



Has the **Lumia** caught the iPhone?

Head to page 39 for a comparison of all of the latest releases in this week's Technology section



Possible A&E changes

- Charing Cross likely to close
- Waiting times questioned

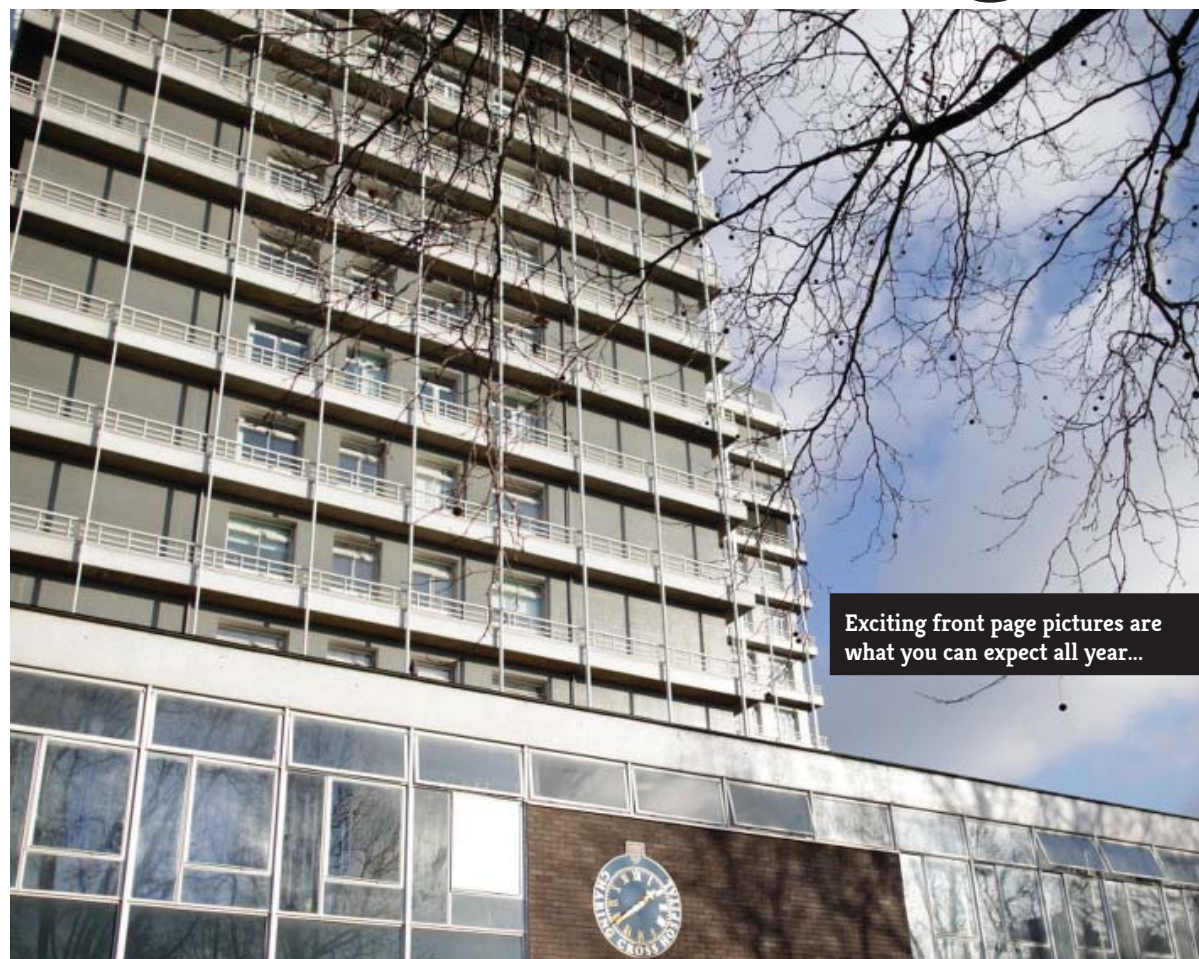
Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief
Aemun Reza News Editor

Plans have been made to close the Accident and Emergency departments of both Charing Cross and Hammersmith hospitals. Instead, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital will be made the main A&E department for the area and will be expanded to handle the extra patients from the borough. Other hospitals that will be affected by these changes are Ealing, Central Middlesex, and West Middlesex.

Charing Cross hospital is well known for its hyper-acute stroke unit which will be moved to St. Mary's as NHS bosses say that they need to site hyper acute stroke units evenly across London to minimise journey times. Hammersmith and Fulham Council's community care cabinet member Marcus Ginn said "Moving the world class stroke unit from Charing Cross to St Mary's is madness".

In a public consultation that began July 2nd and will end October 6th, people can vote out of three choices. As shown in the picture on page 4, the three options show that Hammersmith will become a specialist hospital. Option A and Option C show Charing Cross becoming a local hospital and Chelsea and Westminster becoming a Major hospital. At this point, it seems that Option A may be most likely.

If these changes go ahead it would leave 700,000 people without



an A&E in their area. The Chelsea and Fulham MP, Greg Hands, stated his concerns about how this would affect patient care. Talking to Felix, he said "it's difficult to see how the Chelsea and Westminster hospital will cope with a massive influx of patients... and getting to Chelsea may be difficult and, potentially, life-threatening for many of my constituents in Fulham. Traffic in our part of London is bad at the best of times, but we all know how gridlocked things can become. What happens when the roads are closed for football at Chelsea FC is anyone's guess. We know that ambulances will take longer to reach patients and longer to get them to a hospital with the right specialism. For stroke, that

will involve going all the way to St Mary's."

Opposition to the move called Save our Hospitals that have been organising events and meet-ups, will be marching tomorrow Saturday 6th October from Shepherd's Bush to Charing Cross to protest against the closure of West London's A&Es. Other opposition groups have started online petitions that have gathered up to 6216 signatures to save Charing Cross Hospital and 1499 signatures to save Hammersmith hospital.

Hammersmith and Fulham's Labour MP, Andy Slaughter, said on his website that he was told the "unbelievable news that Chelsea and Westminster Hospital is campaign-

ing for closure of Charing Cross. I am writing to the Chair to ask him stop immediately. I know of no other instance of a hospital actively campaigning to have another hospital closed. The trust is actually distributing postcards, asking patients to vote for Option A - which closes Charing Cross!" He mentioned his disapproval over the proposed changes as they are "ruining the NHS" and that "the damage had already gone too far and must be resisted".

If the Imperial NHS Trust becomes a Foundation Trust, they can sell most of Charing Cross for hundreds of mil-



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Effects of alcohol

Always a lively debate in Comment. Three whole pages of people giving their opinions on all of the important matters. There's a thought about Boris Johnson, some discussion of that sporting thing over summer. No-one talked about it too much...

LONDON

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Discover London

We're launching a brand new competition to try to help you discover London in some way. Everyone says that they'll in some way explore all of the generic tourist sites in this fair capital, but they usually never get round to it. Expect some expensive prizes.

TECH

>>39

Smartphones?

All of the latest releases by companies have been confirmed. It's safe to say that the iPhone has been the king for a while, but will Nokia regain the phone throne? Worth a look just for the beautiful and informative illustrations.

CLASSIFIEDS

Medical Summarizer Wanted

Looking for 4th, 5th or 6th year medical student with medical understanding.

15 hours a week.

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For further details please contact Mr. Faisal Ahmed on 07776126204

Job Description - Summarizing all medical letters and discharge summaries from Secondary Care (Hospitals) into the medical records for each patient at the practice, clinical software used is EMIS LV.

Textbooks for sale for first year Biochemistry

Molecular Biology of the Cell 4th Edition (some highlighting in it) - £10

Biochemistry by Voet and Voet 3rd Ed - £20

Chemistry for the Biosciences - £8

Molecular Cell Biology 5th Ed (Lodish) - £15

Molecular Biology 4th Ed (Weaver) - £10

Or we can agree on a package price £50 for all 5. I'm not in London at the moment but I can get to South Ken on a day's notice.

If interested, please contact Angela on aklog@ic.ac.uk.



Oh so tired

Tim Arbabzadah
Editor-in-Chief



Sleepless nights

Hello, I'm groaning at you from my desk. It's currently 3am on Wednesday, and I'm looking down the barrel of a very real possibility of an all nighter. Something nobody ever tells you (but I'm doing it right now as I feel like moaning) is just how tiring making this newspaper can be... but, honestly, it's still fun. I wouldn't swap jobs with anyone (even if the job is underwear model fondeller - not that that job exists; probably bureaucrats ruining the fucking world again with their red tape and systems and stuff).

Anyway, now is the crucial time to decide. All those of you not lucky enough to be a fresher will know this question: do I just persevere and continue the all nighter, or do I go to bed and get some (brief) sleep. It all comes down to this: what will make me the most awake tomorrow morning? You may think that this is just self indulgent ramblings of a massive tool, because that is precisely what it is. However, it is relevant to students. I'm essentially doing research for you: I'm field testing to see which method is the best and most productive, and come revision period you'll be thanking me.

Nokia nightmare

Now onto tackling the big issue of the day. The new generation of smartphones have been released and I can't resist giving a quick note on it. Nokia have been shouting to anyone who will listen (at Imperial, that's a decent amount) that they have "wireless charging". This sounds incredible, but it's not exactly as it seems. I'm not saying they are misleading you all on purpose, I'm saying they are very good at marketing themselves.

The way this wireless charging works is that you plug a cushion thing into the wall and the phone just sits on it. So, yeah, it is charging wirelessly in terms of the phone isn't plugged in, but there's still a wire intimately involved in the charging process. They've just shifted it from being straight into the phone to being into a middle man. It's not like you can wander around a room and charge your phone. That's unfair actually, you can, it's just you'd be phoneless, just like every other phone.

Perhaps you think this is unimportant (you'd be right) but there is a link to a wider issue here. Perhaps now you're thinking I'm about to put in some tenuous social commentary

or observation (you'd be right AGAIN, you're really on fire, good job you). The point is that not everything is always how it immediately sounds, seems, and is told to us. Don't let anybody sway you with what they want you to think and feel (erm, except for this text here). Question marketing, question everything.

Trusting them?

You'll notice two stories regarding the Imperial College Healthcare Trust in this issue.

It's fair to say that a lot of people aren't fans of the proposals. There are three proposals on the table, and soon we will find out the exact outcome. My personal thoughts are that it would seem that it is difficult to get a straight answer out of anyone. It's hard to find out exactly what is going on, and how the plans will affect the students at Imperial.

In a perfect world, none of the hospitals will be reduced. We don't live in that world, but it would just be appreciated by everyone if some honesty, rather than a waffling non-answer, were to be given to questions. I guess we'll all have to wait and see what happens.

LOLCATZ OF TEH WEEK: Finding these is a perk of the job

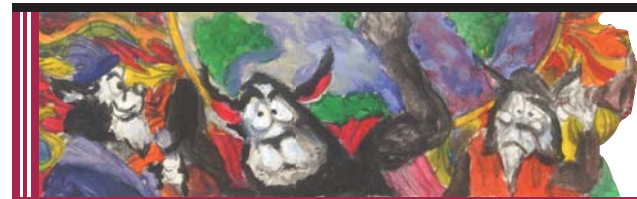


THIS WEEK FELIX WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Felix, Beit Quad, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB.
Email: felix@imperial.ac.uk. Tel: 020 7594 8072. Fax: 020 7594 8065.
Printed by Iliffe Print Cambridge, Winship Road, Cambridge.
Registered newspaper ISSN 1040-0711.
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NEWS

Healthcare Trust keep records poorly

- Systematic errors found
- Cancer patients details lost
- Councils send letter to Trust Chair

Maciej Matuszewski Reporter

Record keeping problems at the Imperial College Healthcare Trust — which runs five London hospitals and is the largest NHS Trust in England — have led to long delays for critically ill patients. 900 patient records were found to be incomplete while over 3500 people had to wait longer than the 18 week target for operations and many more, including cancer patients, received vital test results late.

In a statement the Trust said: “We have carried out a thorough clinical review of records of patients that were referred to us for suspected cancer where we had not recorded that the patients had been seen and, where appropriate, treated. To date we have found no evidence that these patients

have come to clinical harm as a result of our poor record keeping. 18 patients have been re-referred. All have been seen, and none have been found to have cancer.” While 74 of those affected have since died statement from the Trust said that “an independent clinical review group has found that there is no correlation between the reason for death and this data reporting issue”.

Even though the problem came to light in January efforts to contact affected patients through the GPs who referred them to hospital were not begun until May; a delay the Trust defended as necessary to investigate the full extent of the data loss. There has, however, been widespread criticism of the distress caused to vulnerable patients. Katherine Murphy, Chief Executive of the Patients Association, said that the situation was “unacceptable for any patient who has had any investigation, but especially patients awaiting cancer results, where every day counts”.

The issue was judged to be so serious that Westminster, Hammersmith & Fulham and Kensington & Chelsea councils sent a joint letter to Sir Richard Sykes, the Chair of the Imperial College Healthcare, expressing their “significant misgivings about [the Trust’s] management and governance”. The BBC recently reported an external report published last month as revealing that the problem had its roots as far back as 2008. The report blamed both “a serious management failure” and “antiquated computer sys-

Imperial College Health Care Trust operates hospitals including Hammersmith



tems”. Seventeen different IT systems were found to have been used at the hospital at the same time — creating confusion and increasing the possibility for errors. The report concluded that “the Trust lost management grip of delivery of waiting time standards” and that “until mid-2011, many managers and staff did not recognise the importance of ensuring the basics are done excellently”. The Trust has since

been fined one million pounds by NHS North West London for its failings.

Mark Davies, Imperial Healthcare’s chief executive, was reported as admitting that “both the poor standard of record-keeping in the past and the measures we have had to take to address this may have resulted in concern for patients and their families”. He added that he wished to “apolo-

gise unequivocally for any distress that might have been caused”. A Trust spokesperson added: “Our patients’ safety has been our absolute priority while we have addressed issues in the way we record our data ... We are extremely sorry that this situation was not identified and resolved earlier however, we would like to reassure our patients that this was an issue of poor record keeping not clinical care.”

I, Science magazine nominated for website of the year

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

The Guardian Student Media Awards 2012 have been announced. I, Science, the student produced science magazine of Imperial College London and the sister publication of Felix, has made the shortlist in the category of “Student Website of the Year”. The website www.isciencemag.co.uk/ will face off against competition from Sheffield, Leeds, Birmingham, and Bournemouth, to be crowned Student Website of the Year 2012.

I, Science is the only Imperial student based media to be nominated in this year’s awards.

I, Science was started in 2005 under the editorship of Dariusz Nikbin, and produces an issue each term. It is mainly run and written by student on



the Science Communication masters, however they welcome contributions from all students at Imperial.

The 2010-2011 team found out early and are delighted to have been nominated.

Sponsored Editorial

More student cuts Discount haircuts for Imperial students at Fresh Hairdressers

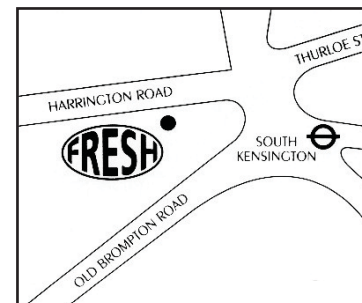
More student cuts for Imperial students at South Kensington’s FRESH Hairdressers.

- Men’s cuts £22**
- Women’s shampoo and cut and shake dry £28**
- Women’s shampoo, cut and blow-dry £38**

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Petitions created against the proposed changes

lions. The land value for Charing Cross Hospital is exceedingly large as anyone who buys the land will be able to build up to the same height as the building that they knock down, which would be fourteen stories for Charing Cross Hospital.

The main difference between a Primary Healthcare Trust and a Healthcare trust is that a Primary Healthcare Trust can keep the profits they make, whereas a Healthcare trust must reinvest their profits into the system.

The Imperial NHS trust has already been under fire over its record handling and this questions the competence of the trust as a whole and its ability to manage such dramatic changes to patient care. Greg Hands said that 'the whole process is in danger of being driven by land values and the Trust's ambitions instead of the best care for patients across West London.'

Greg Hands continued on to say that "making sure there is 24/7 cover from consultants is obviously good; leaving an entire London borough without an A&E is not. At the moment, this seems to be about Imperial NHS Trust's needs, not patients' needs. I am fighting hard to change



Left: Protesters
Right: The proposals put forward

saveourhospitals.org

	From the proposals document		
	Option A	Option B	Option C
St Mary's	Major	Major	Major
Hammersmith	Specialist	Specialist	Specialist
Charing Cross	Local	Major	Local
Chelsea & Westminster	Major	Local	Major
West Middlesex	Major	Major	Local and elective
Ealing	Local	Local	Major
Central Middlesex	Local and elective	Local and elective	Local and elective
Northwick Park	Major	Major	Major
Hillingdon	Major	Major	Major

that".

Medical students of Imperial College London use both hospitals for teaching, and concerns have been made as to how this will affect Imperial medics. If the plans go through Charing Cross will no longer be a teaching hospital, which will have a big impact on the way medicine is taught at Imperial. ICSM President, Shiv Vohra, commented saying: "At

the moment students are in the dark as to what the proposals will mean for their future education, and would like to be kept in the loop about the planned changes and how it will affect them. Particularly in relation to the Charing Cross hospital, which is the hub of the medical school."

Felix asked a spokeswoman from Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, about whether the changes

would have a positive or negative effect on education. In her response she mentioned that, "the three options will affect the Trust in differing ways and as a consultee the Trust is considering what the proposals mean for our services, staff and sites. We have agreed with Imperial College London that we will formulate a joint response as an Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC) as it

is crucial that the feedback includes how these proposals will affect the AHSC's tripartite mission of vastly improving healthcare through service, education and research."

With the public consultation ending on 6th October and the proposed changes taking up to three years to be implemented, it could be a while before the exact effects to medical students and patients is known.

Fire in Chem Eng labs

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

On Tuesday 2nd October, there was an incident in one of the Department of Chemical Engineering's laboratories in the Bone Building on the South Kensington Campus.

Prince Consort Road was briefly cornered off and students in the Union had to leave via the exit on the first floor of the Union building.

The Fire Brigade were called, as were the police. This was reportedly due to a possibility of an explosion, however that has not been confirmed to be true. It was all said to be precautionary measures.

At this point there were multiple accounts and rumours as to what had happened, with the fire brigade dispersing the crowd that had briefly formed on the



Royal Albert Hall steps. The bottom of the steps were also included in the area cornered off. A man in a white lab coat could be seen being questioned by the Fire Brigade by the side of the building.

It was confirmed on Thursday 4th October by the College that the fire has "caused substantial damage to a fume

cupboard". It was added that "the cause of the fire is currently being investigated however it is thought that the incident arose during the changing of a hydrogen cylinder".

The Fire Brigade handed the space back to the College this morning. There were no injuries of any kind.

Freshers' Week ends

A few photos from The Mingle. Like Felix on Facebook and tag yourselves at will.



facebook.com/FelixImperial for them all, when we get round to uploading...

Freshers fooled by large number of fake Facebook groups

Padraic Calpin Reporter

For new students joining Imperial College each year, the various Facebook groups for halls, subjects, and for the entire year of Freshers as a whole are an invaluable resource, both for specific questions and getting to know your future class/house/roommates (delete as appropriate). Unfortunately, full as they are of new students, many of whom are arriving in London for the first time, these groups are always a prime target for advertisers and promoters, pushing their own events through links and the odd fake account.

This year, though, they've gone

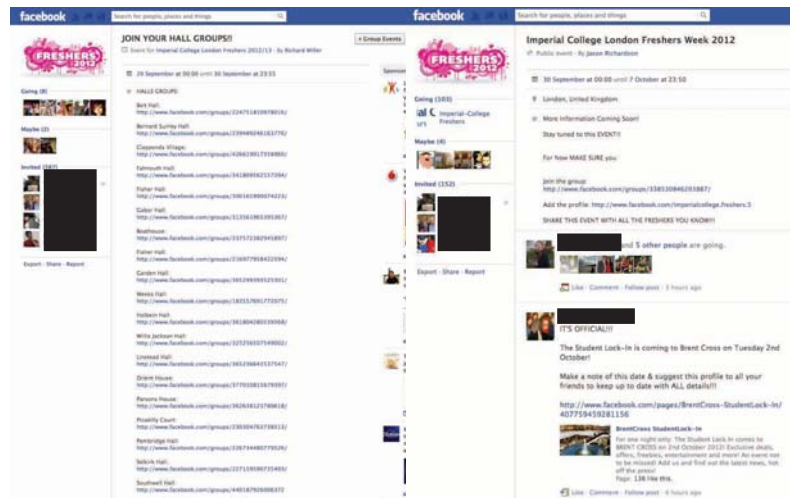
one step further in creating fake Facebook groups for 2012/13 Freshers, for each hall of residence and even a fake event for Freshers' Week. It's not clear whether these fake groups were intended just for advertising purposes or to try and collect personal information on new students.

A company filing in August found that 1.5% of all Facebook accounts, roughly 14.3 million, are "undesirable"; fake accounts intended for spamming or phishing schemes.

All fake groups and events have now been taken down after the Union contacted Facebook. Asked about the incident, Union President Paul Beaumont said: "It's no wonder that new students can start Uni incredibly

confused, when they've been a part of fake groups mis-selling things, or been told false information by fake profiles. New students should be very wary of groups and profiles that are promoting events, encouraging people to sign up to mailing lists, or encouraging people to part with money. All of the official and proper Facebook "sub-groups" (faculty, departmental, or hall specific) are linked from the Union's Freshers' group. All major websites and such will be linked from the Union's website imperialcollegeunion.org.

(Union freshers' group can be found at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/197209050356534/>.)



Here is your one excuse to look at Facebook during lectures. Soak it up...

IMPERIAL HORIZONS



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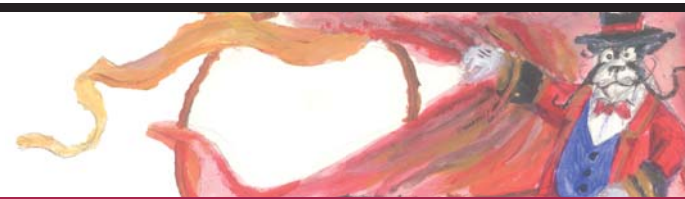
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FEATURES

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
Caroline Wood
felix@imperial.ac.uk



A tour of some of the best p

Tim Arbabzadah and **Caroline Wood** spend loads of money selflessly

Intro

It can be incredibly easy to end up spending all of your life just sitting in the library and only sampling JCR, SCR (if you're lucky enough to be let in), Library Café, and, of course, all of the departmental cafés. Thing is, we happen to live around a whole load of amazing cafés. So sit back, relax, in the Library Café (obviously), chow down on your jacket potato with beans and cheese, and just pour over this. By which we mean pour over it in a reading way, don't pour your beans over it. You may just find your new favourite restaurant, and discover that it's right on your doorstep. As, let's face it, you'll end up living in the library at some point in your degree (*both shudder as we remember the first term of third year chemistry*).

ITALIAN TOP PICS

Everyone likes Italian food, right? You can't go wrong with it. Well we do, so here are some of our favourite places for pizza and pasta.

Da Mario

The real pizza deal

Kids! This is where your favorite pizza chain began! (Shame on you if you are thinking of pizza hut right now.) Yes, Mr Mario is the guy that created pizza for pizza express. So, if you're the kind of person who likes to pay a little bit more for something more authentic, then Da Mario is somewhere you should go. It's dangerously close to college and is a great place to fill up of food after a long day in the lab. There's also some pretty epic interior decorations going on, such as the great cartoon of Mario.



45 Gloucester Road

Rocca di papa

Not as expensive as it looks

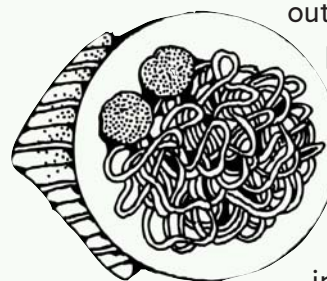
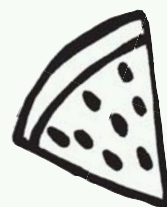


This is our top pick if you want a sophisticated birthday dinner with friends. The menu caters to everyone's tastes and budgets, ranging from basic pizza and pasta dishes starting at around £5 to more elaborate meat dishes for up to £15. The best part of it, however, is that everyone gets to enjoy the Mediterranean décor and friendly staff, meaning you feel whisked away from any English winter blues in a second. It really is a great atmosphere, sometimes you worry that you'll get a ridiculous bill on your desk... Oh, and we should also add that if your timetable allows you to take a long lunch, Rocca gives all students a complimentary plate of bread when they eat there at lunch-times. This isn't even "soup with bread" one piece of bread style bullshit going on, it's a whole plate.

73 Old Brompton Road

Sole Luna Pizza and Pasta

The big dog



We spent years walking past this place barely noticing it was there. It has just "Pizza and Pasta" written in blue neon lights on it, as if that's its name, which makes you just blank it. It's just by the entrance to South Ken station and easy to rush by. However, definitely stop by sometime and check it out. Huge pizzas, even huger dishes of pasta, a slightly small but incredible garlic bread starter dish and friendly waiters / waitresses. It's not the cheapest place to go, so maybe save it for a special occasion, or better still, suggest going there when your parents come to visit.

34 Thurloe Street (next to South Ken station)

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
Caroline Wood
felix@imperial.ac.uk

FEATURES

Places in South Kensington

... eating out every night to bring you the best from the local area

Caffe Forum

Pretend to work and eat

With £5 pizzas from 5pm-7pm everyday this is a great place to get some cheap after-college pizza and read over your lecture notes. However, it is an even better place to get some cheap after-college pizza and hang out with friends. With a mega chilled out vibe and lots more on offer than just pizza (quiche – which is amazing and comes with a salad that has a dressing that must contain addictive drugs, salads, cakes, pasta dishes, and loads more) Caffe Forum rates highly on our cool scale. (You also get a free croissant if you buy a coffee in the morning... or a free coffee if you buy a croissant... something like that. We research well) The mochas also deserve special praise for being outstanding.



