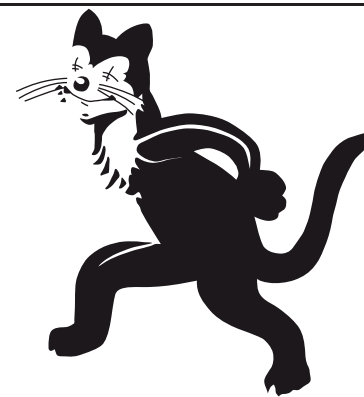


FELIX

"Keep the Cat Free"



25/01/13
Issue 1537
felixonline.co.uk



Becky Lane,
Deputy President
(Welfare)
Manifesto Review
Page 10

**You voted them in...
What have they done?**



Doug Hunt,
Deputy President
(Education)
Manifesto Review
Page 11

Translation Unit under threat

- Petition to save Unit gets over 4,700 signatures in just one week
- Members of staff now unsure of their future

Maciej Matuszewski Reporter

The Imperial College Management Board has announced the proposed closure of the College's Translation Studies Unit (TSU). Founded in 2001 to provide teaching for the College's new MSc in Scientific, Technical and Medical Translation, the only such degree in the country, it now oversees the studies of over a hundred Masters and Doctorate students. A period of consultation regarding the fate of the Unit began last Friday and is set to run until February 18. All applications to courses run by the unit have been sus-

pending and while the College say that they hope the Unit will be able to find a home at a different institution it admits that, if this should prove not to be possible, it might be closed permanently.

Staff found out about the plans at a meeting on Friday 18 January. In a subsequent email to members of the Unit Dr Jorge Diaz-Cintas told colleagues that the primary reason for the proposals is that the Board does not consider "the activities carried out by the TSU are not considered core to the College strategy". The Unit remains profitable and financial considerations are understood not



Translation Unit is located in Sherfield. It's not always this sunny though

Inside...>>

FEATURE



What is a social enterprise? >> 8

COMMENT



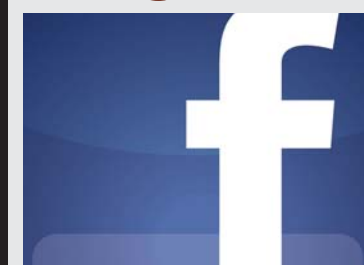
A United States of Europe? >>21

Felix Sex Survey returns

Fill it out online at:
felixonline.co.uk/sexsurvey



Hangman



Spotted: Imperial themed groups >>44

EDITOR'S PICKS

SEX SURVEY

>>24

Talk about sex

Yep, as you probably saw on the front page, the Felix Sex Survey is back. Puns away: do it all night. Flip to the Centrefold to see me naked promoting it, if you're into that sort of thing. Please be as honest as possible as it's all secure.

DRUGS SURVEY

>>24

Chat about drugs

This year we are also doing a Drugs Survey. This is to find out your thoughts on drugs and what drugs you have/haven't. Don't worry, this survey is very secure and even if we wanted to (which we wouldn't) we literally couldn't see who said what.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

>>14

I Night...

It's I Night, which is where the all international clubs showcase their various cultures and talents. This is definitely going to be something worth going to! There's also Singaporean Societies event Homecoming to look forward to.

CLASSIFIEDS

Maths tutor wanted

Maths tutor needed for 7 and 9 year olds. High performing children that need support to continue to perform at a high level.

Initially two hours per week and potentially more especially during exam periods.

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Email felix@imperial.ac.uk to place Classifieds.

Boy/girl seeking boy/girl also welcome. Accompanying pictures of you in provocative poses in the Library not.

LOLCAT OF THE WEEK: Finding these is a perk of the job



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Register by 28th Jan
Deadline: 25th Feb

Venture Catalyst Challenge '13

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NO TIME?

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We recognise that you may not be 100% sure about whether you want to start your own thing

All that's needed by the 28th January is a few lines. Then we'll help you to turn it into something awesome

Did you know that Twitter started off as a travel website and Groupon as a social action site (by a student!)

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The paradox of Paragon: Imperial students pay more for the same halls

Lizzy Griffiths

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

Imperial College London students are paying more for the same room in the same halls than students from two other London universities. Freshers from Imperial pay £155 per week for a room in Paragon. Students from West Thames College London (West Thames) and University of West London (UWL) both pay £133.55 a week.

When questioned, College gave multiple reasons to Felix to explain the discrepancy.

The students from the two other universities have a 44 week contract, whereas the Imperial students have a 39 week contract. This means that overall Imperial students pay a total of £6045, which is £168.80 over the total paid by the other students. However, at the 39 week mark the Imperial student has paid £836.55 more than the students from West Thames and UWL. The figures were shown to Felix after a Union employee looked into the matter.

Felix contacted Paul Noke, Head of Residential Services and GradPad, to explain the discrepancy in cost. He said that "College is, in fact, subsidising to bring the weekly rent in at £155 per week for our students".

Noke told Felix that there were many reasons for the price being as it is. He stated that they had to "negotiate

quickly" with providers due to the decision by College to refurbish and redevelop Wilson House being "fairly late"; a refurbishment that left hall seniors, sub wardens and wardens in limbo as to their living arrangements. Noke said that the decision by College "didn't leave us with very much time to get an alternative option online ready for the UG accommodation application process early last summer". He also noted further delays saying: "We looked at a number of sites and our preferred option was actually in Elephant & Castle (in zone 1, not too far from Xenia in Waterloo) which would have allowed us to keep all of our students under one roof with one Wardening team (and possibly some of our own staff) at more affordable rents." The option was dismissed as a number of those in College and the Union were uncomfortable with Imperial freshers being located in Elephant & Castle.

Noke stated that the length of the contract that College wanted (39 rather than 44 weeks) was a contributing factor to the increased rent saying "the College had to pay a slightly higher rate to secure the rooms for Imperial College students."

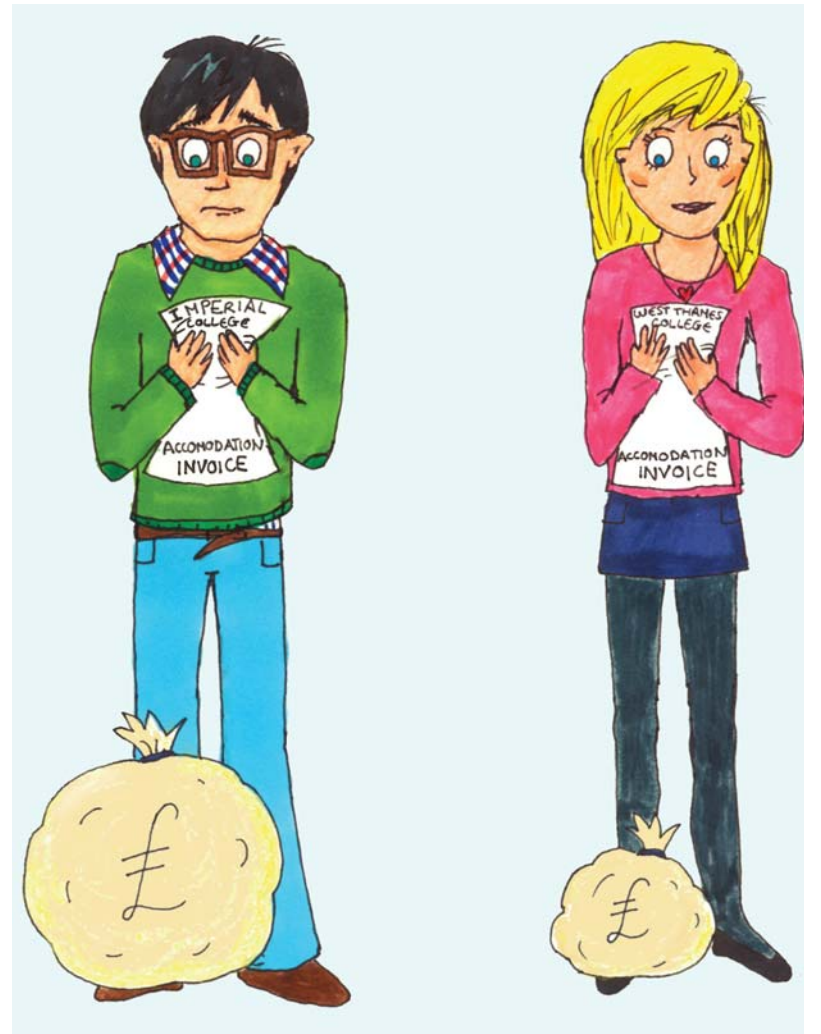
Wardening increased the cost but was considered "vitaly important to the welfare of our students". The team's costs were initially thought to have been from the welfare budget, however

this was denied by Noke saying "the costs... are not being covered by the welfare budget this year".

Noke added that the College also "pay a small contribution to allow our students access to the UWL shuttle busses between 7am–8pm each weekday". This is to South Ealing, on the Piccadilly line in Zone 2 and is for students to travel in to College.

Paragon is a temporary halls that is being used by Imperial this year to house some freshers, it has also been used to house freshers before – an example of this is in 2008 when the College was oversubscribed. Noke said that the decision to house students there was because "the facilities and services had been 'tried and tested'". It is in Brentford, which is a long way from the main South Kensington campus. There are 839 rooms in Paragon, which is owned and managed by Notting Hill Housing Trust. There is an agreement with UWL, which means that they must give their blessing for rooms to be released to other parties, such as Imperial. West Thames College have a long-standing agreement to use some of the rooms for exactly the same terms and rates as UWL.

Wilson House redevelopment was granted planning permission on 6 November 2012, and Noke told Felix that they will re-open it for the 2013-14 intake.



Student makes racism complaint to College

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

A black student has raised a complaint of racism after being asked to show identification by security officers following a call made to College by a member of staff who thought the student may not be a member of Imperial.

The complaint was raised near the end of last term, and to Felix's knowledge the student has not received a reply to the letter he send via email – it is now over 6 weeks since the original complaint was raised. The student said: "It has now been over a month and I have not heard from anyone. Clearly this matter is not being taken seriously."

The student was asked to show identification, and believes that the reason that they were picked out as not belonging to the university was due to their skin colour.

Felix contacted Terry Branch, Head of Security, who gave the following

statement: "Given how accessible parts of the Campus are to members of the public, the Security team routinely ask to check staff and students' College ID cards in restricted areas as part of their duties. On this occasion, security officers responded to a call from a member of staff who had seen someone she didn't recognise in her building. The staff member was on alert for people she didn't know following a number of thefts in the building recently. As is routine following a call like this, security attended, checked the individual's ID card and apologised for any inconvenience caused. The complaints procedure isn't managed by our team so I can't advise on this."

Felix also contacted Denis Wright, Dean of Students, who confirmed that he was aware of the complaint. He said: "Security have discussed this with [the student]. If the student has made a formal complaint and it is not resolved at the initial stages it will come to me to consider together with the Academic at

Stage 3 of the Complaints Procedure."

Due to the differences between complaints, it is sometimes unclear in the College Ordinances (the documents that govern how College must be run) exactly what stage the complaint is at. It seems as though the complaint has not reached Stage 3, the final stage, yet.

The student noted that Terry Branch and the officers who stopped him behaved very professionally.

In the letter to College the student highlighted the reason for being upset. "I find it incredibly stressing, especially at this point in the term, that I can invest loads into a University and have folks think I do not belong, especially when I am using a public space for University students!"

The incident started with the student going about their normal routine. In the letter to College this is explained as "I entered the Alexander Flemming building and briefly stepped into the medic's student union to heat up my food as I have done daily for the term.

I noticed, however the room was being set up for interviews, so I was more prompt than usual in using the microwave and ate outside the medic's union in the common cafeteria since the medic's union was soon to be occupied. After having my lunch I re-entered my home department's lounge (Skempton building) waiting for my afternoon lectures to begin." At this point the student was stopped by two Officers and asked to show identification. At the time the student was with a group of peers who were all white and European. In the letter, the student said: "I even considered the way I was dressed and concluded it did not draw unnecessary attention to me."

In the letter, the student also expressed dismay at how difficult the procedures in place were, saying: "I feel it is unfair Imperial College of London with all of its accolades require that I see multiple personnel, set up number of appointments and wait an undetermined amount of time for someone

who might be able to affect change see me. As I write this, I am missing lectures because of the message our policy sends not only to me, but to my peers and anyone who may be randomly visiting: if you do not look like us, you are subject to harassment. I do not know how many others in our community have been negatively impacted by our policy." The letter finished with: "Such negative impact may lead to Alumni not wanting to donate or volunteer with Imperial at all after their time is done. I urge you to consider making a change. I have not offered a solution, but have only stated the problem. My job as a student is to be a student. I believe the solution should come from Staff and Administration."

The student did not wish to be named. However, they asked for a note at the end saying that if anyone has been affected by a similar issue contact Felix (felix@imperial.ac.uk) to be put in touch.

News Editors: Aemun Reza, Nida Mahmud
news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

NEWS

Thousands of signatures on petition

College fails to properly give a reason and explanation to the statement that it doesn't fit with the College strategy

» continued from the front page

not to have played a part in the decision.

The plans have met with widespread opposition, with members of the Unit creating a petition to prevent its closure. Encouraging people to sign the petition Dr Diaz-Cintas emphasised that, "With a track record of 12 years of large-scale MSc teaching and PhD provision, the TSU has established itself as a strong player within the College, with very healthy recruitment, particularly of overseas students, at both MSc and PhD levels, and a strong provision of further complementary activities". Arguing against any proposed move of the unit he claimed out that with its "strongly technical and scientific profile" the College was the "most natural home" for a department specialising in technical translation.

The petition attracted over 2,500 supporters in its first 48 hours and, at the time of going to print, was just over 260 signatures off meeting its target of 5,000. Signatories have praised the Units "unique contribution" to technical translation and have called it a "fundamental point of reference" of the field.

It is unclear what would happen to PhD students in the middle of their degrees

Dr Diaz-Cintas, Head of the Translation Unit is strongly opposed to the closure

should the TSU close and these students have been particularly vocal in their concerns. Lindsay Bywood told Felix of her disappointment at how "PhD students and part-time MSc students are being cast adrift by the College in the middle of their courses", asserting that "an award of an Imperial degree is pretty meaningless when I have no idea what sort of supervision, library, and facilities support I will receive for the next three years of my research".

This is a view shared by Renata Mliczak, who believes that "the plans of the Management Board at IC are truly inconsiderate of all the TSU students". She added that while it was clear that "academics around the world see the importance of the work and research conducted by IC TSU scholars, it is a big shame that IC cannot see and appreciate it". She asserts that the proposed closure acts "as a message to the world that IC is not interested in disseminating (through translation) the great research that is done here in medicine, engineering and natural sciences,

but doing it for its own sake" with Soledad Zarate, another PhD student, further questioning how "an institution of such high calibre, home to students coming from all over the world, [does] not recognise that translation is vital for the transferral of knowledge and research between cultures worldwide".

Concerns have also been raised about how the closure might devalue degrees that have already been awarded, with Emmanouela Patiniotaki fearing that after the TSU's "closure or transferral the validity of our degree in the translation industry will be questioned". Yuan Long concurs, adding that with "current gloomy picture of economy" employers might consider a qualification from a "Translation Unit at Imperial which no longer exists" to have been discredited.

In a statement given to Felix the College's communication office said: "The consultation follows a review by Imperial's Management Board, which regularly evaluates the strategic fit of all parts of the College. Following the review of the TSU, Management Board agreed that the Unit's activities are not core to Imperial's strategy. "It also proposed that the



The screenshot shows a Change.org petition page. The title is "Petition against the transferral or closure of the Translation Studies Unit". It has 4,744 supporters. The page includes a sign-up form with fields for First Name, Last Name, Email, and City. There is a "Sign" button and a "Save Translation at Imperial College" banner with a DNA helix graphic.

The petition to keep the Translation Studies Unit in Imperial College

possibility of the Unit becoming established in an alternative academic environment be explored, with a better institutional fit where the TSU could form part of a larger and therefore more sustainable department. ... The Management Board agreed

that a priority would be to protect the position of students currently registered in the Unit. Regardless of the outcome of the consultation, all TSU students will be able to continue to work towards an Imperial College degree."

Sponsored Editorial

More student cuts Discount haircuts for Imperial students at Fresh Hairdressers near South Kensington

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Summer Ball planners need you

Eoghan J Totten

Reporter

A meeting of the Ents Working Group, chaired by Stefan Nubert, Deputy President (Finance & Ser, is due to be held on Friday 1 February at 12:30 – 1:30 pm. The group is set to convene in order to consolidate a budget for future events orchestrated by Ents, including the prospective 2013 Summer Ball. All students are welcome to attend and sit in session. A draft budget is said to have been written but is open to modification (barring meeting charges). Students attending the session are invited to have an active input and submit any suggestions as appropriate. Budget finalisation will take place over the coming month of February. The current budget hopes to give a bar tab of over £22,000.



A filler image of The Mingle this year. Students will be hoping that there is a sizeable bar tab so they can "get on it" after exams...

Tom Roberts

Academic uprising: 5% more professors

Increase in the number of female professors for the second year in a row

Nida Mahmud

News Editor

On 17 January, the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) released the first set of data from the 2011/12 Staff record. This data provides information about staff employment at UK Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) on 1 December 2011. The results have been produced in partnership with the UK administrations and have been released upon approval by the UK Statistics Authority. A detailed analysis of the HESA Staff record will be released in March 2013. Felix did a brief analysis of the results, so you don't have to...

All Staff

The data shows that on 1 December 2011, there were 378,250 staff employed in the HE sector, demonstrating a decrease of 0.9% from the 371,790 staff employed on 1 December 2010. The all staff count excludes atypical staff. 181,385 (48.0%) were academic professionals compared to 181,185 (47.5%) in 2010. In 2011 the percentages of female staff remained constant from last year, with 46.9% of full-time staff and 67.0% of part-time

staff. However, there was an increase in the number of females with managerial positions, with 8,740 in 2011 and 8,770 in 2010. In addition, there was a decrease in the number of females employed as laboratory, engineering, building and IT technicians.

Academic Staff

Despite the overall decrease in higher education staff, there was actually a 0.5% increase in academic staff, with 200 more than the previous year. There was an increase in female academic staff from the previous year; with 80,775 (44.5%) female academic staff in 2011 compared to 80,090 (44.2%) in 2010. There was a 5.7% increase in the number of academic staff employed as professors, with 18,465 in 2011 and 17,465 in 2010. The most notable change was the 9.7% increase in female professors, there were 3,790 in 2011 and only 3,455 in 2010. Consequently, the proportion of women who are now professors is 20.5%. This increase seen by female professors is more than double the rise seen by the previous year (2010-2011 from 2009-2010) at 4.1%.

Furthermore, in comparison to



2008-2009, there has been a 5.3% increase in professors, with 930 more professors now employed in UK higher education institutions. Additionally, there has been a 16% rise in the number of female professors from 2008-2009, with their currently being 520 more employed in UK higher education.

Taking a look at the academic staff responsibilities, it can be seen the

largest increase was for employment in solely teaching roles, this sector showed an increase of 820 employees to 45,825. There was also an increase in research staff and those employed for both teaching as well as research.

BBC News reported that the "general secretary of the University and College Union, Sally Hunt, welcomed the increase in female professors but said there was more to be done". She

said she is "pleased that there has been a rise in the number of female professors in the sector. However, universities still have more to do to ensure that staff are promoted on merit irrespective of their background or gender. Students want to be taught by the best and brightest, and staff want to work in universities where gender is not an issue when it comes to career advancement."

International PG applications down

Applications have fallen for the first time in 16 years

Aemun Reza

News Editor

The number of Non-EU postgraduate applicants has fallen for the first time in 16 years. In previous years the numbers had risen annually by an average of more than 10%. Figures released by the Higher Education Statistical Agency (Hesa) shows a 1% drop fuelling ideas that the government's immigration crackdown is deterring students continuing their education in the UK.

The drop, from 174,225 to 173,560, was the first fall since such Hesa data began in 1995. The total number of university applicants for 2012 has decreased by 7.4% compared to the previous year along with a decrease in the number of EU applicants by 11.2%.

Jo Beall, British Council Director of Education and Society, said "the sector was expecting a decline in growth, but the actual reduction in postgraduate numbers is of real concern as international students make up the major-

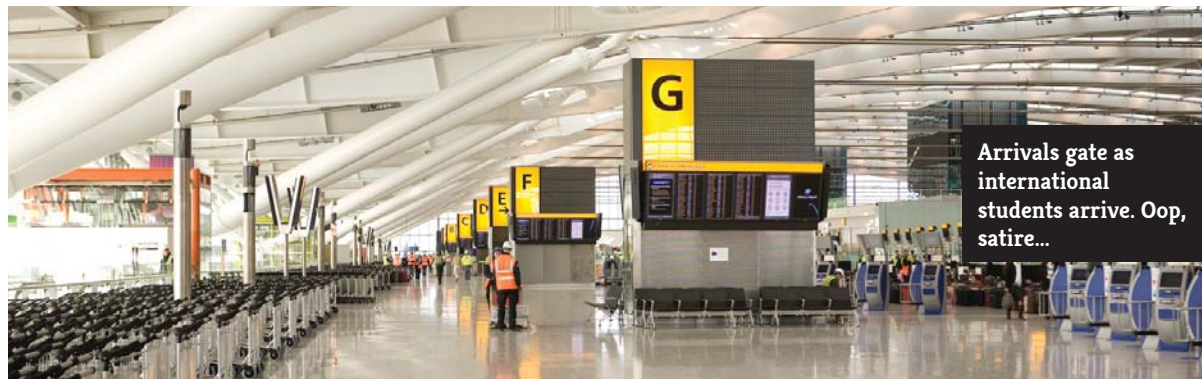
ity of numbers in many postgraduate courses and research teams in science, technology engineering and mathematics.

"Attracting the brightest and most ambitious postgraduate and research students is critical if the UK is to maintain its quality reputation for research and innovation," Beall said.

The government aims to cut down net migration to the "tens of thousands" by 2015 and there are fears that this will affect international students that want to study in the UK. Mark Harper, the Immigration Minister, denied calls from universities to remove overseas students from the net migrant count. He said there is no "logical reason" to make the change.

Universities UK has told the government that they should remove international students who are sponsored by universities from the net migration count so that these universities are spared from the government's plans.

However, when asked if he could envisage a situation where the gov-



ernment could make this change, Mr Harper issued a "no".

He added: "The international definition that's used is that if you change your country of residence for more than a year, you are a migrant. Frankly, if we weren't going to count students, it's not obvious why we wouldn't count lots of other people."

Yes, [the students are] paying fees to come here, but in the same way someone coming here to work for a private sector employer is contributing to that

company's economic success. I don't see any logical reason why we would treat them [overseas students] differently".

Even though there has been a continual increase in the number of students coming to the UK from China, there has been a drop in the number of students applying from both India and Pakistan by 25% and 13% respectively.

Beall said: "These statistics for the first time provide real evidence that the changes to UK visa regulations

may have dissuaded many students from applying to the UK, and in particular postgraduate students who are so important to the UK's research output. The UK enjoys an excellent reputation around the world for the high quality of our education system, so the government needs to ensure that institutions have all the support they need to attract international students who make a tremendous academic, cultural and economic contribution to the UK."

The “Brian Cox Effect”

Niall Jeffrey

Reporter

This year “Brian Cox Effect” is once again being hailed as the factor responsible for the number of applications to physics degrees continuing to buck falling national trends seen in the majority of subjects. Manchester University, academic home of Professor Cox, seems to agree that the science populariser is at least partially responsible, as internal surveying of their students suggests.

By the start of 2012 the application count for physics degrees has had a 50% increase compared to 8 years ago and estimates show that this rise continues even against the backdrop of falling numbers of university appli-

cants. Many people, including prominent academics and public figures, attribute this to the rise in popularity of Brian Cox. Professor Peter Main of the Institute of Physics agrees with this assessment, saying that Brian Cox “demystifies” physics.

Speaking to The Telegraph last week, he said, “About 10 years ago... people used to say ‘If only we could get a face of physics’ like David Attenborough for biology”.

Manchester University’s own physics course has increased in popularity with last year’s figures breaking through the 1000 figure in 2012, compared to 850 in 2009. We have learned from a Manchester physics student that this led to an internal survey being sent to all 1st year phys-

ics undergraduates. The students were asked whether Brian Cox had affected their decision in applying to the university. The responses may have been significant in the decision to assign the Quantum Physics course for this year’s students to Brian Cox.

Manchester is also capitalising on its position by being the first University to include two A*s in the entry requirements for Physics degrees.

There are of course other reasons mooted for the increase in physics applications, and plausible to suggest that Brian Cox’s popularity may be the effect, rather than the cause, of a renewed interest in physics. Prof Sir Peter Knight, president of the Institute of Physics, has even discussed



Of course you’ll apply to Manchester with those “come hither” eyes. Touch my hadron now Brian

contributing factors such as geek-chic and The Big Bang Theory.

Unfortunately for Imperial students, if we want a Brian Cox for our-

selves we will have to get our own, as the man himself has on multiple occasions declared his love of Manchester and his reluctance to leave.

Driving Lessons For Imperial Students

- A special offer for **Imperial students** from **Denis Smyth**
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“Denis is a fantastic teacher and knows how to get people from completely inexperienced and utterly hopeless driving up to the standard to pass their test. He is always calm and his comments are constructive; his knowledge of London and his knack of engineering driving routes that test the learner make the lessons more than worth it. Since I have met him he has shown a great desire to offer cheaper lessons to Imperial students and with the backing of other students I am more than happy to support him.”

- Alex Kendall, IC Union President 2010-11

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- Leon Vanstone, Aeronautical Engineering

To make inquiries and book lessons,
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FEATURES

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



What's the link between Jamie Oliver, Hint: It's not nakedness. (Though that could work too... sort of...)

The term "social enterprise" was first coined during the late 70s. The idea is simple. A social enterprise is a business where social aims come first, and profit comes second. Yes, you read that right – social aim *first*, profit *second*. Social entrepreneurs are business minded people who are a little bit warm and fuzzy around the edge. Think Alan Sugar meets Mother Teresa, or Donald Trump meets Florence Nightingale. It's all about business acumen being applied to doing good.

