

# FELIX

"Keep the Cat Free"



17/05/13  
Issue 1547  
felixonline.co.uk

## Organ donation

This week there has been an organ donation drive at Imperial. **Page 10**



## After Imperial

What to do with "the rest of your life". **Page 11**

## Imperial are looking at your memes

**Tim Arbabzadah** Editor-in-Chief

Imperial College London posted on the Imperial Memes Facebook Page to warn students about the content of some of the Memes. College posted reminding people not to damage the reputation of Imperial of themselves.

The message said that College have been looking at the posts. "We're all

for students having some light relief from long hours of studying, but would ask you to remind those posting about: The post was deleted soon after being posted

The need to be respectful of others These pages may be read by a wide variety of people, not just other University staff and students. Please be aware that these comments are very visible and some of the content >>3

## The next lot: an internship at Imperial

**Philip Kent** Reporter

Students and alumni have been outraged to discover the auctioning of a place at Imperial College for a one-week summer internship at the Institute of Biomedical Engineering that appeared on the morning of Wednesday 14 May. This placement had been made available to students of Westminster School, a fee paying school that charges >>5



## DRUGS SURVEY | THE RESULTS ARE IN | PAGES 8-9



## Inside...>>

### SCIENCE



NOT THE BEES!  
NOT THE BEES! >>14

### MUSIC



James and the Rabbit Hole >>21

### PUZZLES



A topical crossword and nonogram >>28

# EDITOR'S PICKS

## DRUGS SURVEY

>> 8

### Results are in

That's right, the results are in. There are some surprises, and some things that you could probably have guessed. Thanks to everyone that filled it in!



## FEATURES

>> 10

### Organ donation

Why be an organ donor? There are so many reasons. Some may have religious reasons for not donating, but, if you don't, think about it for just a minute.



## SCIENCE

>> 15

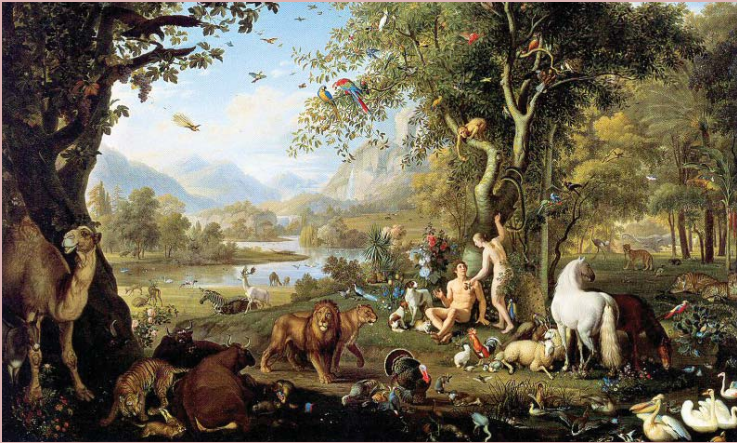
### Hipster mice

Some people have been doing interesting work on individuality. The idea that your personality could be just a bunch of neurons makes my head hurt.



## MARQUEE WATCH PART 3

That's right folks, there are no towering structures on Queen's Lawn anymore!



Artist's representation of Queen's Lawn, except it's likely to be raining.

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





## Behaving like animals

**Tim Arbabzadah**  
Editor-in-Chief



**T**his week brings some news about the allegations of animal cruelty levelled against Imperial. They're rushing to the rescue with a three month long investigation. In other words "let's just kick this can into the distance, and then write a report that will be long and boring and hopefully nobody will read". Of course you couldn't have a two week investigation and find everything there is to know, but it definitely feels like the PR machine is in overdrive here. Sorry to be cynical. If they were serious, they could just walk up to the researchers now and give all involved in animal testing a pop quiz. If they don't know details they should, well, then there is cause for concern.

They will interview people, who will probably be like Rebekah Brooks at Leveson and just say that they remember no specific details of any specific events. In the groups that carry out this research it's likely that it would be obvious who told on you if you get found out to have behaved inappropriately (sorry to go all school playground on you). Therefore it is likely that those bystanders will not really want to then have to spend another however many years in an office with someone they just got in to trou-

ble. It sounds weird to put it like that, but I fear that may happen with this investigation.

At the heart of this is really just what happens to many people in many jobs: you get callous and blasé about what you are doing and how it affects people and the environment around you. People in positions of responsibility cannot let such things happen to them, especially when you are caring for others and animals. A good example is the LIBOR fixing. People got comfortable and probably didn't even think of the consequences. That's obviously horrible, but it's also human. It's amazing how people can behave when they are in a group. People will do things that they probably wouldn't if they had time to think about it.

I think what this really exposes is, in fact, that scientists are just human and are not infinitely amazing at their jobs. Those companies claiming that their the height of "professionalism and excellence". Guess what. They're going to have people that screw things up all the time. Imperial and everyone else likes to think of a scientist as infallible. If you're a first year, then a PhD student seems like some kind of fountain of knowledge. The weird thing is that they are just like you. They are just like everyone.

Just the same way as an accountant may not know something about an area of accountancy, a PhD student may not know the proper way to do a reflux if they study computational chemistry (can you tell I did chemistry?). And a PhD may not even know everything about their project as well. Think about it like a doctor. Does your medic friend know their medicine back to front? Why would they magically know everything there is to know just because there is a "Dr" in front of their name? The point I'm struggling to make is simple: people are not perfect, people do not even know their own jobs perfectly, this is fine if you are not responsible for lives; however, if you are in a position of responsibility, you have to make sure that you at least know the relevant bits of your job. If you don't, leave it to someone else who does.

### Imperial snooping on you

This is pretty hilarious. The idea of people in College reading memes is odd. I just have a mental picture of Sir Keith O'Nions (President & Rector) just sitting there tempted to post something about how he just Rector'd the crap out of an alumni tour.

# THIS WEEK FELIX WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY

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# NEWS

## PETA complains to the Rector over Queen's Lawn petting zoo

**Tim Arbabzadah** Editor-in-Chief

PETA have written to the President & Rector of Imperial College London urging him to stop the Union's plans for a petting zoo on Queen's Lawn on Thursday 23 May. The letter calls the petting zoo "ill-conceived" and asks for Imperial to "make a formal to avoiding future events that promote the mistreatment of animals".

In the letter, addressed to Sir Keith O'Nions (President & Rector), safety to students and treatment of animals are cited as reasons to stop the petting zoo, which is part of the Union's Stress Less campaign.

The letter states "Experts indicate that petting zoos are hotbeds of serious pathogens, including E coli and salmonella bacteria. The area surrounding an animal's cage can be teeming with bacteria. According to the Health and Safety Executive, infections can spread through direct or even indirect animal contact, and in some cases the illness can be fatal." The letter goes on to say that anxious students during exam season would have "weakened immune systems" and therefore be at a greater risk of infection, which PETA say means that students "can develop bloody diarrhoea, anaemia, chronic kidney failure or neurological impairments such as seizures and strokes".

The letter also sighted cruelty to animals as a reason to stop the petting zoo, saying that they "contribute to a cruel cycle of breeding, abandonment and killing". It said "Exhibitors take young animals on the road and, if they survive the stress of transport and handling, typically dispose of them when they become



more difficult to handle, replacing them with new animals." PETA also raised concerns over the way that the animals would be kept in general, saying that they are kept in unnatural social and family groups and that the habitats they are kept in "inhibit or prevent natural behaviour".

PETA say that "Imperial College London would be setting a bad example for others" if the planned petting zoo were to go ahead; it suggests masseurs as a replacement, which the Union had in the Library Café on Tuesday 14 May (also as part of the Stress Less campaign).

PETA also referenced a recent incident at Oxford when the Principle of Somerville College told students to cancel the plans to have a live shark displayed in a tank during their summer ball following multiple complaints from students and former students.

There is even reference to the cancelled plans Somerville College, Oxford Imperial College Union are not the only student union around the UK to

host a petting zoo. Leeds and Southampton are two student unions that have also brought a petting zoo to students during exam time to relieve stress.

Felix contacted the Union who replied with the following statement: "The College have been involved from the outset in the planning of the Union's campaign, and permission had been sought from the relevant persons. Animal welfare has also been at the forefront of our planning from the start. We chose our provider, Pets4Ponies, upon the recommendation of the LSE Students' Union, who were satisfied with the safety and welfare of the animals when they first held a petting zoo this time last year. The providers have all of the relevant DEFRA paperwork, insurance and risk assessments. We are looking forward to seeing lots of students enjoying the petting zoo."

The letter was sent from PETA UK, which is an affiliate of PETA US. PETA are known for running high profile campaigns with celebrities against people wearing fur.

## Students reminded: don't bring the College into disrepute



Imperial College London ► Imperial Memes

Imperial College London have been reading the content appearing on this site. We're all for students having some light relief from long hours of studying, but would ask you to remind those posting about:

- The need to be respectful of others
- These pages may be read by a wide variety of people, not just other University staff and students. Please be aware that these comments are very visible and some of the content may be damaging to the reputation of the individual posting, the individual being post about and to the reputation of Imperial College London.

Please see our social media guidelines for more information: <http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/webguide/socialmedia>

Social media  
[www3.imperial.ac.uk](http://www3.imperial.ac.uk)  
Social media guidelines

The message posted by College to Imperial Memes

Like · Comment · Share · 4 minutes ago ·

» continued from the front page

may be damaging to the reputation of the individual posting, the individual being post about [sic] and to the reputation of Imperial College London." A link to the College's social media guidelines was included.

The social media guidelines is for those who are "thinking about representing the College on social media platforms" and explicitly say what is not allowed. This includes abuse of privacy, spam, rude or defamatory behav-

our, offensive or libellous comments.

Felix contacted College and provided the evidence of the post. At time of going to print, there has been no response.

Imperial Memes was set up last year by a student at Imperial, although there hasn't been much activity recently. It does raise questions about what other pages are known by students. Felix were once contacted about the cover photo of one such page.

» Editorial: page 2

## DPE re-run in summer elections

**Philip Kent** Reporter

The annual Summer Elections have come around once again, with nominations for the various Council Officers, Council Chair, and positions of the Graduate Student's Union, the new name of the GSA.

Also up for election is Deputy President (Education), a post previously won by Jonathan London. London is no longer able to take up the position, due to needing to take an interruption of studies.

- The positions up for election are:
- Deputy President (Education)
  - Council Chair
  - Welfare Officers:

- Ethics & Environmental Officer
- International Officer
- Disabilities Officer
- LGBT Officer
- Gender Equality Officer
- Interfaith Officer
- BME (Black, Ethnic, Minority) Officer
- Campaigns Officer
- Graduate Students' Union Positions:
- President
- Deputy President (Operations)
- Deputy President (Representation)
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Events Officer
- Sports and activities officer



- Marketing and Publicity officer
- RAG officer
- Academic and Welfare officer x 5

Nominations are open for nine days from midnight on May 20th, and opening is open from 12:00 on June 3rd until the same time on June 7th. More details are available on the Union's website.

### Sponsored Editorial

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

- Men's cuts £22** (normally £35)
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Tuesday to Saturdays 9.30 to 5.30 We are only 70 metres from South Kensington tube station.

[www.freshhairdressers.co.uk](http://www.freshhairdressers.co.uk)



# Alleged animal abuse investigation scope announced

**Tim Arbabzadah** Editor-in-Chief

Imperial College London have announced the makeup of the committee and the areas of the allegations of animal cruelty that they will be investigating. The committee, lead by Professor Steve Brown, will investigate and assess the culture and approach to animal care and welfare at College. The Home Office are also investigating specific allegations, which the College say they are “working closely” with them.

The committee will provide a report to the College “in three to four months” time after its investigation. The report will say their findings and any recommendations for improvement. It will “elaborating on any areas where practice falls short of standards considered to be at the forefront of animal research and animal welfare standards in the UK”. The committee will investigate all practices in animal research, including: management, operational procedures, reporting structures, supervision, training and ethics. This will be done by conducting interviews and visiting the labs.



(C) BUAV

College says that the investigation will take into account “Imperial College’s consideration of the incidents alleged by BUAV”.

Professor Brown, Director of the Medical Research Council’s Mammalian Genetics Unit at Harwell, was approached in April to lead an investigation after the BUAV accused College of animal abuse. College have stressed multiple times that Professor Brown is “independent”. The BUAV however

contest this, saying: “a well-known and strong supporter of animal research, heading the Medical Research Council (MRC) unit which manipulates mice to predispose them to develop all manner of diseases, but the MRC actually funds animal research at the Imperial College. This is hardly an independent inquiry.” Michelle Thew, Chief Executive of the BUAV said, “The public are likely to see Imperial’s inquiry into the animal suffering and poor practices uncovered

by our investigation as a whitewash. This investigation raises significant and far reaching questions about animal research in the UK. We urge the Government to set up a fully independent inquiry as a matter of urgency. The public will expect no less.”

Morrissey, the former lead singer for The Smiths, has joined the calls for an independent inquiry into the allegations of animal abuse at Imperial College London. Morrissey, who has for a long time been very outspoken about animal welfare, joins former Imperial student and Queen guitarist Brian May. May said that he was “shocked and saddened” by the allegations and “ashamed that it could have taken place in the university of my own training”.

The BUAV is currently urging the UK Government to take away the licence that they have for animal research and to set up an inquiry into the allegations that is “wholly independent of the Home Office”. Michelle Thew, Chief Executive of the BUAV, stated: “We welcome the support from Morrissey on this important issue. Our investiga-

tion at Imperial College London raises significant and far reaching questions about animal research in the UK and it is crucial that a fully independent inquiry is carried out.”

The rest of the committee will consist of:

- Professor Paul Flecknell, Newcastle University, who is responsible for the overall management of Newcastle University’s research animal facilities
- Mr Neil Yates, Director of the Bio-support Unit, University of Nottingham
- Professor Ian Jackson, Head of Medical and Developmental Genetics, Institute of Genetics and Molecular Medicine, University of Edinburgh
- Dr Vicky Robinson, Chief Executive, National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research
- Dr Maggie Leggett, Head of Public Engagement, Bristol University.

» Editorial: page 2

## Imperial College London BUSINESS SCHOOL



## BUSINESS SCHOOL EXPERIENCE EVENING

WEDNESDAY 22 MAY 2013  
17.30 – 20.30

### Find out what our dynamic community can offer you

This unique event for third and fourth year undergraduates is an ideal opportunity to visit Imperial College Business School and find out more about a selection of our world class Master’s programmes.