146 Gloucester Road

Med Kitchen

Cheat your way to cheap



This place is niiaaice. And as expected, some plates come at a price. However, we've found a way to enjoy the 5* environment without having to max out your overdraft. Go here for a pot of tea and chips. Chips are £2.95 and you get a big wooden bowl full. They're proper thin fries, and are really great with meals. This sounds odd, but the reason that we even tried this place was that we always see loads of people with amazing looking platefulls of chips. It took some courage (and a long day of work, and therefore lowered regard for our bank balances) to go in and try it. Amazingly, tea is £1.95 for a pot – cheaper than Starbucks. If you've got a spare afternoon and want a change of scenery, we highly recommend that you hang out here for a bit. The three egg omelettes are worth a try. That, chips, and tea is a pretty boss dinner.

25 - 35 Gloucester Road

Le Pain Quotidien

Brunch in style

This is on that row of shops that includes a few cafes. It's another one of those places that you just walk past everyday and think "I'll definitely go to that at some point, probably", then, inevitably, you don't bother to actually go in the end.

Here's the part that will make you think "nah, can't be arsed": it's a little bit pricey. However, it is really worth it. They do these open faced sandwich things, called "tartines" apparently (yes, we are a bit uncultured and so had to look that up). The roasted vegetable one is particularly nice. The grilled goat's cheese and roasted vegetable toasted tartine (we feel very sophisticated saying this as if we knew it all along) is really great. Maybe that's because I (Tim) have an almost perverse love of goat's cheese, or it could be the great salad dressing that they give you. We know that we've been banging on about salad dressing way too much in this article, but, honestly, salad is just leaves and shit without the dressing: in other words, it's the dressing that makes it.



LE PAIN QUOTIDIEN

The atmosphere, well, put it this way: it's very much somewhere you can sit in and forget all about quantum mechanics in. We recently found out, with a pang of horror, that this is actually a chain, but oh well, it's still worth it.

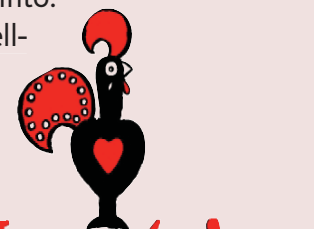
17 Exhibition Road

Best of the rest

Other mentions go to: Café Nero on Gloucester road, for the comfiest sofas in town. It's the best Nero that we have ever seen. We shouldn't keep banging on about sofa quality, but honestly these are massive brown leather sofas that you can just sink into.



Chopstix next to South Ken station, for well-priced greasy Chinese that gives you that really content feeling for about 5 minutes and then makes you feel a bit sick, Nando's on Gloucester road for a trustworthy 'I can't be bothered to cook tonight' quick fix, GBK for good burgers at a good price (the closest cheap eat for everyone in Evelyn Gardens),



Nando's



and, sorry Byron, but they have much more choice, especially for veggies. The Sandwich Shop on Gloucester Road when you get bored of eating food from the Library Café, and Wafflemeister again near South Ken station, for when you get that waffle urge.

Gloucester Road and South Kensington station

FEATURES

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
Caroline Wood
felix@imperial.ac.uk

Time to rest my bones

This summer, Kadhim Shubber raised £3,000 for Imperial scholarships by cycling from John O’Groats to Land’s End on a tandem... with a skeleton

Kadhim (foreground), Sioni and Arthur (skeleton) arriving at Land’s End



The last day was bliss. My parents had driven down to Cornwall and had taken the bags off our bikes; after two weeks, we finally had a support car. With the weight removed from my beleaguered back wheel, the tandem was a dream. I sped up the hills, my now mutant thighs making short work of the climbs, and then flew down the other side, enjoying gears I hadn’t realised existed before. The Claud Butler racing tandem, the “Majestic Two”, was finally getting to spread its wings. The sun was out, and King Arthur (the skeleton) was getting to feel the wind in his... chest cavity. We arrived at Land’s End in no time.

Most days weren’t like that. No sir, most days weren’t like that at all.

It all started at some point in September or October last year. I was derping around on the Internet, when I stumbled upon a site called ‘RecordSetter’. It’s kind of like a crowd-sourced Guinness Book of Records. You choose your record, you record yourself doing it, and if the RecordSetter community decides that it’s legit: hey presto, you’re a world record holder.

I was impressed. I tweeted something obnoxious at them, like “ZOMG awesome website bro!” They replied suggesting that I try to set a record. They suggested trying to break one of their cycling records. I found one, set in 1987 by an American called Art Hoffman. He had cycled 437 miles on a tandem with a skeleton on the back to raise awareness about the dangers of smoking. “I could beat that,” I thought, and thus started down a path that would lead to me standing on Dartmoor in the middle of a storm,

“Meh, there are probably less interesting ways to die”



staring down a great big horned cow, with a tandem and skeleton in tow.

My preparations for the cycle were abysmal. Pretty much the only useful thing I did was persuade Sioni, an experienced cyclist, to come with me. People would ask me, “How’s training going?” and I would laugh, say “Errr, not bad” and then make a mental note to lie more convincingly next time. Before setting off on the trip, I had been on the tandem fewer than ten times. And no more than three of those times were with the skeleton. I had never in my life cycled more than 50 km in one day. Simply put, I had no idea if the bikes, the skeleton, or my body would last the entire journey, or make it in the time we allotted.

I quickly discovered that the bike was much too small for me; that the handlebars were atrociously uncomfortable; and that even a Brooks saddle will do horrendous things to your backside if you haven’t broken it in.

There wasn’t really a point, you see, where I had made a conscious decision to do this cycle. I thought it would be cool to break a record; I thought it would be fun to cycle John O’Groats to Land’s End; it felt right to raise money for Imperial scholarships, to help other people have the opportunity to attend the university that had given me so much. But to be honest, when I found myself in possession of a borrowed skeleton and a tandem, I thought, “Oh dear, I’m actually going to have to do this now” – it felt churlish at that point to turn back.

And boy were there a lot of times when I wanted to turn back, to stop, to sack it all in. The two hazy, fever-afflicted days in and around Herefordshire; when Arthur snapped at the spine and I had to carry him on my



LIKE A BAWWS

back for 30 miles; every time I went up a hill; every time I came down a valley and understood that, like a Lannister, I would have pay that debt back on the other side. And, of course, I wanted to turn back when I encountered cow-zilla on Dartmoor.

It probably wasn’t a good idea to try and cycle across Dartmoor. I mean, nothing about cycling the entire length of the UK with your mate’s skeleton on a tandem from the 80s is a good idea. But cycling across Dartmoor in particular was a dreadful idea.

The rain wasn’t falling from the sky. It was shooting across the moor

into my face as if some great big fireman was spraying his hose across the landscape (eww). The wind wasn’t just blowing, it was straight up sucker punching me in the gut when I least expected it. The hills weren’t just... ok, you get the idea.

But whilst I could deal with being so soaked that I had abandoned the thought that I might ever be dry again, I couldn’t deal with a great big cow suddenly appearing out of the fog in the middle of the road. Sioni was far ahead in the distance; the two deaf cyclists we had passed earlier were surely far behind; and here I was alone,

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
Caroline Wood
felix@imperial.ac.uk

FEATURES



Art Hoffman, absolute legend

staring down a cow, thinking, "I don't want to die. But, meh, there are probably less interesting ways to die".

Of course, we didn't turn back. Aside from the fear of failure and personal embarrassment and the knowledge that people had donated tons of money and wouldn't be too impressed with me bailing because my knees hurt a little, what really kept me going was the incredible support we had from so many people.

There were the cars that honked and cheered as they overtook. There were the people who let Sioni and I into their homes (and ensured we were suitably hungover in the morning). There were the good guys at Lejogstics in Inverness who fixed the skeleton after suffering total spinal collapse on day 2. Half my equipment, including the skeleton and the pannier bags were lent to me by Reuben Gibbons. The tandem was a loan from Carole and Graham Davies. We had an article on CNET and in local media thanks to John-Paul Jones and the press team at Imperial. Sport Imperial lent me some pro 'Imperial Wheelers' kit. Hell, we even had the original record holder Art Hoffman sending us videos of support from the US. There's a near never-ending list of people who helped make the cycle happen. It felt like some huge cycle convoy making its way down the country, rather than just Sioni and I battling our way through the wind and the rain.

When we arrived at Land's End the feeling was incredible. I took my hands from the handlebars, lifted my arms into the air, and soaked in the moment (secretly praying I wouldn't wipe out metres from the finish line). In case the whole trip wasn't surreal enough, there was a coach-load of Chinese tourists who all wanted photos with us. (As far as I'm concerned, Sioni and I are now national celebrities in China...)

In the end, we cycled a total of 1487.17 km (924 miles) and climbed 15km vertically. It was incredible fun. The UK is more beautiful than I had ever thought.

But anyway, that's all over now. My knees still ache quite a bit, but I think that's to do with the fact that I haven't

done a moment of exercise since getting off the tandem for the last time. I'm now a world record holder. It took 25 years for someone to break Art Hoffman's record; hopefully it'll be much sooner before someone breaks mine. Ultimately, we raised £3,000 for the Rector's Scholarship Fund; money that will help some anonymous student who would otherwise be scraping along, worrying about every penny he or she spent. Who knows, maybe he or she will end up reading this article, in which case, let me say this: I hope you use that money to have the fullest university experience you can possibly have. Every time you think, "nah, I can't do that", remember my sorry ass in the middle of Dartmoor, grab that opportunity by the fucking cow horns, and go have some fun.

Thanks Joel, Marija, Jane, Maisie, and Paul for letting us couch surf in their homes. Thanks to Alastair, Josh, Sophie, Jade, Ed, Ben, and Simon's nan Margaret for hosting us in their homes - and thanks to their families too. Thanks to Greg for writing us a song, to Ken for doing us a sketch, and to Matt for the MS Paint masterpieces. Thanks to Neil Mosley and Sports Imperial for lending me some kit. Thanks to Jamie, Toby, and Charles for lending us their GoPros. Thanks to Elizabeth Atkin, Miranda Seymour, Rosalind Griffin, Simon Watts, John-Paul Jones and everyone else in the College who supported us. Thanks to Jonathan Kim for building us the website. Thanks to all those who donated. Thanks especially to Sioni Summers for coming with me, to Reuben Gibbons for lending the skeleton, and to Carole and Graham Davies for lending the tandem, it would have been impossible without you. I hope I haven't missed anyone, but if I have I'll update it online. Thank you all so much.

For more photos, and to see a day by day account of the trip:

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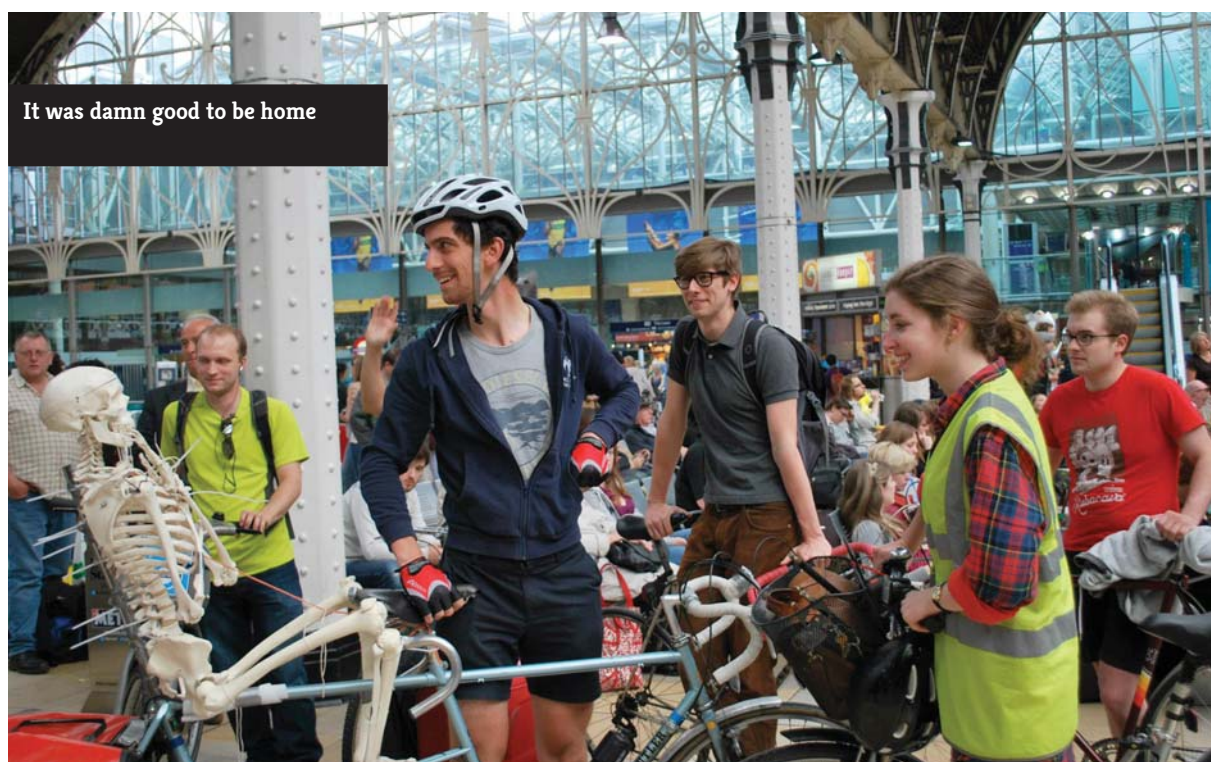
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Kadhim and his bone



The welcome party at Land's End was unexpected...



It was damn good to be home

FEATURES

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,

Caroline Wood

felix@imperial.ac.uk

Felix talk to the police about keeping safe

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

Tim Arbabzadah: What basic advice would you give to freshers in halls?

Nigel Lewis: Don't keep large amounts of cash in your rooms, make sure your bedroom door is closed behind you and never allow someone to tailgate you.

TA: How about the freshers not in halls?

NL: If you intend to rent a property and haven't already done so, stay clear of renting from the Gumtree website, try to keep to an approved estate agent. Remember – you get the keys at the same time as paying your deposit – not at a later date.

TA: Given that laptops/iPads are so easy to carry, and so common: what can people do to make sure thieves don't take things?

NL: Any piece of electronic equipment can be registered at www.Imobilise.com – it is FREE!! If your items

are stolen there is a much higher chance of getting them back if the police can trace them to you. As you move keep the information updated on the Imobilise website.

Never leave your phone or laptop unattended anywhere in the college – particularly in the library. Not all the people you see in the college are students or staff.

TA: When around campus, such as in the library, what should people do to keep possessions safe?

NL: Take them with you – never leave them unattended.

TA: What is the most common way that people lose and get stuff stolen?

NL: Most theft in the college is due to folks not realising that it is a public place and that members of the public are often wandering around it. Students and staff leave their property unattended because they feel it is a safe place to do so. Leaving your laptop and phone in an unlocked office is like leaving it in Hyde Park or in a café.

TA: When on nights out, what should everyone do to ensure nobody is harmed?

NL: Always plan your journey home, few people do this and can end up a bit worse for drink and wandering around. If the night changes, re-assess your journey home. Try to stay with at least one other person and if you are travelling by bus, stay on the ground floor – don't go upstairs.

If someone offers you a "Cab" or "Taxi", they are an illegal taxi tout. NEVER USE THE SERVICES OF AN ILLEGAL TAXI TOUT, you are just getting in to a stranger's car, they can charge you what they like, would not have insurance to carry you, and could attack you.

TA: Living out is the first difference between first and second year. What should people avoid doing?

NL: Plan your journeys, ensure you pick up your post as soon as you can if it is left in a common area such as the hallway. Keep your room or apartment locked and never let a stranger in through the front door of the prop-

erty. Don't carry large sums of cash around, keep it in the bank.

TA: Landlord problems are not too uncommon. What should people do to make sure they aren't taken to court and have a strong case if ever in trouble?

NL: The Landlords and Tenants Act is very precise about the way a tenant and a landlord should conduct business and behave. When you take a property be sure to get a Shorthold Tenancy Agreement from your landlord. This will normally be for a period of 6 or 12 months. Pay the rent on time and keep the noise down. The police can't help with landlord problems as it is a civil matter – but I am very happy to offer advice to students experiencing landlord problems, and at times can speak with the landlord to offer advice. You can contact me at Police@Imperial.ac.uk.

TA: Drugs are something that people may encounter at university. Obviously, your advice is going to be to avoid drugs. For those who

are going to, what should they do to make sure nobody gets hurt?

NL: When in a club and drinking from a bottle, keep the bottle in your sight at all times so it can't be spiked. The police would never advocate the use of illegal drugs because we so often see the consequences of drug use and the devastation it can cause.

Never share needles, if you have to use drugs try not to drink alcohol at the same time, the effects can be devastating.

The simple answer from me is always going to be: if you are arrested for a drug offence, your career may well be over, as may be your time at Imperial College. Keep a straight head and if you feel that you are having problems staying focused for your studies – go and get help from the excellent counsellors at Imperial.

Nigel Lewis is the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Liaison Officer for the police and runs an LGBT surgery at Imperial College. He is happy to speak to anyone regarding hate crime and LGBT issues.

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INDUSTRY	IMPACT	OW	FASTER
GLOBAL	ASSIGNMENTS	OW	FASTER
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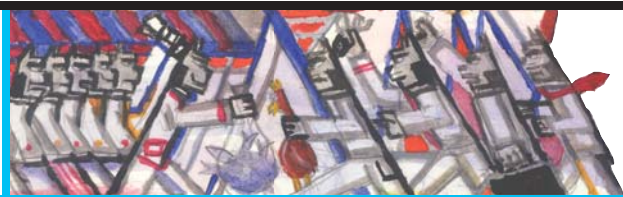


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Business Editor: Deepka Rana
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BUSINESS

How to stop wasting time

Deepka Rana spends 3 hours pretending to write a byline

This week I met Dr. Magdalena Bak-Maier, a personal development and learning expert, executive coach to top level scientists and entrepreneurs, and author of *Get Productive*. The premise of the book is simple: instead of feeling overwhelmed by having too much to do, you can learn how to use your brain well and get things done with time to spare. As she currently works at Imperial as a Organisational Development Consultant, it seemed fitting to ask the productivity expert a few questions to help Imperial students with their studying habits:

DR: Do you believe electronic apps/tools aid productivity (such as EverNote, Dropbox etc.) and why?

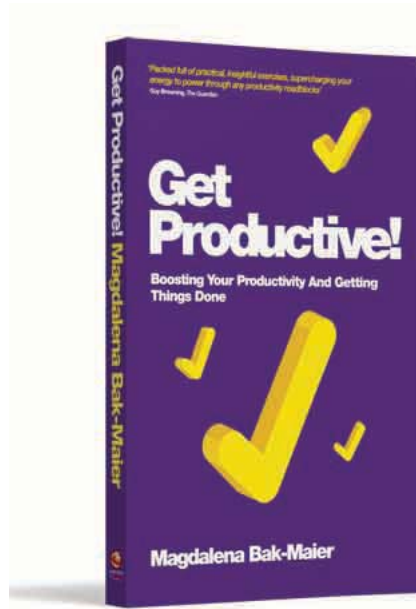
MBM: Some do and many don't. A good app helps you get things done and saves you time. My favorites are: Skype for one-to-one interviews and face-to-face project work anytime, Dropbox to carry and access key documents, Goalscape for mapping and tracking your goals, and Notes for writing simple to-do lists and reminders. I also really love Clock and use it to work to time on tasks. It's amazing what the brain can do when you give it a challenge.

DR: What is the most common problem people have when it come to productivity and how do you advise them?

MBM: The key problem is procrastination, as in delaying the work for later. In the brain, procrastination is actually a code for 'get more info,' but few people have worked that out. So instead, procrastination is used to ill effect. My advice is to learn how your brain works and what processes run efficiently in there and how come and then to replicate that process. This is what I do with people in my one-to-one work: Look at things where you don't procrastinate and notice why. Then compare to areas where you do and get curious. For intelligent brains the answers appear pretty quick. It's like engineering. There's a problem and there's at least one creative way to solve it. In my book I identified 13 solutions, and all problems can be solved using a combination of these strategies, if not one strategy.

DR: Is there such a thing as being too productive? Where should people, students in particular, strike a balance?

MBM: In the traditional sense of productivity as in getting results, yes! But I have redefined productivity on far more holistic terms. To be productive means to achieve results like maybe top grades but also being healthy, balanced, having fruitful relationships with others, and keeping it all in perspective. Productivity of this nature leads to long term stability and sustained performance and will give you a competitive edge in the job market.



I procrastinate by reading this book. Technically time well spent?

DR: How can students better hone their leadership and time management skills on a day-to-day basis?

MBM: Use the 13 strategies I outline in the book on a daily basis and hone them like any other skill. Most likely, you will find that you're already good at some of them, some of the time. So give yourself an extra edge by working that up in a way that matches your needs and life. This is what makes *Get Productive* so unique. Rather than being prescriptive, it is creative. It lets you work the solutions however you

want so long as you focus on results.

DR: What is the most interesting case you have come across in your field as an author/consultant?

MBM: I once worked with an academic who arrived to my office feeling overwhelmed and frazzled. We worked together for 3 months and in the end he found so much free time he came back so that we could brainstorm how he could use it! I regularly work with leaders challenging them to aim higher and do better but to

achieve this on healthy, fun terms. And I model that in my own life. It's more fun that way.

You can get a free copy of a sample chapter from *Get Productive* at the following website:

<http://www.maketimecount.com/sample-chapter/>

Dr. Magdalena Bak-Maier possesses over 10 years experience in the field of consulting and developing people, and a background in neuroscience. Magdalena works with scientists, artists, business executives and entrepreneurs, including G8 summit and World Economic Forum speakers, and uses her knowledge and insights to help individuals fire on all four cylinders. Magdalena's workshops and seminars have been sought within public, private and third sector. *Get Productive* has been on the best sellers list at WHSmith and is going to be translated into other languages.

COMPETITON!

If you have any productivity and careers related questions for Magdalena please e-mail them in and she will answer them over the next 2-3 issues. The best question for the next issue will win a free, signed copy of *Get Productive*.

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Sex Scandal in Chongqing (and more important news)

Marie-Laure Hicks looks into political gossip from the Far East

China is one of the largest and fastest growing economies in the world and (to an extent) the country that gave us Jacqui Chan (*I'm totally going to watch Rush Hour now – Tim*). At a time when the rest of the world, especially the Eurozone, is turning towards China to solve their (money) problems, China is having its own little personal troubles. The year 2012 is proving to be rich in political gossip.

The Bo Xilai Scandal

Bo Xilai was party secretary in Chongqing. In February, his right hand Wang Lijun sought refuge in the US consulate following a possible corruption investigation. In March, criticism mounted against Bo including from Wen Jiabao, the premier. In July, Bo's wife Gu Kailai was charged with the murder of British businessman Neil Heywood and finally given a suspended death sentence. In September, Wang was tried in secret and sentenced to 15 years in jail, Bo was expelled from the Communist party and charged with corruption, abuse of power, maintaining improper sexual relationships and responsibility in relation to the murder.

The scandal has been perceived as politically motivated, and one of the rare times the party has washed its dirty laundry in public. Bo's dismissal

has come as a surprise: he was seen as a popular leader and up for promotion in the coming leadership succession. Bo had developed a policy model that comprised low-cost housing and welfare, a distribution of wealth, which differs from the government's policy.

The scandal is still cloaked in mystery. Many question the official story of the murder, cyanide poisoning over a financial row, and claim that the Gu Kailai present at the trial was a look-a-like. The charges raised against Bo have also caused some difficulties to the party as it is seen that these could apply to a number of senior party members. Bo Xilai has not been seen since the spring.

The Japanese Islands Dispute

It all started when the private owners of Senkaku/Diaoyu islands sold them to Japan. Japan, China and Taiwan all lay territorial claims over the islands. Following the acquisition, pre-existing tensions escalated. Protests broke out in China; some Japanese goods are being boycotted and a Toyota has been attacked; a float of Taiwanese ships was pushed back by Japanese water cannons; 52,000 seats on flights between China and Japan have been cancelled and a bullet was sent to the Chinese embassy in Tokyo.

Concerns that a military conflict might ensue were not appeased by

China launching its first aircraft carrier. Military action however does not seem to be on the agenda of either country, economic and industrial ties between the nations are too important. Meetings over the row have begun on the side-lines of the UN General Assembly, although it is difficult to see how either country can change its position with both Japan and China undergoing political change over the next months.

The Ferrari Crash

In March, a Ferrari was involved in a big car crash in Beijing. Within hours, photos of the crash had been removed from the internet and searches for the word "Ferrari" had been blocked. More recently, there have been claims that the driver was the son of Ling Jihua, a prominent member of the ruling party. Ling Jihua has been repositioned from head of the party's general office of the central committee to head of the united front work department in September, likely preventing a promotion to the Politburo during the upcoming leadership succession. Critics believe this may be linked to the Ferrari incident. The Party has been strongly criticised and scrutinised over the lifestyle and riches of its leading members. Revelations regarding the lavish lifestyle of Bo Xilai, his relatives, and other Party members



Spot the difference? Gu Kailai before and at her trial

has been a great embarrassment amid growing inequalities in the country.

Leadership Succession

On 8th November 2012, the 18th Chinese Communist Party congress will start and the new leadership will be announced. Successions in leaderships have only occurred on three previous occasions, with the first two resulting in the Cultural Revolution and the Tiananmen Square massacre. The general consensus is that Xi Jinping will succeed as president and Li Keqiang as premier. The succession is much less clear concerning the remaining members of the ruling Politburo Standing Committee. During the congress, the Party is expected

to put on a show of unity and continuity, masking the divisions and factions within it. The European China Research and Advice Network does not expect any major shift in policy, with the new leadership focusing on growth and national interests. Xi Jinping has however suggested possible democratic reforms in the long term. Maintaining economic growth, controlling inflation, and keeping the population happy will be the main challenge. This change in power will shape the political landscape for the next ten years and have to deal with the world economic crisis, growing internal inequalities, territorial disputes, a massive economy, and the power that comes with it.

Conferences and Confidence – or lack thereof?

Padraic Calpin Politics Editor

It's conference season, that time of the year when the parties' eyes are all (overtly, at least) focused on the upcoming general election, and reading some of the coverage of this weeks' Labour and Lib Dem events you'd be forgiven for thinking it was due to take place in a couple of months rather than years. The Tories' have even launched their first anti-Labour poster of the election campaign: a crude bit of photoshopping of which Lord Ashcroft said "If I had recently donated funds to the Tories I would be asking what on earth CCHQ thought it was doing with my money." [Might we recommend you contact the Felix team for better graphics works?]

