the bankers" were reinforced

by allegations of police brutality. A Youtube video of a police officer spraying mace (allegedly without warning) into the faces of young women has sparked outrage from human rights groups and activists. At the time of writing, more than 700 arrests have been made (many for such seemingly self-referential charges as "resisting arrest") and activists on the ground claim that the police are restricting their right to gather, protest and speak freely. The majority of protesters have now been released.

As so often happens with such events, the brutality merely increased the protesters' anger and the numbers have ballooned from 150 to over 3,000 since then. Moreover, similar protests including #OccupyBoston, #OccupyChicago and #OccupyWashington have started, spreading hope amongst activists that a revolution is soon to begin. Closer to home, #OccupyLondon is scheduled to begin on October 15, and has nearly 1,000 attendees on Facebook. That these protests could spark an Egypt-style revolution seems unlikely, but, with momentum gathering, anything could happen.

If you're looking at this page and thinking that writing about the latest political developments from across the globe is right up your street, then you might just want to be a **Politics Reporter**. If you're interested, get in touch with the Politics Editors at politics.felix@imperial.ac.uk.



A group of New Yorkers angry at the lack of Starbucks on this block

The world beyond College walls



Bangladesh

A senior member of the largest Islamic party has been charged with war crimes. Delawar Hossain Sayedee, of the Jamaat-e-Islami Party, is facing twenty charges including genocide and torture. The charges have been brought against him by The International Crimes Tribunal set up last year to probe crimes committed in 1971 during Bangladesh's (then East Pakistan) Independence struggle against Pakistan (then West Pakistan). Two members of the main opposition, Bangladeshi Nationalist Party, are also facing charges.



USA

Governor Rick Perry has said he would consider sending US troops into Mexico. The United States has been trying to control the drug flow across their Southern border by helping fund Mexico's police forces. However, with growing concern that Mexico is not doing enough, potential Republican presidential candidates, such as Mr Perry, are keen to show they are tough on drugs. The move is likely to cause anger in Mexico, where the government has been pressuring the United States to do more to reduce consumer demand and the flow of arms south, rather than shifting the blame to them.



Somalia

Seventy people were killed in a suicide bomb in the capital, Mogadishu, on Tuesday. Al-Shabab, an extremist Islamist group, took responsibility for the attack. The attack consisted of a truck packed with explosives exploding near government buildings. Although no senior officials were killed, it puts pressure on the Transitional government after a brief period of relative calm since August, when Al-Shabab withdrew from the capital. The government is still trying to secure territory from Islamists in other parts of the country as well as dealing with a famine.



Taking proper safety precautions...



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g, running the Royal Parks Half Marathon on Sunday October 9 in

Games Editor: **Laurence Pope**games.felix@imperial.ac.uk

GAMES

Hey you! Yes, you!



Second years and above may well have heard about and read *I, Science*, the science magazine of Imperial College. Freshers, pick up a copy, it's well worth a read. Why am I talking about this in the Games section? Because we want to do the same - a magazine about people's stories of videogaming!

Be they big or small, funny or serious, about you or about someone else we want to know them! Though not everyone plays videogames we all know people who do - after all, we're all at Imperial!

We'll do all the fancy-pants graphic design and hard work - we just want all your stories and experiences to help make this a one-of-a-kind magazine!

If you have any questions, stories, or just want to find out more contact games.felix@imperial.ac.uk.



@FelixGames on
Twitter

Guaranteed* to keep you reading for hours.
*Not actually guaranteed.

An ex-po-citing Expo

Laurence Pope stops the bad puns and talks Eurogamer '11

I guess now's the time for me to offer a late (but warm) welcome to all the freshers who've stumbled onto the Games section. I would've written for the Fresher's Issue, but I was too busy doing more important stuff like working on my rock-hard abs, jet skiing in the Caribbean and seducing beautiful women. Oh, and playing video games.

During my action-packed thrill ride of a summer I managed to find time to go to Eurogamer Exposition 2011. I'd booked my tickets months ago, before I took up the most illustrious and well-respected (I wish) post of grand mighty Games editor, and as such I didn't get a press pass. Still, I'm man enough not to dwell on that fact too much.

As usual you had your slew of somewhat similar army shooters: Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3, Battlefield 3, you know the stuff. If you're at all interested in these games then you've no doubt read all about them somewhere else. So, for my first article of this term I'll be talking/waffling about some of the things you may well have missed - that is, if you went at all (obviously if you didn't go you're even less likely to have seen them).

The Kinect and its kids



OK, I admit, you were very unlikely to miss the stalls featuring a Kinect - you just had to look for those people jumping about as if their skin was crawling with flesh-eating fire ants. Just Dance 3 (Ubisoft), Dance Central 2 (Harmonix Music Systems) and the infuriatingly addictive Fruit Ninja (Halfbrick Studios) were just a few of the games offering people the chance to embarrass themselves in public. At £70+ though the Kinect is still a rather expensive party piece (that was the cheapest price I could find it for online, pre-owned). In my humble opinion it's not worth the money unless you've got a group of friends who you can invite round regularly to mess about with. Bitter misanthropes such as myself would do well to invest their dosh elsewhere.

Tekken Hybrid

My strategy of randomly mashing buttons, though commented upon as 'unimaginative' and 'boring', still earned me glorious victory after glorious victory. And a sore thumb. Good game though.



OnLive



Fine, you would've been hard pressed to miss this one as well. OnLive, the cloud gaming platform, also showed itself at the event. The OnLive system basically allows you to play games without the need for a powerful PC behind you. It achieves this by letting a remote server run games for you and stream a live feed to you, though you do need a wired 5MB+ internet connection for it to work smoothly, 10MB+ recommended. Right now the highest quality you can receive is 720p, but the company is working up to bring it to the 1080 standard. The hardware you need, the OnLive box, costs £70, and though you have to pay for a monthly subscription (£6.99/month for the PlayPack Bundle) it gives you access to a hell of a lot of features. I wrote a whole article on the system several months ago when it was still fairly new, and there's not enough space here for me to go on, so I won't. Sufficed to say OnLive is an exciting new advancement in the world of gaming, far more so than the Kinect, and certainly something to keep a keen eye on. Just don't forget your revision.

MonsterMind



Finally, a game you're unlikely to have stumbled across. MonsterMind is a Facebook game, but bear with me for just a moment. Normally I'm no fan of FB games, so it came as a pleasant surprise when I was introduced to MM and found it rather enjoyable. The game is currently in its infancy, running as a beta, but it has potential. The creators of the game realise that most FB games - though called 'social games' - are far from social, unless you count giving virtual bales of hales to your friends a form of stimulating contact. In MM you control your own city, and are tasked with attacking your friend's settlements with various monsters whilst simultaneously protecting your own hub from theirs. It's more interactive than many other games on the market, and doesn't require FB credits to play - at least on paper. You do earn currency through building virtual businesses, but it can be slow going, and the temptation to spend a few pounds to get a boost is strong. Fun? Yes. Will it have a future? Watch this space. Worth some of your time certainly.

The Nintendo 3DS

Gave me a headache. I don't like headaches.

"OnLive is an exciting new advancement in the world of gaming"

Reflow

Another game tucked away from the madding crowd. Reflow, by the two man team Xymatic, is an even smaller game for the iPod/ iPhone. The game is simple but addicting - you need to direct one or more dynamic particle flows into a bowl. This is achieved by using your body as the slopes. This led to an interesting situation where I was standing in a crowd with my arms twisting and positioning themselves madly - a little like the Kinect I guess... In addition you can also take pictures and use them to direct the flow. Need a straight path? Take a picture of the Queen's Tower and use the architect's good work to your advantage. It's a fun little app, and the £0.69 price tag is unlikely to break the bank. Unless you've spent your student loan on booze, that is.



[Insert hilarious Darth Vader joke here]

Fashion Editors: **Saskia Verhagen**
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FASHION

Post-summer accessories update

A new term starts a new season, and what better way to break into your student loan than by updating your look with a few accessories. **Alice Yang** gives you this season's best, and remember – detail is everything

Hats



Gucci
£305

Eyes were drawn up and beyond the faces of this season's models to the hats that flew across the catwalk for AW11/12. Marc Jacobs presented fun plastic berets with a hint of fetish, whilst Dolce and Gabbana strutted sharp androgynous trilbies, adding an edge to their fun and glittery show. Wide brims offset decorative collars at Nina Ricci and Lanvin, creating a sense of mystery and glamour. On a warmer note, Christopher Bailey perched simple furry caps above a sea of multicoloured coats at Burberry Prorsum, as Missoni opted for sugar sweet beanies giving the upcoming winter a sprinkle of fairy dust.

Be daring, pick out your look and wear with a generous dose of attitude.

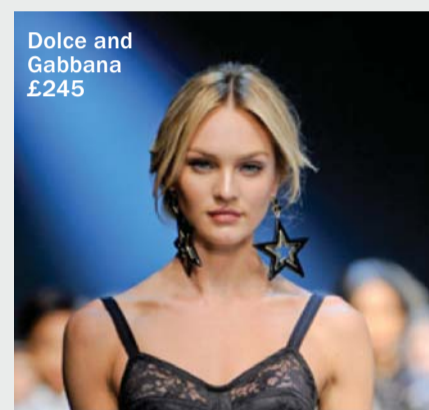


H&M
£12.99

THE PICK:

The deep autumnal shades seen in Gucci's wide brimmed trilbies with traditional orange feathers nail subtle sophistication to perfection. For a smaller feather to suit smaller wallets, try H&M's version in deep plum. Pair with a jewel coloured faux fur coat and dark scarlet lips for a nod towards the seventies, or perch above a simple cut dress and boots for an effortless city vibe that will take you from day to night.

