

Eggstreme fun

Annual Easter Egg review! Pages 12-13



Pick up your copy. It may even be next to Felix...

Medics to stage protest over BUCS decision

Aemun Reza News Editor

The British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) acts as the national governing body for higher education sport in the UK. They have decided that a single educational institution should not be able to compete as two separate teams. This means that the current system where Imperial College (IC) and Imperial College School of Medicine (ICSM) are separate teams will not be able to continue.

This rule is being applied to the five institutions that compete with two separate teams in the BUCS league. The institutions affected are Barts and The London; Imperial; Guys, King's and St Thomas'; Royal Free, University College and Middlesex; Cardiff. In the aim to enhance student experience in performance, competition and participation, BUCS have released two options.

The first option is that the affected medical schools can continue as individual members so that ICSM and IC are considered as separate >>4

Halls woes continue

- Garden Hall petition has over 1,100 supporters
- Management Board to meet on 20th March
- Cost of Evelyn Gardens refurbishment reportedly £10m for 33 years
- College to answer students' questions after Management Board meeting

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

The halls saga continues, with Garden Hall, and the halls in Evelyn Gardens' futures still unclear. As well as this there is the possibility of new halls being built in North Acton. Jeff Magee, Principle of the Faculty of Engineering, discussed the halls in a meeting of student reps. Discussing Evelyn Gardens, he said to the students: "The proposition there is to convince the College to refurbish those halls for the 33 years, knowing at the end of it that you'll lose that money," which he stated was estimated at 10 million pounds. He went on to say that the main question being discussed by those at the top of College was whether or not this was a good use of the money, stating that "in my view it probably is". During the meeting he was questioned by many students. He said that "nobody is trying to pull it fast on anybody here. Property people have been >>7



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Cawfee

You'll probably be needing a bit of a perk up at some point during the revision process. Here is a guide to the best places to do that.



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Easter reading

A roundup of the best books coming out for you to review. Maciej, the Books Editor, gives you five books, as reading makes you feel like you're revising.



PUZZLES

>> 44

Two whole pages

It's the end of term, you need to find some kind of way to distract yourself from the exams looming over you. What to do? Nonograms. Obvs.



CLASSIFIEDS

Volunteers wanted for experiments investigating balance and perception

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Hospital, takes about one hour. You will be reimbursed for your time.

The research project has been approved by London-Fulham Ethics Committee

To find out more, please contact Dr Ed Roberts: neuro.otologylab@gmail.com

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



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Hall so hard, College can't affordably locate me

Tim Arbabzadah
Editor-in-Chief



And we're back to some more of the same. Yeah, I get it, I know, it's been going on for a while. But, hey, if we all just forget this and say "this is boring now let's talk about the email storm or something else" then we do a disservice to future students. It's exactly what everyone at the top wants us to do: just forget it, get absorbed in our work/life, and let them just do whatever they want.

Here is a serious question: is it really 10 million pounds to refurbish Evelyn Gardens? If it is then that is surely worth it. 10 million pounds for thousands of students' welfare? It is a lot of money to us, but not to a big institution like Imperial. They made ten times that much in just one year. Of course it's not as simple as that as they are investing in other things, but surely student welfare, and the chance for all students to be able to have a great experience, is worth it? On the subject of Garden Hall, what more can be said: a lot of students have got behind the campaign. They've really gone all out on this, and the message to College is clear: it is the most oversubscribed hall, it is cheap and close to campus, it is what students want. You wanted student input, you got it.

New Campus

The new campus has been launched. This is for postgrads only. Much excitement for all as BoJo was chilling with the Rector and I was forgetting to bring my camera card. The fact that I felt a bit underdressed aside, this could be something great for Imperial – that is, if we use it wisely. The aims of it are to build an excellent research centre (obviously, why would you aim to build a shit one?) that turns research into a money making venture. Whilst that statement may be so soulless that it will probably be cast in any new *Twilight* movies, it doesn't have to be all bad. Making money isn't in and of itself an evil thing. It's what you do to make money that can become a bit sketchy. It is worrying as this ideology of making money from science could lead to more catastrophes like the Life Sciences cuts that happened two years ago. I am worried that researchers will feel on edge, and as though they must immediately be showing some kind of amazing money spinner from their research. The truth is that science for science's sake often produces that result. What I'm saying is this: we can't go bankrupt, but let the scientists breath a little bit. Don't let them care-

lessly throw away heaps of money, sure, but don't straightjacket them.

BUCS, Elections, and exams

A quick word on BUCS: it isn't broke, why are they fixing it?

The elections are coming to a close. Results will hopefully be announced on Friday. If you haven't voted yet, and, statistically the majority of students haven't, then vote. Really think about it, and make an informed decision. You can always RON and abstain if you really have no clue where to place your vote. Remember Uncle Ben's words: "with great power comes great responsibility". Good luck to all of the candidates that are running. It's the end of term and I will be in Metric watching it all unfold, or attempting to read my phone doing that 'one eye closed' thing you do when wasted (it all depends on when I finish all the deliveries and choose to clock off).

Two terms in and one more to go for me, and elections has made me remember this time last year. There are some things I still really want to do with Felix, and I am now, in public, pledging to give it my all for just one last term, in the hope of making Felix all I wanted it to be. Have a great holiday everyone and good luck if you have exams!

‘I looked down
the microscope and saw
a vampire.’

Dr Ralf Britz

Ichthyologist and discoverer
of the Dracula fish

natureLive

Meet the people behind the science

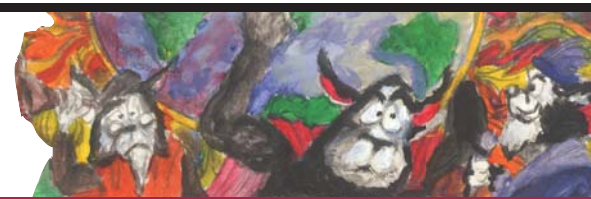
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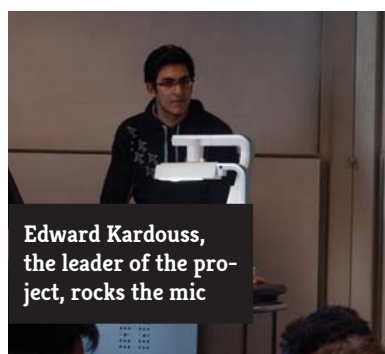
Aero students given funding to build RC plane

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

A 35 strong group of students, led by Edward Kardouss, Aeronautics Year 1 Rep, will build a remote control (RC) aircraft that will take off, water bomb a target, make a flying loop, fly for 10 minutes, and eject a parachutist and land. The Department of Aeronautics has agreed to fund the project as well as provide labs for the students to work in. The students hope to compete in future years in international flying competitions against other universities. The project will start in October and end in March 2014.

Kardouss said: "I came up with this idea as I thought we should have a real engineering challenge, one that can strengthen our skills, one that can provide a good learning experience." Some of the 35 students joining him also gave comments. Robert Watkiss described it as a "great opportunity for students to get engineering experience in a project at an early stage."

Meanwhile Filip Karasiewicz said: "finally something that is a proof of Imperial's global position and reputation". Joel Young says that it is a "stepping stone to greater things". Bruno Scalzo-Dee seemed pleased to put his degree into practice saying: "There is need for a healthy combination of academic learning and applying learnt skills, and finally we have the opportunity to achieve this much desired balance."



Group shot of the students involved



Medics angered by change in rules

» continued from the front page

institutions. Students would only be allowed to compete for IC or ICSM. This option allows the medical schools identity to remain and people can still play sport for their medical school. But this would restrict student's ability to participate in both an ICSM sport and a different sport that IC offers but ICSM does not e.g. IC Fencing.

The second option is to consider ICSM and IC as one institution whereby an analysis of the performance in the BUCS league would determine which team takes on the title of Imperial first, seconds, thirds etc. based on their rankings. This would mean that the ICSM football firsts team could become Imperial Football seconds (Medics). The teams would still essentially remain separate but the ICSM team would be playing under the 'IC Banner'.

Karen Rothery, CEO of BUCS, told Felix that the options are being offered to regularize the way people are members of the organization. She said "BUCS has offered all current Medical School members the option to remain as full members of BUCS if they wish to, but operating to the same conditions of membership as all other member institutions – so all students of the Medical School compete in BUCS sports for the Medical School, and not the "parent" university. If the Medical School joins as part of the University, then the teams playing can still compete as Medical School teams under

the sports management structures of the institution. This decision sits with the institution."

She also added: "The BUCS membership has been involved in this debate through the BUCS Advisory Group, and overwhelmingly agrees that this approach is reasonable both for medical schools, and to all other members which join under the same conditions".

ICSM are unhappy with the options that BUCS have presented as they feel that their heritage will be lost. They feel that they cannot accept either option as the first option limits participation of its students and that the second option strips ICSM of its name and recognition since teams would have to play under the 'IC Banner'.

ICSM President, Shiv Vohra, said, "The BUCS situation is quite frankly frustrating and shows a complete lack of understanding for what our students would like, which is effectively the status quo. The lack of an appeals process for the decision by BUCS has left us with no other option but to protest against this and voice our discontent over the entire 'consultation' process.

We will be joining forces with all the other London med schools (and Cardiff) under the ULU Medgroup banner to protest outside the BUCS head offices on the afternoon of Thursday 21st March. Please come and show your support for our cause – just this one afternoon could potentially have such a huge impact on the shambles of a situation that we are currently in"

Lizzy Griffiths



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NEWS

Imperial launches new campus

Photos: Tim Arbabzadah



Niall Jeffrey Reporter

Last week the new campus, Imperial West, was launched at an event that attracted the London Mayor, Boris Johnson, and Universities & Science Minister, David Willetts. At the event the Mayor and the Minister took time to have some hands on time with the College's latest research (including the famous invisibility cloak) in an event that attempted to display the potential of the new campus.

The College used the opportunity as a "launch of the vision for Imperial West". The new site in White City is being described as a research and translation campus. Imperial West will also include accommodation for 600 postgraduates and researchers, with some having already been occupied since September.

The launch



event, with 700 attendees, began with in the Great Hall with speeches from the Chair of the College Council, Baroness Manningham-Buller, and the Rector & President, Sir Keith O'Nions.

Speaking at the event, Mr Willetts said, "We're used to thinking of London as a great legal centre, as a great financial centre, as a great centre for culture, theatre and the arts, but London is also one of the world's great centres for universities and science".

The formal event was ended with a speech from the Mayor in which he laid out what he thought Imperial West could achieve. He noted that London has always been in the centre of scientific discovery, citing the first TV set, first machine gun

and Darwin's theory of evolution.

He finished by saying that Imperial researchers would make breakthroughs fundamentals of physics, "why the heart goes boom, boom, boom" and why toast falls butter-side down. Mr Johnson also asked that someone explained to him how "gravity worked".

Following the speeches, the mix of politicians, business leaders and other guests were led to a scientific exhibition in the Queen's Tower Rooms. There they were greeted by a cake in the shape of the new campus, which reportedly took 80hrs to make, and a range of research displays. These included ultra-efficient rechargeable batteries, microchips incorporated with DNA analysis, synthetic biosensors and appetite regulation technology.

The Mayor was reportedly keen to try the "Harry Potter" style invisibility cloak and both he and David Willetts took turns to have a go. The cloak is a result of the group researching meta-materials. The Rector had already noted that evening that the ability to "disappear" may be a useful skill for politicians.

London based Hedge Fund donates £20m to set up research centre

A London-based Hedge Fund, Brevan Howard, have decided to donate £20.1 million (\$30 million) to Imperial College in order to set up a finance research centre after them.

The money will be given to the Business school at Imperial; the founder of the hedge fund, Alan Howard, studied Chemical Engineering at Imperial.

The research centre will be named the Brevan Howard Centre for Finance. The focus of the research centre has not yet been decided, it is thought to incorporate the changes in the financial industry subsequent to the economic crisis. Mr Howard commented "I think the crisis has generated a different set of questions that have traditionally been taught in business school."

The hedge fund was founded by Brevan Howard in 2002, it manages approximately \$39 billion. Last year, the Sunday times estimated that Mr. Howard's personal wealth is about \$2,2 billion.

Nida Mahmud

Union Council cancelled due to lack of agenda items

The latest meeting of Union Council was cancelled as no agenda items had been tabled. All of the Sabbatical's reports are online and were delivered on time, much like Ashanti is.

Tim Arbabzadah

Clarification:

Last week, in an article about the Big Elections entitled "The Big Elections 2013: the race is on", it stated that Christopher Kaye informed Felix that "the Returning Officers never replied to him". To clarify the meaning of this: Kaye was stating that the Returning Officers had not replied to his specific retorts and arguments about the use of the words "Queen", "fag" and "prat" in a manner that he deemed satisfactory. Felix acknowledges that this could have been made clearer and apologises to the Returning Officers and Kaye for this error.

Sponsored Editorial

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

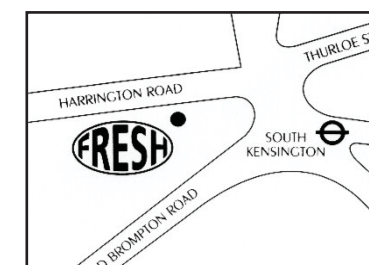
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» Editorial: page 2

Big Elections: voting shuts at midday on Friday

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

Voting in this year's Big Elections is going to close on midday at Friday. The elections are to determine who will be in various Union positions next year, including the Sabbatical positions, the RCSU, CGCU and ICSMSU Exec. Committees, and the Student Trustee positions. The Union will be hoping to beat last year's record turnout of 41.1%, with the current total, at time of going to print, being just about 4% behind last year.

This year hasn't gone by without some controversy, with one candidate running for every single position available. The Felix Editor election has also caused a metaphorical storm, of an email variety, by accident, but the latter bit is for a separate article. One of the candidates, Will Prince, was banned from campaigning on Wednesday. He also will get no reimbursement for campaign spend. It should be mentioned

that there are three candidates: the others are Joe Letts and Forhad Matin. Of course, RON is running as well. He has been forced to stop using social media, as well as get people to change their Facebook banners if they have a "Vote Will for Felix Editor" banner. This follows from a student, Hamza Sheik, using mailing lists to ask people to vote for him. This included an email to 9000 students signed off from "Will's campaign team". Mailing lists are forbidden from use for the purposes of campaigning. Prince protests his innocence saying that he has no control over someone else's actions, however the Deputy Returning Officers stated that he did not properly dissuade Sheik from posting, as, before seconding him, Sheik had mentioned the use of illegal tactics and mailing lists as a reason to not second him – the idea being that if there is no connection in terms of seconding, then Prince would not be held accountable. In the private Facebook conversation, some of which can be seen on the Un-

ion website, Sheik mentions the idea of underhand tactics. Prince finally replies that it "sounds a tad risky". When questioned over why he did not outright say no, he has stated that he dismissed it as an off-hand comment and that he was having multiple conversations with people at the time.

The Returning Officers have stated that Prince had partial responsibility as he did not take the opportunity to outright say no. They said that any argument over campaign team is "moot" as they did not try to define a campaign team because "any definitions will always fail".

Commenting on the incident, Prince gave the following statement: "I feel I never acted in an unreasonable or reckless manner, so the severity of the penalty that has been imposed strikes me as disproportionate. It was never my desire for Hamza to illegally campaign on my behalf, a point that in my eyes is borne out by the facts. The expectations of the returning officers when it

LIVE STATISTICS

Highlight Statistics	Step-by-step turnout	College Departments	Halls of Residence	Clubs & Societies	Voters by Region
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comes to me stopping Hamza seem to me to be unrealistic, especially in light of that fact that the comments that are being used against me were made in an offhand manner in a personal Facebook chat conversation. When I discovered Hamza had sent the emails, I was devastated.

It's not just the penalty that has stopped me campaigning – the investigation itself began on Sunday and wasn't resolved until Wednesday, covering a significant chunk of the voting period. The only reason I am not appealing the decision is the thought of having to face again the stresses that come with having the rectitude of your innocent actions constantly scrutinized in minutiae."

The positions that seem to be the

most hotly contested are President, Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) and Deputy President (Welfare). President has four candidates with manifestos. These are Becky Lane, David Goldsmith, Ali Ibrahim, and Forhad Matin. In the DPW race, there are three candidates with manifestos, and DPCS also has three.

The results of all of the elections will be announced in Metric. This is barring any last minute complaints from candidates that need to be resolved. Candidates can still complain until 1pm on Friday 15 March. Until then, the stats page can be used to procrastinate and keep up with how many people have voted in such detail that even the world's biggest anorak might be satisfied.

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Discussion in College: is 10m refurbishment of Evelyn Gardens worth it

» continued from the front page

looking for five years for affordable accommodation close to College". He said that everywhere in five miles was looked at in great detail. He mentioned that land in London is very expensive, particularly in South Kensington. Regarding the price of accommodation in North Acton he said that, while the price may be arguable, it is actually affordable compared to other options available.

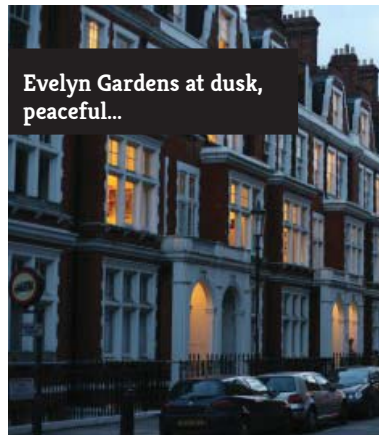
While discussing the temporary accommodation Paragon, Magee said of North Acton: "The proposition there was we can purchase it and if we didn't need it we can sell it. It is, let's face it, plonked in the middle of the roundabout... not a particularly wonderful place."

At the next Management Board meeting on the 20th March, they will discuss halls, including Acton and

Garden and Evelyn Gardens. College say that the answers to students' questions, which were emailed from Felix on Friday 8 March, will not be answered until after the meeting. College have said that they will be in a position to answer questions then after the meeting.

Paul Beaumont, Union President, asked Sir Keith O'Nions, President & Rector of Imperial College London, if he could attend the meeting, to give the student viewpoint. A College spokesperson said that, at the time of going to print, they have not heard back about Beaumont being allowed to sit in the meeting.

While all this is going on, the petition to save Garden Hall, which was started by students, has garnered over 1,100 supporters. This petition has also had multiple comments showing support for the Hall and dismay at the idea of closure. There has also been a



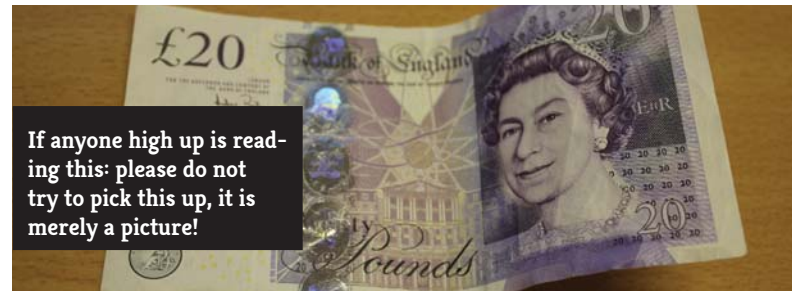
Evelyn Gardens at dusk, peaceful...

YouTube video made.

The Big Elections, and specifically the Sabbatical Elections, has kept the subject of halls and the campaign against North Acton relevant, with some candidates explicitly mentioning it while campaigning.

» Editorial: page 2

273 staff members on over £100,000



If anyone high up is reading this: please do not try to pick this up, it is merely a picture!

Tim Arbabzadah Editor-in-Chief

273 members of staff at Imperial College London during the period of 2011/12 were paid over £100,000. This is according to the official reports released at the end of each academic year. Keith O'Nions, the President & Rector, was, in total, remunerated £354,000. This figure is actually a reduction of last year, which was £367,000. The figure is mostly

salary, but £20,000 was categorised as "Other". The total remuneration puts O'Nions as the 4th best paid Vice-Chancellor in the UK, with only Oxford, Birmingham and UCL's Vice-Chancellors being paid more. This does not appear to include the added benefit of the accommodation.

The total amount of money earned by the top 273 was just over £38 million. This is up £627,000 from last year's total. There are also 6 more people added from last year.

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- Alex Kendall, IC Union President 2010-11

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- Leon Vanstone, Aeronautical Engineering

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FEATURES

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

Caffeine Culture

Kate Pumphrey takes you on a tour of coffee

Introduction

There are prices you pay for obsessions, and mine is a small, daily coronary. This occurs at some point between the hours of 10.40 and 11.30am and, like most heart conditions, is usually triggered by anxiety, stress and/or over-indulgence.

First, the anxiety. This begins to mount the moment I have arrived at the venue for the day's hit and placed my order. Initially, the apprehension is a case study in twenty-first century neuroses. Have I been precise enough with my request ("a small soya flat white with two shots" perhaps, or "a medium-blend filter with warm full-fat milk on the side") or, conversely, have I been so precise that the barista might, reasonably, hock in the milk? I scrutinise the hapless Spaniard/PhD student/future Oscar winner across the counter, and try desperately to read the (strictly metaphorical) tea leaves.

The French philosopher Voltaire reportedly drank fifty cups of coffee a day

The personality profiling gives way to other concerns as I tend to the plight of the milk: has it been taken cold from the fridge or (horrors!) is a tepid pitcher being reheated? How high has it been filled and how low has the steaming arm being thrust? Is a thermometer being used, and if not, how attentively is the heat being monitored? The cruelty of an ill-attended jug! I empathise with that scalded milk like it's a fourteenth century heretic at the stake.

By the time the milk is ready to be

poured I'm at the clammy-handed, sweat-between-the-breasts stage that Tesco directors must experience when receiving the DNA results of their beef burgers. How fast, how close to the lip of the mug, how deep from the base of the pitcher, whether wrist or hand is being used to slalom the milk... in such crucial details lie the destiny of the brew.

"The powers of a man's mind are directly proportionate to the quantity of coffee he drinks" Sir James Mackintosh, philosopher

If anxiety and/or stress have not done me by this stage, it may be coffee worthy of the name, coffee that justifies the 5,500-odd miles the beans have likely flown to reach my mug. And if it is, what rhapsody! All the drizzle and examinations in the world could not ruin the morning, as I sip and slurp and cradle the blend... until, that is, the thought occurs that one dose is simply not enough. If just a few minutes ago my student-self was wincing at the petty change from the fiver, now I'm reasoning that it's just a third of last night's gin-and-tonic and entitles me to a good forty minutes of free central heating.

Within half an hour, body and brain are untethering from each other like whippet and leash. My ribcage is being clamped by an implacable force, while my mind skitters over thoughts, ideas, plans like an overexcited Olympic hurdler. For the next couple of hours only a nuclear attack or a car parking fine would be capable of making me focus. And I don't own a car.

Background to the bean

Fortunately my predicament is shared by many the world over. Coffee is now the second most-traded commodity in the world (after crude oil) and 70 million cups are drunk in the UK every day. 57% of us now regularly drink in coffee shops, and trade, particularly amongst independents, is booming despite the recession. Books, blogs, articles and advice abound about where to find the best brew, and coffee is fast catching up with wine in terms of the snobbery of its aficionados.

In fact, coffee and wine share much in common, and it seems no coincidence that the root of the English word 'coffee' comes from an Arabic term, qahhwat al-bun, meaning 'wine of the bean'. Like oenophiles, caffeine heads would claim that their beverage is an entire sensory experience: the warmth of the cup between the hands; the artistry in the collapsing hearts on the cap of the foam, the smell of the grind and its silky smoothness on the tongue, coupled with the rich kick of the coffee itself. Not to mention the conversations. I am convinced I have the best conversations when nursing a cup of coffee.

Two of the more famous coffee houses founded in the C17 eventually evolved into Lloyd's of London and the London Stock Exchange respectively

And like the vine, the bean has quite some background. The origins of the drink itself lie in Ethiopia – with mystics, goatherds or saints, depending on which version you believe – roughly around the turn of the thirteenth cen-



tury. It was not until the middle of the fifteenth century that coffee drinking became a more regular practice, and the first coffee house would not open in Britain for another two hundred years.

But at this point, coffee got clout. By the turn of the century some 3,000 coffee houses could be found in London alone, where they became the hub of the energised debates on religion and politics that characterised the Enlightenment. In America the heavy tax on tea imposed by the British in 1773

led to the formation of the 'Boston Tea Party', with Americans switching from leaves to beans, and coffee becoming the symbolic drink of freedom. This may be the most grandiose demonstration of the link between coffee and liberty, but even today there is a whiff of rebellion and sophistication in the moment when an adolescent starts to spurn the PG in favour of the Nescafé.

White and black

If in the west the history of coffee is tied to egalitarianism and independ-

Terminology - or how to be a keen bean...

Cappuccino: one third each of espresso, steamed milk and froth, usually sprinkled with chocolate.
Etymology – derived from the name of the red-brown habits of the Capuchin friars.

Latte: espresso and steamed milk, traditionally served in a glass.
Etymology – classic hyperforeignism, as the word has no Italian roots: ask for a latte in Milan and you will get a cup of milk.

Flat white: not just a small latte! The change in proportions (more espresso to milk) tend to make this cousin punchier; milk is used from the bottom of the pitcher too, resulting in less froth and more silk.
Etymology – arguably our Antipodean neighbours' greatest cultural contribution, the term was coined in Sydney in the 1980s and made it to Starbucks, London, in 2010.

Americano: espresso added to hot water, which creates a 'crema' or velvety brown surface. Distressingly often confused with filter coffee, but the preparation of an espresso extracts more flavour from a bean than does filtering; the flipside of this is the potential for acidity.
Etymology – a word developed in World War II to describe the drink made by American troops, who added hot water to their espressos.