Social enterprises have been popping up all over the place since the start of the new millennium. They are a growing trend that's showing no sign of slowing, and for good reason. Since social enterprises generate their own income, and don't rely on grants or donations (like charities do), they are often hailed as a more sustainable mechanism for social change. This means that when times get tough (hello 'financial crisis') and charities suffer from lowered levels of funding, a social enterprise can retain the ability to keep on solving social issues.

There are loads of social enterprises around. You probably think of many as just normal businesses rather than social projects. Take Jamie Oliver's restaurant Fifteen, for example. Here, unemployed young people are trained as chefs and are thereby given the chance to have a better future. Another good example is *The Big Issue*, where homeless people are given the opportunity to take some control of their lives and



to re-join mainstream society by selling a magazine.

There are so many different kinds of social enterprises, set up by different people for different reasons. Teach First, Divine Chocolate and The Good Gym are three different examples.

Teach First

TeachFirst

Everyone has heard of TeachFirst. They have an innovative business model where they entice bright graduates to tackle educational disadvantage by teaching in schools for two years or more. Once they have completed the scheme, graduates choose whether to continue teaching, assume positions within government or industry or even work on their own social enterprises.

It was set up by an ex McKinsey employee. Brett Wigdortz took a planned six-month leave of absence from McKinsey to develop a business plan for Teach First. He had no experience of either public policy or teaching when he started and had never managed anyone. Teach First is a great example of how anyone with a great idea, some basic business knowledge and true dedication can make a real positive difference.

Divine Chocolate



Or otherwise known as that really nice chocolate in the Library café for days when a bar of Dairy Milk just can't cut it.

The Divine chocolate shop gives cocoa farmers a fair-trade price and 45% ownership of the company. It was founded as a partnership between the Kuapa Kokoo cocoa growers' collective and the alternative trading organization Twin Trading. It means that the Kuapa Kokoo cocoa growers have a say about how the company is run resulting in fair working conditions and an authentic respect of local traditions. It also sells yummy chocolate of course.

The Good Gym



A lesser-known social enterprise is the GoodGym. Operating in East London, they take exercise out of the gym and make it useful. In their words "gyms purposefully waste energy. There are many neglected tasks, and people in our communities that need that energy." For example, in order to tackle loneliness amongst older people, GoodGym members adopt an elderly person as their coach and run to their house to deliver a newspaper, or some fruit. Pretty neat, huh?

It was set up by Ivo Gormley, a Clore Social Leadership fellow and documentary film-maker and seems as though it's growing in popularity across the big smoke.

Your turn?

So as you can see, there are loads of great social enterprises around. But what about *student-run* social enterprises? There are a few initiatives run by students, E.quinox is a brilliant example of a student led social enterprise at Imperial. However, shouldn't there be more? After all universities are full of bright, creative people wanting to involve themselves in interesting extra curricular projects. Social enterprises should be bursting out of the seams of our campuses. So why aren't they?

Last Friday Imperial Hub met with Year Here (another Social Enterprise challenging gap year students to spend a "year here" in the UK tackling social issues in their own backyard) to consider this exact question.

One interesting point raised was around failure. University teaches us to fear failure. As students, we are constantly trying to avoid failing our exams, lab reports and/or projects. However, in real life, and especially in the field of entrepreneurship, failure is essential to learning, refining and then improving.

Failure is conducive to good ideas and the term "fail fast" is a rapidly spreading piece of wisdom for budding entrepreneurs. We talked about how opening up a space where failing is OK, and even encouraged, could help students be more experimental, adventurous and ultimately more creative in their social entrepreneurship initiatives.

Another challenge discussed was



Did anyone else used to think that The Naked Chef was about Jamie cooking naked?



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

FEATURES

London's gyms and Divine Chocolate?

Caroline Wood introduces you to the world of Social Enterprise

the anxiety of choosing a risky career path as an entrepreneur whilst friends are securing jobs on well respected graduate schemes. In fact most large companies now either actively support young entrepreneurs, or at least perceive entrepreneurship as a desirable trait. Being involved in a social enterprise at university doesn't necessarily tie you to a career path in entrepreneurship and more likely than not is likely to aid your application to any job! The key message here is that social enterprise at university is not just something that those wanting to 'become entrepreneurs' should explore. It can be fun, interesting and rewarding for everyone.

The Venture Catalyst Challenge '13

University is a great time to get involved in new projects and experiment with things that may be outside of your comfort zone. Maybe you can't fail your degree, but you can certainly try to learn a new sport, a new language or join a new society with absolutely no pressure to be good at it. Trying to start your own social enterprise should be no different.


That's why this year ICStartup (a collaboration between Imperial Hub, Imperial Innovations and Imperial Entrepreneurs) is bringing you the Venture Catalyst Challenge, your chance to develop an enterprise idea. This year the focus is on digital and social enterprise. It's offering students the chance to win anything from £500 to £250K to develop their idea, as well as providing expert support and advice via free workshops and masterclasses.

Imperial Hub is responsible for the social enterprise aspect of the competition. Entrants are encouraged to submit an idea for any UK based social enterprise and to be as creative as possible. However, Imperial Hub has highlighted three social issues in the following areas that may help spark your imagination.

- Food
- Consumption
- The Elderly


(See poster (right) for more details.)

All you need to do is submit an idea by the 28th January to www.ic-startup.com/vc and then ICStartup will help you develop it! What are you waiting for?




Venture Catalyst Challenge '13

START your *social enterprise*

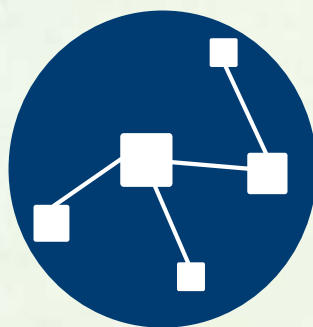


FOOD

1/3 of the food we use in the UK is wasted, and much of the food we consume has a high carbon footprint




How can we minimise our food waste and reduce the carbon footprint of our food?




COLLABORATIVE CONSUMPTION

The way we use and consume stuff is changing. We now care less about ownership and more about access




How can we use collaborative consumption to help us consume less and connect communities?




THE ELDERLY


There are now over 10 million people over the age of 65 living in the UK, and the number is on the increase





How can we help the elderly continue with their everyday activities and prevent isolation?


Or, submit an idea tackling any UK based social issue of your choice











FEATURES

Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
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The Manifesto Review

Becky Lane, Deputy President (Welfare) dusts the cobwebs off the campaign material and sees what she thinks she has and hasn't done

It is hard to believe that I am over half way into my term as Deputy President (Welfare), elections still only feel like they were last month! Following on from Paul's article last week I am doing a manifesto review, but also talking about all of the other projects I have been involved in that I hadn't even dreamt up at the point of writing my manifesto. It has been a whirlwind so far and I have genuinely really enjoyed the job. Whilst doing my degree I was constantly counting down to the weekend with the general feeling of WHAT IT'S ONLY TUESDAY?!? This year Friday always seems to appear out of nowhere with all of the meetings I have to go to and the projects I'm working on. It is hard to know if the role has involved what I thought it would when I started out, I really enjoy the mix of representing students on welfare related committees and also having time to peruse welfare campaigns and projects working with Union staff. I would have to say that the role is more varied than I ever imagined, which is a huge positive from my point of view. The biggest learning experience for me has definitely been having patience and realising that I can't make things happen alone. When starting a new project you often need help and support from other staff, other sabbaticals and College departments; and your priorities hardly ever match. That said, I will do a manifesto review and then a brief overview of some of the other things I have been involved with over the past year.

On the right are the main points from my manifesto, but here is a quick overview of all the other projects that I am currently involved with.

- Mental Health Cam-

paign Planning – working on developing a campaign group of students to carry out mental health campaigns. I am also working with other London based Welfare Sabbs to hopefully carry out a London wide campaign.

- Developing a Green Network as a launch pad for green campaigns and initiatives – much more to come on this soon. Watch this space.

- New student led campaigns, no need to write much about this here, turn to the Union page in Felix (page 17) to find out more about this!

- Exam stress – this will be a big campaign in the summer term where the Union will be trying to find quick innovative ways for students to take little breaks and distress during revision period.

- Unseen Imperial – campaigns about underrepresented student groups at Imperial. This also focuses on destigmatising mental health.

- Student Experience Survey – along with a team of staff I am currently analysing the data, and reading every single one of your free text comments. Keep a look out for the report, which will be appearing over the next few months.

- Pop up STI clinics in the Union. This will hopefully happen over the next few months.

That's just to mention a few. If anyone wants to get involved in any of the above projects – then feel free to drop me an email! I really want to give some personal advice if you are thinking of running for a sabbatical position (especially DPW), don't let anyone tell you that you aren't qualified/need to have experience. The less previous involvement you have had, the steeper the learning curve; but that isn't necessarily a bad thing. The Union needs new faces to bring fresh perspectives and outlooks to problems and projects. If I had listened to everyone that told me I wouldn't win my election campaign, then there is no way I would be sat in my office writing this article right now. GO FOR IT! If you have

any questions about being Deputy President (Welfare) or just spending a year as a sabbatical drop me an email and I am always happy to meet up for a chat.

“There needs to be an effective feedback mechanism regarding personal tutors” ❌

This is a point that I am finally getting to work on! The way I envisage this working is to have something akin to a personal tutor logging system. This is an ICT based project that the ICT department can't begin until the previous project is finished. The current ICT project is developing a new survey platform, which is hopefully coming to an end soon. I will be putting my proposals for this system to a board in a few weeks time. I am pushing for your personal tutor to be aware of your exam and coursework marks also within this system. This hopefully means your personal tutors will be more aware of your general progress and both senior tutors and personal tutors will be able to step in to help much earlier when problems arise. I also want to tie this in with improved personal tutor training to ensure your personal tutor can effectively and sensitively support you and signpost you to college services.

“I think there also needs to be a more uniform peer support service from department to department. Some faculties have buddy systems; I think there needs to be a robust model rolled out throughout College.” ✅

The mums and dads system has been a joint project between myself and Doug Hunt. There are challenges; however the uptake has been better this year than previous year. I still believe that a centralised Union allocation system is the way forwards. This year, we held a mums and dads event called The Great SOCOFF in November, and we are planning for this to happen in the first fortnight next year. We are holding another night in March which will be bigger and better than the last one – more to follow on this soon. We are going to deliver better training to departmental societies so that they can provide better mums and dads events. We also hope to lobby departments to give more support to the mums and dads system meaning that going forwards it can be more effective. It was never going to be perfect in one year, but we are moving in the right direction.

“I will campaign to further increase the resources of the Student Counselling Service”

This is of course a case of working jointly with/lobbying College. In the past year the counselling service has expanded, with the hope that another counsellor will be appointed soon bringing us in line with the national average. How this support is communicated to students still needs to be improved and is something I am definitely working on. I am also lobbying to provide increased support hours outside of the College day for all of the College welfare provisions. When you are stressed and down about work, the last thing you need is to miss lectures or labs. Hopefully by next year, the Counselling Service, the Disabilities Advisory Service and the Health Centre will all be increasing their out of hours provision without cutting any existing hours.

“Increased bike storage around College” ✅

Over summer the amount of bike storage available in Beit Quad was doubled. Further long term solutions to bike storage need to be investigated by the College.



Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
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FEATURES

The Manifesto Review

Doug Hunt, Deputy President (Education) wasn't a mug and voted for Doug. He sees what he has and hasn't done this year...

I warn you now that this article is a bit dry but that is just the way I am. I ran for the Deputy President (Education) role as I really enjoyed the Chemistry Dep Rep position and loved voicing the students' point of view. I also found the subject of higher education very interesting when reading random articles on BBC news.

From being DPE I have learnt how to use Microsoft Outlook extensively, organise my time between soooo many meetings, committee meeting etiquette, how a world leading university operates and coordinating a team of devoted academic reps.

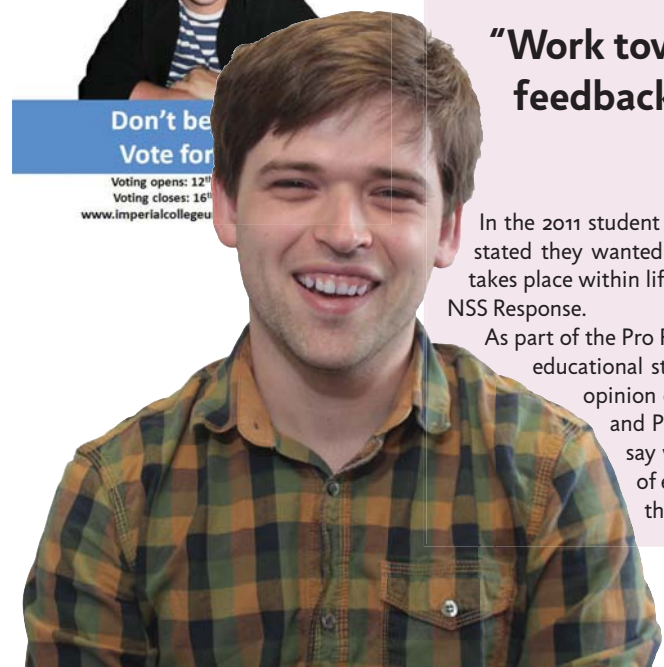
The one thing I wasn't expecting though was the large number of long meetings I had to attend so there is student representation and the national Quality Assurance Agency is happy (they decide whether an institution can award degrees or not). However it is crucial that a student representative is present at these meetings and I do get a better oversight of what is taking place across the College.

My manifesto review is on the right and hopefully you are glad you voted for me and not RON.

VOTE DOUG FOR DPE



Don't be a mug. Vote for Doug.
Voting opens: 12th
Voting closes: 16th
www.imperialcollegeu



"Increase SOLE participation rates across the college and make sure the results are acted upon." ✓

Autumn SOLE got a 67% overall turnout across the College, which is the highest it's been in years. Departmental staff across the College are taking SOLE more seriously now, than they did a few years ago and in every department they push you to fill it in.

However, the academic rep system also did its part to increase the participation rates, as I sent out daily year by year breakdown of participation rates to the Dep Reps and sent this information to the year reps three times a week. I also worked with ICT to get pop-ups appearing on login for those students who had not started SOLE in the second week.

However, I feel the participation rate can be improved upon for spring and summer SOLE, so I will be finding more inventive ways for this to happen.

To make sure the results are shown to academic reps, I will be producing a paper on Staff Student Committees, which will go to the College's Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee and this will state whether SOLE is being discussed.

"Encourage faculties and departments to set up exchange programmes with other world class universities outside Europe." ✓

I initially submitted a paper to Faculty of Natural Sciences (FoNS) Teaching Committee, as I was invited to give a presentation, as all departments in FoNS (apart from Chemistry) only have year abroad partners in Europe. This paper meant that the Director of Postgraduate Studies in Physics also attended the Rector's trip to the USA and she asked the universities they attended about potential studying abroad schemes.

I also ran an International Mobility survey in November and the report should be available in the next few weeks, which I plan to submit to interested parties and the College's Strategic Education Committee.

"Work towards achieving personalised feedback on exams through personal tutor meetings." ✓

In the 2011 student experience survey 87% of undergraduate respondents stated they wanted exam feedback via their personal tutor. This already takes place within life sciences and I stated this as good practise in the 2012 NSS Response.

As part of the Pro Rector (Education)'s consultation process for Imperial's educational strategy, she is including the academic representatives' opinion on the Education and Representation Board (both UG and PG). Within this group I have given them the chance to say whether they think the College should adopt this level of exam feedback and the Pro Rector (Education) can take this into consideration.

"Improve graduate prospects by creating an Imperial student forum for internships and year in industry placements." ✗

I am still planning on doing this but with an added feature for all students to use to help them study.

"Raise awareness of student representation" ✓

In November 2012 I coordinated a Rep Week, which saw academic reps wearing bright rep "Love your rep" t-shirts and we managed to collect 448 suggestions, which were then sent to their reps to bring up at staff-student committees. This allowed you to easily identify your reps in person, rather than just by email. I also got personalised polos for your Dep Reps and Faculty Union Academic Officers at the start of the year.

In addition to this, I asked each Departmental Society committee to set up a Freshers' Facebook group in Easter 2012, in order for there to be a greater sense of community within each year and allows your academic reps to communicate with you via a different medium.

The A-Z reps system was also launched in November, which allows any student to find any academic rep in any department and is regularly updated. If you log into Imperial College Union's website it will even show you who your rep is on the "Your Union" page.

"Carry on the former DPE's work, which includes campaigning for lecture podcasts and improving the buddy system." ✓

Lecture podcasts

So at the end of the last academic year, the College publicly stated that it plans to roll out audio and video lecture podcasts. This is taking place over the next few years but students are generally disgruntled by the speed this is happening. ICT are rolling it out at a steady pace as they wish to ensure the quality of the service e.g. make sure they can handle the large amount of data uploaded every day. Paul and I both gave the College silver with respect to this in the NSS response for the slow rolling out pace and have had a meeting with ICT regarding this issue, reiterating that students aren't happy with it taking so long.

Mums and Dads

This year the buddy scheme was rebranded as Mums and Dads, which saw the highest percentages of Freshers entering their data and the highest number of parents signing up to the scheme. This was accomplished by me working with the Departmental Societies and Dep Reps over the summer. This also would not have been possible without the Union System Administrator, Philip Kent setting up the online matching system and showing the live percentages by subject (this proved very useful for the Dep Socs and Dep Reps).

At the start of term I attended the ICSMSU Mums and Dads event to find any good practise, which I found a lot of. From attending this I arranged the Great Soc Off, where 450 students paid to get into Metric on a Thursday night. Since the feedback on the night was so good we are running Soc Off 2.0 on 7th March, which I promise will be even better (for one, we aren't kicking people out at midnight).

To try and improve Mums and Dads 2013, we are currently looking into training the newly elected Departmental Societies in the summer term, so they can start planning over the summer holidays and I personally would want a Soc Off in the second week of the Autumn term.

The ticks, crosses and neutral are what they think. What do you think? Go online to felixonline.co.uk

FEATURES

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

A new kid on the block

Matt Allinson on the new online newspaper at Imperial

This week The Tab Imperial launched, a new online news source that focuses on news and life of being student at Imperial and around London.

The Tab will be updating hopefully daily, and we are aiming to be your one stop shop for news and views online after you've finished ranting on sexism comment articles on the Felix website.

Much like Felix, we are constantly looking for writers for both features and news. Unlike Felix, we are run entirely on a part time basis so there are lots of opportunities available for you to really take control of a large portion of the site and do with it what you will! The Tab network is a well-known national student journal-

ism brand, and if you are interested in online journalism, this is a really great opportunity to get some good experience.

As we're online, if you have any funny videos or photos from around campus then we can be the place to share them with the wider community. We're also looking for enthusiastic animators and photoshoppers, as well as video editors and presenters to produce content for the site.

So where to get started? Well you can visit our website imperial.tab.co.uk, like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/TheTabImperial](https://www.facebook.com/TheTabImperial) or follow us on Twitter at @TheTabImperial

If you want to get in-touch, email me at editor@imperialtab.co.uk or through the Facebook group.

The screenshot shows the 'THE Tab' website header with navigation links for News, Features, Reviews, and Fashion. A search bar is visible on the right. The main content area features a large headline 'OMFG IT'S SNOWING' with a sub-headline 'This is probably the most important piece of news that is possibly going to happen today'. The author is listed as 'By matt' and the date as 'News | 18th January 2013'. On the right sidebar, there are sections for 'EDITOR'S PICKS' (listing 'Private: Imperial Street Style' and 'The 5 Worst Places to cry on Campus'), 'MOST COMMENTED' (listing 'No Posts Have Been Commented On'), and 'POPULAR POSTS' (listing 'Sorry. No data so far.').

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CHURCH

everynation.co.uk



SUNDAYS
ACTIVITY SPACE 1
STUDENT UNION

Free café – 5:30
LIVE BAND





The Overseas society presents

Alexander McFarquhar OCS

Next week marks the university's second International Week of the year (4th – 9th February) with overseas societies coming together to promote cultural diversity and integration at Imperial College. The celebrations build up to Saturday 9th February where the 11th annual International Night will take place. With performances varying from traditional dances to traditional plays adapted to original modern day themes; this promise to be a hugely entertaining evening.

Here we answer some questions and hear from the societies taking part and their plans to overload your senses with a cultural explosion that will leave you oozing happiness and truly in awe of the wealth of culture around day in day out at Imperial College.

What is I Night?

I-Night is a colourful variety show that has been running for over a decade. Originally a haven for international students to express their various traditions, it has grown into a major event in Imperial's calendar and is the largest of its kind at the College. The event takes place in the Great Hall of Imperial College (9 February) and has proved to be a successful channel for the cultural vibrancy within the College time and time again. Favourite performances are the Japanese society's 'anime-style' pantomime and Cypriot society's cultural dance and comedic sketches. Unsurprisingly, the laughter and harmonious atmosphere produced by I Night has invited participating groups beyond the overseas societies including Funkology, Belly Dancing society and Wushu to get involved in the celebrations.

I Night is a tradition between all participating societies and spurs a friendly air of competition encouraging everyone to give their all. As a result, the energy given off by the night attracts over 500 students each year to attend the event. We are proud to unite all of the students of Imperial together and donate the proceeds to our chosen charity. – Wasim Khouri OSC Chair

We now hear from IC Belly Dancing, Cypriot society, Hellenic society, Japanese society and IC Funkology about what they have in store for us on the night as well as words from the Co-Chairs of this great event.

IC Belly Dancing

The IC Belly Dancing society would like to present to you a medley of choreographs ranging from classical belly dance to a more modern twist.

I-NIGHT
-A cultural variety show presented by overseas societies & more

7pm Sat 9th Feb
Great Hall, Sheffield Building

Tickets: £10 at door or
£8 online : bit.ly/VzYrDp

Performers: Cypriot soc, Japsoc, Hellenic Soc, FuNkoLoGy, Belly dancing, etc.

imperial college union
Overseas Societies Committee
Sponsored by dialog SEMICONDUCTOR
Visit us @ unioic.ac.uk/osc/

Dance is our way of expressing the old oriental culture and this year's choreographies are an expansion upon last year's repertoire at I Night: we aim to impress the audience with the sheer variety that belly dancing has to offer and can't wait to see you there!! – Lydia Lilis

Hellenic Society

The Hellenic Society brings to you

an amazing spectacle right from the heart of Greek culture. From battle representations and victory celebrations to medieval sword fighting, the Greek folklore dances can be characterized as living history that has come as heritage to us through the ages.

The Greek dances contain our history. Taught from one person to another, it cannot be captured in books

or mastered through studying. With each person dancing each dance, the unbreakable chain of teachers and students expands in time to link all those who have danced and have carried it with them over the centuries. These dances bear tales of strength and bravery but also of love and pain. We will embody these dances and bring the tales back to life for I Night – Michael Dinalexis

© Alexander Yip 2012



Funkology Society

FuNkoLoGy began in 2003 as a simple outlet for a group of students at Imperial College to train and develop their passion for urban dance and push the boundaries of hip-hop dance performance across the UK university community. At I Night we are putting on our best performance to date!

The night is a fusion of talents, diversity and passion, and this is what I love about it. The excitement of the competition for 'best performance' of the evening just adds to the special occasion and means that the atmosphere on the night is truly electric! – Eva Yuan

Japanese Society

As is tradition, this year the Japanese society is going to perform a play at I Night. The play is modern take on Japanese culture and the interaction with our world.

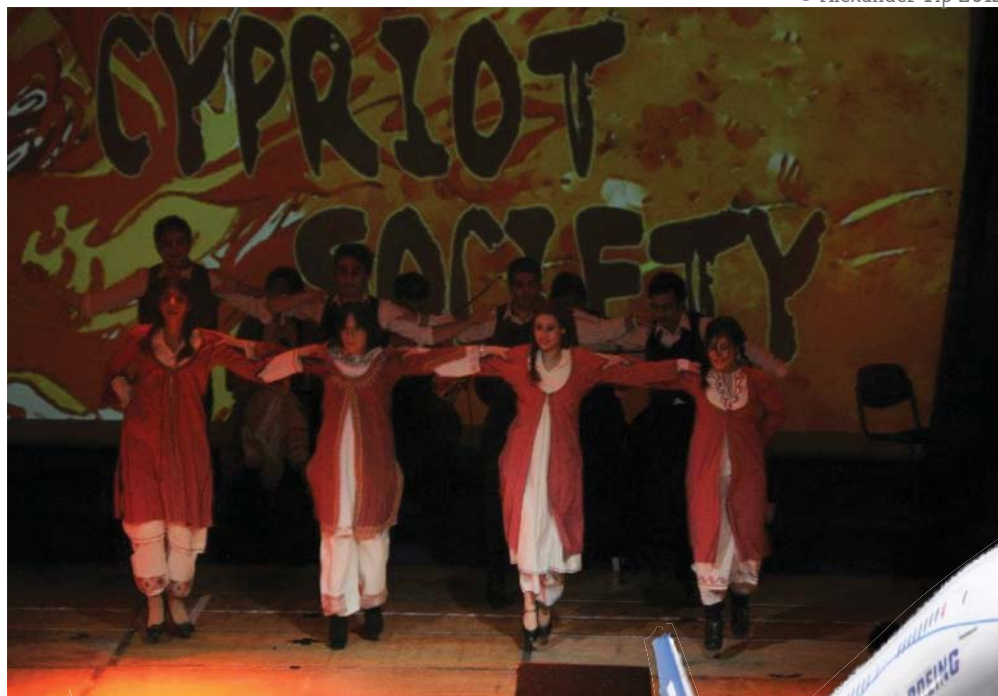
With the play we want to promote our culture, but mostly, we want to make people laugh.

The actors in the play are all well known characters that represent Japan and perform through mime whilst all sounds are by narration and sound effect.

nts... I-night: One World

© Alexander Yip 2012

© Alexander Yip 2012



This year the play will be about a Japanese samurai winning a competition to date the Hime (princess of his country). The shows involve characters like Otaku (young people who are highly skilled in, or obsessed with, computer technology to the detriment of their social skills), Kendo master and Chadou (tea club).