Shoulder Skimming Earrings



Dolce and Gabbana
£245

A good outfit is never complete without the right jewellery, and this season designers headed for statement earrings.

The models at Oscar de la Renta hung strings of irregularly shaped gems from their ears skimming the shoulders of beautifully lavish dresses, whilst Marni took a trip back to kinder garden with large coloured disks and hoops contrasting strict, elongated hemlines. Ralph Lauren embraced the east, matching his enchanting rich flowing silk gowns with oriental lucky charms in traditional colours of jade and red. Back in Paris, maturity and simplicity emulated at Sonia Rykiel's seventies inspired catwalk as classical metallic baubles hung from delicate long chains creating a real sense of Parisian elegance.

Add a hint of red carpet to your look this season, be bold and let your ears take the weight.



Topshop
£12.50

THE PICK:

Dolce and Gabbana take home the golden star for their playful crystal encrusted series, an instant buy for any glamorous, fun loving fashionista. Not quite so precious, but still very shiny, Topshop do a brilliant imitation. Throw on your favourite LBD and let these sparkly stars hang above your shoulders, drawing attention to your neck, which is best left clear.

Boots



Chanel
~£800

As always, when the cold settles in, the boots come out. This season is no different. Deeply luxurious and embellished in jewel coloured velvet, Alberta Ferretti went thigh high with a rich retro feel. Going back to the sixties, Prada incorporated snakeskin and Mary Janes into pair after pair of knee boots as Valentino managed to keep things pretty, matching delicately sheer dresses with beautiful lace covered boots. Isabel Marant preferred the wilder side, and made hers heavily fringed for cool cowboy chic.

What ever your style, make sure you invest in some good boots. They're a staple this season and will keep your feet toasty for months to come.



Topshop
£70.00

THE PICK:

Textured, tough and with a hint of grunge, Chanel's boots are perfect for stomping through piles of crunchy leaves. A slight heel adds femininity (not to mention height), yet is still wearable on the slipperiest of frozen days. More affordable variations can be found all over the high street from Zara to H&M. Wear with skinny jeans and a leather coat for the rough and ready biker look, or do like Alexa Chung and team with a cute dress.

Dazzling Feet



Miu Miu
£370

Longer hours thrown in the dark may be a cause for concern for some, but not on this seasons catwalks. Jean Paul Gaultier's metallic kitty heels matched the chignon hair of his models, as they marched down in his colourfully patterned play on smart wear. Prada too displayed elegance in glittering courts, a welcome sight after seasons of feet clad in black, grey and nude. Alexander Wang's tough cool girls also embraced the shine, parading silver caped stilettos to match their heavy billowing coats. Of course, not to be out-shone, Vivienne Westwood joined the fun as heavily sequined feet strutted down a similarly stunning gold-covered catwalk, light bouncing of every surface creating a scene of brilliant luxury and richness.

Whether it reminds you of the glamorous seventies or your dream wedding, live like a fairy tale and let your feet shine.



Kurt Geiger
£120

THE PICK:

Miu Miu dazzled this season, teaming long sophisticated lengths and sharp collars with disco shoes. Kurt Geiger's platforms are similarly bright and can dress up the simplest of outfits. Wear with a tailored suit for a stunningly powerful take on this season's androgynous look.

Music Editors: **Iñigo Martínez de Rituerto**
Stephen Smith

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MUSIC

Kadhim's totally hot album of the week



Clams Casino
Instrumental
Mixtape
 2011

Instrumental Hip-hop is officially 'it'. You can't go more than a few hours in the day without some producer deciding that hip-hop would be infinitely better without an ex-parole officer pretending to be gangster 'spitting rhymes' over his beloved beats. Remove the distracting, tired clichés about having a big dick and you're left with atmosphere, nuance, and the kind of music that will leave you rolling your shoulders hypnotically for hours on end.

Clams Casino's free mixtape, released in April, is the perfect embodiment of this instrumental hip-hop ethos. It has emotion; it has syncopated drums rolling over each other like kids falling down a hill; and it has a sense of the epic, which hip-hop can usually only create with obnoxiously loud horns, à la Usher's 'Yeah'.

Towards the end of the summer term, when most of us have finished our exams (sucks to be you, Biologists/Biochemists), the Union sometimes has a DJ outside, floating music through the sun in the Quad. My little dream is that the DJ will turn off the bro-step, and stick on this super smooth mixtape.

If you spend all your evenings on Pitchfork you'll definitely know more about instrumental hip-hop than me. Tell how much more by tweeting me @kadhimshubber. (Better still, tweet @NMEmagazine and tell them to give me a job.)

Make sure not to miss

Iron & Wine

Hackney Empire, E8
 Sunday October 9, 2011
www.hackneyempire.co.uk

As the music world's second favourite alt folk, guitar playing, bearded hippy, **Iron & Wine's** Sam Beam presents a more acceptable alternative to those who are too embarrassed to say they like **Bon Iver**. Like Justin Vernon, Beam moved into slightly more experimental territory with his most recent album, the critically acclaimed folk-rock instnat classic *Kiss Each Other Clean* which achieved a rare 9/10 in NME. However, this gig promises to be a return to his stripped-back folk roots, accompanied by Czech pianist **Marketa Irglova**.

Those looking to see Beam play his more recent work should head to the Shepherd's Bush Empire on Monday October 10. There he will be playing with a full backing band and will be supported by electrobilly outfit **The Mules**.

Both gigs promise to be great evenings for lovers of folk, rock, and anything in between. **Bon Iver** fans are welcome to attend as well, as long as they keep their musical tastes quiet. **Harry Rickerby**

Music, through the ages

C. I. Franke would like a word with your parents about their shockingly bad taste in music

Is there a more appealing time warp than an old record player? Not only does the standard matt black metal and peeling wood-look veneer sum up a bygone era, but the sound quality still surpasses anything that digitised files can muster. I'm sure that most of us have, at some point in our adolescence, played some of our parents ageing record collection out of curiosity and I'm sure that most of us were quite disappointed; for me, the artists were so disappointing that I didn't even take the records out of their covers.

Part of this issue is a clash of tastes. Firstly, my dad doesn't really seem to have any; it's odd how someone went to the trouble of buying what must have been a fairly decent record player all those decades ago and never expressed any interest in music at all. Instead, the LPs were my mother's and they really weren't worth listening to.

Oddly, she has good (well, acceptable) taste in music; she's into **Bob Dylan**, **Leonard Cohen**, **Joan Baez** and the like, not really my thing. However, these artists did not appear in my mother's record collection, only in the more recently acquired CD library. Instead, there were albums by **Neil Sedaka**, the **New Seekers** (if I remember correctly) and a whole load of other stuff that no one in polite society would ever admit to owning. I know that we all have guilty pleasures and that the folly of youth does result in some fairly bad decisions, but this was on another scale.

How was this even possible? Was my mother the victim of a record swap that went horribly wrong? Or was it that her tastes matured for the better as she grew up? I have never got round to asking her about this thorny topic, but I don't think I'm alone: my experience is common amongst people of my generation.

Most of our parents come from an age that produced some fantastic music, and yet it seems to be an insurmountable challenge to find anyone who actually liked any of the bands and singers who have gone down in history for the right reasons. Some of my friends' parents describe themselves as fans of **David Bowie** and **Led Zeppelin**, and yet none got around to buying their albums, what was going



Your parents' record collection: nothing but a catalogue of embarrassing purchases

"One in four parents in Britain have lied to their children about what music they listened to."

on in their minds?

There is a rather depressing answer: a recent survey by Twentieth Century Fox (probably not the best source of cast iron evidence) has revealed that about one in four parents in Britain have lied to their children about what music they listened to and which concerts they went to - a vain attempt to impress the younger generation.

Of course, for there to be good music, there must be bad music, and history shows us that commercial success does not equate to artistic brilliance (consider, for example, that **Westlife** and **Cliff Richard** both have 14 number ones). But this also leads us to consider how easy it is to tell, from when they're at their peak, who is

going to be remembered fondly in the future. Frankly, I'm not sure who's going to be seen as great in the years to come from this generation's music scene. I would have said **Muse**, but they've been heading downhill since *Absolution*. **Amy Winehouse** is a safe bet, and, as morbid as it is to suggest as much, dying young has certainly helped her on that front.

What we can be sure of is that a lot of the music around today owes so much to the 60's and 70's, an era of truly awful and truly great music. **The Beatles** took the Mersey beat and gave us pop music, **The Rolling Stones** took the blues and gave us rock, **Jimi Hendrix** showed us that the limitless potential of the electric guitar and **David Bowie**, whilst dabbling in an astonishingly vast variety of genres, played an important part of bringing electronic music to the fore, along with **Brain Eno** and **Kraftwerk**.