Filter: brewed coffee (ideally single origin) filtered by gravity rather than force, often described by strength (e.g. mild, very strong), and even more often demeaned by baristas who leaving it sweating for hour upon hour.
Etymology – you are clearly under-cafeinated. Look at the description.

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FEATURES

Within a bean's throw of Imperial

Coffee shops close by

BBB – Best Besides the Bean
ARTG – Another Reason To Go

15-17 EXHIBITION ROAD SW7
CITY OF WESTMINSTER

Le Pain Quotidien

More about the café than the coffee, this is a rustic emporium with genuine Belgian roots, but have no illusions that it is anything other than a chain: there are now 175 LPOs in 17 countries. It's where your professors hang out to take a break from quantum physics. Free wifi, yellow lighting and expansive tables make it feel salon-esque (mais oui!) but a large cappuccino clocks in at £3.83 (mais non!). Coffee is served in bowls and can feel like it's got drowned in the process. BBB: the lemon tart (£4)

45 THURLOE STREET SW7
THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Gail's

Like the Middleton hang-out next-door (Bouji's), this is all that is upper-middle class, wholesome and masterfully untrendy in a cup. Cath Kidson likely buys her artisanal bread here. Americanos/espressos (£1.90 for a double), made with Union blend, are good; anything milky tends to err on the side of blandness. Only outside seating at the South Ken branch. BBB: the carrot cake (£3.50)

THE LIBRARY SW7
SOUTH KENSINGTON CAMPUS

Library Cafe

Yes everything is infused with the smell of curry grease, and yes there's no chance of "latte art" adorning your beverage, but Imperial's unpretentious offering is considerably better than, say, the national leading chain, Costa, (shudder). What's more, it's manned by friendly staff, uses Fairtrade beans (see above) and clocks in at a very reasonable £1.37 for a small latte (student price). BBB: now we're getting contentious... the chocolate muffin? (£1.09)

8 EXHIBITION ROAD SW7
CITY OF WESTMINSTER

Fernandez & Wells

Fernandez & Wells, 8 Exhibition Road – the Spanish upstart, this branch only dared open its doors to the Parisians (and, more reluctantly, the students) of South Kensington at the turn of the year. All black framing, hunks of jamón and industrial lighting, this establishment is pitching itself as the (slightly) edgier alternative to its neighbours' niceness, and the staff can be proportionately diffident. However, its small-and-expensive-(£2.30-for-an-espresso!)-but-perfectly-formed cuppas are probably the best in Imperial's vicinity. Wholemilk only. BBB: pastel de nata (£2.00)

15 OLD BROMPTON ROAD SW7
THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Pret A Manger

A reliable blend of affordability and quality, this is probably the best of the chains: the latte has punch and comes in at a neat £2.10 (with no surcharge for soya). All natural, all organic and more than a little self-righteous (the website has a well-being section, which includes nuggets such as "to feel alive and rejuvenated, take your shoes off and walk on dewy grass"; clearly the author has not witnessed the syringes in Victoria Park). However, you can no longer slam it for being part-owned by McDonalds, as the US chain sold its shares to a private equity house, Bridgepoint Capital, in 2008. BBB: the "Love Bar" (£1.50)

19 OLD BROMPTON ROAD SW7
THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Starbucks

Only if you have a pram and consider coffee a form of hot milkshake. BBB: the tax advisors.



ence and is the domain of the prosperous middle-class, the connotations are distinctly less glorious elsewhere in the world. Coffee plantations have been responsible for large tracts of deforestation in countries such as Brazil, and its cultivation has often notoriously been at the expense of local people. Western tastes for coffee played a principal role in the transportation of roughly one million African slaves to Cuban plantations alone. And because coffee thrives in many equatorial countries with lush, volcanic landscapes, where livelihoods are often uncertain, the industry continues to be plagued with accusations of injustice.

Recent research suggests that coffee crops, such as wild Arabica, are particularly susceptible to climate change, so the hardship faced by many of the smallholders that the sector depends upon is likely to increase. A number of organisations are attempting to address this issue and offering consumers an opportunity to speak out with their wallet. The Fairtrade label, for instance, guarantees that farmers are paid at least enough to cover the costs of production, which provides some certainty in an extremely volatile market. CaféDirect – the business that supplies most of Imperial's beans, no less – reinvests at least a third of its profits back into the communities and businesses that it partners and makes laudable efforts to address its environmental impacts.

Such efforts matter if we are to continue, like J. Alfred Prufrock, '[measuring] out [our lives] with coffee spoons', and to avoid reverting to World War II substitutes like roasted chicory. An idea so alarming it might well trigger a coronary.

Macchiato: a small shot of thick milk foam into which has been poured an espresso or (the rebellious alternative) an espresso into which has been poured a small shot of thick milk foam. *Etymology* – derived from the Italian meaning 'stained' or 'marked' (i.e. coffee stained with milk, or vice versa).

A distant plantation

Slightly further afield

23-25 LEATHER LANE EC1
CAMDEN

Prufrock

Unquestionably the best coffee in London, probably the world, with paper cups you'll want as ornaments. ARTG – the John Soames Museum is but a short walk away.



339 PORTOBELLO ROAD W10
THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

Lowry and Baker

Does "quirky posh" like the rest of Notting Hill (think mismatched crockery and heritage tomato salads), but makes it feel authentic. ARTG – Portobello Market, at your peril; the Electric Cinema, at your pleasure.



77-78 BRIXTON VILLAGE MARKET SW9
LAMBETH

Federation Coffee

Somehow serious but still funky, with excellent coffee. ARTG – the rest of Brixton Village Market.



26 HANBURY STREET E1
TOWER HAMLETS

Nude Espresso

A micro-roastery capable of reviving you after a night in a micro-brewery. ARTG – the Sunday markets, including nearby Colombia Road Flower Market



4a-5a PERRIN'S COURT NW3
CAMDEN

Ginger & White

So British there's a danger you'll be sitting next to Nick Griffin, and worryingly describes itself as "child friendly", but delicious nonetheless. ARTG – the Heath



FEATURES

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A Love for business

Tim Arbabzadah talks to Colin Love about the Business School's plans

As I walk into the airy Business School on time for a meeting (for once), I wonder where any offices could be. Having snuck in by nefarious means, attempting to be clandestine as I tailgate an unsuspecting accomplice, I realise that the furthest I've ever been into the Business School is the café.

Colin Love is a slight rarity really. He's friendly, speaks his mind, and is honest: Paxman would be a bit shocked when he just answers a question straight. If titles were gold, he'd have Fort Knox in his office somewhere. He is: Principal Teaching Fellow – meaning his academic focus is on teaching; Director of Undergraduate Studies at the Business School; Director of the MSc Strategic Marketing; Marketing Director for the Business School.

"My big focus is going to be on recruitment for the Business School, and developing a social media strategy, which I think is going to revolutionise the way we talk to students." He explains this is because "we know that students only want to be spoken to really through social media... not

brochures and posters".

He is very excited about the new project that the Business School have. "This summer in July we are going to launch a summer school. We are going to launch it under the heading of Strategic Marketing. It will be an intensive, one month course. In total... it adds up to about 170 hours. It's going to be open to Imperial undergraduates, and international undergraduates." The course will be residential, and costs £2000, which Love says "believe it or not that's competitive!". The first pilot will have over 50 students and he is sure it will be successful.

Why are you doing this at all is the next question I ask. Love answers that it serves several purposes. "It's a fantastic advertisement for College.

I've got to tell the truth: it's a revenue stream – we're going to make cash out of it. But the main thing is the College recognition. We

are heavily trading on the reputation of Imperial around the world." It's already been launched on the web and has had 2000 hits in a week. He says it is open to Imperial students, but expects mostly American, Indian and Chinese students. It will be "equivalent to three USA credits or 7 ETCS". "The incentives are two things: one is credit from their home university...

the other thing you get of course is you get to go to London for a whole month." "We want to employ some ambassadors to help look after these guys in the so-

cial playground". Discussing Imperial students he touches on the possibility of a discount saying "I'd like to".

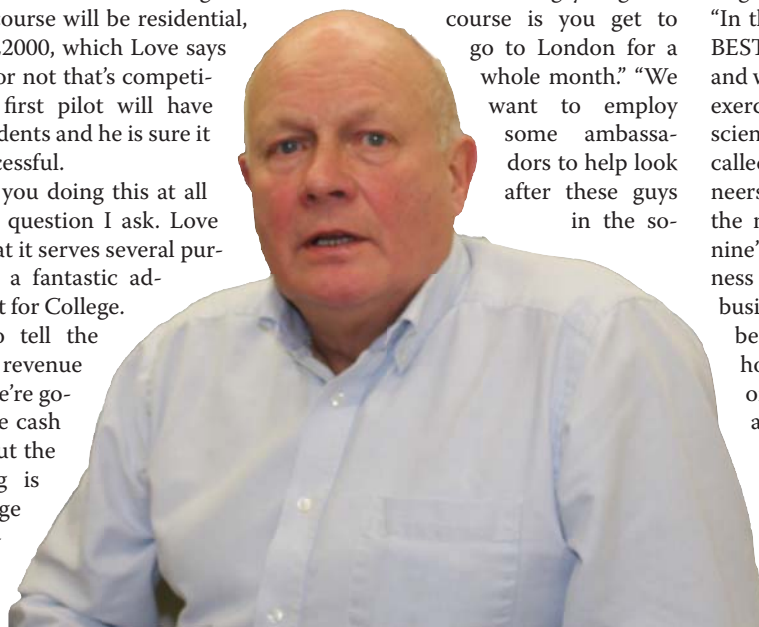
Love is proud of the Business School and its reach. "We teach nearly 3000 students". On the subject of the Horizons Business course, he explains that the 8 week programme has been lectured to 800+ students and is the most popular course. He says that this is setting them up for second and third year. "In the past we had something called BEST... I think that got kind of tired, and we've done a major reengineering exercise with science and engineering science. The new programme will be called Business for Professional Engineers and Science. We are extending the number of subjects from five to nine". New options will include Business Strategy, Marketing, Sustainable business, amongst others. They will be for credit and electives, with 15 hours of face-to-face and five hours online. He says that this is "huge" as they are expecting about 2000 students to register for those courses. He also mentions the intercolated masters that students can take.

Love discusses the way that

the Business School can reach any undergraduate at Imperial. "If you join Imperial College, as a scientist, engineer, or medic, when you finish you've got lots of additional things on your CV. You've done a Business foundation course under Horizons, you'd have taken a series of electives, you may have taken a year in management." He says "what we're doing is give someone something additional... like the humanities, you want to do a language, that's a skill". He explains that employers look at the business knowledge and that these courses will "get them huge jobs".

"More and more business people now, when they look at CVs, they're looking at personal statements, they are looking to see what people have done outside of their specialist subject".

Love ends with a tour of the Business School's online learning platform. It's pretty amazing and I wish I'd had that as an undergraduate. He jovially says goodbye to me. I walk out, realising that I never did any Business School courses, and therefore can feel slightly hipster in a few years time when everyone is.



Definitions redefined at TEDxLSE

Joshua Maxey

Writer

Last Friday saw only the second ever independently organised TED event at the London School of Economics. The day promised talks, performances and workshops selected to encourage us to 'Redefine our Definition', and it certainly delivered.

The first of the day's offerings was part talk part performance coming courtesy of geek songstress Helen Arney. An alumnus of Imperial College, Arney shared her theory that comedy and science are natural bedfellows, something she went on to brilliantly demonstrate by playing the audience her obituary in song form, accompanying herself on the ukelele. This was my single most enjoyable talk of the day and a welcome reminder that your degree can take you anywhere in this world.

Rob Symington's talk was a breath of fresh air for an Imperial student like me. He began by retelling the story of how he "accidentally ended up with a well paid city job". It was incredible to hear him describe his

fear of revealing to his colleagues that he was unsatisfied where he was. Fast forward a few years and Rob now heads up Escape the City, a service which takes disgruntled city workers and connects them to inspiring and fulfilling opportunities around the world. Rob's was a story of fear-of-the-unknown and overcoming the voice in your head that tells you to stay put. It left me inspired and more determined than ever to bin the career's spam that plagues my Imperial inbox.

By far the talk that left the biggest impact on me was Kyra Maya Phillips's. As we filed into the theatre to begin the third session, we were all handed a pirate's eye-patch. It's safe to say few knew what to expect. Kyra drew inspiration from two archetypes to argue that if we refuse to confront and understand the darker side of our nature, we cannot hope to ever improve ourselves and the things around us. It was the swash-buckling, plundering pirates who first experimented with democratic rule on their ships. They were the victims of cruel totalitarian systems of rule

and were determined to find an alternative. Instead of ignoring those periods of darkness, they embraced them as a catalyst for change. The second archetype is the computer hacker, the 'people who can't fight the itch to fix and improve'. To achieve their goals, they must first dismantle and understand the intricacies of a system. Phillips argues that we must take the same approach to the parts of ourselves that limit us, the parts that scare and hinder us; our 'dark sides'.

Hearing how this approach had helped Kyra overcome depression in her own life was perhaps the most affirming part of a moving and heartfelt talk that left the audience rapt.

Beyond the talks, the event was a very slick affair. The team behind it, who are wholly student led, deserve heaps of praise for putting together a range of speakers that were diverse in content, background and approach but united in the underlying TED spirit of ideas worth sharing.

I for one can't wait for next year's TEDxLSE. Before that, however, Imperial has an independent TED event of its own...



All pictures provided by TedxLSE



Features Editors: Stephen Smith,
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FEATURES

Engineering a better world

Chaplaincy brings you an unmissable evening with His Holiness Radhanath Swami

Have you ever sat in a boring lecture and thought: 'I wonder how I could help make the world a better place?' Or been stuck behind a bunch of chatty teenagers on the tube and wondered 'why should I even bother?' Well, be prepared to have all these and more of your important life questions answered. We have just the event for all of your queries!

For the first time ever, Imperial will host his Holiness Radhanath Swami, who has traversed the deep underbellies and glorifying heights of the world, spreading his message of social change. This Thursday, on the 21st of March, Radhanath Swami will be discussing how Imperial students can engineer a better world, in an event creatively titled 'Engineering a Better World'.

Drawing from a vast array of experiences and the extensive success of his social projects, Radhanath Swami will be exploring the challenges facing our generation in improving the world and considering how we can save this planet before the next Mayan Apocalypse.

Wondering how your questions will be answered? Well: there will also be a question-and-answer session for the attendees, so bring your best ones. For the tech-savvy (most of you), you can even post questions online at www.eabw.com. Don't worry about food either, we know how hungry students can get: there will be refreshments available on the day.

So who is Radhanath Swami? Born Richard Slavin, in Chicago, Radhanath Swami faced a sense of alienation with suburban life and its social injustices as a teen and, as you do, travelled the world looking to find meaning and purpose. Now based in Mumbai, he runs extensive voluntary projects to help better the lives of people from all walks of life.

Projects include: 'Bhaktivedanta Hospital', a free-to-use hospital that treats the most deprived of patients and the Govardhan Ecovillage, a self-sustained eco-friendly village near the outskirts of bustling Mumbai. In addition to various other humanitarian projects, Radhanath Swami also runs a program most students would appreciate: 'Midday Meals', which provides food to deprived school children. It can be tough surviving on microwave pizza and cup noodles as university students, but imagine having no food, everyday. This is what 'Midday Meals' tries to prevent.

Sure, Imperial students are busy: with coursework, making the library

your home and dates to pretend to be on, but this could change your lives. Radhanath Swami has been all over the world, visiting Cambridge and Houses of Parliament to give talks and meeting with personalities such as Barack Obama and the Dalai Lama. It's now our chance! Having also given talks at companies such as Ford and banks like HSBC, he should fit right in with Imperial students, seeing as most of them become bankers anyways.

Imperial is home to countless projects and societies that aim to make the world a better place. This would be the ideal pep talk for your members, and a great way to explore new ways to make a greater impact (particularly with society elections coming up). For those that are 'just not bothered with all this charity crap': come along to find out why it is so important! Even Russell Brand thinks this man has "got the answer"! Inspiration. Answers to Life. Free Food. What more do you need?

'Engineering a Better World' takes place on Thursday 21st of March in Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley. The event begins at 1800 and light refreshments will be served towards the end, along with a small mingling session.

For more information please visit www.eabw.co.uk, where you can post your questions for the speaker. Entry is free, but spaces are limited so we recommend that you register for the event.



Eggsperimentation: An

Milkybar



Price:
£1

Mark:
7/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

80% chance of a good time. Looks like cum in solid form, makes me cum in solid form. I produce enough milk already without ingesting this crap.

Comments:

"A very kiddo egg. It tastes okay though. The egg is, however, like a Rugby player's penis: disappointingly small." "Pure, undefiled, a master egg." "Unassuming at first but then that kick of sugar bewitches the mind and ensnares the senses."

Creme Egg



Price:
£0.99

Mark:
7/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

Creme eggs = instant orgasm.

Comments:

"Awful packaging, our egg came presliced." "Standard Cadbury yuck!" "Surprisingly sweet, do like, very nice." "Distinctly average." "Creamy and lovely."

Green & Black's



Price:
£4

Mark:
5/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

Only if licked off my vagina, but tasty nonetheless.

Comments:

"Misleading packaging." "Fairtrade, so it doesn't taste of exploitation." "Strange after-taste." "Weird aftertaste BUT thick egg." "BITTER." "Like chocolate should taste, not too sweet, full of flava."

Thorntons



Price:
£10

Mark:
6/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

Low... so far. Zero, will need more stimulation.

Comments:

"Diffult to open." "Very milky sickly sweet." "Very sweet." "Agonisingly sweet - not great." "Rich and satisfying." "BLAND."

Lindor



Price:
£8

Mark:
8/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

Disappointingly low. Although, from the egg, pretty high. The mini eggs were eggs-credible. Better than using your hand.

Comments:

"Wish they had normal baby Lindts :(" "Chocolate wise, egg was classic Lindt." "Buff ting." "The 8 inch penis of the chocolate world." "Orgasmic." "Surprisingly shit."

Creme Eggs



A perennial Easter favourite. They have pearly white stuff inside that you can suck dry. They caused a rift in the office as a couple of people thought they were average and overrated. Twelve for £3.90, which is 32.5p each. Value for money? You decide.



Annual Easter Egg Review

Maltesers



Price:
£4

Mark:
7/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

Yes. The maltesers can be used as a make shift anal bead, if you want to.

Comments:

"Thick, sweet, strangely like maltesers." "Standard GREATNESS." "Egg is god like." "Not that great."

After Eight



Price:
£4

Mark:
6/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

Not sure if this is fondant on my pants or not. YESSS YESSS YESSS.

Comments:

"Dark chocolate taste." "Comes with mints. They are very minty with lots of goo!" "Smells amaze." "Different but don't like." "Tastes like old men. Felt a bit dirty after having put it in my mouth." "Vile." "Tastes exactly like After Eight." "Nice if you like mint." "Refined." "This is an adults egg, it should come with a warning: not for kids."

Celebrations



Price:
£10

Mark:
7/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

Malteser teaser made me spaff all over the desk. Celebrate my cum!

Comments:

"HUGE but tastes cheap. Like sucking off a sub par rent boy." "I think it's nice." "Extras were good though."

Kit Kat



Price:
£0.99

Mark:
6/10

Chance of sexual stimulation after eating:

The Kit Kat Chunky inside could be used as a dildo. Just make sure to keep it in the wrapper if you intend to still eat it. Unless you're into that.

Comments:

"Had a Kit Kat Chunky with it, which was nice. But it only had ONE!?!?" "Average." "2:1 probably. You wouldn't say 'it almost got a 1st'."



The carnage at the end

Former Editor-in-Chief Matt Colvin samples the infamous Creme Egg



Former Games Editor Simon Worthington ponders what a Creme Egg means to his world view

COMMENT

Comment Editors: George Barnett,
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Felix and Democracy

To what extent is Felix a democratic body? Can it claim to represent the wider student body? **Navid Nabijou** investigates



Navid Nabijou

Last night I was browsing The Big Elections website, pondering my choices of candidates. I decided to watch the Meet the Candidates video: partly because I was getting a bit lost amidst the endless succession of naïve and generic manifestos, but mostly for the comedic gold I'd been hearing about ("it's known that most young men will engage in an element of *burlesque* in their lives..."). I should mention at this point that if you haven't already seen the video I couldn't recommend it highly enough.

During the sofa sit-down with the candidates for Felix Editor, our unflappable host Frank posed a genuinely interesting question: "You've all hit on the idea that Felix is the voice of Imperial. Is not the student council the voice of Imperial?"

The answers were broadly speaking muddled and light on content, befitting of politicians on campaign. But the question itself stuck with me. Is Felix a representative voice? Does its editorial policy reflect the views of the wider student body?

To me the answer isn't obvious. On the one hand, Felix is ultimately run by a very small group of people: the Editor-in-Chief and the section editors. They basically get the last say on which content goes in and which doesn't. They also get to prioritise certain articles over others, by giving them greater prominence in terms of layout. All this means that in principle they could choose to disregard input from the wider student body, and instead use the paper as their own personal megaphone.

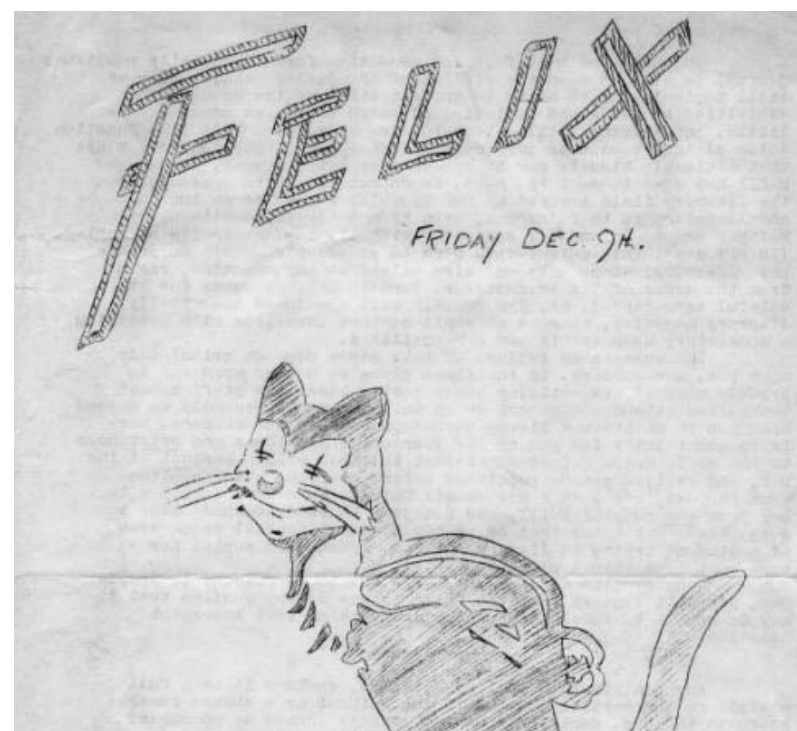
However in practice the editorial policy is extremely open when compared with other newspapers. We view it as part of our duty to provide

a medium for student expression, and as such we will only outright reject articles in the most exceptional cases (e.g. blatant racism or sexism). Of course an inevitable consequence is that a fair deal of substandard material finds its way in; but this usually seems preferable to excluding students from what is, after all, their own newspaper.

But despite this editorial openness, the majority of students probably don't view Felix as being 'their own paper', in the sense that they don't feel at all engaged in the production process. The pool of contributors – though wider than the editorial team – is still relatively small, with a few dozen high-frequency writers filling the majority of column inches each week. Despite the continual (and highly inventive) "write for us" adverts that appear each week encouraging people to get involved, the unfortunate fact is that the paper is by and large created by a close-knit group of people. To what extent this is alienating to others I'm not sure (the candidates were also asked "how do you intend to stop Felix becoming just an in-joke for the people who write it?" so maybe this is an issue people have raised) but in either case it certainly means that the paper isn't representative of the students in any direct sense.

What happens instead then is a form of self-selection. The students who want their voices to be heard, and who care enough to put in the required time are those whose views are put out there. The rest – the 'silent majority', to channel Richard Nixon – get sidelined.

And so in many ways, representation through Felix resembles representation in any democratic system, where – despite every vote being equal – the politically-engaged classes inevitably end up dominating the



Is Felix a representative voice? Does its editorial policy reflect the views of the wider student body?

discussion. Which brings me back to the original question: "Is the proper voice of students Felix, or the Union Council?"

As with Felix, there is a massive self-selection element at play in terms of who sits on Council; your average Imperial student probably hasn't heard of, much less cares about the Union Council. Consequently the kind of people who attend Council and vote on Union policies can hardly be said to be representative.

But they're elected by the wider student body, right? That has to count for something. While they are technically elected, these polls don't take place during the 'Big Elections' season (an omission you may not have noticed this week), and so tend to have dismal turnouts; most people on Union Council hold that position by virtue

of fewer than one hundred votes. By contrast, the Felix Editor is a sabbatical position that is very publicly contested during campaign weeks, and the winner usually receives a mandate of a few thousand votes.

Finally, any student can turn up to the Felix office and get writing, whereas non-Council members do not have any power to influence the Union's decisions. So Felix is crucial in empowering ordinary students to make an impact, inasmuch as it provides a medium for bringing important issues to the attention of the Union and sparking discussion within the student body. And while it may never be fully representative of all students, every student has the ability to make it more representative, by heading down to the office and getting stuck in.

Online

In response to "Julian Assange in Sweden", 8th March:

This hero worship of Julian Assange is rather particular, but not perplexing. There is a creation of an enigma about the image of Assange, which is inconsistent with the persona that is known about Assange. He is given more credit than he deserves. All the information relating to Assange's legal problem in Sweden is readily available. The

irony comes in that glossing over or outright ignoring the circumstances relating to those problems. People are will readily point out that Sweden gave Assange permission to leave Sweden, but also told him that the investigation was on going and there was an interview arranged before his left Sweden. Being a leader of an organization promoting transparency and advocating whistle blowing, it is strange that Assange takes a different stance when it comes to him. It is sad that Wikileaks has become all about Assange's personal agenda.