- Meet programme directors, students and alumni
- Get a flavour of our unique culture with a series of taster lectures
- Sit in on careers presentations to find out how we can help fulfil your goals
- Drop in at our admissions surgery and have your questions answered

### WIN AN iPad!

A winner will be chosen at random and announced at the event.

 @imperialbiz

 linkedin.com/company/  
imperial-college-business-school



Find out more and register at:

[imperial.ac.uk/business-school/experience-evening2013](http://imperial.ac.uk/business-school/experience-evening2013)

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# NEWS

## Lot withdrawn and move condemned

» continued from the front page

upwards of £7000 per term for tuition, who could bid for the the opportunity using the school's online auctioning service. The auction was pulled during the evening of the same day.

The internship was organised privately by the Department, and had not been authorized or associated with Imperial College as a whole. Felix contacted Imperial College London for a statement. A College spokeswoman said: "Work experience placements at Imperial are considered locally within the College's departments. A member of staff had agreed with Westminster School to host two work experience placements for A Level students at the Institute of Biomedical Engineering, each lasting a week. One placement was to be auctioned, with the proceeds to go towards supporting Westminster School's bursary programme and capital building projects. The other place was to be reserved for a pupil from one of Westminster's state school partners."

The fundraising auction, which includes other items, is raising money for use of "expanding Bursary Programme as well as cover the expense of the new facilities [that the school has recently built]". Other internships on offer include a week long placement at Barbara Weiss Architects and Crossbridge Capital, an investment fund, however internships are not the only type of lot up for purchase.

There was no indication that bidding on the items is only available to members of Westminster School, and their families, however criticism has been levied at the College for opening its doors to people based on their ability to pay. The Imperial College Widening Participation statement itself states "The College aims to identify and attract students of the highest academic ability and potential, and would not want financial considerations to deter suitable applicants."

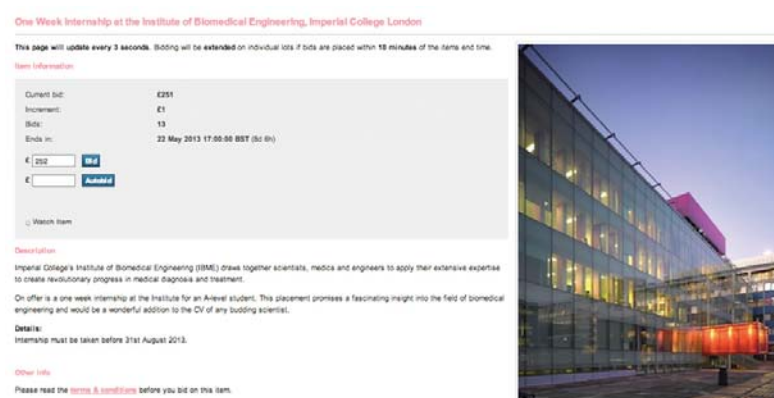
Felix spoke to Paul Beaumont, Union President, who informed the paper that "[he has] emailed the College Secretary and Comms team this morning to in-

form them of it." He continued, "I pointed out to the comms team the coverage this already has in national papers (Westminster specifically, not Imperial) and asked if they can do something to stop Imperial's association with it. I personally think that this goes completely against the idea that students (on an internship or otherwise!) get in on their academic merit, not how much they can afford to pay."

Following the removal of the lot, Imperial College published a statement noting "On reflection the Institute of Biomedical Engineering has requested that the auction place be withdrawn and is considering the best and fairest approach to hosting work experience placements in the future."

The Union have also released a statement saying: "The Sabbatical team asks the College to still provide and advertise the opportunity to any school pupil, with an attached bursary from the department sufficient so that any pupil can access the opportunity regardless of their means.

Further to this, a paper will be brought



to Imperial College Union Council on 30 May discussing how these opportunities are sourced and advertised to A-level pupils and what constitutes work experience and an internship for A-level pupils. This will hopefully mandate the sabbaticals to further investigate this issue ensuring that such a situation where opportunities are provided to students from only an educationally advantaged background never happens again."

It has also emerged that Westminster

School was contacted by the Bar Standards Board over the auction of a one to two week mini-pupillage with a criminal defence barrister in London. The auction site says that the winner will be able to gain an insight into the world of a criminal defence barrister. A Bar Standards Board spokesperson said: "As regulators, fairness and advancing equality of opportunity at the Bar is at the heart of what we do and our director is in touch with the head of Westminster School."



# SUBWARDEN VACANCIES

Applications are invited for subwarden positions at Wilkinson, Gabor and Selkirk Halls.

The positions are open to all full-time members of Imperial College including postgraduate students.

For further information visit <http://halls.imperial.ac.uk/vacancies/>



The deadline for applications is 4pm, Friday 14th June 2013

# Imperial finds partners

## Top research powerhouses form new consortium

**Tim Arbabzadah** Editor-in-Chief

Imperial has partnered with Oxford, Cambridge, UCL and Southampton to form a new consortium named Science and Engineering South Consortium (SES-5). The idea is to innovate and explore new ideas through collaboration. The SES-5 have a combined annual research spend of over £1.3 billion. Together they hold a substantial amount of the research awards. The universities involved are five of the six top research powers in the UK.

Professor David Price, Vice-Provost for Research at UCL said: "Our institutions are committed to the concept that competition between ideas and hypotheses is essential for the healthy development of excellent and impactful research." He said that the group are "convinced of the value to the UK and beyond of collaboration and the sharing of insights and resources". Professor Ian Walmsley, Oxford's Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research said: "The SES-5 will be well-placed both to compete and to collaborate with other world-class institutions on the global stage."

The SES-5 will aim to share infrastructure and collaborate to become better. There is already a project underway to share facilities for High Performance Computing. Donal Bradley, Pro-Rector for Research at Imperial College London said: "It is vital that we maintain our pre-eminence in research and careful planning of our infrastructure is essential if we are to maintain a leading international position".

The SES-5 have been accused of

"ganging up" on the rest of the university sector. Philip Nelson, pro Vice-Chancellor for research at Southampton said that they were not "ganging up on the rest of the sector" and trying to "run off with the loot". This is the latest alliance to be announced, with others including the N8 group of northern English universities in 2007. The south-western GW4 alliance and the Midlands-based M5 group.

### Imperial partners up for PRiME Chip Research Project

Imperial College London has partnered with Southampton, Manchester and Newcastle have partnered to develop more efficient computer architectures in a five-year £5.6m PRiME (Power-efficient Reliable many-core Embedded systems) project.

The venture will be funded by a grant from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

## I'm going to make you an offer

**Tim Arbabzadah** Editor-in-Chief

A student has won £300 at the Technology in Medicine and Surgery conference's Dragon's Den style competition. Tom Webb's idea was to distribute 5000 postcards depicting the four deadliest snakes in India with information about each. He says that there is "a significant chance that this idea could save the lives of a large number of people". The postcards would be targeted at schools in high risk areas to educate people about the risks. Webb said: "A shroud of mythology still surrounds snakes in India in some communities and many bites are treated using traditional therapies. In order to persuade people to adopt more evidence-based practices, the postcards could contain straightforward first aid advice for if a person is bitten. Also, if medical aid is sought following a bite, the postcards may be shown to the healthcare providers and the offending species pointed out."

In India, one million people a year are bitten by snakes, 50,000 of whom then

All photos: Tom Webb



die. The competition part of the conference that was organised by the ICSM Surgical Society.

## Imperial College London BUSINESS SCHOOL

## BUSINESS FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS (BPES)



### 2013/14 SPRING REGISTRATION WITH NEW COURSE OPTIONS

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#### Tuesday 21st May for Spring electives

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- Sustainable Business **New**
- Strategic Management **New**
- Managing Organisations **New**
- Marketing **New**

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For more information and course outlines, please visit:

[imperial.ac.uk/business-school/programmes/undergraduate](http://imperial.ac.uk/business-school/programmes/undergraduate)



# THE SUMMER ELECTIONS

**Nominations open**  
**MONDAY**  
**20 MAY**

**Nominations close**  
**MONDAY**  
**29 MAY**

[imperialcollegeunion.org/elections](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/elections)

## POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION

### Full-time Positions

Deputy President  
(Education)

### Part-time Positions

Council Chair

### Welfare Officers:

- Ethics & Environmental Officer
- International Officer
- Disabilities Officer
- LGBT Officer
- Gender Equality Officer
- Interfaith Officer
- BME (Black, Ethnic, Minority) Officer
- Campaigns Officer

### Graduate Students' Union Positions:

- President
- Deputy President (Operations)
- Deputy President (Representation)
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Events Officer
- Sports and activities Officer
- Marketing and Publicity Officer
- RAG officer
- Academic and Welfare Officer x 5

OF THE 762 RESPONSES...

**54%** SAID THEY HAD TRIED DRUGS

**57% MALE**  
**49% FEMALE**

SAID YES TO HAVING TRIED DRUGS

# DRUGS SURVEY

"Cannabis should be legalised and maybe MDMA. They're the only ones I've seen with scientific studies saying they are less damaging than alcohol."

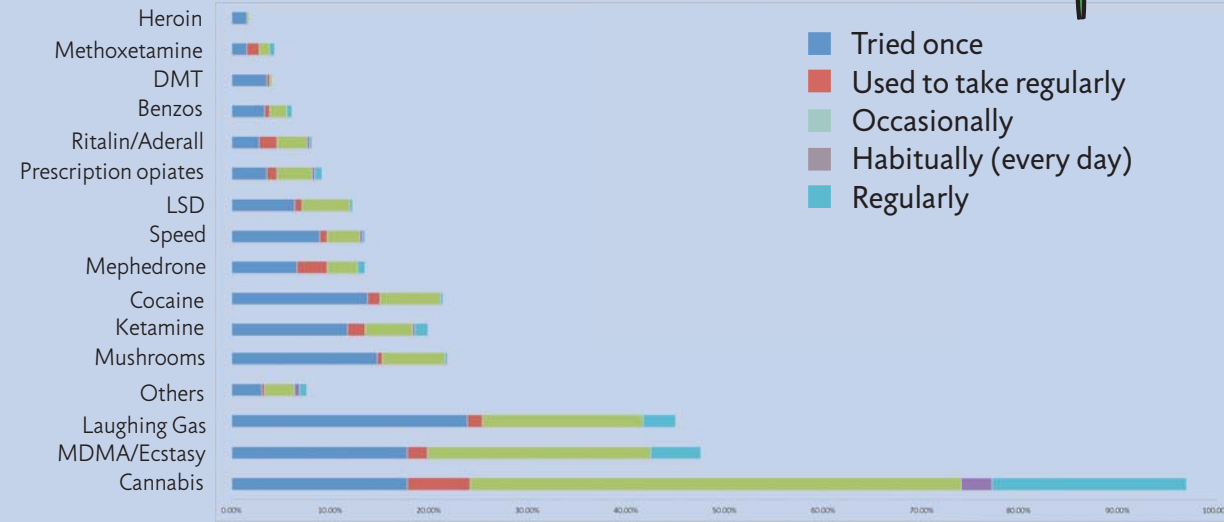
"I used to agree with legalisation until I worked with psych patients and saw the long term effects of cannabis on some people- I think legalizing would mean people relax about taking it and therefore more people are at risk of mental health problems so I am against it."

## What drugs are people taking?

Perhaps fairly unsurprisingly the drug that most people had tried was cannabis, by a pretty significant amount. The least tried was heroin (Imperial isn't THAT depressing it seems). In terms of regular and occasional use, cannabis was once again head and shoulders above the rest. MDMA/Ecstasy was second, with laughing gas in third. The rest were all in single figures for occasional use. Interestingly, laughing gas was the drug with the highest percent of "tried once" use. This could be because it is widely available on holiday in Malia, Kavos, and all other destinations likely to feature on *Sun, Sex and Suspicious Parents*. The only drug that threw up an even remotely statistically significant number for habitual (daily) use was cannabis.

There was a bit of a discrepancy between the drugs that men and women favoured, but it was fairly minor. A higher proportion of men said that they regularly smoke weed.

For an academically demanding university, there didn't seem to be widespread use of study drugs such as ritalin and aderall.

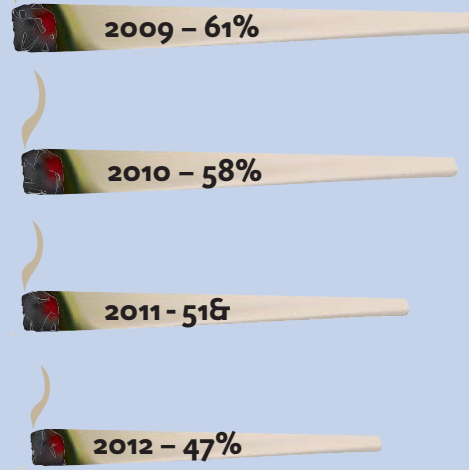


## Before or during university?

It may be that Imperial is not as bad an influence on incoming students as people may think. With 76% of students who have tried drugs having done so before university, it may be that a certain element of the drug culture is derived from students' past experiences outside of College.

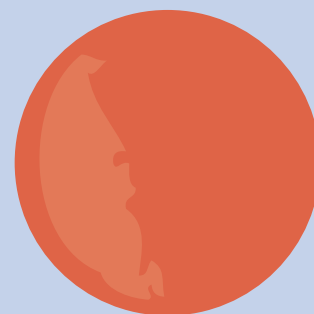
That said, are these people having an influence on students who may not have tried anything before? It was found that 95% of students who now sell drugs did indulge in the highs before UCAS was sent off, showing that longevity is the key to dealing success.

Some naïve Freshers may be remaining naïve throughout their years, but some students are, as expected, experimenting as the years go on. Based on year of intake, more and more people have taken drugs the longer they have been at university. A difference of only around 14% however between this year's spread of students does hint that there still isn't much of a drug influence within the student body.



"Other places: festivals, friends houses, in a park on a fine summer's day. How have drugs affected my degree: marginally due to the equivalent of hangovers. Far less than beer has... but it would feel a little wrong to say not at all."