The open question, even after these two years of debate, is whether we'll have to wait till 2015 or not. The coalition, however improbably, trundles on, and the picture from the Lib Dems in Brighton last week suggests they're still committed to the Coalition, but pushing hard to retain their

separate identity. Delegates voted to continue supporting Osborne's austerity measures, but also called on the party to oppose the so called 'Secret Courts' legislation proposed by the coalition.

The other big question with the Lib Dems is whether these displays of independence are being noticed at all. Lib Dem support has not so much stagnated as nose-dived. But two years is a long time; it'll be an uphill struggle, but the delegates in Brighton seemed united and with Ashdown brought in to head the campaign the party may well succeed in restoring itself.

The Labour conference in Manchester, meanwhile, seemed to be about getting Ed Miliband noticed, and this is Labour's own uphill struggle. A triumphant address to party on Tuesday seemed to earn him some much needed credibility, most of which seemingly evaporated the next morning during an interview with Evan Davis on Today. For Labour, the next two years are less launching a manifesto as bolstering their leader.



Reuters



PA

AFP/Getty Images



[Insert some kind of funny and witty joke about Politics]

Help needed. (With ads apparently – Tim)
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**Food Editors: Carol Ann Cheah,
Sophia Goldberg, Yiango
Mavrocostanti**
food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

FOOD

Balans-ed meal

base2stay.com

Sophia Goldberg Food Editor

The Balans menu is an eclectic mix of dishes from Thai to Italian and a wide variety of cocktails. It is a café style restaurant, which specialises in cocktails. If you can't agree where to eat out, then this is a great place for you as there's something for everyone on the menu.

In hindsight the starters were the best part of the meal; I really couldn't fault them. I generally believe in asking the staff what they would recommend and they do know what's best when it comes to the menu. Our waiter was really helpful (and flirty may I add), and gave us some useful pointers. We took his advice on sharing starters. We ordered the truffled chicken liver parfait with balsamic red onion marmalade and sourdough toast; it was fantastic. I love the combination of the meaty liver and the sweet onion marmalade. I may have to learn how to make this in the near future. Liver is an acquired taste so I wouldn't order it on a whim. Our second starter was the chicken potstickers with a sambal olek dip, which the waiter encouraged us to order – and rightly so – it was really delicious. This is something anyone could order, as (excluding vegetarians) who doesn't like a chicken dumpling?

By this point the sauvignon blanc was flowing (I'm no wine buff but it was tasty) and a live Jazz band started playing. They were great and it did lure the punters in, maybe because of the small surface area of the lead singer's skirt, or maybe because it created quite an atmosphere. If you like that kind of stuff – live bands that is, not short skirts – I heard that they have a band on every Wednesday night. I should mention that it was pretty empty when we arrived, but that was probably because it had just turned 7pm and it was a weekday night. Nevertheless it never reached full capacity. Maybe the Soho branch (where Balans originated) or others are busier earlier.

On to the mains: we had salmon fish cakes, tuna steak and a side portion of green beans. My fishcakes were really great and well-seasoned. The chive butter sauce complemented the fish well. It also came with a poached egg on top, which I personally prefer more cooked, but it went well with the fish. There was a large amount of wilted



spinach but in my opinion the more the merrier when it comes to vegetables. It was great to have something lighter with the rest of the main. The tuna steak came with a sauce of cherry tomatoes, capers, pine nuts, olives and gremolata. The tuna was well done but I don't like capers so I'd never order that dish (but I'll avoid having a rant about them). It definitely needed something on the side so the green beans were an essential addition; they were perfectly cooked and had a nice seasoning. A sign of a good chef is one that doesn't overcook their veggies. I will mention that the waiter did advise us to order the Thai curry which is apparently their signature dish. I'd had a curry the previous night so I wasn't in the mood for another but when someone next to me ordered it I instantly suffered from severe food envy. It looked and smelled amazing and it is also one of the cheaper items (only £10.95) on the mains section of the menu.

By this point I was stuffed to the brim. I didn't manage to finish dessert. I don't know what possessed me to order the largest, sweetest thing I could, but I ordered the banoffi sundae which came with a large helping of ice cream and crushed amaretti biscuits. This was hard to enjoy as I was so full but if you have a large sweet tooth/stomach you'd enjoy it. We also ordered a lemon sorbet which was much lighter (note to self: order sorbet after massive starter and main) and it was delicious – it really freshened up the palate after a massive meal.

All in all the food is reasonably priced, and if you optimise the use of

the 2-4-1 deals they do on cocktails and the live music it would be a great deal too. A main sets you back around £14 but the burgers/ wraps/ salads set you back a mere £8-£9. We didn't invest in cocktails but they did look impressive. I get the impression that Balans seems like a great place to order several items on the menu to share, have a cocktail, and a natter. I'm going to head to the Soho branch soon. All in all there was good food and good company: it's a thumbs up from me!

Balans (Earls Court branch)
239 Old Brompton Road, London,
Greater London SW5 9HP
Monday-Thursday, Sunday:
7.30am-12am
Friday / Saturday: 7.30am-1am

La Famiglia

7 Langton Street,
The World's End,
Chelsea, London SW10 0JL

The food review

Charles Betts

It doesn't seem quite right to say there's a dodgy part on the King's Road. But there is, just beyond the trendy Bluebird brasserie, where the pavement gets a bit dirtier, the shops a bit more Londis. It is here that one stumbles upon La Famiglia restaurant. A place that proves eating out is just as much about the atmosphere as it is about the food.



So Italian it comes with a scooter outside

When it first opened, La Famiglia was a delightful place frequented by Italian expats looking for genuine Italian food. Sadly, only the food has remained unchanged. The expats have been replaced by the sort of people that read Michael Winner's weekly tosh in the even toshier newspaper-cum-tabloid that has become The Sunday Times (yes, Mr Murdoch, it may be a bit rich coming from a student newspaper). La Famiglia's website even quotes the chap in their review section – but then, this is a website that also states "Like a vintage wine, La Famiglia simply improves with age" and endlessly name drops "[...] the place has attracted the likes of Bridget Bardot, Michael Caine, Peter Sellars and Princess Margaret." Sometimes there just isn't enough vomit in the world. Rustic charm has been wretchedly replaced by urban vulgarity.

Don't get me wrong. The food is still first class, proper hearty Italian cuisine at its best. No messing about, just putting the best ingredients on a good-sized dish and plonking it on your table. But as I sat there, with a delicious vitello tonnato sitting in front of me, my mouth just could not fully appreciate the brilliance of the meal. My ears were under siege (for an overly heavy parallel, imagine the Persian invasion of Greece at the battle of Marathon), the constant stream of profanities coming from an odious, fat Australian to my left (no, not you Mr Murdoch, you're skinny) just too much to handle. And to my right, two late comers joined an already overly crammed table and gleefully wedged their chairs closer and closer to mine. My friend and I didn't have the strength or resilience the Greeks showed in 490 BC – we simply finished our main course, got the bill, and vowed to never return to this offence on what should have been a really cracking dinner.

One Berry Nice Pie in the Sky

Yiango Mavrocostanti Food Editor

Berry Pie

(Modified recipe from Chloe's Kitchen)

The crust

2.5 cups plain flour
1 tbsp sugar
1 tsp salt
1 cup cold margarine cut in small cubes
1/2 cup ice cold water

The filling

4 cups berries
1/4 cup plain flour
1 tsp cinnamon
1/2 cup sugar
Milk for brushing
Sugar for sprinkling

Procedure:

Preheat the oven at 180°C. Lightly grease a 9-inch pie pan. In a medium bowl mix flour, sugar, and salt. Using a knife cut the margarine



Satisfaction level:
Over 3.142%, surely...

into the flour mixture until you get a crumbly consistency. Then, add the cold water 1 tbsp at a time and mix. Add water until the dough just holds. Be careful not to overwork the dough otherwise you will get a very hard crust. Separate the dough in 2 pieces and place it in the refrigerator. After half an hour, remove the first piece from the refrigerator and roll

it out until it is 1/8 inch thick. Fit the dough in the pan and refrigerate for 10 minutes. Then, make the filling by mixing all the ingredients and fill the piecrust. Similarly, roll out the second piece of dough and place it on top of the filling. Brush the pie with milk and sprinkle with sugar. Bake for about 55 minutes or until the pie is nicely browned.

Food: Have It Your Way

(Slogan may/may not have been pilfered from a known joint)

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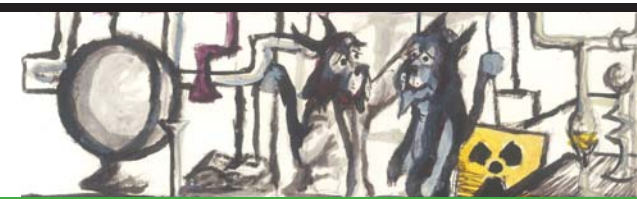
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There's plenty more fish in the sea – or are there?

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21 million adult
cod left in the
North Sea

National press:
"Only 100 adult
cod left"

National papers would have you think these
could soon be a rarity, but not is all as it seems...

Laurence Pope Science Editor

Only 100 adult cod in North Sea; 'Just 100 cod left in North Sea'; 'Just 100 mature fish in North Sea' are but three of the headlines published by *The Sunday Times*, *The Telegraph Online*, and *The Sun* respectively, a little over two weeks ago. One is not required to be a fisherman or marine conservationist to stop and question such bold headlines, variations of which have been bandied about by several American and Canadian news outlets. Whilst the population of Northern White Rhinoceri can be written with a single digit, are North Sea cod really on the brink of extinction? How did these newspapers come up with such a figure – and was there any truth behind their extraordinary claims?

The newspapers were in fact technically correct. The issue stemmed from a misunderstanding by journalists over data. In the case of *The Sunday Times*, this data came from the

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), before journalists turned to the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) for additional advice.

The Sunday Times deemed an 'adult cod' to be thirteen years of age, due to the fact that most North Sea cod could apparently live up to twenty-five years. Thus, it was logically assumed that a thirteen year-old cod

would be roughly half-way through its life. Using this gauge the data backed up their headline: by looking at the data and how many cod over thirteen years of age had been caught over the year, it was estimated that around 100 'adult' cod remained. Worrying? Hardly.

For North Sea cod thirteen years of age is old. Very old. To use a crude comparison, it would be similar to claiming the human adult population was approximately 500,000, basing the definition of 'adult' as someone being over 100 years of age. In fact, North Sea cod are sexually mature at six years old – the point they could reasonably be called adults, several years off thirteen. So where did the twenty-five year lifespan figure come from?

The estimate was taken from fishbase.org. And, indeed, cod have been estimated to live for up to twenty-five years – in the Barents Sea, north of Norway and Russia, that is. For North Sea cod life expectancy is less than half that, at an estimated eleven years.

Given the relevant information, *The*

Sunday Times headline could be corrected with a simple number change: 'Only 21 million adult cod in the North Sea' would be a more accurate, if not thoroughly unspectacular, representation of the data. Whilst it is clear that overfishing is an issue to be addressed, the problem is not as dire as the overly simplistic *Sunday Times* headline made it out to be, and the paper has since made amends. Unfortunately the story has since spread and helped perpetrate the myth that overfishing has caused cod stocks to crash most spectacularly.

In this case the poor handling of

data spawned a story so startling that it was almost impossible to avoid further scrutiny, resulting in the exposure of inadequate investigative journalism. But not all stories are so bold in their assertions that it's obvious mistakes have been made along the line. It's strongly encouraged regular readers of scientific news take everything with a pinch of salt, and question what you read, a trait that will set you in good stead for the future. After all, 'The 100 cod' fiasco isn't the world's first piece of poor scientific journalism, and it certainly won't be the last.

... a story so
startling that
it was almost
impossible to
avoid further
scrutiny ...

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SCIENCE

Solar cells get a boost

Annina Sartor

Writer

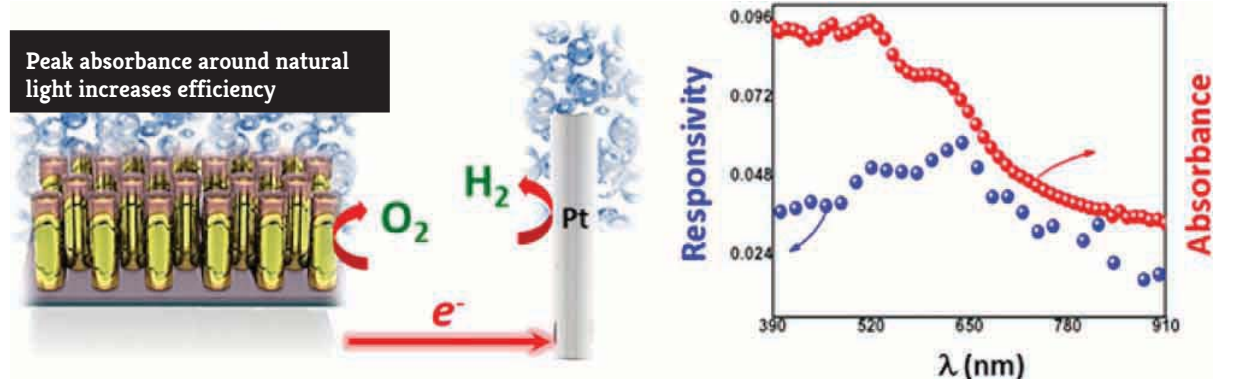
Scientists at the University of California Santa Barbara have developed an improved method of generating solar electricity. Rather than making use of the photoelectric effect, this newly designed solar cell generates electricity while splitting water into oxygen and hydrogen gas. In the past, the main difficulty in building such cells has been finding a catalyst that isn't simply oxidised by the highly reactive molecular oxygen involved in the process. Recent developments in the field of cobalt-based catalysts have now made them a more feasible alternative.

The cell makes use of a phenomenon known as surface plasmon resonance (SPR), which is the resonant oscillation of valence electrons in a solid when it is hit by photons of the electrons' natural frequency. The main benefit of SPR is that the energy can be built up gradually, as each incident photon of a sufficiently similar frequency contributes. This is not the case in cells using the photoelectric

effect, where only high-frequency photons (in the UV range) have any effect – the energy of lower frequency photons is wasted. In SPR, the amount of energy generated is simply proportional to the intensity of incident light.

Plasmons are best excited by photons in the visible spectrum. This is another advantage over photovoltaic cells, which can only use photons in the UV spectrum; the Earth's atmosphere is an excellent absorber of UV light, which is good news for our skin, but inconvenient for any method of generating electricity which relies on UV photons. Visible photons are much more abundant on the Earth's surface. The fact that visible photons have a lower frequency and thus less energy to give would decrease the system's efficiency, as three or four photons are needed to release a single electron, but this is more than made up for by the increased number of usable photons.

Usually, the difficulty in using SPR to generate electricity is doing so without damping the oscillating motion to the point of uselessness. The



device designed by the group of scientists solves this issue by using titanium oxide-capped gold electrodes. These rods are only 90 nm in diameter; an array of them is then connected to the platinum counterelectrode (where hydrogen is evolved). The small size of the rods limits the extent of the plasmon's motion, reflecting it back onto its own path, creating an interference pattern, which in turn generates a stronger electric field, causing the electrons to pile up towards the ends of the rods. The titanium oxide at each end acts as an electrical insulator, which seems counterintuitive

at first, but turns out to be an excellent way of regulating the amount of energy released from the surface plasmon. Only electrons of very high energy manage to tunnel through its structure, and these are then used to generate current, while the bulk of electrons remain, and continue to power the SPR process.

The "holes" left behind by these high-energy electrons act like positive charges, being transferred through the cobalt-based catalyst wrapped around the centre of the rods, and used to combine oxygen radicals into oxygen gas, completing the reaction.

One aspect of the process is yet to be explained by any involved parties. After being exposed to a light source, the generated current density jumps to some high value, as expected. However, instead of plateauing very quickly, it then proceeds to slowly increase by another third of the original value. None of the physical processes involved should take more than a few seconds, and yet the current density continues to change for much longer than this. Further investigation is thus necessary to fully explain the phenomena involved.

DOI: 10.1021/nl302796f

Unexpected science at the Imperial Fringe

Take a look at the stranger side of research at a new monthly event

Imperial College London



"I am incredibly excited that they have used my hair style to name a festival" – Tim Arbabzadah, Editor-in-Chief

Philip Kent

Science Editor

Imperial College describe the Fringe as "a series of public events exploring the unexpected side of science", and like the Edinburgh Fringe, and other events with this name, there is a focus on the stranger side the field it covers; in this instance, academic research.

The Imperial Fringe is part of the new Imperial Festival, which launched last year with a two-day show of what Imperial College does, aimed at the general public. The Imperial Fringe, however, has a slightly different remit, looking at specific scientific topics inspired by research currently being undertaken by Impe-

rial researchers.

Fringe events appear to be monthly, with events for both this and next month announced, though dates for future talks up to and including March have also been given.

Topics for the events currently include the study of how the brain works and fear, as well as another on bones and the latest 'groundbreaking' research currently being undertaken by Imperial researchers in this area.

Attendance is free and is open to students, staff, and the general public, and no registration is necessary. A pay bar is open all evening.

More information can be found on the Imperial website, at <http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/festival/fringe>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 25 October 18:00 – 21:00

South Kensington Campus

The science behind our fears: From mad scientists to brain eating zombies, Halloween is steeped in the weird and wonderful world of science. This event takes a playful glimpse at the science behind our fears, from brains to pandemics via the science of sleep and a Zombie apocalypse.

Monday 29 November 18:00 – 21:00

South Kensington Campus

Cutting close to the bone: Bones, whether fractured, polished or fused, used as a cultural symbol, supplier of stem cell, harbingers of joint disease or builder of tooth palace, form the very building blocks of being human. Meet those at the forefront of bone research and take a journey beneath your skin to the skeletons in your closet.

OY, YOU RIGHT THERE READING THIS. WRITE FOR US... please

Send it all in to: science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

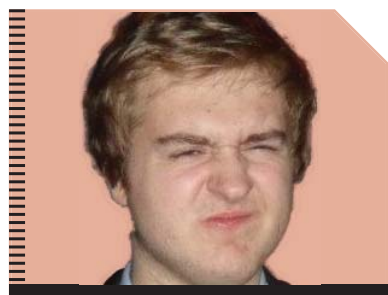
COMMENT

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
Navid Nabijou, James Simpson
comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk



London's embarrassing dad

How I despair at Boris' slightly annoying antics



Jack Hewitt

All the other kids find Jim's dad's eccentricity hilarious

Boris Johnson does something funny, isn't he great!" seems to be the standard title for news stories about the man. Its like "Jim's dad dresses up as Elvis, hilarious"; but I feel like Jim. Whilst some people find him hilarious and willingly vote for him, I think: "Oh God, I have to put up with this on a day-to-day basis." I can't even escape him when I go home to Norway: damned Olympics. And then he started dancing at the closing ceremony: that drunk-middle-aged-dad-at-a-wedding-dance (not for the faint of heart).

That I was never a fan of him or Conservatism in the first place probably doesn't help, but I was quite detached from him until I started at Imperial in 2010, thinking of him as more of an idiot who I could ignore completely. From then on, as I increasingly identified London as somewhere I lived rather than just a place where I studied, I came to realise just how much of a buffoon he was (or was pretending to be), and just how much he was getting on my nerves.

It increasingly becomes a case of other people finding him hilarious, and it infuriates me like it would Jim. It reminds me (Jim) of just how darned an-



Politics: you get into it for the money and biyatchez and stuff. I got into caption writing for the. Wait, I get nothing. I'm having a crisis

noying he is, and just how annoying it is to have to constantly put up with him, not being able to go a day without being reminded of why I didn't vote for him (Jim wishing before going to sleep every night that he had a normal dad). All the other kids find Jim's dad's eccentricity hilarious, which infuriates him

further because they don't realise what it's like to have to put up with it all the time, and seem oblivious to the fact that Jim has good reason for hating it all.

Anyway, Boris Johnson does a good job of doing 'hilarious to many, embarrassing to some' things, just like an eccentric dad for whom – "Dad, don't

walk too close to me." "But why? I'm funny aren't I?" "No." – is a daily conversation with the begrudging child (who is then passed off as a miserable git).

But then, this may just be me acting a bit too much like a disgruntled teenager. Or maybe Boris is!

Rubbish sports and the Olympics



Stephanie Walton

...I yearned for a good old running or jumping contest.

Forgive me, reader, if you've reached Olympic saturation point over the summer. No doubt I would have done so long ago, had I not spent a large part of those two weeks in a lecture theatre in The Netherlands. Utrecht train station, I excitedly discovered, had a large screen TV showing the Games. I stationed myself in front of the screen, keen to catch up on all the action...

But wait. Horses? Music? Horses dancing to music? "Is this some kind of hoax?" I asked the lady who was sat next to me. However she reassured me that this was indeed "dressage", an Olympic sport. Perplexed, I continued watching. Dressage undoubtedly requires a certain amount of skill (from both rider and horse), but is no spectator sport. Each act looked the same to me (yet bewilderingly collected different scores). And each rider looked the same on horseback (indeed it was only after a while that I noticed that some were male and some were female).

The event that followed was something called "BMX" which, I should explain to those who have yet to have



the dubious pleasure of watching it, involves riding very small bikes over artificial hills. Despite it being easy enough to work out who is winning, there is still not much that BMX has to offer to the non-bloodthirsty spectator; it is fairly common for only a handful of the competitors to complete the race, the rest suffering painful injury on the way.

Call me old fashioned, but I yearned for a good old running or jumping contest. However, my prayers went unanswered, as we migrated from

BMX to women's boxing. A British lady was in the final and so patriotism dictated that I willed her to punch her opponent in the face as hard as possible. Extraordinary. I don't call that sport.

So what sport should be in the Olympics instead? Certainly there are many worthy contenders, but the one that springs to my mind is squash. Although excluded now and in 2016, it surely has more appeal to both the player and the spectator. The average person is far more likely to have tried

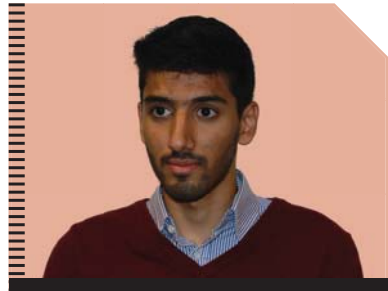
squash than dancing on a horse or punching someone in the face. They are also more likely to infer who is winning and what constitutes good play. Furthermore squash is a game of speed, grace and tactics; a game that depends on the skill of the player and not of an animal also.

The Olympics are inspiring and free advertisements for lots of different sports. What a pity that it was sports like dressage, BMX and boxing, and not others like squash, that were advertised this time around.

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
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comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

COMMENT

Repel evil with what is best



Umar Nasser

Make no mistake: “The Innocence of Muslims” is a vile film, and an insult to the Founder of Islam and Muslims the world over. Yet the response to it across the Muslim world has done far more to tarnish the name of Islam than any short film ever could.

It is, for the unacquainted, the amateur film which slandered the Founder of Islam in just about as many ways that a 13 minute movie can slander anyone, and the spark which lit the timber of so-called ‘Muslim Rage’ around the world. Global protests ensued, aimed primarily at US embassies, with much loss of life to both foreign and national citizens. In Pakistan for example, whose government announced a National Holiday to protest, well over 20 citizens have been killed – most of whom were policemen trying to contain the rioting. Such protests do not represent the majority of the peaceful demonstrations that were held. In fact, as ever, the handful of extremist Muslims that targeted embassies and killed ambassadors in the purported ‘defence of Islam’ do not represent the vast majority of the 1.6 billion Muslims worldwide that condemn both the film and the violence. However it is this firebrand version of Islam that usually meets the public eye, and thus it is this extremism that must be most publicly denounced by ordinary Muslims more than anything. Not doing so gives a full sense of justification to the original filmmakers who can simply say that their point has been proved.

Having said that, let’s not forget what originally caused the chaos. It’s easy to fall for the narrative that this was simply the case of hypersensitive Muslims searching for and finding inflammatory material. But a deeper look into the history of the video reveals that this was not the case. The original ‘trailer’ was released back in early July to absolutely zero effect by “Nakoula Basseley Nakoula,” a man of extraordinarily low repute - being both a convicted fraudster and an ex-pornography director. Many disappointing weeks later, the Eryp-

tian Christian anti-Islam activist Morris Sadek decided to upload an Arabic-dubbed version of the film to YouTube, disseminated the link to journalists, and teamed up with the well known US Pastor Terry Jones – famous for his “Burn the Koran Day” antics. Together, they publicised the film in conjunction with Jones’ rather comically-named “International Judge Muhammad Day” – which is held, of course, on 9/11. It was only after such concerted efforts by these extremist individuals to get the video seen by their Muslim counterparts, that anything actually kicked off.

There are many who are quick to cry ‘freedom of speech’ whenever such inflammatory material is released. They, however, should realise that it is a fallacy to believe that speech is entirely free, especially given the circumstances spelled out above. Hate-speech and anti-defamation laws abound in Western countries, and rightly so. In America, free speech is restricted when there is an intention or likelihood to cause imminent violence or law-breaking, and as such there is a strong case for the creators and promoters of this film to fall under the scope of such limitations. Those who still support the right for such views to be aired should at the very least emphasise their condemnation of this abuse of free speech, for the sake of peace and cohesion in society. If one’s loved ones were publicly slandered with no basis in truth, recourse to the ‘free speech’ argument would perhaps be a tad slower. And it’s important to realise that for millions of Muslims worldwide, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is more beloved to them than anyone else.

Nevertheless, the actions which extremist mobs carried out in his name bear no resemblance to the practice of the man himself. The Qur’an, the holy book of Muslims, is replete with instructions to forgive and forbear: “And the servants of the Gracious God are those who walk on the

earth in a dignified manner, and when the ignorant address them, they say, ‘Peace!’ (25:64). Muslims believe that the Prophet (pbuh) himself lived his life entirely in accordance with the Qur’an, which instructs him: “Keep to forgiveness, and enjoin kindness, and turn away from the ignorant.” (7:200). Thus how can those who violently protest say they are defending his honour, when their actions so clearly defy his practices?

Indeed the early history of Islam

recounts many instances of persecution of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), and yet on his eventual return to Mecca, when he had full power over his once-persecutors, he told them that they were not going to be punished for their previous crimes – rather, that they were free. No retribution was exacted from the persecutors of the Prophet (pbuh) himself that day, yet the extremists have taken the lives of many innocents in the so-called ‘defence’ of his honour. Do they

not see that the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was instructed to, “Repel evil with that which is best. And lo,” the Qur’an continues, “he between whom and thyself was enmity will become as though he were a warm friend” (41:35). Pertinent guidance indeed for these troubled times – which Muslims and non-Muslims alike would do well to follow.