In response to "Griffon Studios, up to scratch?", from the archive:

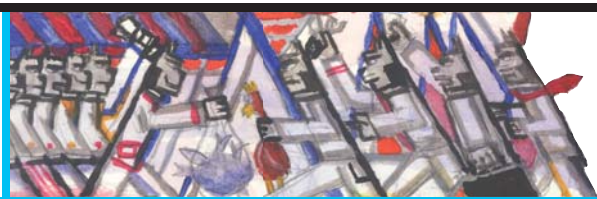
I would strongly advise anyone who is looking at accommodation options NOT to book accommodation with Gradpad. I am currently a resident at Griffon Studios, and my experience has been absolutely terrible and has affected my studies. I really don't want anyone else to fall into this trap. Was moved against my wishes to a different accom to the one I booked. Internet doesn't work. They lose rent payments. All appliances in my room have broken, takes up to a month to get them fixed.

In response to "There is something in the air" 1st March:

Your comparison to homophobia is both inappropriate and offensive. a) Your choice to smoke is not (in any way) similar to being homosexual; the latter is not a choice. b) While some people may find homosexuality disgusting, walking past/being in the vicinity of a homosexual does not actually impact their health. You don't seem to realise that by smoking in a doorway (which provides you with shelter), you are also increasing the amount of smoke which passers-by inhale, and which enters the building.

You make a good financial case for allowing people to continue to smoke, so I'm happy for you to do so in the street, but College is free to have its own smoking policy (and indeed as an institution actively involved in medical research, it should). By the way, "College seems to be on the anti-smoking warpath again" is a bit of an exaggeration, considering all they've done is remind people of the existing smoking policy.

Angry? Write us a letter explaining why and you could be the proud owner of a £10 note!



Business Editor: Deepka Rana
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BUSINESS

Facebook celebrity? Looking for a job?

Pedro Pereira interviews Adzuna co-founder Andrew Hunter

The eternal procrastinating tool... Facebook. Or is it? Adzuna, a social job search engine, has developed a way to help you get hired with a little help from your friends. Launched out of a central London pub in July 2011, this small London startup, with over 1.5 million monthly visitors, classifies itself as the future Google for jobs with a social network side. Not only that, they search thousands of job websites so you don't have to, and even give job seekers access to a wide range of job statistics and data to make their search even more efficient.

PP: So first of all the important stuff... what kind of name is Adzuna?

AH: "Zuna" means "abundance" in a number of African languages. We aim to be the most abundant classified ads site on the web, and to bring the best ads sooner than anyone else. Hence the name Ad-zuna!

PP: How are you different from other job search sites? Can you explain how the social networking feature in more detail?

AH: Job ads are fragmented and too complicated to navigate. Users want to search all the ads in one place, which is what we provide at Adzuna: a one-stop shop. We then make the search experience better and empower our users to find the right ads for them, by layering on innovations in social and big data. The biggest misconception about our business is that we're a portal where you can post ads (like Monster or Gumtree). Adzuna is a search engine (like Google).

Keep focused. Make your mother proud. And all employees must wear flip flops if the temperature is above 20°C

Job ads are fragmented and too complicated to navigate. Users want to search all the ads in one place

Adzuna Connect is a social tool that allows jobseekers to see hundreds of job vacancies they are connected to via their first and second degree social connections in LinkedIn and Facebook. The average jobseeker has no idea they're connected to over 300 relevant, open job vacancies through their social networks. Also, over 90% of companies, large and small, are now using social media to find staff. We also provide users with rich, insightful charts and data on every search, helping jobseekers make informed decisions and setting us apart from the competition.

PP: So who do you see as your competitors?

AH: There are a number of other vertical search engines that aggregate content in a similar way, but we're taking the market to the next level by bringing innovations in social and big data to bear. Some sites are very US focused, solely job driven, or simply out-dated.

PP: How do you make money?

AH: We make money by referring traffic to certain jobs sites that we list, and from contextual advertising. Ads are listed for free in the organic index, with companies and portals having the option to buy premium listings. At this stage we are purely focussed on building an excellent job search experience that people want to use.

PP: What has been the most challenging time for the company?

AH: Since neither Doug (the other founder) nor myself are 'tekkies', and

building a search engine is a massive technical challenge, putting together a crack squad of engineers to get Adzuna off the ground on a shoestring budget was tough. It took us a while to find the right "founding developer" for Adzuna and we were starting to stress that we might have to settle for expensive (and not brilliant) contractors and freelancers.

PP: How did you overcome that?

AH: We managed to track down George Karpodonis (whom we worked with before at Gumtree), and after kidnapping his family and employing a number of Jedi mind tricks we eventually persuaded him to quit his job and join us. George built version 1 of Adzuna and has hired an A1 team around him in Athens to build an increasingly awesome product.

PP: Being a start up and all... Can you tell us a little about Adzuna company culture?

AH: We think it's essential to build a great user experience. Keep focused. Make your mother proud. And all employees must wear flip flops if the temperature is above 20°C.

PP: Do you have any advice for our entrepreneur students when dealing with potential investors?

AH: Be honest, open and make sure

If you want to build something massive ... get something small and cool out there that people can use and play around with as soon as possible



you can deliver a clear elevator pitch (what you are doing, why it's interesting and how you're going to make money) in less than 30 seconds. If you are fortunate enough to be able to choose investors, make sure you go with people you trust, your interests are aligned and you trust each other, as you're likely to be working with these people for a number of years through good times and bad.

PP: What is the best piece of advice anyone has ever given you?

AH: If you want to build something massive and amazing, get something small and cool out there that people can use and play around with as soon as possible. Don't be precious about version 1, it's not going to be perfect. Getting early feedback (from real people, not your mum) is absolutely

critical.

In a time where unemployment and crisis have been some of the most heard words in our daily life, this team shows that it is possible to see problems as opportunities, and develop creative business models as solutions for them.

This month Adzuna successfully launched in Germany, the first stop on its international expansion plan, plus revenues have been doubling every 3 months throughout 2012 and 2013, signalling a bright future ahead. If you're interested in joining this young company they are currently looking for interns passionate about online and not afraid of a bit of hard work. If you think you have what it takes drop them an email at internship@adzuna.com.



Bees feel the caffeine buzz

Philippa Skett sips a Starbucks whilst writing about how bees get their own daily fix

commons.wikimedia.org

A drink usually associated with those that have too little time on their hands and too much to do, coffee is not just a beverage but has become a lifestyle choice. What you drink is “personal,” according to Starbucks, making this caffeinated concoction sound more like an outfit choice than a quick fix to a lagging brain. However, it emerged this week that it is not just humans that indulge in the caffeine kick – bees are feeling more than their usual buzz too.

A study published by researchers this week at Newcastle University have found that honey bees – those that pollinate flowers whilst feeding on their nectar – regularly indulge in a caffeine fix to increase their memory. Caffeine, a usually bitter molecule, is used by plants as a defence mechanism to discourage consumption by herbivores, but is known at low levels to enhance memory and cognitive performance. This study suggests that caffeine can also have a pharmacological role by manipulating the bee’s behaviour, and ensuring the bee keeps coming back to the same plant to feed repeatedly.

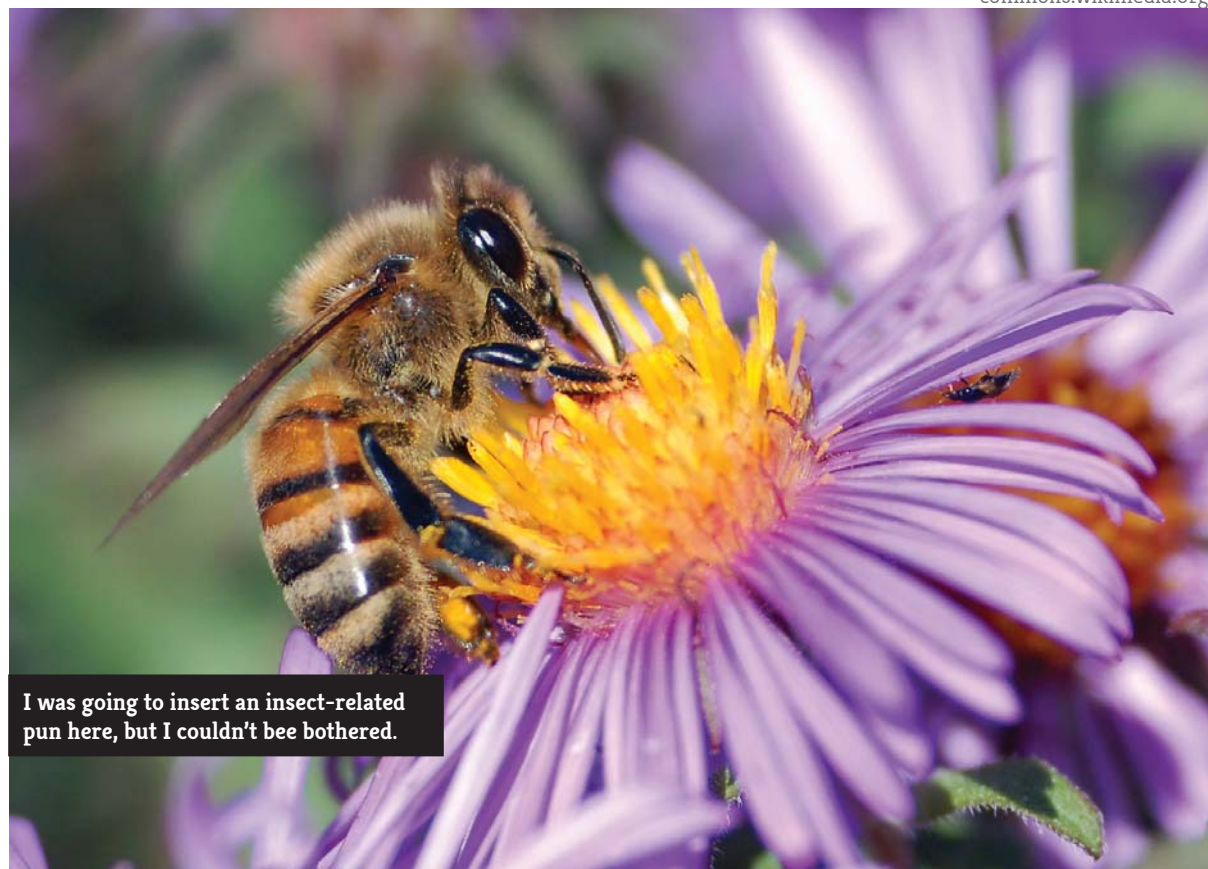
The study measured the level of caffeine in the nectar of three species of plants, and saw that honeybees that frequented those plants with higher levels displayed a threefold increase in the likelihood of remembering the scent of the flower. With this response, the honeybees are therefore more like-

ly to feed again on the same species of flower, increasing the possibility of successfully pollination and keeping the circle of life turning.

The caffeine induces both a weak effect on the rate of learning in the bees but also a greater effect on long term memory, with bees studied displaying a memory span of up to three days after feeding on nectar enhanced by caffeine. These clever bees could remember the scent of the flower they had fed from, increasing their likelihood of returning to the flower in the future. These bees would also associate the flower with reward, meaning they would be more likely to feed again on its nectar and in turn become much more faithful pollinators.

Not only that, but these clever flowers have managed to get the balance just right – with caffeine naturally a repellent, concentrations found in the plants tested were high enough to induce a response in the honey bees behaviour, but low enough to ensure they were not put off by the bad taste and would stop feeding altogether. This seems to be just one more of the many goldilocks-type scenarios found in nature, tailored towards perfection by natural selection over the millions of years.

This research is crucial in the understanding of the foraging behaviour of bees – with population declines of these ecosystem busy-bodies will come a pollination crisis that could damage agriculture significantly. Such



I was going to insert an insect-related pun here, but I couldn't bee bothered.

declines are attributed to a number of causes including the widespread use of insecticides. Global warming too may be causing a change in the flowering patterns of plants, altering nectar availability. Furthermore, with the 50 native species of bees in the UK declining over the last 60 years to around

25, invasive alien species may also be contributing to a notable decline of our own bees, and the effect this may have too on pollination of our crops long-term is uncertain.

For now though, next time you knock back that espresso, cast a thought to the bees out there which are doing the

same. But remember too that these little guys are slowly in decline, so make sure you recycle that cup when you are finished getting your early morning kick, so the bees may keep on buzzing long after your own buzz fizzles out.

DOI: 10.1126/science.1228806

SCIENCE BITES

Choccy and the dangers towards doggies

Easter eggs are lining the shelves, but watch out

Chocolate is well known to be toxic to dogs – but why?

Cocoa, the basic ingredient of chocolate, contains a compound known as theobromine (which doesn't actually contain any bromine), a mild stimulant. In general the darker the chocolate the higher the theobromine concentration.

Upon ingestion, theobromine is broken down within the liver into various excreted metabolic products. For humans this process is fairly rapid, and theobromine can be harmlessly excreted from the body in approximately 6-10 hours.

Dogs, especially smaller ones, get the short end of the stick: theobromine takes a lot longer to push from their bodies, and as a result it stays circulating, creating a potentially lethal situation. Unless treated immediately vomiting and diarrhea are followed by an increased breathing rate and heart-beat, epileptic-like seizures and even death. Contacting a vet is mandatory.

Cats are actually more acutely sensitive to chocolate than dogs, with an even more reduced ability to metabolise theobromine. However, this risk is offset by a cat's genetic inability to taste sweetness, hence a reduced affinity towards your Easter eggs.



Resistance on the Rise

Laurence Pope Science Editor

As any good Imperial student knows antibiotic resistant bacteria are a growing threat to human health. The threat has been heightened once again by a recent report produced by the government's chief medical officer, calling the problem a “ticking timebomb”.

Professor Dame Sally Davies published the second volume of her report earlier this week, urging the government to bring up the issue at the upcoming G8 summit, which the UK holds presidency over this year. She also called for antibiotic resistance to be placed on the government's National Risk Register of Civil Emergencies, which currently covers such disasters as flooding and terrorist attacks.

Dame Sally also claimed that pharmaceutical companies need to be encouraged to develop new antibiot-



ics: right now there's no incentive for pharmaceutical companies to develop them: “antibiotics will only be used for a week or two when they're needed, and then they have a limited life span because of resistance developing anyway.”

No new antibiotics have been introduced into the public domain since 1987, whilst bacteria have been getting on and developing resistance in the intervening 25 or so years.

The problem has stemmed primarily through antibiotic misuse. Improper use of antibiotics, such as not completing a full course or using them for viral infections, destroys a large proportion

of the bacterial population. The survivors are then left to replicate. Because these survivors likely had a genetic advantage over the deceased populace this advantage is passed down, resulting in a bacterial population more likely to resist the drug again.

Despite the growing threat the message doesn't seem to be filtering through properly. Similar pleas have been made by Dame Sally's predecessors, with warnings of the growing threat spanning back to 1999.

Dame Sally's report can be read at <http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/category/publications/reports-publications/>

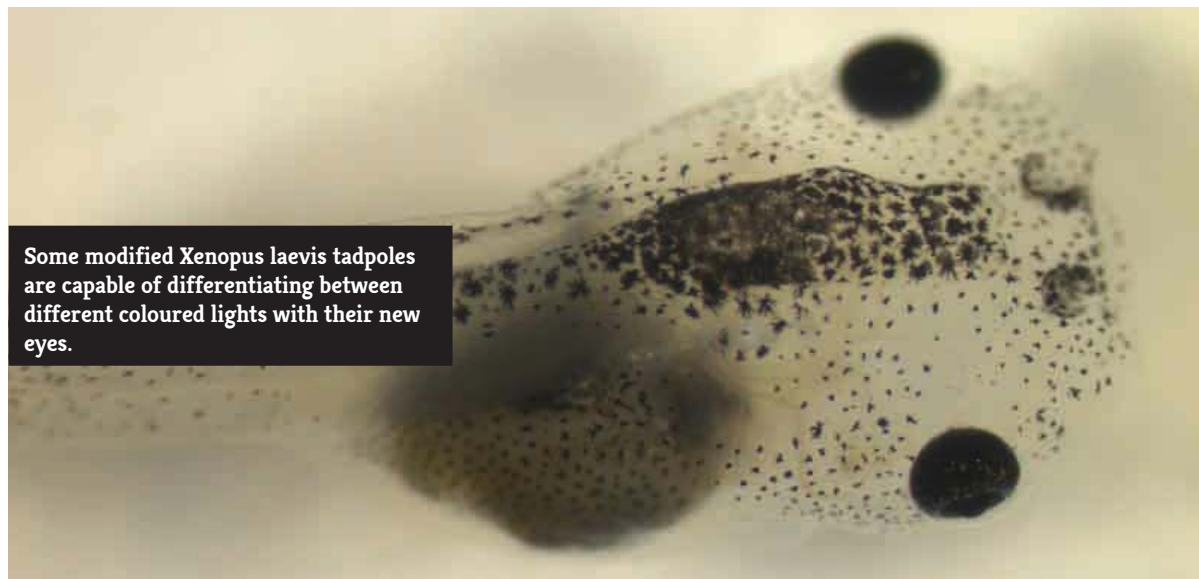
Eye eye, what have we here?

Eyes in the back of your head? More likely than you think explains **Alexandra Easter**

You might think that having eyes in the back of one's head was a quality reserved only for mothers and teachers, but research published in *The Journal of Experimental Biology* has shown that it is also possible in tadpoles.

Biologists at Tufts University, Massachusetts, have created tadpoles with ectopic eyes along the length of their bodies by transplantation during early embryonic stages. Importantly, these eyes were shown to be functional in 19% of cases (a small but statistically significant result). Surprisingly, these functional ectopic eyes did not send their information directly to the brain (as the optic nerve does in normal vision) but sent nerves to the spinal cord instead.

Post-transplant tadpoles that made the connection from their new eyes to their spinal cord were able to fulfil a simple light-based learning task. When allowed to swim freely between areas bathed in either blue or red light,



Some modified *Xenopus laevis* tadpoles are capable of differentiating between different coloured lights with their new eyes.

and given a small electric shock when they entered the red zone, the tadpoles learnt to avoid the red zone to the same extent as their normal-eyed counterparts.

These results have potential signifi-

cance in more fields than you might think, from regenerative medicine to engineering and robotics.

The authors have demonstrated a high level of brain plasticity, particularly important in their tadpoles,

whose brains must cope with dramatic morphological changes during their lifetimes. The vertebrate brain cannot only interpret visual information no matter what part of the body it comes from and without a direct connection,

but co-ordinate behaviour accordingly. From an evolutionary perspective the authors propose that plasticity of the brain, rather than hardwiring, allowed the animal to become more complex without compromising its own fitness.

A more abstract parallel is drawn with robotics and computing: could this research be relevant to the development of networks that can adapt to change or damage? Or alternatively, can we learn from current methods in data processing to figure out just how electrical signals coming from the body of an animal can still confer visual information? For example, when a signal is sent, it contains a 'header', which indicates where it came from and what type of information it encodes.

It is clear that these new insights into the connections between the vertebrate brain and body could propel new research in fields from artificial limbs and regenerative medicine to engineering, computing and beyond.

DOI: 10.1242/jeb.074963

The Science Museum, Gangnam Thinktank style

Lily Le

Science Writer

"A science museum... in Birmingham?! HA!" is the typical response received when I mention Thinktank Science Museum to anyone outside of the West Midlands.

As regarding jokes about stupidity which Midlanders are the butt of, Thinktank surely does not have a place among them. Its passion to place science in the spotlight, engage and inspire really comes across.

As a volunteer, I get to explore the museum for free, chat to behind-the-scenes staff, have access to unlimited free tea, and 15% off in the gift shop. Here's what I make of the place.

Most exhibits do seem aimed at children. For the very young are Kids' City and The Street full of colourful playthings. For older children, and perhaps visitors less aware of the medical world, a highlight is interactive Medicine Matters, which demonstrates surgery and invites the questioning of clinical policy.

My personal favourite is the natural history section, and adults may particularly enjoy the Power Up Gallery, which show off the majestic machines which used to underlie the Industrial Revolution.

The Planetarium is what every

visitor does not dare miss. Numbers in queues far exceed seats available. There is usually at least one show aimed at adults, but most are targeted at children. We volunteers put them on and get to watch them for free – usually the same on repeat. Being a biologist and clueless about physics thankfully makes this interesting.

Due to The Little Star That Could (for under elevens), I now know what stars look like when they are first born, when very hot and "angry", and even when they concede to death. Thanks Thinktank!

Digital planetariums block out distractions and engage minds fully

For the Planetarium's manager, Mario di Maggio, there is no medium like a dome to engage with an audience about science. "60% of the world's population will be living in light-polluted cities by 2030. This public service is more important than ever. Digital planetariums fill peo-



The first RoboThespian, a robot that can interact with visitors.

ple's field of view and engulf people's senses. They block out distractions and engage minds fully, resulting in higher retention levels and improved learning."

It is awesome that Thinktank tries to encourage young children to take an interest in the science, but for me it doesn't quite cut it compared to the exhibits at the Wellcome Collection, NHM and Science Museum when

it comes to stimulating the curiosity of adults, and especially for adults trained in science.

Special adult-only evenings are sometimes run to fill this niche. Though yet to attend any, I hope to do so, especially the Dome Club run by the Planetarium team which recently

put on Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* with 360° visuals.

For more information on Thinktank visit www.thinktank.ac.

Read Lily's full interview with Mario di Maggio at www.isciencemag.co.uk/features/surrounded-by-science/

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FASHION

Fashion Editors:
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Alice Yang walks through her

Dolce and Gabbana

This season's golden collection goes to Milan Fashion Week's Dolce and Gabbana as the pair turned to the traditional treasures of Italy for inspiration, concocting glittering mosaics and jewelled montages. Relaxed womanly shapes and dangling golden crosses, each saintly piece was as much a work of art as a wearable garment, perhaps a timely ploy showcasing the irony in the riches of faith. Immaculate attention as always had been crafted into every detail as miniature bags came encrusted with jewels, and roses delicately entwined themselves around heels and toes. The Dolce and Gabbana girls this season were the definition of feminine power and true nobility, and never has a set of crowns looked so felicitous.



Dolce and Gabbana

Valentino

Fragile delicacy was the theme at Valentino this season, as Chiuri and Piccioli showcased a stunning assortment of high collared, loosely tailored dresses. The subtle strictness behind every piece set a sense of Brontë-like restraint; as if each decoration of crisp white embroidered lace had been designed for the characters in *The Professor* itself. Come next winter for the dedicated Valentino girl, although legs will be bared aplenty, shoulders will almost be as sacredly covered as the décolletage.



Valentino



Oscar de la Renta

Oscar de la Renta

The most anticipated show this season was that of Oscar de la Renta as the world of fashion anxiously awaited results of his collaboration with the infamous John Galliano. Having taken him on as an accommodating step towards recovery just a couple of months back, de la Renta most

definitely bequeathed more of his collection to Galliano than to the standard apprentice. The collection, although still true to the house in its classic styles, was edgier than the label is used to seeing.

Harshly knotted belts forced clinched pleats to shape the otherwise cocoon-like pieces, as shoulders came as outsized as the erect hats propped over the heads of models; as if the girls themselves were beautiful moths trying to escape from the sharp grasps of nature. Perhaps a delicate

reflection of the difficulties Galliano had faced in order to finally re-emerge from the dark. The real moment of metamorphosis, however, came in the form of mysteriously dark hooded capes, which effortlessly infused the gothic drama of Galliano with the simple nostalgia de la Renta always captures so perfectly. If the speculations of this comradeship carving out a future for both parties prove true, then to join and conquer may well turn into fashion's new rule.

Fashion Editors:
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FASHION

AW13/14 fashion highlights



Balmain

Balmain

Wasp waists and vibrant colours took the Balmain girls back to the days of glam rock this season, as attitude became as much a requirement as power shoulders and rich jewels. Leather was worn parallel to glimmering diamonds, shimmering sapphires and peacock coloured silks as, once again, Rousteing worked his magic in toughening the luxurious and turning seemingly unwearable ideas into pieces coveted by the nouveau rich. Prepare to embrace the gleaming new cult of Balmain.



Marc by Marc Jacobs

Marc by Marc Jacobs

The little sister line of Marc Jacobs may have surprisingly usurped its mainline sibling on more than just the timetable of NYFW this season. The adverse weather that forced the designer to showcase Marc by Marc Jacobs in lieu of the original Marc Jacobs show timetabled successfully ushered the 70s back into the limelight.

Sleek A-line dresses complemented radiant voluminous hair as ravishing red lips boosted the elegance of blocked colours. The looks were enticingly polished, almost secretarial in fact, but with an added dash of confidence and enigmatic intelligence. Alluringly elegant, Mr Jacobs showed that sometimes, the simplest ideas are the most effective.

Alexander McQueen

It is almost a fact taken for granted now that Sarah Burton will bring to each and every fashion week the most elaborate show, and this time round she most definitely did not disappoint. Where Burton's collection lacked in number (there were just ten looks), it made up for in extravagance. Tightly fitted head cages replaced spring's wide honey-collector hats this autumn, implicative of the womb and the protection a mother might bestow upon a child; reminding us that Burton designed the collection whilst in the last stages of her pregnancy.

To describe this season's garments as embellished would be a blasphemous understatement, almost every garment seemed to be constructed solely from glittering pearls. Of course, the collection would not be true to McQueen without exaggerated silhouettes, yet here too Burton surpassed expectations. Fetish-like corsets led to hourglass hips as angel-puffed sleeves floated above tiers of laced pleats. Somewhere between Elizabethan royalty and future surrealism, metal fishnets collided with high-necked ruffles creating a truly extraordinary collection suited for such miraculous times.