"The scarcity of MDMA fuels almost all other 'club' drugs, and cannabis is an effective substitute for alcohol. I believe legalising or decriminalising MDMA and cannabis would reduce most other soft drug use, and in that sense having them as class A causes more harm via the alternatives."



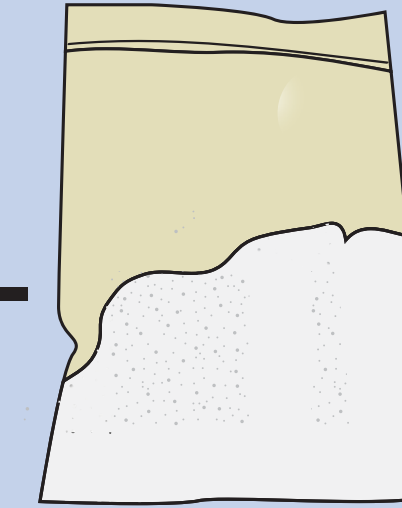
"Not all illegal drugs, but the less harmful ones such as cannabis should be legalised."

"Drugs are bad mmm-kay"

"I used to acquire cannabis by growing it...."

## Drug taking community?

So is there a drug community at Imperial? This seems to be dependant on who you ask. When asking those who have ever taken drugs, 44% consider there to be some sort of drug scene, whereas those who have not fallen susceptible to chemical highs at any point either generally don't know if there is a scene (41%) or don't think there is (26%). When it comes to drugs therefore, it seems to be the case it is who you know, not necessarily what you know.



## Harming your degree?

So, the question on the lips on the academically inclined Imperial students may be: does drug taking effect your degree? For those who take drugs, all in all, 86% people stated that their drug use has not influenced their degree at all. This does differ between Departments however: 17% of those in Bio-engineering seem to think that drugs have somewhat disrupted their studies, whereas in other departments this percentage seems to be significantly less.



## Legalisation

**YES** 42%  
**NO** 36%  
**DON'T KNOW** 21%

When asked about legalisation in general, 42% said drugs should be legalised. For future surveys, asking people what specific drugs should be made legal would be better. A lot of people had long, eloquent responses to this one. Many said some (soft) drugs, not all, should be legal. Mostly, people said cannabis should be legalised.

Of the people that said that they wanted drugs to be legalised, just under 75% of them had taken drugs before, which is no surprise. What was a bit weird was that of the people that took drugs 57% said it should be legalised, meaning 43% want it to be illegal, but still want to do it - presumably so they can feel like massive badasses whenever they do a line. "I'm dangerous baby, I do things that are illegal, and rightly so"

Men favoured legalisation a lot more (oi oi banter with the lads etc?) than women: 48% of men say that it should be legalised, while only 31% of women thought it should be legalised. 31% of women said no to legalisation. So, in general, men are keener on legalisation and women are keener on not legalising. When comparing departments, Physics were most for it (53% say yes, presumably to make staring out to space more interesting and trippy), and Earth Science & Engineering seemed not keen on the idea with 25% wanting legalisation. Who needs drugs when you're staring at rocks all day! Unsurprisingly, people who said that they either took drugs regularly, or used to take drugs regularly, very heavily favoured legalisation.



## Drug dependency

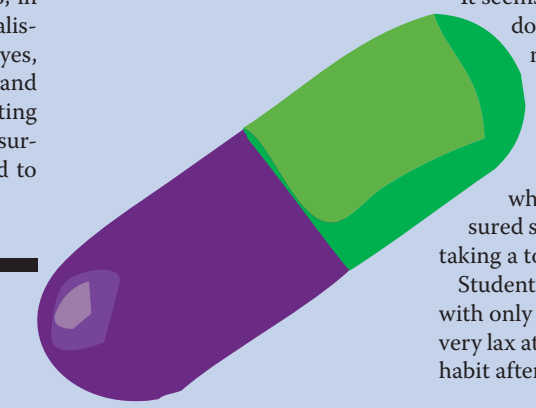
So what sort of dependency are students experiencing with drugs? With cannabis being the popular drug of choice on campus, it seems that this correlates with the low level of dependency being experienced across the student body. Only 9 people have said they have experienced dependency of any sort, with 6 being only psychologically dependant and 3 being physically dependant too. However, with 4% of those who have taken drugs suspected addiction, this may be something that needs to be addressed by welfare services in the future.

## Peer pressure

It seems that, reflective of the free-thinking student body that we are, many put down drug trialling whilst at Imperial down to curiosity and fun, which may correlate to the locations of drug trial being most often in bars or clubs. The Union apparently appears more bearable than previously considered, with only 6 students admitting to having to resort to more than alcohol to have a good time.

However, it does depend on when you started experimenting - many who started taking drugs before university, have said they have also pressured someone in their past: 11% have admitted to persuading their friends into taking a toke at some point too.

Students who have taken up the habit since starting seem to be more relaxed, with only 7% having an influence on others. All in all though, peer pressure seems very lax at Imperial, possibly indicative as to why seemingly few people pick up the habit after coming to South Kensington.



## Drugs vs Booze

Despite the vagueness within this open question, 60% of those that take drugs consider alcohol to be just as, if not more so harmful. This increases to 64% of those sampled who were using drugs before starting university

"I think there are little groups of people who are known for taking MDMA on nights out, or smoking weed at parties, but they integrate very well within social groups who merely drink on nights out."



"Some not all should be legalised. If you were starting a society, on day zero you would outlaw booze and legalise weed. No one ever got into a fight outside a bar after getting high"

## Compared to others

A university wide drugs study ran by Student Beans in 2012, answered by 1,903 people, found that actually 54% of students would have taken drugs in there time at university.

However, nationally, 79% of students who have taken drugs did so before university, showing that we seem to have attracted the less adventurous sixth formers.

But how do we compare to the world outside of university? Latest figures from the Home Office show that two thirds of adults have taken drugs at least once, meaning that for those not brave enough to get experimental on campus, there is still hope for after graduation. However, with the national average of first time drug use being between the ages of 16 and 18, this explains why so many students who take drugs at Imperial already did so before arriving in October.

## Druggy Departments



Note that all numbers in the above graph are quoted as percentages of respondents from that department. The sample size for Business School, Materials, and Humanities was very low.

### The trouble with surveys

This is the most boring part of the whole survey, so I won't write too much.

When undertaking a survey such as this there are many problems. They don't just involve people trolling it for their own amusement. There is, we believe, a self selection process. If you have taken drugs you are more likely to take the survey. Although this is, of course, something that we cannot prove. There is also the reverse in operation. People may be wary of taking

such a survey and admitting to illegal activities. This is made more difficult by the fact that you had to put your College username and password in to access the survey. A lot of people who hadn't taken drugs also did the survey, and the views we got were fascinating. I really hope that you enjoy having a look at this as much as we enjoyed making it. It's safe to say we may have messed up the wording of some questions, and have much to learn, but there's a first time for everything. - Tim Arbazadah

The survey was entirely anonymous. At no point could anyone match your name to your response. For more information on how this was done, email felix@imperial.ac.uk  
Thank you to everyone that took the survey!  
Survey Design: Tim Arbazadah, Ross Gray  
Survey Coding: Philip Kent, Jonathan Kim  
Analysis: Tim Arbazadah, Ross Gray, Philippa Skett  
Words: Tim Arbazadah, Philippa Skett  
Illustrations: Lizzy Griffiths





# Face your mortality

**Rebekah Judge** tries to convince you to become an organ donor

**O**rgan donation can be a taboo topic, as thinking about it requires us to confront our own mortality; something most of us would prefer not to do. This taboo needs to be tackled, as the mismatch between the number of people needing a transplant, and those willing to donate their organs, is vast. More than 10,000 people in the UK are currently in need of a transplant, and of these, 1000 die needlessly each year whilst on the waiting list. That's three people a day dying because they do not receive an organ in time.

I'm sure most of you are aware of the theory behind organ transplantation, however taking a moment to run through the basic procedure involved seems sensible. Organ transplantation is required when a person loses function of one or more of their organs. A replacement organ may be required in order to maintain a good quality of life, or even in order for them to stay alive. They could potentially receive

an organ transplant in one of two ways. A healthy person may choose to donate a non-vital organ (for instance, a kidney) to a friend, a member of their family or even a stranger. Alternatively, they could receive an organ from someone who has chosen to donate their organs in the event of their death. In this case, the donor's organs are allocated to people on the organ transplant list; a national register of people needing an organ transplant.

Organ transplantation has the potential to save and transform the lives of individuals and their families, a number of whom have suffered for many years with a poor quality of life. Unfortunately, due to the shortage of organ donors, the full potential of organ donation to change lives is not being fulfilled. Whilst almost all of us would take an organ if we needed one, only 30% of us are registered organ donors.

As students at a renowned scientific institution, we are being equipped with skills which have the potential to

improve the lives of people around the world. But have you considered the simple act of signing up to the organ donation register; something that if we each do individually, collectively has the potential to put an end to the unnecessary suffering and deaths of thousands of people?

Organ transplantation has the potential to save and transform the lives of individuals and their families

So why not take action? Think about organ donation, consider signing up, and become part of a lifesaving movement. Because you never know, you yourself may one day rely on the organ of a total stranger.

*This article is on behalf of The Organ Donor Drive by Imperial Hub. We want to increase understanding and awareness of organ donation and also encourage students to register on the NHS organ donor list. We will be holding lectures, discussions and running stalls from the 13th -20th of May – please get involved and find out more.*



# How far would you go to save your life

**Katherine Rutherford** invites you to join Eva Moon

**T**he world was stunned this week to learn that actress and director Angelina Jolie had a preventative mastectomy to avoid 87% odds of breast cancer due to the BRCA1 genetic mutation. Seattle performer and composer **Eva Moon** faced an impossible choice.

Now the touring artist has written a solo musical about her experience and will be in London for one performance only, as a benefit for Macmillan Cancer Support on Thursday 13th June at our very own Sir Alexander Fleming Building.

Let's you think there's nothing uplifting about such a personal self-exam, you haven't seen Ms. Moon's grasp of the subject. *The Mutant Diaries: Unzipping My Genes* is a feisty, frank, funny and fearless original musical comedy about turning a devastating prognosis into a new lease on life. Moon shares the humour as well as the struggle of dealing with a life-changing personal challenge – and living to laugh about it – with light-hearted

songs like "Ta Ta, Tatas" and wild tales from her "Boob Voyage" party to temper the more wrenching and sombre moments she explores with honesty and candidness in songs like "Dreamland".

In 2011, as her mother was dying of cancer, Eva learned she had inherited the BRCA1 genetic mutation from her. That twist of DNA skyrockets the risk of getting breast and ovarian cancer to near certainty. To combat those odds, she started making plans for surgery right away. The surgery – surgeries, actually: a hysterectomy and double mastectomy— were daunting. But if she were to forgo the procedures, her chances of getting cancer were nearly 90 percent.

"I had friends who tried to talk me out of it. They said, 'You still have a 13 percent chance of not getting cancer,'" said Moon. "My response was, 'Would you fly on an airline that had a 13 percent rate of not crashing?' I was very confident I was doing the right thing. In the process, I discovered my mutant superpower. I got to change the



future."

Proceeds from the show will go to Macmillan Cancer Support. Kate Maccauley of Macmillan said, "One in three of us will get cancer and it's the toughest thing most of us will ever face. The number of people with cancer is growing every day. This show tells a personal and positive story about the hard choices women can face. We want to reach and improve the lives of every one of those people. Donations make up 98% of our income, so we simply couldn't do what we do without you."

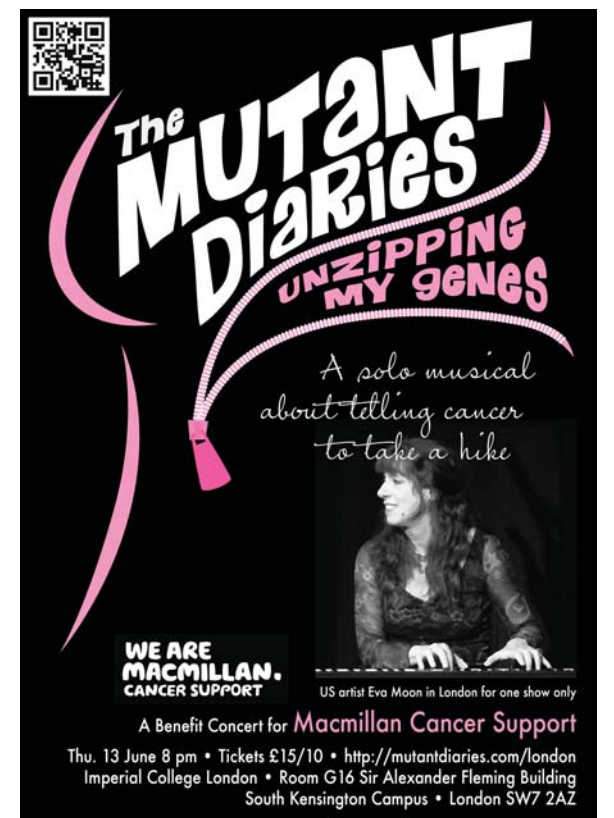
Read online at

...

wait, wait, wait for it, be patient please

...

[felixonline.co.uk](http://felixonline.co.uk)



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

# FEATURES

# How to decide what to do with “the rest of your life”

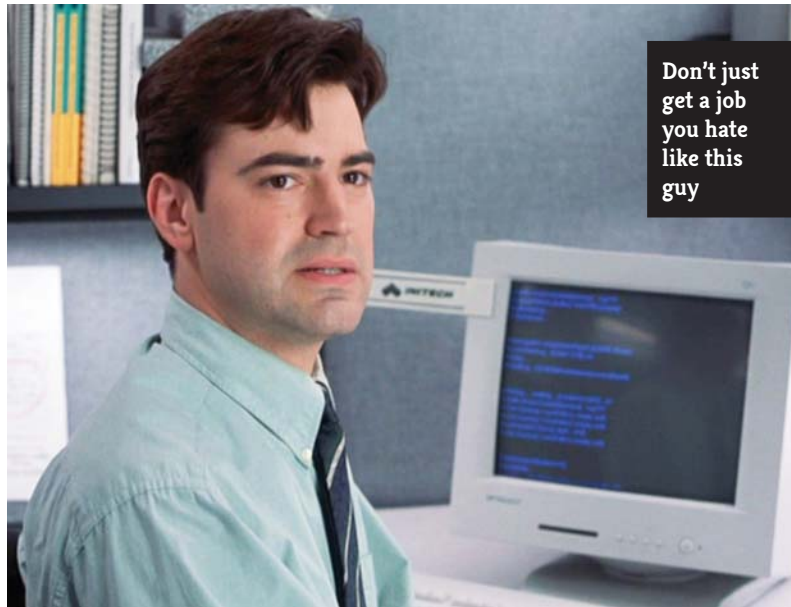
**Mark Frederick** Alumni Writer

Deciding what to do with ‘the rest of your life’ after graduation can be a daunting prospect. If you feel you have become pigeon-holed with too few opportunities available to you, or that you are capable of doing anything but don’t know how to choose which road to take, then this article is for you. What follows should give you some perspective and suggest some simple steps towards getting a job after graduation, moving on to further studies or even doing something completely different.