For a further discussion of these issues, consider the event advertised below.

AMS
AHMADIYYA MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

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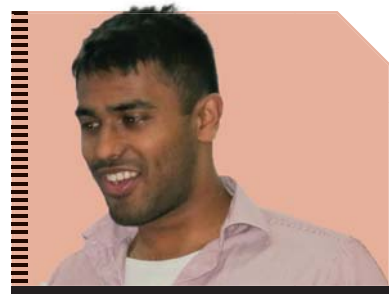
... it is this
extremism
that must be
most publicly
denounced
by ordinary
Muslims ...

COMMENT

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
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comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Cricket: a tool for reconciliation?

Why sport and politics cannot be separated



**Praveen
Gnanasambanthan**

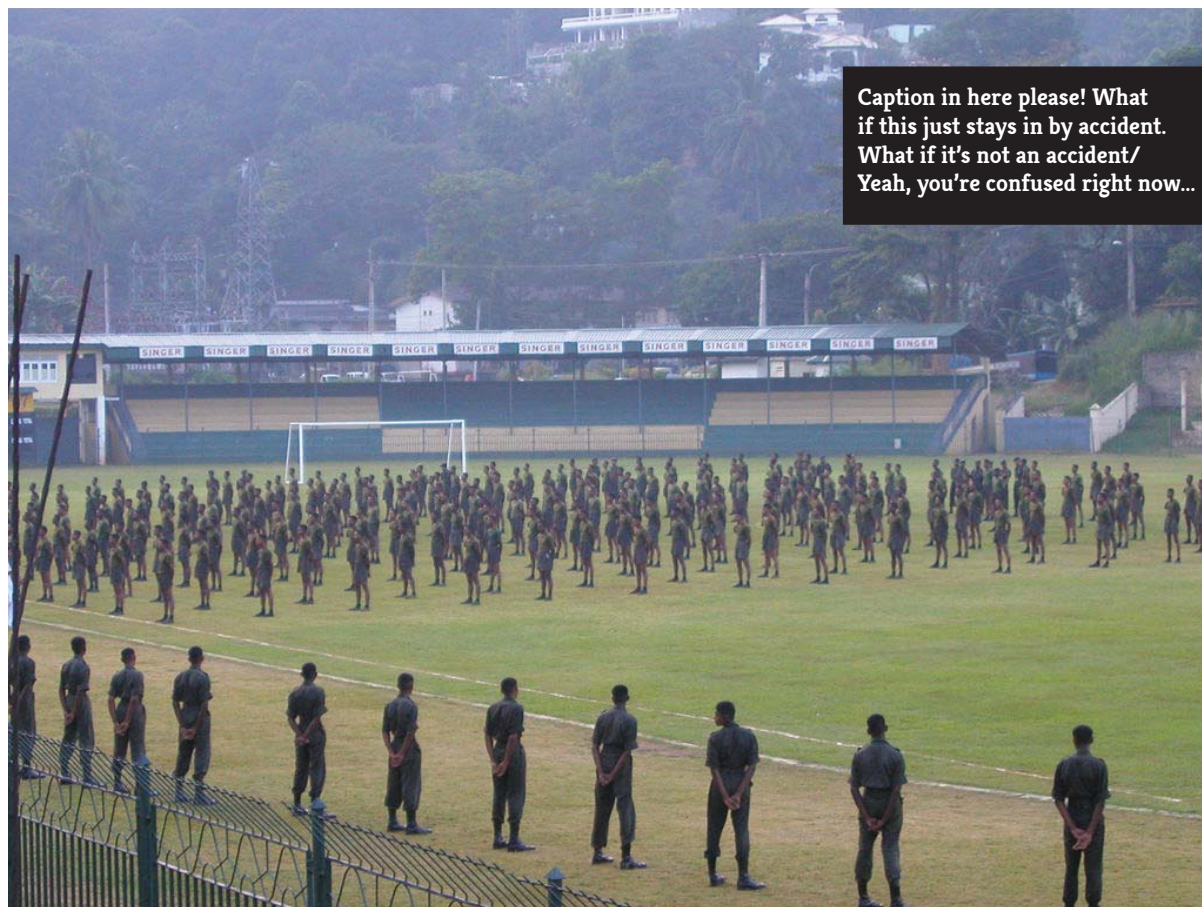
The summer of 2012 has been a stunning exhibition of top quality sports, as world-class athletes congregated in London for an unforgettable Olympics and arguably the best ever Paralympics. An intriguing Euro 2012 was showcased earlier in the summer in Eastern Europe, and this trio of gargantuan sporting festivals were bookended by the Wimbledon and US Open Grand Slams. Many would think that this is set to continue into September with the T20 World Cup held in Sri Lanka, but in reality the Tamils that inhabit the Northern and Eastern parts of the country and the Tamil diaspora have plenty of reason to think otherwise.

Questions are once again being raised as to why the International Cricket Council has permitted Sri Lanka not only to participate but also to host one of the sport's most prestigious tournaments, especially with the on-going allegations of human rights abuses and war crimes against the Tamils of Sri Lanka. This essential role bestowed upon Sri Lanka legitimises and condones a country that is in dire circumstances.

The Government and many distinguished individuals argue that this can help towards the reconciliation between the displaced Tamils of Sri Lanka and the majority Sinhalese population. When explored further, however, the idea that sport can heal the growing rift between the two races simply seems nonsensical. Sport is far too trivial to gloss over the deaths of tens of thousands of civilians and to overcome the racial discrimination that Tamils have been and still are subjected to.

The argument is that sport, and its associated celebrations, could be used as a tool to heal the rifts between different parts of society and induce a sense of camaraderie and team spirit. However with the continued failure of the Sri Lankan Government's Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) to provide accountability for the 40,000 lives lost in the final days of the civil war (as mentioned in the UN Panel of Experts report), is it justified for this country to host such a sporting event? By failing to revoke out-of-date emergency laws and preventing media organisations from entering the northern and eastern parts of the country, the Government has embarked upon greater militarisation and colonisation of these areas. Consequently humanitarian organisations have reported ongoing human rights abuses which can only undo and devastate the supposed healing effects that the T20 World Cup can provide.

Undoubtedly, senior government politicians see this as a way to mask the crimes committed by the Government, rather than something heading in the direction of reconciliation, derived



Caption in here please! What if this just stays in by accident. What if it's not an accident/ Yeah, you're confused right now...

from accountability. On Sri Lanka's 'new brand' Nivard Cabraal, the central bank Governor, stated: "I am confident that this trend will continue in the future and those so-called international calls for [war crimes] investigation will fade away."

Mindsets such as these further prove that the Sri Lankan Government are loth to make a genuine attempt to investigate and bring justice to the victims of the war. This unwillingness further demonstrates the insincerity and casual nature of the Government towards the resolution passed by the human rights council, asking for the Government's own recommendations on the situation, and a timeframe in which they can be carried out. One should enquire whether the T20 World Cup will be utilised as a way to unite a fragmented country or merely as an exercise in distracting the international community from the grave problems the country faces.

As stated by Charu Lata Hogg, the Sri Lanka expert at the London based think-tank Chatham House: "Hosting an international sporting event will not deflect international attention on its core human rights responsibilities."

Beyond this, applying the view that sports and politics have nothing to do with one another is simply indifferent and very dismissive. This could not be further from the truth. As Archbishop Desmond Tutu has said: "It is a myth to say that sports and politics do not mix." The Sri Lankan cricket board is intertwined with the Government to its very

core, to the point that the members of the cricket boards are selected by means of political pressure and direct intervention from the government. Many questionable selections have been made by the cricket board; as recently as last year, Sanath Jayasuriya was called up to the national team. There has been much debate about whether this was down to his political standing or his now declining sporting ability. With all these allegations of Government controlled selections of the national team being made, we can break down the idea that the Sri Lankan state and cricket within Sri Lanka are unconnected.

Moreover the same army that has been accused of the heinous war crimes in Sri Lanka is responsible for the maintenance and the running of the three largest cricket stadiums. The links between what should be an amazing festival of cricket and the ongoing human rights abuses occurring within the country are clear, and calls for a cricketering boycott of Sri Lanka should be voiced, until genuine and significant attempts are made by the Sri Lankan government to follow the resolution and bring about reconciliation through justice. Through this many avid cricket fans can enjoy a less politically influenced world cup.

Calls for the exclusion of Sri Lanka from cricket should not be seen as too robust or excessive; in fact, sport has been helpful in bringing about changes to countries with dire situations, most notably South Africa. In that case, the United Nations created a "Register of

Sports Contacts with South Africa" which put the spotlight on sporting stars that were unwilling to stay away from Apartheid South Africa. Many international sporting bodies banned South Africa from participating until it finally gave way to the end of Apartheid.

More recently, Desmond Tutu, a figure key to this South African boycott, once again called out for English cricketers to avoid competing with Zimbabwe until a political change was brought about and Robert Mugabe was taken out of power: "I believe that a significant part of the population in Zimbabwe would say [the cricketers] should not be here, because you are lending a legitimacy and respectability to a country that is in a shambles because of one person."

Many parallels can be drawn between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka where the T20 World Cup is "lending a legitimacy and respectability to a country that is in a shambles."

Sports fans and cricket fans across the globe have every right to question what initially appeared to be unnecessary calls for exclusion or boycott of the World Cup. However there are evident links between the Sri Lankan cricket board and a government that has engaged in numerous war crimes. The T20 World Cup might have started but the time to take a stand against Sri Lanka is never too late. One can only hope that the governments and cricket boards of the participating countries will realise that humanitarian issues should take precedence over sporting ones.

The Sri Lankan cricket board is intertwined with the Government to its very core

FRESHERS' BALL

TONIGHT! **WIDE BOYS** 

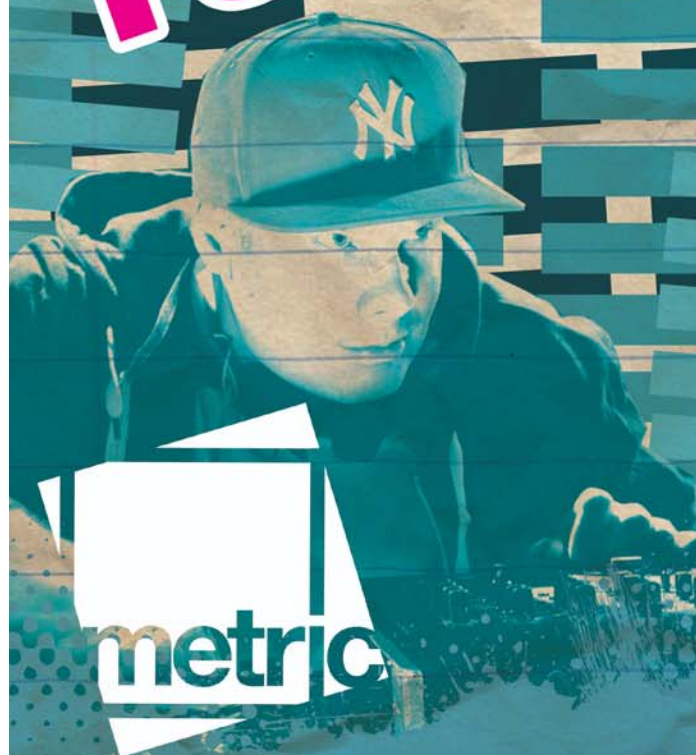
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FRESHERS, BALL





What this is all about...

Now the academic year has begun I should give a warm welcome to the new intake of Freshers and a welcome back to everyone else. For those who fall into the latter category, you may have already checked for Hangman (yes it's here to stay), realised there's a new section titled Coffee Break (still not sure what it is...), checked the centrefold (wehah, some girls this week) and wondered what on earth this pullout is all about.

To answer; we here at Felix have devised a monthly competition with prizes which everybody can get involved with. Our general assumption is that like us, most Imperial students are rather apathetic and may have never left West London, that is besides the occasional visit some facility labelled Piccadilly (mental) Institute. This we feel has got to change.

Each month we will be printing out for you a handy map of London, alongside a selection of themed questions, photograph opportunities and tasks. Your job therefore is to form your teams, answer the questions and complete the tasks for a chance of winning some substantial prizes (no book tokens we promise) as well as, of course, getting to know London a little better.

For the first issue we felt it relevant to start with the 'Top Tourist Attractions' as most of us (despite good intentions) will never visit them all during our time at Imperial. However as the months progress and granted you all show some interest in this feature we will send you off to the best brunch spots to the more obscure sites such as Jack the Ripper's local pub.

The rules of the game are self explanatory and all must be abided by. Any questions can be directed to the Felix office in the West Basement of Beit Quad. And last but not least, we hope you have fun and that over the coming months you enjoy the opportunity to experience and visit new and interesting spots.

Rules

1. You will need to form yourselves into teams of 4 or 5 members. (email teams to Felix before submitting final answers).
2. You do not have to visit the sites in any particular order.
3. The clues require a mixture of written answers and photographs.
4. All photographs must include most members of your team.
5. Try and not be a tool when doing it, and keep everything legal – or we get in trouble.
6. The cut off for submissions will be Midnight on Sunday 28th October. You will need to have emailed in your answers and photographs to Felix before this time to be in with a chance of winning.
7. Verbal submissions will not be accepted. No single item may be submitted twice.
8. The team with the highest number of points will be declared the winners and contacted by Felix. In the scenario of a tie, the teams will be placed into a hat and picked at random. The judges' decision is final, and no whining, arguing or pleading will be entertained to alter this decision. Although it may be quite entertaining for us.
9. If any problems, email Felix at felix@imperial.ac.uk.
10. Every effort has been made to try and make the clues easy to understand and up to date, however things can and will go wrong. Bear in mind that if a question suddenly become unanswerable (e.g. an object has been taken off display), other teams won't be able to answer it either, so you will not be at an unfair disadvantage.
11. Play nicely, have fun and most importantly get to know your city just a little better.

UNDERCOVER LONDON

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
Caroline Wood
felix@imperial.ac.uk



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UNDERCOVER LONDON



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The questions: remember that you don't have to do all of them!

British Museum

Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG
Closest Tube: Holborn / Russell Square

The British Museum was the world's first national public museum. It was founded in 1753, and today receives 6 million visitors per year. Somewhat ironically, the fame of the British Museum rests on important artefacts from beyond the British shores. The Museum has therefore attracted controversy for holding onto historically significant artefacts which their countries of origin would like back.

There is no end to the list of things to watch out for whilst at the British Museum. The central courtyard (the largest covered public place in Europe) is a sight in itself let alone the treasures the museum houses under its roof.

Question - Visit one of the most famous objects in the British Museum and you will be able to answer: What shape top did the Egyptian stela located in the Temple of Isis at Philae have?

Question - Match each artefact with its place of origin:

North American

Arctic	Palm leaf belum
Malasian Borneo	Camera coffin
Mexico	Skull house
New Zealand	Seal intestine parka
Ghana	Ofrenda altar
Solomon Islands	Kahu kiwi cloak

Buckingham Palace

Buckingham Gate, London SW1A 1AA
Closest Tube: Victoria / Green Park

Buckingham Palace has served as the official London residence of Britain's sovereigns since 1837 and today is the administrative headquarters of the Monarch. It is a symbol of the British Monarchy, an art gallery, tourist attraction and home to some 450 members of permanent staff.

Something to watch out for – besides a glimpse of a royal entering or leaving – is the Changing of the Guard (daily during the summer months; every other day during the winter).

Task/Photo – The gates of Buckingham Palace are forever being besieged by tourists. Your challenge is to grab as many of them as possible and take a single photograph outside of the palace with everybody waving into the camera. You will be awarded one point per tourist.

Covent Garden

Covent Garden, London WC2E 8RA
Closest Tube: Covent Garden

Covent Garden is associated with the former fruit and vegetable market that used to take place in the central square. Nowadays however it serves as a popular shopping and tourist site with a mini crafts market taking place in the Apple Hall.

Things to watch out for are the mixed

variety of street performers known for being funny only to children under the age of 5 and the close by London Transport Museum.

Question - Inside the central market hall, you'll find on the floor outside almost every shop front a concrete and iron girder. That is, except for a handful of stores. Your team will be awarded one point for the correct name of each store.

Harrods

Brompton Road, London SW1X 7XL
Closest Tube: Knightsbridge

Harrods is an upmarket department store located in Knightsbridge. The store has over one million square feet of selling space, making it the largest department store in Europe. By comparison Europe's second-largest department store has a retail space of 650,000 square feet. In November 1898, Harrods showcased England's first escalator, where nervous customers were offered brandy at the top to revive them after their 'ordeal'. Owned by the Fayed brothers from 1985 to 2010 it is currently owned by Qatar Holdings.

Question – The food courts at Harrods are a tour de force; with stunning mosaics and designs. Whilst taking it all in you will notice pair of life-size peacocks which lie opposite to a particular fresh food stand. What fresh food does this stand sell?

Kensington Palace

Kensington Garden, London W8 4PX
Closest Tube: High Street Kensington / Queensway

Kensington Palace is a royal residence located in Kensington Gardens. It has been a residence of the British Royal Family since the 17th century, and is the official London residence of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (amongst a few other members of royalty). Parts of the palace are open to the public with permanent and temporary exhibitions taking place within.

Things to watch out for include a small exhibition displaying a collection of Diana's dresses (till 28th Oct '12) and the sights of Hyde Park such as the Diana Memorial, Albert Memorial as well as the chance to go boating on the Serpentine.

Question - The east front of Kensington Palace was historically the side facing the garden. To mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee a green structure decorated with garden motifs was erected. The lamps within are supported by metal rods designed to look like what common item?

London Eye

Minster Court, London SE1 7JB
Closest Tube: Waterloo

The London Eye – the tallest Ferris wheel in Europe – is the most popular paid tourist attraction in the United Kingdom, vis-

ited by over 3.5 million people annually. It has been said that it has done for London what the Eiffel Tower did for Paris with its sole objective of lifting people up and over the skyline of London – a job it does brilliantly. If you want the best views over central London it is definitely worth a go, though be warned you should pick your day carefully!

Things to watch out for include the nearby London Film Museum and the stunning views of Westminster Palace (particularly in the evening) from the south side of the river.

Photo – The London Eye is the tallest cantilevered observation wheel. Which to the non-engineers amongst us means it should in theory be a little unstable. Therefore up to 5 points will be awarded for an amusing photograph of your group propping/holding up the London Eye.

National Gallery

Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DN
Closest Tube: Charing Cross/Embankment

In 1824, parliament paid £54,000 for 38 paintings belonging to the banker John Julius Angerstein. The museum now houses over 2300 important works from Western Europe over a combined floor area equivalent to around six football pitches.

Things to watch out for include Nelsons Column, the National Gallery and National Portrait Gallery.

Question – In the Central Hall of the National Gallery, there is a portrait of a doctor. What is his name and who wrote the book he is holding?

Question – Above a set of stairs you will spot a list noting some of the most famous artist of all time. Who is the last artist in the list?

National History Museum

Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD
Closest Tube: South Kensington

The National History Museum was originally once part of the British Museum. The collections were so appallingly managed in the early Victorian era – with many specimens sold, burnt or crushed, and labels lost – it finally separated from the British Museum in 1856. The new building which is surely one of the most magnificent in London opened to the public in 1881.

Question – Contained within the displays on the left-hand wall of the bird gallery you will see a fossilised counter-slab of one of the most important and famous archaeological discoveries. By heading to the main specimen, you will be able to answer: what do many of the distinctive features prove?

Question – By heading to Human Biology you might find you can speak Martian. What is the translation of 'mungle snits'?

Piccadilly Circus

Piccadilly Circus, London SW1Y 4LR
Closest Tube: Piccadilly Circus

Piccadilly Circus forms a link to the theatres on Shaftesbury Avenue, as well as the Haymarket, and Leicester Square. It is particularly known for the neon signs mounted on the corner building on the northern side.

Things to watch out for include the shopping, cinemas, theatres, food, clubs.... basically everything you can think of. It essentially acts as the heart of London.

Task – They say that Paris is the city of love... and they're right. We have Cupid's brother Anteros instead. You might be able to spot him somewhere in the Circus and find the particular green stall he is firing his arrow at. Take a picture of your group outside of that particular stall.

Royal Opera House

Bow Street, London WC2E 9DD
Closest Tube: Covent Garden

The Royal Opera House is one of the world's premier performance venues and the home to the Royal Ballet, Royal Opera and Royal Opera House Orchestra. For those of you uninitiated into the world of ballet and opera, the ROH issues student tickets for a number of shows each year for £10 or less (see ROH for details).

Question – Along the wall of the foyer you will find a photograph with the name of our University in the ballet title. What are the names of the three dancers photographed?

St Paul's Cathedral

St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AD
Closest Tube: Mansion House/St Paul's

St Paul's can date its origins back to the original church founded in AD 604. It is one of the most famous London landmarks and at night makes for a rather dramatic photo taken from the middle of Millennium bridge.

Question – Outside the front gates to the cathedral you will see a statue containing five women. Of the four round the base only two are holding golden items. What are these two items?

Tate Modern

Bankside, London SE1 9TG
Closest Tube: Blackfriars/Mansion House/London Bridge

The building housing the Tate Modern started life out as a power station, originally built in 1947. The turbine hall is 35 metres high and 152 metres long. The Tate Modern opened in May 2000, and quickly became one of the UK's most visited tourist attractions.

Question – On inspection of the Turbine

Hall floor you will notice a defect which runs the full 152 meter length of the hall. Once you've found it see if you can discover which artist created it and what they called their installation.

Tower of London

Tower Hill, London EC3N 4AB
Closest Tube: Tower Hill

Officially known as Her Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress, the Tower of London is a historic castle on the north bank of the Thames. Founded in 1066, the tower has had a variety of uses from a royal palace to a prison as well as now being a tourist site and home to the Crown Jewels.

Question – Head to the Middle Tower and you will see a coat of arms above the entrance way. Whose coat of arms are displayed and when were they installed?

Victoria and Albert Museum

Cromwell Road, London SW7 2RL
Closest Tube: South Kensington

The V&A is probably the most direct descendent of the Great Exhibition of 1851. It was established in 1852 as the Museum of Manufactures. From the start it was meant to be a classroom for the working classes, as an educational resource to boost industrial productivity.

Question – One of the V&A's most prized possessions is a collection of five notebooks belonging to Leonardo da Vinci. See if you can find the current copy on display and answer: What drawings does the notebook contain?

Westminster Palace

Bridge Street, London SW1A 0AA
Closest Tube: Westminster

The Palace of Westminster is the meeting place of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, the two houses of the Parliament of the United Kingdom. Initially there was royal palace built on the site in the eleventh century, and as such Westminster was the primary residence of the Kings of England. After 1512 it served as the home of Parliament, which had been meeting there since the thirteenth century.

Something to look out for is the palace's neighbour Westminster Abbey as well as Downing Street and the Churchill War Rooms.

Task – For obvious reasons, there are always police guarding the entrances to Westminster Palace. Your task is to take as many photographs of your group outside Westminster with a different police officer in each photo.

Good luck and have fun!



Rag

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FASHION

Fashion Editors: Alex Ramadan,
Saskia Verhagen, Alice Yang
fashion.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Festival Fashion

Marianne Teoh gives us the Fashion low-down from Benicàssim

This summer Felix hit up the east coast of Spain, on a mission to discover the summer styles at Benicàssim Music Festival (Festival Internacional de Benicàssim).

A summer pilgrimage to a music festival is essential and Benicàssim is the place to go. Pay no heed to worries of mud, the rain and the cold: at Benicàssim the sky is always blue, the sun always shines and the beach is at your doorstep. And without the warm coat, raincoat or wellies, there will be plenty of room in your bag for the fashion essentials of the summer.

Everything about the festival – bright skies, boho atmosphere, booming sound system – comes together in perfect harmony with an unmissable line-up that demands your attention. Benicàssim sees a beautiful mix of hazy indie, feel-good pop, and euphoric electro that will suit any music buff's taste. The likes of **Bob Dylan**, **The Stone Roses**, **Ed Sheeran**, **Jessie J** and **Chase & Status** attracted thousands, and were crucial for setting the fashion scene.

Jessie J surprised with not only a brilliant performance but also a great outfit. Mixing rock-chic with pretty-girl, she created a casual and original look – her shaggy denim cut-offs and baggy tee complementing her enormous stage presence. An otherwise kitsch wolf print tee was balanced with floral designs and a matching floral headband, nailing the classic festival look!

Miles Kane's tight leopard print trouser worked alongside his flam-



boyant guynier, blowing minimalistic style out of the water because the best thing about music festivals is that anything goes. As Kane himself said in an interview with Q magazine: "It is a show! You have to feel it. If you feel it's right to wear leopard print and eyeliner, then do it." Wise words indeed.

Katy B, an outspoken lover of playsuits, swapped her famous gold sequined one for a pretty, silk zip-up playsuit with an original Hawaiian print. **Totally Enormous Extinct Dinosaurs'** Orlando Higginbottom, on the other hand, preferred costumes, combining his brilliantly crazy electro-pop with wild beautiful dancers in dinosaur-themed outfits, making for a truly stunning show.

But let's not forget the festival goers themselves with their well thought-

out attention grabbing looks. Outfits varied from sexy, bohemian, and creative, to downright bizarre. There were treacherous troupes of nuns running wild through the festival, providing a totally new meaning to 'sinful style'. Following the traditional meaning thereof, there were fanny packs/bum bags teamed unfortunately with speedos, their bright neon styles bringing to mind the crying toddler from which they were stolen.

Although technically there are no rules to festival fashion; a once a year occasion where you can wear whatever you want, from dinosaur costumes to simply running around in your underwear, there are still many of us who would like a little more guidance and inspiration.

So here, I give you the essential tips

HAIR

Bring along some Batiste Dry Shampoo (£4.99 from Boots) or a sea salt spray to give you that curly beach bum look while keeping your hair manageable and deceptively fresh. Or, if you're feeling adventurous, try my recipe below and make some yourself!

Girls: A boho braided hairstyle will add so much to your look, whilst keeping hair off your face. Two cute plaits on each side are easy and effective, but given that extremes are in, try keeping your hair as long as possible for a hippy look or cut it all off for an edgy style if you dare.