I am so happy that we have the chance to perform at I Night and take part in the celebration of diversity at Imperial. – *Da Chen*

Cypriot Society

Live music with the sound of the inspiring violin and acoustic guitar, accompanied with the marvelous voices of singers, traditional costumes, traditional food and drinks and some tremendous folklore dance are what make Inight so enjoyable for me. Our performance this year is set in a coffee shop in Cyprus at the start of the 20th century and aims to reflect the customs and culture of

Cyprus at that time. The programme includes songs and traditional dances. Fast paced, improvisational, and stunt dances are all included. The additional surprise this year is the dance of Kouza, which is performed by women holding pottery vases with a surprise love story also included in the dance, part of the tradition!! Cypriot delicacies will be served during the performance including the famous halloumi, shiromeri and the exceptional drink of zivania!! – *Renos Karamanis*

I am so impressed by the traditional and spectacular character of inight and its ability to probe to the roots of 10 different cultures in one night. Not only does it enable around 200 Imperial students to unravel their talent on stage in front of a large au-

ience, but it mutually teaches to students the cultural variety of the world: A world, which belongs to us, the future generations. This year's I-Night titled 'One world' captivates my interest not only to give my best self on stage but to also have an amazing time by being educated simultaneously. I can't wait!!" – *Michelle Kokkinou*

Conclusion

Overall, International Night is a variety performance of many cultures which displays our diversity at Imperial College. It is put together by the OSC committee which guides this quest. With over 40 societies of different nationalities and background under our care, the OSC is the body, which represents over 5000 international stu-

dents to the Union. The aim of all our activities is to promote cultural exchanges, celebrate diversity, and to embrace differences. Our ultimate hope and goal is for every student who passes through the gates of the College to have a truly cosmopolitan experience that will be remembered

in many years to come. We look forward to I Night and encourage you to open up your experiences to the diversity of culture around you at Imperial College. We invite you to celebrate with us! One World!!

Tickets are on sale in JCR and Queen's Tower from 28 January, also available on the night, 7pm Saturday 9 February, Great hall. Or online; see posters for more details!!

Message from the I Night Co-Chairs

Ioannis Kourouklides

I never thought I would have the opportunity to get involved in organising a show such as I Night. Last year, I became strongly motivated after winning the event with the Cypriot society. As a dancer, I truly enjoyed the show and joined in the crowd's excitement of experiencing a truly international atmosphere at The Great Hall. Participating at I Night was a life-time experience for us and it was great to see our friends and fellow students supporting us. Everybody was so thrilled in the audience that they were actually vividly shouting for their favourite societies and waving their national flags!

I felt so proud at this moment and had to be involved in the event this year to deliver the most exciting and impressive International Night ever at Imperial!!

Faethon Milikouris

For the past two years I have been part of the Cypriot society act, performing the dance of Tatsia, a cypriot traditional dance performed by a single dancer performing stunts with a traditional sieve and a glass full of alcohol in order to impress the woman he loves. I cannot even describe how thrilled and excited I was while on stage, promoting my culture to 300 people from different societies and different backgrounds. The excitement was even bigger when Cypriot society won! I Night, is a big part of my studies at Imperial, that is why I decided to be the Co-Chair of this year's I Night,

I promise you is going to be the biggest and most beautiful event you have ever seen!

© Alexander Yip 2012

© Alexander Yip 2012



Not going hard? Go Homecoming

Fellow students! Fancy an opportunity to enjoy a night experiencing the unique Singaporean culture while donating money to charity? Then wait no longer! The Imperial College Singapore Society proudly presents Major Event 2013: Homecoming, the annual event in the Imperial College Singapore Society's Calendar. This year it comes in the form of a musical, named "Homecoming". It promises to be a light-hearted show with good fun and music as we take you through the lives of 5 students, trying to make their way back home. There will be love, laughter and lots of singing and dancing so be prepared for a wonderful time! It will be a showcase of our Singaporean culture, our quirks, our quarks, and our very unique "Singlish" will be liberally dispensed, so what are you waiting for? Get your tickets at the Singapore Society's Union site or look out for us at JCR from next week! All proceeds will go to Save the Children, UK. More details are available on www.facebook.com/majorevent2013. See you on the 2nd!

Images: Singapore society's Facebook page



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We want your campaigns!



Sometimes it feels like campaigning is a dirty word at Imperial. It's time for that to change. There are lots of you out there who feel passionately about causes and would like to get your message out in the wider Imperial community – and now there is support for you to do that! We have made it easier for you to create campaign teams, bid for funding and get your message out there.

Whether you want to highlight an international political situation to students, or campaign for better exam feedback in your department; then the Union is here

to support you through your campaign! Other examples could include lobbying College on a particular environmental issue, or campaigning about student mental health issues. If your club, society or project would like to run a campaign then you can get involved too!

We have already had interest from students interested in running campaigns about cycling and the plight of Syrian students. Examples of campaigns run by students in other Unions include a S.H.A.G. week, Disability Awareness weeks and National Student Mental

health day. The skills you can gain from running a campaign will also give an extra boost to your CV.

The possibilities are endless and there is a pot of money available for campaign budgets. So get your imagination going, be creative and think about what you want to campaign about. The form can be found at imperialcollegeunion.org/yourcampaigns or if you have any questions drop me an email at dpwelfare@imperial.ac.uk and we can meet up for a chat.

Imperial College Union runs student-led campaigns throughout the year, working on students' behalf for change - whether it is local, national or even international. You can also see the effect your feedback and campaigns have made to date at imperialcollegeunion.org/you-said-we-did.



Becky Lane

DEPUTY PRESIDENT (WELFARE)
dpwelfare@imperial.ac.uk

Keep up-to-date with your Sabbaticals at:

imperialcollegeunion.org/sabbs



NSS - get your responses in



The National Student Survey gives final years the chance to show their satisfaction to the general public on the education they have received here at Imperial.

The College's overall response rate was 28% on Wednesday and each subject will need 50% for the data to be published. If this isn't the case, your subject will disappear from national league tables = massive implications!!

Remember to be honest when you are filling it in, as prospective students and other interested parties will be using this data to compare the quality of education

each university and course offers.

The NSS also raises important issues that College and the Union can respond to. Every year the Union publishes a response to the NSS with the aim of improving the student experience across the whole College.

Last year, 71% of final years filled in the NSS and we are hoping to beat this percentage to give a more fully representative view of how satisfied Imperial's students are. To help make the survey as useful as possible we have a few tips to those who have yet to complete it:

1. Rate your entire degree, not your final year.

The NSS is very different to SOLE. Use SOLE to discuss the positives and negatives of your year and NSS for the positives and negatives of your whole degree.

2. Don't be neutral.

On many questions you will have these options: strongly agree, slightly agree, neutral, slightly disagree, strongly disagree. Neutral responses give us no indication as to whether things need improving or are going very well. Make your voice count.

3. Give detailed comments on open text boxes.

There are free-text boxes on the survey. Be as detailed as possible if you want to make an impact.

So if you are a final year, fill in the survey now at www.thestudentsurvey.com. You can also win a £20 Union Shop voucher or a Summer Ball ticket for completing the survey!



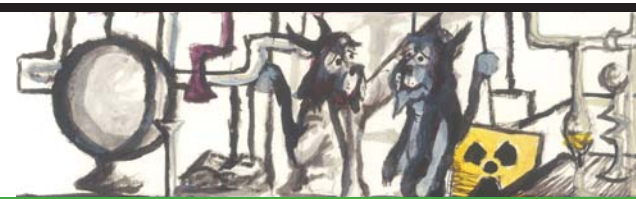
Doug Hunt

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Keep up-to-date with your Sabbaticals at:

imperialcollegeunion.org/sabbs





Turning the heat back on?

Shiladitya Ghosh guides you through a novel way to manipulate heat

<http://www.hsmagazine.net>

A researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has, through his self-devised technique, managed to successfully exercise control over heat the same way we enjoy control over light through mirrors and lenses (most disappointingly falling short of developing a giant heat ray, for the time being). This new technique, which utilises semiconducting alloy crystal nanostructures and similar materials, manipulates the physical separation between atoms so that they correspond to the wavelengths of heat phonons.

To elucidate how heat and sound phonons are different, Martin Maldovan, the researcher in question, directs us to consider their associated frequencies: sound phonons are on the order of kilohertz, while heat phonons vibrate in the terahertz frequencies. Sounds simple enough.

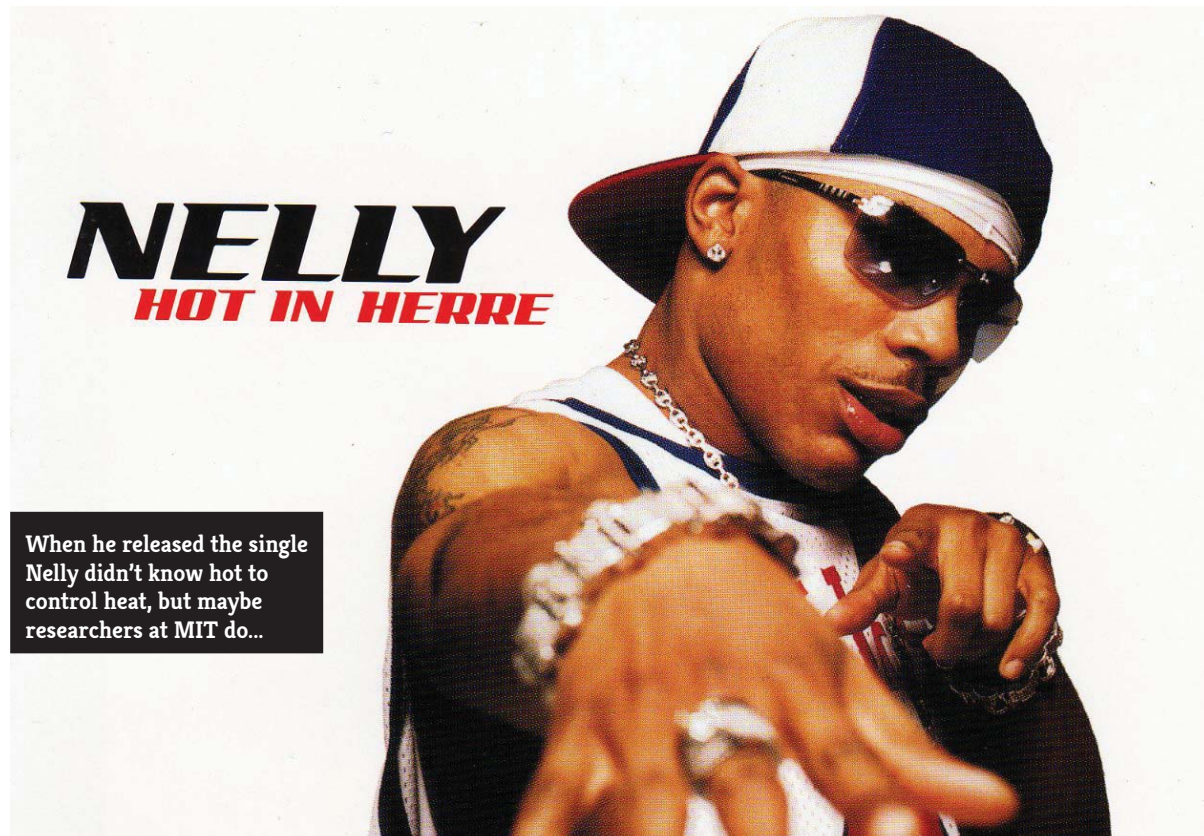
In developing this technique, the initial step was to manipulate the heat phonons' operational frequency so it would be reduced and similar to the range of sound phonons, described as "hypersonic heat". For this to be possible, germanium nanoparticles of a particular range of sizes were integrated with silicon alloys, with the resultant crystals having the desired

atomic separation needed for this hypersonic heat. Furthermore, the frequency range was narrowed through the creation of thin films on the edges of the material, utilising optical principles to 'concentrate' the frequencies of the phonons. Not nearly as simple.

As a result, about 40% of the total flow of heat is not only streamlined to a range of several hundred gigahertz (considerably closer to kilohertz than terahertz was!), but also focussed to travel in one general direction, similar to the flow of photons in lasers. That is definitely no mean feat!

With this end-product, the heat phonons can be controlled in a variety of ways using analogs of sound-controlling phononic crystals that have already been developed. Some potential important applications highlighted by Maldovan are the improvement of thermoelectric devices (which output electricity from temperature gradients), and the development of thermal 'diodes' which, crucially, "could be useful in energy-efficient buildings in hot and cold climates" – now that's definitely something I'd honestly appreciate and be very grateful for.

Perhaps the fanciest application he mentions is the creation of invisibility cloaks for heat: for objects to become perfectly undetectable by heat sen-



When he released the single Nelly didn't know hot to control heat, but maybe researchers at MIT do...

sors and the like. Honestly though, I can only foresee how something like that can be misused in the future for non-peaceful purposes on international scales. Nonetheless, this is

merely the first breakthrough of this nature in heat-manipulating materials; soon, we may well be channelling the excess heat in the atmosphere back out into space to counteract

global warming. Or building that giant heat ray, of course. Just in case we get embroiled in *The War of the Worlds*.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.110.025902

Royal Institution may sell its Mayfair Home

Arianna Sorba Science Writer

The Royal Institution in Mayfair has been a centre for scientific research and communication for over two centuries. Previously the workplace of such scientific greats as Michael Faraday and George Porter, the Ri now focuses on outreach, running courses, book clubs, school events, and the famous Christmas Lectures, in their 18th century building.

But an incredibly badly timed £22m refurbishment back in 2008, combined with years of mismanagement, has left the charity in fi-



ancial turmoil. The true extent of the crisis was unknown to the general public until last week, when it was reported in *The Times* that the charity had secretly put the Mayfair site on the market for upwards of £60, in an attempt to recoup its mounting debts.

The Institution has insisted that the selling of the building is just one of many options being considered, but nevertheless outrage and dismay have been expressed by some members of the scientific community and the general public.

Twitter campaigns have sprung up to 'save the Ri', whilst physicist Jim Al-Khalili has commented that 'it seems crazy that at a time when science and science communication is riding a wave of popularity not seen for generations, we hear that the very epitome of a British scientific institution is under threat.'



I think I heard a tenner from the gentleman at the back of the room

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SCIENCE

Quadruple DNA? Go home DNA, you're drunk

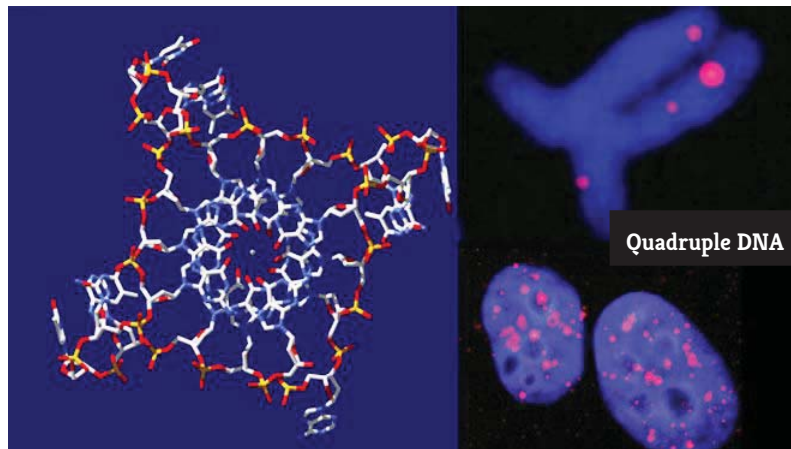
Philippa Skett thinks DNA are now causing a scene and need to be sent home in a taxi

The traditional double helix configuration of every biologist's favourite acid, DNA, is a common sight in the media. It's on textbook covers, in adverts and even in logos attempting to convey scientific superiority, but which are really playing on the naivety of the general public (anti-aging creams, I am looking at you). The dual swirl has been incredibly romanticised since its discovery by the biology big shots James Watson and Francis Crick, but new research is showing that this structure may not be all that DNA has up its molecular sleeve.

Chemists at Cambridge University, where the classical double helix structure was discovered almost 60 years ago to the day, have finally identified the quadruple helix structure of DNA in human cells. These structures, called the G-quadruplexes, form when four guanines (one of the four chemical groups that make up DNA) lie in a planar arrangement between four strands of the DNA backbone.

Data published this week in *Nature*, by the wonderfully named Dr Shankar Balasubramanian and his researchers shows how they have targeted fluorescent antibodies to the G-quadruplex and identified them in genetic regions that have high proportions of guanine, making this the first time these have been visualised in human tissue.

But what do these structural won-



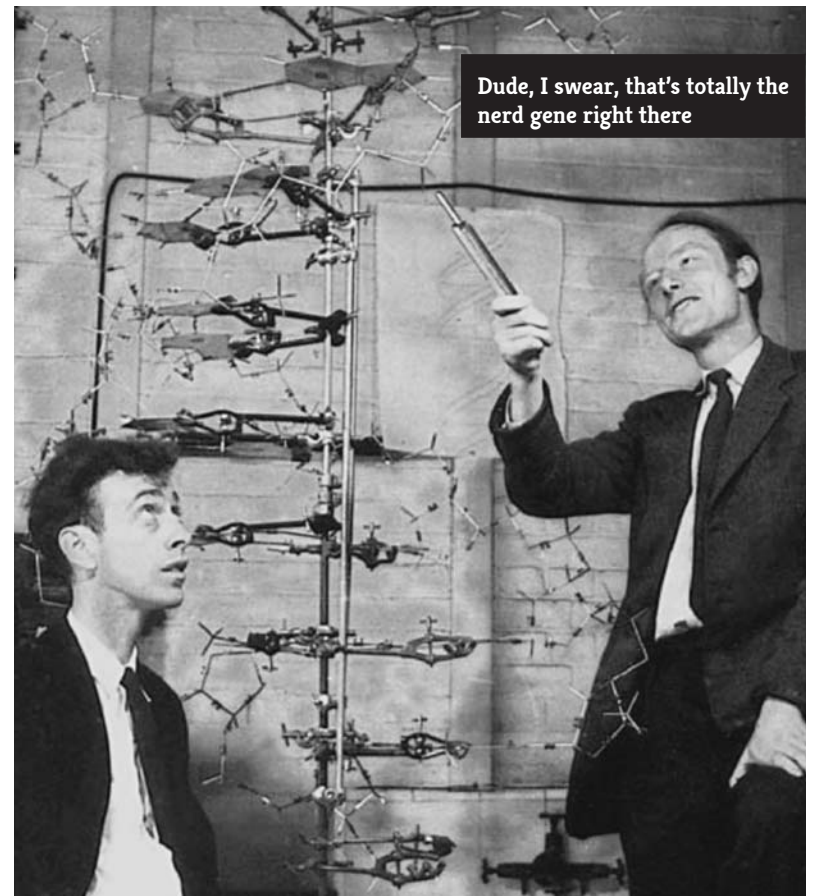
ders do, if anything? They have previously been found in telomeres, the end of the chromosomes that shorten with each cellular division. Telomeres are sort of like the genetic countdown to death, and are part of the reason we aren't immortal. As each cell divides, a little bit of each chromosome doesn't make it to the next cell due to the enzymatic limitations that allow cell division to occur.

Telomeres are the clever little non-coding genetic martyrs that sacrifice themselves to ensure precious coding DNA doesn't disappear, as they shorten instead. This shortening actually leads to a limitation in life span – as a telomere shortens to a certain point, cells may enter a state of “old age,” or die completely. When many cells do this, it can lead to organ deterioration or cause many of the diseases associ-

ated with old age.

One idea is that G-quadruplexes may stop enzymes accessing the telomere after replication. Telomerase is one such enzyme – this replaces any DNA lost at the end of the chromosome and almost reverses the genetic countdown as the chromosomes no longer shorten. With this in mind, inhibition of telomerase could be seen as detrimental to cellular longevity, although too much of telomerase activity can also lead to cancerous growth. It may be therefore that the G-quadruplex acts a mediator between too much or too little telomerase action, and maintains healthy growth levels.

Other functions are being discussed too such as the role they have in controlling gene expression, but such speculation is in need of some hard evidence to prove once and for all



what these quadruple helices actually do. For now, it seems that Dr Shankar Balasubramanian and his researchers work is not over. Although we have come a long way since Watson, Crick and their Cavendish chums poured

over their draft structures at the Eagle pub in Cambridge, we still have a long way in understanding the more intricate details of the genetic code.

DOI: 10.1038/nchem.1548

A treatment for women vulnerable to miscarriages?

Keir Little

Science Writer

Researchers at Imperial College and the University of Warwick have identified molecular signals produced by cells in the womb saying whether an embryo can implant there or not, and suggest that drugs affecting these signals could be used to treat women vulnerable to miscarriages.

A fertilised embryo must embed itself in the uterus during a specific few days in the menstrual cycle for proper development. Previously, it was unclear how endometrial cells control the time during which they are receptive to embryos, and how they signal

this receptiveness. A recent investigation into the chemicals produced by endometrial cells has found that a molecule called IL-33 is secreted during the receptive period, which regulates inflammatory and immune responses in nearby cells.

Usually, this molecule is secreted briefly, allowing embryo implantation only during the correct time in the menstrual cycle. However, the study found that in women who had suffered several miscarriages, IL-33 is secreted for up to 10 days, showing the endometrium is receptive even when it is not ready for embryo development.

The study also investigated the ef-

fect of these molecular signals in mice. Mouse uteri were treated with human endometrial secretions, which increased the period during which the mice could become pregnant while also increasing the likeliness of miscarriage, supporting the theory that the signals are responsible for multiple miscarriages in humans.

Further research into the IL-33 molecule and drugs that block its action may lead to new treatments for women who have suffered miscarriages. The researcher leading the study, Professor Jan Brosens of Warwick, said, “the molecular signals we identified are known to be involved in a range of diseases, including Alzheimer's, asth-



ma and heart disease. Our findings suggest that targeting these molecules might also be a promising strategy

for developing treatments that would prevent miscarriages in women who are especially vulnerable.”

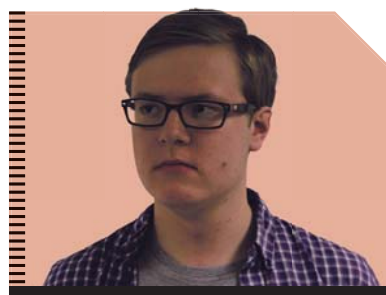
COMMENT

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



But are you are scientist doe?

A shoutout to all so-called 'science lovers': go hard or go home.



Kier Little

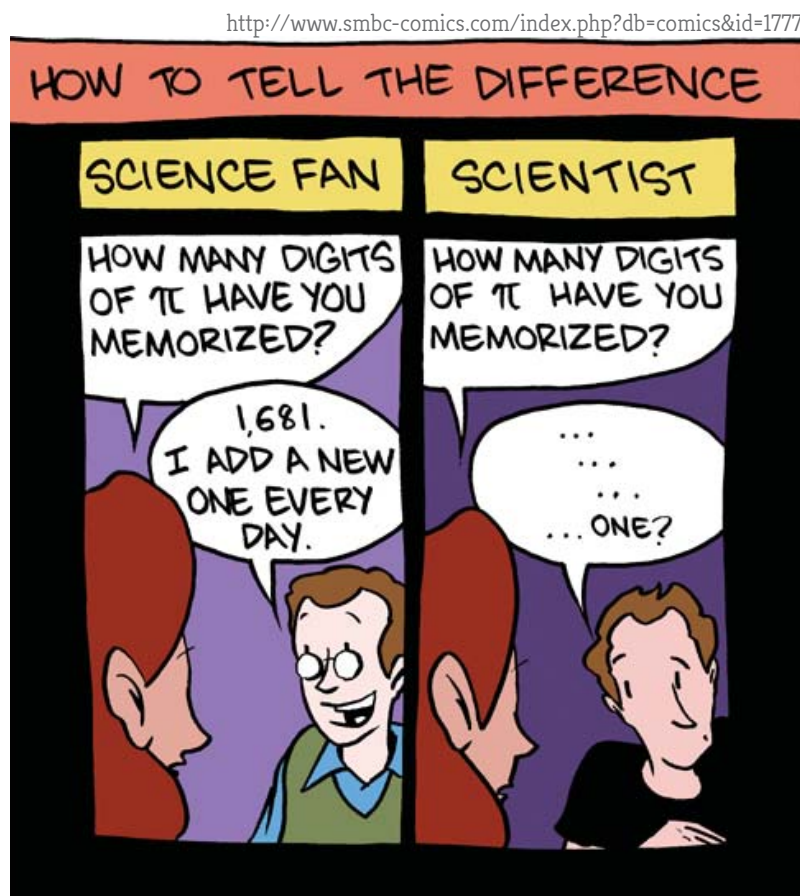
These people don't love science, in fact they're damagingly anti-scientific. They just love to sound smart.

It's happened: geek is chic, nerds are sexy, and everyone and their dog is ready to debate with creationists. Like Brian Cox's smiling, wistful face, science itself is increasingly entering the public consciousness. Every haunt of internet culture – Reddit, 4chan, your Facebook friends, etc. – discusses and valiantly defends science against the evils of false belief.

There's a newer, more insidious evil arising, though: the many people who claim to "fucking love" science without the slightest clue of how science works. These are not mere naïve spectators interested in science – I have no qualms with them – but those who use their warped understanding of science to win arguments and further their own misguided agendas.

Now that scientists are cool, everyone wants to be one. Much like a priest wears robes to signal his being part of the clergy, scientific beliefs such as evolution, the benefits of nuclear power and even logical fallacies are held without understanding as a means of signalling being part of the "science" group. They're wearing lab-coats, but without a science to do in them.

"Correlation does not imply causation," is a very useful phrase to scientists, but one that's become co-opted without the critical "does not imply" clause in online arguments. All too often, any debate and discussion arising from the suggestion of a possible causal link is shot down with "correlation is not causation!" said with the smug self-righteousness of someone who's memorised a few fallacies. I've even



seen this said in response to peer-reviewed, fairly-tested and statistically analysed studies. These people don't love science, in fact they're damagingly anti-scientific. They just love to sound smart.