Since leaving Imperial College London with an MEng (Hons) and then a PhD in Aeronautical Engineering, I have worked as a self-employed English teacher in Spain, as an occasional pianist and joined the Future Leaders Development Programme at Barclays in 2012 – see [www.seemore-bemore.com](http://www.seemore-bemore.com). Although being an undergraduate and then a postgraduate feels like quite a long time ago now, I remember worrying about what I would do in the future. Sometimes it felt as though there were so many possibilities that I didn’t know which to choose, while on other occasions it felt as though there were very few roles for which I would be suited.

In my opinion, the key for making career choices is simple: identify the skills you enjoy using, the strengths you have and find the fields that correspond. Never forget that a high salary will not necessarily make you happy and that you are capable of choosing a different path to your friends.

When studying, it can be hard to remember that your skill set is just as important as your academic results. You may find that the set of skills you will use in a full-time job are very different from those you used at university: the prerequisites for academic success can be very different to the prerequisites for success in business. I adore my job, but doing it as well as I can is not a question of being the smartest person in the room or always knowing how to solve a problem on my own. It is a matter of knowing who



can solve it, what support they will need to do it and how to get that support for them.

Once upon a time I was an academic student doing Aeronautical Engineering, yet these days the most difficult mathematics I need on a daily basis is addition and the only time I think about aeroplanes is when I check in at an airport. On the other hand, I now use interpersonal skills that I never learned in a lecture theatre, such as building up a professional network, knowing the skills of each person I you know and developing the skills to manage people. These different skills sets mean that it is important that you try to balance your studies with extra-curricular activities if that is where your strengths lie. Now I know that captaining a sports team, helping to organise a large university event or running a society would have developed skills far more valuable to my current employer than a hundred modules on helicopter dynamics.

For those of you graduating next year, set aside a little time over the summer and next year thinking about your next steps. Don’t hesitate too long to decide what jobs to apply for, as sometimes you will learn more about what you want to do during the application process. If you find yourself lacking motivation to complete

an application form or disliking the people you meet from the business, it could be a sign that this path is not for you.

Here are some suggestions to help you get started:

1. Identify the skills that you enjoy using and where your abilities lie. Are you fascinated by solving theoretical problems or do you prefer fixing broken go-karts? Is analysing and refuting written arguments your thing or are you much happier ad-libbing your points on a stage in front of an audience? If you need some help, ask

your friends and family for the things that you do well. Be as clear as you can about the skills you have and the areas you want to develop. Don’t sell yourself short or focus only on your university studies: playing in a football team regularly requires teamwork and dedication, while organising university events requires leadership and the ability to prevent or solve last-minute problems. Employers value these skills, so let them know that you have them.

2. Make use of the Careers Advisory Service, the internet and any friends who are already working to help you map out which jobs use the skills you have identified. Be clear on the skills you want to use; sometimes it can also help to be clear about the things that you don’t want to do. Use any work experience you have, from bar work to summer internships, to feed into this.

3. Meet the people who work at the companies and in the sectors that you want to work in. Go to the Careers Fair at Imperial (or elsewhere) and speak to the people manning the stall. Ask yourself, ‘Is that the kind of person I would like to become?’ Look for ‘meet and greet’ events for students, networking evenings or industry body events. Spending an hour or two speaking with people who have been working in your chosen industry for years, hearing what they enjoy and what they complain about too, can be

a real eye-opener.

4. Apply as early in the academic year as you can, even if you are not 100% certain about your choices. The longer you leave it, the harder it is to get onto the most popular graduate programmes or find the best direct-entry jobs. Speak to any friends you have who are already working – some companies even offer a reward to employees who recommend a friend who is offered and accepts the job.

Try and spend as much time as you reasonably can on this. It is your final year and you will be busy but, if you reflect on your skills and career choice to choose carefully and early, you will reap the rewards. Remember too that if in a few years’ time you decide that you want to do something else (within reason), you should be able to do that fairly easily. The career choices that you make now are not final – right now, you only have to make the best choices with the information available to you.

*If you would like to read more about my Barclays experience and those of other graduates, please visit [www.seemore-bemore.com](http://www.seemore-bemore.com). All of my views above are personal and not those of Barclays, so to get in touch with me, to share any comments on this article or to ask me any questions, please connect with me on LinkedIn.*

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# FEATURES

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## North Acton: How bad is it really?

**Ben Fernando** takes a trip to the new hall's location to investigate

All photos: Ben Fernando



**A**t first sign, North Acton station appears prettier than most – there's even a cherry tree in front of the ticket barriers. Travel time from South Kensington: 45 minutes 18 seconds. That's 45 metric minutes at 60 seconds/minute, not these new 80 second imperial-Acton minutes that the college use in their 30 minute estimate for travel time.

So we've all heard about how terrible Acton is going to be – but how bad really is it? I took a couple of trips to find out.

Transportwise, things aren't brilliant. Apart from the journey time, there's a single night bus that serves North Acton, with two services per hour to Hammersmith. Given that Hammersmith isn't all that close to campus and isn't exactly known for its nightlife, it's unlikely to be of much use Imperial Students. Oh, and the cost? A yellow zones 1&2 student

travel card comes in at an affordable £848, or roughly 20% of my maintenance loan.

Okay, so what about safety – is the nickname 'Crackton' really warranted? Well, er... possibly. Apart from having almost twice the amount of violent crime as a proportion of total crime that South Kensington has, there seem to be a few issues with antisocial behaviour and cannabis farming. News headlines on the town's website inform us that:

- Dispersal zones have been established; police warn, 'you may be removed to your home'
- '15 year old boy stabbed'
- 'Man injured after stabbing'
- 'Three men jailed for armed robbery'

And, just in case you were wondering, Ealing had a 'record number of rubbish complaints' in 2012 – 55,407. So assuming the intrepid freshers overcome their fears of violent crime

and lots of rubbish, can they expect a good student experience?

'Not really', says a University of the Arts London student living in the tower block adjacent to the station. She tells me that there's not really much to do apart from taking the bus into Shepherd's Bush. Oh, and she sometimes goes to the local ASDA, which just so happens to be the same ASDA where the three men were recently jailed for breaking , entering and assaulting a security guard and threatening to kill him. But don't worry, the local corner shop has installed 'anti-burglar fog', whatever that is.

Well, perhaps other students who already live there have different views about Acton? Or not. 'There's not much to do', complains Amit Rungkwansirirog, an international student at UAL, 'it's inconvenient'. I caught her in her pyjamas as she wandered over to the local shop for some milk, as she expressed annoyance that the nearest

big shops were four tube stops away. Westfield seems to have become these students' saving grace, providing the only entertainment and nightlife in the area. It's a convenient 45 minutes away by night bus.

On the plus side, there seem to be a number of gambling establishments for the betting type. In addition to the convenience store, closed coffee shop and bank there was a Ladbrokes' and a William Hill just a few hundred feet from the main entrance to the existing accommodation. Clearly the students have found new uses for their time and money.

Determined to find something exciting to do, I pressed on. First on the attraction list is Gypsy Corner, where the six-lane remnant of the M40 careens down a hill. For traffic light aficionados, the area is definitely well worth a visit, but perhaps not for cyclists. Facing a six mile journey to College, it's only a matter of time un-

til a student joins the ranks of cyclists killed over the last few years on the A40.

I prefer trains to cars, so I travelled on the train line. Acton students will have a prime location for watching the high-speed services out of Euston, and, as I was glad to discover, in watching the planes come into Heathrow. Needless to say I got quite a kick from seeing not one, but two A380s coming in to land! You could almost say it was the highlight of the entire trip.

So, it really does seem as if Acton is what it's made out to be: a commuter suburb with few local amenities or attraction, and a serious issue with antisocial behaviour. It might be okay if you're middle aged and own a car, but will seven hundred non street-smart freshers who are living away from home for the first time in North Acton have a good experience? I think not.

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# Bumper year for Physics' Joanna Haigh

Stephanie Walton interviews our very own CBE winner, FRS and researcher

www.myscience.me.uk

**C**limate physicist Professor Joanna Haigh is enjoying a glittering start to 2013. In recognition of her services to Physics she was appointed Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the New Year Honours and earlier this month she was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS).

She is also the first female Head of Physics at Imperial in a still predominantly male department; incredibly there are nine times more male academics than female. Despite a hectic schedule, she found time to chat about her career and route to the top.

**Stephanie Walton: Have you always wanted to be a Physicist?**

Professor Joanna Haigh: After my undergraduate degree I wanted to retrain as a medic but I could not afford it. Instead I studied for a MSc in Meteorology at Imperial and enjoyed it so much I became hooked. Imperial was different in the 70s; I got thrown out of the Union Bar since only men were allowed. Impe-

rial is a lot more friendly these days. **SW: Was your doctorate plain sailing or were there moments of exasperation over malfunctioning experiments?**

JH: Of course there were moments of exasperation. I had a computer model which kept crashing and it took me weeks to work out why.

**SW: Was it hard researching whilst raising three small children?**

JH: It took some organising, but the department was very supportive. My research profile suffered a bit of a dip though.

**SW: What do you do as Head of Department?**

JH: It is quite demanding. I deal with our research excellence framework, promotions, faculty management issues, health and safety, fellowships... It is fun though and I am very proud and honoured to have been chosen to do it.

**SW: Tell me about your CBE. Do**

**you know who nominated you?**

JH: I have no idea. I was informed by letter and it came as a complete surprise. I went to Windsor Castle to collect the award. It was a lovely occasion and the Queen asked me very sensible questions. She was very impressive for a lady of her age.

**SW: I lost count trying to enumerate papers you have published. Do you remember writing all of them and do any stand out in particular?**

JH: I know some better than others. A couple have been pleasingly influential for example the paper I published in 1996 on solar radiation and its effect on the stratosphere. Some of the things we said were picked up on and have been developed into a whole new area of interest.

**SW: You are a climate model expert. How do these models work?**

JH: You've got me on my favourite topic! They are amazing! Basically you write down four equations, solve them on a discrete grid and integrate forward in time. The model shows



you jet streams and weather patterns, just like the real world!

**SW: As a climate physicist, are you conscious of your carbon footprint? Do you fly?**

JH: I do fly but only if I can justify it and I try to combine trips. I drive a little electric car into College. I charge it every night at home. It's quite cheap to run but replacing the battery is very expensive.

**SW: What would you do if you had influence in government?**

JH: I would raise carbon taxes and invest in alternative energy sources.

**SW: Do you have any advice for scientists at the beginning of their careers?**

JH: It is tough. You need to maintain an interest, work hard and not be afraid to ask for advice. Don't cry in a corner if things don't work.

## Not the bees! Not the bees! Neonicotinoid ban comes with a sting

Laura Kor

Science Writer

The European Union has voted in favour of a ban on neonicotinoids, the most widely used pesticide in the world. However, with fierce behind-the-scenes campaigns and passionate lobbying from all parties involved, this result was by no means easily decided. So why have neonicotinoids been banned? How much will this help honey bee populations? And why does it matter to us?

Neonicotinoids were developed to effectively kill unwanted insects on crops while being harmless to humans and other mammals. However, whilst their use across the world has increased over recent decades, honey bee numbers have plummeted. This does not seem to be a coincidental correlation; several high profile scientific studies have linked neonicotinoids to the decline of honey bees. A paper published in *Science* last year found that exposure to the insecticide caused an 85% reduction in the production of queen bees, which are crucial to establish new colonies.

This is vitally important as bees do

so much more than make honey – they are estimated to pollinate a third of the food we eat. A much quoted remark states that: "If the bee disappeared off the surface of the globe, man would only have four years of life left. No more bees, no more pollination, no more plants, no more animals, no more man." Though there is a lack of consensus over who actually said this, let alone how accurate a prediction it is, its foreboding vision indicates just how instrumental bees are to life as we know it.

In Hanyuan County, China, where bees have already been wiped out by the use of pesticides, farmers have resorted to employing people to hand pollinate pear trees with feather dusters and paint brushes. Friends of the Earth have estimated that to do this for crops in the UK would cost £1.8bn a year, a sum which would no doubt be reflected in the price of food.

With a 53% fall in managed British bee colonies since 1985 mirroring similar drops worldwide, declining pollinator populations have been identified as a serious risk to global food production – the last thing we need with an ever-growing human

population to feed. Therefore falling bee numbers represent not only a conservation issue, but also a serious economic and social issue.

But how far will the ban on neonicotinoids go to reversing this alarming trend? The short answer is, we do not know. There is no general agreement on the cause of the worldwide collapse in honey bee colonies. Instead, the phenomenon (termed colony collapse disorder in the USA), has also been attributed to a range of other factors which include habitat loss, increasing numbers of parasites and levels of air pollution.

With this uncertainty in mind, it may seem strange that a ban on the most widely used insecticide has been put in place – especially when faced with arguments from chemical



companies and UK ministers that this could negatively impact food production through an increase in pest levels. However, the precautionary principle is supposed to underlie environmental regulation.

This means that even without scientific consensus, there is a responsibility to protect the public or environ-

ment from harm if a plausible risk is found. Perhaps the very fact that this issue has ignited such passionate lobbying from both sides illustrates how the humble honey bee is not only important environmentally, but is also instrumental economically and socially – we must do everything possible to protect pollinators while we still can.