Sadly, a lot of us live in blind ignorance of the groundbreaking artists who define new musical genres, preferring instead to listen to familiar music inspired by the sounds of previous generations.

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TELEVISION

Doctor Who in plot-hole drama... again

It's time to pick holes in the Doctor's nebulous, wibbly wobbly, timey-wimey thread

Maciej Matuszewski

Given that this is Imperial I'm sure that few of you will be unaware that last Saturday saw the broadcast of 'The Wedding of River Song' - the final episode of the latest series of Doctor Who. This has been probably one of the best seasons since the 2005 revival of the show. Starting with the chilling image of a future version of the Doctor being killed in 'The Impossible Astronaut' it included the wonderful exploration of the Doctor's companion Amy that was 'The Girl Who Waited' and the near perfect 'Let's Kill Hitler'. It's not surprising that I had high hopes for this episode.

'The Wedding of River Song' begins with the Doctor finally resigned to his impending death and the mysterious River Song trapped by the Doctor's enemies, the Silence, in a mechanical spacesuit which is trying to force her to shoot him. She manages to resist, thereby disrupting the fixed point in time that was the Doctor's death and causing all of history to become compressed into a just a few moments and begin to collapse. The rest of the episode sees the Doctor trying to convince River to kill him in order to save time while River tries to find a way

to save him. Needless to say by the end of the episode our heroes had managed to save both the Doctor and time.

While this was certainly a passable ending to the series, with the manner in which the Doctor manages to survive being quite clever, I can't really say that that I wasn't disappointed. It's not just that there were plot holes (why did the Silence even need River - couldn't they have just used a fully robotic spacesuit to kill the Doctor?) and that many of scenes when time was compressed were frankly ridiculous (with flying cars supported by hot air balloons and Churchill as the leader of a Holy Roman Empire which apparently has London as its capital).

It's just that the entire episode felt a bit thin on the ground. Whilst the ultimate solution was pretty good, it's clear that the writer, Steven Moffat, had no idea how to translate this into 45 minutes of drama - resulting in an episode full of filler. The titular wedding between River and the Doctor is a prime example - it comes almost out of nowhere. While it is the case that River has been obsessed with the Doctor her entire life, the Doctor himself hardly knows her at that point - making it all the more surprising that it is he who proposes the marriage. No, I

"Near peerless entertainment for the target age group"

don't know what I would have done better myself, and Moffat has probably done the best job possible but that doesn't stop me feeling a bit let down!

Thinking back on the previous series, however, 'The Wedding of River Song' is actually well above the average quality of a Doctor Who episode. While it is easy to be blinded by the few gems, the fact is that even series six contained its fair share of sub-par episodes such as the completely forgettable 'The Curse of the Black Spot' and the dreadful two-part 'The Rebel Flesh' and 'The Almost People' which has guest characters whose motivations change every twenty minutes and ends with the Doctor killing somebody for no good reason.

While 'The Wedding of River Song' failed because it couldn't live up to the impossibly high standards expected of it, far too many others fail because of lazy or simply incompetent writing. Episodes are so often filled with deus ex machina endings and meaningless technobabble while

every series finale seems to threaten the end of the universe, or even time, thus completely devaluing the level of danger. The question is, therefore, why is the show so popular? The answer is quite simple. In essence, Doctor Who is a children's or - to use a typical BBC euphemism - a 'family' show. It irrefutably offers near peerless entertainment for the target age group, whilst remaining largely watchable for adults. But ought it be judged by the same criteria as a mature show?

Yet it so often is, and usually favourably. It has a massive adult following and I

have even seen some of the more significant episodes discussed on the main pages of national newspapers. Its popularity can probably be explained in two ways. I imagine that for many the reason is nostalgia, which is of course helped by the show having been on our screens for so long. Even the show's revival has already been going for a not insignificant six years - indeed I was only thirteen when I started watching it.

For the more serious SF fan, however, or at least for myself, the attraction is the show's great potential. The premise of having a machine that can take you anywhere in space and time allows for a literally endless variety of stories and the show's long running nature allows for a depth, both of character and plot, rarely found anywhere else in television. Of course the full potential will never be reached. That's not to say that family programming can't be eminently entertaining, series six proved that, but it means that there will always be topics that won't be touched and simplifications that will be made. I, however, will keep watching for those glorious moments where the show transcends both standard science fiction and family programming and comes so close to all that it could be.



Downton smashes Spooks in ratings

James Simpson

The second series of ITV's latest (and very successful) foray into the world costume drama began towards the end of the summer break, with its first episode clocking up over ten million viewers. But why? This unusually high figure is rarely reached by similar programming on the BBC, and ITV aren't usually known for their ability to produce a good period piece, or, for that matter, anything other than the X Factor-esque arse-gravy which routinely hypnotises fourteen-year-old girls and their chavvy mothers. Moreover, the BBC pitched their flagship drama Spooks against Downton in the prime-time 9pm Sunday slot, but the first episode drew in a mere 4.6 million - one of the lowest ratings ever recorded for Spooks.

Jim Carter, who plays Mr Carson the Butler (image: left) says "people [didn't] think costume dramas [were] for them - they might be 'a bit BBC' - highbrow and offputting. This was on ITV so they thought they'd give it a go".

If you've never tried costume drama, now is the time!



This week's TV pick

Friday | 2100 - 2130 | BBC1

Outnumbered

Fantastic sitcom starring Hugh Dennis and Claire Skinner set in the Brockman family home.

Saturday | 2100 - 2145 | BBC2

QI XL

There's nothing else on so increase your general knowledge.

Sunday | 2100 - 2200 | BBC1

Spooks

The last series of the BBC's spy drama continues

Monday | Anytime | ITVPlayer

Downton Abbey

Really you should have watched it last night, but you can watch it on ITVPlayer now!

Tuesday | 2100 - 2200 | BBC1

The Body Farm

Forensic thriller starring Tara Fitzgerald. Really quite gruesome and featuring Tim McInnerny.

Wednesday | 1930 - 2030 | BBC1

Waterloo Road

It's back and it's worse than ever.

Thursday | 2100 - 2200 | BBC1

Hidden

Philip Glenister shows he isn't actually Gene Hunt.

FOOD

Shots

by Anastasia Eleftheriou

Thought for food



She just can't get her mouth away from it...

I believe that everyone has something to say about food. Personally, I don't see food as a main source of energy only. The enjoyment of eating is probably the main aspect of a good quality of life. In other words, being able to eat what you want, when you want it at your favourite place, makes you feel good and satisfied.

In our society, food is the king of entertaining, celebrating and connecting. All of us have turned to food at one time or another for comfort, to help us cope with stressful experiences and bad emotions, and to satisfy desires.

Have you ever noticed the strong relationship between memory and food? The taste and smell of food are able to flash memories of past food-related events and activities in our lives. For me, having egg and lemon soup with chicken, reminds me of some Easters with family and it momentarily brings me closer to home.

Therefore, feel free to share with us any food experiences that you find important and make sure that you put food in its proper place in your life. It does make a significant difference to your lifestyle, mood and health.

Diwali Festival

This year Dishoom, the Bombay Café in Covent Garden, celebrates the wonderful stories behind the Hindu festival of light (Diwali) presenting a delicious, celebratory Diwali feast menu that starts on the 18th October and lasts until October 30.

Vegetarians will swoon over the Phaldari Kofta Ruby, a dish of dumplings stuffed with vegetables, paneer and pomegranate; and the Diwali Biryani, slow-cooked and layered with winter vegetables and aromatic rice encased in a dough purdah - all for just £22.50 per person.

Another choice is the much-loved Dishoom grilled Lobster tail, cooked with ginger, chilli, lime and coriander followed by the Chicken Berry Biryani - for £27.50 per person. Both feasts are served with Dahi Puri - mini puffed bread shells with chickpeas and yoghurt and flavoured with tamarind, cooling raita, a choice of freshly prepared breads and Dishoom's signature slow-cooked house black daal.

Desserts include a choice of a Gola ice or Kulfi, followed by the House Chai. Diners will also receive complimentary mithai, traditional Indian sweets, as part of the festivities.

Are you tempted enough?

October's Food Highlights

Chocolate Week announces a melt-in-your-mouth lineup

Anastasia Eleftheriou

I have good news for the chocolate-lovers; the biggest celebration of chocolate in the UK is on its way! A wonderful opportunity for the public to learn more about the chocolate market in the UK and have fun in a unique way. The highlight of the week, is the Chocolate Unwrapped show where visitors can immerse themselves in the spectacular world of chocolate. The very best of British and international chocolatiers will exhibit their stunning and creative chocolate art and provide chocolate tastings, experiences and demonstrations for the visitors. All these, will happen under one roof at the price of £8 only if you book it online, on Saturday at 11:00 - 19:00 and on Sunday at 11:00-17:00, at Vinopolis in London.

You can receive free entry to the show if you participate at the Chocolate Cake competition that is open to all home bakers (amateurs only). The winner will receive signed copies of the judges books, a trophy and the honour of having their recipe published on the Chocolate Week website. The competition is limited to just 30 entrants, so you must get your entry in asap to be in with a chance of taking part in the fun. Closing date for entry forms is Wednesday October 13 and the entrants must

greenloveblog2.edublogs.org



Mmmmm...

arrive with an 8-inch diameter cake by midday on Sunday October 16.