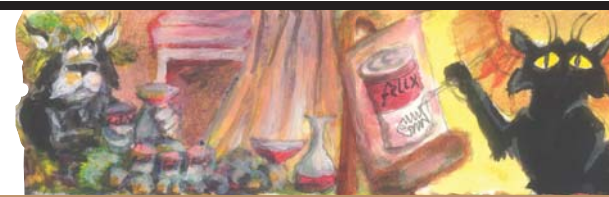


Alexander McQueen

ARTS

Arts Editors: Eva Rosenthal,
Meredith Thomas

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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 was done by Dharani Kishore in a Materials lecture, what else?

TIRED OF LIFE?

Our pick of what's on in London

David Bowie is @ V & A - Oh! you pretty things, they have only decided to bring me the disco king. I've been waiting for you, starman. That's enough. The V & A have been given unprecedented access to David Bowie and are displaying costumes, handwritten lyrics and photographs in a major retrospective. Go watch that man! March 23 - August 11

Retrograde Progression @ Blyth Gallery - LeoSoc's new show has few pieces relating to the title... while this may be confusing or altogether offputting to some, I assure you it does not really matter. The works are an interesting showcase of the hidden artistic talent at Imperial and you can even comment on the utter uselessness of art if you should so wish. Now - 22 March.

Othello @ The National Theatre - It has been some years since the wonderful actor Adrian Lester took to the London stage. I saw him for the last time some eight years ago in Henry V; his performance was unforgettable, and this time around his Othello should be unmissable. Starts on 16 April. Tickets from £12.

Carsten Nicolai: Observatory @IBID Projects - Nicolai envelops and hypnotises with his minimalist grids, lines and sounds. In his new show, it is minimalist structures that pull you into the otherwise empty spaces and a feeling of wide open despair. Until March 19.



Don't give a Tosca?

Rocio Molina thinks you should

Drama, passion and a thrilling unravelling of events makes *Tosca* an opera that will keep you on your toes during every act. Set against the backdrop of turbulent Rome in the 1800s, this opera could well be equated with a modern Hollywood drama.

It is named after one of the main characters, Floria Tosca, a powerful opera singer who lives under the protection of the queen of Naples. Tosca and her lover, the idealistic painter Mario Cavaradossi, are at the core of this story. We follow their misadventures over the course of the day in which their lives are upturned by the intervention of one of the most malevolent opera villains ever: Scarpia, the Chief of Police.

The first act of *Tosca* opens on a calm and quiet Roman morning in the candle-lit church of Sant'Andrea della Valle, conjuring a romantic vision which will soon be broken. Tosca and Mario's beautifully moving love duet is all too soon shaken by the terrifying appearance of Scarpia, who is searching mercilessly for Angelotti, a fugitive escaped from Castel Sant'Angelo.

A special mention must be made for the magically crafted set design of this outstanding production. The opening scene unveils the interior of a two-level church, illuminated only by the soft lights of candles. The levels are separated by an intricate iron fence, whose door leads onto a winding stair case that provides access to the main chapel, where on the left Mario Cavaradossi is painting a mural with a religious theme.

The beauty of the scenery is surpassed in the second act, during which we are welcomed inside the elaborate Palazzo Farnese, Scarpia's headquarters. Evoking the grandeur of ancient times, the stage is dominated by a giant sculpture of Saint Michael, contorted and menacingly holding a spear. This stage synthesises the drama that Puccini's music brings to life in this second act. Mario Cavaradossi is being tortured out of stage by Scarpia, who is ruthlessly using every means possible in order to capture the fugitive. Tosca now appears trapped between the suffering of her lover and the taut grip of Scarpia. Torn away, she cannot but help her lover, despite Mario's innumerable pleas for silence.

Puccini's music storms throughout the whole act encapsulating the gush of emotions that take the stage. Rage, power, lust, despair and piety all rise



Boris Johnson
commissions statue

and are subdued throughout.

This opera is of epic proportions and is not meant to reflect real life, but rather to deliver a condensed and acutely dramatic take on real life. It is difficult to identify oneself fully with any of the characters, although one can feel oneself swept into the play; it gives us a taste of an extreme version of events, such as we would usually only experience in a dilute form in our daily lives.

Tosca's final act delivers a dramatic ending of an intensity only matched

by Shakespearean plays. As the night gives away and the Roman bells start to toll, we are shown a misty terrace of the Castel Sant'Angelo. The space appears to defy any sense of perspective, precluding an uneasy sensation of deception, which our main characters will share.

However, without revealing more, just allow me to encourage any student to take an evening free to feel delighted by this enthralling opera.

Tosca runs from 2 - 26 March and 9

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ARTS

Lady Dada's bad romance

Fred Fyles

Writer

The Barbican's art gallery is haunted by the ghosts of avant-garde. Possessed pianos play atonal compositions, while invisible dancers pitter-patter across the halls, and long-dead voices call out in French. This is the soundscape against which the exhibition *The Bride and the Bachelors* is set, forming the *mise en scène* for a production which tells the story of a Dadaist giant and the New York scene he inspired. In this tale, the 'Bride' is Marcel Duchamp, the radical French artist whose 'readymades' changed the art world forever. The 'Bachelors' courting him are the four titans of 1960s American avant-garde: Jasper Johns, Merce Cunningham, John Cage, and Robert Rauschenberg. The exhibition shows the influence these artists had on one another, and the enormous impact Duchamp's philosophy had on the arts as a whole.

Duchamp's magnum opus, *The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors, Even (The Large Glass)*, forms the focal point of the exhibition; consisting of an ethereal, geometric 'bride' and her nine mechanical 'bachelors', sandwiched between two shattered panes of glass, the work is an exercise in decay. Random encounters with dust, dirt and grime have been left in by Duchamp, making the piece a study in chance. First conceived of in 1913, the piece was not completed until 1923, and accompanying the piece are reams of notes, studies and paintings depicting the various components of the glass. Several of Duchamp's most famous works, including *Fountain* and *Bicycle Wheel*, are shown next to the piece, and serve as an introduction into the artist's world.

Duchamp was the central nucleus of a small group of New York artists, brought together through the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, through which they collaborated. Merce Cunningham was the choreographer, John Cage was the Music Director, Robert Rauschenberg acted as the Resident Designer, and later Jasper Johns became the company's Artistic Advisor. The show explores this collaboration, and how the artists influenced one another's work. A large portion of the opening gallery is taken up by a stage, upon which dancers from the Merce Cunningham Dance Studio perform to a soundscape created by French artist and film-maker Philippe Parreno; consisting of works by Cage, Duchamp, and Parreno himself. This cycling of live and pre-recorded sounds introduces an element of chance, allowing the exhibits to change over time.

Chance was a key theme that brought the artists together. Starting



with Duchamp's experiments in decay and motion, during which he let strings drop through the air before photographing how they landed, the exhibition then moves through Cage's 'chance operations', dictated by the I Ching – a Chinese divination system. Cage would allow the I Ching system to determine the structure of his music, resulting in unpredictable, atonal compositions. Cunningham later used the I Ching to determine where his dancers would move upon the stage, introducing chance into a discipline that had previously been based upon control and coordination.

While this system of composition may seem revolutionary, the exhibition shows that Duchamp preceded these by about 40 years with his *Erratum Musical*, in which syllables from the French definition for *imprimer* were randomly paired to notes pulled out of a hat, creating a completely random piece of music.

This *Erratum Musical* is a perfect example of a Duchamp readymade – a piece in which Duchamp would take existing, or found objects, and turn them into art. The most famous readymade piece is his *Fountain*, a urinal signed R. Mutt which was considered the starting point for Dadaism and caused outrage when it was created in 1917. The work is featured in the exhibition

alongside *Bicycle Wheel*, an upturned wheel attached to a stool. These readymades formed the inspiration for the sets Rauschenberg designed for Cunningham, and influenced his own *Combine* paintings, made from a mixture of traditional media and found objects.

Taking this one step further, Rauschenberg later began to create sculptures from solely readymade objects; *Music Box* (Elemental Sculpture), created in 1953, consists of a nail studded box containing small pebbles, the name referencing the sound made when one shook the box. Johns also took inspiration from the world around him; from his paintings of American flags, targets, and numerals, to his sculptures of cans and tins, John – just like Duchamp before him – elevates the everyday to the avant-garde.

While John's work fits into the themes of the exhibition, it is markedly different from those around it; as a direct precursor of what would become to be known as Pop Art, his pieces are more accessible – and more fun – than others in the exhibition, which has a heavy focus on Cage's work. While it is completely possible to appreciate Cage's pieces on a theoretical or philosophical level, they only really come alive when they are performed. Parreno's *mise en scène* attempts to

bring the magical qualities in Cage's pieces by playing them throughout the exhibition, which would satisfy all but his hard-core fans. Unfortunately, the curators of the show decided to fill up a large portion of the upper levels with Cage's manuscripts. Perhaps they felt that this is what visitors were really interested in, or perhaps they had reams of sheet music gathering dust in a back room, but when compared to Rauschenberg and John's exuberant artworks, they simply fail to shine.

This exhibition succeeds in unravelling the invisible threads binding together five of the 20th Century's most important contemporary artists, allowing us to see the influence they had upon each other; an influence that spanned the generations, as well as the different disciplines in art. For anyone with an interest in any of the artists' features, or even those with a slight interest in the avant-garde, this exhibition is a must see. In less skilled hands, the exhibit may have seemed clunky, but Parreno succeeds in bringing all the artists together under one roof: the bride and her bachelors, bound together in holy matrimony.

Showing at the Barbican until June 9. Merce Cunningham Dance Company perform every Thursday evening, and at weekends.

MTSoc's glittering parade

Andrew Foster

Writer

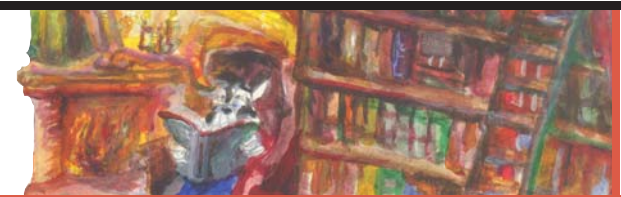
"The greatest happiness of the greatest number is the foundation of morals and justice." Really Mr Bentham? We beg to differ, as we think you'll find that it's actually Musical Theatre Society's latest production, *Parade!*, that will be providing all the moral and judicial foundations we will be needing from now on...

Set in 1913 Marietta, Georgia, *Parade!* stylistically documents the arrest, conviction and trial of Leo Max Frank, a Jewish-American factory superintendent, exploring and portraying the anti-Semitic undercurrent present at that time in the United States. This is not the form of musical theatre your esteemed reviewers came prepared for. The emotionally poised performances of the leads, the fluidity of the chorus and the brilliant stage choreography all conspired to leave us quivering in awe, struggling to put glitter pen to fur-festooned note pad in order to jot down the five diamante star review this production clearly deserves.

And so, would-be theatre goers, it is at this juncture that your trusty reviewers cannot help but wonder what the outcome would have been for Chris Huhne and Vicky Pryce had they attempted to air their dirty laundry under the auspices of Judge Roan (Phil Jackson), or conducted their bickering with the same musical delightfulness as Lucille Frank (Emily Jennings) or indeed, managed to sing and dance to the Charleston with the same deftness as Governor John Slaton (Phil Raymond). After watching *Parade!*, we are fairly sure it would have been the one that at least one of the guilty parties would have been more than happy with.

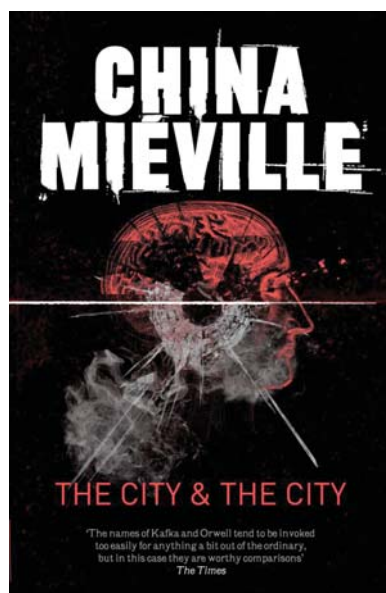
Written in collaboration with Fionnuala Ni Dhonnabain and Severine Marechal.





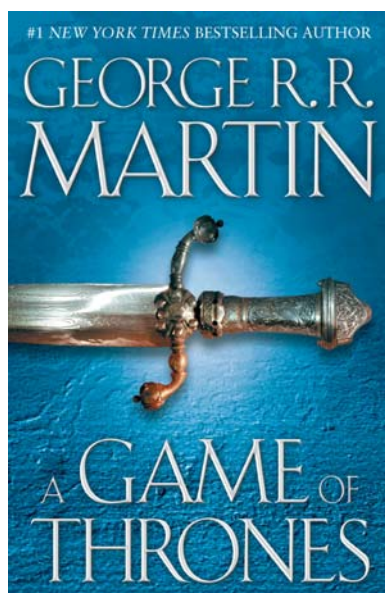
Your Easter Reading

Maciej Matuszewski recommends five books to take you through the Easter break (if you're not revising, that is)



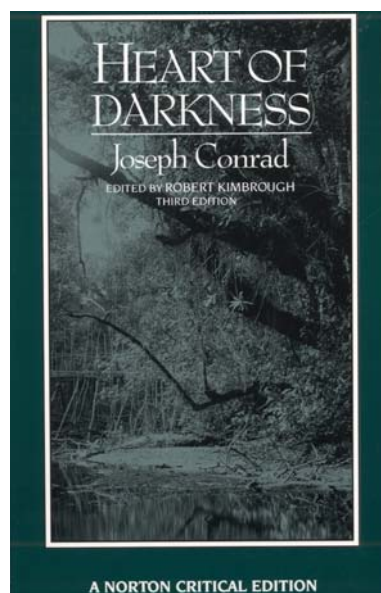
The City and the City
China Miéville

One of Miéville's more recent works follows Inspector Tyador Borlu as he investigates a murder in the city of Beszel. Eventually his investigation leads him to Ul Qoma – a separate city that somehow occupies the same site as Beszel. This is a highly acclaimed novel, having won the Hugo, Nebula, Locus, Clarke and the World Fantasy Awards. If you want an introduction to Miéville's impressive body of work you can't go wrong with this book.



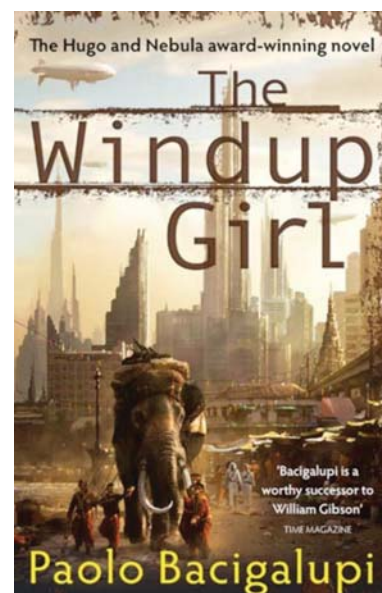
A Game of Thrones
George R.R. Martin

The first in George R.R. Martin's *Song of Ice and Fire* series, now adapted into hugely popular HBO television series. A high fantasy epic following the Wars of the Roses-inspired power struggles on the continents of Westeros and Essos this is a gritty and compelling read. With five books, each having over 700 pages, having already been published, the long Easter break is the perfect opportunity to catch up on this must-read series.



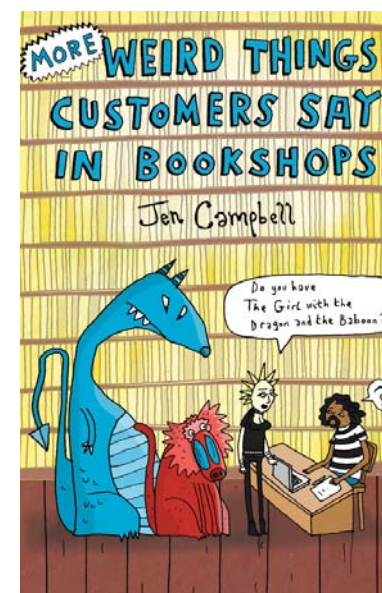
Heart of Darkness
Joseph Conrad

Widely agreed to be one of the greatest English language novels, *Heart of Darkness* follows Joseph Conrad's recurring character Charles Marlow as travels down the Congo River working as an ivory trader. This is a masterful and brilliantly written exploration of racism, savagery and Western hypocrisy. Best known as the inspiration for the acclaimed Vietnam War film *Apocalypse Now* this novel is a true masterpiece.



The Windup Girl
Paolo Bacigalupi

Set in the twenty-third century, Bacigalupi's debut novel follows a cast of characters trying to survive in a Thailand ravaged by global warming and controlled by giant bioengineering companies. Both a hugely imaginative novel and astute social commentary, this *The Windup Girl* has won multiple awards. Selected as one of the 101 best SF novels of the last 25 years by Damien Broderick and Paul Di Filippo, this is certainly worth checking out.



More Weird Things Customers Say in Bookshops
Jen Campbell

Long-time bookshop manager Jen Campbell's *Weird Things Customers Say in Bookshops* was one of the funniest things that I read last year. Now she returns with her second instalment, due to be published on April 18. At just over 120 pages this is a very slim volume – perfect for those swamped by exam revision and looking for some light relief. Highly recommended for everyone.

Controversial new imprints launched

Maciej Matuszewski Books Editor

Random House, one of the 'big six' English language publishers, has launched a set of new digital-only imprints. Hydra will publish science fiction, fantasy and horror; Alibi will publish mystery fiction; Loveswept will publish romantic fiction; and Flirt will focus on "New Adult" work.

The terms of the contracts offered by the imprints have, however, been criticised by author groups and industry experts. Sample contracts indicate that the new imprints will not pay authors advances and, while offering a larger share of profits – fifty per cent – than others usually do, royalties will only be calculated

after fees for cover design and marketing are subtracted. These costs are normally fully covered by traditional publishers. The imprints also ask for all worldwide rights for the length of a work's copyright. This means that authors will be unable to re-sell their manuscripts and that they lose control over any potential foreign language translations and adaptations to other mediums – such as film.

The Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA) organisation has removed Hydra from its list of accredited publishers since it breaches its requirement of offering advances. Writing on his blog SFWA president John Scalzi advised writers: "This is a horrendously bad deal and if you are ever offered something like it, you



RANDOM HOUSE



should run away as fast as your legs or other conveyances will carry you".

Random House rejected the criticisms, sending a letter to SFWA members claiming that "Hydra offers a different – but potentially lucrative – publishing model for authors: a profit share". It went on to say that: "Profits are generated once ... costs are subtracted from the sales revenue. Hydra and the author split those profits equally from the very first sale."

The SFWA responded to the letter by saying that it considers Hydra's "attempt to shift to the author costs customarily borne by the publisher [to be], simply, outrageous and egregious". It went on to accuse Hydra of acting in an "exploitative" and "predatory manner towards authors".

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THE
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2013

RESULTS
PARTY



WHO WILL WIN?

15 MARCH / 20:00 - 02:00
METRIC / FREE

Bellydance Showcase
Tuesday 19th March
Metric, 8pm



MUSIC

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



Halestorm brings down the house in Camden

Plabon Saha reports back from the Electric Ballroom

I like to think my taste in music has greatly varied over the years. I have gone through the teenage phase of listening to **Green Day**, **Sex Pistols**, **Fall out Boy**, **Panic! At the Disco** etc. You get the gist of it all. There was also a time when I used to listen to hard rock in the form of **System of a Down**, **Bullet for My Valentine** and **Slipknot** amongst others. These days, I have moved onto a lot more indie pop, post-punk and dream pop. The reason I am telling you this is because **Halestorm** doesn't fall in any of those categories. Halestorm is in essence a hard rock band which I came across when they supported **Slash** last year at the Hammersmith Apollo. That was a curious gig to say the least, since the supporting act, a Dutch new wave/electronic/art punk band called **Minny Pops**, was booted off stage. It wasn't all disappointment before Slash's appearance because that's the moment

that Halestorm came on. Their energy on stage was simply admirable and at this point I think drummer Arejay Hale should get a special mention for his acrobatic efforts of constantly juggling drumsticks in the middle of a song. Lzzy Hale's strong vocals meant it was the perfect start to a rock gig and at that point I became a fan (and went home to download their music illegally, like all the cool kids do {fyi I am not a total prick, I tend to pay for gigs rather than buy records}).

So remembering that day, it was with great anticipation that I went to see Halestorm perform at the Electric Ballroom in Camden on Friday the 8th of March. I actually missed the support act but I didn't really need to be warmed up (listening to music during the tube ride would normally suffice, oh and alcohol helps). Before I dissect their setlist, I should also say how good Electric Ballroom is as a venue. It's the sort of place that's not

too small so that you feel everything you do is watched neither it is too big where it makes you feel insignificant. It is just the right size that makes you feel intimate with the band. Halestorm opened with 'Freak Like Me' and 'Love Bites (So Do I)' from their sophomore album and the upbeat vocals and drumming was quick to get the audience jumping. After a couple of other songs, came a **Dio** cover in the form of 'Straight Through the Heart', which was done exceptionally well, I must add. Here was a band that knew their audience well and knew the importance of the classics and appreciated the rock enigma that is Ronnie James Dio. There was also another instance later in the set when they played a **Guns N'Roses** cover of 'Out Ta Get Me'. But before that, Lzzy Hale demonstrated the range of her vocal and musical ability as she played 'Break In' on the piano. It had a hint of **Evanescence** in it but in my opinion Lzzy has already eclipsed Amy Lee in terms of ability and vocal range.

There was something for the seasoned admirers too, with songs such as 'Innocence'. I should also mention the heroics of Arejay, the drummer here who decided to perform a quick solo. The man is simply mental with

a pair of drumsticks when he has a kit in front of him. He knows how to keep a beat going even with one hand. This was the first time I have seen him do a drum solo and I think he was enjoying it as much as the audience as he threw his drumsticks to the audience and decided to bring out a pair of giant sticks and keep going before deciding even that's not enough as he resorted to drumming with his hands. All in all, it was an admirable and enthusiastic performance from him. The show closed very well with the band's upbeat single 'I Get Off'. I particularly loved the way the encore started with 'Here's to Us' before moving onto finishing off with a high tempo song 'I Miss the Misery'. And with that, off went my mate and I to the pub for a couple more cheeky pints before we decided to call it a night.



As someone who has recently moved away from listening to a lot of hard rock, I would have to say I might have to re-consider a return to the genre after that performance. After the success the band has had after the release of *The Strange Case Of...*, I can only hope that they would continue in that upward trajectory and become a genre defining band with their 3rd album. It doesn't matter when they release it, as long as it's composed well, I can see great things happening for the group.

AMS album of the week

The Flaming Lips: *The Terror*

The Flaming Lips have come a long way since their debut album. *Hear It Is*, released in 1986 (not even kidding), was a grungey, noisy garage punk affair that few will even recognise as the psychedelic pop band who would cause such a stir in later years. From 1995-2002 the Flaming Lips released the holy trinity of neo-psychedelia with the completely nuts *Clouds Taste Metallic*, the beautiful *The Soft Bulletin* and the commercial behemoth *Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots*. Since then they've been a little less consistent. 2006's *At War With the Mystics* took Yoshimi's commercialised direction with little of the sincerity whilst 2009's *Embryonic* returned them to their experimental roots with mixed results. In and around that we've had a **Pink Floyd** cover album, a collaboration album featuring **Kesha** and **Chris Martin** and a 24 hour song you could buy encased in a real human skull (not even kidding). This is their first proper album since 2009, so where have Wayne *et al.* decided to take us this time?



The answer is disappointment central. I feel like I came to this with reasonable expectations. I wasn't expecting another *Soft Bulletin* or *Yoshimi*. I had already come to terms with the fact they would never scale such peaks again. I have assessed their stuff since then on in its own merits and been impressed every time. The problem with *The Terror* is that for the first time in 27 years the Flaming Lips have done something boring. You can say what you want about releasing a 24 hour song you could buy encased in a real human skull, but at least you have something to say about it. There's just not really anything here worth discussing. It reminds me a lot of the aforementioned *Hear It Is*. The first track is fantastic and then it tails off. It's a band who obviously have something but this is only a glimpse of what they're capable of. The problem is that they are obviously on the other side of the peak now. On *Hear It Is* you can attribute it to a band finding its feet, hear it is (see what I did there?) a band losing them. Hopefully I'll be proved wrong, and they'll recover. For now though, a dark cloud hovers over me: I am not excited about the next Flaming Lips material.

Stuart Masson

So epic it Hurts

Mark England Music Editor

Hurts are a duo from Manchester who I was undecided about; were they some bizarrely intelligent synth pop saviours (their debut sold over a million copies worldwide), or were they, in fact, an industry joke: two blokes with very good connections, who possibly have shares in Moss Bros, and a good eye for publicity stunts. So when a copy of their new album, *Exile*, dropped on my desk, I was intrigued to find out if it could shed any more light.

If you look at the album cover, and listen to the first few tracks it is clear that Hurts have only really one setting – "epic". Every moment tries to out-epic the last, with phrases like "miracle", "heart of gold" and "watch as the world burns" bandied around so much it comes at you like **U2** soundtracking that moment in the *Lion King* where Simba gets raised in the air on that big rock. Let's just say that understated is not a word Hurts have heard of.

I am not saying that this is a bad

thing; anthems have their place in today's musical landscape. 'Sandman' is a track which works well with hints of Krautrock as well as a bit of R&B. Lead single 'Miracle' is probably the standout moment with more vigour than a whole pack of Alka-Seltzer. Among the few hits, however, are many more misses which come off on the wrong side of tired Euro-pop. This album provides ample evidence why Hurts enjoy massive support in continental Europe, but are perhaps less well received over here.