Science Editors: Philip Kent,  
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SCIENCE

# Hipster mice display neurological individuality

**Philippa Skett** on how mice are linking experience to what makes us who we are

<http://indianapublicmedia.org/>

**I**ndividuality seems to be more of an adolescent dilemma for picking profile pictures than it may be for neuroscientists, but research this week shows that they too are worrying just how to stand out from the crowd. Donning their lab coats and grabbing their microscopes rather than a mirror and an iPhone, researchers at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in California may have pinpointed the reasoning for what makes us all that little bit different.

The study, centred on groups of genetically identical mice, identified how neurological differences may contribute to individuality in tandem with environmental influences. When kept in the same complex enclosure for three months, it was seen that the brains of the mice altered differently in regards to what they did.

This alteration is referred to as “brain plasticity,” and is, broadly speaking, the mechanism behind how long term memories derived from what is experienced are stored via the hippocampus.

Plasticity is the alteration of neuronal connections within the brain, with certain connections becoming more stable between the groups of neurons involved in “storing” the memory. It is this physiological change that allows for certain memories to be recalled much more easily in the future, and the researchers are now suggesting that neuronal differences in the genetically identical mice may be contributing to their “individuality.” The term individuality here was considered to cover any differences in behaviour, problem solving, patterns of exploration or even idiosyncrasies seen between the groups of genetically identical mice.

The mice, whilst exploring their enclosure, were tagged with transponders and had antennae attached to track their movements. After the three months, the mice were then surgically assessed to determine plasticity difference by counting proliferating precursor cells within their hippocampus.

With previous studies showing that these cells are crucial to neurogenesis—the production of new neurons – and increase through physical and cognitive activity, it was found that mice that had different exploratory behaviour had different numbers of neurons being generated, and thus, introduced elements of individuality into the groups of mice.

Although this seems very much self-explanatory to the general free-thinking scientist (of course experience is



going to define individuality, isn't that obvious), this is the first case of being able to quantify just how plasticity can be altered by measurable interactions. It is the first direct link between behaviour and plasticity, but should not be considered as entirely indicative of environmental influences alone contributing to who we are.

Despite these mice being genetically similar, their behaviour was not identical at the beginning of the study, hinting at some variation that may occur at a much earlier developmental stage. Such differences were merely amplified by the interactive complex they were placed in and the next step is to pinpoint just what might cause these differences at a more precise level.

For now though, this study hints at why even identical twins brought up in the same household, surrounded by the same people, may be two completely different people personality-wise.

So, teenagers of the world, want to convey just how individual you are? Put down the phone, wipe off the eyeliner and step outside; a picture may be worth a thousand words but experience seems to be worth more neuronal plasticity than we are yet to quantify.

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Read online at [felixonline.co.uk](http://felixonline.co.uk)

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Quadrature Capital LLP is a technology company applying rigorous statistical and mathematical methods to investment management. Founded in 2010 by two Ex-D.E.Shaw Portfolio Managers, we aim to combine great people and technology in a friendly, energetic and creative environment.

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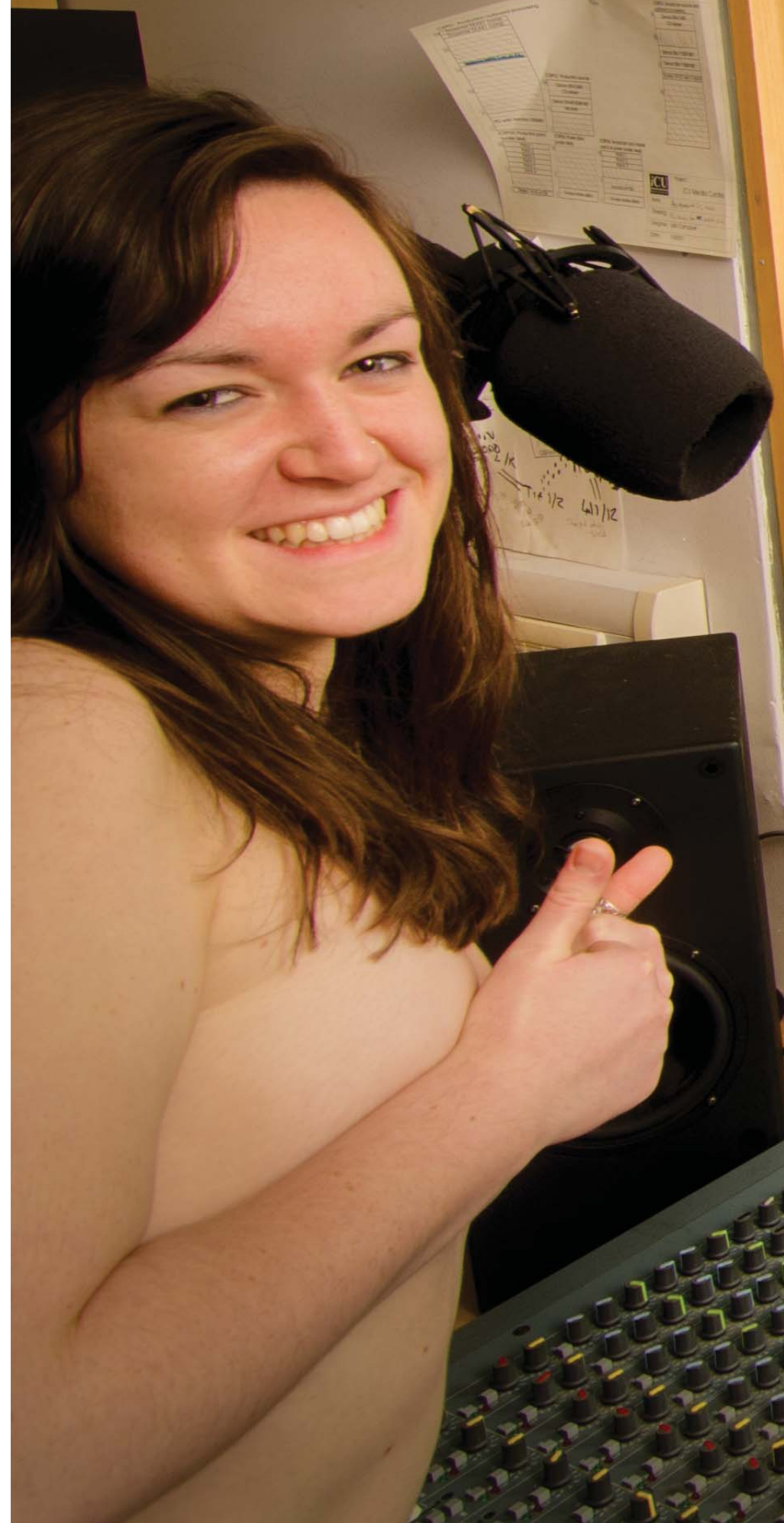
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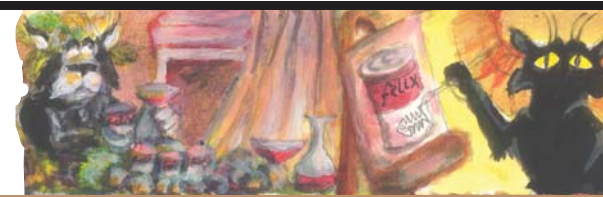
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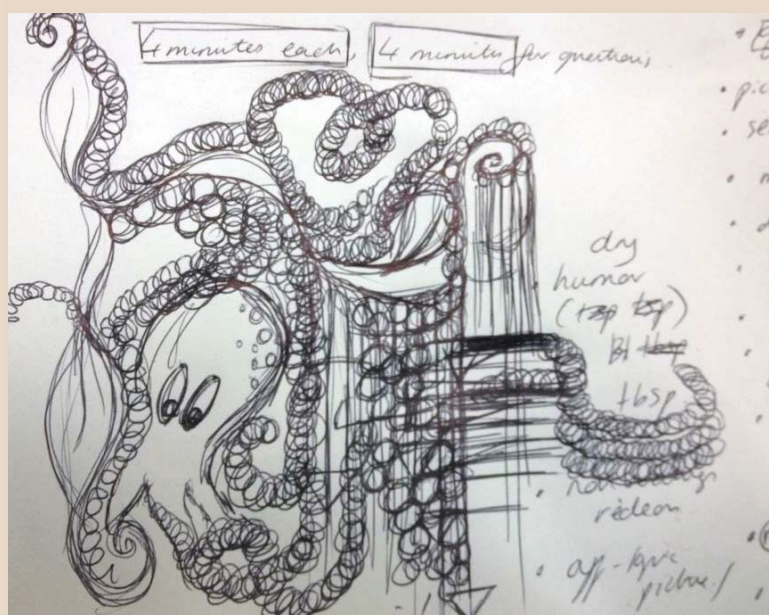
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Arts Editors: Eva Rosenthal,  
Meredith Thomas

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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](mailto:arts.felix@ic.ac.uk). This doodle is by Lauren Radcliffe, procrastinating like hell?

## TIRED OF LIFE?

### Our pick of what's on in London

**Double R Club @ The Old Truman Brewery** - Welcome to The Double R Club, an evening of mystery & nightmares inspired by the films of David Lynch; a darkly surreal cocktail of "Damn fine" Cabaret & Burlesque, Comedy & Live Music, where "Restless nights and uneasy dreams go with the territory...". 13 June

**Nobuyoshi Araki @ Michael Hoppen Contemporary** - Araki's highly charged work has a unique vision that has made it central to the development of Japanese photography. Many of his graphic, provoking works are on rare display in a gallery only a short walk away from College, not one to miss. Now - 8 June

**George Bellows @ Royal Academy of Arts** - The first major retrospective of the important American realist painter is in London. Head along to the RA for an enthralling vision of the chaotic thriving USA of the 1920's. Career may have been short but his time offered a rich subject matter of war, commerce and everyday life. Now - 9 June

**A Design Fiction @ Design Museum** - This exhibition at London's centre for design feature the work of four individuals using use elements of industrial design, architecture, politics, science and sociology to provoke debate around the power and potential of design through the development of their own 'micro-kindoms'. Now - 16 August



# La neuro vague

Lily Le

Writer

Art which tackles melange with science has been explored previously in these pages. However these clashes still remain few and far between. Science as inspiration for intriguing pieces, using art as a medium to explore the significance of science or portray its beauty has great potential and is not yet as appreciated as it could be.

One artist bringing these themes to the forefront is Susan Aldworth. She is known for her art-neuroscience mash-ups and has even worked with Imperial neuroscientists involved in the Parkinson's Brain Tissue Bank. Currently on display at the National Portrait Gallery is *The Portrait Anatomised*, three prints which invite viewers to think about the concept of the self and the brain.

The portraits are of no ordinary subjects. They are sufferers of epilepsy, a condition where excessive electrical activity in the brain has serious impacts on daily life. It is not something to be stigmatised, frowned down upon, or shunned. The exhibition doesn't shy away from this aspect; instead, it displays epilepsy for what it is. It defines the subjects and their personality. We are invited to consider this and to question in what way our brain defines us.

Elisabeth is a young mother. She is also a portrait inspired by 17th century Evelyn tables on which dissected whole-body blood vessels are glued. Using images from body scans, Elisabeth's stark white skeleton is laid bare on a black background.

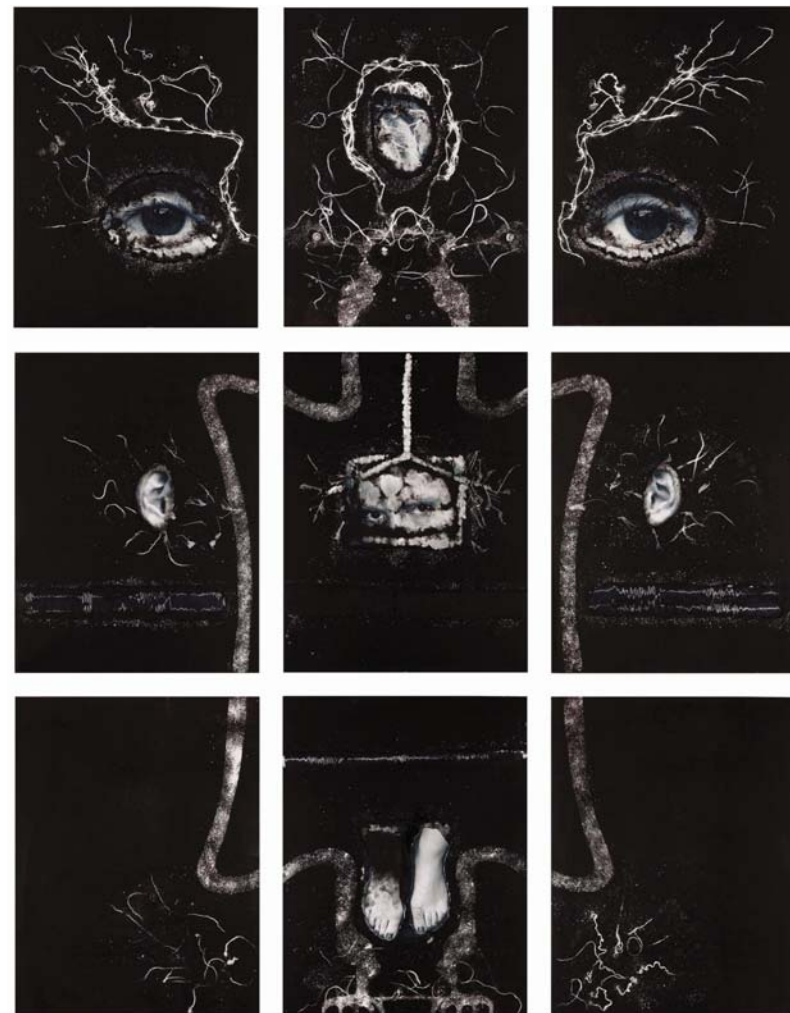
Her portrait isn't anatomised, but rather her anatomy is portrait-ised. Wide eyes gaze into the world, this world reflects back to the viewer and we stare back.

Elisabeth's face forms her womb, representing the struggle she faced when considering how to become pregnant whilst dealing with her epilepsy and deciding whether or not to come off the medication, which could harm her unborn child.

If her head is a metaphor for her preoccupations, are our brains a metaphor for our minds? In neuroscience, they are one and the same, but on a human level this isn't the simplest thing to accept.

Adjacent to Elisabeth sits Max. The first thing that strikes the viewer is a photo of his face, eyes closed it seems to speak of relief, pain, contemplation, all or neither of those things. We are prompted to decide, white on black and particularly striking.