Except from the above, there are many more events organized by the participants. If you have a passion for chocolates or you simply want to see something different, then the following events may be of great interest to you.

Firstly, the week starts with La Maison Du Chocolat Luxury Tasting experience, at 15:00 on October 8 at La Maison du Chocolat boutique, in Piccadilly. There you will trace the steps of the creation of chocolate from the harvesting of the fruit from the cacao tree,

to the creation of chocolates with refined ingredients. They promise to prepare for you couvertures, finished ganaches and pralines to try, for the price of £50 for the whole session.

You shouldn't miss the free in-store mini tasting sessions that will take place at 16:30 from October 10-16 at La Maison du Chocolat boutique, in Piccadilly.

Divine chocolate is going to treat its choco-holic friends with various ways especially prepared for the chocolate week. From the 10th until the 16th of the month, at various locations in London, like Shepherd's Bush and Westminster, you will have the chance to enjoy delicious Divine cocktails, Chocolate packages, body chocolate exfoliations and chocolate pedicures.

Afrisan du Chocolat has scheduled a half an hour tutored tasting that commences with a brief history of chocolate followed by sampling of their new Columbian bars and limited edition truffle, at 12:00 on October 10, 12, and 13 at Selfridges, Oxford Street.

You can find more details about the participants and the events at www.chocolateweek.co.uk.

Have a lovely choco-week!

London Restaurant Festival showcases culinary diversity

Michael Krestas

London Restaurant Festival celebrates the Capital's restaurants and their diversity. For two weeks (October 3-17) visitors will be able to try things they wouldn't otherwise, tickle their tasting pallet and taste extraordinary food prepared by all kinds of chefs experiencing the ultimate dining experience. The Festival splits in two main areas; restaurants running festival menus and a whole series of events.

Countless restaurants around London will be offering great lunch/dinner packages ranging at special prices from £10 up to £30. This is a great opportunity for you to visit not only your favourite brasserie but also have a taste of the best, Michelin awarded restaurants in town without spending a fortune!

From the various events taking place, I've shortlisted the most exciting ones.

Firstly, the "Gourmet Odyssey" comprises the absolute gastronomic road trip you'll ever experience. How would it sound if you could have your first course in one top London res-

aoicdn.com



I thought he was taking me to the Union

taurant, your main in another and dessert in a third? Pretty challenging. Having the option of walking (October 8 - £110) or taking a retro routemaster bus (October 15 - £150) get ready for a city journey you will never forget!

London's mayoral elections are taking place in a few months. Pizza Elections, on the other hand, are right now. As part of LRF Pizza Ex-

press designed two very special pizzas: a Boris (Johnson) pizza and a Ken (Livingstone) one. Both pizzas cost £10. The most popular pizza will be revealed at LRF Awards on October 17.

The highlight of the Festival is "Pop up in the sky", a pleasure for few. For four days - October 3-6 - dinner will be served at three of the London Eye's capsules. Three top chefs will cook a course for every capsule. Does that sound exciting? Go ahead, make a withdrawal: capsules are priced from £12,500 to £15,000!

Finally, LFR is eco-friendly too. The Sustainable Restaurant Association (SRA) is prompting restaurants and costumers to think before they throw out. Have some extra food on your plate but think you're full? Just ask for a doggy box and save it for later.

You still think that's too few for you? Have a visit at www.londonrestaurantfestival.com and get the full list of restaurants and events. Make sure to book early and get the best out of this wonderful fest!

Don't miss the next issue: the Imperial Food Awards are coming...

Travel Editors: **Chris Richardson**
Dushi Arumuganesan

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TRAVEL

Acclimatising to incredible India

Follow the adventures of a backpacker across the mighty subcontinent, beginning with some sightseeing in the country's brilliant capital city

Chris Richardson

When I first touched down in New Delhi I have to say I was a tad deceived. Having skimmed my trusty Lonely Planet, I was expecting the Paharganj area to be a bustling Th Khao San à la Bangkok, but was greeted with something else entirely. I suppose I have my own ignorance to thank; I'd been told about what to expect, but brushed it off under the pretence that I am some sort of travel wizard.

Day one was largely about acclima-

“the food is fantastic and the sights are simply spectacular”

tisation; opting for Old Delhi as our quarters we headed out to live and breathe the fresh stench of cow pat and spices. Now don't get me wrong, Old Delhi is fantastic, if a little daunting for your first India destination. It's got some fantastic eateries serving vast amounts of sweet and savoury fare, and is the cheapest option when it comes to racking up gifts. As always, just beware the commission touts!

While still getting used to malaria pills and the thick monsoon air we headed for Old Delhi's Red Fort area, to get our first taste of incredible India. This was the first of many forts we'd encounter on our adventure: they make great landmarks for tuk-tuk drivers and offer a glimpse into the shimmering past with their dusty construction and plethora of artefacts. We ticked off the Old Delhi to-do list, rounding off in Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque. If you visit, be sure to climb

the tower for spectacular views of the city: the contrast of Old to New Delhi is quite a sight.

At this point in the day the torrential downpour began: a Hindu festival was underway, so rather than cowering forever we waded through flooded streets, up to our knees in the water. Sounds like fun, right? It would be so were it not for the unidentified floating objects swishing by our ankles. Cars chugged by, barely missing our feet, and the street was lit up and excitable. We finally escaped the madness and decided to kick back with a thali.

But enough about ambling through Old Delhi: having been confined to that small hub we eventually ventured into sprawling New Delhi to see what was on offer. New Delhi and Old Delhi are worlds apart, but each has their charm according to your needs. New Delhi makes for fantastic shopping, both the franchise and market varieties, in and around the Connaught Place area. One place I highly recommend is Palika Bazaar, a conveniently air-conditioned market selling endless Indian garments, where it's easy to push for a good bargain.

I could ramble endlessly about the temples on offer, but every guidebook will already give you the low down. All I'll say is be sure to check out at least a few before you get 'all templered out' – the Lotus Temple, Humayun's Tomb and Akshardham just out of town were all personal favourites and shouldn't be missed. And after temple apathy takes its toll, a peaceful stroll through Lodi Gardens will refresh the body and soul. And no trip would be complete without a visit to the Gandhi Smriti: Gandhi is still an invaluable inspiration to modern Indian activists such as Anna Hazare, and this interactive remembrance centre does his ide-



Humayun's tomb in the heart of New Delhi: a fine example of Mughal brilliance and a perfect spot to unwind

ologies great justice.

Delhi is a metaphor for all of India, really: initially the madness is frightening, but let the initial uncertainties and doubts subside and you'll soon find that you're in the middle of one of the most interesting and diverse countries on the planet. Expect a culture shock, but don't let it get the better of you. Because the food is fantastic, the people are perfect, and the sights are simply spectacular – I don't need to sell it any more than that.

The LaLiT New Delhi: Luxurious stay in the heart of the city

Planning a trip to Delhi? The LaLiT New Delhi is a perfect “city stay” option – nestled snugly in the Connaught Place area, this luxury hotel offers immaculate rooms with bedroom views over Delhi to rival the towers of Jama Masjid. With largest inventory and room space in the hub of New Delhi, this hotel takes away the location advantage.

After touring the smoggy city, Rejuve - The Spa is the most apt place to unwind, or if you're still feeling the heat then kicking back in a comfy lounge by the pool might be more fitting. Rejuve – The Spa, The Lalit's signature award winning spa is known for its therapies and treatments. To satiate one's appetite, this hotel has cuisine variety for individual taste, buffet of more than 67 dishes, one of its kinds -Indian Bread Bar, Specialty restaurants, 24 hours food service and a lot more. The new and swanky night club - Kitty Su is anyway under the spot light for being the most happening party place in town. Perfect place to dance the night away with friends!

The LaLiT Hotels is the flagship brand of Bharat Hotels Limited Enterprise, a part of The LaLiT Suri Hospitality Group. They provide luxury hotels at destinations across the country, offering unbeatable accommodation, facilities and services.

Want to find out more? Visit thelalit.com or contact the Editor.

TNT
SUN & SNOW
TRAVEL
SHOW

15th October 2011
9:30am — 5:00pm
QEII Conference Centre
Broad Sanctuary
Westminster
London SW1P 3EE



The TNT Sun & Snow Travel Show is London's only free travel exhibition during the winter season and is dedicated to travellers aged between 18 and 39. It showcases sun, snow and adventure travel alternatives during the winter months and into 2012 and offers expert advice, inspiring travel talks, exclusive deals and a chance to win prizes. New for 2011, there will also be a Recruitment Fair, perfect for those seeking employment from part time bar work or seasonal work to the serious professional. Entry is FREE for those who pre-register online or just £2 payable at the door. To book and for more information visit www.tnttravelshow.com

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

Clubs, Socs & Projects

Miles Robertson



Welcome to the Clubs & Societies section! Here you'll find all manners of reports from the extra-curricular side of Imperial, which, in case you didn't go to Freshers' Fair, is pretty massive.

If you think your club has the chutzpah to send us a report on one of your events or trips (and not to mention a few photos) go ahead do it! If you can keep it below a rough maximum of 1000 words, then perfect! If not, just let us know and we'll be able to sort something out.