This is further shown in the worrying meme of dismissing scientific findings as being "obvious" – the idea that something which is "common sense" doesn't need to be tested. Critically, common sense often turns

out to be wrong, and any real scientist will know that there's great value in accurately quantifying things which seem obvious. A recent article on Fox News and HuffPo, "12 Obvious Science Findings of 2012," lists the common-sense "fact" that "smoking a lot of pot can make your mind fuzzy." The paper, in fact, was a detailed cohort study, showing that marijuana use only causes irreversible brain damage if used regularly by under 18s, meas-

uring change in IQ and other tests of brain function in several users. It's unlikely the journalist ever read the full paper – they just wanted to show how much smarter they are than those silly, whimsical scientists by pointing out how obvious their results are.

With creationism as one of the most easily-falsified religious beliefs, evolution has become the biggest poster boy for science. Darwin's travels, collection of evidence and formulation of a theory which has since been verified and improved upon by fossil data is an almost perfect example of the scientific method in action. Evolution by natural selection is GCSE-level science, but most people aren't willing to learn even the basics – they just profess belief in evolution to signal their atheism. This leads to people laughably talking about how creatures "choose to evolve," but more dangerously to racist beliefs supported by crackpot theories about how humans have "evolved" recently.

I love science so much that I'm dedicating my life to it and getting people interested in it, but subjective opinions seemingly backed up by logic and fact and the memorisation of a few intelligent-sounding phrases are not science. The work that people like Neil deGrasse Tyson and Brian Cox do is great – increasing public respect for and interest in science is as important as actually explaining the concepts. I'm not asking that all non-scientists understand science, just that they stop pretending to, and stop wearing the attire of scientists in order to win arguments on the internet.

Online

In response to "NUS: A Pottered History", 11th January:

Good God man, nobody at Imperial cares! Don't force a referendum on us just because you couldn't think of anything better to do with your time.

- Anonymous

This is pre-campaigning.

In saying you're calling a referendum on this issue, you've immediately said you're not going to express your opinions, and then you do.

And on admitting that you came across as a bellend at the conference, way to represent Imperial!

- Anonymous

Why shouldn't the President have a view on NUS?

Shame that the vote will distract from the Sabb elections. The NUS is a bloated organisation staffed by under occupied third sector types, some of whom will be dispatched to campaign at Im-

perial so their employer can trouser £60k of our money. I hope ICU makes sure they are prevented from doing so as there is no equivalent resource for the No campaign.

- Anonymous

In response to "Religion for Atheists", 11th January:

Thanks very much for coming. I am so glad you liked it in the main. We were delighted by the turn out and overwhelmed with the response. So many great things were said afterwards, with so much help offered.

You totally hit the nail on the head when you said it is a work in progress. We went for this format because it was something with which everyone was familiar, and to save time.

We could have wasted years coming up with some totally new thing that was just right. Or, we could start with the something that worked, then improve it every week, with feedback from the congregation.

Yep. It's a peer reviewed service.

The main thing that I have to answer is the whole 'pseudo-science' and 'self-help' things you wrote about. I will go into the

specific details later, but what I have to say is this: we will try to ensure any tool, tip or way of thinking we put forward is evidence based and transparent.

Scientific atheists, do not worry. This is a safe place for you.

- Sanderson Jones

In response to "Business School Set Exams in Breach of College Rules", 18th January

The comment from Laura McConnell is clearly a cop-out, if the exams managers in the BS did their job properly and followed up available space from other departments they would easily find an appropriate room on Campus. I also understand from my fellow students that at times the BS has conducted its exams off campus during the day which is allowed under College rules. This really shows the lack of professionalism the BS show for their own students and of those for other departments. Sad really considering the amount in fees our students pay. It's about time the School put more emphasis on the needs of it's students.

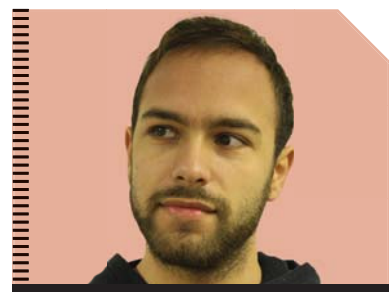
- Anonymous

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
Navid Nabijou, James Simpson
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COMMENT

United States or Europe

We need more, not less European integration. Much, much more.



Pietro Aronica

One of the most baffling things I've come across constantly when talking to British people is their use of the word "European" to mean "Beyond The Channel", as if sharing strong political, historical, geographical, economic and cultural ties weren't enough to make the UK part of the continent. Rule Britannia, God Save The Queen, and all of that, but isn't it time to put the nostalgia for the 19th century away in favour of some common sense?

I get it that you used to be an awesome nation. I still hear people boast that the British Empire covered a quarter of the world, and that you civilised (read: oppressed) countless people around the globe, despite it being as much of a relic as your grandfather's racism and anti-suffragists, and equally relevant today. It's understandable: Britain had a pretty sweet gig, calling all the shots for more than a hundred years, and it's good to be part of the winning team; but we can't cling to this faded past while the world has changed. We were all heartbroken when Europe had to relinquish its status as continent of superpowers to the USA and the USSR, but the truth is that it could not and cannot compete with them and it cannot exert the same kind of influence – or, at least, it can't while it stands divided, squabbling amongst themselves.

I believe in a strong, united European state, a United States of Europe, if you will. Perhaps this is only a dream of mine, but I have hopes that it will happen one day. After all, the peoples of Europe share far more than most realise: the British like to concentrate on the differences, like bidets and funny accents and the ability to see the sun more than three days a year, and yet we have common cultural experiences that make all of us the same. Our governments, despite small local variations, all work in the same way; we grew up in similar environments, going to similar school systems, watching similar TV programs; our calendars are largely identical; the goods we buy and the foods we eat come from the same tradition. Now that we have the internet, we can be ever more alike. Sure, there will be discrepancies here and there, but people across the continent will be able to strongly relate to one another because we have all lived similar sorts of life. And, of course,



there is an international political organisation that has kept us together for the past half a century.

Ah, the EU: a reviled bunch of corrupt bureaucrats busy determining the correct curvature of the banana when they aren't taxing and obstructing; or the seed of a more just state that will represent Europe on the global stage without getting mired in squalid local diatribes, depending on who you ask. It has its flaws, of course, because trying to get governments so stubborn to agree on common measures can lead to inefficiencies and even injustices. The British public likes to rag on when the EU has problems in trying to manage twenty-seven countries worth of economies, obstinate nationalism and partisan politics, and yet it soils itself with excitement if the Royal Family as much as farts, proving that the noblest goals of the others merit mockery if they come with effort and difficulties, but your nation's idiosyncrasies are important and cherished traditions. Because that's what the European Union is: a noble goal, the ideal that people that share so much can cooperate to do great things instead of fighting for crumbs amongst themselves.

There was a lot of grumbling when the EU got the Nobel Peace Prize, as many claimed that it hadn't done anything to deserve it; you know, as if it hadn't guaranteed the lack of war of more than

fifty years. People take it for granted now, but Europe has never enjoyed this unity and stability in its history. From the Middle Ages to WWII, being in Europe meant that at some point during your lifetime you could be sent to war or that your country would be at war. Maybe you're an Austrian sent to conquer Italy, or you're a German fighting for your religion against the Swedes, or you're an Englishman trying to prevent the French from conquering Spain, but the longwinded point is that European nations fought a lot. It was pretty much a given that conflicts would eventually erupt over this or that issue: the history of the continent is one of near-perpetual battle. Today, it would be unthinkable and impossible for any two EU member states to come to arms.

Economically speaking, it has created prosperity and wealth and it has made the Euro, an experiment that is bringing Europe closer and assuring that we grow together. Like it is possible with all experiments, not everything has gone perfectly, but the advantages outweigh the disadvantages, and the negatives are reasons to better the system and make it more just.

It is still more of a supranational organisation with limited power rather than an actual political entity, but things can change. They won't, however, if

Britain clings to its outdated and unfeasible Splendid Isolation (Britain and all the other countries. The UK, as bad as it is, is not the only obstacle on the way to integration). The notion that a country the size of the UK can still be a superpower or at least not be dependent on someone else's power is as prevalent as it is wrong: Britain has not been able to compete on the global scale, and will be able to do so even less if it abandons its only way to relevance short of becoming the 51st US state. And if you say that the UK aims at being left alone and independent even at the cost of not being able to have a say on international matters, then I guess I haven't learned much about the British.

My motive for the United States of Europe is one of brotherhood, unity and freedom. I want it because it makes sense, economically, culturally, historically, but if I can't convince you, then perhaps I can bribe you: if the EU were one, united country, it would be the largest economy in the world by a vast margin; it would represent more than 500 million people; it would be able to exert more influence than any other and it would be able to push international agendas, from climate change to social equality, that no country on its own could hope to achieve: wouldn't you want to be a part of that?

After all, the peoples of Europe share far more than most realise ... we have common cultural experiences that make all of us the same.

Write for Comment

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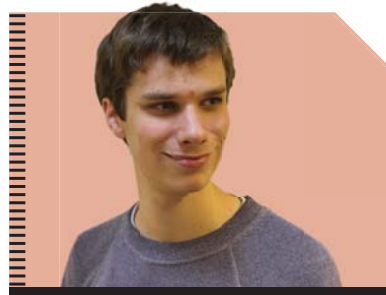
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COMMENT

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
Navid Nabijou, James Simpson
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What would Jesus do?

For nonbelievers to properly engage with Christians, they must learn about the life of Jesus, says **Tom Ravalde**



Tom Ravalde

Let the dialogue begin.' So began Rory Fenton's thoughtful piece last week ('Faitheism: the importance of dialogue') – encouraging the religious and irreligious alike to 'look for the common ground' and 'work together' against extremism for a better society. As a Christian, I welcome this engagement from the (so called) 'faitheists' – it's certainly a refreshing change from the hostile rhetoric spouted by Dawkins et al.

The purpose of this response is to suggest that we need to broaden the horizons of much of our atheist-believer-interfaith dialogue, in order to have a meaningful discussion. What do I mean by that? My worry is that the 'dialogue' is always on the terms of the faitheist. The faitheist (understandably) defines the world's problems as they see them, and then wants to work with religion to oppose them. But what if we view the world's situation in very different ways? Solutions require a correct understanding of the problem (ever misread an exam question...?) The Christian world-view has a far deeper explanation of the evil we experience than faitheism allows. The hatred and bigotry described in last week's article is undoubtedly reprehensible, but it is a manifestation of a more fundamental predicament – a world that's turned its back on its loving Creator – this is (broadly) what Christians mean by 'sin'.

Allow me to illustrate what I'm saying with an incident from the life of Jesus Christ – surely any meaningful conversation between atheist and Christian must try to understand him? In Luke's Gospel, a paralysed man is

Jesus is your buddy



brought to Jesus – a man who in First Century Israel would have had very limited prospects. At this point, the faitheist would call on people of all religions and none to work together to improve this man's well-being and life-chances. Shockingly, Jesus sees a need greater than just the physical – saying, 'My friend, your sins are forgiven!' Jesus tells us our biggest problem is to stand unforgiven before God. His same words also tell us something staggering about himself. The religious leaders are outraged – they consider Jesus a blasphemer: 'Who can forgive sins but God alone?' But Jesus is ready to prove his identity by healing the man: 'I tell you, get up, take

your mat and go home.'

Thus, any honest dialogue with Christianity must conclude that Jesus offers a solution in an altogether different category than that offered by human endeavour, meeting a more fundamental need than that which concerns most of us. Whilst conversation remains restricted to faitheist presuppositions, one could be forgiven for thinking that all this talk of 'dialogue' and 'listening' is merely a pretence. Could it be that faitheism elevates itself above religion, and uses it for its own ends?

So what form should 'dialogue' take? Let's be bold enough to take discussion to the 'uncommon ground', ask-

ing questions about where the heart of humanity's problem really lies. Let's dare to allow the possibility that the solution lies outside of our own abilities, and is found in a supernatural Saviour. Only then can all wrongs truly be righted. If you think that dialogue surrounding these huge questions important, then why not engage with the Christian Union? Friendly dialogue is at the forefront of their agenda. Starting next Monday, they are hosting 'What if ...' – a week for anyone to explore the life and claims of Jesus, and ask any questions (www.iccu.co.uk/qr). We'd love to see you there.

Let the dialogue continue.

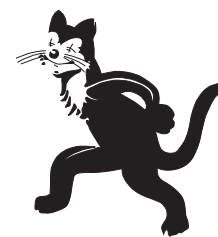
Let's be bold enough to take discussion to the 'uncommon ground'

Read this and more on this 'internet' thing
felixonline.co.uk

 Email: felix@imperial.ac.uk – please. We're so lonely.

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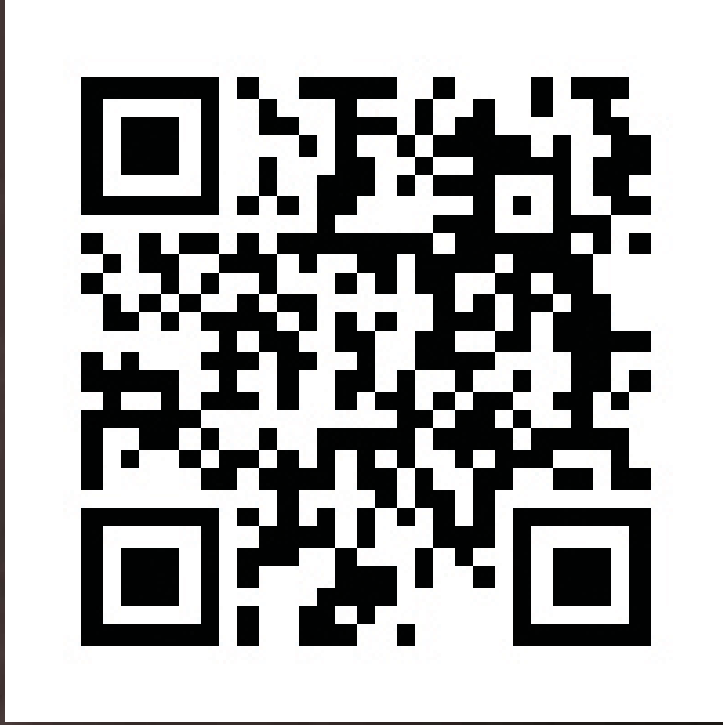
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FELIX Sex Survey 2013

Do it all night, if you can keep it up



felixonline.co.uk/sexsurvey



While you're there, take
the Felix Drugs Survey

felixonline.co.uk/drugs





This is not just a cheesecake!

This is a **Yiango Mavrocostanti** cheesecake...

Cooking. Some of you might hate it. Maybe it is time you started seeing cooking and food a bit differently? I believe food is not just something you need to survive. It is much more than that as it creates memories and brings people together!

Remember the smell of your favourite food your mum used to make for you when you were a kid? Or how excited you were about your huge birthday cake? Or the cookies you used to eat at your friend's house? Ask your

mum for the recipe of that special food that was your favourite, make it and you will feel like being at home. That's why food is important. It is probably the only thing that can bring memories back!

And of course, food is more enjoyable when it is shared with other people. So when you cook invite your friends too. Is there a better gift you can give to your friends than cooking for them (except maybe some nice French liqueur...)? I don't think so. Cooking requires effort and that's why I appreciate people who would cook

for others.

All of the above are the reasons I was very excited when I received this recipe from Amy Lam, a second year chemical engineering student. She made this amazing cheesecake as a surprise for the birthday of her friend. How great is that? She devoted the time to make it and the results show that all the care and effort she put into it paid off. Needless to say that her friends were more than thrilled.

So, this is the recipe. Try it and make something your friends will always remember. And if it is not their birthday, just find another reason to celebrate!



Baked vanilla cheesecake with blueberries and chocolate flakes

Ingredients:

10 digestive biscuits
50g butter (melted)
600g cream cheese
2tbsp plain flour
175g caster sugar
Vanilla extract
2 eggs, plus 1 yolk
142ml sour cream
Handful of blueberries
25g of dark chocolate

Procedure:

Preheat the oven to 180°C. Crush 10 di-

gestive biscuits, and mix it with 50g of melted butter. Press into a 20cm spring-form tin and bake for 8 minutes, then cool. Beat the rest of the ingredients except the blueberries and dark chocolate until light and fluffy. Put the blueberries on top of the biscuit base and pour the mixture into the tin. Bake for 40 minutes and then check, it should be set but slightly wobbly in the centre. Leave in the tin to cool and put in the fridge. Cut the chocolate into small shavings and sprinkle on top of the cheesecake. *(Taken and modified from the BBC goodfood website)*

Recently cooked something for your friends?

We would really like to see it!

Just send us an email with the recipe and photos to food.felix@imperial.ac.uk and you will have the chance to see your food in Felix!



Not a fan of cheesecake? Try this amazing lava cake

Yiango Mavrocostanti Food Editor

It really is simple, cheap and absolutely divine. It will take you about 10 minutes to make and it only needs 15 minutes in the oven. So, in less than 30 minutes and with minimum effort you can also have this amazing dessert.

You will need 6 ramekins.

Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
1/3 cup good quality cocoa
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup sunflower oil
1 cup (preferably almond) milk
Seeds of 1 vanilla pod
2 tbsp vinegar
1 tsp baking soda
1/2 cup chocolate chips
6 ramekins

Procedure:

Preheat your oven at 180 degrees.

Place parchment paper in 6 ramekins and lightly grease them.

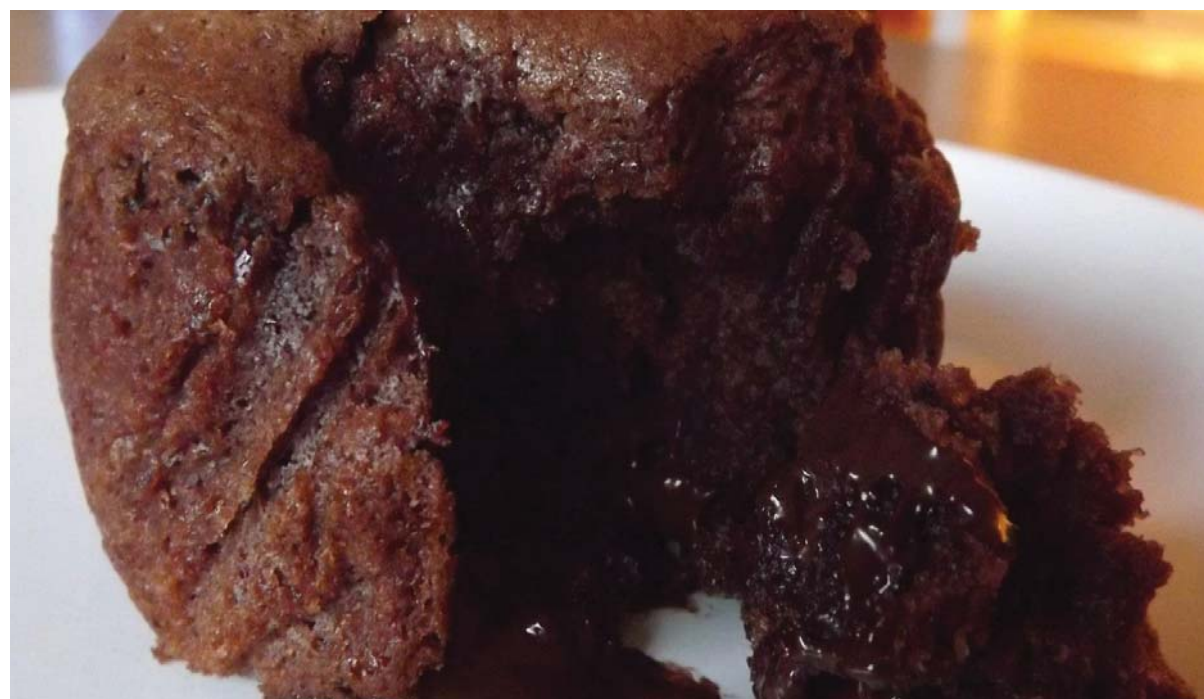
In a bowl mix the almond milk, the oil, the vinegar and the vanilla seeds. Set aside and leave for about 15 minutes or until it curdles.

In a separate bowl sift the flour, cocoa and soda. Add the sugar and mix well.

Add the wet ingredients to the dry mixture and mix until just combined. Be very careful not to overmix as this will develop the gluten in the flour and your cakes will not be light and fluffy.

Fill 1/3 of the ramekins with the mixture and then add a tbsp of chocolate chips in each one of them. Then put the rest of the mixture on top so that the ramekins are 2/3 full.

Bake for about 12-15 minutes. Once baked, remove from the oven and serve the lava cakes hot. They are great with hazelnut ice-cream! Enjoy!



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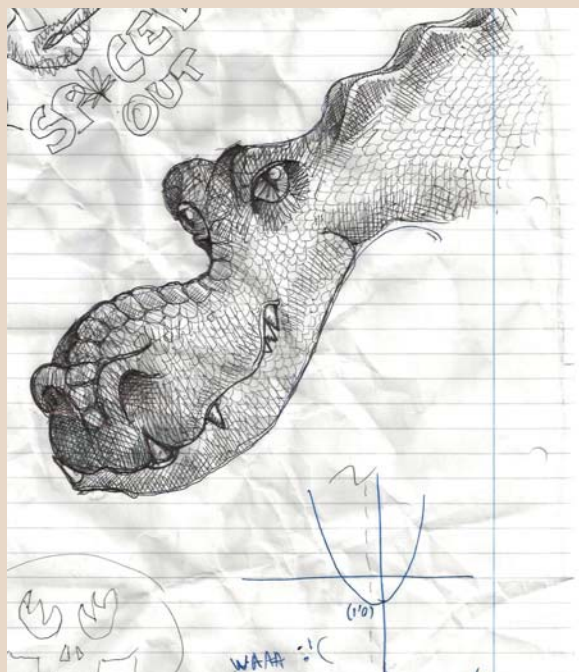
ARTS

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 Umar Hossain's attempt to dragon himself through another maths lecture.

TIRED OF LIFE?

Our pick of what's on in London

Manet: Portraying Life @ Royal Academy – An exhibition of impressive breadth, Manet at the RA is well worth the ticket price. You could spend an entire morning there, in the company of 19th Century Parisian society, and in this way put off inevitable library time for a few more hours. £10 for students. 26 January - 4 April.

Mariko Mori: Rebirth @ Royal Academy – A mesmerising and hypnotising exhibition that provides a somewhat sci-fi experience. I would imagine that an alien religion would lead to the same sort of other-worldly calm that Mori's art provides. Her drawings are very pretty, if a bit pink. £7 for student. Now - 17 February.

Work in progress show @ The Royal College of Art – Students from the RCA School of Communication will display their work just down the road from Imperial College. This is the show for you if you want to find out what 'information experience design' is all about. Animators also showing. Now - 27 January

Gerard Byrne: A state of neutral pleasure @ Whitechapel Gallery – Byrne's video art recreates specific historic moments and conversations, in such a way that the public is able to interact with history in a way that is especially unusual. Three of his works are on display, on a rolling programme. Entry free. Now - 8 March.



Taking the carapace

Lily Le metamorphoses at the Lyric

Gregor Samsa is late for work one day. Everyone is extremely concerned, including his boss who pays him a personal visit for a personal reprimand. Instead of opening the bedroom door to find Gregor, his family and boss are surprised and subsequently disgusted by the huge beetle-like creature which has replaced him.

Books with obvious metaphors are sometimes some of the most difficult to interpret, a personal opinion extending to Kafka's *Metamorphosis*. It is always interesting to see how such works are translated to the stage and it is great when they contribute to personal understanding of the literary classics. With this in mind I was excited to see a limited run of the 'Smash Hit' production at the Lyric Theatre.

The obvious question that anticipated any viewer was how the *Ungeziefer* is depicted, and it was probably inevitable that a man in a huge bug costume clambering around on stage would have been a bit too tacky. Opting for a salesman clambering around on stage slightly detracted from the mystery of what he has transformed into, contributing to the interpretation that he has not physically transformed at all.

The music (Nick Cave and Warren Ellis) was also a definite highlight, and was more noticeable compared to many other plays. However, this could have merely been a positive compared to the quality of direction (David Orr and Gisli Orn Garoars-son) and acting which was embarrassingly pantomime-esque.

Of course, acting on a stage requires large gestures, exaggerated speech, and audience-directed action. In this production however the cast's performance was so intense that it made the play difficult to believe or meaningfully identify with in any kind of realistic manner.

Perhaps this was an attempt to capture the strangeness of Kafka's world. There was no direct mention of any bug or transformation, this could have been a way of reminding the audience of the surreal event by distancing the play from reality. This definitely seemed the case as the play opened with unnecessary and annoying dramatic poses during the Samsa family's breakfast at the table.

However, as the play progressed, such a defence for over-exaggerated acting seemed too far-fetched, and if this effect was a purposeful by-product, it did not manage to at-



Gangnam Style and acid day at the office considered a success

tain its intended effect. It was not enjoyable.

For certain scenes though, such as Grete's freakout and Gregor's death, the comic relief interspersed throughout the darker and more distressing events, was entertaining.

Overall *Metamorphosis* was well produced. The open plan family house was a clever way of allowing

us to see Gregor's behaviour as his family grew increasingly ashamed and separated from him. The relatively small stage prevented the overuse of a single setting becoming boring and negated the need for messy changes between scene.

Metamorphosis is on at the Lyric Hammersmith. Tickets from £12.50. Until 9th February.

Arts Editors: Eva Rosenthal,
Meredith Thomas
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ARTS

Billie Piper and Dr. Who James

Lily Le

Writer

Science and art rarely seem to collaborate in popular culture (and we are not talking about science fiction here). It is a shame, because science is inherently intriguing without requiring the embellishment of artistic and creative input. So, when they are combined, they are a strong force of entertainment.