Aldworth wanted us to feel as



though we are diving into space – the matter that makes up the subjects and ourselves.

This is particularly thought-provoking when viewers follow the swirling white patterns, perhaps dendrites which allow brain cells to communicate along great distances. They create a kind of confusion which is exacerbated by the irregular anatomy of his body parts. It reminds us of how the mind and body affect each other, and how a disease of the former is the same as a disease of the latter.

The swirls then link the canvas to the exterior world; I'd really like to believe they are the dendrites which allow our brain cells to connect with what is external to us.

"I always like my work to look like it has just landed on the page and is about to move off, so electricity [used by brain cells to communicate] provided me with a wonderful subject matter because it is transitory. It moves with the moment," explains Aldworth.

The third portrait is of Fiona. Just like the other two, her huge eyes bear down, but unlike the others, her heart sits in between them. Ancient idioms about listening to hearts vs. heads come to mind.

Where her hands should be, Fiona's ears form a creepy eye-to-ear piercing gaze, locked with the viewer's. It is as though we are trying to see what she hears by looking at her portrait, and in this way it seems as though her epilepsy affects how she perceives herself alongside how we perceive her.

All portraits also feature each subject's electroencephalogram (EEG) readings. These are basically readings of brainwaves, and are the way in which epilepsy is detected and diagnosed. When a seizure occurs the electrical activity of a huge number of brain cells synchronise when they should not and activity becomes large enough to be detected by the EEG. Though brainwaves carry information, thoughts cannot be decoded from them. In this way, the beautiful patterns, displayed in the heart of the picture, hold so much personal information yet tell us nothing about who the subjects really are.

"The portraits seem to reference the self, but they don't really, and I think in my work I'm playing with that and trying to give you a look inside the subjects but in the end it is still just an anatomical experience. And their secrets are still really contained within themselves."



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ARTS

# My revision poem

**Martin Asprusten** writes a poem about his exam woe to the tune of *The Raven* by Edgar Allan Poe

Upon a day in springtime warming outside birds and bees were swarming,  
I recalled, with passion forming, sunny days of springs of yore  
Days of sunny spring enticing, days of song and dance comprising  
but, alas!, I was revising things I should have learnt before  
"Stop wasting time", I reprimanded,  
"reminiscing lo'ers your score.  
Only that, and nothing more"

Settling down to solve the paper, my resolve began to taper  
My inner self became a vapour, drifting to some distant shore  
From the dreamer's lofty station, I surveyed the whole Creation  
But I knew my concentration had been broken at its core  
My ignorance seemed overpowering, and exams were at the door  
"Why did I not read before?"

And as such the days went flying, nothing learnt and slowly dying  
Tied down by the shackles of the not-quite-studying I deplore  
Mere mortals would with great sensation gawp at my procrastination  
Witnessing the daft deflation of the knowledge I could store  
When exams were over I received the e-mail I abhorre  
"Weak 2:2 and nothing more"

As I did my awful reading, I could see my life proceeding  
into joblessness and needing, what were these last four years for?  
I heartfeltdly regretted: "Now I'm heavily indebted,  
and my life is nearly wasted if I can't improve my score"  
I would go and see my tutor, throw myself upon his floor  
It's not much I'm asking for

Shutting down the school computer, shaking like a nervous suitor  
I went to ask my personal tutor if he could my grades restore  
Almost prostrate there before him, I heartshakingly implored him  
"I was stupid, wasting time, I know I could do so much more  
Would you let me resit this exam to get a better score?"  
Oouth the tutor "Nevermore"

I explained that I had faltered, if I could have anything altered  
I would have gone back in time and made it so I studied more  
"Everything we've studied, tested in two weeks, with so much vested  
is it strange that I was bested by the pressure and the chore?  
Will I ever have a job where I won't have to sweep the floor?"  
Quoth the tutor "Nevermore"



## Want to write?

## Quick, only 5 more issues left this year

## That's really not very much time left. So stop refreshing your Facebook feed and email in.

Oh, and, yeah, it does look like that guy from your school who's now at Leeds is having a lot more fun at university than you are...



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# Dentistry: make an appointment soon

## Riaz Agahi speaks to dark, ambient up-and-comers Dentistry

I recently got in touch with Cian Walker and Patrick Fennelly of Irish band **Dentistry**. Their debut last year released on Forwind Records made quite an impression on me and I got a chance to discuss their approach to making music.

**Riaz Agahi: I read somewhere that Dentistry started as a correspondence project, so I was wondering how that all came about and how you feel it has affected your work?**

Cian: Yeah, we (myself, Patrick and Jason) had all known each other for a couple of years, we were all working together in a record store and had long talked about doing something together, getting a practice room and jamming but we never got around

to doing it. We then realised that it suited everyone to work on ideas at home, email sketches to one another, which we then fleshed out a little more before going into the studio.

Patrick: Yeah we're not very 'typical' as far as bands go. We never could meet up or 'practice'. In fact, I think we've only actually 'practiced' twice and one of those times was recording the album. But working the way we do suits us and allows us to produce a very large volume of work.

**RA: What sort of impact does this have on the idea of performing live? Was Dentistry ever intended as a project to be performed live?**

Patrick: We've never done a live set. With so much being improvised it's

tough to do. I know we're both very particular too and wouldn't want to do something live unless we were 100% happy with it. Personally I find laptop sets boring and wouldn't want to just stand around on stage. We use live instruments too so if we were to play live I'd like to do something with them but that takes a lot of work to get right. I've always been interested in installations and would like to go down that road. But as I said, we'd both have to be behind it. Saying that we are meant to be touring with our label next summer.

Cian: I have never enjoyed live performance in the past. It's not something I've done a huge amount of, but enough to know that it makes me feel pretty uncomfortable. I've always much preferred listening to music at home than live, particularly quiet or slow music, that's certainly the way I had hoped *Vardogr* would be experienced. That's not to say I wouldn't like to perform live in the future, I would, very much, it would just be a question of trying to figure out how best to present material like this in a way that would be interesting.

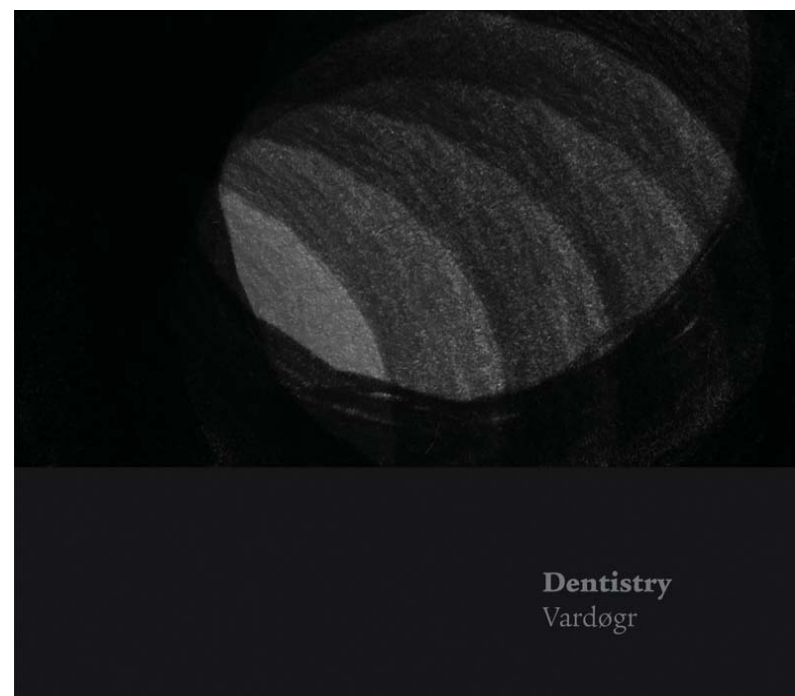
**RA: How do you make the sounds and does each person have a distinct role?**

Patrick: Well we both have different approaches to making music. For the most part I use Ableton live but do use actual synths from time to time. The studio we recorded the album in, third eye, in Dublin, has amazing banks of synths so we used them on *Vardogr*. At home when I'm making music it usually depends on my mood. Usually though I have an idea and will roll with it. Recently I was using a lot of field recordings and nature sounds; But nothing is ever exclusive and no one has a fixed role.

Cian: I use Ableton Live for arranging, as well as guitar, effects pedals, field recordings, a cheapo Casio keyboard that I've had for a really long time, and is totally shit but I love it, a couple of tasty synths that have made sure I haven't been able to afford a holiday for a couple of years, an accordion, an old Hohner organ, anything I can get my hands on...

**RA: I read online that Ambarchi was an influence, who else influenced your sound?**

Cian: If I had to narrow it down, and I really hate to do so, I'd say **Alog** and **Phonophani** are big influences, they seem to apply an attitude that I



## AMS album of the week

The National – *Trouble Will Find Me*

The National are a band who have transcended modern music trends. They first came to prominence with the glut of "post-punk revival" indie bands in the mid-2000s. That scene died years ago, but The National rose from the ashes, and have continued to rise and rise. Their last album, *High Violet*, saw them getting top billing at some of the biggest festivals in the world and it's a position they richly deserved. Whilst their peers desperately tried to cling to past glories by claiming their new album was "just like the first one" (**Interpol**) or radically changed their style all the time hoping something would stick (**Bloc Party**) or just gave up completely (**Franz Ferdinand**), The National have calmly gone about writing great music that comes naturally. The new record, *Trouble Will Find Me*, is a perfect extension of that. It's truly gorgeous, and should cement the National's place at the top of modern indie rock.



This is the sound of a band working in perfect harmony. Every member is having an absolute stormer. Each song seems like a unified vision with every instrument having its part to play. It meshes together beautifully. For example, the adorable guitar part repeated through 'I Need My Girl' is enough to cement the track as fantastic even without the beautiful lyrics and Matt's perfect baritone, and after that you've still got a rhythm section doing everything right. It's rare for me to use the repeat one function on my iTunes, but this song had that for a good hour or two the other night. I suppose it's also rare for me to listen to one album over and over again, but you know, it's rare for anything to be this good. This is the most fully formed a National album has ever been, and that's coming from a huge National fan (as you may have worked out...). I can see why some people might not like this, it's not the most diverse record and if you don't dig the sound you might be asking them to switch it up. The thing is, most of my favourite albums aren't very diverse, the very best records don't need to be. When you've absolutely nailed a sound, as the National have here, 55 minutes of it doesn't feel samey, it feels immersive, and this album is one I could (and will) keep myself fully immersed in for a good while yet.

Stuart Masson

really agree with... whatever's available to them can be used in a song if it sounds good, and that's an attitude that I wholeheartedly support. In fact, as a label, Rune Grammofon has been hugely influential ... stuff like **Deathprod**, **Spunk**, **Archetti/Wiget**, **Supersilent**, have never been too far from my CD player over the past few years.

Patrick: We both worked in record stores for over 20 years combined, when you do that it's hard not to be exposed to something good in literally every genre (although blues proves elusive for us both), there are pop songs I like right down to noise...

In terms of 'our' genre of music, I suppose **Stars of the Lid** was the first group I heard that was like a penny dropping. I've always loved drone since I was a kid (the sound of a fan humming in a room, the din of a busy street, an orchestra tuning up) but I never knew there was music that utilised it until I heard **Stars of the Lid**. It was actually then through the guidance of Vinny Dermody (**The Jimmy Cake**), who I worked with at the time that got me into the likes of **Morton Feldman** and some other, more obscure contemporary classical composers like **La Monte Young**. **Sonic Youth** were definitely influen-

tial too in the way they used noise as an instrument and not just an extension of a sound...

**RA: Is there much of an experimental scene in Ireland as a whole?**

Patrick: I think that, against the odds, there is little to no scene in Ireland. We have such a rich history of art in Ireland, from the Yeats brothers to Beckett to le Brocquy, it's hard to see why Ireland doesn't have more culturally diverse music scenes, and never really has for that matter. I think it comes down to how ingrained traditional Irish music is culturally. Unlike a lot of other countries, traditional music is soaked into the cultural framework of the island ... and as such I think it shapes the way a lot of Irish people view music as they get older. I honestly think Dublin produces more good bands per capita, however the last 4-5 years has seen an influx of nonsensical, 'image over substance', rich music. I honestly think half the 'artists' that picked up a synth in the last few years would probably be in a Cranberries type band had they been born a decade earlier. Saying that, there are some phenomenal bands that we produce in this country, but sadly they'll rarely get the credit.



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# MUSIC

## Down the Rabbit-hole

Julia Spindel

Writer

I went along to the final of the Uni Music League last week having heard only one song by **James and the Rabbit Hole**. I didn't know what to expect and was pleasantly surprised. The band only formed early this year (following an application to the competition) and since then their main focus has been writing enough songs to play in the rounds of the competition as they sailed through them one after another. The Uni Music League is the biggest student music competition with a big prize (an EP recording deal with Metropolis Studios, a slot at Wilderness Festival, places as a support act at KOKO, a PR campaign and pro photo shoots) and so the band worked hard. By the final they had six of their own songs (having written the most recent song two days beforehand) and had accumulated a very appreciative crowd. They started the set with a cover of **Daft Punk** 'Get Lucky'; a current sure-fire hit. They really did the song justice and sent the crowd wild from just a few notes in. It was easy to understand why the crowd was so excited about the band.

The lead singer, James Burrows, is an incredibly capable vocalist with a very enjoyable twang to his voice that reminded me a little of **Jason Mraz**. During the set, he was often accompanied by harmonies from guitarist Tim Plummer. Each musician in James and the Rabbit Hole has obvious talent and this was showcased in brilliant solos from each of them over several of the songs. The drummer, Dan Day, switch-

es between a huge variety of drum rhythms with ridiculous ease and the keys player, Francis Clegg, treated the crowd to some brilliant jazz-style solos on the top half of the keyboard, leaving them wanting much more. James and the Rabbit Hole's music marries several genres from rock to soul and yet is far from over-complicated, taking us back to classic old-school funk that many bands shy away from these days, but is simply enjoyable as ever. The varying textures within the songs were skilled, as were the transitions between the songs. Several songs were stopped dead perfectly, with quick movement into the next song, much to the listeners' delight. Others were interlaced with amusing stage chat. Throughout the set the band were constantly interacting with each other to keep in perfect sync and at the right levels, but also just through enjoyment of playing the music. And the enjoyment was infectious. At several points James took to jumping across the stage with his colourful guitar and grey desert boots, shaking his black hair, showing the level of energy that this kind of music is all about. At one point the drummer acquired a straw hat and was drumming on his feet. I'm not sure what the hat was for but it contributed to a very inclusive and amusing set from the band.