If you're still craving some information about societies that you might have missed, either at Freshers' Fair or throughout your time at Imperial, then why not take a look at this year's Clubs, Societies & Projects Handbook? If you haven't yet come across it, then you can find it available online from the Imperial College Union website imperialcollegeunion.org.

There's plenty of choice around, so you're bound to find a society that caters to your tastes, no matter how wild they might be!

Miles Robertson



Fast times for charity

Hamza Shaikh undertakes a unique challenge during Ramadan in order to raise money for Sri Lankan schools

The 18th century French philosopher Denis Diderot once said 'Only passions, great passions, can elevate the soul to great things.'

I have never been one to attach much importance to helping others. Being an only child, I never had the time to think whether life was treating others as fairly as it did me. There have been times when I was known to scorn those who did not do as well as their counterparts.

However, all that changed when I had the chance to meet some amazing people last year during fundraising events, such as collections for the Pakistan flood victims and bone marrow transplant for young children. The media give but brief glimpses of the sadness that prevails outside our comfort zones.

It was not long before I realised that a person could not survive in this world alone. That was how my passion for community service came into existence. I am extremely pleased to say that this passion has brought about a great change in me – a change that I shall proudly carry throughout my life.

A recent documentary, aired on Channel 4, discussed the Tamil genocide in Sri Lanka. The Sri Lankan Government and The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam were at war, with the innocent Tamil civilians stuck in between. Seeing mothers sitting on dirty floors, clasping little babies to their bosoms, whilst crying out for mercy, was appalling. The footages showing women corpses being sexually abused were abhorrent to anyone viewing the documentary.

After watching this, I really felt for the Tamil civilians. The war ended more than two years ago, but the wounds are still fresh. I used social networking websites to get in touch with Tamils, who could provide me more information on the issue and also advise me how I could be of any help. Through this, I learnt about the Tamil Aid Charity, whose main focus was constructing schools for Tamil children in Sri Lanka. By then, I had the basic idea in mind: taking part in an activity to raise money for the Tamil Aid charity.

During this time, it was the Holy month of Ramadan. My perception of Ramadan was a test of patience and a feel for how the poor people lived. Keeping this in mind, I decided to participate in a 10 km run, whilst fasting, to raise money for the Tamil Aid charity.

Deciding on a beautiful 9.4 km Aberdeen beach circuit, the next step was to create a page on Just Giving and on Facebook. That was all straightforward. The harder bits were yet to come – how exactly is a person, out of shape like myself, supposed to run 10 km – whilst fasting?

Needless to say, I had to devise a proper plan to execute the task successfully. Going in straight for the run, without practising, would have been suicidal; especially since I had little more than a week to train myself to develop the required stamina to survive the run. My training programme consisted of two parts, stamina building and following a high carbohydrate diet. I found

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Hashem Cheema
Saad Mughal
Subbiah Thannirmalai
Maria Qurashi
Umair Aasem
Usman Siddiqui

it very hard to leave all the scrumptious Indian curries behind, and instead eat large amounts of pasta, rice, tuna and energy bars. The training consisted of three sets of runs, two 3 km and one 5 km. This had to be done on alternate days, just before sunset, so I could finish my run in time to break my fast.

The one thing I looked forward to everyday was that one sip of water, which I would break my fast with after the training. Meanwhile, I updated my statuses on social networking websites to collect the donations. After sending almost 600 text messages and writing on 500 peoples' Facebook profiles individually, I almost touched my target of £1,000.

Friday, 26th August 2011, the big day had finally come. It wasn't until 6pm that I headed to an open field near the chosen beach circuit for warm up. By 7pm, I was at the start line, all set and ready to go. The weather was sunny – a real gift in Aberdeen. Setting off and pacing up, I was lucky to have a cool breeze! Contending with an

unplanned incline at the halfway point, I had to reduce my speed to a jog and take a break. I continued running, whilst shuffling through the music playlist on my iPod – completing the final section quicker than expected. To my surprise, I was back at the starting point – I had completed the circuit!

Including my jog back home, I had run 10.2 km in just over an hour, including three short breaks. It was not over yet of course – I had to wait for half an hour for sunset, before I could break my fast. Later that evening, I went to a local restaurant for a feast.

I had successfully managed to cross my target of £1,000. I was glad to have taken the initiative of raising money for the Tamil Aid charity, as I am sure that the money will serve the Tamil children well. We may come from different backgrounds, races or religions, but the one thing all of us have in common is a heart, which beats 72 times a minute.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

A Cappella Soc tours Croatia

Two vocal ensembles take on Rijeka and contend with (Croatian) X Factor judges

Eugene Chang

With a 10 month existence under their belts, ICU A Cappella Society took a bold step and organised a maiden overseas tour for 25 members this summer. This was a joint excursion between two established vocal ensembles at Imperial – IC Chamber Choir and all male a cappella group The Techtonics. The entire tour revolved around an invitation from Croatian musician Olja Desic to attend an inaugural three-day a cappella festival, ‘Vocal Marathon’, in Rijeka, North Croatia. Olja is the Croatian Simon Cowell – judge and vocal mentor on the Croatian X Factor and prolific composer and arranger for TV and radio (OK, quite a lot more talented than Cowell... and nicer). IC Chamber Choir were invited to open the festival but could not enter the contest, due to the size of the group.

We began by visiting the beautiful island of Krk, the largest in the Adriatic and a popular holiday destination since Roman times. We arrived in Krk city to discover a beautiful coastal old town complete with narrow pedestrian stone paths and stunning views of the Adriatic. The city was awash with tourists – none of the English stag-do types; this was a city with a thriving tourist industry attracting happy-camping Germans, Italians, Slovenians and other continental Europeans for several months each summer. Undaunted by the lack of English speakers, we checked in to our hostel, which was a shoddier version of the hotel featured in this summer’s blockbuster *The Inbetweeners Movie*. Seriously. Police tape covered room doors not occupied by us, unisex bathrooms had no wash-basins and the staff had a combined English vocabulary of about 50 words. Still, in true *Inbetweeners* form we managed to enjoy our time there, give or take the broken bunk bed, the TC in the shower and the hostel owner who threatened to visit London and take our TV because we used his cutlery!

On the music front, IC Chamber Choir and Techtonics each performed one evening concert in the main square of the city of Krk, to appreciative and enthusiastic crowds. Several members of the Techtonics were surprised to discover they’d attracted a teenage German fanclub – we’re still hoping these girls won’t find us on Facebook! Bonus of the tour was free shots at multiple watering holes for singing our songs after a few drinks... the locals couldn’t get enough of us! We also managed to visit the nearby port town of Punat, where the groups performed a joint concert on the terrace bar of the swanky Park Punat Hotel



Man strives to achieve elusive falsetto as A Cappella group pose in the Croatian sunset

on the promenade. Passers-by stopped to listen, hotel patrons swooned, and we received a generous round of figs and brandy from the manager! That evening was definitely one of the highlights of the tour.

Krk island also featured great excursions. Many of the group hired bicycles and visited, amongst others, a nudist beach, where our pasty skins, brash English accents and fuff about undressing attracted more than a few onlookers! We salute the brave few (many!!) who did the Full Monty. It’s not everyday you can say ‘When in Croatia... get naked’.

On to the business end of tour, upon arrival in Rijeka we travelled to Trsat Castle, a 13th century fortress at the top of a steep hill, overlooking the Adriatic. On the castle terrace that evening, IC Chamber Choir kick started the Vocal Marathon, performing jointly with award-winning youth choir ‘Josip Kaplan’ to a full house audience and several TV cameras. IC

Chamber Choir director Jess Gillingwater conducted both groups as they performed several folk songs together, and the concert rousingly finished with ICCS singing ‘Over the Rainbow’.

The next day featured vocal masterclasses with Tomaz Kozlevcar, Slovenian composer/arranger known for his arrangement of Toto’s Africa, which has gained 11 million YouTube hits. We worked on group exercises, and split up to learn and perform several vocal arrangements. Next up that evening was the main event of the festival – the Vocal Marathon, a 4 hour concert featuring 25 minute sets from various a cappella groups including the Techtonics. With vociferous support from IC Chamber Choir, the Techtonics sang

“It’s not every day you can say ‘When in Croatia... get naked’”

their hearts out on top of the range sound equipment and microphones. We performed our own arrangements of This Love (Maroon 5), Dreadlock Holiday (10cc), House of the Rising Sun (The Animals), Dock of the Bay (Otis Redding) and a Go Your Own Way mashup (Fleetwood Mac). We like to think we brought the house down; many of the other groups came to tell us how much they enjoyed our set. We finished the evening on our charter coach full of singers from all groups, singing girl band tunes, The Lion Sleeps Tonight and a host of vocal favourites. Probably the most harmonious vocal coach journey ever!

THE highlight of the contest was the performance of Austrian solo loop beatboxer ‘fii’ who blew the entire tour group away with his range, personality and ability – his hit ‘Power To The People’ got us all dancing, and did the same to TV judges on German X Factor 3 weeks ago! Definitely worth checking out on YouTube!

The final awards show of the competition featured each group performing a song for TV recording, to be broadcast later in September – Techtonics reprised Dreadlock Holiday. In the end, competition results did not go our way, but we were up against several professional and semi-professional groups with years more experience, and we were grateful for the experience and opportunity to perform and interact with such fantastic vocal groups such as Cappella’A, the Slash, Octachord, and Akvarel – we have been invited back next year and who knows how much our game will have risen by then!