The Effect is a play that brings together Connie and Tristan (Billie Piper and Jonjo O'Neill) during a trial to understand the effects of a new dopamine-based treatment for depression on healthy adults. They are under the supervision of Dr James (Anastasia Hille) who is battling against a depression, triggered by the immorality of both her present situation and her past history with ex-partner, Toby (Tom Goodman-Hill). This is the man who has developed the drugs that are being used in the trial that she is overseeing.

The strong cast was well suited to the staging at the intimate Cottesloe Theatre, the audience entirely surrounding the action and looking down upon the actors, who had no room for errors. In any case, they did not commit any. Even Tristan's tap dance in an effort to woo Connie was perfect.

What was more impressive, though, was how thought-provoking the play was. As the participants begin falling for each other, Connie begins to question the love she feels for Tristan. Dr James begins to question the ability of the drug, and both begin to question the significance of the increased levels of dopamine in the participants' systems.

Speculation is rife: which is the cause and which is the effect? For Connie, does it even matter?

When Tristan ends up with transient global amnesia, he is no longer the same man Connie fell for, and, although she still loves him, she begins to question what the basis of a human identity is.

Although this was a slightly obvious tack to take, the writing (Lucy Prebble) was easily the highlight of this play, even more than so than the high quality acting and directing (Rupert Goold).

Especially intriguing was the character of Dr James. Her kind and genuinely caring and open

nature towards Tristan and Connie, doing everything she could to reassure them as well as taking responsibility for Tristan's amnesia, made her very easy to

sympathise with.

After building up such a strongly positive opinion of her, digesting her controversial opinions on the delicate topic that is depression was particularly entertaining.

To her, depression is not a disease. Mildly depressed people have a more realistic view of the world, and are only affected because they are freed of the delusions which keep healthy individuals happy. Drugs cannot treat depression because the underlying "chemical imbalance" causing it has not been elucidated. The general public is not sufficiently educated on what little understanding has been gleaned from research. Drug companies exploit the relative ignorance of sufferers by offering drugs which inevitably cannot treat their depression. The idea of administering drugs for depression is as ridiculous to Dr James as the notion of the four humours.

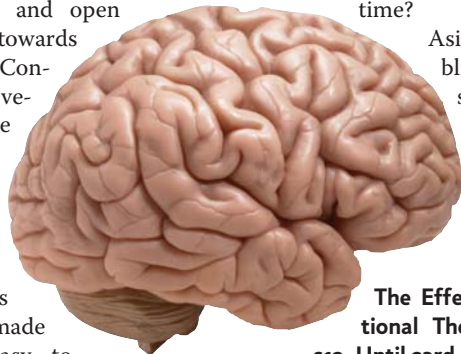
It was controversial because these were the opinions of a "professional", which led to the audience pondering over how relevant they are to the thoughts of actual professionals on the same topic.

It is interesting to note that such an opinion, and many other aspects of the play are a freeze frame on the current attitudes, social and medical, towards depression. More than most contemporary plays, *The Effect* highlights a topic of great significance to our society today. By exploring depression, Prebble explores its reflection of society. Whereas in a lot of contemporary writing the present is conveyed via the past, or modern societal values are explored in very obvious ways, Prebble's *The Effect* is definitely something unique.

It was disappointing that the love aspect of the storyline did not seem to be as carefully considered. It was only a matter of days before the lead characters "fell in love", which seemed a little too Hollywood. Although I had no qualms with the idea that such characters felt strong infatuation, their process of falling in love was incredibly unbelievable and annoyingly unoriginal.

Furthermore, if Connie is a student who lives in a "shit hole", how does she have the capacity to bring home and support another adult with amnesia due to last an indefinite amount of time?

Aside from the few blips, if anything (for science students especially) it is definitely worth going along for the "psychology is not a real science" jokes.



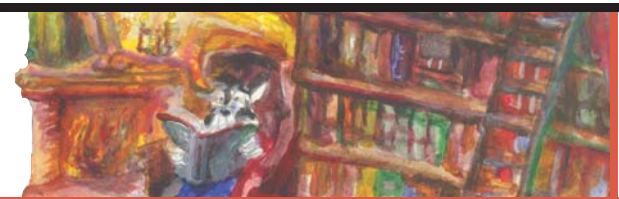
The Effect is on at the National Theatre. Tickets from £12. Until 23rd February.



Wait... you're not Christopher Eccleston

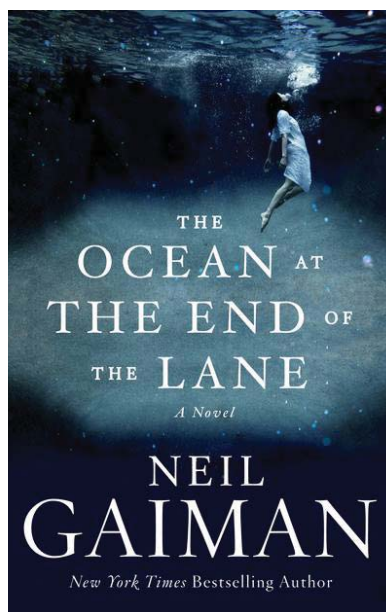
BOOKS

Books Editor: Maciej Matuszewski
books.felix@imperial.ac.uk



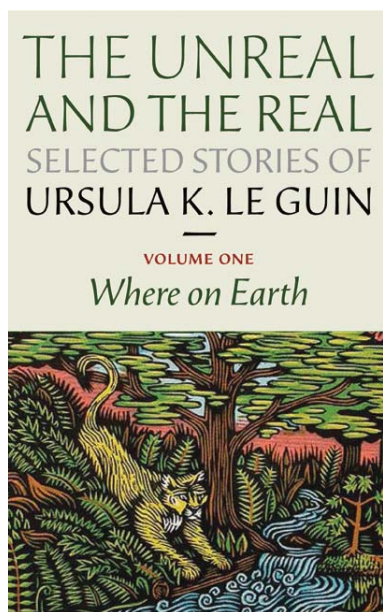
Our pick of 2013

Maciej Matuszewski recommends five great upcoming SF books



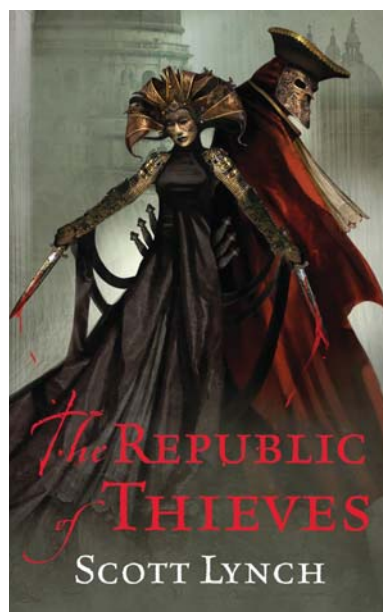
The Ocean at the End of the Lane
Neil Gaiman
Released June 18

After eight long years genre favourite Neil Gaiman is finally set to return to adult fiction with *The Ocean at the End of the Lane*. Gaiman has been relatively quiet about this book but, as with his previous work, you should expect a well written and deeply atmospheric gothic tale. Gaiman has won more awards than I have space to list and, in my opinion, has never written a bad novel so this book is a must.



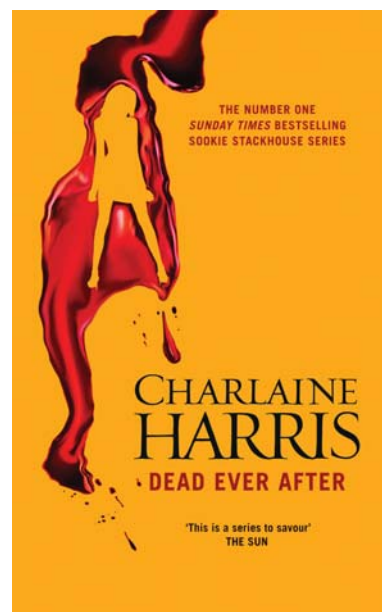
The Unreal and the Real
Ursula K. Le Guin
Released January 3

There are few SF authors who could claim to be most influential than Ursula Le Guin. Including both acknowledged classics, like the award winning *The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas* as well as less known works, this two volume set is great for both fans and Le Guin novices. Each story beautifully displays Le Guin's skills, both in characterisation and plotting as well as in writing style.



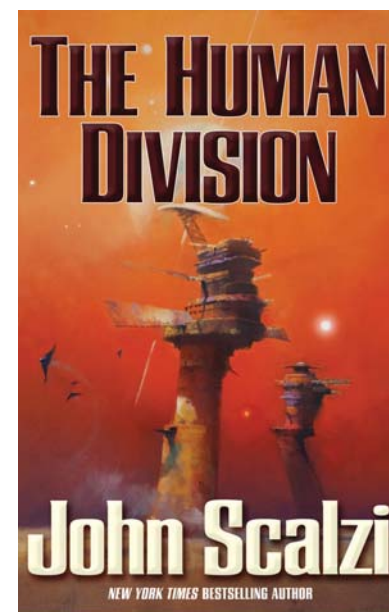
The Republic of Thieves
Scott Lynch
Released July 13

The long awaited third novel in Lynch's *Gentleman Bastard* series. Lynch is rightfully acclaimed for having created an intricate and unique fantastical setting heavily influenced by Renaissance Italy. While the previous novel was let down by poor characterisation it was still one of the best 2007 fantasies. The perfect opportunity to get your epic fantasy fix – at least until the latest Patrick Rothfuss novel is released.



Dead Ever After
Charlaine Harris
Released May 7

The final novel of the Sookie Stackhouse finally hits the shelves. While the series could never claim to be intellectually satisfying it has always been good fun as a guilty pleasure and this book looks set to be a fitting conclusion. With the sixth season of *True Blood*, the hit TV show based on the series, set to begin in June this is the perfect opportunity to catch up with the books that started it all.



The Human Division
John Scalzi
Released May 14

Acclaimed author and Science Fiction Writers of America President John Scalzi returns to his *Old Man's War* universe with an experimental 'episodic' novel. Each chapter is partially stand-alone and will be released individually in the months prior to the full book's release date. Having been favourably compared to the works of Richard Heinlein and John Campbell this is certainly worth checking out.

In the kingdom of the blind...

Maciej Matuszewski Books Editor

I don't read much modern literary fiction so José Saramago's *Blindness* is not something that I would usually pick up. I am, however, always looking to expand my horizons and so, having heard good things about the book, I decided to give it a go.

Set at an unspecified time in an unspecified country the novel begins with an outbreak of a mysterious illness that makes its victims blind. Thanks to a health minister more incompetent than Andrew Lansley and Jeremy Hunt combined the blindness soon spreads throughout the country – plunging it into chaos.

The novel, however, does not focus on the large-scale consequences of this disaster, instead choosing to stick with a small group of people. We see them deal with their initial shock and

confusion and try to adapt to the almost insurmountable obstacles that they face, only to witness the fabric of society to begin to collapse around them.

The confusion inherent in universal blindness is brilliantly expressed by the style of the novel itself. Most noticeable is the lack of any speech marks – with dialogue being integrated with the rest of the text. The reader is forced to concentrate to distinguish between speakers, or even between dialogue and narration.

Furthermore, none of the characters are given names, instead being referred to by descriptions like "the doctor" or "the first blind man". This helps to add to the universal and timeless feel of the novel. *Blindness* presents a vivid portrait of both how important our sense of sight is and how easily we can begin to lose our humanity when faced with an impossible crisis.



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MUSIC

Music Editors: Mark England,
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¡Dos! ¡Uno! ¡Tres!

Max Eggl reviews the second installment from Green Day

The aptly titled album *¡Dos!* is the second instalment in the rapid-fire trilogy that **Green Day** now has released. This album is a bit less clean than *¡Uno!*, playing to a garage rock style vibe. Armstrong went as far to describe this as a second **Foxboro Hot Tubs** album. If you have heard of the **Foxboro Hot Tubs**, then you will know that they have a raw musical style, which can be quite easily applied to *¡Dos!* as well. In fact one of the songs 'F*** Time' is actually originally a **Foxboro Hot Tubs** song. *¡Dos!* was released roughly a month after *¡Uno!*, and one can clearly see a link between the two. A fast paced style, with strong power-chords and a lack of ballads are common traits to both albums. One can best describe *¡Dos!* by being the music when you are in full flow of the party, while *¡Uno!* prepared you for the party. Thus it has a bit more bite than before. Another

contrast between this album and the other two of the trilogy, is the fact that *¡Dos!* has 13 songs on it, instead of 12. This last song to be added is a stunning song in homage to **Amy Winehouse**, which I will discuss later.

The only single released from this album was 'Stray Heart'. A great song, which lives off the great bass and addictive lyrics, to say it simply, it's a great piece of music. Sadly, Armstrong's trip to rehab due to substance abuse cut short any kind of promotional tours or opportunities to bring this single as well as the album to as many ears as possible. This may explain the relative sparse airplay this song has received.

Just like the previous article on *¡Uno!*, I will be dissecting the songs that I feel that really define this album and give it its character. The first song that really struck me when I first listened to the album was 'Lazy Bones'. It starts off in a manner not usually

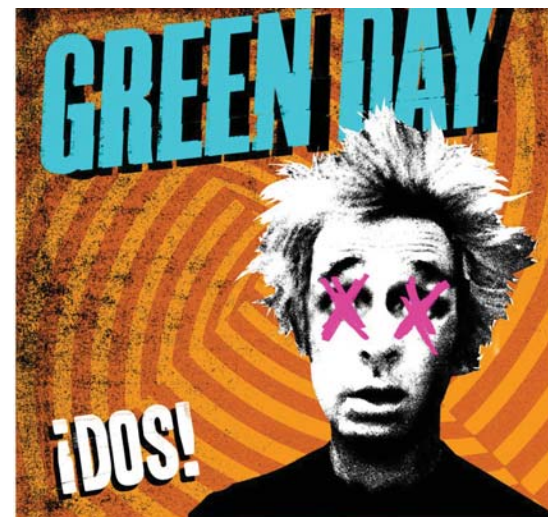
associated with Green Day, in fact the song is not like their style. They own the song though. The chords power through you, and the lyrics "I'm too tired to be bored. I'm too bored to be tired" and strangely (as well as sadly) seem to apply to my life. The whole song is piercing and was my favourite song for quite a while. The next song that really seemed to talk to me was 'Nightlife'. It features **Lady Cobra** of the band **Mystic Knights of the Cobra**. Among all the high-powered guitar chord based tracks of the other pieces on the album, this song really does stand out. Musically, it's slower, with a James Bond-esque bass line/guitar riff throughout the song, Lady Cobra raps parts of her lyrics making for an intriguing musical mix as well as Armstrong's vocals sounding as if they came through a faulty microphone, which adds to the aura of the piece. This combination makes for a very interesting song, which makes listening to it a pleasure.

However the theme of the song is also totally different from the album, if not the whole trilogy. The lyrics are peppered with words like "devil", "blood" and "angel of death". This really gives the impression of the character of Lady Cobra being "evil", and

Armstrong's a hapless drunk. The song is much more heavy-hearted compared to the usual Green Day fare. In fact the vibe is so dark, that it affects the whole album, giving it a darker tinge than *¡Uno!* or *¡Tre!*.

The last song on *¡Dos!* that I would like to talk about is 'Amy'. As mentioned before, it is an homage to Amy Winehouse, who passed away in 2011. It is the most emotional and sincere song of the whole trilogy. A simple chord progression, that would sound amazing unplugged, as well as really heartfelt lyrics make this song an absolute masterpiece. It ends the trilogy on a sad note, and yet I could not imagine a better way to end *¡Dos!*. Please look up the song on YouTube or something, as I promise you it really will be worth your while.

¡Dos! may be a garage rock album, yet the addition of Nightlife and Amy add a little something special, and it is this special touch that makes this album worth listening to. Even with-



out those two, the other songs also flow nicely into each other, and would make an good album on their own, if a bit repetitive. If the album would be only songs of that calibre, it would be a absolutely stunning album worth 5/5. However I found on the whole *¡Uno!* to be stronger and more enjoyable to listen to, while *¡Dos!* is a bit weak on some songs. Thus I give this album a 4/5. Like in my last article, I would encourage any Green Day fan (in fact, even if you are a music fan) to buy this album, as there is enough good material on it to make it worth your while.

AMS album of the week

Dutch Uncles: Out of Touch in the Wild

How many bands can say they have their own posh burger named after them? **Dutch Uncles** can, at least. The Godboy Burger Flexin Out In The Wilds Of The Northern Quarter was created to honour the release of their third album, *Out of Touch in the Wild*. It's a wonderfully constructed album, albeit short, as I found myself disappointed it had ended so early. I really enjoy how Dutch Uncles manage to take their eclectic influences and formulate them in such an unpretentious, easy to listen to way. There's none of those dodgy interludes, nor those rubbish slow songs you always skip. It's a treat for the ears, with a lot of interesting percussion such as xylophones, vibraphones and marimbas adding to the jangly pop vibe.



'Pondage' starts as a slow piano ballad-esque piece, until the familiar rhythmic guitars kick in. Almost as soon as it comes, though, the song finishes. I never had Dutch Uncles down as being such teases! In comes 'Bellio', an initial favourite of mine on first listen. Some of the more heavy synth usage can be heard on this song, with a driven grumbly rhythm section to compliment.

The album's first single, 'Fester', was released in November, with an absolutely wonderful video made by director and photographer Isaac Eastgate, who has also produced excellent videos for **Django Django** and **Egyptian Hip Hop**. I urge you to check them all out as they're some of the best videos I've seen in ages.

Out of Touch in the Wild is upbeat, and a real pleasure to listen to. Odd time signatures reminiscent of progressive rock still remain, with 'Threads' sounding heavily influenced by the likes of **King Crimson** and **Japan**.

As far as the aesthetic of the album, something I particularly enjoyed was the intriguing song names. All a bit weird and only one, two, three syllables long, but they reflect the unity and flow of the album as a whole.

Yasmin Malik

UTR: Helm and Tropa Macaca

Ross Gray

Music Editor

Promoters and record label Upset The Rhythm have really been having a good run so far this year, throwing the phenomenal **Pete Swanson** (of **Yellow Swans**) and **Mark Fell** (of **SND**) event last Monday, and last night putting on a small show in The Sebright Arms for hot-topic **Helm** (on the hot-topic label PAN, which I only recently realised is the same label that put out Sewer Election's fantastic Vidöppna Sår in 2010) and the obscure Portuguese synth and guitar duo **Tropa Macaca**.

This was the first time I had ventured to Bethnal Green, and I must say, The Sebright Arms seems to be a pretty cool venue. The large upstairs is sadly full of standard East London hipster types, but after winding through some small staircases and tight corridors you come to a tiny dingy basement with a barely raised stage; just the way I like it.

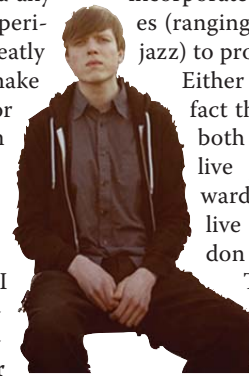
Helm, whose fantastic 2012 album

Impossible Symmetry was a highlight of the year, opened proceedings with his indefinable noise-ambient-drone crossover sounds. That's about as much of a pigeon holing as I can really give it as this stuff has to be heard to be understood. Numerous sound sources were pushed through (surprisingly few, I thought) pedals to produce soundscapes that varied from rhythmic and somewhat danceable to light noise, with crushing drilling sounds that I particularly appreciated. This was certainly my highlight of the evening and anyone interested in current experimental music that doesn't neatly fit in boxes should really make an effort to see Helm live (or watch his live boiler room set I guess).

Tropa Macaca were massively different to what I had expected from the one incredibly lo-fi recording I had heard: *Ectoplasma*, released on Software, the label **Oneohtrix Point Never**

curates. From my single listen to this I was expecting a **Roll The Dice** style set up, with two boffins and a modular synthesizer. Instead we were met by a guitarist with a minimal pedalboard alongside a keyboardist with two keyboards and a fair amount of pedals. Opinion was split on their performance through our group: I felt it wasn't quite what I expected – I really would have liked a denser soundscape – which somewhat reduced my opinion, whilst my flatmate felt that they managed to successfully incorporate a huge range of influences (ranging from **Black Dice** to free jazz) to produce an unique sound.

Either way, it's clear from the fact that opinion was split that both of these artists are strong live performers. I look forward to seeing Helm playing live around his native London and am interested in how **Tropa Macaca's** sound will develop as they get older and more exposure.



Music Editors: Mark England,
Ross Gray, Simon Hunter
music.felix@gmail.com

MUSIC

Fear in a Handful of Dust

Riaz Agahi reviews Hacker Farm's new album, UHF

There is a scene in Fitzgerald's novel *The Great Gatsby*, where he describes a valley of ashes, a wasteland in suburban New York, full of dirt, decay, ash, and poverty. If such a place had a soundtrack, it would probably be **Hacker Farm**. Such is the intimidating, disconcerting nature of the soundscapes of this year's album, *UHF*. Perhaps as a result of this comparison, I can't help but feel that there is something very modernist about the atmosphere their music creates. Their sound is a mix of the very darkest elements of electronica (see the broken down beat of 'Grinch'), noise and maybe a dash of industrial. Unlike the valley of ashes, this dystopian mix provides the cultural backdrop of modern Britain, self-styled 'Broken Music for a Broken Britain.' 'One, Six, Nein' is one example, with an almost punk-like dissatisfaction with society reflected in a sample. Unlike some punk and

many other merchants of a dystopian sound, this leads them to new and inventive ideas of music production.

While some may say there's no such thing as an original idea, it appears to me that Hacker Farm are doing something truly revolutionary. The Hacker Farm collective operates out of a farm near Yeovil, but as alluded to before, doesn't quite offer the serenity some associate with country life, but rather the poverty and dissatisfaction that brews there. My personal highlights include the aforementioned moments, along with a most depraved bassline on 'Konrad' and the foreboding rumble that slowly builds up in 'Engine Room'.

Their musical ideals revolve around stepping away from the modern world of computer production and laptop sets to create something truly cutting edge. They attempt to return music to the physical world, which is demonstrated by, for example, giving out Rubick's cubes which,

when solved, reveal a QR code leading to downloadable content. This approach extends to their music, where the sounds are made from largely discarded materials, such as housing speakers in a variety of unusual places, from a bird-house to a milk churn, giving them a range of frequencies. In a way, it's like a more fully realised *Holy Fuck*, but they truly stand for something.

Behind the dystopian disgust, there is a very real and positive message to reuse and recycle rather than simply replacing. Their music serves as a warning to the consumerist society we currently live in. While the mainstream of music focuses on creating more disposable, artificial, more slickly produced and unimaginative hits, it's nice to know that Hacker Farm's latest effort, along with perhaps **Prinzhorn Dance School's** *Clay Class*, may be one of the few albums which truly give future generations a look into the despair, uncertainty and turmoil of Britain during



the recession. Hacker Farm seem to take it a step further though, offering a directive to their listeners. Since this is a truly excellent sonic assault

on society's bloated commercialism, using equipment most of the target audience view as rubbish, it's hard to really argue with them.

A Doomy Night With Katatonia and Alcest

Jemma Pilcher

Writer

Following the release of their sumptuous ninth album, *Dead End Kings*, the Swedish doom metal quintet **Katatonia** returned to London, for another evening of great music and melancholia. This time they were accompanied by the French shoe-gazing concept band **Alcest** and an American rock band, called **Junius**. As a fan of both Katatonia and Alcest my expectations for this show were high and, of course, I definitely was not disappointed.

I was rather impressed by Junius; their sound was intellectual, emotional and as described by Rolling Stone as "a perfect hybrid of **Neurosis** and **The Smiths**." What could be a more appropriate choice to set the dispirited tone of the evening? Their music had power and was easy to listen to, but I felt their songs lacked variety; each one remaining too faithful to the same 'slow and bleak' formula. Having said this, I thought that 'Betray The Grave' was a great song (and it has a stunning music video). Unfortunately, Joseph Martinez's vocals lacked clarity as they were being overwhelmed by the guitars and drums (a problem also experienced later by Alcest).

Next up were the dreamy Frenchmen.



Alcest never fail to create an atmosphere of pure calmness and tranquillity, which could be felt as soon as they started playing the enchanting song 'Autre Temps'. I was disappointed at how short their set was, but at least this was made up for by the setlist, which was mainly composed of songs from their most recent album *Les Voyages De L'Âme*. This glorious masterpiece, released in January 2012, is the most concept abiding-offering out of all their albums; portraying the 'fairy land' of the warped childhood memories of vocalist, Neige. I am delighted to discover that not only are Alcest working on their fourth al-

bum, but this will feature the stunning voice of Billie Lindahl, of Swedish band **Promise And The Monster**, who I also highly recommend.

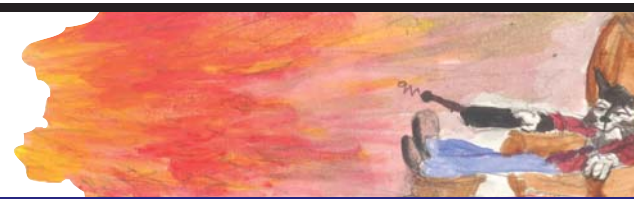
Finally, Katatonia took to the stage, opening with 'The Parting' from *Dead End Kings*. This chilling song was perfectly complemented by the icy-white backdrop, adorned with flocks of black birds taken from the album artwork. I was surprised at how many songs from this new album they played, yet from what I could tell, that was a great decision, as it seemed to be well-received by the crowd. Along with their new work, they performed a varied selection from

their back catalogue. And, of course, no Katatonia set would be complete without those predictable classics 'My Twin' and 'July'. For me, the highlight of the setlist was 'Omerta' from *Viva Emptiness*. This song is made beautiful by its simplicity, but the lyrics are weighted by a sense of foreboding darkness, as the omerta has been broken. The song suddenly ends to depict an untimely death.

Jonas Renkse's voice sounded as strong and clear live as it does on record, which is impressive considering that he has suffered from severe vocal issues in the past. The music was tight and it's always great to see guitarists,

Anders Nyström and Per Eriksson, running around manically. Unfortunately, Jonas was not blessed with charisma. I would love to see him interacting with the audience more, instead of shyly hiding behind his limp, black hair.