Six or seven songs into the album and the over the top nature of the album starts to grate and you start wishing that Hurts lived in a less grandiose and emotive bubble. I started to wish that they had been a bit more Berlin and a bit less Bulgaria because there are moments when the electro-shtick works. And then something strange happens, 'The Crow' comes on, bringing with a feeling that the album is sorely lacking – it doesn't try too hard. True, it is the token slow ballad near



the end, but at least it gives me time to take a breather from the epic rollercoaster that as so far made me feel a bit nauseous. I start to believe the lyrics more when they are not constantly backed by soaring synths and rammed into anthemic choruses.

So this album has not really solved the issue I had with Hurts, continuing in a similar vein to their debut. Do they really believe in the drama they are peddling? I am not convinced but I can congratulate them on actually getting this far because when they arrived I was sure that they would be a one-album-wonder type band. So kudos.

Which guest ale should we have in April?

Last month we had our first poll for guest ales in the Union Bar and FiveSixEight. Yardbird was the worthy winner and the guest ale has been available since last week. It's now time to pick the guest ale for April. There are five choices this month, all of which are below. All you have to do is go to imperialcollegeunion.org/realales and vote for your favourite - the ale with the highest vote wins. It's that simple! **The poll closes at 23:59, Sunday 24 March**, and the winning ale will be on sale after Easter. The ale will join our regular ales, IPA (£2.90 a pint) and Tolly English Ale (or TEA - £2.20 a pint). Thank you to all those who voted last month, and we look forward to seeing which ale YOU want to see in April.



BELHAVEN 80/- 4.2%

£3.30 a pint
Type: Bitter

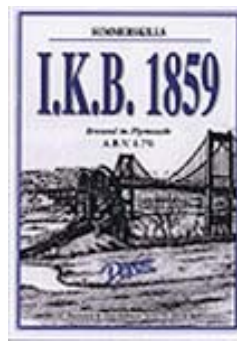
A memorable rounded ale, a complex mix of grain and hop, producing Belhaven's easily recognised malty and nutty flavour.



CARITAS 4.0%

£3.40 a pint
Type: Pale ale

A blonde ale with a slight citrus taste and fruit aroma, 5p from every pint will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.



I.K.B. 1859 4.7%

£3.50 a pint
Type: Bitter

Mid brown in colour with a rich malt flavour. A beer produced for the bi-centenary of Brunel's birth.



RED MACGREGOR 4.0%

£3.30 a pint
Type: Ruby beer

Delicate, floral and fruity, with notes of violets, cherries, toffee and caramel with a biscuit malt and spicy hop finish.



URBAN DUSK 4.6%

£3.50 a pint
Type: Bitter

Chestnut coloured premium bitter with malts providing coffee aromas with some hazelnut, caramel and dark fruit flavours and citrus notes.

imperialcollegeunion.org/realales

Student Academic Choice Awards - nominations still open

Nominations are open now and have been coming in thick and fast! There are eight awards in total that will cover all faculties, departments and campuses. There will also be specific prizes available for those who supervise doctoral students, teach master's students, and work in professional roles within College. The awards aren't designed to be a popularity contest but a recognition of innovation, skill, engagement and energy that students have received from academics.

We will give awards for:

- Best Feedback
- Best Graduate Teaching Assistant
- Best Innovation
- Best Supervision
- Best Support Staff
- Best Teaching for Taught Postgraduates
- Best Teaching for Undergraduates
- Best Tutoring

We are looking for nominations from every department, centre, study type and campus, and that's where you come in! You can still nominate at imperialcollegeunion.org/academicchoice.

imperialcollegeunion.org/academicchoice

Imperial's easiest exam! Sexual health clinic on Tuesday



Imperial College Union has booked a free, twice-termly sexual health clinic from the Terrence Higgins Trust, starting on Tuesday 19 March, 11:00 – 16:00. This clinic will offer chlamydia, gonorrhoea, and rapid HIV testing, condoms, and advice. The clinic is open and free to all students regardless of age, gender, study type or country of origin.

To book a slot please come to the East Wing Basement in Beit Quad from 10.30 where 15-minute slots will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We will release extra slots at 13:00 for those unable to attend at 10:30.

For more information please contact our Representation Coordinator, Zoe Richardson (z.richardson@imperial.ac.uk).

MUSIC

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



icradio

LISTINGS

To listen, go to
<http://www.icradio.com/>
and just hit "listen live"

Friday

08:00 – 10:00 IC Breakfast
Friday morning means one thing. Excellent music and friendly chatter to get you ready for Friday and the weekend.

13:00 – 14:00 Audible Range

16:00 – 17:00 The Ornithological Hour

17:00 – 18:00 A Few Of My Favourite Things
Top tunes and interesting topics

18:00 – 19:00 Rock and Roll Ain't Noise Pollution

20:00 – 21:00 Mad Craic
Award-winning Mad Craic features tunes and banter from the wonderfully English Craig Woods and the astonishingly Irish Aislinn Hayes

22:00 – 23:00 The Audio Express

Saturday

23:00 – 00:00 Land of Nod
A soundtrack to your dreams, drifting through various forms of minimalist music.

Sunday

15:00 – 17:00 The National Student Radio Chart Show
The chart show by students across the UK with unsigned and chart music - Hosted by a different student station every week!

17:00 – 18:00 The Happy Hour
Join the Sunday fun with Happy Michael "This week features the funny side elections and #EmailStorm + maybe a complimentary laughing fit!"

Monday

12:00 – 14:00 Your Neighbours Will Love This
Monday getting you down? Got fucked up all weekend and done no work? Ease the pain with a reminder of Saturday night on Monday lunchtimes.

16:00 – 17:00 Monday Matter

18:00 – 19:00 Honey and Vinegar
Playing the best of the latest indie pop and hip-hop (with the occasional cheeky mashup). Tune in to listen to new music every Monday at 6

19:00 – 20:00 IC Sessions
Student talent, MGT Studio join

us for an exclusive live session and interview from the IC Radio production studios.

20:00 – 21:00 The Eclectic Ectoplasm
An eclectic mix of anything and everything. The best music on ICRadio every Monday evening.

21:00 – 22:00 All Mod Cons
If you like music, frequent technical problems and unusual pan-european accents, this is the show for you!

Tuesday

20:00 – 21:00 Best Foot Forward
A weekly fix of brand new indie/alt/electronica

21:00 – 22:00 Bangin' Tunes on the Most Awesomest Show in the Entire Universe

23:00 – 00:00 Beneath the Paving Stones, the Beach
Presenting highlights of the last fortnights releases. Occasional guest mixes too.

Wednesday

10:00 – 11:00 AKA

17:00 – 18:00 You Know Who!
HipHop Live & Direct!

Thursday

10:00 – 11:00 Morning Musings

16:00 – 17:00 The Communist Propaganda Show
Eclectic energetic electronica, musical miscellanea and amusing musings. You will be surprised, delighted, and surprised! Fune the tuck in!

17:00 – 18:00 The Jumble Sale

19:00 – 20:00 Touch Bass
Modern electronic and bass music with Seb and Chris.

21:00 – 22:00 The AMS Night Bus
Music from many genres and many years, following a theme each week.

23:00 – 00:00 Skank On Air
Chill out every Thursday night with Skank On Air! Good Jamaican roots music with massive reggae, dub and ska tunes all night long !!

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22
MARCH

ROCK KARAOKE & ALE & CIDER FESTIVAL



17:00 - 03:00 IN ALL BARS
£2.50 BEFORE 19:00 / £4.00 AFTER

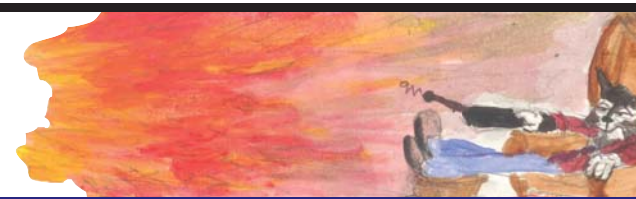
The end of term Carnival with a wide selection of real ales and ciders on offer. Test your singing skills with a live band in Metric and challenge your friends to a duel with our inflatable Boxing and Gladiator rings. The Union's fab DJ's will then see off the end of term.

imperialcollegeunion.org/whats-on

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college
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TELEVISION

Television Editor: Lucia Podhorska
television.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Who run the world?

Emily Fulham reviews a better *Sex and the City*?

“I don’t want to freak you out, but I think that I may be the voice of my generation.” So says Hannah Horvath, the main character of HBO’s *Girls*, in the very first episode of the show. It’s a line that’s come back to haunt Lena Dunham, the show’s creator, writer and co-producer, who also plays the character of Hannah – in spite of the line being uttered by the naïve, self-involved character of her own creation, it’s often been attributed to Dunham herself. Fans believe the show is a raw, realistic picture of what it’s like to be fresh into adulthood in today’s society, while critics attack it for being vapid and self-indulgent. So, is *Girls* really the show that’s defining a whole new generation of young women?

On the face of it, *Girls* is nothing new: a show about four twenty-something women, living in New York City and dealing with jobs, men, and life in the city. The show’s first series opens with struggling writer Hannah being cut off by her parents, forcing her to abandon her unpaid internship and attempt to find a real job. Marnie, her best friend from college, is working at an art gallery while attempting to escape from the familiarity of her relationship with an overbearing boyfriend. Shoshanna, the youngest character, is a college student whose biggest secret is that she’s still a virgin, while her cousin, Jessa, is a

free-spirited traveller with a penchant for wearing transparent clothes to her babysitting job.

So far, so *Sex and the City*? At first glance, it all seems pretty familiar, but when you get down to it, what differentiates *Girls* is its lack of pretension. These are women just out of college, struggling to find jobs and pay the rent (just how did Carrie Bradshaw afford that Manhattan apartment by writing one column a week, anyway?) and trying to figure out what comes next. There may be fewer Manolo Blahniks and Cosmopolitans, but what *Girls* lacks in glamour, it makes up for with realism. And while *Sex and the City* typically featured the characters dating a seemingly endless stream of men, the relationships in *Girls* are a lot more honest, from Hannah’s insecurity about her body during sex, to Marnie becoming bored with her long-term boyfriend, and Shoshanna’s struggle to find a man who won’t judge her for being a virgin. The male characters are just as interesting as the women: Hannah’s main love interest, Adam, may at first come across as a repulsive creep, but there’s more to him than meets the eye.

The characters are often embarrassing, selfish, and at times just plain unlikeable – but that’s what makes them so relatable. Refreshingly, these aren’t the air-brushed, glamorous women so often offered to us on TV. The show



also isn’t afraid of dealing with difficult issues: unwanted pregnancy, mental illness, and, in one particularly excruciating scene set in an STI clinic, worrying about “the stuff that gets up around the side of condoms”. However, the show’s portrayal of female friendships – something desperately lacking in most TV shows – is where it really shines.

And then, there’s the backlash. The show has provoked an almost unprec-

edented level of criticism against Lena Dunham. Some of it is valid: for a show set in one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the world, there’s a whole lot of white people and not much else. Other complaints, such as that of Dunham’s character being too overweight to realistically sleep with the men that she does, smacks more of pettiness and, perhaps, anger that Dunham, at only 26, is writing and directing a wildly

successful show in a TV world ruled over mostly by men.

Girls is definitely a show worth watching, especially for anyone worrying about the “what comes next?” part of leaving university. It may not provide many answers, but it’ll give you plenty to think about.

(The second series of *Girls* is currently airing on Sky Atlantic)

The Miranda Effect

Giulia Gabrielli Television Writer

Every Monday night this term, I have patiently and loyally tuned in to watch the latest episode of *Miranda*. After the past couple of series of goofiness and misunderstandings, we’d all probably had enough of it. There’s only a certain amount of anthropomorphic fruit one can stand. However, after having wisely kept off our screens for a few years, Miranda Hart was back on Boxing Day, ready for another season. And as the last episode came and went last week, I find myself actually missing my Monday-night dose of slapstick.

Miranda has a weird effect on my mind; a bit like watching my parents interact with friends I bring home. Inevitably, I can’t help but observe. I hope that this time it will be different,

that they will be cool and poised, but alas I end up cringing with embarrassment time after time. I doubt the show was created with the intention of being such a tragicomic form of light entertainment: someone wrote the script with the idea that people would be rolling around in laughter. Every time Miranda exits a door carrying an object evidently too large to fit through it, or walks into a conspicuous pile of boxes, we are at least supposed to smile, or giggle, if not laugh out loud. Don’t get me wrong, there is laughter in *Miranda*, and lots of it, but it is not for the slapstick, because we dread her making a fool of herself, and dread is not an emotion that gets us rolling around. So why do we still love *Miranda*? Why, even though we physically suffer when she slips or farts, do we still tune in and smile with satisfaction when the sim-

ple, cheerful titles come up?

We feel for Miranda because she is a worse version of all of us, but still has more confidence. We feel for her because she is more dignified when her mother tries to marry her off to strangers than whilst performing any everyday task. We feel for her because she does not settle for bad timing with Gary, but waits patiently for the right moment to occur. Miranda manages to give depth to a 2D character designed to fall over and knock things down. She is a stereotype with an unapologetic personality that we can’t help appreciating, if not loving. In addition, when she’s not trying too hard to be funny, she is actually hilarious. She is at her best while pinpointing the flaws of her posh friends, or bantering with her bestie, and I personally can’t avoid recognizing myself in her as she admits to being scared



of peeing in a field at a festival. In all honesty, don’t we all wish we could be as cool as her as we fall over in front of

a large lecture theatre full of people, or send an embarrassing message to the wrong person? I know I do.

Dramsoc's summer term play:

The Comedy of Errors

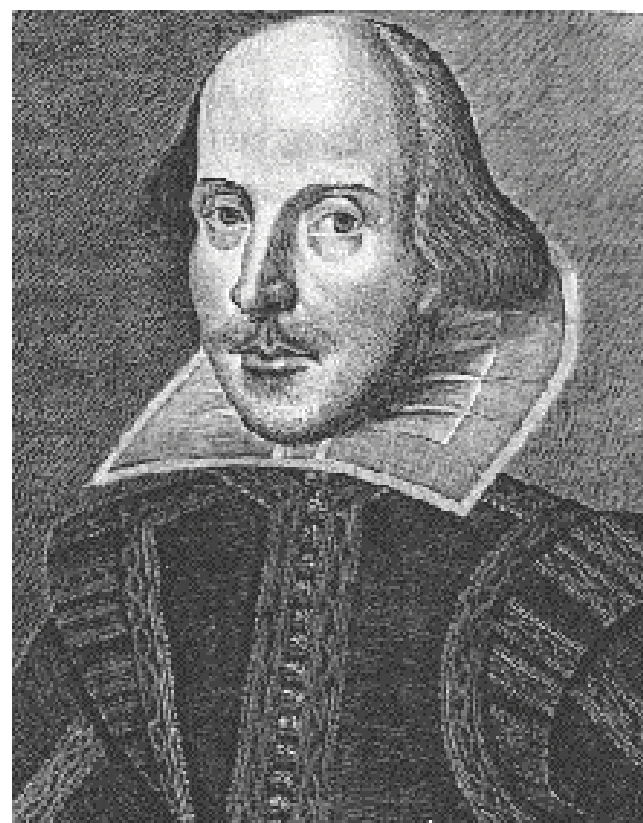
by William Shakespeare

AUDITIONS

Wed, 20/03/2013 18:00 - 21:00
Union Meeting Room 1

Thu, 21/03/2013 18:00 - 21:00
Union Meeting Room 8
(East Basement)

Sat, 23/03/2013 13:00 - 18:00
Union Meeting Room 4
(East Basement)



For more information,
see the Facebook event:
tinyurl.com/Dramsoc-ComedyOfErrors

FILM

Film Editors: Katy Bettany,
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Do they know som

Lucy Wiles

Film Editor

Despite only being almost a quarter of the way into 2013, these last few months have definitely been celebrating the film industry. But with the Oscars over and done with, what's coming next? Apparently, a plethora of sci-fi and apocalypse films – are the producers trying to warn us? **Felix Film** has outlined the coming movies... just in case.

This Is The End

Release Date: June 28th

Directors: Evan Goldberg, Seth Rogen

Cast: Jay Baruchel, Seth Rogen, Emma Watson, Craig Robinson, James Franco, Jonah Hill, Rihanna



Ok, we'll admit – we don't have high hopes for this one. A cast including Seth Rogen, Emma Watson and Rihanna? Can you imagine how weird that wrap party would be? The story isn't fabulous either, despite being conceived by Rogen. A huge and very fun looking party is underway at James Franco's house, with a surprisingly A-list group of attendees. All of a sudden, a global apocalypse begins. Don't you just hate it when that happens? So the guests (all playing themselves, by the way) do what they can to save themselves. Clearly, this film will only be good if the celebs involved are willing to completely take the piss out of themselves. If not, it's going to be absolutely horrific.



Oblivion

Release date: April 12th

Director: Joseph Kosinski

Cast: Tom Cruise, Olga Kurylenko, Morgan Freeman, Andrea Riseborough, Melissa Leo, Zoe Bell, Nicolaj Coster-Waldau

Ok, so this one's already in the cinemas, but it fits quite well in so we thought we'd better include it. Based on the graphic novel (apparently we aren't allowed to call it a comic) of the same name written by director Kosinski, the tale follows Jak Harper (Cruise) who lives his life on planet Earth that was long since destroyed during a battle with aliens. When he finds and rescues a 22-year-old traveller from a survival pod, he is forced to question all he knows about life and his mission. It's not a bad film, all things (*cough* Cruise) considered. The visuals are great – the ruined Earth contrasts brilliantly with the scientific-looking pods floating above it. The script has been much praised, and, although it wasn't a common sight at the recent awards ceremonies, *Oblivion* is certainly worth a watch.

World War Z

Release Date: June 21st

Director: Marc Foster

Cast: Brad Pitt, Mireille Enos, James Badge Dale, Matthew Fox, David Morse, Bryan Cranston

Based on the Max Brooks' best-selling book of the same name, this is the tale of how a zombie epidemic becomes somewhat out of control. Now a global pandemic, the suitably American UN operative Gerry Lane (Pitt) is roaming all over the world in an attempt to discover a way to stop this undead madness. The hordes of zombies have destroyed human civilization, and are doing their utmost to kill off the tiny group of survivors... and Brad Pitt is left in charge of saving the world. Clearly everyone is doomed...? There have been several problems reported in film news about the making of this movie, and the slightly lacklustre trailer hasn't helped the image of the film. However, the book is SO good that the producers would have to do something quite spectacularly bad to get this very wrong. So here's hoping.



After Earth

Release Date: June 7th

Director: M. Night Shyamalan

Cast: Will Smith, Jaden Smith, Isabelle Fuhrmann, Zoe Kravitz, David Denman

Starring Will Smith and his son Jayden as exotically named father and son duo Cypher and Kitai Raige, *After Earth* follows the pair as they attempt to transport humanity away from the dying planet Earth. However, things don't go quite to plan, and their craft crash lands on a planet that was abandoned a thousand years ago. Sound like a reasonable premise, although M. Night Shyamalan was responsible for *The Last Airbender* (possibly the worst film ever). Having said that, he was also the writer of *The Sixth Sense*, so maybe he might be able to get to the top again with this latest attempt. At least the Smith team should be good.



The Hunger Games: Catching Fire

Release Date: November 22nd

Director: Francis Lawrence

Cast: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Woody Harrelson, Lenny Kravitz, Elizabeth Banks

Ok, so it's not really an apocalypse film – but it just about fits the bill. It is several centuries into the future in a new version of old America (now Panem) and, having returned home victorious from the 74th Annual Hunger Games after flouting the rules set by the twisted government of the Capitol, Katniss (Lawrence) and Peeta (Hutcherson) must now undertake the long Victors' Tour of all the down-trodden districts in the Capitol-controlled country. Their rebellion in the Hunger Games' arena didn't go unnoticed, however, and some of the Districts are stirring with rebellions of their own. With Katniss fanning the flame at every turn, the Capitol will stop at nothing to keep Panem under their exclusive control. With her knee still bleeding from her fall to pick up her Best Actress Oscar, Lawrence can only be outstanding. With a stellar cast backing her up (some of whom made their names in the last film), this sequel is sure to be as big a hit as *The Hunger Games* was.



The World's End

Release Date: August 14th

Director: Edgar Wright

Cast: Simon Pegg, Nick Frost, Martin Freeman, Paddy Considine, Eddie Marsan, Rosamund Pike



Not to be confused with *This Is The End*, this is the third (and supposedly final) film in Wright, Pegg and Frost's famed 'Three Flavours Cornetto' trilogy (aka the 'Blood and Ice Cream' trilogy) which includes the smash hit *Shaun of the Dead* and the very funny, but somewhat gory, *Hot Fuzz*. A group of old friends (Pegg, Frost, Marsan, Considine and Freeman) reunite after a few years for a good old pub crawl, which is set to finish at a pub called The World's End. Annoyingly, the world actually starts to end, and – such is their determination – the quintet must struggle through their pub crawl via the apocalypse. It's looking promisingly good: Pegg and Frost haven't let us down yet, and the odds are on that this hotly-anticipated and very long-awaited last installment will also be a good'un.

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FILM

Something we don't?

Pacific Rim

Release Date: July 12th
Director: Guillermo Del Toro
Cast: Charlie Hunnam, Rinko Kikuchi, Idris Elba, Charlie Day, Ron Perlman, Burn Gorman, Clifton Collins Jr.

This one's not set too far in the future, so hang on to your hats. Irritatingly, portals to other dimensions keep opening and letting giant monsters ('kaiju') through to planet Earth. These monsters have a habit of destroying Earth's cities, so the human nations retaliate by building giant robots ('Jaegers' – not affiliated with the clothes store) to fight off the beasts. However, there are more and more portals opening, and the world's resources are getting low. Luckily, an old Jaeger pilot named Raleigh (Hunnam) and his battered old Jaeger come back into battle to, hopefully, save the day. Seriously – what's not to like? This film has 'fabulous' written all over it. The effects are going to be outstanding, better than any other giant robots film, and del Toro has added his skills to the project: the cast are fresh and keen, and the visuals are heavily detailed. This could be something amazing – eat your heart out, *Transformers*.



Ender's Game

Release Date: October 25th
Director: Gavin Hood
Cast: Asa Butterfield, Harrison Ford, Abigail Breslin, Hailee Steinfeld, Ben Kingsley, Viola Davis, Moises Arias, Jimmy Pinchak, Aramis Knight

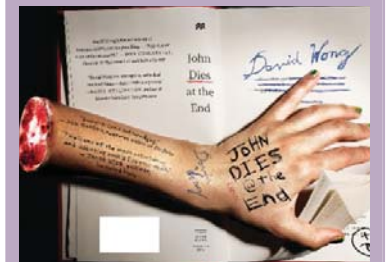
An alien race called the Buggers (no joke) has taken a dislike to humanity and has had a good go and wiping us out. Now the leaders of the human race have responded by creating a massive fleet ready for attacking, and are currently searching the Earth for the right people to lead it. In the search for the necessary tactical masterminds, they find a possible contender in young Andrew 'Ender' Wiggins (Butterfield). He is transported to an orbiting Battle School to be trained by Colonel Hyrum Graff (Ford). The film is based on the 1985 novel of the same name by Orson Scott Card, which is a really good book (in fact the whole series are really good books) but hasn't been made into a movie until now for various reasons (mostly some reasonably fierce children fighting each other) some of which aren't really translatable to the screen. But, if handled well, this could be an epic film, and lead to an excellent franchise.



John Dies At The End

Release Date: March 22
Director: Don Coscarelli
Cast: Chase Williamson, Rob Mayes, Paul Giamatti, Clancy Brown, Doug Jones

Well that's blown that, then. There is nothing more annoying than knowing what happens – it's like the start of *Moulin Rouge* all over again. Mind you, this film looks so bad we're not sure we mind too much. Dave (Williamson) and John (Mayes) are two college dropouts who discover that a dodgy drug called 'Soy Sauce' is causing users to have seriously weird hallucinations... and become alien monsters who want to destroy everything in their path. Dave and John have to save the day. And, presumably, John dies. See – it doesn't sound like a winner. The director isn't hugely well known, nor are either of the leads – but it may prove us wrong. Unlikely though.



Star Trek Into Darkness (3D)

Release Date: May 17th
Director: J.J. Abrams
Cast: Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Benedict Cumberbatch, John Cho, Simon Pegg, Karl Urban, Anton Yelchin, Zoe Saldana, Alice Eve, Bruce Greenwood

It's not looking good for London. According to the officially released précis, in the 23rd century an 'unstoppable force of terror from within their own organisation' has detonated the Starfleet – resulting in mega mayhem for the world. The slightly egotistical Captain Kirk (Pine) has his own reasons to bring the 'one man weapon of mass destruction' (the ever-fabulous Cumberbatch) to his knees – no matter what the consequences for his own crew. The last *Star Trek* movie was, we can all agree, a wonderful success. Living up to its hype, the last film attracted life-long followers and new fans alike, bringing forward a new generation of Trekkies – all ready for this latest installment in one of the world's most successful franchises. With the mood decidedly darker this time around, it'll be very interesting to see how to new team fares against the bad guy.



Elysium

Release Date: September 20th
Director: Neill Blomkamp
Cast: Matt Damon, William Fichtner, Jodie Foster, Diego Luna, Sharlto Copley, Talisa Soto

The year is 2159 and there are two very distinct groups of people: the wealthy, who live in lovely floating cities with masses of security, and the poor, who live down on the destroyed and ravaged Earth's surface. Former criminal Max (Damon) is forced to accept a mission that could save his life, as well as creating a fairer balance between the rich and the poor. Considering Blomkamp's last film was the highly commended *District 9*, his follow-up is bound to be exciting. The moral argument here (this film is definitely for the 99%) is an interesting one, and Max's mission is sure to be a testing one. Damon is sure to be in his element here, combining the two roles he plays best: hard action man, and guy for everyone.