Homemade Sea Salt Hairspray – a recipe for textured beach curls, for men and women

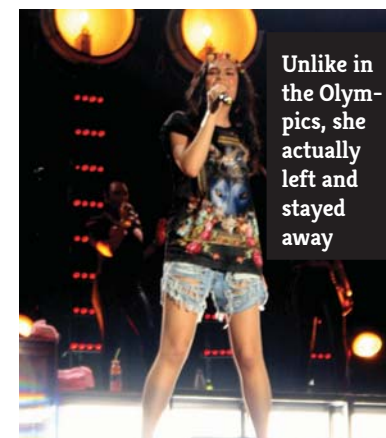
1. Fill an 8oz spray bottle with warm water (distilled would be best – grab some from labs)
2. Add 1 Tbsp of fine sea salt
3. Add a dab of hair gel to add styling control (I used Paul Mitchell Firm Hold gel)
4. Add 1 tsp of a deep conditioner to prevent your hair drying out (I recommend Aussie 3-minute miracle deep conditioner. Coconut oil works well too – anything with coconut will give your hair a lovely beachy scent)
5. Shake bottle well and spray generously on dry or damp hair, scrunching and twisting as you go. Let your hair air dry and enjoy your tousled locks!

for mastering the art of festival fashion to find the balance between fun and fashionable while looking effortlessly sassy and chic.

So escape the humdrum of London life and dance the night away at Benicàssim, confident in what you're wearing. This illustrious festival has simply everything going for it and will definitely be top of my list.

See you in Spain next summer!

Photos by Marianne Teoh



ACCESSORIES

A trilby or a panama hat is a must-have for a beach holiday festival like Benicàssim that can be jazzed up a notch by tying a scarf of flowers around it.

Head bands, flower garlands, head scarves, and even feathered headdresses were all the rage this summer. See Asos and Dolly Bow Bow for a brilliant range of headgear!

Headgear matched with bandeau tops are the way to go, whilst using floral print scarves as belts is an easy way to save packing space.

CLOTHING

Bring things that are easy to wear: getting changed in your tent can be tricky.

Guys: Don't try anything fancy, bring some trusty shorts and a few of your favourite vests and t-shirts. Roll up the sleeves and soak up the Spanish sun!

Girls: Embrace the sunshine with a wispy and pretty summer dress, but don't forget the essential denim cut-off shorts and loose vests. These are comfortable, stylish, and go with absolutely everything.

TOILETRIES

Bring miniatures: your shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, and moisturiser will only be used a few times and you don't want to lug big bottles around.

Take PLENTY of sunscreen – the summer sun on the Spanish coast is powerful, and a bad burn could ruin your weekend. The biggest fashion faux pas at Benicàssim had to be the stereotypically lobster-skinned Brits mooching around camp, regretting their decision to leave the factor-25 at home.

SHOES

For the gloriously hot Benicàssim festival, you really need a pair of comfy beach sandals to see you through the day (girls: don't bother bringing heels). And if you like your moshpits, invest in some light and stylish trainers like Toms, Keds or Converse to protect your toes.

Check out Dolly Bow Bow (www.dollybowbow.co.uk), an online boutique that sells affordable vintage-chic clothes and accessories. If you don't have the time to string flowers together, you can get beautiful floral headdresses from their online store.

Elections

Your Reps & Council Elections 2012

Nominations close 23:59 Sunday 14 October.

We are electing ordinary members of the Union Council, in fact 16 of them, our Disabilities Officer, plus all of your **academic reps**.

Find out more information online.

imperialcollegeunion.org/elections



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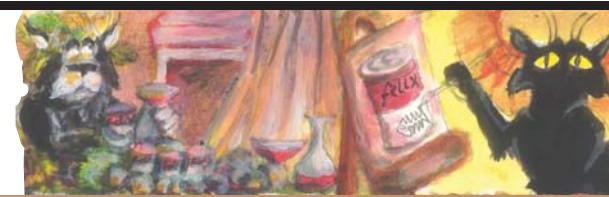
* In the top quartile of Students' Union satisfaction in 2012 National Student Survey.



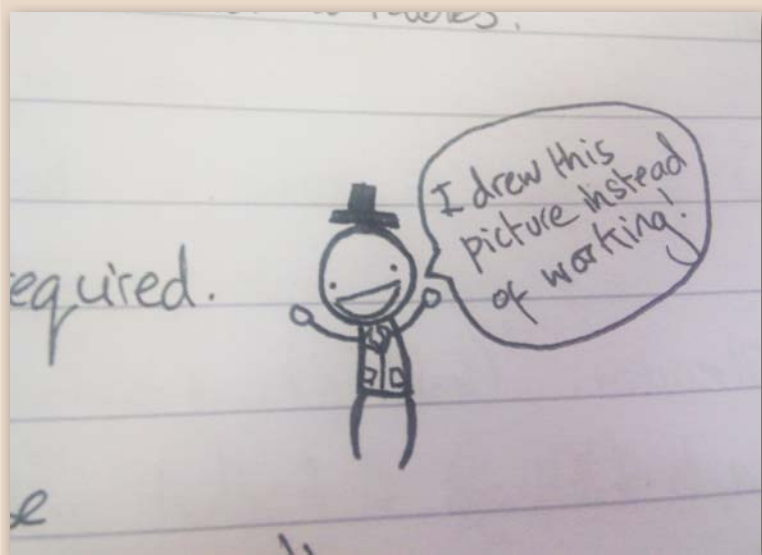
ARTS

Arts Editors: **Eva Rosenthal,**
Meredith Thomas

arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk



DOODLE OF THE WEEK



Why work? Instead, doodle all lecture long and then send us your drawings to arts.felix@ic.ac.uk. This doodle is by Luke Tomlin

TIRED OF LIFE?

Our pick of what's on in London

Leonardo da Vinci: Anatomist @ The Queen's Galleries – Closing this Sunday, this rarely displayed exhibition of Leonardo da Vinci's anatomical drawings is an exquisite treat for art lovers and scientist alike.

Brixton Maker's Market – Buy local made fashion arts and crafts at great prices. You can also buy savoury muffins, whatever they are. 13 October, 10am-5pm.

The Party Show @ The Last Tuesday Society – Renowned for their off-the-wall parties the Last Tuesday Society also own a gallery. Their next show explores the history and mythology of parties featuring a hotch-potch of new and established artists. 12-17 October.

Twelfth Night @ The Globe – Stephan Fry returns to the Globe after a 17 year absence from the stage. The short run directed by Mark Rylance will hopefully be more successful than Fry's last attempt, which saw him abandon the set after a bad review. Now-14 October.

Superhuman @ The Wellcome Collection – The Wellcome Collection, a self-anointed destination for the incurably curious, hosts exhibitions that straddle the boundary between gallery, museum and freakshow. The current exhibition explores human enhancement throughout the ages in some surprising ways. Now-16 October.



Bodybuilding woman at the Wellcome Collection...

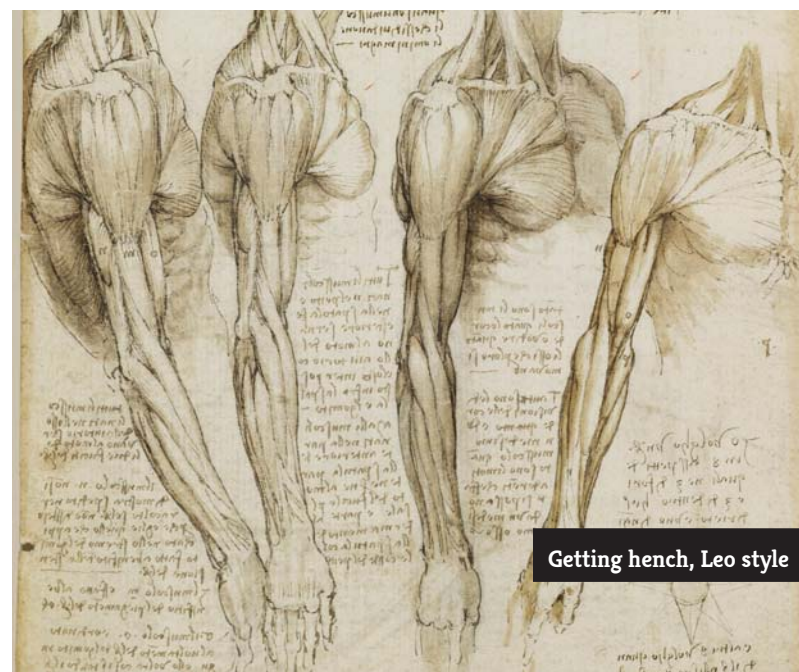
Exquisite corpses

Eva Rosenthal finds beauty beneath the skin

It was a wonderful quality of Leonardo da Vinci's, that he had the abilities, both mental and practical, necessary to reach the minutiae of a subject such as to become almost an expert in fields that were not his own. Trained in painting early on in life, but with an inexhaustible fascination for scientific learning, he collected 'interests' like one might collect ticket stubs. He took care of each one, obsessing over it, although, as happens often with hobbies, forgetting about them for a while. Leonardo's works on anatomy were some of the most detailed he carried out, intending for them to be published. His beginnings in the field concerned the true representation of nature, in particular human and animal images, in art. Initially, Leonardo wanted to describe human nature, in its physiological and psychological aspects, for a treatise on painting.

His first anatomical studies were of little scientific value, being, in essence, amalgamations of ancient knowledge. Even so, they were compelling for their inventiveness and (somehow) wit. One drawing depicts, in hemisection, a man and a woman having sex, where some spiritual beliefs of the era – such as the belief that semen comes from the head – win out over science.

However, when Leonardo began dissecting animals and obtained access to human remains, his anatomical drawings became observations, and occasionally, interpretations, of the truth. He was, moreover, capable of accepting the new ideas that resulted from his descriptive studies, thus progressing to a degree unparalleled in 15th century anatomy. There are drawings of his that can favourably compare to modern anatomical work. For example, a study



Getting hench, Leo style

exposing the muscles in the leg is remarkable for the precision with which Leonardo carried out the dissection, especially under the adverse conditions prevailing at the time, with cadavers un-embalmed and falling apart.

The scientific accuracy of the anatomical drawings is paramount to their success. But their supreme beauty, commonly associated with Leonardo's works, is what gives them life and vigour. The delicacy of a drawing depicting the nervous system, including some of the complexities of cranial nerves, spinal cord and spinal nerves, is entrancing. Whilst looking at this representation of nature, one could imagine instead seeing a ghostly figure clothed in a web of infinite knowledge. There is, for one further example, a drawing that, whilst confused anatomically, posits a solution that could be seen as

more poetic than that which nature provided. Leonardo, not knowing that muscles could be ring-shaped, was unable to understand how sphincter muscles functioned. So he believed the muscles in the – ahem – anus were five, shaped into an opening and closing flower.

Unfortunately, the excellent exhibition *Leonardo da Vinci: Anatomist*, showing Leonardo's anatomical drawings at the Royal Collection, closes this coming Sunday. The drawings are displayed with simplicity, in chronological order, some juxtaposed with modern anatomical drawings, allowing visitors to see both Leonardo's thought development and the perfection of detail he achieved. For anyone who would still like to see these, despite the forthcoming closure, there is – of course – an app available.

Not so tickled

Jonathan Peek

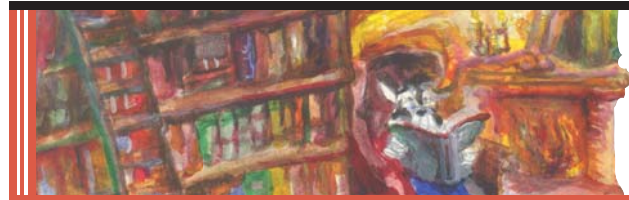
With most of the advertising targeting the Freshers, Monday's *Big Tickle* comedy evening seemed to have slipped past the rest of the college unnoticed. Despite this, the predominantly fresher based audience gave the comics plenty to work with. Where else, but Imperial, would a debate over whether a pterodactyl (or more correctly, a pterosaur) is a dinosaur or a ring tone of R2-D2's beeps and whistles get truly appreciated?

Adlibbing aside, however, the evening was pretty uneventful. Compère Mark Smith, Luke Honnoraty, and headliner Ed Gamble all struggled to keep the momentum going – the applause died before Ed could even make it to the mic. With a large chunk of the audience being international, some of the material seemed a poor choice – although the evening was a good introduction to the British sense of humour, which may yet prove helpful as they start their courses.

Billed by the Union as "some of the best young comedy stars", they got

it right on the head. Mark and Luke seemed to struggle though their material and even the headliner, Ed Gamble, resorted to an impromptu rapport with a stoned member of the audience to keep his set going.

Despite all this, the event had a good audience and bodes well for future comedy here at Imperial – something that we appear to trail other universities on. At £3 the event was fairly priced, although if the Union wants to fill up similar events in the future, it should look to extending its advertising to a wider range of potential punters.



Books Editor: Maciej Matuszewski
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BOOKS

Believe the hype

Maciej Matuszewski looks at *Hyperion* — a classic of SF

I very much enjoy short works of fiction. What they may lack in depth compared to longer works they often make up for in greater focus. You can read the story in one sitting and not be distracted by any filler — making it easier for you to get to the core of the issues being explored.

Dan Simmons' *Hyperion* is an almost unique novel in how it combines the best features of both longer and shorter forms of fiction. The book is set in the 28th century, where the Hegemony of Man has colonised much of the galaxy with the help of the artificial intelligences it has created. When the breakaway human group known as the Ousters threatens the distant colony world of Hyperion with invasion, seven pilgrims are sent to the planet to attempt, for the last time, to contact the entity known as The Shrike — a seemingly alien, godlike creature that thrives on pain. During their journey to the Time Tombs, where The Shrike resides, the seven each tell each other the stories of their lives and what drew them to this pilgrimage. These stories

work well as individual pieces of fiction (indeed the final one, 'Remembering Siri' was published on its own before the rest of the book was even written) but, taken together, they slowly reveal more and more not only about the fascinating characters but also about The Shrike and the reasons for both the pilgrimage and the Ouster invasion.

One could argue that *Hyperion* simply provides the back-story and exposition necessary to understand its three more action filled sequels but that would be unfair to the novel. *Hyperion* is a masterful exercise in worldbuilding, creating a rich, detailed and believable universe. It respects the reader's intelligence, with crucial facts being revealed subtly and complex situations being presented differently from the points of view of different characters.

The three sequels — *Fall of Hyperion*, *Endymion* and *Rise of Endymion* — abandon this *Canterbury Tales* style storytelling to their detriment. As is often the case with a long, uninterrupted narrative the story very eas-

ily becomes confused. The books try to tackle many weighty topics, such as the role of religion or the attitude of highly advanced AIs towards their human creators, but the themes often don't fit together and not all are satisfyingly resolved. Various small inconsistencies and plot holes also begin to appear as the story progresses. While none of these are fatal to the narrative they do become increasingly annoying. The worst example of this is when a very likable character from the first novel is brought back in the third as the genocidal dictator of an oppressive theocratic empire with the only reason given for this abrupt change in personality being a statement that he was "weak willed".

I'm not saying that the sequels are bad. Beneath their many problems they tell a compelling story. My main criticism is that they do not live up to the promise of the first novel, which was a near masterpiece. They're enjoyable reading and probably worth a look. The first novel, however, is certainly worth a look — it's a true classic of the science fiction genre.



Some facelifts just don't work as well as others

Earthsea — a truly magical series

Maciej Matuszewski Books Editor

I'm generally not a big fantasy reader but I had heard a lot of good things about Ursula Le Guinn's *Earthsea* series and so had very high expectations before I started reading it. I wasn't disappointed. Whilst featuring many standard western fantasy elements — kings, wizards and dragons — the books are unique for their setting on an archipelago of many hundreds of islands. For a series that was begun in the 60s there is a great deal of freshness to the *Earthsea* stories, especially for those who have grown tired of fantasies set in pastiches of medieval England.

The books have often been compared to *The Lord of Rings* and while her worldbuilding is not quite up to Tolkien's standards, Le Guinn has still

invested a considerable amount of effort in creating a varied, interesting world. There is a rich and detailed back-story and each of the islands that we visit has a unique and memorable atmosphere to it. They are filled with magic and mystery but also feel like real places, places that you could and would want to visit. By the time you have finished the books their names — Havnor, Selidor, Gont, Roke and many others — will be fixed in your mind.

The story of the books takes place over a number of decades near the end of a dark age for the Archipelago; with one of the main plot strands being the restoration of the islands' monarchy and the consequences that this brings. The first novel of the series, *A Wizard of Earthsea*, was written early in Le Guinn's career — which can be felt in its less than perfect pacing and characterisation — however she soon



Captions here totally ruin the front cover...

improved and by the third novel, *The Farthest Shore*, she had already established herself as one of the foremost writers in the genre. Her characters are rich and believable and her plots retain a feeling of wonder without

even coming close to breaking the reader's suspension of disbelief. Despite the fantastical setting, one of the first words that comes to mind when describing the series is 'relatable' and Le Guinn draws in the readers by subtly focusing her writing on issues that are relevant to her readers.

Le Guinn originally didn't intend the series to go on for as many books as it did but unlike other series in which new, originally unplanned instalments descend into self-indulgence by the author — of which the *Dune* series is probably the best example — the quality here remains high throughout. There is a clear split between the two halves of the series, with the first three novels being straight action adventure and the later books being more contemplative and dealing with more serious issues such as feminism and finding one's

purpose in life. Despite this, the two halves don't clash but rather complement each other. This is, in large part, due to the character of Ged. Despite only being the main protagonist in the first novel alone he is present in a major role in all of the books. We get to follow him from infancy to old age from the different points of view of all the other major characters. He serves as a focus and centre for the story as well as being a compelling character in his own right.

Forget the epic plotlines of *The Farthest Shore* and *The Other Wind*, and the powerful ideological musings of *Tehanu* — the series is worth reading for Ged's personal story alone.

The *Earthsea* books are a true classic that have inspired countless other authors and received numerous prizes and accolades. They are some of the best books that I have ever read.

Want to see your name in print?

Send your book reviews and features to books.felix@imperial.ac.uk

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You Don't Have To Call It Music

Pt. O caveat lector
by Íñigo Martínez de Rituerto

Music is wonderful, wouldn't you agree? It stirs up a great deal in one's being. It makes the foot tap, the heart beat slower and faster, and floods the mind with memories and emotions. Beyond a psychophysiological episode, it actually tells us a lot about ourselves and our humanity, when other means just aren't enough.

And yet most of it is all too familiar. For such a miracle of our sensory apparatus, it seems a shame to let it lull us into a numbing comfort to rest the mind to; to get drunk to; to shop to. It has been brutally distilled into a mere sedative; an instant relief to the daily pain. Hardly ever considered a force of sublime pleasure, the acme of aesthetics; its essence is now cut with the breeze of the refrigerator aisle, the stench of alcohol in sweat and vomit, and is ultimately overridden by an end of the electromagnetic spectrum designed to burn your retinas.

Kierkegaard once argued that music was the most perfect form of art. As ridiculous a claim as it may be, he championed its ability to represent the human condition in more ways than a still painting or a petrified sculpture could ever convey. It appears and vanishes just as quickly, leaving no physical impression on the world, no proof that it ever existed, and yet it grasps us more closely and tightly than any extended rumination on a vision of an embrace or a crucifixion. But then again, one could argue he wasn't getting laid too often either. (He made his claim in an essay titled "*The Immediate Stages of the Erotic*".)

Intellectualising music is no less pretentious than a crooner's love-drunk witticisms. Lyrics express ideas very literally, but the intangible nature of music leaves a lot to the imagination. Unfortunately, when others' opinions are, in the words of the Straight Edge Boston punk band SSD, "*Forced Down Your Throat*", it's hard to keep your mind your own. The ambiguity of a musical statement means every listener has a completely personal experience. Hearing a sound might bring back special memories or tie the listener to an aesthetic they might identify with, but any meaning of the music alone is open to interpretation. In all honesty, chances are, you won't even think about it any more, but start feeling it instead. It falls North of the line between intuition and influence.

When was the last time you put a record on and did nothing but listen to it? How many songs have you heard today without even noticing them? What silly things did the supermarket sound system make you buy today?

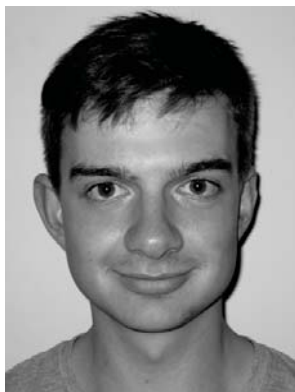
This column is about the more adventurous exploits of musical creativity in modern times. Those who remain the most quiet when they have something to say. Who don't lie in the open, bare but empty, and are often hard to find even with conviction.

From the earliest experiments with tape loops, when train tracks were first used as rhythm, until the latest inclinations to let machines do the singing or remove the human touch entirely from the equation. When wars tore art apart, as it did to the sum of civilization, and composers felt harmonic excess could no longer speak to the heart of man. When police brutality led young punks from the street to the studio. When perspectives both political and perceptual were challenged and deracinated. Modern times aren't straight forward. They're not easy to face, digest or accept. The sign of the times is as uncertain as ever, and the panorama is shifting faster than ever before. Sometimes silence can be the strongest stance.

Most of these tendencies can, in some way, be described as experimental. It's hard to describe them in simpler terms without appending this unfortunate misnomer, but, in the words of Howard Stelzer of Intransitive Recordings, the "experimental" label is "general enough to mean something to somebody". It is this experimentation that keeps music, and all things, moving forward, even if it results in a blown amplifier or a perforated ear drum. The moon was never in our back garden, nor jazz simply at the tip of our fingers. It takes some spirit and brave curiosity to search new ground, but we'd be all the poorer for not trying.

I'm not saying there's anything devilish about getting down to some **Marvin Gaye** every once in a full moon, but the cochlea does curl deeper than its harmonic creases. These corners behind the octaves are worth tickling from time to time, just to remind your brain they're there.

Meet the editors



I am Mark, and I am going into my final year in Civil Engineering. You get a lot of talk nowadays about how varied and eclectic people's music taste is; but fuck that. I love the good old fashioned indie pop as well as art-punk and shoegaze and right now I have the Vaccines album on repeat (... so sue me if they are not cool).

I'm Ross and I am going into my third year of Physics. I like to think of myself as musically diverse, though if a band plays an ATP, I probably like them. Genres I primarily listen to include indie rock, noise rock, shoegaze, ambient, and when it gets bleak, noise, black metal and industrial. Also a huge border community fan.



Holla. I'm Simon, a Physics PhD student. Musically, I'm about hip-hop, house and techno; from it's disco beginnings through to the mangled stuff heard in the clubs around London today. Rumours that I was Yorkshire MC of the Year for 3 years running are unsubstantiated.

Ho, ho! I'm Íñigo and I'm in EEE. Besides *Felix*, I've been part of the Music Tech Society since I came here and have been broadcasting from IC Radio on my Sunday night experimental music show, *The Big Racket!* Expect anything from jazz to punk, noise to techno... and many sounds you'd have a hard time calling 'music'.



and a call to arms

So that's what we're about; how about you? If you're interested in writing about what gets you bouncing, swaying or windmilling, hit us up. We get sent loads of free CDs for you to review (in front of me right now I've got music from The Mars Volta, No Doubt, Bat for Lashes, Lostprophets, the list goes on...) and we can send you to gigs totally free of charge, requiring only a review in payment. Drop us an email (top of the page) and we'll add you to our mailing list. However if you've had a life-changing festival experience over the summer or had a record on loop for the past three months, we want to hear about it!

Hot albums... Mercury special

Alt-J (Δ)
An Awesome Wave



Latest odds: 5/1

I will admit that I would have preferred to have talked about the Django Django album, but because we reviewed the Dalston boys only a few months ago, it is only fair to give a mention to the album which in my opinion runs a close second. Δ's debut album has managed to win over the mainstream with jutting, angular pop rhythms in the flavour of Bombay Bicycle Club but with more lyrical steel in 'Breezeblocks' and 'Tesalate'. Is this a perfect album? Definitely not. There are too many interlude tracks and filler to compete with some of the very best releases, but its undoubted strength lies with the effervescent singles.

Mark England

Field Music
Plumb

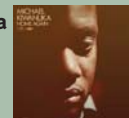


Latest odds: 10/1

The Brewis brothers' fourth album is possibly their finest to date, and finally starts to garner them some of the acclaim that they have so richly deserved. Many are giving the Sunderland boys little chance with competition from the Maccabees and Plan-B, but write them off at your peril. Plumb is most definitely a pop album, with more hooks than a Prince best-of, yet it still pursues a distinct and 'odd' aesthetic. This album could be called fragmentary but that is where its beauty lies: the jumble of ideas, the lyrics laced with self doubt, and the intelligent pop choruses all make this album a winner.

Mark England

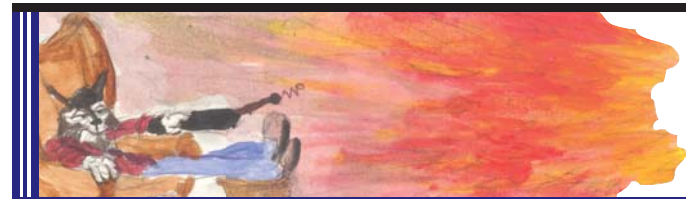
Michael Kiwanuka
Home Again



Latest odds: 8/1

Fresh from supporting Adele, Michael Kiwanuka sings the sort of soulful sh-mooze which you would expect, and your mum would probably love. Myself, I am undecided about the merits of Mr Kiwanuka's spiel. I cannot debate that this is a wholly accomplished album, but it doesn't grab me at all. I think retromania has passed me by completely. The romance of 'Bones' is a standout moment, but there is so much polish on this record that the best songs are lost under their own production. Coming from a poor North London background, I was hoping for a mix of grit and gloss, but sadly that is lacking.