It seems like a rare experience to enjoy the entire line-up of a gig; I've become so used to being subjected to terrible support acts. From start to finish, however, this show was incredible. It was such a privilege to witness three great bands, who have the ability to move an audience with their beautiful music. And now I'm very intrigued and excited to see what they do next!



A Damn Fine Cup of Coffee

Edward Bals takes us back to the 90s with *Twin Peaks*

T*win Peaks* manages to do the almost impossible; mixing sex, violence, mystery and even the odd dosage of the supernatural into a heady whirlwind that is sure to draw you in to its strange world. The series itself is from the early '90s and has been recommended to me time and time again by my family and other people of that same, shall we say, 'mature' age.

The show is set in a small town close in North America called Twin Peaks, opening with the discovery of the body of the local homecoming queen, Laura Palmer. The question of 'who killed Laura Palmer?' becomes the driving force behind the story, slowly unravelling the fibre of the seemingly idyllic small town life. The show doesn't play out as a straight up whodunit, but rather as a sort of surreal soap opera, with its fair share of love triangles and intersecting storylines.

The idea for the series came from the minds of David Lynch and Mark Frost. Lynch was the mind behind films like *Blue Velvet* and *Mulholland Drive*, and in *Twin Peaks* his surrealistic touch is apparent, with *Twin Peaks* mixing this surrealism with small town American life. The combination doesn't necessarily sound like it should work but it makes for compelling watching.

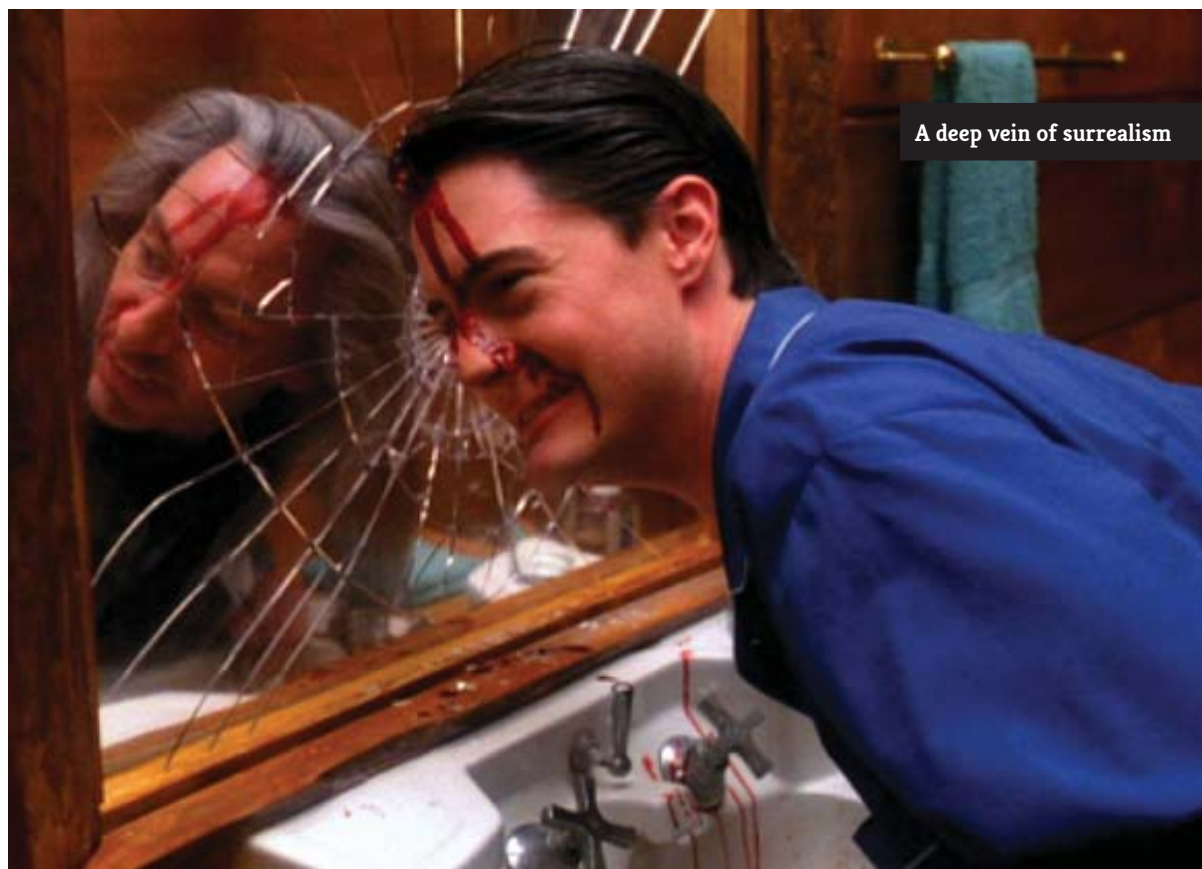
The show also brings us the brilliant Kyle MacLachlan (former star

of Lynch's *Blue Velvet* and *Dune*) as FBI special agent Dale Cooper who is called in to investigate the death of Laura Palmer. MacLachlan manages to walk the knife edge of straight faced acting even whilst exploring some of Cooper's odder character quirks. Cooper's inherent oddness is best displayed by his explanation of coming by a new crime solving technique, which also made him aware of the plight of the Tibetan people. I did say that the show does become a bit surreal at times.

The music is excellent as well, with its haunting themes and cool jazz perfectly complementing the mood of the series. 'Laura's Theme' is suitably haunting and is used, repeatedly, to great effect throughout the series, and the fact that this can be reused to evoke so many different feelings is a testament to the genius of the composer of the music for the series, Angelo Badalamenti. Julee Cruise also deserves a mention for her ethereal vocals, complementing Badalamenti's music.

The show remains engaging throughout the whole first series with the most cliff-hanger filled ending to a series that I have ever seen, and the second season, despite a small dip in quality during the middle, is generally very good, with the last few episodes being especially noteworthy.

The best format in which to get the show is its Gold Box Edition, which contains the two series, both



A deep vein of surrealism

versions of the pilot episode and a bundle of special features for all of you people out there who have too much time on their hands. 'A Slice of Lynch' is one of the better offerings of the special features, bringing David Lynch together with some of the main cast characters to reminisce about the series.

The host of memorable characters, and the town of Twin Peaks itself, will stay with you for a long time even after the final credits roll and this is a testament to the power of the series. *Twin Peaks* has earned its rightful place as one of my favourite TV shows and I hope that soon it becomes one of yours.

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FELIX

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My Top 5 Episodes of the Week

Welcome back to my weekly feature

Lucia Podhorska Television Editor

The end of January is finally approaching, bringing with it two wonderful things: 1. exams are almost over and 2. all of our favourite shows are back with new episodes after the winter break!

Grey's Anatomy continues to be melodramatic and entertaining. I can always rely on the doctors from Seattle Grace Hospital to be annoying and endearing at the same time. Regular viewers of the show know that the episodes are driven by the relationships

between the characters and I'm happy to see Callie and Arizona, as well as Cristina and Owen being happy together again.

How I Met Your Mother has been renewed for one more, final, season – yay! There is a light at the end of the tunnel as we get ever closer to the big reveal. The latest episode sees Barney going through 'one night stand withdrawal' and Lily and Marshall looking for ways to spice up their sex life after the birth of their first child. Overall it was a very enjoyable episode.

Smash is back – kind of. The actual season premiere isn't until the 6th

of February but the first episode was leaked and the second season looks like it's going to be just as good as, if not better, than the first one. The music and singing continue to be amazing.

The Big Bang Theory takes the top spot yet again. I know many people have tired of this show, but I still really enjoy it and the latest episode was one of the best this season. It was wonderful to see Penny, Bernadette and Amy read comic books to understand why their boyfriends love them so much. I can definitely relate to the heated discussion that follows.

1. *The Big Bang Theory*, Season 6 Episode 13, "The Bakersfield Expedition"

2. *How I Met Your Mother*, Season 8 Episode 14, "Ring Up!"

3. *Grey's Anatomy*, Season 9 Episode 11, "The End is the Beginning is the End"

4. *Smash*, Season 2 Episode 1, "On Broadway"

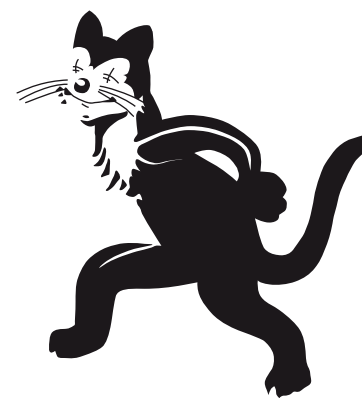
5. *The New Normal*, Season 1 Episode 12, "The Goldie Rush"



HOLY SHIT. THE CAT HAS THE CHEESEBURGER.

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So you might as well write for Felix.**

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The greatest manhunt in history

Bin Laden? Bitch, please...



Zero Dark Thirty

Director: Kathryn Bigelow

Screenwriter: Mark Boal

Starring: Jessica Chastain, Jason Clarke, Jennifer Ehle, Kyle Chandler, Mark Strong, Joel Edgerton



John Park

Film Editor

A lot of nonsense, completely baseless controversy and accusations surround Kathryn Bigelow's outstanding, heart-thumping epic of a procedural, *Zero Dark Thirty*. Bigelow has managed to condense ten years of complex, never-ending information and events regarding the hunt for Osama bin Laden into a mere 150-minute running time, whilst keeping the pace healthy, suspense high, and realism intact. Instead the film has generated, and continues to storm up its ever-growing number of detractors and haters, most of whom haven't even seen the film, criticising Bigelow's portrayal of the use of torture sanctioned by the government to gather intelligence. Anti-Obama politicians who supposedly have nothing better to do than to attack an innocent film, accuses the narrative of showing political bias towards the Obama administration. Further

proof this pathetic ilk never even bothered to watch the film, since Obama is barely mentioned. Oh, and did you know that Bigelow is now a strong advocate for torturing and abusing military captives? That Bigelow had to go so far as to pen an op-ed piece to defend herself and her excellent film is beyond absurd. In fact one of the film's most distressing parts is its opening, in which a completely blank, black screen is shown, with a background audio feed of various victims of the 9/11 attack in 2001. This makes bin Laden the number one target.

Bigelow bravely opens with a series of scenes where a prisoner is beaten, water-boarded, humiliated and quite literally treated like a dog. Does this promote torture? Of course not. If anything, it strongly stands against it. Again, if the politicians and pundits had taken the time out of their precious schedules to actually see the film, they would realise that. Plus the whole point of the sequence is that torture doesn't lead to any substantial, usable information. Worn down and beaten to within an inch of his life, Ammar (Reda Kateb) isn't quite inclined to give up his answers, and his physical and mental deterioration doesn't exactly help with the process.

Uncomfortable in being a witness to such brutal methods but stern in her overall approach to the most important investigation of her life is Maya (Chastain), a CIA officer who becomes the first-hand operative in

hunting down the leader of Al Qaeda starting all the way back in 2003. As an initial freshman still coming to grips with active fieldwork in Pakistan, she isn't the one in charge immediately. But over the years and with thorough observation, she becomes convinced of a single lead that she believes will lead straight back to bin Laden and his whereabouts. Of course, it sounds too good to be true, very few people are talking, and very little support is shown from the higher-ups. But she intelligently and diligently marches on, pulling out all the stops, gathering the appropriate information, interrogating the long list of suspects whilst also running into trouble of her own.

The 2005 7/7 London bombings and footage from the attack have her more frustrated than ever, she survives the 2008 Islamabad Marriott Hotel bombing, she almost gets gunned down by angry terrorists who have made her their target, she loses a close colleague in the 2009 Camp Chapman attack due to bogus intelligence from an unreliable source, but she perseveres. As the film progresses, as it jumps from one year to the next, you see the impact these dead-ends are having on Maya. It is obvious to see that she is very much alone – sure she has co-workers, very talented and reliable ones. Jennifer Ehle excels even in her relatively brief role as the vibrant Jessica genuinely concerned for Maya's welfare, Jason Clarke is the unflinching, rugged Dan

who leads a lot of the enhanced interrogations, whose techniques Maya even learns and employs herself when times get tough. Dan also develops into something more interesting in the second half of the film, suiting up to work in Washington, closer to the politics away from the frontline. But ultimately we see her isolated, with very little connection, if at all, to the outside world, outside her office, as she spends a decade looking for the world's most wanted man.

With someone like Chastain, who has given so many versatile performances over the last couple of years that one can only look forward to what comes next for this amazingly gifted actress (up next is the Guillermo del Toro-produced horror movie *Mama*), the film finds itself a strong and confident leader, one who doesn't let anyone undermine her steely conviction. "I'm the motherfucker that found this place, sir," she says point-blank to the Director of the CIA, a coldly delivered line. A U.S. Navy SEAL Team Leader (Joel Edgerton) points to Maya, and cites "her confidence" as the reason why he believes that bin Laden is hiding out in a suburban compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. And by the time you reach the finale, you will have every bit of faith in Maya, with Chastain well deservedly on her way to Oscar glory. "I'm going to smoke everyone involved in this op and then I'm going to kill Osama bin Laden" is another classic line of dialogue that will have you

cheering her on.

Closing the film is the 30-minute long action footage, seen mostly through the eyes of the Navy SEALs themselves with their hi-tech visual kit, carrying out a relatively stealthy assault on the compound. In an operation like this, there cannot be neat, tidy camera angles or loud, big-scale shootings, which is exactly what is done here, with hardly any use of a music score, purely relying on what is shown on the screen, nothing less, nothing more.

For a film with an ending we all know well, and a lengthy, wordy process that comes before it, Bigelow has managed to create an insanely suspenseful piece of work with heightened realism and her focus in all the right places. Perhaps adding to the fascination and interest is the actual detail of how everything unfolded, and the little strands here and there that made all of this possible. So bin Laden was killed, but what were the actual events that came before that? And that is where Bigelow's keen eye for specific facts becomes handy. *Zero Dark Thirty* is as much about bin Laden as it is about Maya, and the plot revolves around the one woman's quest to bring down the villain. It's about the effect this manhunt has on her, her moral compass, her world, and her relentless passion for doing what she deems right. As for the negative attacks, one can only hope they work as free publicity for the film in general.

Film Editors: Katy Bettany,
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FILM

No vampires or zombies in this one

Lincoln

Director: Steven Spielberg
Screenwriters: Tony Kushner, Doris Kearns Goodwin (book)
Starring: Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field, Tommy Lee Jones, David Strathairn, Hal Holbrook, Lee Pace, Joseph Gordon-Levitt



John Park

Film Editor



It's a story we all think we know so well. Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, abolished slavery. Yay, he's a hero and hurrah for Lincoln who remains an American icon. But Steven Spielberg is here to tell us that it wasn't a simple task by any means. Passing the 13th Amendment in the last few months of his Presidency, Lincoln achieved a milestone in American politics banning slavery outright – that's the end result. But what came beforehand was a whole heap of ups and downs that threatened its smooth course. For international audiences not familiar with the details and intricacies of the event, *Lincoln* can seem a daunting, information-heavy movie experience. But here is a film so well crafted, cleverly written and brilliantly acted that it forms as much as it entertains. Essentially this is a film where we see a lot of talking, between important individuals behind closed doors, but how Spielberg keeps every single minute of it all so fascinating is a real wonder.

One of the best, most deservedly respected and admitted actors of our generation, Daniel Day-Lewis, steps into the role of Lincoln. And it's in his cool, dignified and surprisingly witty interpretation of the character that we are immediately drawn into the drama of his tumultuous months. Delicately finding the balance between the many different aspects of his role, his leadership position as the President of his nation, as well as the more private, family-oriented side as a husband and grieving father, Day-Lewis once again shows there is virtually no limit as to what he can achieve. His performance is a deeply moving and affecting one, in his tight, rigid, tall frame, with his soft-spoken, eloquent voice, drifting from one scene to another, always grounded, concentrating in his many thoughts, and yet remaining entirely accessible to everyone watching him.

Politics has never been this exciting or gripping, and courtroom-style scenes have never been this overwhelmingly fun to watch. Of course, when Lincoln proposes this Amendment, there is as much support as there is harsh criticism. Within his own Republican Party, Lincoln manages to secure enough support, mostly thanks to Francis Preston Blair (Holbrook), a highly influential member who can guarantee support from the conservative Republicans. The catch with Blair is that he's keen to start the peace talks between the Union and the Confederacy, hoping to end the Civil War that is destroying America. Peace is never a bad thing, especially when so many lives have been lost, but complicating matters is that Lincoln will no doubt lose a certain

level of support for the Amendment should the War end before it is actually passed. If there is a real chance the War will end without this new Amendment passing, a lot of people will just not bother. This puts Lincoln in a precarious position of having to hold off on the peace talks as long as possible, whilst getting a move on with gathering enough votes.

Unafraid to voice their opposing views is the Democratic Party, led by Congressman Fernando Wood (Pace) who is vehemently against these changes. End of slavery would inevitably lead to racial equality, and this is something even most members in the United States House of Representatives (all white) aren't willing to accept. So Lincoln must again walk a fine line between pushing his anti-slavery agenda whilst keeping it clearly separate from further racial issues. Another hiccup here – a vocal supporter for the Amendment, Radical Republican Congressional leader Thaddeus Stevens (Jones), again quite the influential man in the government, is a staunch supporter of racial equality. If this Amendment has any chance of passing, Stevens needs to keep a lid on his enthusiastic views, to not lose anyone already on board.

Having to win with a majority, it's not enough just to have the backing of his own party. He needs to convince the Democrats, and in order to do so he needs to step into the rather dirty pool of politics – quietly promising federal jobs to persuadable Democrats for their votes. And so begins some intense lobbying, headed by William N. Bilbo (James Spader) and his fellow lobbyists Richard Schell (Tim Blake Nelson) and Robert Latham (John Hawkes). A lot of comedy ensues here, as not all of their attempts are entirely successful. Who says a two-and-a-half-hour-long political drama can't be funny?

And it's not just the politics keeping Lincoln busy: his family life is also given its share of meaty running time. His wife, Mary Todd (Sally Field), often suffering from terrible migraines and still reeling from the loss of their son, provides support although she herself sometimes requires some hand-holding of her own. More so when their eldest son, Robert Todd (Gordon-Levitt), upon returning home from his studies at Harvard Law School, announces that he wants to join the fight in the Civil War. Abraham respects his grown son's wishes, almost appearing uninterested, whereas Mary Todd, at the thought of losing another one of her children, cannot believe her husband's shockingly relaxed response. Already emotionally unstable, this pushes Mary over the edge, leading to a heated argument between the cou-

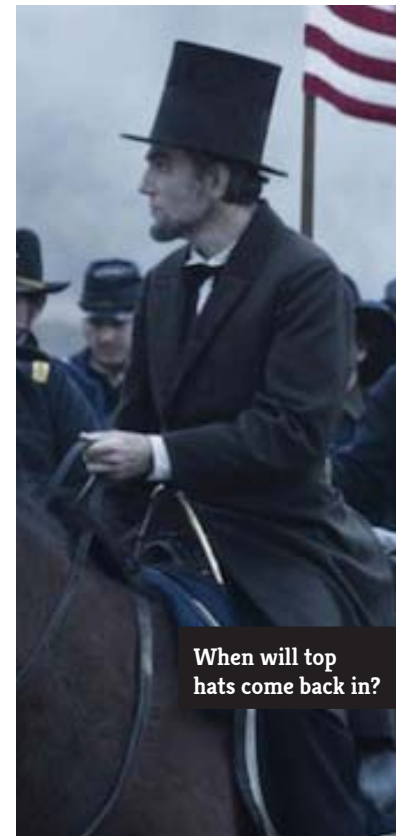
ple, which provides one of the film's finest scenes in which these two outstanding actors have at it with their built-up fiery emotions.

Spielberg reportedly spent almost twelve years in preparation for this movie, and it shows in his meticulous structure and authentic-looking sets, as well as the general atmosphere he places his actors into. Everywhere is appropriately dampened down with wooden furniture, smoke-filled and, when required, in complete and utter chaos, most notably in the House of Representatives, where hot-headed individuals mouth off and start attacking one another. There are plenty of elaborate set decorations and designs to marvel at, and the technical achievements are extremely vast.

There are lots of facts to be relayed to the audience – everything needs to ultimately make sense, and we must understand why various characters are doing what, with what intentions. And nothing could be made clearer in Tony Kushner's script. It is immediately clear that Lincoln had to go to great lengths to gain enough support, perhaps venturing into places he may not have been most comfortable with. Heatedly arguing, smartly bribing, calmly persuading, raising his voice (although very rarely), he's had to do it all, and the many fragile complexities that could either make or break the ambitious plan are told to us in a very logical step-by-step manner that all the dense material is told competently, whilst not confusing the hell out of anyone.

Then there is the cast – the phenomenal cast in roles both big and small who shine in every supporting part there is. Sally Field is typically strong, sturdy and feisty, Tommy Lee Jones has a lot of fun arguing his way against his opposing party (both actors thoroughly deserving their Best Supporting Oscar nominations) and Lee Pace provides the healthy opponent. Another stand-out is David Strathairn, as Secretary of State William H. Seward, a loyal friend and trusted advisor to the President, who stands by him as Lincoln faces one of the toughest, most unpredictable times of his Presidency.

What an incredible feat Spielberg has accomplished here – it's a film that is both intelligent and wholly comprehensible, an utterly enjoyable experience from start to finish, based on the unlikeliest subject matter.



When will top hats come back in?



What do you mean the Library is closed on Friday nights?

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FILM

Film Editors: Katy Bettany,
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Felix Film favourite



Amy Adams
The Master

Previous winner? No

Previous nominee? Yes
Junebug (2005)
Doubt (2008)
The Fighter (2010)

Why she will win:

Ever since she became a critics' favourite with *Junebug*, the actress who seemed only to be suited for the sweet and adorable type has been forever expanding her range and with *The Master* comes the most radical change away from her usual comfort zone, and it's a convincing one, as she plays the steely-eyed, quietly determined and ambitious wife of a cult/religious leader

Why she won't win:

Anne Hathaway. Plus Adam's role here isn't significant enough to warrant significant wins.



Sally Field
Lincoln

Previous winner? Yes
Norma Rae (1979)
Places in the Heart (1984)

Previous nominee? No

Why she will win:

It's one heck of a performance from one of the most accomplished, long-standing actresses working today. Known for her undying energy and knack for heavy, dense drama, it's surprising to think that Field wasn't in fact the first choice when it came to casting the role. But after excessive begging and numerous successful auditions, she finally got the role, and is quite simply unforgettable in it.

Why she won't win:

Anne Hathaway. Even a two-time Oscar winning veteran actress won't be able to beat the dream Hathaway dreamed.



Anne Hathaway
Les Misérables

Previous winner? No

Previous nominee? Yes
Rachel Getting Married (2008)

Why she will win:

During the 2009 Academy Award ceremony, Shirley MacLaine remarked that Hathaway will be in store for more nominations in the future, and that she had a wonderful singing voice. Four years later, Hathaway finds herself once again up for an Oscar, in a singing role. Her heart-wrenching performance as Fantine singing 'I Dreamed a Dream' blew everyone away and has been winning various other awards left and right.

Why she won't win:

Very little chance of an upset here – she better get her acceptance speech ready and polished.



Helen Hunt
The Sessions

Previous winner? Yes
As Good As It Gets (1997)

Previous nominee? No

Why she will win:

She bared all, which is not a bad start when you're trying to get recognised during the awards season, but her performance is a sensitive, compassionate and brave one, as a sex surrogate gently probing her way around a man confined to an iron lung as he works to lose his virginity. Balancing both the funny and serious natures of her character, Hunt, who has been away from the screen for a while, gives a surprisingly restrained, humble performance.

Why she won't win:

Anne Hathaway. And unluckily for Hunt, the film itself has very little support.



Jacki Weaver
Silver Linings Playbook

Previous winner? No

Previous nominee? Yes
Animal Kingdom (2010)

Why she will win:

This Australian talent came to everyone's attention portraying the terrifying matriarch of a Melbourne-based crime family. Here she has a complete reversal: she's now a nervously-spoken, kind-hearted, and concerned mother and wife, having to deal with mental health conditions and the difficult males in her family.

Why she won't win:

Anne Hathaway. Also, the 5th Best Supporting Actress category was a toss-up between Weaver and many other actresses, and her slot here is considered the last, weakest addition to the list.



Film Editors: Katy Bettany,
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FILM

ates for the Oscars



Alan Arkin
Argo

Previous winner? Yes
Little Miss Sunshine (2006)

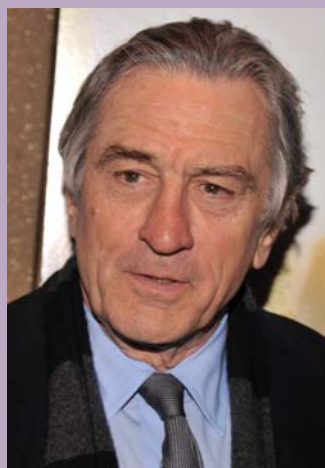
Previous nominee? Yes
The Russians Are Coming! The Russians Are Coming (1966)
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter (1968)

Why he will win:

He is almost single-handedly responsible for the comedy aspect in Ben Affleck's thrilling new critically acclaimed film. As a snarky Hollywood producer who declares that if he's making a fake movie, it will be a fake hit, he is an absolute pro in delivering his dry, sarcastic one-liners, giving the film a lot of breathing room.

Why he won't win:

He has not been winning any major awards for this role, just a list of respectable noms.



Robert De Niro
Silver Linings Playbook

Previous winner? Yes
The Godfather: Part II (1974)
Raging Bull (1980)

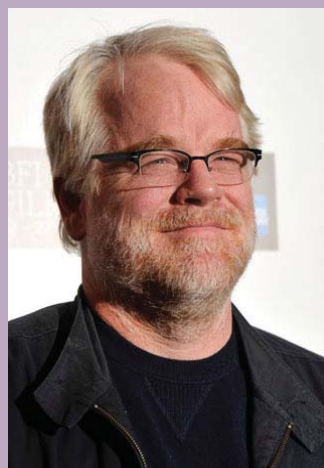
Previous nominee? Yes
Taxi Driver (1976)
The Deer Hunter (1978)
Awakenings (1990)
Cape Fear (1991)

Why he will win:

De Niro has been starring in some terrible films of late, but here is a role that is finally worthy of his name and talent.