Riddick

Release Date: TBC
Director: David Twohy
Cast: Vin Diesel, Karl Urban, Katee Sackhoff, Jordi Mollà, Nolan Gerard Funk, Keri Hilson, Dave Batista

Unfortunately for him, Richard B. Riddick is left marooned on a world full of horrifically dangerous predators. But, luckily, Riddick is played by Vin Diesel and predictably kills everything in sight and still looks bald and cool. With that out the way, Riddick must now save his home planet Furya (furrier?) from destruction. Busy busy. The production team are promising a much better film than the poor *Chronicles of Riddick* – with more violence, darker themes and an R rating (UK not decided yet) rather than a PG-13. With the plot seeming a little wishy washy, all we can hope is that Diesel saves the day.

FILM

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Which witch is the wicked witch?



Oz the Great and Powerful

Director: Sam Raimi
Screenwriters: Mitchell Kapner, David Lindsay-Abaire
Starring: James Franco, Mila Kunis, Rachel Weisz, Michelle Williams



John Park

Film Editor

The Wizard of Oz may be a great and powerful man but Sam Raimi's modern origins story possesses neither of those two qualities. Instead of going for something grand and epic, Raimi opts for the easy way out, pouring all of his expensive budget into the scenic visual treat. There is very little focus on building any kind of coherent story, and much like Tim Burton's highly disappointing *Alice in Wonderland* back in 2010, the film's heart is in all the wrong places – which comes as yet another letdown. In the traditional *Wizard of Oz*

style, the film starts off in black-and-white mode, as we are introduced to Oscar/Oz (Franco), a womanising, self-centred circus magician/con-artist who dreams of not just goodness, but greatness. After a string of events that land him in a hot air balloon in the midst of a terrifying tornado, Oscar narrowly escapes death and ends up in the colourful land of Oz.

Here is where the film churns out an endless stream of magnificent looking unique features of Oz's nature – the trees, the flowers, the leaves, all the bright, vibrant colours come to life more so with the extra dimension, and this head-spinning sequence goes on for far too long in fact, completely going over the top, spending more than the necessary amount of time concentrating on its pretty visuals rather than pushing on with the story.

Meeting him first is Theodora (Kunis) the good witch, who then introduces him to her sister Evanora (Weisz), who clearly isn't a very good witch. There is a prophecy in Oz that a great wizard bearing the same name as their world will descend

from the skies, will defeat the Wicked Witch and will restore peace. That man appears to be Oscar himself, who instantly grabs the opportunity to become rich and powerful.

Theodora truly falls for him, even delving into a fantasy world of her own where she will become Oscar's wife and the two of them will rule over Oz as a happy couple. The sinister Evanora isn't convinced, and the political power struggle between the witches is further complicated by Glinda (Williams) who is so clearly the purest one of them all, what with her white dress and blonde hair. Lies and deceit tear these individuals apart, and eventually there comes a time where Oscar needs to step up, and lead an army to overthrow the dark powers that control Oz.

Only that it takes absolutely ages for Oscar to come to his senses. There is a lot of repetition when it comes to portraying him as a money/power/woman-hungry human who only cares about the royal treasures of Oz. Okay we get that he needs to change and as this is a Disney film we also know that he will play the hero in the end but the film's narrative is

bogged down by one too many references to the fact that he's capable of more than he knows.

But when it comes to the finale and linking everything together with what we've seen in *The Wizard of Oz*, the film does manage to establish some clever links and use Oscar's baseline skills to its advantage in creating a big showdown. His skills as a con-artist he used so well on Earth are put to good use here, as are his sneaky wits. Franco does his best with the very limited sides to his lead character, one shallow, the other reformed and committed, but he brings enough cheeky humour into the role to provide some intermittent laughs.

As his sidekicks, the two computer animated characters are absolutely spot-on in design. The China Girl (Joey King) and Finley (Zach Braff) the flying monkey, though they don't exactly do much to contribute for most of the film's plot, show what amazing things tons of money and special effects can do.

Infuriatingly side-lined however, are the three witches. Their relationships are barely explored, and the dubious intentions that often

don't make a lot of sense are forced in to spice up the dynamic between the three of them. Weisz, the obvious villain here, is disappointingly given a character too similar to that of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* in that she's obsessed with looks, and she cunningly uses a poisoned apple to get her way. Weisz has a lot of fun with her duplicitous trouble-making witch, although she doesn't get nearly enough screen time to shine. Kunis gets the juiciest part here as the film's worst kept secret, and most obvious twist turn out to be true, hint hint. Williams is as lovely as ever but a touch bland, and frustratingly without much power. There is a witch duel between Glinda and Evanora, one that ends far too quickly without ever feeling as epic as the trailers make it out to be.

All in all it's a hugely missed opportunity, that cannot even make up for its thin plot with all the love for its visual department. The heart simply is not there, and neither is the excitement. Everything may look amazing, (the big, grand palaces, the costumes etc) but what's behind them is surprisingly empty and hollow.

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FILM

Steven Soderbergh's swan song

Side Effects

Director: Steven Soderbergh
Screenwriter: Scott Z. Burns
Starring: Jude Law, Rooney Mara, Channing Tatum, Catherine Zeta-Jones



John Park

Film Editor

As a medic, I should know the most common side effects of any prescribed medication are nausea and vomiting. Brutally stabbing your husband to death whilst sleep-walking, isn't usually one of them. But that is exactly what happens when Emily Taylor (Mara) starts on a new course of anti-depressants following her aforementioned husband's (Tatum)

release from prison. She is nervous, constantly anxious, and withdrawn from life, which is what prompts Dr Jonathan Banks (Law) to try out Ablixa.

Life is good again for Emily, she has regained her sex drive, something her insider-trading husband is insanely happy about, given her previous bouts of depression. A couple of harmless episodes of sleepwalking don't bother him much, that is until he gets a kitchen knife stuck inside him multiple times. Distraught and confused, Emily is still sent to prison and put on trial, with Dr Banks committed to fighting for her acquittal.

But things become more complicated than that. To give more details on further plot development would be giving away far too much, but Steven Soderbergh's slick little retirement project (he has stated that this will be his last big-screen film – he has one more television movie due to be released later this year) has more twists and turns than what you can

see coming. And with every bold jerk to the narrative, the less "believable" it may become. But with a film dressed as a psychosexual thriller, a certain stretch of the imagination is entirely acceptable, and Soderbergh uses every opportunity to take advantage of that.

Controversy surrounds Banks' practising methods, and soon he finds himself in the middle of a much darker conspiracy than he anticipated. And with Law, Soderbergh finds himself a very convincing helpless victim but one who is not willing to go down without a fight. He's an intelligent man who puts the pieces together quickly, which is a relief for the audience as the film gets on with its developments. And it gives our victim/protagonist plenty of time to set things right. Law does have the satisfying final laugh in the end, something we all end up supporting.

Mara, hot off her Oscar-nominated success from David Fincher's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, tackles

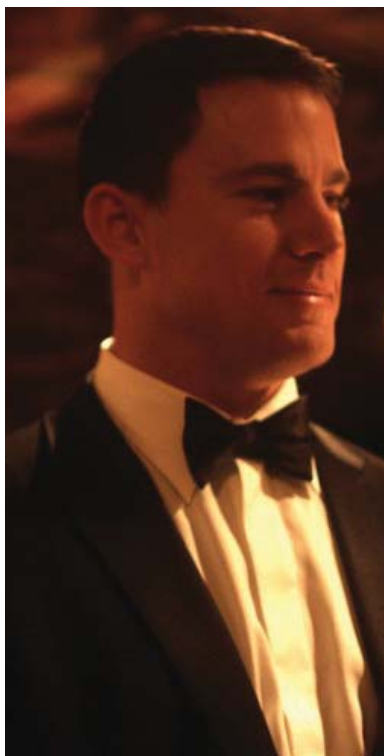
yet another complex role with dominance. Hers is a particularly ambiguous and challenging one, but this new young talent very skilfully inhabits her duplicitous persona. Essentially the film's biggest twist rests on this single performance, and she cleverly balances the two main sides to her fascinating lead character: the chilly, calculating, as well as the young and vulnerable.

Zeta-Jones, as Emily's previous psychiatrist Dr Victoria Siebert, has never been this sizzling nor has she had a role this fun and meaty in recent years. The fact that a seemingly insignificant part is played by such a famous name should give you some clues as to how much weight she'll carry in the later scenes. And as more is revealed she becomes a crucial part in the bigger picture, an intriguing piece of the overall puzzle.

With its hazy, dream-like photography, Soderbergh is highly effective in creating a sense of ambiguity throughout his scenes. He doesn't

quite venture into the "what is real, what isn't real" type of complicated theme but rather stays grounded and involved in the decisions these very human characters make. This also isn't too interested in having a go at the pharmaceutical industry itself – again, here is a thriller solely focused on its small cast who collectively deliver a stellar piece of work.

The plotting is mostly tight, and the film does verge into the more ridiculous territory as it moves on, and how everything fits together with all the big reveals will no doubt require multiple viewings, having all the facts straight. Whether everything flows smoothly is questionable, but it doesn't stop the fact that this film is absolutely bizarre and bonkers, which is just as well, given the subject it handles. And as his retirement project, this is an entirely appropriate way to end Soderbergh's unique, multiple-genre-conquering directorial career. He will of course be greatly missed from the big screen.



FILM

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A tale of two all nighters

IC Cinema get the Red Bull at the ready

A long time ago, in a Union room far, far away an intrepid young fresher decided to attend her first all-nighter. Young and innocent, this girl did not know what to expect and this is the magical, mystifying tale of what she found there...

Well maybe magical and mystifying aren't quite the right words, when you consider that the long time ago happened to be Christmas, and that the Union Concert Hall in Beit really isn't that far away. But I digress. I shall set the scene. A young, fresh faced girl considers her options for the last week of term. She suspects that it may well be spent in an alcohol induced haze, as the nights out and nights in when you've drunk too much to get out continue. But instead she finds herself in a room thick with the smell of popcorn and hot dogs as she prepares to watch the first of many exciting films she has been waiting to see. The rose tinted memories of this night are filled with the happy joyous laughter of those running on caffeine and sugar as they enjoy the incredible, emotional moments of *Madagascar 3*. Or the fear that filled the room at six in the morning as the sleep deprived enjoyed the delights of *Cabin in the Woods*. But her memories are also filled with the camaraderie of those participating in the event. The half joking, half intensely fierce competition over the prime seating, those desirable marked out with layers of blankets and pillows as the owners queue up for food. The quizzical look shared by all with the realisation that the Sainsbury's basic chicken and mushroom pot noodles are vegetarian, but the chicken ones alone are not. And her personal favourite, the three in the morning 'who can drink the most sugary tea' competition with a complete stranger, whilst engaging in a conversation on the comparisons between the film and the novel of *Perks a Being a Wallflower*. And does she regret this decision, despite having lectures the next day? Not in the slightest.

But this is a new term with a new all-nighter. This has been a good term for the cinema, with three films doing particularity well. First we showed the romantic comedy *Silver Linings Playbook*. I'm sure it was noticeable in many ways, one being that it was a romantic comedy that didn't make me want to run away and hide at the over repeated clichés, but it also featured Jennifer Lawrence.

And it is hard not to love a girl who fell over on the steps whilst trying to collect her Oscar for this film. Next it was *Argo*. The film that, through careful manipulation of the facts made America look great and everyone else look a bit rubbish. But even knowing that, I was amazed by how much Ben Affleck made me care for characters that I thought were initially unlikely, to the point that I felt relief when the ending that I knew was coming from the start of the film finally arrived. The last film was showed that had the audience running in their droves was *Life of Pi*. In case you haven't read the book/ seen the trailer or even the poster, this film asks the question. 'What would happen if a boy was trapped on a lifeboat with a tiger?' With stunning visuals and a great score (hello Mr Oscar for both), this film was perhaps my personal favourite of the three. Now you may have noticed, oh observant reader, that these films have something in common. Each one was nominated for the best picture Oscar, and in the case of *Argo*, even won it.

So we took the common denominator of 'People like Oscar best picture nominees' and we stuck not one, not even two, but four into the set list for the Spring All-Nighter. *Lincoln*, *Django Unchained*, *Les Miserables* and *Zero Dark Thirty*. After *Lincoln*, that American, presidency Spielbergy film you will probably feel like an expert on American history. So what better way to test your new found knowledge with the history exam that is *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter*?

Django Unchained alone is worth watching: filled with Tarantino's signature wit and chaotic bravado as seen in the likes of *Pulp Fiction*, coupled with darker insinuations about racism in America, the film also features stunning performances from German dentist turned bounty hunter Dr King. Schultz aka Christoph Waltz in an Oscar winning role and Leonardo DiCaprio in an out of character turn as a nefarious slave owner. Despite what you make of his recent efforts, Django is a definite return to form.

We've also got *Les Mis*. This is the only film I am aware of with a trailer that has made someone cry, which probably says something about how sad it is. And that's just the trailer. Bring your wellies guys, the floor will be sopping from the tears of grown men moved to cry by Anne Hathaway's raw and unintentionally

hot performance. We're charging £1 a hankie. For the tears, you understand.

We're also screening *Zero Dark Thirty* directed by Kathryn Bigelow the film cashing in on the hunt to catch Osama Bin Laden. Based on insider files that may or not have been dubiously authorised by the US government, the film follows the hunt to find Bin Laden through the eyes of a front-line CIA official as it gradually consumes her life. The conclusion which let's face it, doesn't take a genius to figure out, somehow manages to be nerve-bitingly tense and gripping. Just ignore the mildly insufferable America Fuck Yeah! message and you can enjoy how Bigelow's crafted an intense, thrill-ride of a movie.

The last film is famous for the number of Oscars it won. Best Vampire, Most Historically Accurate, Best Overacting, Silliest Fight Scene and Best Axe Swinging at a Tree to mention but a few. Wait, you don't remember these awards? Maybe it was all a dream after all. I did think meeting Jennifer Lawrence was too good to be true.

So there it is. A chance to see five films for the price you would usually pay to see one. And a decent excuse to miss lectures the next day. So what are you waiting for, book your tickets now. I'll see you there!

Line Up:

18:00 Lincoln
21:00 Django Unchained
00:30 Les Miserables
03:30 Zero Dark Thirty
06:30 Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter

The Spring All-Nighter is on Tuesday 19th March.

Tickets are £10 online (until 4pm on the day) or £12 on the door. If you don't fancy staying all night, tickets are £3 per film on the door.

For an extra £5, you can get All-You-Can-Eat Hot Food and Drink all night! This includes the usual mix of tea, coffee, toasties, hot dogs, soup, pot noodles and more.

Tickets can be bought from tickets.imperialcinema.co.uk





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The humble end of term bundle

Ross Webster takes a tour through the island of Android bundle 5

Call me old fashioned, but I always thought that phones were for talking to people, rather than browsing the internet, watching movies and playing games. Nowadays, it seems that phones are primarily used to avoid having to talk to people.

So, in my old fashioned-ness, I never really got into playing games on my phone. Well, as they say, there's a first time for everything, and I booked a return ticket to the land of Humble-topia, and wrote a guide for anyone who is looking for a holiday retreat over the next 5 days, 8 hours, 30 minutes and 24 seconds (note, time remaining may vary depending on when you actually read this article). There's not enough space to cover all the tourist attractions, so here's my top 5 places to visit.

The Sandy Beaches of Solar 2

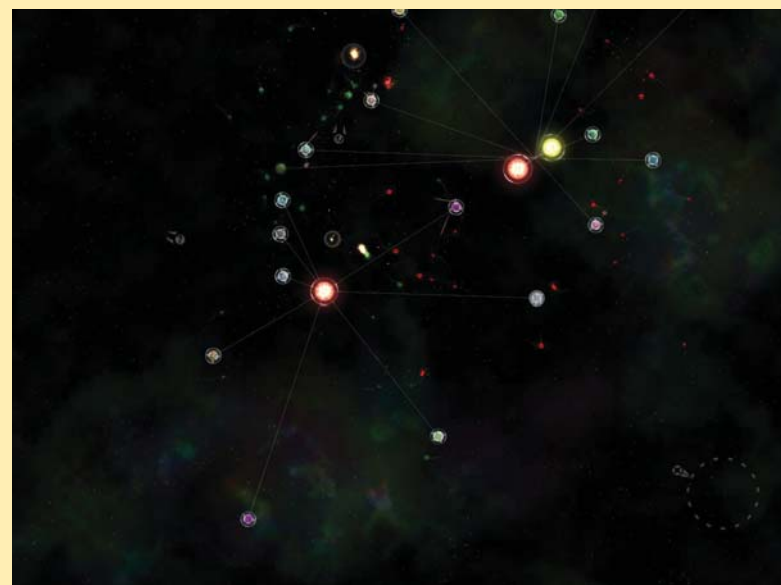
I was confused when I started the tutorial. I was a rock. A sentient rock. I could fly around space and smash into things. I thought I was just messing around, but it seems I was actually playing the game.

The game revolves around mass. As an asteroid, you can smash into other asteroids, and your mass increases. Increase your mass enough, and you become a planet. A barren planet, mind you, so you want to have a civilization on you, requiring more mass. Ramming asteroids now loses you mass, so you have to stalk asteroids till they orbit you, and then you harvest them.

Your populace then sends out ships, places a shield around you, and you

fight other civilizations. I didn't want to kill my people, but you can upgrade to a star (and more, beyond that). It's fun when you're doing well, but it's easy to lose mass, and you're back to the arduous task of increasing your mass to useful levels.

I feel I've only scratched the surface of the game, as I've seen screenshots of you controlling solar systems, and upgrading yourself to a black hole, so it's the top of my list to play when the lectures are getting boring. That being said, I've a feeling the game is more fun on PC, as it's just a little too fiddly on a small screen. It's still a great game though on Android, and alone worth the sub-£10 that you can get the whole bundle for!



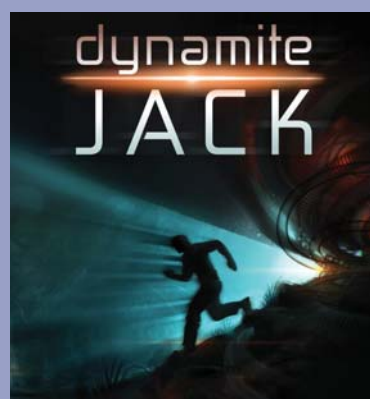
Dynamite Jack's Caving Experience

If there's ever a museum exhibition of games that punish you for being a few pixels out, or a half-second too slow, this game should be the centre-piece.

You are Dynamite Jack, a guy who loves blowing things up, hiding in the darkness, but hates getting shot. The game plays as a speed-oriented stealth game... with dynamite. Blowing through walls can make your job easier, and lets you pick up crystals to

reduce the time spent on the level, but also alerts nearby torch and assault rifle wielding guards. As soon as the torch light hits you, you're shot and have to restart. It seems simple, but it's really kinda tough.

Missions take place in a range of environments – such as tight tunnels where it's easy to slip around a corner, out of sight, and large, open caves where there's not a single piece of cover for miles.



Crayon Physics Valley

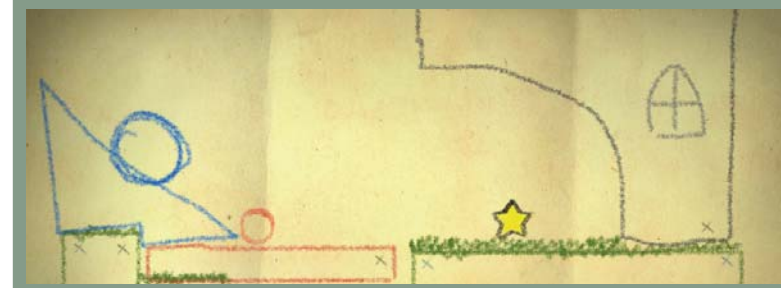
Considering how you're at Imperial, I expect that most of you have probably heard of *Crayon Physics*.

Crayon Physics started in 2007 as a five-day project, inspired by the Experimental Gameplay project. It won awards when it was first shown to the community, and has been spreading to differing devices and platforms ever since.

Your objective is to get a ball to hit a star, by any means necessary. There are often large chasms in the way, so you need to build bridges or ramps to get the ball to the end. Instead of some

awkward spawn menu, you simply draw a shape on the screen and it comes to life, affected by gravity, friction, centre of mass, and so on. The graphic style of the game is that everything is drawn in crayon (hence the name), and the background is a worn piece of paper, which is a really nice touch.

I played the game on Windows when it came out, and it was fine. I think it's a lot more fun on your phone, as you actually draw the objects on the screen with your body parts. The game isn't made to be difficult, it's made to be fun, and fun you will have.



The Super Hexagon Estate

I had heard and seen great things about *Super Hexagon*. You're in control of a marker that you can rotate around the central hexagon. Lines and shapes move towards the middle of the screen, and you have to simply rotate the point out of the way. Tapping the left of the screen, rotates you anti-clockwise, and tapping the right hand side rotates the piece clockwise. Simple.

I, however, seem to suck at this. I barely last 5 seconds before dying, and after multiple tries, I ragequit and need to take a breather, only to get dragged back in! I can see why people say it's a good game – it's quick, it's simple and it has one heck of a difficulty cliff. It might just be that I'm rubbish at it, so if you're a fan of this whole "let's dodge lines" thing, then give it a go.



Beat Hazard Ultra Opera House

If you talk to anyone who has seen my computer or my YouTube history, they'll agree that I have a rather odd taste in music. Unluckily for me, *Beat Hazard Ultra* happens to use the music on your device to create the levels. The faster, or louder the music becomes, the more powerful your weapons become, but also the more numerous and scary the enemies.

The gameplay of *Beat Hazard Ultra* is rather like that of *Asteroids* – you're in control of a small ship in a confined

top-down area, and enemy ships/asteroids enter off-screen. As you blow things apart, you may get items to pickup, such as score multipliers, money, special weapons, weapon upgrades – you get the idea.

There are two modes of playing the game – single stick, or dual stick. Single stick can be thought of as easy mode, as you simply control the direct your ship moves – the AI is in control of your guns, and shoots the nearest target. Dual stick mode sees your right thumb/finger control the direction you aim and fire, whilst

the left control moves you around the screen. My phone's screen isn't exactly small, nor massive, but I find an issue in dual stick mode, because most of the screen is now filled with fingers, and I can't see what I'm shooting at.

I don't find the game too hard, nor too easy, so it's really addictive, and you rank up quickly. When you do so, you get to buy a new perk, and upgrade it with any money you picked up on the way. I think this game's awesome, and I don't think I'll get bored of it anytime soon.



IMPERIAL COLLEGE AHLULBAYT ISLAMIC SOCIETY PRESENTS

An evening of heavenly tajweed recitations of the Holy Qur'an by prominent reciters
Allow the words to sink in your heart in the annual gathering:

Qur'an

My Beloved 2013

Friday 15th March :: 6.30PM

PROFESSIONAL &
STUDENT RECITATIONS

QURAN EXHIBITION

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

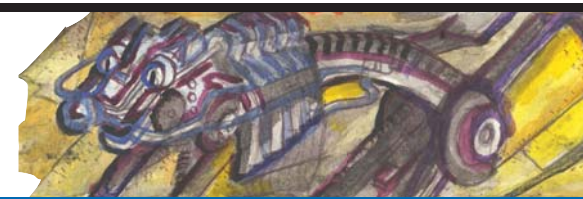
SEMINAR ROOMS
119-122

SIR ALEXANDER
FLEMMING BUILDING

IMPERIAL COLLEGE

EXHIBITION ROAD

SW7 2AZ



Addicted Smartphone Syndrome

Are you a victim of the global smartphone dictatorship?

Maximilian Eggl

Tech Editor

Smartphones affect almost every aspect of the average student's life. Marvels of modern technology, something underlined by the much quoted: "your smartphone has the equivalent processing power of the computers used for the Apollo space missions", they have revolutionised the way we interact with other human beings as well as giving us tools to accomplish a multitude of tasks. In a sense these increasingly powerful devices have freed us from a desk-bound environment, as they can fulfil many tasks that your average desktop would do. All in all it seems smartphones enrich our daily lives.

Now to the absolutely cliché question: or have they? Recent data suggests that smartphones may not really be the boon society has hoped for. A rising trend of smartphone addiction in teens in various first-world countries has led some experts to worry. More than 60 per cent of teens in the UK say they are addicted to their smartphone, and those are just the ones willing to admit to it. You might argue that smartphones increase efficiency, and I couldn't argue against this, as they allow us to utilise the time where we are away from the desktop/laptop. Although they can also help us have fun while at our desks, if instead of studying for your exams, you play with constant vibration apps.

I myself have experienced a somewhat strange consequence of this addiction in Imperial. While sitting in my lecture,

somewhat disillusioned by the dry lecture topic, I decided to take a look around at my fellow students to entertain myself. What I discovered surprised me somewhat. Of the 20 people in my immediate vicinity, about 16 of them had their smartphones either on their desks, laps or in their hands.