There was time for one final night of partying with other groups on a floating nightclub along the seafront, before our weary trip back to London. To find out more about each group or to audition, email Donal Connolly d.connolly09@imperial.ac.uk for ICCS, or Ben Chadwick at techtonics@imperial.ac.uk for TTs.





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THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS



Man admits creaming himself outside house - trousers for sale.

Photos that scared us this week



Chanel want to skin Jodie Marsh for a new set of extremely limited edition handbags. Animal rights campaigners are said to not give a fuck

DRUNKEN MATE OF THE WEEK

Hey losers, you haven't sent any in. What the fuck have you been doing - revising in the library or something?

Send your photos to felix@imperial.ac.uk.

Ask if it's okay first. It's not like a blowjob. Not asking for permission will NOT mean they just get a pleasant surprise!

How the iPhone 4S was designed ...

Designers Brad and Chad are sitting in the Apple boardroom. They are joined by the blue-sky thinker, and marketing guru, Clint. He is walking around barefoot, thinking about his game of hacki-sack later, and thinking about a lovely pair of hemp shorts he saw recently. They are joined by the electrical engineer Wallace, who is currently slightly annoyed that he has had to interrupt a lovely dream he was having about electrons. Let's just say, they were penetrating every part of his body.

Brad: Urgh, man, we have to design another iPhone already.

Chad: Yeah, I know it sucks - well we better get on with it.

Brad: I bet you we could just sell people the same phone twice.

Chad: What? No way. How do you plan to do that?

Brad: I don't know exactly, but with our customers it's definitely possible. I'll ask Clint. Hey Clint, Clint, CLINT. Good, got your attention. Any chance you could move your beanbag a bit closer?

Clint: Sorry, the energy is just about right in this area. *(Wallace snorts in disgust)*

Brad: Fantastic, sounds completely plausible, anyway, do you reckon we could basically just relaunch our iPhone 4 and pretend it's new? Maybe add a feature?

Clint: It's possible. Adding a truly new feature

would break up the harmony though *(Wallace starts grumbling)*. It would be better if you took a feature no one uses that the product currently has and made it better.

Chad: How about that whole voice command shit.

Brad: Yeah, that's perfect. I've never used it. It's not like anyone can ever test it outside on the streets as if it fails we can say it was due to background noise.

Chad: Plus it's not like everyone's going to walk around talking to their iPhone asking it to call someone - they'd look like a complete bell-end.

Brad: And it's quicker to just do it yourself anyway.

Clint: I'm really getting a good vibe here vis-à-vis the birthing process.

Wallace: Shouldn't we fix the fact that it keeps dropping calls?

Brad: We're not at fucking Nokia now Wallace; we're innovating right now.

Clint: From a marketing point of view, we can fix the problem and then announce it as if it's a massive achievement that a phone can receive and make calls.

Brad: Perfect, all the fans will love it. They'll think we're listening to them and fixing a problem!

Chad: We can't just do that though; we also need to add in a slightly better camera and a minutely higher resolution screen. Is that even

possible? Wallace, quick question for you man ... stop writing, redrafting and then ultimately not sending Facebook chat messages to all the women in the office you like.

Wallace: Hey, she liked one of my photos. I'm so in. Ah, she went offline; next time I'll DEFINITELY say hi. And, yeah, of course we can. Shouldn't we design something new though?

Clint: No, this is innovation by stagnation, some people cannot see as far as others. We definitely need to release it in both black and white. That will guarantee our success.

Chad: Brad and I will go away and brainstorm, we'll come back when finished ... *30 minutes later* ...

Brad: So, here's the new design.

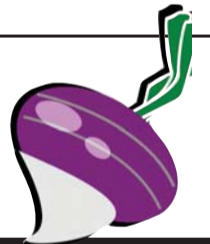
Clint: Right. Brainwave people. I'm going to market it as having 200 new features. It's not as if anyone will ever search them all out. We can claim minor changes are actually bone fide new features. See that pixel you changed from grey to darker grey on the bar at the bottom.

They all go out. Wallace is unhappy, as he wants to actually completely redesign everything from scratch rather than just tell people they are. The week after, they show Tim Cook.

Tim Cook: What the fuck? Are you guys trying to make me look shitty or something? Bollocks to announcing this, I'm letting some other poor bastards do that.

the turnip

Hangman's Finest College News Source



Biology to reclassify mushroom as plant

Common sense prevails over science for once, says Daily Star-esque headline

Top scientists in the Biology department at Imperial have come to a unanimous decision (apart from that one who still advocates intelligent design as an alternative to evolution) that mushrooms and toadstools be removed from the fungi kingdom, which includes slime molds, and placed in the plant kingdom, which contains aubergines, onions and turnips.

The shake-up came after an argument between two Freshers about whether or not the button mushrooms they had recently picked and eaten sautéed with some butter counted towards their five-a-day. On one hand, mushrooms are heterotrophs: they do not make their own food, not unlike many students, in fact. However, unlike students, they are clearly not animals and are apparently healthy. They also have an uncanny resemblance to plants with the classic "stalk-coming-out-of-the-ground-with-stuff-on-top" design that's been in vogue for the past 200 million years or so.

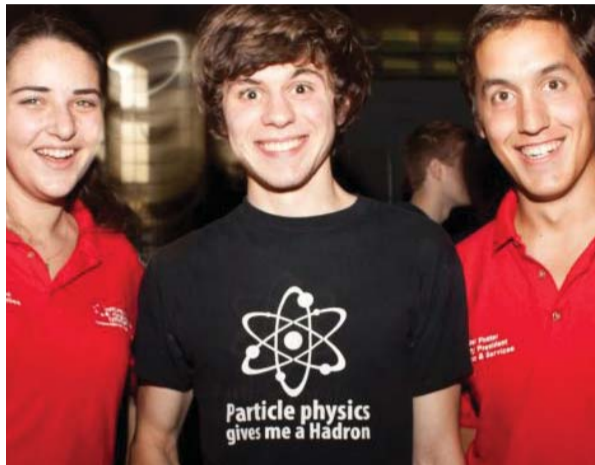
When the College's resident biologists were confronted with this dilemma it forced a re-think of what a mushroom actually is, and after some debate involving the arguments of "come on" and "it'll be jokes", a vote was passed in an office somewhere in SAF, though whether the wider scientific community will recognise this remains to be seen. Preliminary speculation suggests a response along the lines of "you must be fucking joking".

One unexpected consequence of this is that this precedent has opened up the possibility of addressing other discrepancies in the English language regarding fruit and vegetables. Currently the tomato is a fruit even though it finds its way into clearly savoury dishes; yet neither the strawberry nor Matt Berry are considered true berries, despite their misleading names and being rather seedy. Putting these in more appropriate groups would at the very least give Alan Davies a couple fewer things to trip up over on QI.



The magic mushroom taking community welcomed the move, saying "Hello talking dog, I like your purple tail."

The Hangman Photo Guide to The Mingle



...but this t-shirt has never got me laid



Edgy as fuck. What's he going to do next, smoke a cigarette?



MUM! I DID IT!



"I fingered a girl once - it was messy. But don't worry, I now take precautions. My sleeves will be fine."



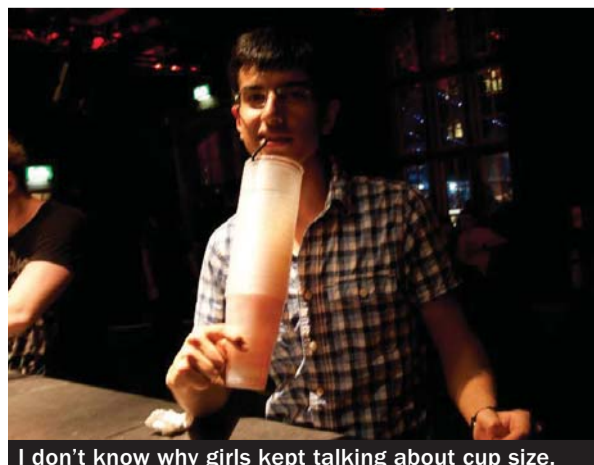
Mingle? With humans? I think I'd rather mingle with my own kind - Blood Elves of the Azranthian shores



Our Freshers' Week was pure carnage. At one point a guy put a shot on my head!



All the female freshers of 2011 pose for a photo



I don't know why girls kept talking about cup size, but I hope I got it right

Horoscopes

Aries

You've moved into halls, only to find that your floor consists entirely of US Navy SEALs. You hope they've brought some of that top porn they pinched from Bin Laden's pad. And no one is going to now fucking mess with your food in the kitchen fridge, too right.

Taurus

Imperial satisfaction keeps going down and we're now below Lancaster in the league tables. Maybe if the Union got its act together (after 100 years of crap) and girls had bigger tits this shit wouldn't happen. Sort. It. Out. Jesus...

Gemini

Everyone is talking about a double dip recession. All you can think of is employing some quantitative easing and a triple dip of two in the pink and one in the stink to make your missus happy. It's what Robert Peston wouuulllddd waaaannntt.