Why he won't win:

Again, he hasn't been winning many awards for this, and this Oscar nomination was a nice surprise, but a surprise nonetheless. And he's a two-time winner already. Remember how long it took Meryl Streep to score her third Oscar? De Niro might have to wait a few more years.



Philip Seymour Hoffman
The Master

Previous winner? Yes
Capote (2005)

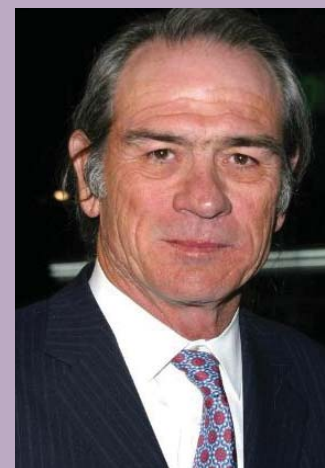
Previous nominee? Yes
Charlie Wilson's War (2007)
Doubt (2008)

Why he will win:

The Master was a big hit at the 2011 Venice Film Festival, with both Hoffman and Joaquin Phoenix jointly winning the Best Actor Award – both deservedly so. In contrast to Phoenix's more intense, showy role, Hoffman here puts on a very much humble, intelligent performance, with plenty of charisma, too, perfectly plausible as a man leading a dodgy cult with complex philosophical ideas.

Why he won't win:

The Master had fantastic buzz – back in September. But now, not so much, next to nothing.



Tommy Lee Jones
Lincoln

Previous winner? Yes
The Fugitive (1993)

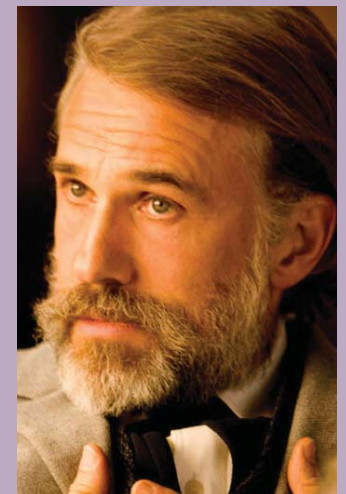
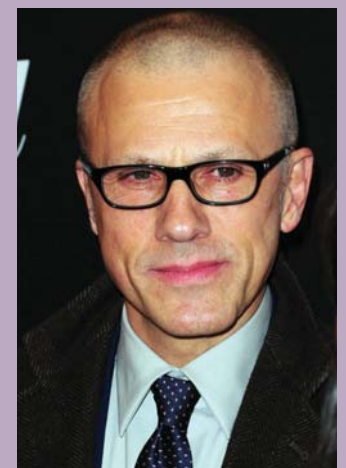
Previous nominee? Yes
JFK (1991)
In the Valley of Elah (2007)

Why he will win:

With an immensely fun role in which he screams and shouts racial equality and stands out amongst a crowd of conservatives, Jones is a key supporting player that makes *Lincoln* work to its fullest potential. He has a number of rousing speeches to make, and is effective in delivering them.

Why he won't win:

Snubbed by the Critics' Choice, he didn't pick up the gong at the Globes either. This is one heck of a competitive field this year, and a general lack of support so far is not looking good for the actor.



Christoph Waltz
Django Unchained

Previous winner? Yes
Inglourious Basterds (2009)

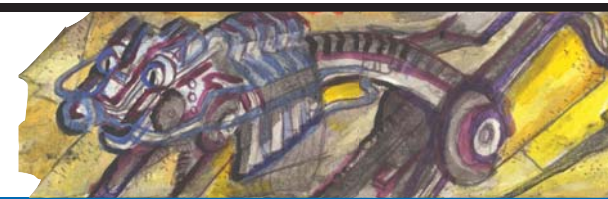
Previous nominee? No

Why he will win:

He has a knack for playing hysterical anti-heroes and snarky villains. He also seems to have been designed to star in many, many Quentin Tarantino productions, as he competently rolls off the lengthy lines of dialogue the eccentric director gives him. He has a meaty role here, and has won a Golden Globe so far.

Why he won't win:

Is he a bit of a one-trick pony? Perhaps. He plays very similar types (although incredibly well) in a lot of his films (which could also explain why he makes such a good match with Tarantino) – and maybe the voters will pick up on that.



iPhone 5, review is finally here

Max Eggli tries his best to give you the low down on the newest Apple phone

In terms of iOS, 2012 was the year of the iPhone 5. After a rather disappointing iPhone 4S, the anticipation had been growing under the surface for a long time. When the iPhone 5 was revealed on the 12th of September of last year, it sported a radical new design, a better graphics processor, new A6 chip as well as LTE technology and finally Felix Tech has one to review.

Before diving into the heart of the article, I would like to first give a negative point, not to the iPhone 5 but actually iOS 5 instead. Yes, I know that was almost 2 years ago, but I feel I have to get this off my chest. A feature which was not widely announced when it was revealed, was the fact that you need a sim card to activate your phone. While not actually detrimental, it was annoying to say the least. Perhaps it is understandable, because in effect a phone cannot be used without a SIM card, however I thought the iPhone was supposed to be so much more than a phone. Nevertheless, after a trip to the Apple store to get myself a nano sim (which was less stressful than I thought), I had a perfect working model of the latest version of the iPhone.

The actual design of the new phone is quite, for lack of a better word, beautiful. Thinner than the iPhone 4S, it looks like the luxury item it is supposed to be. The black version has a grey bezel on the back which makes it elegant, and I personally feel that the move from steel, that was used in the previous two iPhone models, to an aluminium composite makes this phone feel more like a piece of art than a utility tool. This change is exemplified by the sides of the phone, which are composed of a grey matte area as well as two bands of highly buffed material, which could almost act like mirrors. Apple has also managed to make the iPhone significantly thinner as well as lighter than its predecessors, which comes with a bit of surprise, as not only is the iPhone 5 larger it also includes the LTE tech.

The screen of the iPhone 5 is, to say the least, amazing. Even better than the 4S, which was purported to be the best screen on the market, it is razor sharp and the colours are vibrant. Also in line with the general smartphone competition, the iPhone 5 has a larger screen now. Even though this is the first iPhone with a 4" screen, it just felt right. In comparison previous iPhones seem short and ill-fitting. Apps which are optimised to utilise the whole area of the screen, are beautiful to behold and really do use all those extra pixels. Even apps that



Thin, light and powerful, just like what the Apple iPhone 5 should be

are built for the smaller screen size do not suffer any disadvantage, as black bars are added to the top and bottom of the iPhone 5 screen. In fact, due to this phone being black I did not even notice unless I really concentrated on it (although probably on the white one it would be more noticeable).

In terms of processing power and actual speed the iPhone 5 kicks ass. Faster than any previous iteration of iPhone, I also pitted it against a Nokia Lumia 920. Although the Lumia was slightly more reactive with certain actions, in most of tests I did, the iPhone held its own. The new A6 chip really does feel miles better than the A5, and A5X and in the future I will be attempting to max it out as much as possible. The graphics processor is also amazing, and when playing *FIFA 13*, not only did it play and flow extremely nicely, the graphics performed admirably.

Cameras and photos are a big part of what makes a smart phone, as the digital camera slowly fades into obscurity. The iPhone 5 has the same 8MP camera as the 4S in the back, and now has a upgraded 1.2 MP front camera. The back camera was quite good in all lights, being sharp and focused. Also the rather rapid capture

design of the new phone is quite, for lack of a better word, beautiful

rate impressed me, as the picture was taken almost instantaneously. In addition to that, the new panorama feature is quite impressive, it's easy to use with great panorama pictures coming out as a result. The only thing that annoys me is the digital zoom. Apple declared this was such a good camera, and yet when you want to zoom onto something everything turns blurry. Something that could maybe be improved on with iPhone 5S/6.

The operating system of the iPhone 5 (iOS 6) is Apple's latest software. Whilst not without some "scandal", it is a good OS nonetheless. You have probably heard all about the horrible mapping app, so I won't bore you with it. However keep in mind not only have Nokia released Here Maps, but there is now a Google Maps app in the app store which works really well. Pros of iOS include iMessage, the great app store and iCloud services. However the most beneficial part apart about the software is that Apple makes both it and its corresponding hardware. This means that the full capabilities of the phone can be utilised. Thus the OS is fast, responsive and a pleasure to use.

Other significant features on the iPhone 5 are the new Lightning connector and usage of the nano sim card. Firstly the Lightning connector. Released to mixed reviews, it has been one of the big talking points of iPhone 5. It is much smaller than the previous connector, which allowed Apple to fit more into the new iPhone and still keep it thin and light. Yet it also renders any previous accessory useless. Admittedly for me it was not much of a deterrent as I do not have that many accessories, however I can imagine for someone who did splash out on the stereo system, car plugs etc. that this would be quite annoying.

The lightning connector, one of the big talking points of the iPhone

Apple's handling of this new technology was unwise to say the least, as many people who would have bought the iPhone 5, hesitated. Perhaps they should have included converters for iPhone buyers. However they wouldn't make that much money that way. The nano sim, just like the micro sim was used to make more space for tech. Apparently you can cut your micro sim to nano sim proportions, however for those of us who do not have such steady fingers, a rather annoying wait to use the phone starts.

The battery of the iPhone 5, like most other smartphones, is not the greatest. Often not making it past a day and a half. However I had not expected much more, so I wasn't really disappointed. Sadly I cannot comment on the LTE capabilities of the phone, as at the time of writing of this article a contract had not yet been obtained.

All in all this phone is a wonder to behold. Apple have really released a great phone, combining a beautiful design, powerful chip, cutting-edge screen and a great OS to create one of the best user experiences of the market. The price may be a bit eye-watering but you will get everything that you paid for.



New Apple Earbuds - Better than expected

Technology Editors: Jason Parmar
 Maximilian Eggl
 technology.felix@imperial.ac.uk

TECHNOLOGY

Google Nexus 4, worth it?

Can Google's "cheap" phone stand up to the high-end without killing your budget?

Yong Wen Chua Writer

The best effort at a Nexus phone so far, albeit with some teething issues.

When Google announced the Nexus One phone in 2010, it was not too much of a success. There was a lack of consumer interest, save the enthusiasts. The phone had great hardware, at that time, but it failed to capture the attention of consumers. On the software front, stock or vanilla Android was an ugly mess – other manufacturers had to slap on their own “skins” to bring some kind of aesthetics to the user interface (UI). The next two iterations were not that great either. The Nexus S and the Galaxy Nexus had pretty standard hardware at their release, and weren't that exciting. Nexus 4 is their latest attempt and it has achieved considerable success on many fronts, while failing on several others.

The Nexus 4 was designed in collaboration with LG, a manufacturer who is not that well known in the Android ecosystem, leading at least initially to some scepticism with the device. It featured the top of the line hardware at the time of release, and even now at the time of writing. Phones of early 2013, at least, will be matching the specifications of the Nexus 4. It features a Quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon System-on-Chip along with a generous 2 GB of RAM. The phone looks stunning. At just £279 for an unlocked phone bought directly from Google, the phone is very competitively priced. But the hardware is also where the phone fails, in some ways.

There are three ways in which the phone's hardware falls short. Firstly, the phone has a noticeable lack of support for Long-term Evolution (LTE), the 4G technology that is widespread in the US and is becoming more available in the UK, and elsewhere. Google has (in)famously decided to exclude LTE support to prevent issues with carrier lock-ins and other licensing shenanigans. Secondly, the phone has limited flash memory support, coming in at only 8 GB and 16 GB. Finally, Google has opted to cover the back of the phone with glass.

The Nexus 4 is simply a joy to use



Nexus 4, a real beaut! The Glitter does put me off a bit though

Jelly Bean (Android 4.2) is the best version of Android so far

Whilst this makes the phone look sleek, having a glass back can lead to cracked phones. While these hardware issues might be mere minor annoyances to some people (and the author, admittedly), there exists a larger issue: availability.

Google has had severe issues with future. This will be nothing, but helpful to grow the number of Android users, and make more money for Google. The phone availability



since launch day has been low. This is apparently due to the demand for the phone being ten times than that which Google expected. It is virtually impossible to buy the phone directly from Google at the time of writing, and thus enjoy the highly competitive price. Sure, you could go to Carphone Warehouse or opt to purchase the phone on contract, but you would be paying more than necessary. The software front of the phone, however, is admittedly pretty perfect, in my opinion.

Jelly Bean (Android 4.2), is the best version of Android so far. The UI has been polished and looks aesthetically pleasing and modern. This puts the rather dated UI of iOS on iPhones and iPads to shame. I would argue that the stock version of Android is now the best version of Android to use. Skins that manufacturers like HTC and Samsung slap onto the UI now feel extraneous and seem to bog down the performance of the UI. The software is lag free, or buttery-smooth as Google would like to say. The new features of this latest iteration of Jelly Bean has been highlighted in my previous article “More Jelly Bean and a new family of Nexus” published on 18/11/2012. The Nexus 4 is simply a joy to use.

The News Bubble

A phone, a phone, my degree for a phone. Of course if you are still reading this box, your phone is very important to you! Well, as you noticed, we have done a pure smartphone-based issue. So the news bubble will also be all about one of the fastest tech sectors around!

Sony Xperia Z

At CES, Sony showed off the Z. This quite well designed phone also happens to be waterproof. Admittedly this includes plastic coverings for all openings, like charger and earphone plug. However it was still very impressive when the phone was dunked in a fish bowl. However diving with your Z is still not on. Shame!

Bendy Phones

Also at CES, Samsung showed off its first prototypes of their bendy phones. While Nokia was the first to be linked with this technology, Samsung has actually done something. The screens, based on flexible OLED tech, are quite impressive. The implications of this are quite profound - I mean, a wearable phone!?!

Cheaper 4G?

For all you who read this title, expecting a good deal, I am sorry to disappoint you. EE did announce cheaper contracts for their 4G data deals, but for most of us (i.e. Cash-strapped students) £21 a months, sim only for 500mb (which you will blow through before you can say EE) seems a bit much. However this move by EEs is apparently a preemptive strike against release of the 4G networks of the other providers. Hopefully the added competition in this new area, will lead to cheaper prices, and a possibility for even the poorest of us to blaze through the internet on our phones.

Max Eggl Tech Editor





Take us to your editor

Ross Webster is ready for the probing

Assuming that it's not just your mothers that read Felix, you'll probably be aware of the simulator surplus that has hit the Felix office. Well, Excalibur Publishing (those lovely folk who send us these games) also publish real games. Sorry if I sound condescending to you hardcore sim-junkies (you know who you are, and I'm putting a padlock on the games chest), but these are actual games. (Let's ignore the fact that *Farming Simulator 2013* was the best selling game on Steam last week.)

The Unstoppable Gorg

With a title like *The Unstoppable Gorg*, this game was either going to be one of two things – terrible or awesome (or I guess the third option is that no-one in the office knows how to spell George). Thankfully, it's the latter of the two real options. Much like *Dredd 3D*, *The Unstoppable Gorg* ended up with good reviews but few people went to see or play it when it was new. A segue, I know, but I need to spread the good

word, as a sworn-in member of the Disciples of Dredd.

TUG (as it forever shall be known) is a tower defence game with a nice change – you can move your towers. You're in charge of defending a variety of planets from B-movie-style aliens (you know, the ones wrapped in tin foil, flying in ships made of cardboard boxes and held aloft by string), and you can place a variety of satellites (read: towers) to stop the invaders.

So, being in orbit, you can move your satellites around to cover the new route of attack. It's balanced out by the fact that the aliens can attack from any angle, so it's a little harder than it first seems. The earlier missions feel like your run-of-the-mill tower defence, but quite soon you're having to alternate between dragging your satellites into range of the UFOs, and away from enemy fire.

Some tower defence games, such as *Revenge of the Titans*, keep your research/upgrade choices throughout



the campaign, which can be a bit of a pain, when you realise you've been barking up the wrong (research) tree, for the last five missions, because the whole thing is confusing. TUG makes you work for your rather simple upgrade points – they aren't handed out like some sort of intergalactic candy – instead you'll need to place research stations around your planet to fill up your research bar. If the mission finishes and the bar is full, you get the medal and the point, to use as you wish. Finish all of the missions objectives (i.e. none of your satellites are destroyed) and you'll unlock the mission for the challenge mode.

The well-balanced difficulty modes

will keep you playing for a long time, and it's not too gimmicky to bore you before you finish.

Unusually for a tower defence game, the cut-scenes are really fun to watch and actually bring something to the game. It adds a sense of 50's immersion, akin to *Fallout 3* & *New Vegas*. I'd heartily recommend this game to anyone who's interested in tower defence games.

Well, now that's over. Let the probing begin.



Imagine a mixture of *Sins of a Solar Empire*, and this...

A bit that will really drive you a long way

Ross Webster Oh God, it's Candlej-

Hah – you thought that you would escape my zombie fanaticism this week, but you haven't! This week's selection is *Zombie Driver*, the spiritual sequel to *Zombie Chauffeur*, the game adaptation of the BAFTA winning *Driving Miss Zombie*.

Disappointingly, your exploits are not narrated by Morgan Freeman as you crush zombies under your wheels, but hey, I expect he was too busy recording the voice of Gordon Freeman for *Half Life 3*. Oh wait, there was an NDA about that. Oh well.

Sooo... *Zombie Driver*? Another

game from Excalibur Publishing, but unlike *Zombie Chauffeur*, you're not a saucy, rotten corpse, taking customers to their BDSM parties, but instead your job is to drive around a zombie-infested city.

Your goal? To rescue school kids, drunken sailors, paramedics, engineers, etc from the zombies in the street. The city is completely open plan, so you can drive anywhere you want at any time you want, spending your time shooting zombies with machine guns strapped to your cars, immolating them with flamethrowers, and adding their flesh to your radiator with the nitro boost. As a slight note, the survivors can get eaten by the awaiting horde if you take too long, so

don't enjoy the scenery too much.

As you progress through the 'story' you earn more and more money, through cash bundles throughout the city, kill streaks, destruction of property and completing objectives. Each mission has a primary and secondary objective, for example a primary mission would be "Rescue 4 paramedics", and the secondary would be "Rescue all 6 paramedics".

Well, this can be a bit of a dilemma, as your original car was not once owned by a clown, and has a limited capacity for bodies. As you complete more missions and more extra objectives, you unlock new weapons, upgrades and vehicles. The taxi, in which you start, has a moderate capacity for 4 passengers, and has okay stats (speed, damage resistance and ability to keep your inertia as you plough through the zombies). Soon after, you can unlock the white limo – slower and tougher than the taxi, but with a capacity of 6, so for a bunch of missions, you might not have to return to base in the middle, to drop off the first survivors.

Money might seem to be a problem, but once you've picked up your survivors, you can drive around the city, without a timer. As such, you could



possibly gather a horrendously large pile of money that would put a dent in US debt. See, I managed to throw politics into this week's games.

The graphics for the game are actually quite good, but we've found a few people who get motion sickness from the game. I'm assuming that this is a VSync (or rather a lack of VSync) issue, as the game can move quite fast at times. I'd recommend a decent computer if you want nice visuals, without the barf bag. For those of you who don't know what VSync is, it's nothing to do with 'N

Sync. That would be horrible.

In-game sounds are fine (it's hard to go wrong with groaning, and screeching tires) but the voice acting leaves quite a bit to be desired, but hey, that's probably not why you bought the game.

So, if you can find this game anywhere, I'd pick it up, as it's a feel-good, endorphin pumping game, that requires little thought, but is still kinda tricky to pull off perfectly.


Until next week, it's bye bye from the Games team! (FYI, I made up the *Zombie Chauffeur* thing. And I'm a spy.)






Coffee Break Boss: Matt Colvin
felix@imperial.ac.uk

COFFEE BREAK



Back to work

Coffee Break Boss 

So exams are out of the way for most people, the snow's melting (unless it's snowing on Friday, which would be hugely embarrassing) and there's a whole term of work ahead. Great stuff. It can only be time to take a brief respite from all of the action and chill with a beverage of your choice.

Or, if you're feeling particularly extreme, enjoy this with a meal of your choice. A baked potato perhaps - a perennial favourite.

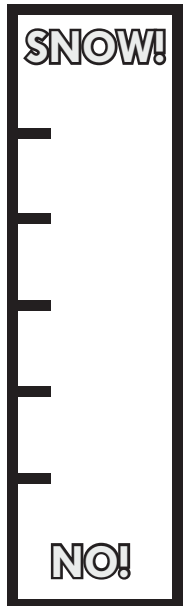
Anyway, what's in store this

week? We undertook a severe investigation recently into other things that share Imperial's name. Our results were particularly intriguing.

And then there's some other news or something.

Don't forget that if, for some reason, you'd rather hone your writing skills with a review of your favourite pastime rather than your latest essay, Felix always needs content. Feel free to email felix@imperial.ac.uk with whatever you want.

SNOW-O-METER



TRASH TALK



Cutting to the heart of the week's **big** topics

MEASUREMENT CRISIS



Fans of imperial measurements were struck to the core this week when it emerged that the name of Imperial College Union's '568' was based on an approximation.

As nobody knows, the exact measurement of a pint is 568.26125 ml. Undoubtedly, '568' and its connotations with the sale of pints of alcohol have been the source of unbridled mirth and joy over the past couple of years, but will that be the case now the truth has been unveiled?

One particularly pedantic patron

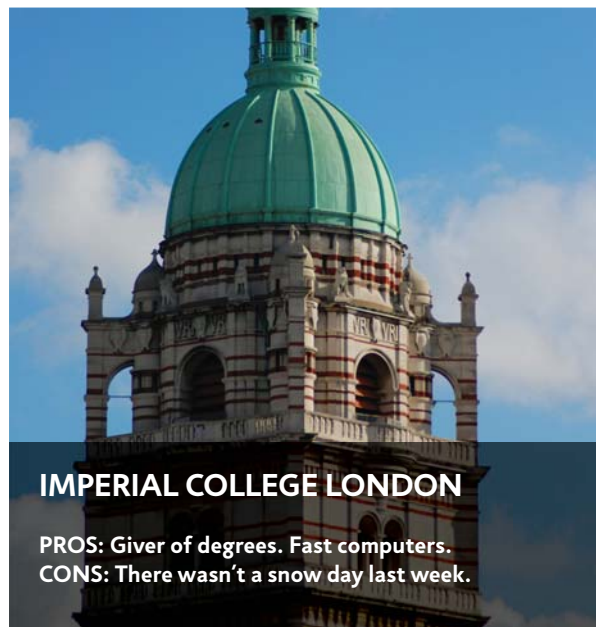
sent an anonymous and heartfelt message to Felix this week: "This is the ultimate betrayal," the note began.

"If I'm being honest, the only way I'll be tempted back into the establishment is if they literally rename it '568.26125', but then again it depends how desperate I am for a pint of Strongbow."

"To be honest, we should've just called it 'The Library' like all my mates wanted, at least there was no room for confusion there."

Imperial vs. Imperial

What is the best kind of Imperial? Our vastly comprehensive feature will solve this age old question!



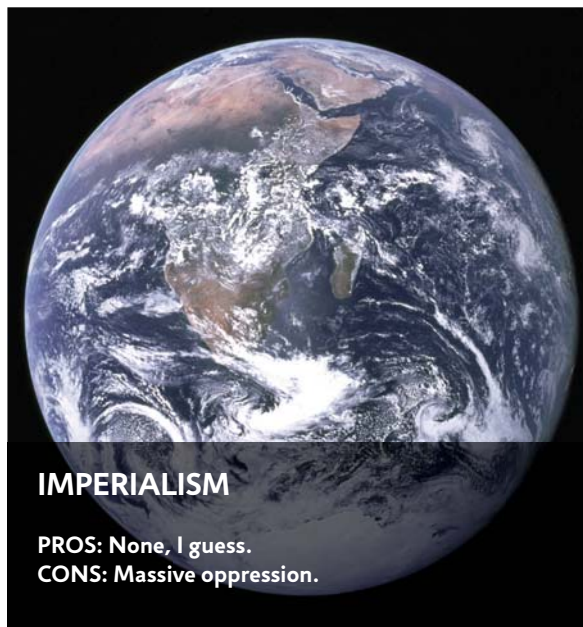
IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON
PROS: Giver of degrees. Fast computers.
CONS: There wasn't a snow day last week.



MINT IMPERIALS
PROS: Give super fresh breath. Convenient snack.
CONS: Incapable of intelligent thought.



IMPERIAL UNITS
PROS: Warm sense of nostalgia when using them.
CONS: Outdated compared to other countries.



IMPERIALISM
PROS: None, I guess.
CONS: Massive oppression.

HOPES FOR LIBRARY SNOW-IN DASHED



Diligent students seeking a new reason not to leave Central Library were left crestfallen last week when blizzard-like conditions failed to block access to the infamous two-door entrance system.

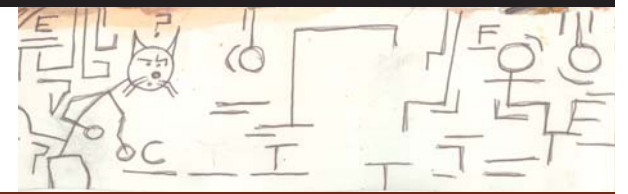
Chemist-in-training David Craig spoke on the issue to Trash Talk: "I was really excited when it started pummeling it down. It was like Frank Bruno going at a giant sugar cube in the sky or something."

"When it turned out it wasn't heavy enough to block the way out,

I was really disappointed. I couldn't wait to spend the night in the library doing work, and on a Friday too - it would've been unheard of!"

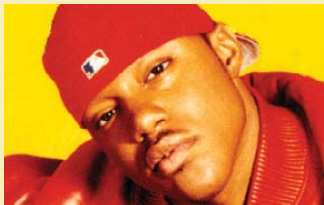
Craig, alongside countless other keen beans, had to spend a significant amount of potential working time travelling to their homes, resulting in mass frustration.