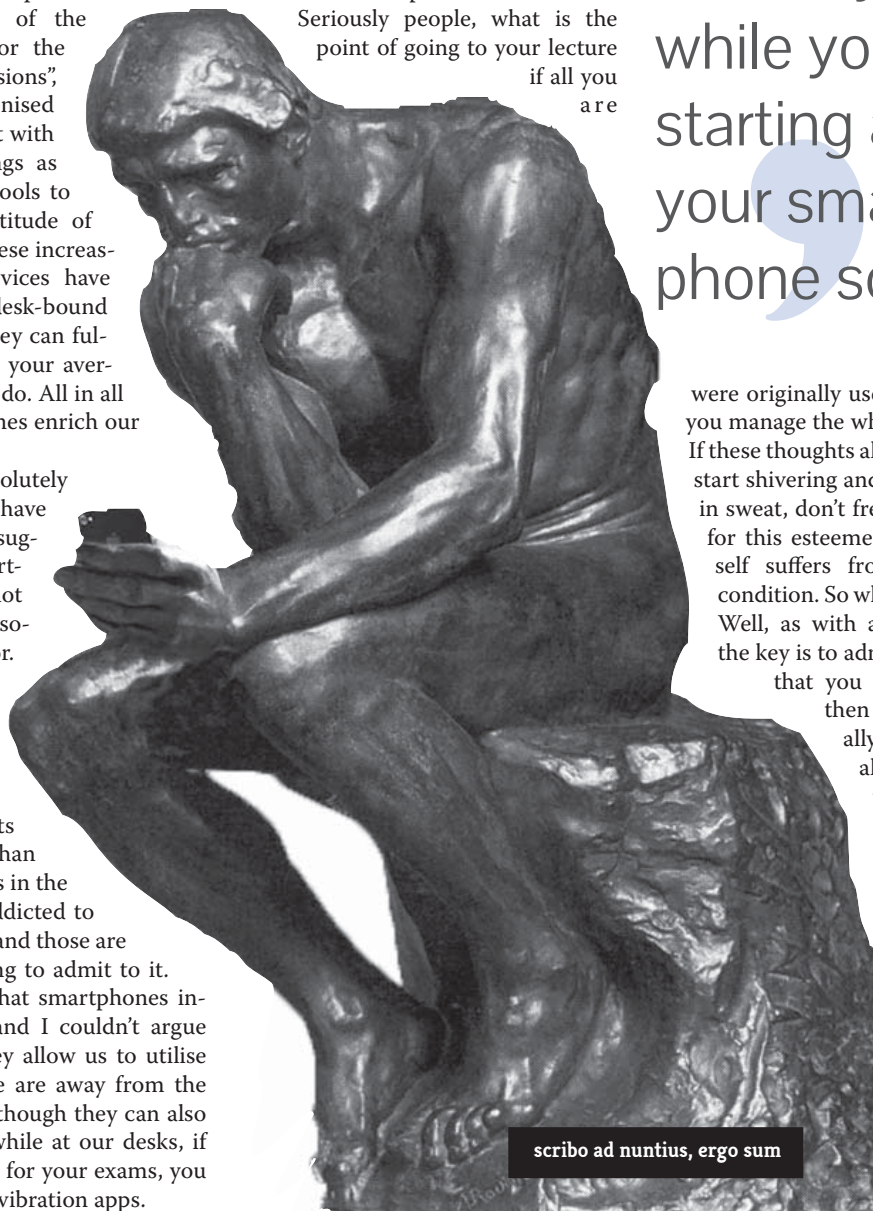
Seriously people, what is the point of going to your lecture if all you are

Life is what happens around you, while you are starting at your smartphone screen

were originally used for). Could you manage the whole 24 hours? If these thoughts alone make you start shivering and breaking out in sweat, don't fret dear reader, for this esteemed writer himself suffers from the same condition. So what to do now? Well, as with any addiction, the key is to admit to yourself that you have it. Only then can you actually commence along the path to recovery. Start weaning yourself off your phone; do not look at it every single goddam hour, and set yourself a time limit for not using it. In fact I find lectures to be

the perfect time interval for this, and it adds the benefit of enhancing my productivity.

Now I am not saying that smartphone addiction is a serious problem, but when people have to introduce rules to ban smartphones from dinner dates, then something really has to be done, before all social interaction is replaced by a 4" to 5" screen. In fact the quote: "Life is what happens around you, while you are starting at your smartphone screen" perfectly describes what's going on. People are so scared that they are going to miss out on Facebook notifications, emails and texts, that in fact they miss out on what is happening in the real world.



scribo ad nuntius, ergo sum

going to do is stare at your smartphone 90 per cent of the time? Are you really paying Imperial's fees to sit in a lecture theatre and answer Facebook messages?

Using your smartphone on the toilet, sleeping with your smartphone, checking your smartphone on more than an hourly basis and getting a panic attack (also known as nomophobia: no mobile phobia) if you are without your smartphone could all be symptoms of smartphone addiction. If you exhibit all of these symptoms, but remain unsure if you are addicted, try this little thought experiment: imagine a whole day where instead of your smartphone you have a feature phone (i.e. you can text and call, what phones

60 percent of teens in the UK call themselves an addict of their smartphone,

The News Bubble

General news from around the tech world, so you can keep up to date with the newest, weirdest and most futuristic things around.

Liking Facebook likes

Scientists have recently developed an algorithm that uses Facebook likes to accurately predict different personality traits. The algorithm can predict ethnicity, sexual orientation, political preference and religion with a success rate of at least 80%. That however is not the least of it, as using the data that your Facebook likes provide this algorithm can make strange connections that would normally seem totally unrelated. For examples, if you like curly fries you are more likely to be highly intelligent, while a Harley Davidson fetish implies a lower IQ. Also, if you are a girl and liked Hello Kitty, this, strangely enough, suggests that you are emotionally unstable. Thinking about it though, this may not actually be that strange.

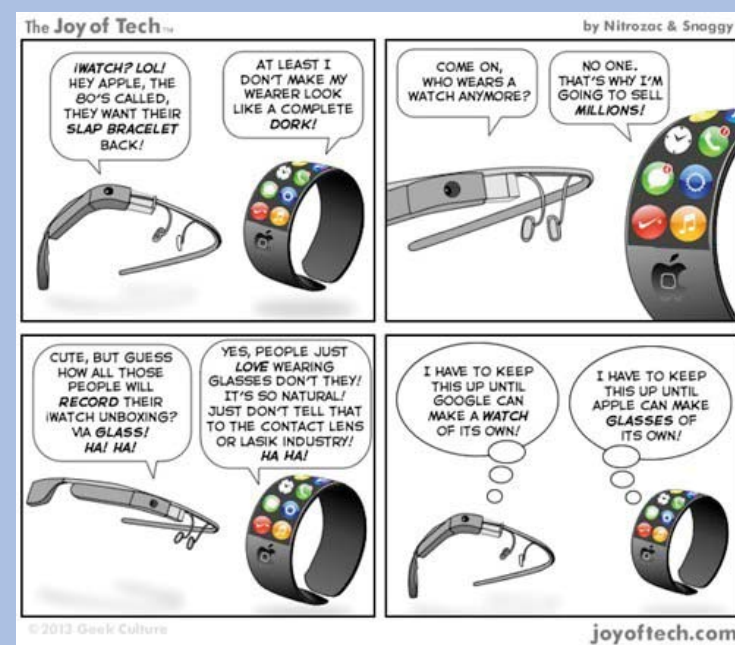
Chromebook Immune

At Google's Pwnium, hackers fail to crack Google's Chrome OS, leaving a £2.1 million prize unclaimed. While the OS has little to really offer, as it is a web-based operating system, this added security (which was not achieved by anyone else) might appeal to businesses or government agencies that rely on keeping secrets.

Microsoft Kinect now open

The main code behind the Kinect, which allows it to recognize faces, movements and colours has finally been revealed to the general public. Previously Microsoft released a software package, which allowed for some limited customisation of the Kinect for coders. However, this did not really allow for the true potential of the Kinect to be realised. Now with the code behind it to be utilised, we may see some pretty awesome things.

And now here something random for you to see:



Maximilian Eggl Tech editor

WRITE FOR US!

Please.

Email: felix@imperial.ac.uk

CHURCH

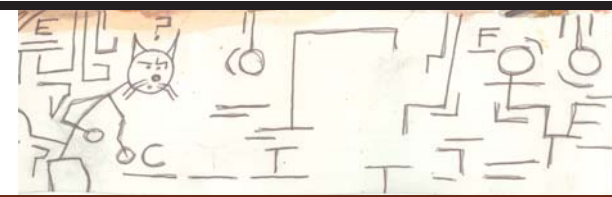
everynation.co.uk



SUNDAYS
ACTIVITY SPACE 1
STUDENT UNION

Free café – 5:30
LIVE BAND





Rap Lyric of the Week

Jay-Z: "Monster"



"Sasquatch, Godzilla, King Kong,
Loch Ness

Goblin, ghoul, a zombie with no
conscience

Question: What do these things all
have in common?

Everybody knows I'm a mother-
fucking monster"

Just naming things with something
in common and then pointing it
out is not rapping. Terrible.

**People laugh at you all the time?
To be fair you are a massive
loser. Anyway... Send stuff in:
felix@imperial.ac.uk**

Pointy hat man given job



New cardinal not sure he's doing things right

Attending his first Papal Conclave, a visibly nervous Cardinal Fernando Filoni seemed utterly unsure of himself as he entered the Sistine Chapel. Looking around anxiously to check what other cardinals were doing

whilst tugging on his crucifix, the recently anointed cardinal attempted to maintain a brave face, despite the unfamiliar settings. Trying not to trip over his vestments as he crossed the threshold to the chapel, Filoni was seen trying to ask where he should be sitting whilst adding in a tone of false bravado that he "was simply asking because he didn't want to sit in some

newbies place".

Snow out for vengeance

After a week in which warmer weather inspired thoughts of summer, snow swept back across northern Europe in a show of swirling, white vengeance. Reportedly angered by the presence of sunlight and the absence of woolly hats, the snow snapped on Tuesday deciding to fall hard on the unsuspecting countries. Stating that closing airports was "only the beginning", the crystalline precipitation proceeded to allude to far more devastating actions in the near future, adding, ominously "soon".

Shark-wrestling man fired by children's charity, hired by dolphin pod

A 62 year-old man from South Wales, who was fired after his employers recognised him as the man who wrestled a shark in Queensland, Australia, has been hired this week by a dolphin pod. Paul Marshallsea, who was supposed to be on sick leave at the time of his holiday, was reportedly disappointed

to be fired from his role at the charity, but said that he was "excited" to be joining the pod. The Indian Ocean based dolphins hope that Paul can put his experience in hand-to-hand shark combat to good use in the protection of their newborn calves. "we saw the video of Paul fearlessly taking on that shark and thought he was exactly what we were looking for" said pod-leader squeaky before adding "and if he can take out a few porpoises on the way, all the better".



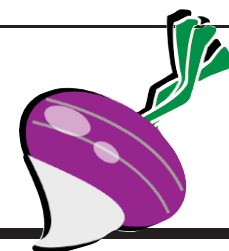
THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS



ANTARCTIC CARAVAN HOLIDAYS FAIL TO ATTRACT FAMILIES

the turnip

Hangman's Finest College News Source



Email storm devalues Imperial email access

Recent email storms involving the Imperial College network have resulted in a sharp devaluation of the Imperial email. Where once an email had the same value as half a face-to-face interaction, the surge of emails in circulation caused a huge slump; to now achieve the same effect as actually talking to someone, it is estimated that you would be required to send 10-15 identical emails. A spokesman for the College stated that they were "working hard to reevaluate the email" but admitted that "it's possible we may have to abolish this form of telecommunications in the favour of an instant-messaging service". Attempts to redenominate the email failed following the second of two storms. Unhappy students were seen taking to the Queen's Lawn to protest the collapse

in web-based communications. One student tweeted "If Imperial thinks I'm going to ask people things directly, they've got another thing coming #H8Talking", whilst another posted a Facebook message stating they would "rather quit uni" than communicate face-to-face. Rumours that some staff members, having long foreseen this slump, have routinely refused to accept less than 3 or 4 emails before replying, are, as yet, unconfirmed.

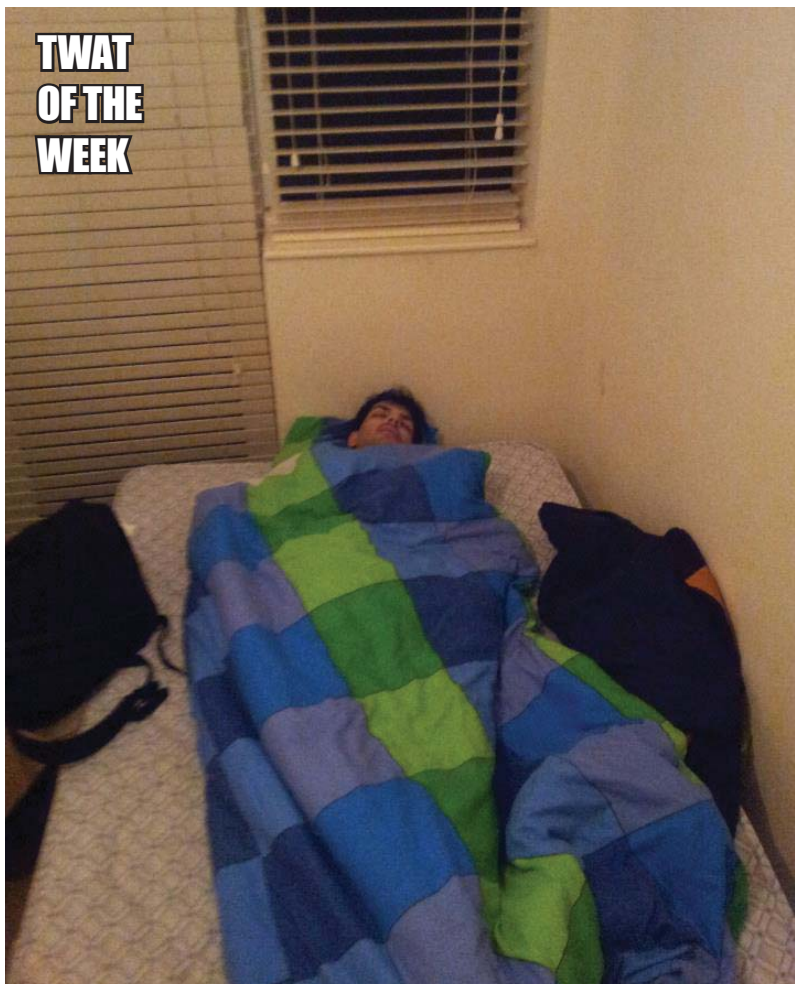
It has been confirmed by our sources that many male students counted the interaction with female students as "the closest thing I've had to sex all year. Unless you count that time at that house party when someone accidentally touched my chest while gesticulating. Man, that was horny." A spokesman for College ICT was in hiding and so couldn't respond. Students, known as 'fucking morons or



trolls', who responded with "can I be removed from this list" are to all be expelled due to being too stupid to study at Imperial.

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk

HANGMAN



**TWAT
OF THE
WEEK**

Sleeping alone. Later on that night his left hand slapped his right hand away saying that he had a headache.

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



SHOCK ANNOUNCEMENT AS DAWKINS VOTED IN AS NEW POPE

ENDOFTERMSCOPES – HOROSCOPES FOR EASTER



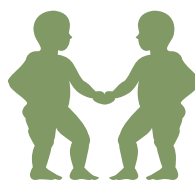
ARIES

This week you are a troll. A real troll that goes stone in sunlight and smells of feet. You hate that people are misusing your name as a way of representing people acting like bel-lends. You're a lovely person despite the smell and feel sad and want to find the person responsible for this and clobber them with a club or something.



TAURUS

This week you are the Big Elections. You think you're a big deal, all these people sharing your voting page and the like. Then BOOM! A group of idiots saying "stop emailing me" overshadows you and noone cares about you anymore. You feel bad and decide to up your game... By emailing everyone that hasn't voted.



GEMINI

This week you are so tired of life that you fall into a three year sleep. When you wake up, the 70% of your body constituted by water has evaporated and you are just a wrinkled bag of bones. Even your poo has ossified and it takes 8 packets of laxatives to shift it from your dehydrated anus.



CANCER

This week you receive a reminder email about your coursework deadline you forgot about at 13.30 on Monday. You miss it and have an awkward explanation to make to your department about how you were at centre of a 3.5 million message email storm. They don't believe you as staff didn't receive any of the emails. Capped at 40%. Pint?



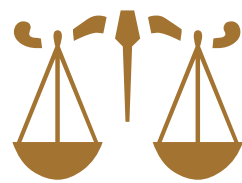
LEO

This week you are a PhD student. You look at Facebook and have no clue what's going on with all these emails, and only hear stories of it like someone watching the news after a disaster. You feel bad and want to help but... meh. You walk back into your lab and stare at some samples for five hours. Bliss.



VIRGO

This week you wake up to find the Easter Bunny fucking you in the butt. You thought he was a myth. A legend. A lie. But it turns out he's a 6 ft mutant rabbit, who is just as horny as the normal bug-gers. He ejaculates in your eye, and eats all of your carrots. Wow. He doesn't even leave any chocolate. Rude.



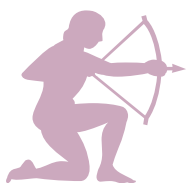
LIBRA

This week you wake up feeling dirty and bored of your skin so have it surgically removed. While you're waiting for new skin to grow however, everyone laughs at your raw appearance. The bullying gets so bad that you skin one of your tormentors in retaliation and wear his flayed exterior as your own new coat.



SCORPIO

This week you save someone's life and enjoy the warm, noble feeling it gives you so much that you create scenarios where people are about to die just so you can save them. But one case goes horribly wrong: the victim is decapitated, and you lose an arm and are ironically arrested for murder. Fuck altruism...



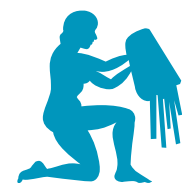
SAGITTARIUS

This week you are drowning in broccoli and stilton soup. As the viscous liquid envelopes you, you try to sustain buoyancy with a floating broccoli floret, but it only weighs you down. The last thing that permeates your consciousness is the pungent, nauseous aroma of blue cheese clawing at the back of your nostrils.



CAPRICORN

This week you receive a reminder email about your coursework deadline you forgot about at 13.30 on Monday. You miss it and have an awkward explanation to make to your department about how you were at centre of a 3.5 million message storm. They don't believe you as staff didn't receive any emails. Capped at 40%. Pint?



AQUARIUS

This week you start lactating orange juice from your left nipple. At first it's great – Tropicana quality on tap without the cost! But after a week your nipple becomes sore with the repeated squeezing and the citrus acid inflames your new outlet of breakfast juice. Eventually, pressure builds up and your breast explodes in your lecturer's face.



PISCES

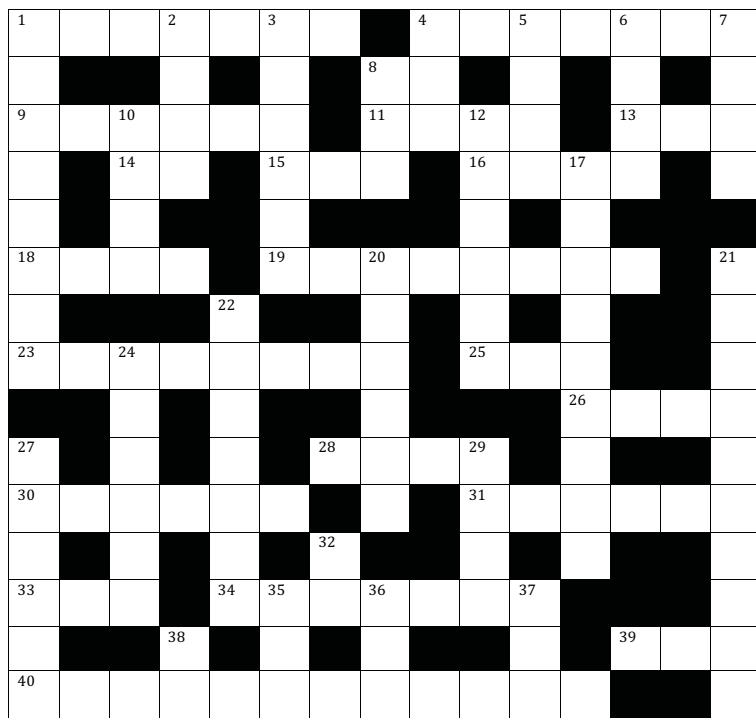
This week you must choose between sucking the toe of a diabetic with chronic foot ulcers and sucking off a donkey. While the toe sucking would at least involve human contact, the smell of rotting flesh might overwhelm. Alternatively, the donkey blow-job would be illegal but at least one of the parties would enjoy it. What's it going to be?

PUZZLES

Puzzles Commanders:
Sotirios Karamitsos,
Louisa Byrne
 puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Crossword



Across

- 1. Furry playboy regulars (7)
- 4. Vacation (7)
- 8. Teletubby
- 9. Exam time feeling (6)
- 11. Hand ____, width (4)
- 13. Beer brand (3)
- 14. Checked on club door (2)
- 15. Something to be played with (3)
- 16. Competing to times (4)
- 18. Fragile poultry products (4)
- 19. Learning before exam (8)
- 23. Outside light (8)
- 25. Repeated name of teletubbies Hoover (3)
- 26. Wire, take charge (4)
- 28. Green round vegetables (4)
- 30. Tough or rough, e.g. a geographical feature or a man (6)

- 31. Shooting star (6)
- 33. Ingredient with chocolate in __ella (3)
- 34. Finger of meat, usually pork (7)
- 39. Sheep noise (3)
- 40. Good Friday food (3,5,4)

Down

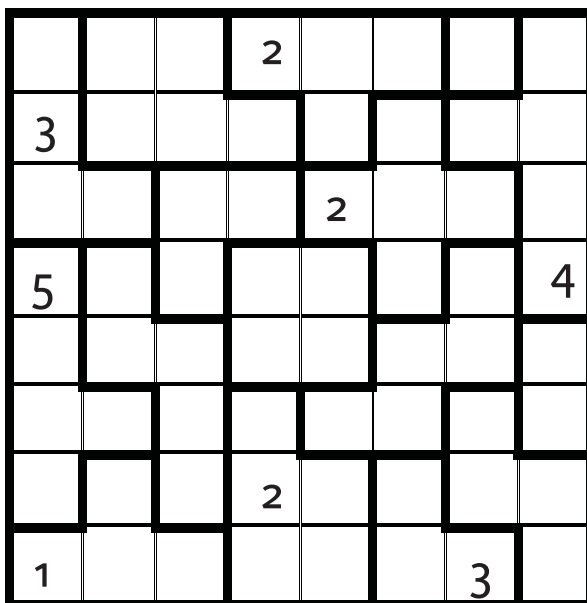
- 1. A persons trade or occupation (8)
- 2. Require (4)
- 3. Coming holidays (6)
- 4. Comes after skip (3)
- 5. Strange Harry Potter character, __ Lovegood (4)
- 6. Amount of medicine (4)
- 7. Lock brand (4)
- 8. Gangnam style singer (3)

- 10. Finger jewellery (4)
- 12. Inverse trig function (6)
- 17. Sweet Easter food (9)
- 20. Left a path, __ off (6)
- 21. Two days before Easter (4,6)
- 22. Periods of light rain (7)
- 24. Golden or chicken fast food (6)
- 27. A long narrow ditch (6)
- 29. City pollution (4)
- 32. Greek Letter (2)
- 35. Much __ about nothing, Shakespeare play (3)
- 36. Message for help (3)
- 37. Indefinite and long period of time (3)
- 38. Circuit type, initials (2)

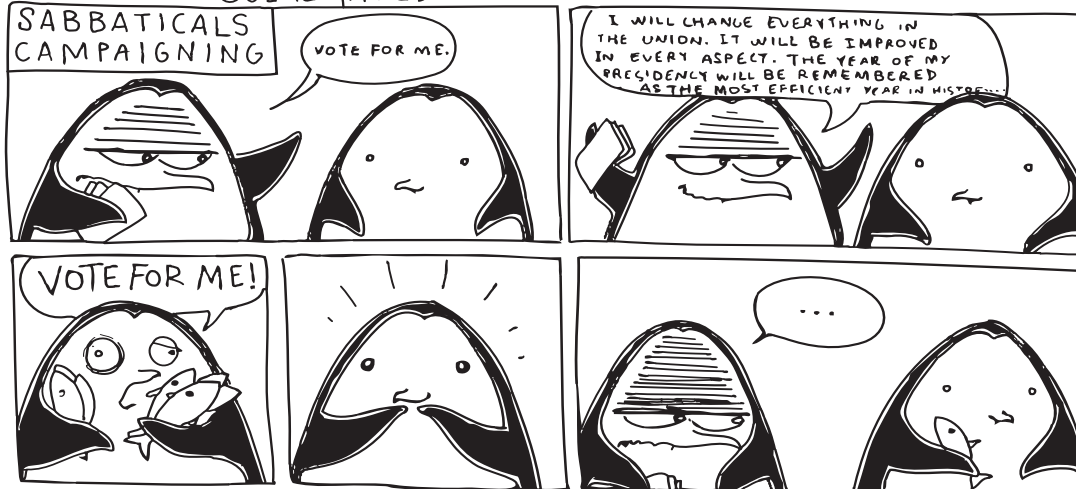
Suguru

The time has come again when I take out your favourite puzzles and replace them with new, "experimental" ones. Hopefully Ophis was one of your favourites (that's what I tell myself at night), but, as a test run, try your hand at the Suguru.

The object is to fill these jumbled outlined blocks with numbers. 2-cell blocks must contain the numbers 1 and 2, 3-cell blocks the number 1, 2, and 3, and so forth. The catch is that no two same digits must appear in bordering cells (not even diagonal ones).