Mark England



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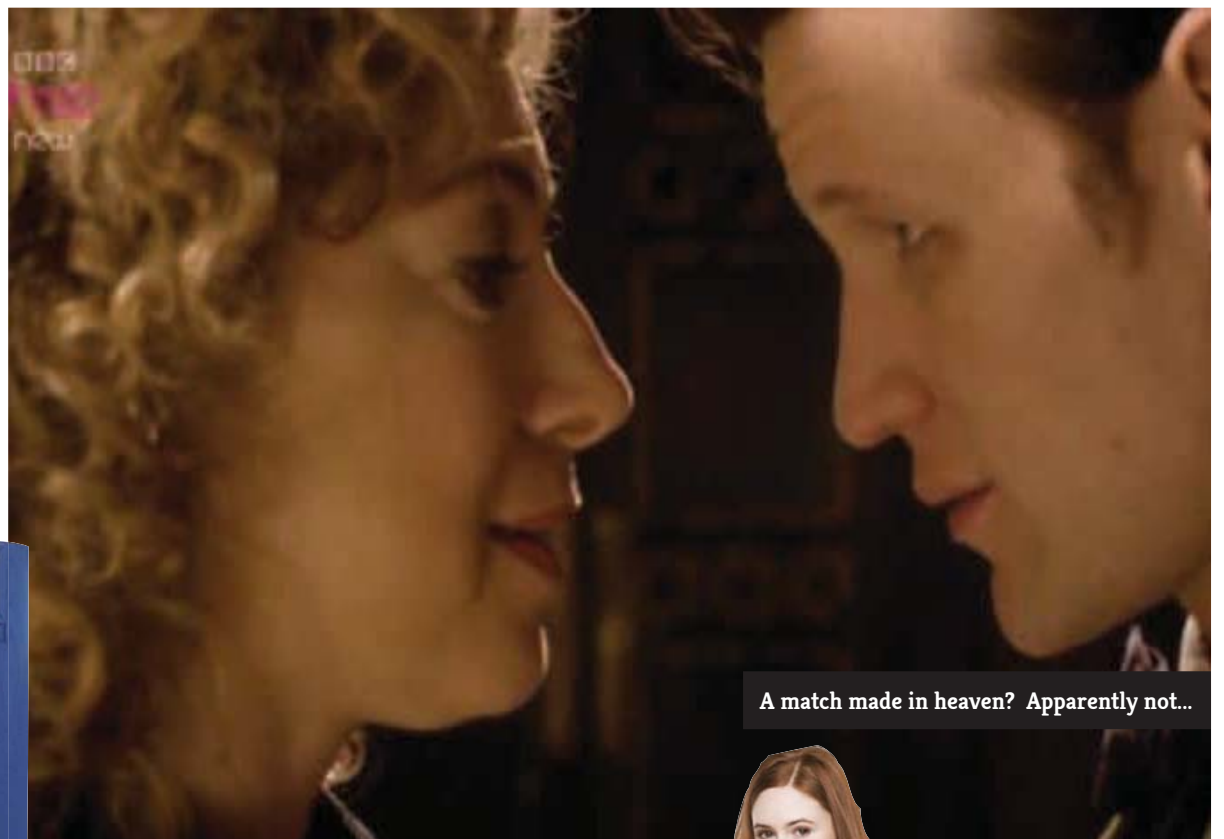
TELEVISION

Dr Who's underwhelming love Song

Maciej Matuszewski gives us his opinion on the newest Doctor

I have previously expressed my mixed views of *Doctor Who* on these pages. I've been a regular viewer since the show's revival in 2005 and honestly I've found over the years that the show's episodes can be split into three categories. A third are good and entertaining in their own right, a third disappoint me at how they squander the show's amazing premise, and a third are so bad that they're fun to watch and laugh at. I'm entertained two-thirds of the time and so keep watching but un-

der no circumstances could I say that the show has been consistently good. I was therefore pleasantly surprised to find that I genuinely enjoyed all of the first five episodes of the new series. After much controversy about the apparent overuse of long term story arcs, all of the episodes so far this series have been standalone. I had, honestly, been indifferent about the issue. While the long term *Doctor Who* storylines were hardly masterworks, I found some of the worst ep-



A match made in heaven? Apparently not...

isodes, such as the abominable 'The Curse of the Black Spot', to be standalones. The change in format, however, seems to have worked in the show's favour.

While there have been some missteps the episodes so far have all had a wonderful feeling of freshness to them. Both the regulars and the guest stars have been on fine form and the stories themselves have covered interesting, if not entirely original, themes. There was plenty to interest both the younger viewers, such as the eponymous creatures from 'Dinosaurs on a Spaceship', and the older, such as the discussion in 'A Town Called Mercy' as to what sacrifices should be made in the name of justice. The emotional departure of regular companions Rory and Amy was particularly well done, being at the same time tragic and unexpected as well as the culmination of a long running plot strand of the two gradually growing more distant from the Doctor.

My biggest complaint about the series would have to be the use of, or rather lack of use of, River Song. Introduced years ago in 'Silence in the

Library' as a mysterious stranger she was eventually revealed to be Rory and Amy's daughter who, in the final episode of the previous series married the Doctor. Unlike many others I don't have any serious problems with the character herself, though her relationship with the other three main protagonists has been rather disturbing at times, but I believe that, given how much the writers of the show have made of her, she really has been underused. Despite being the Doctor's wife she wasn't even mentioned this series until her appearance in episode five. There were precious few scenes between her and her parents, and none showing any significant emotional development in the aftermath of the many traumatic situations they have faced together. The audience has been left



guessing why the Doctor fell in love with her after remaining romantically aloof for so many series and her limited screen time means that there simply has been no time to show her and the Doctor acting as a couple. All this makes her refusal to stay in the TARDIS with the Doctor for the flimsiest of non-reasons at the end of the latest episode even more frustrating. The writers made a bold, if controversial, move in having the Doctor get married but unless they can develop the Doctor and River's relationship and show it having some consequences on the story they should just abandon this particular plotline.

Rant aside, this really is a good start to the series. Episodes one to five should still be on iPlayer for a day or two after this review comes out and you should certainly catch the show when it returns this Christmas after the mid-season break.

Want a reason for all that retina burning TV watching? Write for TV



The best films from the 1940s

John Park

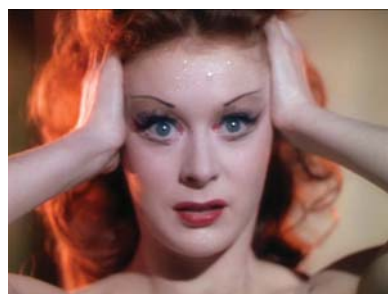
Film Editor

Recently, the British Film Institute (BFI) released the results of their celebrated poll, "THE GREATEST FILMS OF ALL TIME", in which they surveyed film critics and directors to list their ten favourite films. Now the Felix Film team, as much as we'd love to, doesn't have that kind of time or resources. And so we decided to split the films up according to the decades in which they were released. So every week, we will present you with our top films of each decade, so what comes after 1930s...erm...oh yes, the 40s.



10. The Red Shoes (1948)

Long before Darren Aronofsky shocked us all with his brutal and bloody "Black Swan", English filmmakers Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger had already tapped into the cut-throat world of ballet with their fearless adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's fairytale story of the same name. It's an immensely stylish, haunting portrayal of a woman forever trapped in the seemingly inescapable world, and the world of ballet has never looked more hardcore and yet so beautiful. Directors Brian De Palma and Martin Scorsese list this as one of their favourite films.



9. The Bicycle Thief (1948)

The go-to film when anyone is talking about Italian neo-realism (Roberto Rossellini, Federico Fellini etc), or Italian cinema in general, there isn't a final shot that is more heartbreaking or endearing as the one presented here. Non-actors were hired to play the parts, which further heightens the unflinchingly authentic look the film is so consistently praised for. Set in post-World War II Italy, a struggling father has his bicycle stolen, which he needs for a job he cannot afford to lose. Together with his son the two set out to search for it in the busy streets of Rome.



8. Brief Encounter (1945)

Sure it's the story of an emotional love affair between two individuals who don't quite have a good enough reason to be unhappy in their respective relationships, but in its warm, sympathetic direction and committed performances from the very few members of the cast, especially the quietly outstanding Celia Johnson, what we get here is a carefully laid out, deeply touching and possibly at times devastating portrayal of potential love and passion that simply can never be. It's heartbreaking, yet low-key and tender, a gentle, soothing mixture of touching emotions.



7. Leave Her to Heaven (1945)

Gene Tierney makes one hell of a *femme fatale* as the beautiful, seductive yet highly dangerous, unpredictable and obsessive Ellen, murdering, blackmailing, lying and manipulating her way into the heart of the man she greatly desires. Filmed in gorgeous colours that do wonders for Tierney's sharp, piercing features, this shows the actress on top form, as well as some shocking plot developments considered controversial for its time, that still ring true even to this day. It's a brutal and merciless tale of cut-throat, selfish fixation that is also made with irresistible beauty.



6. Mildred Pierce (1945)

After years of absence from the screen, Joan Crawford, fresh out of her terminated contract with MGM, striking up a new deal with Warner Brothers, actively sought out this leading role, and her efforts certainly paid off, as her only Oscar win came from her portrayal of the titular selfless single mother who lets her unconditional love for her children get the better of her during the aftermath of The Great Depression. Told in flashback sequences after a scene of a mysterious murder, it also adds an element of noir in the midst of the melodrama.



5. The Lady Eve (1941)

Between Henry Fonda and Barbara Stanwyck, whose bright and sparkling dynamic that immediately comes right off the screen is enough of a worthy feature, we are also treated to a delightful little screwball comedy package that balances not only the big laughs but also an underlying subplot of three con-artists trying to scam an eligible bachelor. The sassy Stanwyck and well-meaning but ever-so dim and charmingly awkward Fonda make one appealing duo and they effortlessly win us all over with their romance. Stanwyck's wedding gown caused a major fashion boom, dubbed the "The Lady Eve Dress".



4. His Girl Friday (1940)

It moves at an extraordinary pace, with clever, witty lines rapidly fired by actors who are endlessly watchable. The outstanding Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell play journalists on the hunt for a big news story about to blow wide open. The catch is that the two of them used to be married, with the ex-wife now about to marry a new man. The ex-husband tries to use every trick up his sleeve to prevent this from happening, whilst trying to land this article. And the result of this unstable mixture? Chaos. Complete and utter hysterical chaos.



3. It's a Wonderful Life (1946)

Every year near the Christmas period you will always, always, always, always find at least one channel on television broadcasting the most quintessential holiday movie of all time. Although opening to mixed reviews at the time of its first release, time has only been an asset to Frank Capra's post-war efforts with James Stewart in his first role after his time served in the military. It celebrates life, love, and everything that is good, honest and true in the world. Maybe something a broken world wasn't quite ready to see, but a highly uplifting tale nonetheless.



2. Double Indemnity (1944)

Another Barbara Stanwyck picture here, but this time she is a striking yet deadly *femme fatale* (there were a lot of them back in the days of black-and-white cinema), luring a well-behaved insurance agent into committing murder to double a life-insurance payout. The film's mood remains dark and foggy throughout, as one unpredictable and menacing revelation after another await its tightly scripted plot. Billy Wilder became a prominent name, with even Alfred Hitchcock remarking the two most important words in motion pictures are "Billy" and "Wilder."



1. Casablanca (1942)

Playboy Hugh Hefner's favourite film of all time; his reason being that it has everything: "a fantastic script, adventure, romance, unrequited love, friendship...everything." Never were truer words spoken, as the winner of the 1940s decade goes to a timeless love story set in the African city during the chaos of World War II. Humphrey Bogart's final act is heart-wrenchingly beautiful, Ingrid Bergman is his equally effective true love, and the endlessly quotable lines ("here's looking at you, kid" being one of many) all help shape the lasting appeal of its romanticism.



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FILM

56th BFI London Film Festival

John Park Film Editor

Every year, the British Film Institute (BFI) hosts Britain's biggest, most exciting, star-studded film event, the London Film Festival, where directors worldwide get the chance to share their accomplishments with the public. As one of the most accessible film festivals around, any eager movie fans in London should try to catch a screening or two. Packed full with big-scale red carpet premieres, in focus Q&A sessions with the stars, the festival is truly an exciting occasion to be taken advantage of.

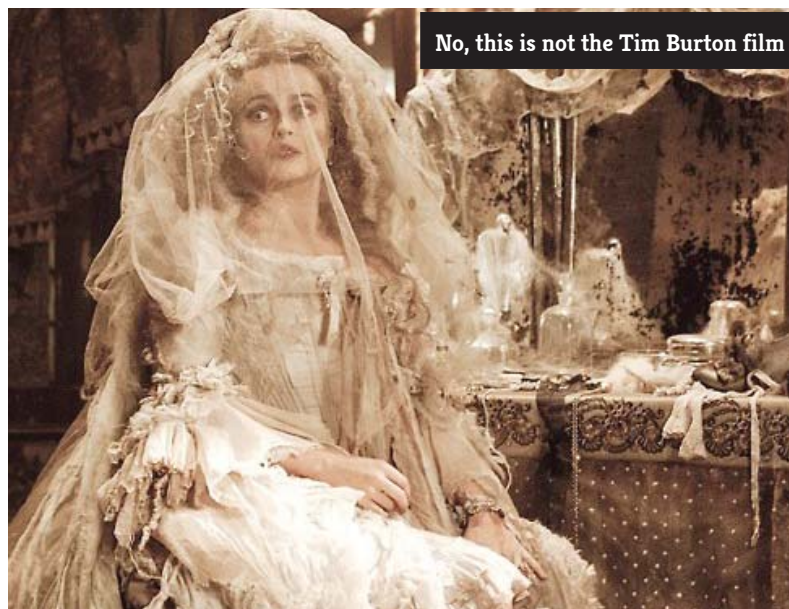
Many renowned filmmakers use this event as a platform to drive and sustain publicity surrounding their films that could be serious contenders come the awards season. After Berlin in February, Cannes in May, Venice and Toronto in September, the next one down the list is London in October, which would explain the heavy presence of international press tuning in to see which worthy films will stand out from the crowded line-up for further acclaim. Last year, *The Artist*, hot off its Best Actor win from Cannes arrived in London to wide critical praise. The following year it walked away with the Best Picture at the 2012 Academy Awards. This, as well as other highly regarded directors (last year's guests include Mike Leigh, Fernando Meirelles, Terence Davies, George Clooney, Alexander Payne, Madonna, Ralph Fiennes, David Cronenberg, Steve McQueen (obviously, not the dead movie star, the director)) submitting their work for consideration, shows the festival's high-standing reputation within the film community.

Clare Stewart, taking over the position of Festival Director from Sandra Hebron, has prepared a shorter but more compact programme of more than 200 feature films shown across more boroughs of London, aside from the usual Leicester Square venues.

The festival opens on 10th October with Tim Burton's *Frankenweenie* serving as its Opening Gala film, and the film will also be shown simultaneously across thirty separate locations, a first for the festival. Burton's new 3D stop-motion animation tells the story of a young boy who manages to resurrect his dead dog but also finds that there are consequences with messing with death.

Closing the festival on 21st October is Mike Newell's visually dazzling adaptation of Charles Dickens' most beloved novel, *Great Expectations*, starring Ralph Fiennes, Helena Bonham Carter and English rising star Jeremy Irvine as Pip, a penniless orphan who climbs the London society's ladder thanks to unexpected help from a mysterious benefactor.

The full programme and detailed ticketing information are available on the BFI London Film Festival website: www.bfi.org.uk/lff



5 hotly anticipated films of this year's festival:

Amour:

Michael Haneke's Palme d'Or winning film has recently been confirmed as Austria's entry for next year's Best Foreign Language Film at the Oscars. This extraordinarily moving film about an elderly couple having to cope with deteriorating conditions and ultimately, death, has received universal praise since its debut at Cannes.

Rust + Bone:

Another breakout hit from Cannes, Jacques Audiard's intense, touching love story between a killer whale trainer (Marion Cotillard) and an aimless bouncer (Matthias Schoenaerts) has been noted for its two brilliant lead performances. Their relationship is put to the test when Stephanie goes through a horrific accident and finds her legs have been amputated.

The Sessions:

Sundance loved it, Toronto loved it, and now it's London turn to fall in love with this unlikely blend of poignant drama and hysterical comedy as a man in an iron lung (John Hawkes) attempts to lose his virginity with the help from his forward-thinking priest (William H. Macy) and a sympathetic sex therapist (Helen Hunt).

Argo:

Critics are praising Ben Affleck's third directorial effort in which he handles a gripping, "based-on-a-true-story" thriller with style, heart and panache. 6 American citizens hiding out in the Canadian ambassador's house during the Iranian revolution attempt to escape; and it's down to a group of CIA agents to plan an almost impossible rescue mission, by posing as a film crew.

End of Watch:

No, despite its premise, this is not your average cop-buddy drama. What sets this apart isn't just down to its handheld style of filming. Its action scenes are intense and bubbling with energy, and the characters (Jake Gyllenhaal and Michael Pena, sharing great on-screen chemistry) are put through all sorts of hoops as they anger the wrong Mexican drug cartel.

John Park Film Editor

FILM

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Kate Winslet - Titanic EGO

Felix Film wishes a warm and happy birthday to England's very own Kate Winslet, celebrating her 37th birthday today; and as a special thank you to one of the most talented actresses of our time, we look back at the highlights in the extraordinarily diverse career of a supremely gifted English actress, and what to expect in the future.

Powerful debut: *Heavenly Creatures* (1994):

After bit parts in British television, Winslet made her film debut in Peter Jackson's dark and stylishly gripping *Heavenly Creatures*. She received wide critical acclaim in her first motion picture appearance, and won several awards (including the Empire Award and London Film Critics Circle Award for Best Actress), putting her firmly in place within the film industry.



Wider recognition and UK success: *Sense and Sensibility* (1995), *Jude* (1996), *Hamlet* (1996):

She landed further supporting roles in UK-financed films, portraying Marianne Dashwood in Ang Lee's Oscar-winning adaptation of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* for which she was nominated for her first Academy Award and won her first BAFTA and Screen Actors Guild Award aged 21 at the time, Michael Winterbottom's *Jude* and Kenneth Branagh's all-star Shakespeare vehicle *Hamlet*.

International breakthrough: *Titanic* (1997):

After a long, tough auditioning process, Winslet finally landed the part of Rose in James Cameron's *Titanic*. Little did she, or anyone, know at that stage that Cameron's disaster film would become the global movie event. The filming process was not an easy one, with harsh working conditions and Cameron's perfectionist attitude making for some challenging events. But once the film finally did open, it went on to exceed everyone's wildest expectations, and Winslet's name and face were all over the world. She received her second Academy Award nomination here.

Return to independent cinema: *Holy Smoke!* (1999), *Quills* (2000), *Enigma* (2001), *Iris* (2001):

Despite the unprecedented success of *Titanic*, and despite being offered many lucrative roles in big-budget studio pictures, Winslet turned them all down and retreated to independent films. Paired up with Australian director Jane Campion, she completed *Holy Smoke!* a quirky, intriguing travelogue which won both Campion and Winslet the Elvira Notari Prize at the 1999 Venice Film Festival. She starred in a period piece opposite Geoffrey Rush as a chambermaid to the Marquis de Sade in a mental institution in *Quills*. Her first war film was in *Enigma* directed by Michael Apted, and her third Academy Award nomination came from *Iris*, playing the late British author and philosopher Dame Iris Murdoch.

Further success: *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (2004), *Finding Neverland* (2004), *Little Children* (2006):

Departing from her usual roles, she appeared with Jim Carrey in the weirdly brilliant, neurotic, and baffling *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* penned by Charlie Kaufman, which earned her the fourth Academy Award nomination. Rounding off 2004 was *Finding Neverland*, a semi-biographical retelling of J. M. Barrie's relationship with Sylvia Llewelyn Davies (Winslet) whose sons inspired him to write Peter Pan. After scoring another Academy Award nomination as a deluded adulteress in *Little Children*, she set the record of becoming the youngest actor to garner five nominations.

In comes the much-deserved Oscar: *The Reader* (2008), *Revolutionary Road* (2008):

2008 saw Winslet starring in some real award-worthy, showy productions that were sure to score her some wins after a long streak of losing at the Oscars. It was just a matter of choosing between her two outstanding performances in *The Reader*, in which she played an ex-Nazi officer with a shameful secret, and in *Revolutionary Road*, which reunited her with DiCaprio 11 years after the sinking ship, playing a married couple on the brink of a dangerous relationship meltdown. She triumphed with the former, winning her much-deserved golden statuette.

Later roles and an Emmy win: *Contagion* (2011), *Carnage* (2011), *Mildred Pierce* (2011):

Winslet had two films premiere at the 2011 Venice Film Festival, both of which were well received. *Contagion*, an ensemble piece chronicling the spread and reaction to a deadly virus outbreak, has been described as a "tense, tightly plotted and smart" thriller. *Carnage*, Roman Polanski's adaptation of the darkly comic play also won her rave reviews, earning the entire ensemble a handful of awards. Her big award victory after the Oscars came after she landed the titular role in HBO's adaptation of *Mildred Pierce*, as a struggling single mother bringing up her two daughters during the Great Depression. She scooped up essentially every single Best Actress in a Mini-Series Award out there, including the top prize, the Emmy.



Upcoming roles: *Movie 43* (2013), *Labor Day* (2013), *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* (2013):

If everything goes according to plan, three of Winslet's films will be released in 2013. *Movie 43* will be an ensemble comedy piece of several intertwining tales; with *Labor Day* she unknowingly helps an escaped convict; and *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* (good luck to this film's advertising team) will reunite her and director Kenneth Branagh for the first time since *Hamlet*, in which she is reportedly playing an author in post World War II Guernsey Island writing a book about the Island's residents' experiences during the war.

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FILM

What we watched in September

Anna Karenina (7th Sept)

Joe Wright's bold, visually focused re-interpretation of a story that's been told many, many times before starts off flawlessly, with colourful, slick set pieces and an intimate, theatrical ambiance, combined with a strong lead performance from Wright's regular collaborator, Keira Knightley in the title role. But it lacks consistency and the emotional impact is severely cut short due to its need to squeeze in as many characters and plot points as possible. Wright however does deserve praise for his ambition, and almost always hitting the mark.



Dredd (7th Sept)

Don't be fooled into thinking that this is about officers of the law having to fight their way up a tall building to get to the final bad guy. There is a surprising lack of bullets fired, bones broken, corpses falling, as often the film does too much talking for its own good. Karl Urban tries his best to keep it all together in this futuristic science fiction action that naturally includes some fancy guns and gadgets, but in the end it never adds up to anything significant.



Lawless (7th Sept)

Raw, brutal and fearless, John Hillcoat's Prohibition-era crime drama is certainly not for the faint-hearted and you may be left wanting more depth and clarity from some of its underwritten characters. But the star-studded ensemble comes across wonderfully well, with the always excellent and menacing Tom Hardy once again on top form as the eldest of the Bondurant bootlegger brothers, supplying alcohol and facing bloody consequences from a corrupt law enforcement officer (Guy Pearce, in an over-the-top brilliant performance) as a result.



Hope Springs (14th Sept)

It has nothing wise or original to say about long-term relationships or marriages that have lost the passion, and the rushed, feel-good ending that attempts to tie everything up in one clean swoop is truly awful. However, it is anchored by exceptionally balanced performances from Meryl Streep and Tommy Lee Jones as an elderly married couple looking to reignite the heat they once shared. It asks many difficult, uncomfortable questions, mostly of a sexual nature, and their earnest attempts to give everything a try are both hysterical and tender.



Now Is Good (19th Sept)

Dakota Fanning's withdrawn, distant performance is one that grows on you as time goes by, but you may have a hard time sympathising with this girl early on, which is not good news, especially since she's playing a young English girl from Brighton slowly dying of leukaemia. Fanning a lot better is Jeremy Irvine as the sweet, doe-eyed love interest, and the older generation of the cast, Paddy Considine and Olivia Williams, playing the girl's dysfunctional divorced parents. It's a real tear-jerker, with a suitably beautiful ending.



Hysteria (21st Sept)

Thanks to the brilliant mind of a doctor at the end of the 19th Century and his rich best friend, women nowadays get to enjoy vibrators. Despite its subject matter, which could easily be turned into a crass, mocking farce, the direction remains sensitive, taking logical steps to explain the course of events. Hugh Dancy is bright and enthusiastic as the doctor, Rupert Everett is the excellent comic friend, and Maggie Gyllenhaal thrives as a free-thinking, independent woman who gets tangled up in this historic invention.



I told you not to touch my fucking test tube again. I'd JUST washed it

Killing Them Softly (21st Sept)

The narrative's parallel to the state of world economics, focusing mainly on the 2008 financial crisis and its aftermath, can be tough to take in, and this is in no way an easy film to sit through, but with much dense and cleverly written dialogue delivered with such skill and poise by a strong ensemble of actors (Brad Pitt, James Gandolfini, Richard Jenkins, Ben Mendelsohn, Scott McNairy), this also has time for some incredible slow-motion action that proves Andrew Dominik is one of the most fascinating directors around.



Looper (28th Sept)

Calling this the new *Matrix* is stretching it a bit, but with an intriguing concept involving time travel, it has a deep emotional back story and takes its time, logically building everything up to its loud finale. In a distant future where criminal organisations send off victims they want dead back into the past, it's the Looper's job to take care of it. Things get complicated as Joe (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) comes face to face with his future self (Bruce Willis), who also has an agenda of his own.



Savages (21st Sept)

It's overlong, and has an absurd, almost unnecessary narration from the irritating Blake Lively who leads a luxurious, comfortable life shacking up with two successful pot-growers (Taylor Kitsch, Aaron Taylor-Johnson). Enter a Mexican drug cartel headed by the excellent Salma Hayek and her sly, not too brainy second-in-command Benicio del Toro, and then we get kidnapping, shoot-outs and some interesting developments. Shame about the convoluted plot that sidetracks one too many times, and an unsatisfactory ending that wraps things up with little consideration for its characters.



Untouchable (21st Sept)

The box-office hit that was the cinematic experience to beat in France, (currently the second most successful film ever there) "Les Intouchables" tells the amazingly moving and true story of an unlikely friendship that strikes up between a quadriplegic millionaire and a young man recently out of prison. Despite the familiarity you will notice from its predictable storytelling, it's no surprise to discover this massive crowd-pleaser was such a success, and it's largely thanks to the two fantastic leads, Francois Cluzet and Omar Sy.



Resident Evil: Retribution (28th Sept)

The fifth entry into this tiresome, repetitive franchise finds no real improvement, with Milla Jovovich dressed up once again in a dominatrix costume, slaying evil zombies, fighting Umbrella Corporation with cool weapons. There are some returning characters, but really, who remembers or cares about any of them. Thankfully the next instalment promises to be the last one, and given the way this one ends, sets up to be an epic finale. But until then, we'll just have to settle for this mediocre effort.