Unfortunately James and the Rabbit Hole didn't win the Uni Music League competition, but this is far from the last we'll be hearing of the band. They already have a dedicated following and are planning more gigs and recordings. I can't wait for the next performance.

Skye Portman Photography



## Boiler Room Make Session 008

Mark Engand

Music Editor

The Boiler Room sessions are always a treat. When Make Session 008 descended on Hoxton I was sure to get in the queue to get a space. Red Stripe had teamed up with long term friends T-Shirt Party. You have to love a brand whose vision is "REAL G's WEAR WHITE T's". Inside an art gallery next to Hoxton Overground, the walls were decked out with hundreds of different simple, yet creative t-shirts, making the night look more like someone's Tumblr feed than a club. **Portico Quartet**, **Stubborn Heart**, **Factory Floor**, **Anushka**, **Eaux** and **CKTRL** had teamed up for a night of artful beats and groove.

This was my first Boiler Room session so I was unsure of what to expect. With



Portico Quartet requiring a large area to set up the crowd were confined to a ring around the gallery which I found rather strange. It made the atmosphere feel rather muted although you got so close to the acts that you couldn't help feel the rhythms.

Portico Quartet were the main draw



of the night for me although Stubborn Heart pleasantly surprised me. Their synth pop washed over me and it had a real futuristic edge, showing their real potential. A real let down, however, was the Factory Floor DJ set. I have been to a few of their live shows and the deafening, thunderous racket which they concoct is so alive and so vital that I was expecting great things. The DJ set however, felt too contrived, and lacked urgency. It didn't help that most of the crowd in the room were talking amongst themselves, or was that because of the set? Chicken and egg I suppose. CKTRL provided some swagger to the evening. A singer joined for the beginning of the set and her honey tones mixed well with the slow, sparse beats.

Portico Quartet smashed the evening apart with their rendition of 'Window Seat' really hitting the spot. They rounded off the night with flair their niche mix of ambient electro jazz. They are fresh, forward thinking and absorbing.

For more information on boiler room sets visit [www.boilerroom.tv/live](http://www.boilerroom.tv/live)

## Chvrches @ Village Underground

Thomas Leeman

Writer

Fresh from playing the Alexandra Palace with **Everything Everything** and **Two Door Cinema Club** the trio **Chvrches** came to the Village Underground with the weight of expectation lying squarely on their shoulders. They recently won best new non-US band at SXSW and made it into the top 5 of the BBC's sound of 2013. Little surprise then that the gig sold out in minutes and the queues to get in started an hour before doors opened.

Through the delicate vocals of Lauren Mayberry and pulsing synths of Martin Doherty and Iain Cook, Chvrches have found a winning formula. Critics have drawn comparisons between them and the Canadian duo Purity Ring, but live the ominous bass sounds more like an epic blend with their fellow Glaswegians Mogwai.

They opened with their debut release 'Lies', a hypnotic electropop tune which set the mood for the rest of the gig. With trippy laser beams and lots of flashy lights they slowly built up

to the climax of the evening, performances of their most commercially successful tracks 'Mother we Share' and 'Recover'. On the way though Chvrches showed they aren't just a one trick pony, with Doherty taking the mic to perform the intimate 'Now is not the Time'. There can be no doubting the true star of the evening, the elfine Lauren Mayberry. Her immaculate delivery and presence really captured the hearts of the audience, as did her playful banter on themes as diverse as *Game of Thrones* (their cover of the theme went viral on YouTube), kittens with laser pointers and boy bands in the audience. Add to that her ability

this band. So did Chvrches live up to the hype? Although they aren't quite the finished article yet a fantastic gig showcased their massive potential and left the audience hungry for more.





# The not-bad-you-should-probably-see-it Gatsby

## The Great Gatsby

**Director:** Baz Luhrmann  
**Screenwriters:** Baz Luhrmann, Craig Pearce, F. Scott Fitzgerald  
**Starring:** Leonardo DiCaprio, Tobey Maguire, Carey Mulligan, Joel Edgerton

### Lucy Wiles

Film Editor

You know how, more often than not, the trailer for a film shows all the film's best bits and everyone is let down by the film? This is so not the case here. *The Great Gatsby* is everything the trailer promises, and more. It is bold, brash, glamorous and over-the-top in the trademark Baz Luhrmann way.

Luhrmann's collaboration with Jay-Z for the soundtrack and visuals were criticised no end, but has turned out to be a great move – in fact, they are the best aspects of the film. The whole experience, despite not having the original brilliance of Luhrmann's *Romeo + Juliet*, is mesmerising: the narration of the film is done via music videos, which is utterly cool. The iconic images from the book, such as the green light at the



end of the dock, East Egg vs. West Egg and the haunting eyes of T.J. Eckleburg are eerily similar to how one would imagine them having read the story. All that said, the experience in 3D is a little bit dizzy-making, with its flashing lights and fast-panning footage.

Luhrmann's old favourite Leonardo DiCaprio takes the title role, and does a

fairly good job – although not perhaps up to the standards of his recent portrayal of evil Calvin Candie in *Django Unchained*. Unfortunately for DiCaprio, it's a tough task for anyone to live up to the complex and difficult tycoon that Fitzgerald created. Fortunately for DiCaprio, however, Luhrmann gives Gatsby what might possibly be

the most flashy and flamboyant introduction ever, which sets the scene so beautifully for DiCaprio's slightly egotistical type of acting. Although Robert Redford's original Gatsby might have been slightly stronger, DiCaprio's Gatsby has a much better setting. His arrogant, ostentatious, slightly aggressive Gatsby is, underneath, more nerv-

ous and insecure than expected, which gives a real depth to the character and shows off DiCaprio's skills. His excitement and stress around Daisy is very obvious, and it's incredibly obvious when he's lying – almost the opposite of Redford's coolness and indifference.

Daisy Buchanan herself, played by the wonderful and beautiful Carey Mulligan (who suits 1920's style like no other), is made into a far more heart-rending character than the Daisy in the novel by Luhrmann. Despite almost constant narration (by Tobey Maguire's character, Nick – big mistake: Maguire's voice is hugely irritating after a while), a favourite line – “Her voice was full of money” – is left out. Mind you, it would have been inappropriate in this adaptation. Here her voice is only full of sadness and disillusionment. Although it's reassuring to see the human side of Daisy, it is also a shame to see her shallow, feckless side toned down here.

For the full effect, I'd recommend seeing this one in the cinema. The sound and the sparkles alone deserve the big screen experience. Completely ridiculous, totally too much, wonderfully garish – this certainly isn't one to miss.

# Senior Star Wars

### Lucy Wiles

Film Editor

It's bad enough that there's going to be another *Star Wars* film. It's even worse that it's going to be made by Disney. Worse still are the hints that some of the original cast will be returning to reprise their roles.

Rumours are flying around Hollywood that Carrie Fisher, Mark Hamill and Harrison Ford will be stepping back into their (pretty old) shoes as Princess Leia, Luke Skywalker and Han Solo respectively. This is all very nice and nostalgic but the average age of the trio is now 62, and thoughts of them fighting anything are a little far-fetched.

Having said that, none of the three roles have been confirmed by producers. However, Hamill has revealed that he has had a number of meetings with both the film's creative consultant George Lucas and its executive producer Kathleen Kennedy. In a recent interview, Hamill didn't go quite so far as to confirm his involvement in the movie, but did drop several rather heavy hints that Carrie Fisher, at least, is on board.

“Part of me is cautious,” Hamill

confesses, “Saying ‘let everyone keep their nice memories if they have nice memories and don't try to go back and do it again.’ But the other side of me, the adventurous side, thinks, ‘if everyone's in, how could I miss this?’”

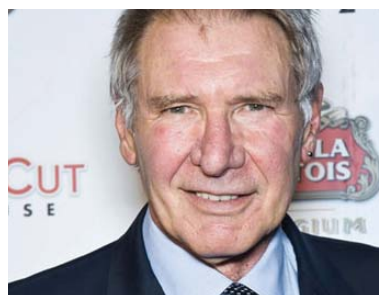
Hamill also spoke about his concern that the new film will rely too heavily on CGI, which he hopes will not be the case.

“There's nothing wrong with CGI,” he explains, “But I think you have to have a balance because the camera perceives the width and the depth and the weight of a miniature or a model.”

It seems, however, that Hamill is reassured that the film will be a success by the presence of Michael Arndt (award-winning writer of *Little Miss Sunshine*) as the movie's scriptwriter.

“It always starts with the script,” enthuses Hamill, “and that's why I'm so encouraged by Michael Arndt's involvement because I respect his writing so much. He's a big fan of these movies, so hopefully we can make something that doesn't make everyone want to find us, cut off our heads and throw it right in our faces.”

*Star Wars: Episode VII* is expected to arrive in UK cinemas in 2015.



## Top 15 Films in UK Cinemas

1. Iron Man 3 (12A)
2. 21 and Over (15)
3. Olympus Has Fallen (15)
4. All Stars (U)
5. Oblivion (12A)
6. The Croods (U)
7. I'm So Excited (15)
8. Dead Man Down (15)
9. The Place Beyond the Pines (15)
10. Evil Dead (18)
11. Shootout at Wadala (18)
12. Love is All You Need (15)
13. The Look of Love (18)
14. Chimpanzee (U)
15. Finding Nemo 3D (U)

Film Editors: Katy Bettany,  
John Park, Lucy Wiles  
film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

FILM

# The Reluctant Fundamentalist

## The Reluctant Fundamentalist

**Director:** Mira Nair  
**Screenwriters:** Ami Boghani, Mohsin Hamid, William Wheeler  
**Starring:** Riz Ahmed, Liev Schreiber, Kate Hudson, Kiefer Sutherland



**Katy Bettany** Film Editor pffff

Adapted from the novel of the same name, this Mira Nair film which opened at the Venice Film Festival last year tells the story of Changez (Ahmed), an American educated Pakistani, whose political and religious loyalty we are continuously asked to question.

The film takes place in two time-space locations – in Pakistan present day, we have Changez the suspected fundamentalist-come-academic, who is embroiled in a negotiation with journalist Bobby (Schreiber) over the whereabouts of an abducted professor. Changez recounts his early adulthood to the journalist: most of the film consists of flashbacks.

Changez is a child of capitalism – he is educated in an Ivy League university and quickly lands a prestigious job on Wall Street. He’s living the high life – until the events of 9/11. Almost overnight, Changez, a Muslim, is met with suspicion and hate. He is strip-searched at the airport whilst his colleagues are let through customs with ease; erroneously arrested and stared at in the street. He soon quits his job to become an academic.

The film plots Changez’s switch of allegiance from capitalism to militancy really well – we see his character morph imperceptibly during the flashback scenes into the character we see in the present day. The suggestion that both capitalism and militancy are a type of fundamentalism is a little heavy handed – I don’t think the film had quite enough scope in order to deal with such complicated issues coherently. I think the moral aspect to the film (we shouldn’t judge a book by its cover) was also a little laboured and simplistic – and possibly a bit patronising to a modern audience. That said the film is extremely compelling, and has some fantastic performances. The cafe scenes with the journalist and Changez in the present are intelligent and ramp up the tension, despite the lack of action. The love story that develops be-

tween Changez and Erica (Hudson) is adorable, and helps to break up the wordy action-less scenes we see in the present day Pakistan sequences. Ahmed is hugely convincing throughout the film, and his delivery is sensitive and subtle, and

provokes a lot of questions about the nature of the immigrant identity. Hudson is endearing but less convincing – her character seems more of a plot device than anything else.

At the end, we are left uncertain of Changez’s involvement in ‘fundamen-

talism’ and how reluctant he really is. This is probably a good thing – anything more concrete would have been trite and unrealistic. Plus it isn’t important – the concluding scenes of the film are stunning, and will stay with you long after you finish watching.



# Teen romance is dead

## Here come the witches

### Beautiful Creatures

**Director:** Richard LaGravenese  
**Screenwriters:** Richard LaGravenese, Kami Gracia (novel), Margaret Stohl (novel)  
**Starring:** Alice Englert, Alden Ehrenreich, Emma Thompson, Jeremy Irons, Viola Davis, Emmy Rossum



**John Park** Film Editor

A young Southern boy (Ehrenreich) falls in love with a witch (sorry, Castor – Jane Campion’s daughter Englert) who needs to choose whether she wants her growing powers to be used for good or evil.

Turns out these two are destined to love each other – they’ve been dreaming about it for some time now and no matter what anyone has to say, they’re both in this for the long run.

It’s dull, sappy, and despite the good chemistry between the leads, their endless discussions on love and sacrifice take their toll.

When the more interesting grown-ups enter the picture, we seem to be going somewhere: especially outstanding is Emma Thompson, with a juicy over-the-top meaty evil role she chews up to a fiercely good standard.

But with a climax as tame as one offered here, the film has the audacity to squeeze in a poor, misjudged set-up for sequels; sequels that will never come, because not many people bothered watching even this on the big screen.



## Here come the aliens

### The Host

**Director:** Andrew Niccol  
**Screenwriters:** Andrew Niccol, Stephenie Meyer (novel)  
**Starring:** Saoirse Ronan, Max Irons, Jake Abel, Diane Kruger, William Hurt, Frances Fisher



**John Park** Film Editor

Any piece of work with Stephenie Meyer’s name stamped on it is marked for that inevitable critical shredding – and the similar has happened here for her laughably absurd and inexplicably dull new alien fiction, that basically retreads the themes of her shockingly

popular *Twilight* franchise. We have a “good-looking” love triangle plus that vomit-inducing star-crossed lovers subplot that attempts to inject this tiresomely long 2-hour running time with actual content.

Earth is invaded by aliens who use our bodies as “hosts” and wish to cohabit amongst the human race whilst robbing us of free will.

Melanie (Ronan) is invaded after a hot pursuit, although her new alien soul is having a tough time taking over the host’s body, as Melanie’s consciousness is too powerful.

After two hours of absurd voiceover bickering between her and Wanda (the alien), plus the two brooding human males who fall for Melanie and Wanda (one for each), you’ll realise this is the most boring alien invasion film ever.