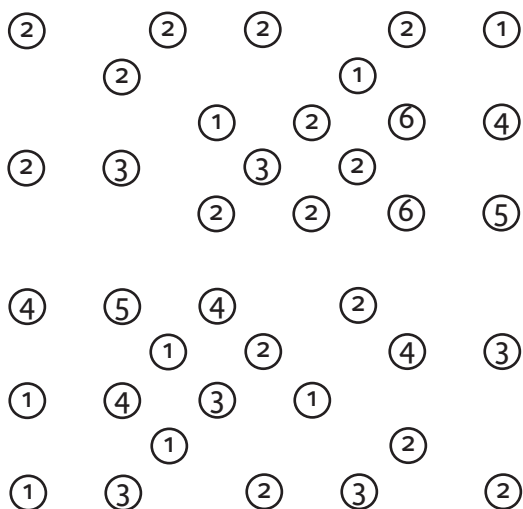


PASSI PARABOLASHAPED PENGUIN



2011 Outi

Hashi



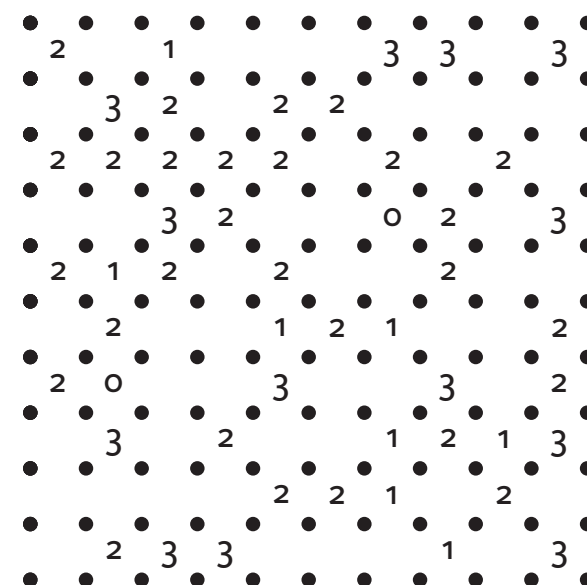
Connect all the islands with bridges so that you can get from any island to any other one. There are restrictions, though: the bridges have to be either vertical or horizontal and they must not intersect. You can have up to two bridges between any two islands and, last but not least, each island must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

FUCWIT League Table

TEAMS	
Requiem for a Bean	68
Sexy Beasts	34
G.A.Y.S.	4
I ate all your bees	4
INDIVIDUALS	
Yufan Zhao	54
Wael Aljeshi	49
Helix	29
M-Soup	28
Tan Yu	16
Tan Wei Jie	13
Gabriel Quek	6
Yi Koh	1

Send your answers to puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk, because, let's face it, lectures are boring.

Slitherlink



This is the last time, I swear (for this term, at least): 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.



Puzzles Commanders:
Sotirios Karamitsos
Louisa Byrne
 puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk



PUZZLES

As requested....

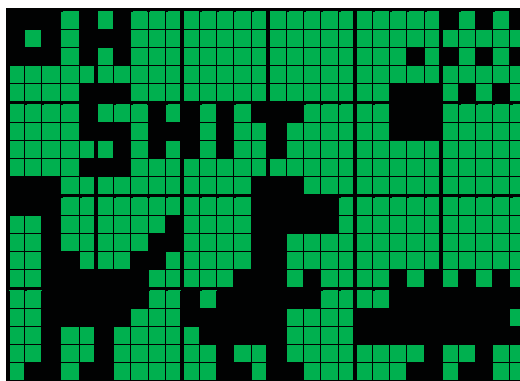
The numbers in each row and column tell you how many groups of black squares are in a row or column, as well as how many black squares each group is made up of. Filling in the grid produces a pretty picture, which in turn produces points if you send it in, so get solving!

	0	0	5	6	17	6	4	5	8	9	7	6	5	5	5	6	4	4	3	16	22	22	8	6	6	4	3	1	2	2
			3	3		2	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	3	1	1	10	9	9	10	5	4	14	13	6	4	4	3		
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Last week's solutions

This crossword was thanks to Paulo Giaccone

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**Happy Easter
 from
 Puzzles!**

ICUAFC dominate, just like the 1sts

Sami Dabbagh
William Wright Sports Writers

Saturday morning began with one of the most eventful player crises in recent memory. With many regulars seemingly sidelined, ICUAFC 2nd team skipper Dr. "LOVE" Wright took some time out of his busy morning **Frank Ocean**-induced sex coma to gather the remaining troops for their battle with fierce rivals Imperial Medic 1st team. The 12 valliant warriors were almost dealt the most bitter of early blows when their chariot of fire (Tellings & Miller coach) proceeded to limp to the Union 20 minutes late. Tim Beasley was close to tears, as the one time he managed to get Jonny Hill out of bed within half an hour of departure time proved futile, and will no doubt never be witnessed again (#TBillidie). There were no more unwanted surprises, although there was a feeling of loss in the changing room when it became apparent that Thom Samas would not be making an appearance.

Warm up was concluded with minimal fuss, with resident pensioner Benincasa running his usual pre-game 24km high knees. Imperial's crafty plan of messing up the Medics minibus booking worked to perfection, resulting in the Medics arriving just 15 minutes before kick-off, with just the bare 11 men.

The ref blew his whistle, and battle commenced. The first 5 minutes were a notoriously un-clichéd cagey affair, with the all-important first tackle being won by Imperial. Some tactical

confusion was deployed by Imperial's Pete Nugent, who informed his teammate with a shout of "TIME" followed instantly by a "MAN-ON". Vedat Ratib, who received the pass, was immediately dispossessed. "Joke's on you" said Ratib, to everyone who was listening... which, as usual, was no one. IC soon took an early lead, a flowing move with Rob Maizonner collecting the ball on the right flank before drilling a low cross straight through the corridor of uncertainty and into the living room of champions, where Will Wright got the slightest of touches to guide the ball to Myles Jarvis, gambling at the back stick as always, who struck a right-footed shot into the bottom corner. There were mutterings of disbelief, as approximately no one knew Jarvis possessed a right foot. Nigel Jarvis looked bemused on the sidelines: 1-0 IC.

At the restart, there were no IC shouts of "it's still 0-0", which, as we all know, is essential for keeping the leading team on their toes. Lo and behold, a Medic equalizer followed within the next 10 minutes. Dom Affron, in between moaning about anything and everything, took an IC throw-in from the left, with Dion Benincasa taking the worst touch anyone has ever seen (ever). The constantly threatening Medic number 10 and official unit, "Uzi", nipped in and applied the finish despite a desperate lunge from Andy Smith. Nigel groaned on the sideline. Affron continued to moan, only a few decibels louder. Will Wright's shoulder slumped and head dropped in disgust, inspirational leader that he is. Dabbagh shouted furiously. Moxham's

scalp looked more terrifying than ever. Andy Smith may even have been heard saying something. 1-1. The nature of the Medic goal gazumped IC, as they carried about as much threat as a dead possum up until that point.

The Medics began to build a head of steam, knocking the ball around nicely, despite the best efforts of their number 5, who was more interested in fouling than playing football. A tense 15 minutes played out, but IC were never far from the game, and deservedly took the lead when Maizonner received a low pass from Affron and finished with aplomb into the top corner, despite taking 53 extra touches. 2-1 IC, and the half time whistle followed soon after.

The second half began well for the Medics, who had the better of possession. Two route 1 style hoof and flick-ons presented striker Uzi with one-on-one situations. Brap brap, Uzi missed the target on both occasions, indicating that his name may well have been derived from his low hit-ratio from a large number of shots. James Owen gave his defence a good talking too, showing glimpses of the lairiness that gets him into fights with fellow ICUAFC members. A huge let off for IC.

With Medics continuing to assert pressure, Sami Dabbagh was lucky not to be given a court order for assault on the opposition number 5, who he brought down with all the reflexes and reaction of a gun enthusiast's trigger finger. Affron attempted to diffuse the situation by politely reminding the referee that he was "having a nightmare". Unfortunately, this did not have the desired affect, with Dabbagh given a flash



of yellow and the Medics given a free-kick. Affron continued his eloquent dialogue with the referee, later calling him a "maverick", with the man in black seeming somewhat proud of this reference. It's always good to have a ref who doesn't play by the rules...

With tension increasing, Myles Jarvis decided to step up to the plate, giving the Medic right back a torrid time, sprinting down the left wing before sending a low cross to the back stick, where a gambling Rob Maizonner converted for his second of the game. 3-1 IC. "It's still 0-0" screamed Nugent, and, taking this on board, Jarvis decided to once again burst past his opponent, earning an IC corner. From a Rob Maizonner corner, Dom Affron caressed the ball with his right testicle into the back of the net. There were mutterings of disbelief, as approxi-

mately no one knew Affron possessed a right testicle. 4-1 IC, game over.

With the rest of the match playing out at a tepid tempo, the final whistle was blown, the ref proving his maverick tendencies by turning the whistle upside down before blowing. In truth, 4-1 flattered Imperial 2s, but the win was definitely deserved. MOTM to Myles Jarvis, who started his university football career playing for the Medics, closely followed by an impressive Rob Maizonner.



Feel the power, with Dartsity

Louisa Byrne Sports Writer

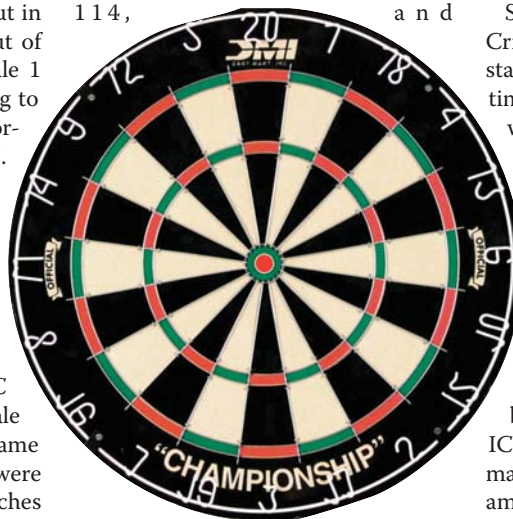
ICSM Darts Society is the only Imperial Club dedicated to the sport. Shocking right? We consider it a sport. Not just prime man boob jiggle time or a pint of beer resting on a beer belly time – darts is a game of skill, contrary to stereotypes. We usually play in a Monday night league SKADL (South Ken Academic Darts League) which started out as a competition between Imperial halls, but now includes a lot of previous students, and other universities around London. Other teams include the Holland Club, which has had to find an alternative venue since the club shut over the Christmas period.

The first ever Dartsity, an epic clash between the few IC members of the medic darts society and the medics took place at the Reynolds bar this

Monday night. After every member of the medic team was late, the order of play was decided by the weekly Parkour challenge. For IC the Joker put in a strong performance walking out of the building on his hands. Female 1 borrowed Female 4 and Crim Dog to perform a triple bridge, but unfortunately wasn't enough to beat IC. In the first game which was 6 V 6, IC started by pulling out quite a lead. However after a later admitted unlawful subtraction of 100 points from the medic's score, they took the first game. Not feeling downhearted, the next game went much better for IC with the Joker, Spitroast and female 4 taking the game. In the next game Crim Dog and Computing Chris were unlucky, losing narrowly to Patches and 62.

With pressure mounting, the first Singles match was Spitroast against

Patches. The two quality Imperial dart players seemed evenly matched, until Spitroast hit a massive 114, and



checked out shortly after with Patches trailing behind. Maybe if

he had lived up to his name that night, he could have caused a big enough distraction.

Second up in the singles for IC was Crim Dog, who was having trouble standing up by this point, and several times managed to not hit the board with any of the 3 darts. Although when people weren't ducking she managed to hit some pretty impressive scores, she failed to finish, and that game went to ICSM, leaving them winning 3-2 overall. After a short interval of Crim Dog stroking Spitroast's soft hair, IC made a comeback. Chris and The Joker both made convincing wins to put IC 4-3 ahead. Unfortunately when female 4 met 62 in the next match, no amount of buttons popping open on her shirt let the match swing her way.

With 1 game left at a 4 – 4 draw it was all to play for. As Coney unfor-

tunately had no darts and was at that time inanimate, Computing Chris took on the Captain of ICSM. Computing Chris stormed ahead, but Brunt wasn't far behind. In an epic battle to the finish, Computing Chris claimed the title for IC, taking out a massive double 4 checkout.

To console his defeat, Brunt then decided to piss off the absent IC Alumni by snogging his cousin Crim Dog. See our Twitter, @icsmdaaaarts if you are disturbed enough to want to see pictures. Despite being cheating scum, ICSM darts still managed to lose both the match and their dignity by being beaten by the better part of their own team, IC.

Most people won't give darts a go because they think they will do badly – some of the performances of Varsity show it really doesn't matter. If you are thinking about giving it a go, just look us up on the Union website.

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SPORT

IC Women's Rugby topple UCL

Charlotte Hewitt Sports Writer

Imperial has gone from strength to strength this year, currently holding the top position in the BUCS South Eastern 2A division and only having dropped one game this season. Despite winning recent games by impressive margins, Imperial approached their final LUSL fixture of the year against the strong and talented UCL with a certain degree of trepidation, knowing it would be the true test of how far they have come. In recent years UCL have ardently beaten Imperial, a point highlighted by their status two BUCS divisions above us, and this certainly made it a fixture we were looking forward to.

Stepping onto the pitch for the warm up, it became apparent that the weather was not going to be on our side. Freezing temperatures and intermittent sleet showers would prove to make catching and passing a challenge but the drive to beat our toughest rivals made us warm enough to step up and begin the match nonetheless. From the kick-off Imperial drove ahead with fierce determination, attacking UCL's defensive line again and again with our forwards. Eventually, scrum-half Kath Fok took her chance through a break in the line and was rewarded with a try out wide which did much to encourage the team but made for a difficult conversion attempt for hooker Lana Lee.

With 5 points clocked, Imperial

faced up to the reset with even greater determination and again pushed hard at UCL's defence. Several penalties from the rucks gave Imperial the chance to flex their scrum, which held its own and more against the UCL pack. Solid rucking from UCL provided them with a turnover, which was quickly passed down their hands out to the wing where some impressive outrunning of our defence translated into a try out wide. At 5-5, Imperial remained calm and kicked off with a big chase into their 22. When a knock-on from UCL came, Imperial capitalised from their impressive scrum with captain Yasmin Edwards breaking past several defenders to offload to Lucy Olliff for our second try of the match. This time, the score came between the posts and Lana nailed the conversion which would later prove to be crucial. UCL responded quickly with another break on the wing slicing through Imperial's line to equalise the try count.

Leading 12-10 at half-time, Imperial were anything but cocky about the outcome and so pushed hard for further scores in the second half. In this half Imperial remained dominant, taking the majority of the territory and pushing again and again at the UCL defence. Unfortunately, by this point the cold had worsened causing a flurry of knock-ons from both sides. The resulting scrums worked the forwards hard but impressive hooking from Lana saw us retain our put-ins, as well



as several steals which gave us more chances to push for tries. However, UCL appeared rejuvenated by the arrival of their captain and their proper kit, and formed an almost impenetrable wall. Imperial changed tactics, opting for mauls to drive UCL back over their score line but the mass of bodies meant that our break through the line was held up and we were unable to extend our lead.

Frantic play in the last 10 minutes saw UCL possession forcing us back into our own 22. Slow formation of our defensive line almost provided

UCL with too many gaps to run through, but Imperial's determination to hold out at 12-10 manifested in a strong scramble defence that held even when the ball came loose, with full back Wakana Teranka putting the ball over our own line to temporarily keep UCL at bay with a 5m scrum. Time and time again the Imperial line held, with notable cover tackles from Yas, until an interception gave us the turnover just as the whistle blew for full time. The initial reaction was one of disbelief (certain members didn't even know we were ahead!), soon fol-

lowed by hysterical joy, exhaustion and then near hypothermia from the cold, but it had all been worth it for our best win of the season. Congratulations specifically to Forwards of the Match, Charlie Stephens and Heather Grant, who were both instrumental in rucks, tackles and breakthroughs, and Back of the Match Lucy Olliff who was always there in support and provided excellent defensive tackles. However, the whole team should be commended for their commitment, with this match demonstrating how much Imperial has improved – bring on next season!

Football 1s continue dominance

» continued from the back page

Woodhead had kicked the air so hard that their striker had no choice but to fall over. The striker had clearly not recovered from this near death experience and took the worst penalty Garner had experienced all season: straight down the middle with as much power as Superman holding Kryptonite. Garner was so surprised that he could only push the ball back out to the striker but he got up quickly enough to thwart the rebound, keeping the clean sheet intact.

Justice was invoked shortly after whereby a delightful through ball from Beasley played in Bjorkstrand who chipped the onrushing keeper in Cantonaesque fashion, giving Imperial a deserved 1-0 lead. The rest of the half went by uneventfully, although a Bjorkstrand second was chalked off purely because the opposition linesman didn't want Imperial to win.

It was clear that Imperial were on top but the one goal scoreline was not enough. The second half again started with Imperial taking control but a sec-

ond goal could not be found. Jones and Abou Ela Bourquin hit the bar with headers from Dale corners whilst Beasley was unlucky to have his strike well saved by the keeper to deny him his first goal for Imperial since he was reincarnated as Smithy 2. Dale also had a chance to finish off the game but his left footed strike was, if anything, hit too well (and too at the keeper). Hertfordshire pressed for a late equaliser with a series of corners and a free kick that was flicked on, but not well enough to prevent Garner making a comfortable diving save.

The full time whistle was greeted with hugging and general laddish behaviour from ICUAFC and the realisation was that a single point from either of the two remaining games would be enough to guarantee promotion.

With BUCS promotion almost guaranteed, attentions turned to cup; the one occasion where a muggle sport is more magical than quidditch. Having beaten GKT 1s in the quarter-finals, a semi-final against their 2s should have been, on paper, an easier proposition.

This notion was dispelled in 120 minutes of nerves and tension.

Having got over the initial shock of not having an AUX cable in the minibus, members of the team refocused their attention on the job in hand. A 16 man strong squad provided depth and experience that should have been able to grind out a result regardless.

The match started slowly although Imperial edged the opening encounters. The hard work being put in came to fruition about 25 minutes into the game where a vintage Bjorkstrand through ball found Robinson in an acre of space and he calmly sent the keeper the wrong way with a casual finish. At this point you could have been forgiven for thinking that Imperial were final bound but a host of chances were not converted meaning that the lead at half-time was a slender 1-0.

Again a second goal did not come, although an ambitious 35 yard piledriver by Hill was tipped round the post by the keeper at the start of the second half. When a win looked imminent, Imperial paid for their inadequacies in

front of goal as a corner evaded all the defenders and found their striker. A delightful left footed swivel shot nestles in the far side netting, drawing the score back to 1-1. Tempers flared with Murphy questioning the impartiality of the GKT linesman and Robinson taking an opportunity to remind the referee exactly what he thought of him. With time running out neither team could get a winner, taking Imperial to extra-time for the third occasion this season.

TK MAXX 2s could have been forgiven for thinking 11 new players had come out for Imperial in extra-time as Imperial dominated and quickly found themselves in front again. Dale burst down the wing with pace that J.W.M Turner himself would have struggled to capture on canvas. The resulting cross was sheer perfection, an artistic blend of Caravaggio, Rafael and Titian infused with some Pollock flair, finding the diving head of Robinson and ultimately the back of the net. The game was over as a contest shortly into the second half of extra-time as a disguised Murphy pass found Jones who

shimmied around a number of tackles before planting a finesse shot into the back of the net.

Imperial were able to shut up shop for the remaining minutes and have now reached the LUSL (formerly ULU) final for the 4th year in a row, where they will meet LSE 1s. The next few weeks are pivotal and could potentially see an unprecedented domestic double. Mention should also go to ICUAFC 3s, 5s and 6s who have each been promoted from one of their leagues, whilst the latter have reached their own cup final. Both cup finals takes place on Saturday 16th March which is, rather fittingly, exactly 1,976 years to the day that Caligula became Roman Emperor.

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7 medals, snow big deal

Mikkel Kranker Sports Writers
Ross Maske

On Wednesday 13th of February ICSC ventured to Milton Keynes to compete in the south-UK qualifications to the British Universities Indoor Snow Competitions (BUISC). The two skiers willing to compete, left in the early morning (way too early to be awake) whereas the boarders (being boarders) waited till midday. Upon arriving in the ghost town that is Milton Keynes ICSC were ready to make their mark on snowsports history! First up was ski racing, where Race Captain Michael Parkes was faster than a girl out of Metric and qualified top 15, ready for the finals. Our second skiing contender Tariq Shair tried whole heartedly, however he may have consumed a little too much alcohol to put on a top performance. Next up were the individual snowboard races where Ross Maske took the gold, Ed 'Hallélé' finished third claiming bronze and all four snowboard contestants qualified for finals. After great results in the Individual races the dynamic IC slalom snowboard team were ready to take on any opponent, despite the pressure on President John McGlutkin after last year's devastating fall which caused Imperial to just miss out on a place in the finals. After a tough first race where IC's snowboarders just managed to grab a victory, taking out this year's favourites, the next races were a breeze and we quickly made it to the finals, Where the attitude was

kept it cool and racked up four more gold medals. For the ski duels IC did not present a team as one girl had to be on it! Next up was the most anticipated event... the Freestyle. Freestyle captain Mikkel Kranker inspired the boys with some inspirational words, despite a major hip injury. This led to John McGlutkin throwing down some killer transfers, impressing the judges and Ross Maske starting off with some major bails (no worries though – 'cause people are stoked on bails) but pulling it back in his second run triumphing with a sweet 'back one melon' and some gnarly rail riding. Thus, both earning a spot in the 'finals' of the qualifier. The top 8 skiers and snowboarders then had to compete for a place in the actual finals, forcing them to put down some of their best runs to win the judge's approval. John McGlutkin tore up the slopes landing a stylish and smooth run earning him a place in the finals. Odds on Ross Maske were good for a medal spot as he had perfected his skills during the countless Hemel sessions put on by ICSC. He landed a super clean run which placed him 2nd overall. After the competitions the spectators were in for another treat as the winning male snowboard dropped a 'corked 540' – just for fun. This concluded the qualifications for south UK, resulting in 7 medals for ICSC (breaking every record) and 5 contestants making it to the finals in Leeds.

IC snowboarding squad made their way up to Leeds (such a trek) to compete in the BUISC finals. We arrived



on the evening of Tuesday the 5th of March. The night before the competition was spent in one of Leeds' finer establishments (Discovery Inn) where the price per week is lower than what the halls would cost in Acton. Both John McGlutkin and Ross Maske had their Birthdays on competition day so as the clock passed twelve a quick song was sung and everyone was off to bed – crazy night. 8 o'clock was the hour of awakening and a magnificent breakfast was enjoyed at one of Leeds' classic diner/kebab shops. The Leeds snowdome was set up to accommodate masses of drunken students (rather than actual snowsports competitors) and as a results our celebratory beers were confiscated at the entrance (not entirely sure if this was because John looked dodgy or alcohol wasn't allowed). These precau-

tions later made sense as the changing rooms smelt like a club at 7 o'clock on a Sunday morning and Manchester Snowsports (SKUM) had brought masses of drunk supporters dressed as superman – the more the merrier! Racing was kicked off with individual slalom resulting in all the boarders qualifying for the 'final finals'. Team Loughborough's cocky remarks about how all of their members qualified for the individual slalom quickly vanished as Imperial had done so as well. However in the finals the pressure got to Ross Maske and Ed 'Hallélé' causing them to fall over and lose a possible podium position making John McGlutkin the top imperial snowboard racer of the year (despite his motto of "slow time or no time"). Next up was the team slalom where ICSC finished 4th narrowly missing out on a podium

position despite an immaculate team effort – nothing could be done however as we had the "slow lane". Last but not least, the freestyle finals were to be held were numerous sponsored riders were competing. No IC contestants took positions among the top 5, yet some noteworthy highlights include: Ross Maske's first front flip, yet he decided to ride on a fall over a 'bump' on the piste, a switch frontflip on skis, the winning snowboarding pulling an underflip and a hardway 270 in and of cause honorary Imperial student William Tickner finishing 2nd overall with a HUGE method to flat and some techy rail rides.

This has been the most successful snowsports competition in the history of ICSC, so a big shout-out to all our competitors and let's make it even more radical next year!!!

ICUAFC 1s on brink of League and Cup double

Henry Garner Sports Writer

After a long season, ICUAFC 1s were hoping to follow in the footsteps of Dante emerging from the Inferno and Purgatory into the long awaited Heaven (minus a Roman poet as a guide and lasting considerably longer than 66 Cantos). The week beginning 25th February was the definition of make or break, with matches against Hertfordshire 2s—placed 2nd in BUCS—and a LUSL cup semi-final against Kings Medic 2s (GKT [TK MAXX]).

First up was the voyage west to Hertfordshire where bad memories were evoked. The previous year's 'playlist'

in the minibus featured too much **Elton John** as well as a Cypriot artist whose name was unknown, let alone pronounceable. The minibus had not been equipped with enough Valium for the whole team to take, leading to half the team struggling to come to terms with their own existence let alone being in a frame of mind to play a football match. The same mistake was not to be repeated: a blanket ban on **Biffy Clyro** was enforced and the bus was treated to a rousing chorus of the Gallagher brothers. This led to all members of the bus being 'Mad Fer It', except for Tofis who bemoaned the lack of **Βαγγέλης Παπαθανασίου** (Vangelis Papathanassiou). Tofis perked up before kick-off

whereby he declared his love for Crewe Alexandra and gave an interesting rendition of some of their popular songs, before asking what league they played in.

A strong team was put out, with Bjorkstrand completing the line-up. The game commenced on possibly the best away pitch the team had encountered all season (N.B. this is genuinely not sarcasm). The opening exchanges were about as cagey as the Bastille ten minutes after it had been stormed (basically, it wasn't cagey) and Imperial dominated the first 5 minutes. Then, as Imperial had been accustomed to in recent fixtures, the referee awarded a penalty to the opposition after >>>47