Cancer*

*www.pancreaticcancer.org.uk
You die from PC (ironic, eh?). The world mourns the loss of a great innovator, but, come on, what was the point of the iPad? Seriously, WHAT THE FUCK? I have a laptop that does more for less. YOU TURTLENECK WEARING FUCKWIT!!

Leo

After failing to get laid at the Mingle, you go back to halls deflated. Amongst the freebies in your room, you see some Ir-resistibly Smooth Body Nivea® Lotion, promising a 24hr silky skin feeling, and 1 condom. You're on a student budget - you grab the chance for a free posh wank.

Virgo

Your roommate has a nut allergy. You're curious - you liquify a pack of pistachios and inject them into his little toe as he softly sleeps. He starts frothing at the mouth, shaking violently. You look furtively around. You lock the door. You have an aggressive wank.

Libra

You corner the only hot fresher in your year outside the lecture theatre. After failing miserably with the Felix chat-up lines from last week's issue, you ask: "What's the difference between jam and marmalade?" You then shove your willy up her arse. Oh the poetry of it all.

Scorpio

You die from a nut allergy...
...your last flashes of life being some white sticky fluid flying up your nostrils.

Sagittarius

For your weekly horoscope, call 0800-really expensive premium rate number-800-800 from 6am GMT each Friday. All proceeds will go towards funding the editors penchant for cocaine fuelled Nazi orgies in the back of the Felix office. Much appreciated xxx

Capricorn

Oh dear, it's Freshers' Week and you never realised what a cum-bucket you were. You've shagged your new mates and then some. In a moment of nihilistic angst, you question the meaning of life before going to your room to slowly ram those fingers up your minge. Awful.

Aquarius

You dingleberry. You keep bragging about your summer internship at one of those cock-sucking banks. Some rugby boys, out of cash and over-sexed, hear of your £40,000 reward for shafting their mum's pension. They punch you in the face. That's karma, that is.

Pisces

If you're actually reading this, it suggests you believe this crap and go around proclaiming "I'm not reglious, just spiritual." You deserve a flying elbow to your ovaries. If you're looking for self-healing, you'd be better off buying a pack of plasters.

Agile minds see more

Deutsche Bank would like to extend a welcome to all Freshers at Imperial College.

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SPORT

Sports Editors: **Indy Leclercq**
David Wilsonsport.felix@imperial.ac.uk**City and Guilds 7s German tour a success**

Kebabs, beer, and some rugby...

...Continued from back page

Brandenburg gate and the Berlin wall was great but the biggest cheers were heard when the afternoon beer/kebab break was announced. Result of the afternoon: no casualties, Tom Cotton learnt how to ride a bike and Ed Jinks really does love kebabs.

Tired and thirsty, we travelled back up north again to be greeted with a BBQ by our hosts. After enjoying their hospitality for an hour or two, we were surprised to see Tom Godfrey making his way towards the club house. Apparently, we had lost him in Berlin but his impeccable knowledge of the German underground got him back safely. After more socializing and “intercultural exchange” we took over our “accommodation” – some luxurious tents on a beach rugby pitch next to the actual rugby pitch. The night brought the aforementioned English weather but luckily, the tents were able to keep us dry. Being engineers, we decided to

make our upcoming nights more comfortable by buying some air mattresses before heading over to the club house for a fantastic breakfast – the secret to any success.

The weather didn't improve much, and even the late arrival of our inspirational leader and captain Niall couldn't brighten the skies: it kept raining and it felt like it was getting colder and colder throughout the day. That didn't stop us from showing off our Sevens skills during the pool stage of the Rugby Union Sevens tournament. Our first opponent, the local Veltener Rugby Club, had no chance against some fierce defending and great running in attack so that an easy 31-0 win was recorded by our secretary Toby Spittle.

Even more tries were scored against the U18s side of the hosts, the “RU Young Wolves”, and the Swiss team RC Bombers Zug. The toughest match of the day was the last one against defending champions RK 03 Berlin who just finished 7th in the German first di-

vision; the Bundesliga. Again, our defense was the corner stone of our success. Our two tries and one conversion was too much for the Berliners who only managed to score one try – 12-7 and first place in pool B for the C&G RFC – what a result!

The other pool was topped by the second RK 03 team followed by the hosts RU Hohen Neuendorf. That meant we were to face the hosts in the cup semifinal on the following day. A devious plan by the hosts meant that they organized a players' party for Saturday night which we were quick to take advantage of. Our fancy dress for the evening, Ancient Greeks, was admired by the locals. The handover between current and future ICURFC club captain Ed Jinks left Germany with an invitation to the 3rd Rugby Union Sevens next year. We also won the prize for the best match shirts of the tournament. We'd like to pay tribute to our tour sponsors Chateau Six, Laing O'Rourke, City & Guilds College Association and PathMotion for allowing us to make these fantastic experiences possible.

After another exceptional breakfast on Sunday, we discovered that we already made it to the final because both RK 03 teams did not make it back to the tournament on Sunday after having a beer or two too many. That meant we were to play the last match of the tournament against RU Hohen Neuendorf. Niall had problems finding enough players for the team after injuries and hangovers decimated our side. We employed one ringer in the form of one RK 03 player who joined us so that we went into the Cup final with some optimism.

The hosts showed us from the off that they wanted to win in front of their own fans. They quickly went two tries up before our own resident German, Max Joachim, brought us back into the game with a converted try just before half-time. Unfortunately, the beers from Saturday night were holding us back a bit so that we didn't manage to score any more points. The second place was celebrated with the

hosts nevertheless before heading into Berlin for one last night full of some nakedness, a lot of kebabs and a few beers before catching our flight home.

It was the end of a fantastic tour that had brought the team even more together and from which a number of memories and stories will be recounted. A lot of positive surprises were noted on the pitch by strong performances of freshers Will Griffiths and Sean Jordan who put in some fierce hits while winger Lukas Michalitsch was able to practice his try celebrations. The dedication shown by all the players and the willingness to mingle with the other teams and our hosts left the Germans very impressed by the C&G RFC and new C&G RFC club captain Ed Jinks left Germany with an invitation to the 3rd Rugby Union Sevens next year. We also won the prize for the best match shirts of the tournament. We'd like to pay tribute to our tour sponsors Chateau Six, Laing O'Rourke, City & Guilds College Association and PathMotion for allowing us to make these fantastic experiences possible.

Watch this space...

Don't worry, we haven't forgotten your favourite bit of the sports section...The Felix Sports League and Fixtures and Results will be up and running next week.

In the meantime, get winning!

New season, new ambitions, new kit for IC sports clubs

...Continued from back page
ships to bring in the funds that will go towards success. A happy consequence of this was announced on Monday: Varsity will be free for all students this year. “We want to see if we can fill the Stoop”, said Mosley, referring to the ground of the Harlequins team in Twickenham where the Rugby Varsity Match will be played.

The other, much more visible, consequence of Imperial's renewed sporting ambition is a new partnership with sportswear company Kukri. Beginning with this season, all sports clubs will be able to order a wide range of sport-specific kit in Imperial colours.

This also meant that the second part of the meeting on Monday was a fashion show in the sports hall. Some of the best looking sportsmen-and-women strutted down the catwalk in style (including my fellow editor Dave Wilson) modelling everything from rugby to volleyball attire. Kukri are also producing Imperial hoodies and tracksuits as part of their leisure-wear range – which are on sale in their new shop in Ethos.

As a sports editor, all of this sounds very promising – and Felix Sport hopes to bring you all the action every Friday on the back page. One last thing before I let you get on with your Friday afternoon: we need contributors! Whether you were at the meeting or have just signed up to a club, any sports-related news or match reports are more than welcome.

Just email them into sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk, along with some nice pictures - and you'll more likely than not find your exploits in the paper!

Want to big up your sports club?**Keep it under 1000 words and you're good to go.****Write a report for us!****sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk**

SPORT



All kitted out: Imperial athletes show off the new college threads in front of Ethos, where a Kukri shop selling official kit has been set up. From L-R: Hayley Rigby, Hannah Bryars, Rachel Collins, Samuel Alton, Avinash Murthy and Sami Dabbaghy.

Snowsports clubs collaboration will 'reduce prices'

Elisabeth Burks

In this 'age of austerity' skiing and snowboarding can still remain affordable for students. Tough times call for tough measures. So now Snowsports clubs from across the land of London have come together to bring snowy fun to the masses (i.e. you) at good ol', pre-tuition-fee-scandal, student prices! While you were busy working on those tans that the days of revision and exams denied you, your lovely Snowsports committee were looking out for your winter needs.

As the summer ends we are pleased to announce the formation of another hybrid word and a new era of: the London Snowoperative! What does it mean? This winter's trip will be the biggest yet with Greenwich, University of Arts London, Southbank University and Ravensbourne College joining Imperial in a fleet of coaches all going to Les Arcs, France. Combining the trip in this way has led to a reduced cost that doesn't compromise on resort location or quality of service.

What's more, now that October has come and the weather is shite again, you can look forward to meeting other London students on Snowsports socials: on our trips to snow domes and as we travel to competitions including the weekend trip to Edinburgh in November (aka BUDS). To welcome this new Snowoperative into action Imperial will be hosting a We Are Metric night (October 20). "On this night we invite anyone

that has ever wanted to ski or snowboard to join us in celebrating this new venture!" Gerry Hawkins, Social Secretary, shared. "Everyone else come for the fun times and free beverage," added the trip's organiser Vlad Demerdzhiev, "enjoy this one responsibly – the rest is up to you."