GAMES

Games Editor: Ross Webster
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You're-a-Gamer Expo

Ross Webster shares his experiences of Eurogamer 2012

Last weekend saw the start of the London Games Festival, heralded in by the fifth Eurogamer Expo. Not exactly as groundbreaking as an Apple Keynote, the Eurogamer (EG) Expo is a place for developers and publishers to offer up their latest works to the willing public, letting us play games months before their release. Being stretched over four days, the expo holds a variety of unique developers Q&A sessions, and the opportunity to meet developers – indie and professional alike. There's the usual mix of record-breaking games with budgets larger than most films (slight exaggeration), but there's also a fresh contingent of smaller developers who get to show off their pet

projects. Hosted in Earl's Court Exhibition Centre (only a 30 minute walk from college) the EG expo initiates the migration of many starved gamers towards the fertile lands of central London, ready for the autumnal downpour.

Now, as high revenue producing series are bound to sell, there is always the problem of little change for the big names. That being said, this year's Eurogamer has brought out a lot of sequels and there seems to be some hope on the horizon. As examples, I'll have a couple of games stand up at the front of the class and I'll prod them with my stick of analysis. Farcry 3 seems to have recaptured some of the fun of the original and Assassin's Creed 3 is now grittier and feels a lot

more 'lived-in.' The atmosphere of the previous AC games, despite being set in cities such as Rome, always lacked the feeling of history and humanity. I understand that ruins should feel like ruins, but these felt like ruins for ruins sake (I'm trying to see how many ruins I can get into this piece, before you complain. Think of it like a psychological test. Or don't, that's the point). Now, you're running through people's houses, killing husbands and the fathers of the children you see running about, and you can actually feel a slight pang of guilt (I kid, I kid. I feel nothing) which is great.

On the opposite side of the spectrum, Eurogamer also gave us the chance to play around with a few sequels that have run a little off-piste, seemingly grasping for originality. Tomb Raider now has you controlling a character who feels more like the public schoolgirl she is, rather than the bigger-breasted Harrison Ford we all remember, and Metal Gear Revengeance is a futuristic Bayonetta that bears as much resemblance to the original Metal Gear series as the Resident Evil movies to the games (yeah, I went there).

Not wanting to fill these pages with (even more) drivel, I think I should get around to highlighting a few of my favourites, that I wasn't expecting to see. Firstly, The Unfinished Swan is a beautiful concept for a game. In the role of a young boy, you chase a swan into an incomplete fantasy world. The

Yeah, I know this isn't a swan. It's an emu. OBVS



physical world exists all around you, but there's no colour and no shadows, so your screen is initially pure white. Your one tool in this journey is a supply of paint blobs that you can throw around the place, covering the walls and floors, so you can see where you need to go. It might sound like an odd idea for a game, but I suggest you go and watch the trailer – <http://giant-sparrow.com/games/swan/> (or just YouTube it like normal people). I met a few people at the stall who had issues with the game from a brain-hurt point of view, due to walking a few steps and being surrounded by white again, confusing that ever-so-squishy part of the brain that tells you if you're going crazy.

One of the fondly remembered classics in the Felix office is Theme Hospi-

tal – a light-hearted hospital simulator that also had a wonderfully steep learning curve if you wanted to excel. We've not seen games of its ilk for a long time now, and we're now seeing a return to the plan, build and run style of games. In Prison Architect, you control the going-ons at a prison, managing the buildings and wardening team. The thing is, the engine of the game doesn't feel specifically made for the prison sim genre (I joke, but I expect I'll get one through the post soon). I expect that this is probably on purpose, and should allow for a steady flow of games once this flagship game has been released. I'm just waiting for Halls of Residence Simulator 2013, but can't help but feel it'll simply be a retitled Prison Architect. They won't even need to change the cover art.



A Dishonorable Mention

Simon Worthington *Lame guy*

Put simply, Dishonored is what you get if you ask the company who created Skyrim to go away and make Bioshock. It's got the immersive atmosphere of the former but with the vibrant, larger-than-life visual style of the latter – and it's a great combination. The art director (who was a big player in creating the visuals for Half-Life 2) was going for "a living painting", and has created something very reminiscent of steampunk but with all the colour left in. It's consistently atmospheric and has got bucket-loads of attention to detail that despite the quirky theme gives the game a real, lived-in world.

In addition to the vivid graphics, Dishonored also takes a stab at one of my

pet peeves – games that are too easy. Combat is definitely not weighted in the player's favour with considerable skill required to take on a room of bad guys and make it out alive, so stealth gameplay is very much encouraged. This has its own set of difficulties as enemies are quick to notice when one of their number drop to the floor, and thankfully they haven't inherited the incredibly limited vision skills of their Elder Scrolls cousins, so staying hidden is not easy. All this adds up to challenging gameplay that will probably surprise. It's easy to think you've seen all these elements before and not really take them as seriously as they deserve – you'll be made to pay for that mistake. Of course, getting beaten to a pulp over and over is just frustrating but it's refreshing to find that Dishonored is not a game that's scared

of sending you back to the start. The level I played was reasonably linear in its design but there was still a lot of choice: you could storm in crossbows blazing, hide in the shadows and take out the enemy one by one or even possess an innocent maid to get past the security alarms – there's a lot of scope for different approaches. Apparently there's also some open-world element (well, this is Bethesda) but details as yet are unclear.

In essence, Dishonored is definitely a game to be getting excited about; I've not been this excited for a new game in far too long. You could argue that we're just playing Bioshock with a different skin but with the latest in that franchise still beyond the horizon, Dishonored may have beaten it to the post with its fresh slice of dark, stealthy action.





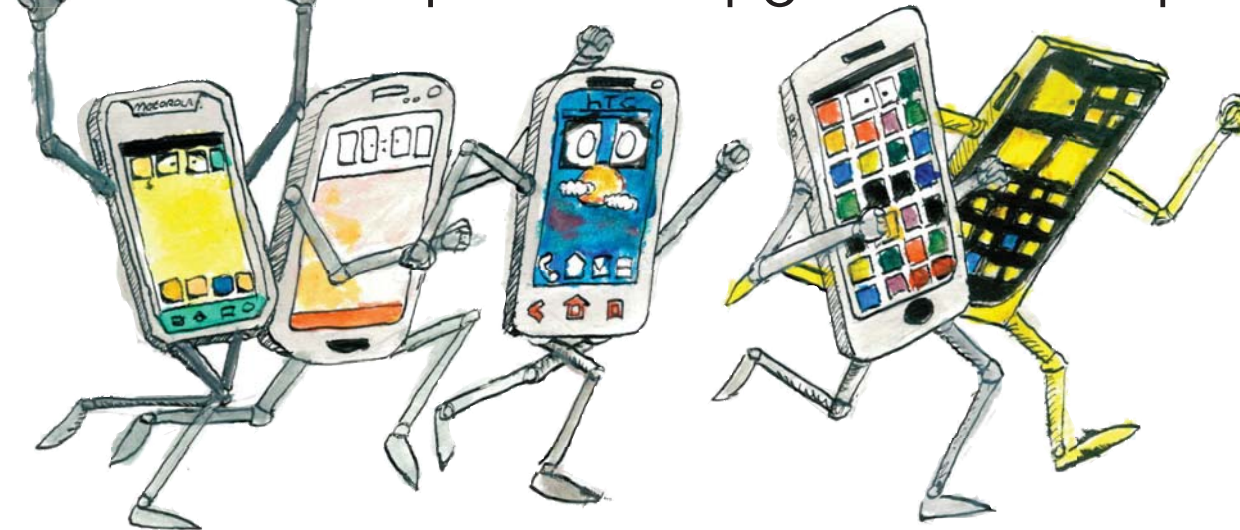
Technology Editor: Jason Parmar
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TECHNOLOGY

OMG new smartphones!

Laugh out loud* at people who upgraded their phones before uni

*There really should be an abbreviation for this



Jason Parmar Technology Editor

Unless you've been trapped under a rock or on a ton of last minute holidays the last month before freshers' week, you'll be aware that a ton of great new smartphones have been announced.

The Samsung Galaxy S3 (or GS3), Nokia Lumia 920, and Apple iPhone 5 are getting priority as my choice to represent the three major OSs, sorry to all the HTC fanboys (I didn't know you existed) and twatberry fans (I know you don't exist).

The Apple iPhone 5. The phone expected for release last year finally made its debut at the September 12th Apple conference, and although opening weekend sales topped 5 million and they sold twice as many iPhones as last year in the first 24 hours, it really wasn't the smooth launch Apple would've wanted.

It's reported that 30-40% of all brand new iPhones are arriving to the high paying customers scuffed in the box, known as "scuffgate," and iOS6 Ap-

ple Maps made news worldwide with levels of fail not seen since the Sega Dreamcast. Include this with bloggers and users around the world complaining about "letterboxing", where two black strips appear on the top and bottom sides of the iPhone, and it doesn't sound good.

Add the standard trolling we've come to expect from the other smartphone makers, and it's not great. Samsung poked fun with a new "the next big thing is already here" video, which quotes Apple users saying "we're finally getting everything we should've got last year," and an ex-Apple user holding a space in line for the phone for his elderly parents. Similarly a Google ad for the Motorola RAZR Droid shows Apple maps vs Google maps with the caption #iLost.

The iPhone 5 wasn't the best, smooth, or even a grand launch we all expect of Apple, but neither was the iPhone 4S; maybe the company is struggling more than we thought without all-round legend Steve Jobs at the helm.

Or perhaps I'm being unfair and fo-

cusing on the negatives too much. Ignoring the bad press, the iPhone 5 is actually an amazing phone. Apple have successfully managed to exceed nearly all projected pre-order figures and the sales clearly show the company is doing something very well. The new iPhone 5 offers a great 4-inch 16:9 screen with an impressive 326ppi (pixel per inch) retina display. It's best feature though, in this editor's opinion, is its weight. At just 112g it's an impressive 73g lighter than the Lumia 920 and 21g lighter than the GS3. With the iPhones new hardware and software update it has also, of course, gotten a LOT faster. It's now caught up with the speeds previously seen in the Lumia 800 and surpassed them.

But the iPhone 5 lacks NFC (contactless), which is odd of Apple to keep out, seeing as the Lumia 920 and GS3 both have it and the GS3 has a trump on both with external storage. The iPhone's precious retina display isn't actually a winner either, it may beat the GS3 4.8-inch 306ppi screen, but the Lumia 920 packs what it calls PureMo-

tion HD+. It's a 4.5-inch screen that packs 331ppi, and apparently its pixels can move twice as fast as all other screens, making it look super smooth. The Lumia is also the only smartphone that packs Wireless Charging, as well as its long awaited PureView camera technology featuring unbeatable SLR-esque image stabilisation and night time photography.

All three phones however are 4G LTE enabled, ready for the super network of Orange & T-Mobile, Everything Everywheres launch later this month.

Overall, all three of these phones have excellent hardware, but the one thing that really separates them is the Operating System.

There's no outright winner in this though, it all depends on what you want out of your phone.

The easiest, fastest and simplest to use and understand has to be, bizarrely, Windows Phone. However, it has serious limitations due to the lack of apps and its current market share. The good news is that time is definitely on Windows' side, especially with the imminent launch of Windows 8 and free programming software.

iOS has the largest app store in the world and is probably has the most recognised interface around as well as being quite fast.

Android lets you be creative and customise to your heart's content, perfect for the all tech lovers/hackers.

Add me on MySpace?

After launching in 2003, MySpace was guilty of taking many of our social networking virgins by taking advantage of us being embarrassing teenagers while we posed, pouting in front of mirrors with a 1MP camera phone.

But then we grew up and most of us realised that editing our profile HTML to make people who viewed our profile see our "creativity personality" was super lame, so we moved onto university-based Facebook.

MySpace continued to grow for a few years after Rupert Murdoch (that old dude who owns all the world's media) purchased it for \$580million as it became "the most visited website in the US", beating Google, in 2006. But from 2008 onwards the site went into an impressively steep decline, with most of us retrospectively deleting our accounts (or wishing we could but we've forgot the password for our cringe e-mail "hot_sexy_jasonp_1991@hotmail.com").

But, last week the cooler of the two Justins, Justin Timberlake, tweeted a link to a video from the former social networking powerhouse entitled "new MySpace". JT appears to be the front man for the launch of the new Metro-style "redesigned entirely from scratch" social network, and it makes sense as he has an ownership stake in the company.

After watching it, it does look significantly cooler and better than Facebook or Google+, and follows a design that is perfectly suited for a Windows 8 app. I'm kind of looking forward to it.

But, whatever happens, I can't wait for Bebo to get a revamp. The couple who created it went to Imperial, met in the then Southside bar, and got married before selling it for \$850m. I mean, can you believe it, he found a girl at Imperial!



This is Myspace

<http://new.myspace.com/play>



ONLY 3
POUNDS

SATURDAY 13TH OCTOBER

METRIC

19:30 - 02:00

ALL FOR CHARITY



Rag

FRESHERS'

BALL



RUBIKS CUBE PARTY

1. COME DRESSED IN ALL 6 COLOURS
2. SWAP CLOTHES WHILE DANCING
3. LEAVE HAVING "SOLVED" THE CUBE
DRESSED ALL IN ONE COLOUR



POUNDS
for Pudsey

In aid of
BBC
Children
in Need

Reg. charity no. 802052 in England
and Wales and SC039557 in Scotland.





Coffee Break Boss: Matt Colvin
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COFFEE BREAK

The Coffee Break Lab Report Word Hunt Challenge 2012™

There's no denying it, folks. Imperial College London has you in its vice-like grip for the next ten weeks or so. With projects to do and reports to write, it can sometimes be hard to stay entertained when you've got a word limit to hit (a lot like this column right here, I'm dangerously bored already). This eternal conundrum has now been solved thanks to the establishment of the Coffee Break Lab Report Word Hunt Challenge 2012™!


Below, we've given you a list of words, names, and expressions. Try and slip any of these into any of your upcoming assignments. We'll pick out the best examples at some point in the future. A word of pretty obvious warning: don't sacrifice your work ethos for the sake of handing in a blank sheet of A4 with 'Robert Mugabe' written over and over again on it. Unless that is your assignment, and then I wish you well with your hugely interesting degree choice.

Additionally, for any markers who pick up on any stray words, let us know! Send your stuff to felix@imperial.ac.uk. If you have any lame/fantastic ideas that you feel might work spectacularly in these pages, let us know!




HOT!

DYSFUNCTIONAL MAPS (APPLE)




CRAIG DAVID




POGS

QUANTITATIVE EASING



NOKIA LUMIA



RACISM

NOT!

Entry Level

- Time constraints
- Uncertainty in measurement
- Room for error
- Statistically dubious
- Fundamentally wrong
- Generally
- Irrelevant
- Hitherto

Medium Stage

- Therein
- Albeit
- On the other hand
- Room for manoeuvre
- Substitution
- Great height
- Perhaps
- Unfortunately

Experienced

- Fashionable
- Entertaining
- Outrageously
- Intriguing
- Obviously
- Fully loaded
- Encumbered
- Labyrinthian

Pro Tier

- Robert Mugabe
- Fecundity
- Bourgeois
- Political intrigue
- Ross Kemp
- Hardcore
- Arraignment
- 100% pls

PEDANT'S CORNER

Coffee Break investigates those day-to-day issues that absolutely nobody is getting angry about...

#2 – "You messed up last week."

LAST WEEK IN PEDANTS' CORNER... AH, SHIT!

Of course, I'm probably just completely wrong and stuck in the past. But if someone doesn't stand up for **this** incredibly small details, then who will?

TWITTER HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK

UK Prime Minister @Number10gov

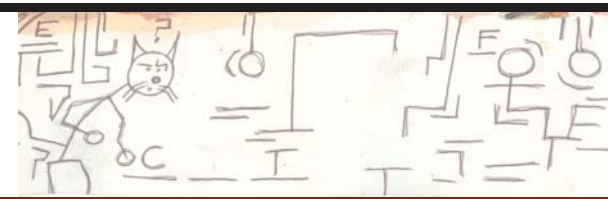


PM hails Europe #RyderCup victory: "This remarkable comeback is yet another 2012 sporting success for us all to celebrate."

David Cameron's Twitter gurus masterfully employ an ingenious placement of a popular hashtag as Davey C continues to endear himself to literally tens of people through social media. #greatjob!

HANGMAN

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk



twitter



WillyoujoinmyMiliband?

GUYS!!!!!! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE IT. I've made life size model of Mark Nobel out of Lego. You hav to see it xx



Cleggman

Mark Nobel? The West Ham player?



WillyoujoinmyMiliband?

Yeah lol



Cleggman

Do you even follow football?



WillyoujoinmyMiliband?

No



Cleggman

You've never watched a game of football in your life, and you randomly make a life size lego model of a West Ham central midfielder....?



WillyoujoinmyMiliband?

...yeah



Cameron_DA_Maneron!!!

I'm going to make a Mark Noble cake.



OBAMARAMATYME2012

Omg this is so weird. I'm actually wearing my Mark Noble themed dressing gown right now.



Cleggman

What the fuck is wrong with you people?

Dark and gritty reboot for Imperial College

Bob Freundlich wades through misery

Following Hollywood's recent trend of rebooting film franchises, an anonymous source revealed yesterday that there is a "5% chance" that Imperial College London is "probably considering" a similar reboot in order to "bring a feeling of true misery to both staff and students alike".

"When you reboot anything – a film franchise, a university, the economy, for example – the resulting tone is always unrelentingly horrible," our fedora-wearing source said on Thursday.

"The example I always like to use to reassure people is the Harry Potter film series. We all know that it's only a matter of time before they remake it, and believe me, by the time we get to *Goblet of Fire* the characters will be getting pregnant and shooting up heroin all over Hogwarts. And then even the Goblet of Fire will probably be a dirty pint or something."

"We really think that Imperial students will lap this up. To be honest, with the current workload everybody's miserable as it is."

"Imperial's just been going through the motions for god knows how many years now. I mean, it's autumn term, spring term, summer term, exams, and then the same all over again. It's just boring and predictable. After about 100 years of the same old same old, we think it's high time that we



The hero that Imperial deserves

shake things up a bit.

In the quest to "get back to basics", as our source said, "we're going to get rid of all those gadgets and science things you have around Imperial, spray-on fabric and all that, it's just not believable."

"To be honest, we'll probably get rid of lectures too and let students figure their degree out for themselves. We really want to invoke a harsh Victorian atmosphere to fit in with our South Kensington surroundings – we just hope it rains more!"

On top of this year's rise in tuition fees for home students, it is expected

that there will be an extra compulsory charge for 3D glasses, "We really want students to get the full College experience, and it's time for us to get with the program. After all, everybody knows that you can't see in three dimensions without 3D glasses – come on, it's in the name."

Our source was particularly excited about plans for the Rector's involvement in the expectedly profitable scheme, "We're really envisaging the Rector as a Batman-style figure, head to toe in rubber and taking on criminals with an ample budget. The Queen's Tower can be the Batcave."

Think you're funny? Punk

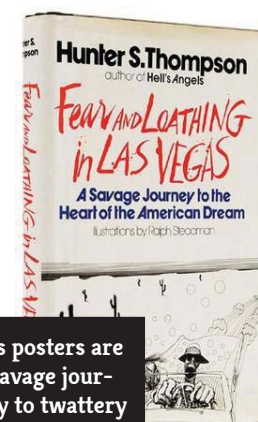
Well, you very well may be, and you've come to the right place. We always want contributions and new additions to the little humour team over here. How, you scream at the page? Stop shouting at paper, you look weird. Not sure if we want to talk to you anymore, but, fine.

Email: felix@imperial.ac.uk saying you're interested and we'll be in touch.

People you'll meet at Imperial who you probably shouldn't be friends with

2. Just-left-home-hippy-libertine.

Probably has a beard, or at least the pathetic pubic hair stragglings of one that he tried to grow. Definitely won't shut up about Jack Kerouac, bought a Fear & Loathing poster with him to uni, orders drugs off the internet (as he's so alternative that he takes "ket" and "MD" every night at a rave). Still thinks counter-culture and drug taking is rebelling against the system, un-ironically contributing to the great financial institution that is university debt. Will probably drop out following a plant-food based trip to rehab.



His posters are a savage journey to twattery

Drunken Mate of the Week:v

Get permission, then just send it to us at:
felix@imperial.ac.uk

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

HANGMAN

Scientists in their own words

"I didn't do physics for enjoyment. I did it because people needed pretentious quotes for their personal statements"

THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS



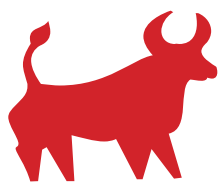
UN concerned about Weapons of Mass Nasal Congestion threats

FRESHERS' SCOPES – IT'S THE HOROSCOPES



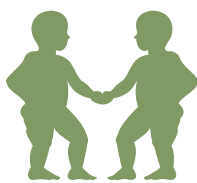
ARIES

This week, you start to make some on point, topical references to Gangnam Style. HEY EVERYONE, HAVE YOU SEEN THIS NEW THING CALLED GANGMAN, NO, WAIT, GANGNAM STYLE. IT'S WELL FUNNY LOL. You're new friends disown you. They never liked you anyway, you're a prick tbh.



TAURUS

This week, you write tbh in a horoscope as you can't fit the whole version. LMFAO, WTF is up with that shit. Anyway, can't really say that much is going to go well for you this week. You'll go to Metric, again. You'll get rejected by both the girls in there. Again. You'll be hungover and miss your labs. Again.



GEMINI

An incident that can only be described as "you shitting your pants in public in the middle of a lecture" occurs. You squelch your way, defeated, to the toilet, and wonder how on earth you can claw back from this depth of humiliation. You really can't. At least you have chocolate mousse for lunch now!



CANCER

This week you're at The Mingle, smoking a cigarette in public. FUCK YOU MUM YOU CAN'T STOP ME. You're mother stops you. That's just before I have sex with her. Oh yeah, that's right. You weep at the horror of the fact that your own parent had a more "action packed" first week than you did. Shame. Pint?



LEO

This week the Union, in its infinite wisdom, decides to break a Guinness World Record. Celebrities descend upon Beit Quad to witness the momentous occasion. Unfortunately, a record breaking mass book burning probably isn't the best choice. Everybody leaves with a sour taste in their mouths. Somebody mutters, "What's the Union?"



VIRGO

This week you're sitting on Queen's Lawn, eating a wrap from one of the College's many 'great value' food and drink establishments, when a falcon swoops down, tearing it from your hands. Unable to handle a moment away from Imperial's range of food products, you break down and go for dinner outside campus. It's actually decent.



LIBRA

It turns out that urination for the nation campaign your dad told you about isn't actually a thing. For legal reasons, this horoscope can't contain any more information, but what it can say is _____ public disorder charge _____ labs _____ pissing against a lab bench _____ you.



SCORPIO

This week you're on an official tour of the Library. Separated from the rest of the crowd you take a turn down a dark, dank hallway. Opening an ominous red leather door you stumble across a wide variety of dogs playing poker. You ask to join in, they politely decline.



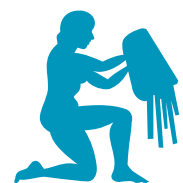
SAGITTARIUS

Resigned to your never changing academic fate, this week you fail to prepare for an upcoming solid week of examinations out of retaliation against a system that strives to hold you down. Imagine your surprise when you ace them all, becoming a hero among your peers. You wake up in the exam hall. Everybody shushes you.



CAPRICORN

This week you wake up strapped to a dentist's chair. Seeing as you haven't got an appointment booked the whole situation is vaguely concerning. The dentist asks you how your summer was, what options you're taking, and what societies you're joining. You struggle to answer due to excessive mouth cramp. The drill is activated...



AQUARIUS

This is the dawning of the age of Aquarius. Unfortunately you're not invited to the dawning ceremony and so get 5 years bad luck. Sorry. To start with, you have a test tomorrow morning. Oh, and a crippling need to go to the toilet, but also a fear of people hearing that plop sound it makes.



PISCES

This week you visit the gym, with the sole intention of "going hard". Sets of weights fall before you, the treadmill becomes your best friend and the swimming pool covers before your athletic prowess. Or at least you think so, until it turns out you've mistaken the gym for the library, and everything for books.

PUZZLES

**Puzzles Commander: VACANT
APPLY RIGHT NOW PLEASE!**

puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk

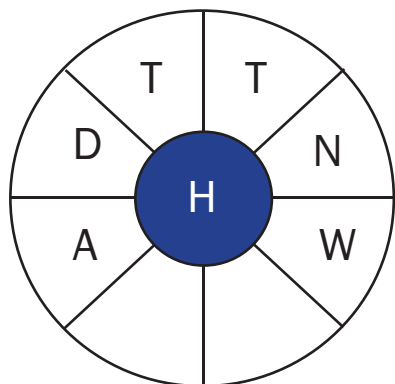


Crossword

Word Wheel

TARGET: 15

Make as many words of at least 4 letters as you can, always using the central one. **NO** plurals, conjugated verbs, comparatives or superlatives, because I said so.. There is always at least one 9 letter word.