Craig concluded: "we would've been fine for food. If anyone was hungry they could've grabbed some baked beans from the library café. Great food."



Rap lyrics of the week

Mase: "Can't Nobody Hold Me Down"



"Young, black and famous,
With money hanging out the anus"

Right off the bat, the title of the song is stupid. The double negative means that you are actually implying that everyone can hold you down, which isn't what you are trying to say.

Now let's move on to the part where you shove money up your arse. I get you mean that you are so rich that money is just hanging out of your arse. That's just an impossibility though. So, to achieve this, you have to walk around with "dollar bills" shoved up your backside. That's got to be uncomfortable when walking around. Plus, when you bring a girl back to your house she'll probably be a bit freaked out and disgusted when you take off your pants and say "oh, hang on baby, I just need to get this money out of my bum. You know me and my anus money hanging policy." Also, is that still legal tender anywhere? Why does this note smell, yeah, erm, I sort of just shoved it up my arse for a bit.

Flo Rida: "Whistle"



"Can you blow my whistle
baby, whistle baby. Let me know,
Girl I'm gonna show you how to do
it, and we start real slow
You just put your lips together
And you come real close"

So, let's establish this: blow my whistle = suck my dick. You're going to show her how to do that? I don't think anyone wants to be just about to get with you and then be forced to watch a demonstration of you giving head to, presumably, a banana or something.

Suggestions for some new Facebook groups to make

In the wake of Spotted: Imperial Central Library (now also Ethos) and Imperial Compliments, here are suggestions for new groups someone can make...

Imperial semi warm statements

People give terms of weak praise acknowledging that they don't dislike the person but also don't know them that well and would describe them as "someone on my course" not "my friend/mate".

Example: "Darren is okay. He's not that funny, clever, or interesting in any way, but I can't imagine him trying to fuck your girlfriend, so I guess he's worth nodding at when you pass him on the way home."

Spotted: Imperial Exams

You send in a description of the person that was making you fail your exams by being sexy and wearing a revealing outfit. Probably followed by a shit joke about tangents and curves.
Example: "To that fit guy making my legs diffuse open and causing active transport of gushing liquid unto a rap-

idly rising puddle on the floor: call me please. Turn around and say hi. I can see you have no clue how to answer the first half of the paper. I'll help, in exchange for a little something."

Imperial Masturbation Reports

You send in a report to log every time you knock one out. If possible, this is specific to people you are thinking of at the time of ejaculation. Please note that Facebook have already requested this not be set up as it would be inundated by men sending in reports and crash their server.

Example: "Just had a bit of a sesh in my room. Hoping nobody heard. Made no noise except for some mild groaning while I was getting into it. Watched some "Red-head" stuff on RedTube. Hope halls don't find out. Right, I'm about to climaskjocxzvkxcoz;nvxczadafd"

YAY I was on Spotted. It means I'm fit right? People aren't taking the piss are they?



Imperial Lame Philosophical Quotes

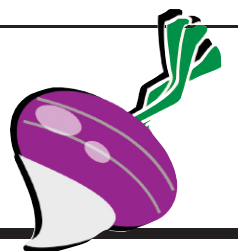
This is the slightly different one as it wouldn't be anonymous. The main point of this is to publicly shame those who post shit 'deep' thoughts as their status and think people give a fuck. Would be a great way for people

to know who to unsubscribe to. More of a public service really.

Example: "People and work are all one in the same. They are all just energy floating on the sea that we call consciousness. We are merely perceptions of a greater thought. - such inspiring words I once heard on a TED talk or something." James Anderson, 3rd Year Physics Student

the turnip

Hangman's Finest College News Source



Roundup of the news this week

by Hugh Moor

Obama: "I just don't give a fuck anymore"



President Barack Obama realised halfway through his inauguration this week that he can now pretty much say what he wants. The President went on to state in his speech that he could "really use a hot dog right now" and

that Americans can "go fuck themselves" now that the President had begun his second term.

France joins the fray



In international news, France finally enters the War on Terrorism 5000 miles to the west of and 12 years after the other major Western powers by invading Mali. French President

François Holland stated that sending 2000 troops to settle in a relatively unknown country that many people are unfamiliar with was "basically the same" as invading Afghanistan and Iraq with almost ten times that number. "We're as cool and edgy as the other western powers now," added the President.

Nadal: "I was deffo injured"



Finally, in sporting news, world number 5, David Ferrer, bids to become the first Spanish male to win a Grand Slam in over 9 months when he takes on #1 ranked Djokovic in the Australian Open semis. The lengthy absence of Spanish players from major honours is mainly due to Rafael Nadal's nine-month, face saving break whereby the former world number 1 and 11 time Grand Slam champion pretended to be injured in order to cover up for his highly embarrassing loss to Lukas Rosol at Wimbledon.

Bradford City win?

In lighter developments, Bradford City gave hope Tuesday to all perennial losers and no-hopers by making the League Cup final.

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HANGMAN



TWAT OF THE WEEK

Worst thing about this photo is that he's wearing one of those shit "varsity American jock" jackets. Unfortunately it's not 2010 in Topman, so they're not "in". Twat.

Got a photo of someone being a waste of a student loan? Get permission, then just send it to us at: felix@imperial.ac.uk

THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS



LANCE ARMSTRONG ADMITS HE "MAY HAVE" USED BANNED SUBSTANCES IN COMPETITION AS BABY

OLD SKOOL RAVER HOZZ – THE HOROSCOPES



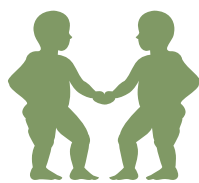
ARIES

This week, you're a snowflake. You fall on queen's lawn, making it all scenic, and people even build a snowman using you and your mates. Then boom, some twat rocks up and sticks a hoodie on you and gives you an umbrella and all of a sudden you're part of some evil corporation's grad scheme marketing ploy.



TAURUS

This week you are bored of sticking different vegetables in your orifices and decide to be a bit more ambitious. You challenge your friend to a competition to see who can stick the most 50p pieces up their bum; everyone knows the anal tract doubles as a useful coin purse. First one to £100 wins!



GEMINI

This week you have a dream about the guy you've been seeing, in which he's as fat as Henry VIII. Now every time you see him all you can imagine is being squashed during sex, desperately clawing at his love handles to escape before being suffocated. It's going to be awkward explaining why you can't see him any more.



CANCER

This week you lose your cloak-room ticket and they won't give your coat back without it. You dejectedly leave coatless but it's -10 outside and snowing. You crawl under a bin bag to shelter yourself but immediately freeze solid. When the ice thaws all that's left of you is your hair extensions and half-digested McDonalds. Pint?



LEO

This week you fall into a deep melancholy. All your house-mates are having sex ≥ twice a day and you haven't had any since Freshers' Week. Sick of only having your teddy bears for company, you buy a life-sized blow-up doll to ease the pain. She gets a puncture while you're spooning and deflates, along with your self-esteem.



VIRGO

This week that textbook you bought in first year and never opened comes to life. It follows you around, wheezing 'REEEAD MEEEE' through a haze of dust and cobwebs. It rustles menacingly at you until you reluctantly turn to chapter 1. Now it's all happy and purring – see, it was just as lonely as you were. BFF4LYF<3



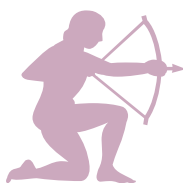
LIBRA

This week you have to prepare a presentation. But when you stand up to deliver it, your USB doesn't work and you completely forget everything you were going to say. You stand there sweating nervously, pleading with your brain to let you say something intelligent. But then your time's up and you get 0%. Better luck next time.



SCORPIO

This week you go to an interview and do a massive nervous poo in their toilet (don't tell me you've never done one of these). Unfortunately your interviewer is after you in the queue and can't suppress a grimace as you exit. Worse: you forget to wash your hands and have to shake everyone else's with very visible shit smears.



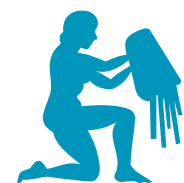
SAGITTARIUS

This week you have a tapeworm, which grows so long that it extends out of your mouth. You try to pull it out in disgust but it clings on, pleading with you to spare it. You feel sorry for it and let it stay, and become good friends. But it can't help ravaging your insides, which proves fatal. At least you won't die alone.



CAPRICORN

This week you inhale the whole world's supply of helium and float carefree across London's skyline. But angry scientists pull you back down to Earth, furious that you have wasted this finite and precious resource. They chop you open to harvest what precious little remains.



AQUARIUS

Dis we3k uR shufflin 2 sum sik tunez, tink1n u gonna pik up sum hot puszsay wid yo sxc movez. Oi babez Watch ma feet m0ove 2 da beat, check yo reflex-shun in ma stilish shadez if ya can keep me still long enuf ;-); ;-); ;-); Big up 2 all da old sk0ol rAv3rs in da Haus!



PISCES

This week you must choose between having a strawberry flavoured condom dangling from your nose or a forest of pubic hair where your fingernails are. The condom could be a useful handkerchief, but the smell would get sickly. The pubes may be a handy duster, but picking your nose would be hard. What's it going to be?

PUZZLES

Puzzles Commanders:
Sotirios Karamitsos,
Louisa Byrne
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Crossword

Across

- 1. Perimeter of a curved polygon (13)
- 9. Changed (7)
- 10. Code decipherer (3)
- 11. Those of greater age (6)
- 14. Leader of a country (5)
- 15. A billion years (3)
- 16. Device which needs little human control (9)
- 20. Christianity creator (3)
- 21. Type of cheese (7)
- 22. Type, e.g. film (5)
- 24. Large heavy weapon formerly used in war (6)
- 27. Fibber (4)
- 28. More closely fitting (7)
- 31. Tendency of a solvent to move from a lower concentration to a higher (7)
- 33. Girls name originating from the name Rachel (3)
- 34. Devices which consists of a mounted wheel or disk which spins rapidly, used to provide stability (10)

Down

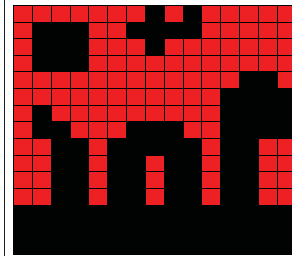
- 1. Tricky task (9)
- 2. Gave back (8)
- 3. Open e.g. toilet paper (2-4)
- 4. An organisation where smaller divisions have internal independence (10)
- 5. Surprise police visit (4)
- 6. Close (4)
- 7. Large red deer (3)
- 8. Subject taught in Blckett (7)
- 12. Sense of self-importance (3)
- 13. Large body of water (3)
- 17. Chemical with atomic number 22 (8)
- 18. Horse food box (6)
- 19. Artificial underground passage (6)
- 21. Clean, sterile (8)
- 23. South American Country, capital Quito (7)
- 25. Viewpoint, geometrical feature (5)
- 26. Retro games console (5)
- 29. Tube of caramel chocolate (4)
- 30. Shoot (4)
- 32. Star Trek: Deep Space Nine shape changer (3)

To be topical....

The numbers in each row and column show you how many groups of black squares are in a row or column, as well as how many black squares each group consists of. Filling in the grid produces a pretty picture, which in turn produces points if you send it in.

	1	1										1	1		
	1	1				5	1	1				1	1	5	
	1	1	5				1	1	3			3	1	1	
	1	3	1				3	1	1			1	1	3	
	3	1	3	0			3	1	3	3	3	1	3	0	1
3	1	1	3												
1	1	1	1												
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1	1	1	1	1	1										
3	1	1	3												
1	1	3	1	1	1										

Last week's nonogram



Slitherlink

Once more, the rules, because there's bound to be someone who hasn't tried their hand at the 'link yet: draw a single closed loop by vertically and horizontally joining the dots so that the numbered squares are surrounded by the corresponding number of lines.

Solution for last week's crossword

There is a box that wasn't shaded in. I apologise sincerely for the error, and endeavour to improve the crossword quality.

W A L U I G I H O T E L
A A N N B A N C
T O R R E N T I A L E O
E D P E R E A S O N S
R O E T I G E R S I O
F R E E S T E E M
A T A U R U S O D Y E
L I G H T S F N N
L R E E D E D U C A T E
A X E A R R R
L E M B R A C E E G
F L Y L L A R A B L E
O R E D E E M T O T
E Y E Y R T H E M I
H E A R T S B I C

Hashi

Connect all the islands with bridges so that you can get from any island to any other one. There are restrictions, though: the bridges have to be either vertical or horizontal and they must not intersect. You can have up to two bridges between any two islands and, last but not least, each island must have exactly as many bridges stemming from it as the number on it.

FUCWIT League Table

TEAMS

Requiem for a Bean	10
Sexy Beasts	6

INDIVIDUALS

Yufan Zhao	10
Wael Aljeshi	8
M-Soup	7
Helix	7
Tan Wei Jie	4

Send your answers to **puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk**. You can send in solutions as an individual and hog all the glory to yourself, or be part of the team and have someone to put the blame on if you screw up.

Ophis

Fill the cells with a continuous line (the "snake") that does not pass through a cell twice, doesn't intersect with itself, and passes through all white boxes. The numbers show you how many times the snake turns in the corresponding row or column. The snake enters and exits the grid at the shown points (and only those points). There are some hints to get you started.

Sport Editors: Oli Benton,
Margot Pikovsky, Sorcha Cotter
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SPORT

ICUREFC smash Brighton

Scott Fraser Sports Writer
Michael O'Connell Sports Writer

It has been well over 8 weeks since ICUREFC have taken the field. This winter the bitter English weather has been brutal but this gave the team time to heal up and, in some cases, fatten up. A very strong squad took the two hour trip to Eastbourne, home of sun seeking pensioners and apparently Brighton rugby. We travelled through rain and snow to be greeted by a pitch that had seen better days.

Keen to avoid the arctic temperature we ran out for only a quick warm up. Although Brighton play in the league below they had beaten table topping St Barts meaning they were not to be underestimated.

Captain Jack, returning after injuring his ankle earlier the season, gave one of his inspiring team talks punctuated with blood curdling screams of 'This is Sparta'.

George Lane kicked off the game and the team got off to a great start with strong tackling leading to a penalty. This dominance continued for the next four minutes where we saw the first yellow of the game. Toby Spittle's jovial behaviour around the breakdown landed him with a well deserved, albeit poor, headbutt, giving the Brighton loose head a much

needed 10 minute breather. His claims of vengeance left Toby quaking in his boots. The resulting penalty left Imperial with a line out on the opposition 22. A well executed line out led to an unstoppable maul, where the pack jogged to the line leaving Michael 'Maurice' O'Connell an easy finish. George Lane converted from the touch line to make it 7-0. As the temperature dropped we could see the opposition struggling and Captain Jack capitalised with a strong ten metre juggernaut through the opposition line. A fluffed conversion left us 12 points clear. Keeping up the pressure, Imperial earned a 5 metre scrum just minutes later, and an already tired Jon 'Team Talk' Hardisty picked and popped to man of the match Scott Fraser who made a slick pass to Nathan 'Brucie' Fitzpatrick leaving him with a simple finish. After a quick kick return, IC again found themselves within touching distance of the Brighton line.

However, after a taste of glory, Nathan got greedy and decided to leach onto the back of a rolling maul and claims to have scored the fourth try of the match. Another quality strike from George Lane led to a missed conversion leaving the score 22-0 at half time.

Despite the domination Imperial showed in the first half, the team knew they had to raise their game in

the second half in order to deliver the performance they knew they were capable of. Impact subs included Pierre "Gross" L'Bour who replaced Tom "lean mean one-fifteen" Hansen who had made a slightly above average contribution in the first half. The second half started with Imperial now playing up-hill, but determined to maintain their clean sheet. After a lengthy exchange of tactical kicks from both teams, ending with a sliced clearance kick from Scotty 'Too Hoty' Fraser, prompting jeers from the spectators and resulting in Brighton putting much of the pressure on Imperial. After winning a penalty after a huge defensive performance Imperial found themselves with a line out 35m from the opponents try line and again the maul was called upon. Imperial nailed another line out and had the maul going forward; time after time the forwards hit the maul forcing the Brighton pack into a fast retreat. An awesome surge of power from Imperial propelled the maul into the 22 and eventually over the line for impact sub L'Bour, who was already pumped from the "cafe" from his thermos, to complete a devastating display of dominance from the Imperial pack to extend the lead to 27-0.

Brighton's kick off preceded another spell of pressure from them. Although Imperial's discipline was



Rugby didn't give us any pictures so we dug this up from Facebook. Cap'n Jack posing next to the launch poster. Send us pictures or this will happen to you!

hurting them it was made up by relentless tackling. Eventually a turnover was forced and a box kick from Scott Fraser was recovered by Brucie and again Imperial found themselves in Brighton's half. Imperial applied pressure and found themselves once again inside the 22 setting J Flan up for a carbon copy of his first try as he thrust once again through the Brighton defence. Notable mentions must

also go to "massive" Mike O'Connell for looking like he was mounting a horse and for Big George Lane's first ever low tackle. A satisfied but not ecstatic Imperial left the field happy with the win but knowing improvements need to be made. The major achievement was managing to finish with a nil score (34-0) against a team that put 2 tries past the Medics... Bring on Varsity.

ICSM Badminton still unbeaten

Michael O'Connell Sports Writer

With the highest number of members in the history of the club, it has been one of the most successful years for ICSM Badminton in both team performance and social events. All of our teams have put on their best performance yet with the women's and mixed doubles' team currently taking the top spot in their leagues.

The women's team remains undefeated since the start of the season and they have continued the winning streak with the most recent 8-0 white-wash against King College London on Wednesday. Sarah and our team Captain, Miko, have stepped up to the challenge of being the singles players for matches after the departure of one of our great singles players, Ayla, who was a Dutch student interning at Imperial College for 4 months. With 2 sets won for each singles games, our two doubles pairs, Peachy & Annie and Hannah & myself, managed to win the remain-



Harder! Smash those shuttlecocks

ing four games to give us a perfect team victory.

The mixed team had one of their toughest matches against St. Barts (Queen Mary Medics) at our home ground. Our three mixed doubles pairs, Annie (captain) & Bob, Lochani & Tom and Yan & myself, put on our best performance and managed to narrowly win 5-4, but unfortunately one of the players was injured during their match and the game had to be forfeited.

The men's 1st and 2nd teams have

displayed good performances as they are both respectably placed in their leagues, under the sturdy leadership of Ananth and Johnson & Lochani for the 1st and 2nd teams respectively.

Aside from the team successes this year, one of our major social achievements was the tour to Enschede, Netherlands over the Christmas and New Year holiday. We had the highest number of members in the history of ICSM Badminton to come on tour! We took part in a 4-day tournament



These two are more gentle with their shuttlecocks...

at the University of Twente, with 8 am wake-up calls every day following on from the fun evening antics. Everyone won at least one of their matches throughout the competition and overall we came second (out of 32) in the tournament. The best way to celebrate this great result was the New Year's party at the University of Twente's very own Viking's Bar with everyone dressed up to the theme of "Joyful Japan": an attempt to stop people from dressing up as exploding nuclear plants or nuclear explosion

victims, which, as most people would have guessed, was a fail. We had Japanese characters from the Mario brothers to the two Pikachus which we protected from Team Rocket for the whole night.

It has been a great year and great fun with the club so far. I wish the success continues and best of luck in the remaining matches for all teams! Fingers crossed the women's team will get promoted to division 1 next season and the mixed team to the premier division!



Wolverine 1s Smashed by 2s

Felix Sport learns of the strange goings on at IC Dodgeball...

Steve Ndumbe Dodgeball President

On Sunday 13th January, the Wolverines set off for Essex with 3 teams ready to hit their first tournament of 2013 in force. In a first in the club's history, there were no delays in setting off, nor incidents on the way there (minus Scott Esnouf's typical minibus stalling, mind).

The day started off with a shock result, as the Imperial 2nds wiped the floor with one of the best teams in the country and the club's newest rivals, The Meteors. The 2nds had achieved what the 1sts had failed to do in their previous 4 encounters against The Meteors; was this a sign of things to come? Aided by the insane throws of Jan Kosco, coaxed out of dodgeball retirement with a "particularly lawyer-ish Facebook message" and Zain Abbas's tremendous catching – reaching the club record of 4 catches in one game – the 2nds triumphed 4-1 and ended up progressing to the quarter finals at the top of their group.

Due to one of the clubs pulling out at the last minute, the 1sts had to play the UCL Pumas twice in the group stages. Rest assured the inferior university team was duly beaten not only by the 1sts twice, but also by the 2nds in the quarter final. The 1st team then faced The Meteors in the quarter-final. Fuelled with the confidence that if their 2nd team could beat The Meteors, then surely they could too, the 1sts eventually managed to progress to the semi-finals, thanks to some solid catching from Edmund Teo.



The Imperial 3rd team were unlucky in a group of top tier teams, unfortunately losing all three of their matches against strong opposition. However, they showed impressive perseverance through the group stages, even if Scott Esnouf decided it would be a good idea to tell them a few days before that they were basically screwed. Their final match of the day, the positional play-off was against a new team called "The Special Bus", appropriately dressed in pyjamas. This match served two purposes: the first was to show how peer pressure can easily affect the referee's

decision. In one of the games, despite the final opposing player being clearly hit on the foot, repeated calls from the ever-growing crowd (including that of the Imperial 1st and 2nd team) that "it bounced" caused the referee to simply allow play to continue. The second was to show how bad the 3rd team are at 'suicide' throws. Notably pitiful attempts included Kunal Sharma literally walking through the deadzone area in the middle of the court, and Iacopo Russo getting good elevation in a jump, and then failing to displace the ball further than a few inches from himself. Their efforts were initially so bad that in the penultimate game all 6 players suicided and all 6 players missed, causing them to concede that game (admittedly this was the same game that the crowd decided they would referee instead, but let's skip over that). Thankfully Cyprien de Saint Guilhem sorted out a half-decent technique, and finally pulled off a successful suicide in the next game to end their day.

Both the 1sts and the 2nds lost their semi-final matches, and so the final match of the day for the Wolverines Club was the 3rd/4th play-off between the 1sts and the 2nds. This was easily the most anticipated matchup of the day, as this was the first time the two teams had ever met in a tournament before. Previous friendly matches in training had seen

the 2nds put up a strong fight against the 1sts; even then, no one could have predicted how strong the fight they would be putting up this time. Even Thomas Delteil, who had gotten so bored with the day's proceedings that he decided to crack out some classic French literature, was enthralled at what happened next.

It all started with a simple catch from Nuno Cunha, effortlessly silencing Steve Ndumbe's efforts to take him out. This was swiftly followed by Will Robinson's cries of "shit shit shit" as Jan Kosco unleashed a blistering throw in his direction. Despite this, the 1sts went 2-0 up, only needing one more game to secure the Bronze

medal. However, the 2nd team then took the next two games to make it 2-2, helped with some strong words of encouragement from ex-2nd team Vice-Captain Zain Abbas, and top-class leadership from 2nd team Captain Justin Ioanna. What happened in the final game can only be described as magical. More specifically, James Strang's mid-air mid-court catch of Thomas Peake, easily the pivotal moment in the whole match, could only be described as awe-inspiring. It was then and only then that the 1sts knew they had been beaten. Despite last-gasp efforts from Steve Ndumbe and Scott Esnouf to bring the game back, the 2nds eventually picked off all six fellow club members, with some strong throwing from Kennard Seah, to secure their first ever Bronze medal in an Open tournament.

Man of the tournament for the 3rds was a draw between Iacopo Russo and Digant Tyagi for their superb catching. Man of the tournament for the 2nds, and easily for all 3 teams was Jan Kosco, whose fearsome throwing capabilities had been sorely missed. There was no similar vote for the 1st team, but it probably wouldn't have gone to Alan Soltani for spending 20 minutes almost crying in the shower after the fatal loss, or to Scott Esnouf for coming up with every excuse under the sun as to the unbelievable result.

And as much as I would love to rewrite this report and claim that the 1sts beat the 2nds after all, I daresay Thomas Bell's thorough documentation of the day via the Imperial Wolverines Twitter account would easily hamper my efforts. After all, #thebesttruthisanembellishedone.

Wednesday Morning Core Training Sessions

Run by a fully qualified personal trainer and fitness coach.
7:30-8:30am in Ethos Sports Centre.

£15 for the whole Academic Year!

To join, email triath@imperial.ac.uk or turn up and talk to Ed!



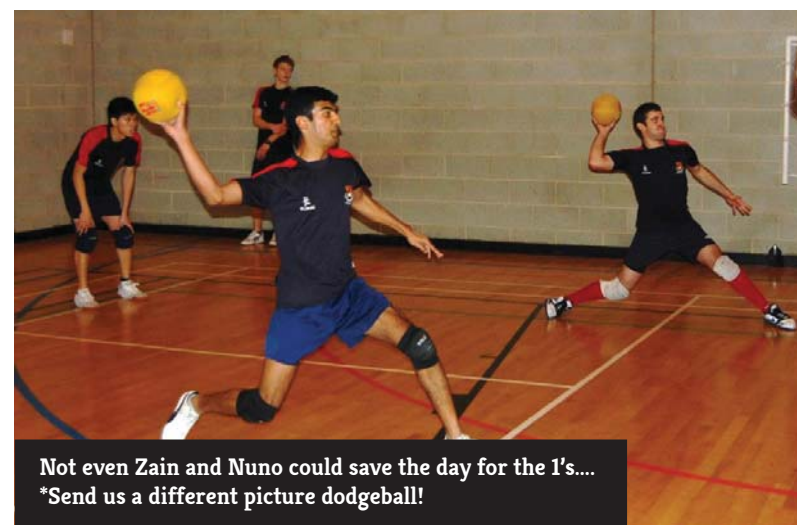
Imperial College
London Triathlon Club

TriIC
Imperial College
Triathlon Club

imperial
college
union

CRÉDIT AGRICOLE
CORPORATE & INVESTMENT BANK

LAND-ROVER



Not even Zain and Nuno could save the day for the 1's....
*Send us a different picture dodgeball!