Wikipedia teaches us that a cooperative is "an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise." The Snowoperative will also strive to meet your snow-related needs and aspirations. Be they learning to ski or board, or landing rodeo fives - or if you just want to make an igloo and join in the après-ski. For example, the fresher taster session (October 19) will also be joint with the Snowoperative with two coaches of students heading to Milton Keynes' snow dome for recreational ski with features or a lesson available at a huge discount.

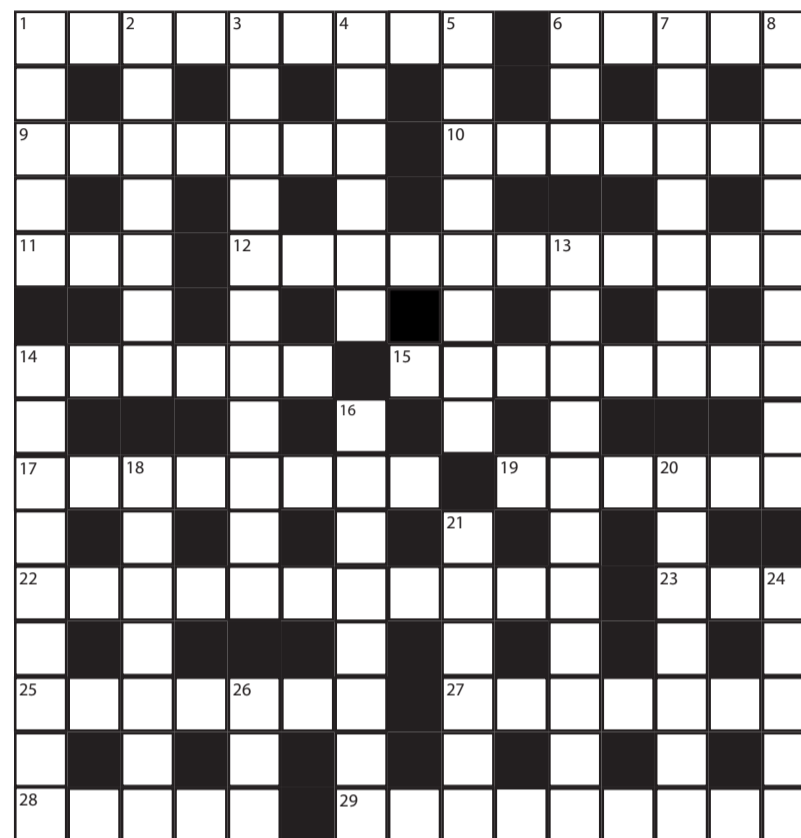
The Snowoperative is thus far composed of the core five universities – however others have already expressed interest and growth is expected next year. "This is a sport which is not all about the rivalry but the revelry," explained Luke Bridgestock – Freestyle Captain and PhD student, "This is the start of something special that will continue on."

Prices for the annual winter trip to the alpine mountains had been increasing year on year. As always the aim has

been to make the trip as affordable as possible so that it is not only attended by the super keen (gnarly, power-hungry specimens that you are) but also by those that want to keep the recreational student life going over winter. It is a time to bond over vin chaud and have silly fun with other students in the snow. After all, it's not long until our holidays will be limited by our careers and student prices are snatched away from us! London snowsports clubs needed to unite and do some serious negotiating! Matt Edwards, treasurer, assures us that the Snowoperative efforts have been successful: "This year, the trip costs less than last year and the year before that."

The most significant change the Snowoperative trip will bring Imperial students is the variety of social opportunities. Of course, being the independent adults that you are – it's up to you what you choose to get involved in. If you want to keep it a personal trip with friends, that is still possible. Accommodation will remain as self catered, apartment rooms to give you a base. Les Arcs offers a huge skiing area to explore and you can enjoy the freedom however you like. On the flipside, if your aim is to get to know new people then there will be a range of events to attend in the coming months: union nights like We Are Metric, weekend trips away (BUDS), premieres of ski and snowboarding films, the chance to try out racing for free and more. This year will be unlike any year Imperial has ever seen – the world of Snowsports is opening up to everyone.

Cryptic Crossword 1,496



Across

- 1. Sugar daddy's brother a spotty thing! (9)
- 6. Water patch of flowers we sent back (5)
- 9. Herb from South Africa two fellows to re-elect (7)
- 10. Englishman repeating the same thing over and over with miserable person around - found commonly at Butlins (7)
- 11. Go down slope and endlessly slide (3)
- 12. Hard worker reveals bottom to be less obscured (11)
- 14. US decision makers, half chosen, not extremely hated (6)
- 15. Distress - give rage, after a fashion (8)
- 17. Soldier with alias from the East if being flanked right to left beforehand (8)
- 19. One person who's diseased wearing jumper (6)
- 22. Quick tour - blow to halt! (11)
- 23. Something inside narcotic absorbed - it takes you on a journey (3)
- 25. Person rejected from group of gay actors? (7)
- 27. Hit vigorously for each swear word (7)

Down

- 28. Massive and regal, after a fashion (5)
- 29. Part of Big Brother House becomes airy Mordor? Not right! (5,4)
- 1. Burning to hold a note while giving voice (8)
- 2. Inform us about costumes (8)
- 3. Chase around London neighbourhood (4)
- 5. North country measurement from police HQ (8,4)
- 6. Throw out, so as to measure up (4)
- 7. Empty lives of Greek fruits (6)
- 8. Jackass has master key (6)
- 11. Calm hometown somewhere in the Empire (12)
- 15. Confusion over no money runs riot (5)
- 16. Cherish the radioactive material found in the valley. (5)
- 18. Exclusively non-drinking lyrics in disarray (8)
- 19. Compressed tread contains enough to be flattened (8)t
- 21. Bird in an apartment over the riverhead (6)
- 22. Tightened wallet is dead (6)
- 26. Malign head of African state (4)
- 27. Massive Virginia highway (4)



Busting a 180 at Les Arcs: Snowoperative promises more air for your cash

SPORT



'Snowoperative' promising pistes for less

IC snowsports teams up with other unis to offer reduced price trips as well as joint socials **Page 35**

City & Guilds 7s tour Berlin

Toby Spittle

This tour had it all; no sleep, local delicacies, someone getting lost, British weather – and some great rugby. Whilst this describes the tour to leave it at that would not do it justice. C&G RFC celebrated the end of the season with a 4-day tour to Berlin where they participated in the 2nd International Rugby Union Sevens.

Sevens captain Niall Watson did everything in his power to get his team to the airport on time – driving a minibus through midnight London, picking up stragglers at the Union, Belushi's Hammersmith and Belushi's Fulham. Thanks to his dedication, the team caught their flight on time and enjoyed a little power nap before getting woken up gently by the pilot when he crashed down on Berlin Schonefeld airport. Tour translator Max Joachim awaited the tour party which quickly made its way through Berlin to their accommodation in Hohen Neuendorf, a little town just north of Berlin. The local rugby club Rugby Union Hohen Neuendorf had organized the 2nd international Rugby Union Sevens and did everything they could to make us feel at home – they even brought in some proper English weather – but let's not get ahead of ourselves. After a quick lunch, we took public transport again to meet our guide for a bicycle sightseeing tour through Berlin.

The weather was fantastic and the guide made sure that there were plenty of breaks on the way so that we didn't exhaust ourselves before the Sevens the next day. Seeing the Reichstag, the

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Imperial captains gear up for new season

Indy Leclercq

Head of Sport Imperial Neil Mosley sounded the start of the new sports season on Monday at the Club Captains' meeting held in Ethos. Introducing himself and the rest of the Sport Imperial team to the hundred or so team captains and sports club committee members, he was full of praise for the achievements of IC sports clubs last season. "Five years ago, our objective was to get into the BUCS (British Universities and Colleges Sport)

league table top twenty. I'm delighted to say we did it."

Imperial has indeed seen an exceptional rise in the BUCS rankings, climbing from 39th at the end of the 2006 season to 17th at the close of last season. Impressive wins for the fencers and a haul of points from the Imperial Boat Club are among the main successes of last year, but points have come from an extremely wide range of sports in an excellent sporting year (as reported by your favourite newspaper). Mosley has ambitious plans for

the future, with a very concrete short-term goal: "We finished just behind Leeds University last year, who have more than thirty thousand students. The gap was only ten points – that's nothing, it's a podium finish at BUCS. We're aiming to beat Leeds this year."

Moving past a university with almost three times the amount of students we have is no mean feat – but apparently Sport Imperial has loftier goals: "Ultimately, in the next few years, the objective is to finish higher than Cambridge, who are in 14th place

at the moment. There's already an academic rivalry with them, and getting past them in the league tables would mean a lot to many people at Imperial." However, unlike Cambridge or Oxford (10th), Mosley says there won't be a concerted effort to attract elite-level sportspeople – we won't be having ex-All Blacks on our rugby team any time soon.

Nevertheless, such ambition does cost money, and Sport Imperial have been establishing commercial partner-

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October brings on chocolate week:
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