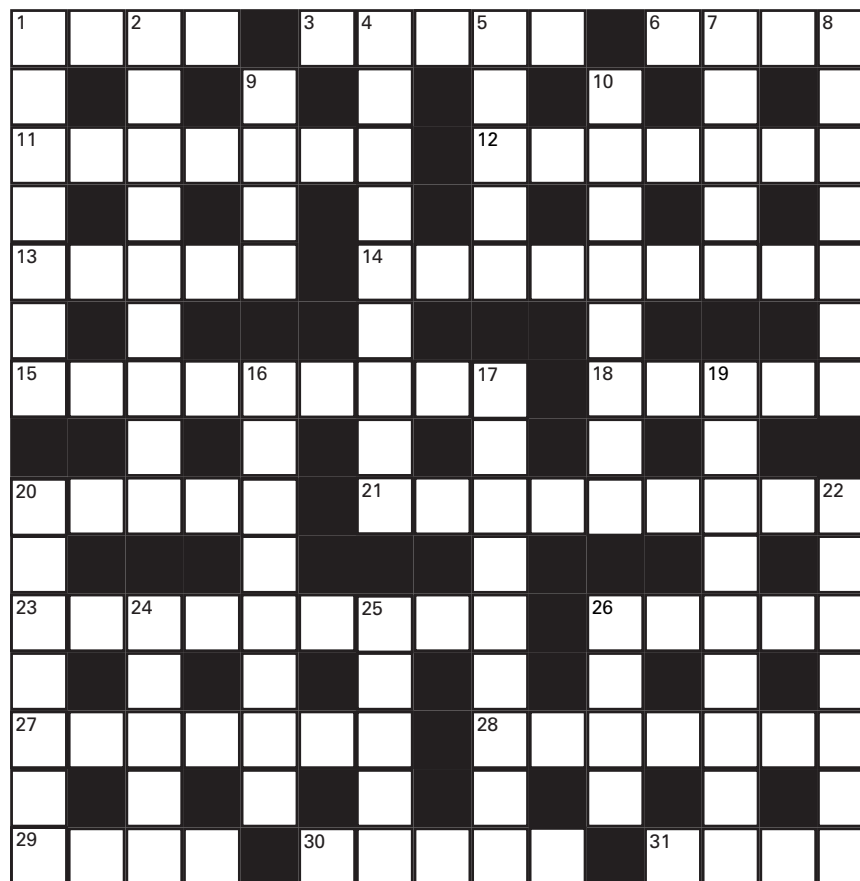


Across

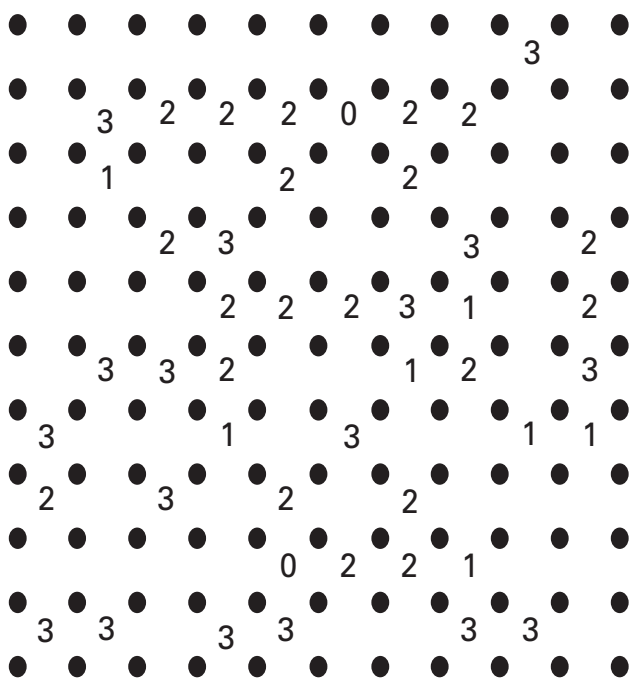
1. Chief; curved (4)
3. Let go (5)
6. Throw; actors (4)
11. Hard stuff; Neil ___, American singer-songwriter (7)
12. Art or literature intended to arouse (7)
13. Wretched, shabby, nasty (5)
14. Procession of vehicles (9)
15. Military weapons and equipment (9)
18. Covered in green appendages (5)
20. Reddish-yellow stony fruit native to India (5)
21. Sirocco (9)
23. German military symbol and award during the World Wars (4,5)
26. Segment of a flower's corolla (5)
27. Insects, order Coleoptera, with hard casing to protect their wings (7)
28. Outdoors (4,3)
29. EM wave (1-3)
30. It's capital is Sana'a (5)
31. Testing stage of software (4)

Down

1. Pyrenean country (7)
2. Artisan (9)
4. The basics, fundamental facts or principles (9)
5. May describe one looking at 12 (5)
7. ___ Dobson, plays Angie Watts in Eastenders (5)
8. e.g. Hamlet, Othello, not Twelfth Night (7)
9. Scrawny (4)
10. Without unnecessary extras (2,6)
16. Foolish person (8)
17. Sedimentary rock with quartz grains (9)
19. Command to turn around (5,4)
20. Place to store post (7)
22. Parasitic disease (7)
24. e.g. Don Giovanni, The Flying Dutchman (5)
25. ___ Ardiles, World Cup Winner and ex-Tottenham manager (5)
26. e.g. A Dream Within a Dream, The Raven (4)



SLITHERLINK



The aim with Slitherlink is to make one continuous closed loop by connecting the dots. The numbers in each square indicate how many edges of the square are part of the loop, so if it contains a "2", you know that two and only two out of

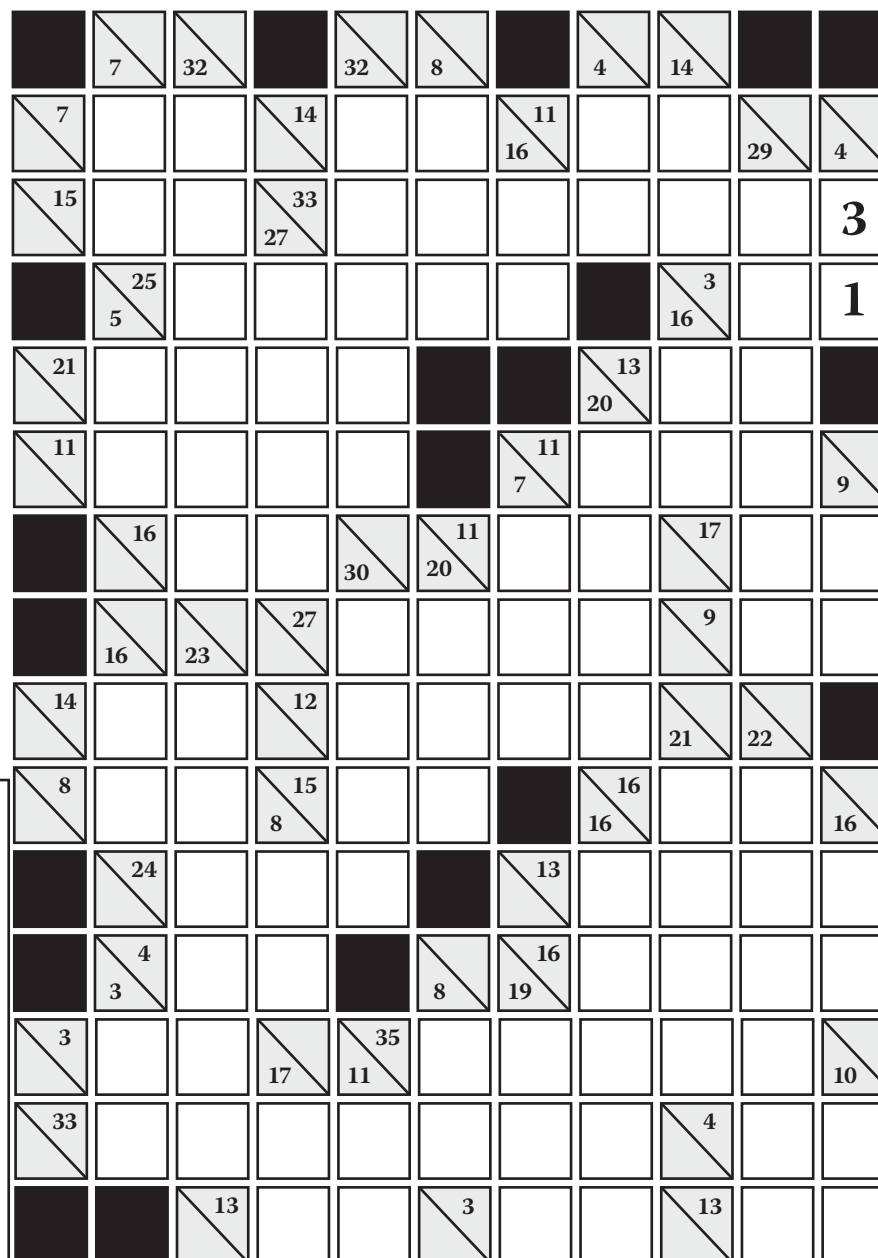
four edges have lines. That's all the info you need to get the one logical answer (though waiting a week to see the solution will also do). Answers to puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk, as the puzzles team receives one kiss on the cheek per correct solution.

Kakuro

To commemorate the beginning of the new term, Felix Puzzles is relatively pleased to announce the arrival of our new Kakuro puzzle.

It's not that complex... we hope. The name of the game is to insert a digit from 1 to 9 into all of the white cells, so that the total of each row or column adds up to the corresponding number in the grey cells. But watch out! Each row or column cannot featuring repeating digits. To get you started, we've given you a couple of digits.

We're gearing up towards bringing back all of your old favourites, but in order to speed up the process it'd be great to have a few Puzzles Commanders on hand. If you're interested in crafting fiendish challenges and generally messing about on a Mac whenever you want, email felix@imperial.ac.uk.



Scribble Zone
Just like The Crystal Maze didn't have



**A desperate plea for a
Puzzles Commander.**

We're dying over here.

**If interested, email us at
felix@imperial.ac.uk**

FELIX



SPORT

Sport Editors: Oli Benton,
Sorcha Cotter, Margot Pikovsky
sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

A Lemon Fresh Look at Fresher Trials

Felix Sport Brings you a rough and incomplete guide to some of the fresher trial events



All I'm saying is: nice purple t-shirt there

ICURFC was looking for a good intake of big strong freshers. Luckily, 50 likely lads braved the Harlington wind for trials. After going over the basics, coach Brimah refereed a fiercely competitive, if somewhat scrappy fresher game. Captain Jack, who thought the trials went smoothly despite a lack of bibs, wants to build on promotion; "We want to finish mid table this year, with our 2nd and 3rd teams being promoted up" With a team entered into LUSL as well, rugby are always recruiting new or experienced players. Email jack.flanagan11@imperial.ac.uk for details.

Gaelic Football & Hurling

An Englishman, an Irishman and a Portuguese man walk into a bar, and smash the place while trying to play gaelic football. With ever growing multiculturalism, uptake in Gaelic football at Imperial is increasing each year. Experienced players and newcomers alike took to the field for a run out before the first fixture on the 26th. Hurling, a faster and more aggressive mix of lacrosse and hockey had "huge interest" at freshers fair. If you want to try something different this year, email gaelic.sports@imperial.ac.uk

Rugby League

Under the helm of a new coach, and with regular training sessions rugby league is looking to break out of their current Merit League and into the BUCS setup. "The session went really well - I'd forgotten how much I loved contact sports" claimed Rugby League fresher James Holt at the bar in 568 after the trials. Training in Hyde Park on Wednesdays at 2pm until they move to their new floodlit facilities at the Linford Christie Stadium, RL has games every week starting in on the first week of November.

Swimming and Water Polo

On Wednesday Swimming and Water Polo had their first taster session and had an amazing turn out, with around 80 people. From people swimming for



Nice hole.

Women's Rugby

After hiring their new coach Danny last Christmas, Women's rugby has gone from strength to strength. With 15 freshers turning up to trials Charlotte, The current President, is looking to build on their success last year and get promoted from their current league, BUCS South 2A. Also playing in the newly formed LUSL, Women's rugby is always looking for girls to try something new and get involved. If you're interested in anything about women's rugby, email charlotte.stephens09@imperial.ac.uk

Women's Football

Despite their squad being devastated by the amount of recent graduates leaving their side Josie, the captain, is still optimistic; "This is the first year of LUSL and we think we can really make an impact. We've got some good freshers coming through this year." Playing Football and Futsal, with a large number of people showing interest and coming down to Harlington for trials, their first game is away at Roehampton on the 17th.

Hockey

With over 60 freshers, ranging from experienced county players down to complete newcomers, making the trek to Harlington for trials this Wednesday was always going to be productive for Hockey. The women's team, that had an outstanding season (winning South Eastern 2a, the ULU premier league, the ULU Cup and the BUCS Cup), last year alone had 22 prospective players brave the first training session and traditional hockeystick spin and run afterwards. Watching a 6ft 8 fresher try and put his head on a hockey stick and spin round? Hilarious.

Rugby

After winning promotion last year,

fitness through to seriously competitive water polo players, there are more sessions today at 1930 for swimming and 2045 for water polo. Email swimming@imperial.ac.uk for more details.

Boxing

After their first successful training session yesterday, Imperial College Amateur Boxing Club are offering four sessions in the Union Gym a week. With classes regularly attended by 30 boxers, and with an IC fighter reaching the semi-finals of the British Boxing Series, the club is looking to expand to sparring with universities outside of our regular London based events. Whether fitness or competitive fighting is your goal, there is another free taster session tonight between 6-7 and Saturday 4-6, whatever your ability. Email boxing@imperial.ac.uk with any queries.

American Football

American football season got off to a great start on Wednesday with the first of two 'come and try' sessions attracting a very large turnout. Which (unsurprisingly) was retained as the club bonded in the Union later that night with Imperial's Cheerleading squad, the IC Titans. The 'come and try' sessions offer Imperial students a chance

to try the main skills and positions required of a successful football team and it is an opportunity that many eager students took. Six drills allowed new players to rotate through passing, catching, running and defending skills, while letting the experienced, often American, players to show off their abilities. Those students who did choose to come down virtually unanimously agreed that the afternoon was a success and displayed a flair and ability which promises to make the upcoming season Imperial AFC's most successful. For students who are interested in either American football or cheerleading, details of upcoming events and taster sessions can be found on Imperial College Union's "What's On".

Triathlon

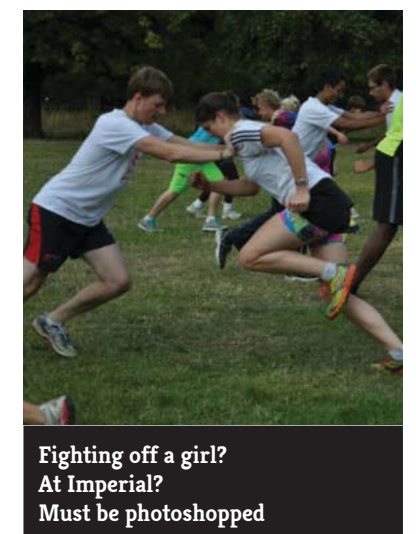
Imperial Triathlon Club saw record interest at this year's Freshers' Fair, so alongside Cross Country Club over eighty people met for a club run around Hyde Park. Meeting three to four times a week, with circuit training Mondays, cycling Richmond Park Wednesdays, running Hyde Park on Thursdays and swimming Friday mornings. People of all abilities are welcome to go, whether to compete or just to keep fit. With a 5k run and duathlon (run-bike-run) coming up in November, so if you're interested in a race, email triathlon@imperial.ac.uk.



Fresher Hockey 101
Bend over.
Grab stick.
Fondle Balls.



Too bad he's not this hard with his girlfriend.



Fighting off a girl?
At Imperial?
Must be photoshopped

Sport Editors: Oli Benton,
Sorcha Cotter, Margot Pikovsky
sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

SPORT

Ned Prepares for Winter by Becoming an Ironman

Ned Yoxall

Sports Writer

Just before Christmas I decided to take up a “challenge” to raise money for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. My little cousin, who suffers from the disease, had been going through a rough patch. I wanted to do something that would attract sponsorship, so I plumped for Ironman Wales. What I did know was that this was a 2.4 mile swim followed by a 112 mile cycle followed by a 26.2 mile run, all to be completed within 17 hours. What I didn't know was that the course, which takes place in and around Tenby, is widely regarded to be one of the toughest out there. It turns out that Pembrokeshire is a pretty hilly place not particularly well known for its clement weather – who'd have thought, eh? The bike section alone would have 2400 vertical meters.

So I set about turning myself from a climber into a long course triathlete. From Christmas until September I barely laid hands on a pint (apart from a few “notable” exceptions, ahem) and I'd be swimming, cycling or running for anywhere between 8 and 20 hours a week. Not only did this knock 8kg off my body weight (1 1/4 stone

for the dinosaurs), but it also turned me into a grumpy, tired bastard. For anyone who came into contact with me during the last six months, sorry about that. I came to find swimming interminably dull, cycling quite fun (although getting up every Saturday at 6am to ride for 7 hours less so) and running pretty mundane. As much as I enjoy living in London, it doesn't really lend itself to long distance endurance sports. Cycling only gets pleasant once you've been going for an hour or so and you're outside the M25, and there are only so many times you can run around the Royal Parks before the desire to throw tourists into the Serpentine becomes overwhelming. Living somewhere like the middle of Dartmoor would make training somewhat more enthralling than yet another trip up the Grand Union Canal to Sudbury.

As well as being a drain on time and energy, triathlon sucks up a ludicrous amount of cash. Once you get caught up in the bike world, it shackles you down while it picks up your bank account and shakes it until there's nothing left. I found myself checking for “deals” on a daily (OK, hourly) basis and I've lost count of the number of times I've hauled myself back from the verge of spending hundreds of pounds on a single wheel because it might make things slightly easier on the day (“but it's so shiny and aerodynamic... it saves you at least 0.034 milliwatts compared to what I've got at the moment etc etc”). My fictional accountant is going to be delighted that this is all over.

The event week rolled around in the blink of an eye. After all the hours I'd put in I found myself considerably fitter than when I'd started (duh) and thankfully injury free. It also turned me into a hypochondriac of the high-



est order. If I thought I heard someone snuffle on the other side of the room I'd be out of there quicker than a neutrino detected by a machine with loose wiring (sorry – you can take the geek out of Imperial, but...) I can totally understand Bradley Wiggins not wanting to shake hands with his admirers in the build up to a big competition. His stakes are ever so slightly higher than mine, after all. Event week also gave me a problem I'd never had before – trouble with sleeping. It's a bizarre situation to find oneself in when, having previously considered oneself a master of the powernap, adrenaline spikes hit your bloodstream just regularly enough to stop you getting the requisite z's.

The night before the big day I didn't sleep at all. You read all sorts of things

about training and mental preparation during the build-up, and they all say things like “focus on what you can do something about, don't worry about the rest”. This is crazy advice because it's completely impossible to follow. Unless you have the mental training of an SAS Delta-Force MI6 super-commando, of course you'll spend the entire time fretting about the weather, mechanical failures, crashing, drowning, failing etc etc. On top of this, triathlon is a sport for people with OCD. Everything has to be prepared “just so” to make your transitions from one sport to the next as smooth and quick as possible. Given that this was my first triathlon, I had exactly no experience to draw upon and I'd worry about not having put my trainers in the right bag. I'm not exactly known for my ability to micro-manage

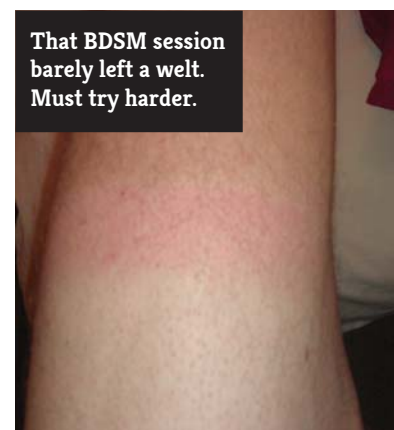
the little details.

You can sponsor Ned online by visiting www.justgiving.com/Ned-sIronman or by text through Just-TextGiving by sending ‘IRON66 £(amount you'd like to give)’ to 70070.

Part 2 will be next week.



Nice rims.



That BDSM session barely left a welt. Must try harder.

Horror as Sport Imperial Tries to Bulk Girls Up

Sorcha Cotter

Sports Editor

Two weeks before term starts, sport imperial organized some FREE pre-season fitness for all abilities from those elite athletes among us, as well as anyone just wanting to look in tip-top shape for the incoming freshers!

The first week was fitness-focused to get the beer bellies and summer laziness out of our systems. Day 1 set the tone by starting with the very innocently named ‘4x4s’. This in fact turned out to be 4 minutes of pain followed by 4 minutes of laughing at your partner in pain repeated 4 times... not as fun as it sounds! It was all worth it in the end, however, and the feeling did eventually return to our legs. At least none of our group were sick during this ordeal, unlike some (*cough*

American Football *cough*). After the pain had worn off, and after a long lunch break it became apparent that a lot of thought had gone into designing sessions specific for each sport and this wasn't just intended to be a painful reminder of how little exercise we had done over the last few months.

After lunch we paid our first visit to the new Ethos Performance Gym, which will be available for use by certain clubs this year. Now I have to say that as a rather small girl I have never been brave enough to use the weights section in the main Ethos gym, so this was a completely new experience. We were taken slowly through the various lifting techniques by the strength and conditioning coaches (Chris, the coach for the hockey and football

group, was a particularly good teacher and had only 3% body fat (!) which gave us all something to aspire to!), and then given a tough strength circuit incorporating the newly learned lifts to finish.

This was the general format of the first week, with morning and afternoon sessions every day targeted at improving our general and sport-specific fitness. Our only relief came during the Thursday afternoon recovery session in the Ethos pool, sauna and ‘ice bath’ (or more accurately, paddling pool with cold water).

In week 2 we put all our weight training and fitness into action with sessions targeting sport-specific techniques such as top speed and speed endurance training. Our group added

a fun twist to the week with a ‘Dick-of-the-Day’ shirt kindly provided by our trainer Chris. The winners are featured in the pictures for everyone's entertainment.

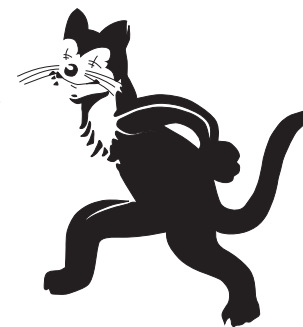
In the gym we learnt Olympic lifts (that is the lifts you see in the Olympics), apparently in the Olympics a 50kg girl could lift twice her body-weight; I was left feeling a little inadequate by only managing 20kg! However, as with all of the session, this training was designed to improve a specific aspect of our sport-specific strength, in this case by developing our explosive power to help us be quicker off the mark and faster at changing direction.

Agility and power training was then applied to a ‘game situation’ as voted

by us (we played dodgeball), and we are assured that there are plans to include this more often in the schedule for next year.

In addition to training, free physio and sport massages were available throughout the two weeks to provide to aid our aching muscles and the many small injuries we all acquired during the 2 weeks.

All in all it was an extremely beneficial 2 weeks, and all who attended felt fitter and stronger by the end. There are hundreds of photos on the Sport Imperial facebook page so have a look at them to get an idea of the fun we had, and I hope next year more people will come and take advantage of the great opportunity Sport Imperial laid on for us.



Harvard take a hammering

ICURFC 73 – ○ Harvard

Sean Baker

Sports Writer

As the ICURFC 1st XV arrived for their first match of tour against Harvard it was clear that things in America were going to be a bit different. We were first informed that we would be playing on an artificial rubber crumb pitch rather than grass, and then that the Harvard team were only willing to play 35 minute halves in the match. To make matters worse, the pitch was marked out with lines that were barely visible and the posts were declared unsafe by the referee minutes before kickoff and moved behind the dead ball line. Despite these setbacks, the team was determined to put in a big performance and a strong start from the Imperial forwards saw a classic IC rolling maul go 22m for second row Chris McGeough to crash over for his first try in over a year. Fly half James Cox then slotted the conversion to take the score to 7-0 on the 5 minute mark.

From the resultant kickoff, captain Jack Flanagan received the ball and a strong carry saw him break 3 tackles before being brought to ground. Good work at the breakdown from the IC forwards ensured quick ball from the ruck, and after some fast hands in the backline, outside centre Caolan Cotter recieved the ball and ran 50m to score IC's second try. Just minutes later, a well placed kick to the corner saw the IC forwards in perfect position to execute another driving maul, leading to McGeough's second try of the day. Some squad members were intrigued to notice that the 'best lineout jumper in the club' seemed



Nice tiara Jon.



Ably watched by his teammates, Olisa charges on.

to never call the ball to himself, and instead made several calls that coincidentally involved McGeough receiving the ball at the back of the maul and scoring.

On the 20 minute mark, it was the turn of Imperial's deadly backline to get involved. More slick handling saw the ball reach fullback Freddie White who showed great pace to take the Harvard defenders on the outside and score in the corner. James Cox was unsuccessful with the conversion as a result of a gentle breeze across the field, leaving the score at 22-0 with only 20 minutes played. After another strong period of possession, quick ruck ball and some great hands from

forwards Chris McGeough and Sean Baker saw prop James Scaife burst through a gap in mid field to score. Another successful conversion from Cox saw the score at 29-0. From the kickoff, McGeough was again in the thick of the action but was injured in a crunching midair collision. Despite his injuries he played on in the hope of inflicting some payback.

Some good play from the Harvard team then saw them enter the Imperial 22 for the first time in the match after half an hour of play, however IC managed to win a turnover to stamp out any hopes of Harvard scoring. After a scrappy period of play, a well executed move from the base of the scrum involving number 8 Sean Baker and scrum half Ed Durkin saw winger Nathan Fitzpatrick score in the corner to make the score 34-0. Just minutes later another strong carry from Baker from the base of the scrum and an excellent offload in contact saw Cox score under the posts and convert his own try to make the score 41-0.

On the 35 minute mark a nice move involving Caolan Cotter's first pass of the game saw George Lane take the ball and offload to winger Olisa Ufo-diana to score and take the scoreline

to 46-0 at half time. Despite the scoreline Captain Jack Flanagan was keen to emphasise the need for improvement in several areas, and the team took to the field determined to put in a good second half performance.

From the kickoff another IC line-out and rolling maul saw second row Mike O'Connell score thanks to more pinpoint accurate throwing from hooker Rob Kyle. Seeing that he was unlikely to complete a hatrick of tries due to his earlier injuries, McGeough then left the field to be replaced by frenchman Pierre L'Bour.

In the next few minutes the game became somewhat scrappier as IC took their foot off the gas and began playing without the structure and accuracy that saw them through their most successful season ever. The only action of any note was a standard big hit from Sean Baker on an unsuspecting Harvard player and some more strong defence by the entire IC team – with flankers John Hardisty and Jack Flanagan to the fore as usual. With the Harvard players beginning to pile on the pressure, they were awarded a penalty in the IC 22 for infringements at the breakdown, but were unable to make anything come

of their opportunity.

After 50 minutes, the IC team finally began to find some continuity, with further scores from Cotter and Fitzpatrick in quick succession taking the score to 63-0. With Cotter's pass count now at a staggering total of 3, the backline were really beginning to come into their own and minutes later Fitzpatrick was put in the corner again after some great interplay from the IC forwards and backs. Much to the surprise of all watching, prop Toby Spittle scored a try (via an outrageous dummy pass that even managed to fool some IC players including the usually astute Mike O'Connell) and sealed a memorable win with his second just minutes later. Some bystanders went as far as to liken Spittle's brace of tries to seeing Emile Heskey scoring for England.

With the final score reading 73-0 in a match that only lasted 70 minutes, the Imperial team (controversially named 'the colonials' by several squad members) was able to leave Harvard full of confidence for the remainder of the tour and safe in the knowledge that their physicality, skill and passion for the game could not be matched on the day.



That biscuit got soggy really quickly