# FILM

Film Editors: Katy Bettany,  
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## May J.J. Abrams live long and prosper

### Star Trek: Into Darkness

**Director:** J.J. Abrams

**Screenwriters:** Roberto Orci, Alex Kurtzman, Damon Lindelof, Gene Roddenberry

**Starring:** Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Benedict Cumberbatch, Zoe Saldana, Karl Urban, Alice Eve, Simon Pegg



### John Park

Film Editor

Director J. J. Abrams no doubt reignited the dying *Star Trek* franchise and this follow-up to his 2009 reboot further cements his reputation as a director capable of delivering plenty of fun as well as a more than adequate plot and heart.

Our beloved characters are still all there; Pine once again nails being the light-hearted troublemaker Captain Kirk, with complete dis-

reard for the rules, Quinto makes a welcome return and still has plenty to do as Spock, the half-human, half-Vulcan with identity crisis. It's really Quinto who always has the tougher job of having to juggle a wide range of conflicting emotions. Vulnerable, robotic, sensitive, idealistic, he embodies all these things, and Quinto is no doubt an invaluable addition.

Because *Into Darkness* has bigger things on its mind, trying to deliver on the most impressive action scenes

it can possibly manage, you do see certain characters becoming more side-lined for the sake of making room and freeing up the screen time. But everyone, ranging from Saldana, John Cho, Pegg, Anton Yelchin, Urban and Eve, is given their chance to stand out, and their own unique personality quirks to play around with.

What sets this apart from the original is however, the perfect casting of a solid villain. Britain's very own *Sherlock*, Cumberbatch, takes on the

role of John Harrison, someone who single-handedly declares war on the good guys. His one-man army is not to be laughed at given both the skills and rage he possesses. He is one capable of causing some serious damage, and Cumberbatch, with his tall frame, cold, still looks and sinister delivery of his dialogue, has no trouble passing as the one person who could possibly destroy all. His character is not all about him wanting to destroy the world for no reason whatsoever, he does have more to add to enrich the plot, with Cumberbatch showing a wider spectrum of personalities that bring out his initially villainous character.

It's a predictably loud and action-packed affair, but one with intelligence and focus in telling a coherent story. What starts off as a straightforward "good guy goes hunting for the psychotic bad guy" becomes a lot wordier (and this is a good thing) with back stories and double-crossings that is kept up by the film's healthy pace and many bursts of colourful sci-fi action.



## Reese Witherspoon is a bad girl these days

### Mud

**Director:** Jeff Nichols

**Screenwriter:** Jeff Nichols

**Starring:** Matthew McConaughey, Tye Sheridan, Jacob Lofland, Reese Witherspoon, Michael Shannon, Sam Shepard, Sarah Paulson, Ray McKinnon



### John Park

Film Editor

Hitting the screens almost exactly one year after its showing at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival, "Mud" (McConaughey) is a wanted fugitive who puts far too much on the line in the name of love. Hiding out on a deserted island, he longs to be reunited with the love of his life Juniper (Witherspoon), although this ambitious plan of his is put in jeopardy as he is constantly hunted by shady characters who are clearly acting above the law.

But despite the title, the focus of the film isn't entirely on Mud's plans: director Jeff Nichols tells the story in the point of view of two young, naive boys (Sheridan, Lofland) who like an



adventure: and they're certainly in for the most unforgettable event of their lives.

Ellis (Sheridan) and Neckbone (Lofland) are best of friends who regularly go on river excursions riding around in their boat and bike. One day they stumble upon and befriend a mysterious man who has a lot to hide and needs protection.

Dealing with things that are far beyond their maturity level, the boys are initially hesitant about helping this shadowy figure, but knowing that it's true love that gives Mud his drive,

it's Ellis who gets more stuck in, with his innocent views on how love, relationships and marriage work, whilst a sweet love life of his own seems to develop. Things at home are also rocky, further shattering his already fragile ideas on love. His parents are throwing around the much-dreaded D word, and this potential separation also hits him hard.

Set in parts of America you probably never knew existed, its rich, warm visuals embrace the long line of complex characters who are far more than they appear to be. Just

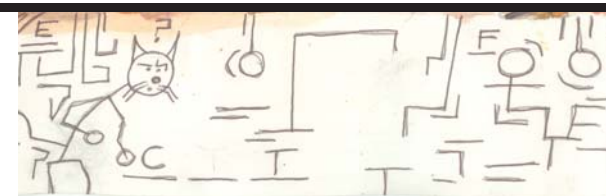
what is Mud running from? Why are State Troopers hunting him down? Is Juniper really the beautiful sweetheart Mud thinks she is? Is what they share true love? Confusing for the audience, so imagine how baffling this must be for the kids in the middle of this.

The adult cast is excellent (McConaughey's been piling on one fascinating performance after another over the recent years - after *Magic Mike* and *Killer Joe*, he is once again on fine form), but the real winning performances here are those of the

child actors.

Sheridan, in his second film after Malick's *Tree of Life*, shines displaying natural stoic bravery, and Lofland is equally brilliant in his screen debut.

It's not as powerful or touching as Nichols' previous directorial outing, the hauntingly beautiful *Take Shelter*, but here is a layered and rewarding coming-of-age story, somewhat with a similar feel to *Stand By Me*, made even more so thanks to Lofland's striking resemblance to the young River Phoenix.



## How to win an election...

### The Hangman way to getting everyone chanting your name

Dear potential Summer Election Candidates, many of you will have little experience of campaigning or marketing or the Union elections, so Hangman has put together a guide of things to say and things to do to get elected.

1. Catchy, witty slogan. Even better if your name/initials rhyme with the position you're running for. B,C,D,E,G,P,T, or V at the end of your name whilst running for DPE would be perfect. Change your name if it doesn't rhyme.

2. Snappy Poster. Even Joseph Fritzl could win the election with a snappy, well-designed (doesn't look like it was made on Paint) poster. Honestly, that's how lazy many people are with their vote, even a massive prick like him could win.

3. Open [name random College service] for an extra day per week.

4. 'Better postgraduate representation'. Both postgrads that vote will defo go for you now! You're already head and shoulders above the competition, who definitely won't think of this tactic too.

5. Join shedloads of clubs and societies to pad your manifesto with your 'involvement in the Union at all levels'. If you actually do a sport that could help to guarantee some votes from

your club.

6. Go to A RAG event at some point in your time at Imperial and say you were a 'regular fundraiser' and how you will do more if elected.

7. Write an article for Felix about something, at some point. Call yourself a regular contributor.

8. Cheaper Drinks. Your position has no power to change it but 2 years of increases is unbelievable, SORT IT OUT. Or at least promise too...

9. No one should pay for entry to the Union. They could just go an hour earlier, but fuck that.

10. Dizzee Rascal at the Summer Ball. Prove you're 'down with the kids' by promising this. Yo.

11. WHATEVER YOU DO DON'T EMAIL ALL UNDERGRADUATES ASKING THEM TO VOTE FOR YOU. Wreaks of desperation and the last thing we want is another Email Storm in exam term.

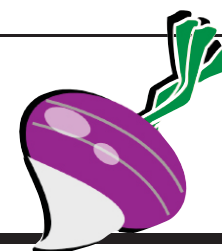
AND MOST IMPORTANTLY PROMISE TO 'WORK TOWARDS' OR 'CAMPAIGN FOR' THINGS BECAUSE THAT WAY IF THEY DON'T HAPPEN IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT BECAUSE YOU PROMISED NOTHING!!!!



Even the Cleggman could be elected with the right slogan and a promise for "A BIGGER, BETTER, MORE INCLUSIVE, BIGGER, BETTER UNION!!!!"

## the turnip

Hangman's Finest College News Source



## Al-Assad glad to be finally getting international recognition

President of Syria, Bashar Al-Assad has been quoted this week as being "delighted" to have finally achieved international recognition for his brutal suppression of the uprising in his country. Speaking to journalists this morning, Al-Assad expressed surprise that it had taken 2 years and over 100,000 deaths for the international community to take note saying

"I couldn't figure out where I was going wrong; suppressed civil liberties

– check; brutal crackdowns – check; high death toll – check"

"Then it struck me – the genocide had been far too humane"

The president then proceeded to explain how instead of "simply shooting and blowing people up", he would use the many "cool" chemical weapons Syria has been stockpiling for years. "Two years I've been frustrated with the lack of attention I've been receiving for my atrocities, turns out they were just too darn run-of-the-mill" stated the president before adding "I

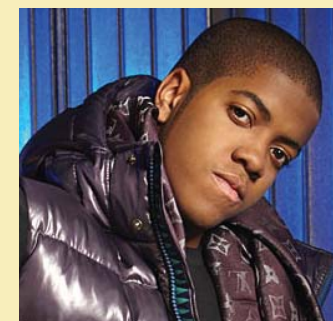
mean just check out the crazy effects of that Sarin stuff".

The president also told the assembled press that he'd considered "throwing a few nuclear warhead rumours around" but that he thought that it's effects "wouldn't have enough short term impact, luckily we struck gold with the chemical weapons idea – short and snappy". World leaders came together to say that he was a "naughty man" as Al-Assad picked up his Biggest Arsehole of the Year award.



## Rap Lyrics of the Week

Chipmunk: "Reload the music"



"All my freshers  
That know I'm the freshest  
It's first year you want a first  
Tonight I'll pray you'll get it"

An Imperial lyric if ever there is one. I'm sure I can safely say that we would all like to thank Chipmunk for praying that we get a first. Although notice that he is choosing to do the least amount of work possible to help you get a first. He could, if he really gave a shit, offer to quiz you on your notes, help you find a past paper, and so on. However he will instead be praying that you get it. So, essentially, he'll be just sitting down at home going "I hope they pass". That's not actually very helpful at all.

Gudda Gudda: "Bedrock"



"Let's buy a place with all kinds of space"

Presumably there will be just one type of space? As in... space.

Are you the laughing stock of your Twitter feed? Wow your friends by sending stuff in: [felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:felix@imperial.ac.uk)

**THE NEWS WITHOUT THE NEWS**



**MOTORCYCLE GANG NOT AS TOUGH AS THEY USED TO BE**



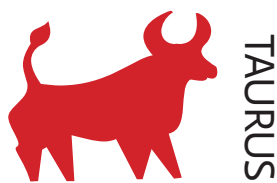
**INVISIBLE PUBLIC URINALS DEEMED "JUST A BIT TOO PUBLIC"**

**HOROSCOPES - NO GIMMICKS NEEDED**



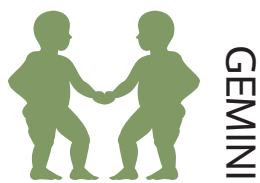
ARIES

Conceding defeat over your final year project, you decide you will never understand brain organisation and slump back in your chair, disheartened. Outside, a petting zoo is soothing stressed students, so you steal a guinea pig at a last ditch attempt for some practical learning. Half way through your craniotomy, the BUAV attack and bundle you in to a nearby van.



TAURUS

This week, you decide it is a good idea to offer an internship to a local boys school. A mean student union attempt to get a hashtag treading using painfully forced alliteration and you are forced to tell poor Timmy, who spent all his pocket money on the bid, he can't design MRI machines now to make his mother better. He cries, but justice was done.



GEMINI

As someone studying medicine it seems you should be prepared for a multitude of exams. Instead, you whine on Facebook, text banal complaints to your housemates, snapchat your food and cry on the hour, every hour. This week an engineer knocks you out with his wad of notes for the 13 exams he is sitting this summer, and everyone cheers.



CANCER

You and your friend decide to visit Africa this week. Upon meeting some small, hungry children at the side of the road, you lovingly feed them pineapple pieces. Your friend, envious of your humanitarian tendencies, proceeds to throw chocolate biscuits at their faces. They fight to the death over the biscuits and your friend cackles manically.



LEO

Despite being a fully grown man you decide it is acceptable to go to Lego Land, on a bank holiday, alone without any children. The childhood suppression mixed with an acute awareness of looking like a paedophile leads you to begin to manically stick Lego bricks repeatedly up your arse, in full view of the families nearby. The mother gives you a wink.



VIRGO

Due to your disregard for cuddling and going home without a McDonalds, you decide to take your latest Metric-derived disaster to your office for a speedy session before returning to the dancefloor. The pressure to perform mixed with low budget cocktails render him insufferably flaccid. You tie him up and leave him there.



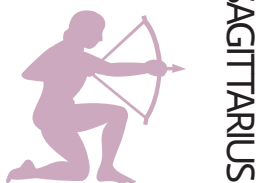
LIBRA

It seems that the DPE position is now open for re-elections, so begin to make your publicity material ahead of time in anticipation of another vigorously exciting, politically fuelled election fortnight. You get too excited and proceed to iron DP accidentally onto your forehead, leading to an awkward dinner party with your family when you return for the weekend.



SCORPIO

In a desperate attempt at exciting your latest sexual victim, you fetch copious amounts of mint lube, then begin to apply it everywhere – his chest, his face, and across the room. Classic fluid dynamics mixed with funnelling gin results in the inability to remain perched upon his penis, and you fall off repeatedly until he leaves, sliding slowly away.



SAGITTARIUS

You are currently sitting in the library cafe, aren't you? You should totally buy one of those depressingly soggy and foul tasting jacket potatoes. Put plenty of plastic cheese on top, and maybe a bit of mayo to ease the perpetual dryness of both this situation, your meal and the possibility of your sex life being fun. Proceed to cry deeply at your predicament.



CAPRICORN

Still in Africa this week, you decide it is a good idea to parade around in short shorts whilst setting traps within the forest. One particularly high trap is stuck, so you ask a local woodcutter, wielding a machete, to come help. He instead bludgeons you to pieces then feeds you to the tropical butterflies. Your supervisor cackles manically.



AQUARIUS

You come to your office early one morning to find a pale, tired and worn out chemist tied up to the filing cabinet. You decide with the 30-year old, creepy work experience guy that paid £1000 for this opportunity gone this guy can be your bitch for the day. You make him alternate between sending badly spelt emails and sucking you off.



PISCES

Your latest habit of updating people of the word count of your final year project is getting too much to bear for one usually placid female. Do it again and I will cut your dick into as many pieces as the words you have claimed to have written, then throw them into the air like confetti. Consider this a warning. She goes through with dick cutting anyway, just for fun.

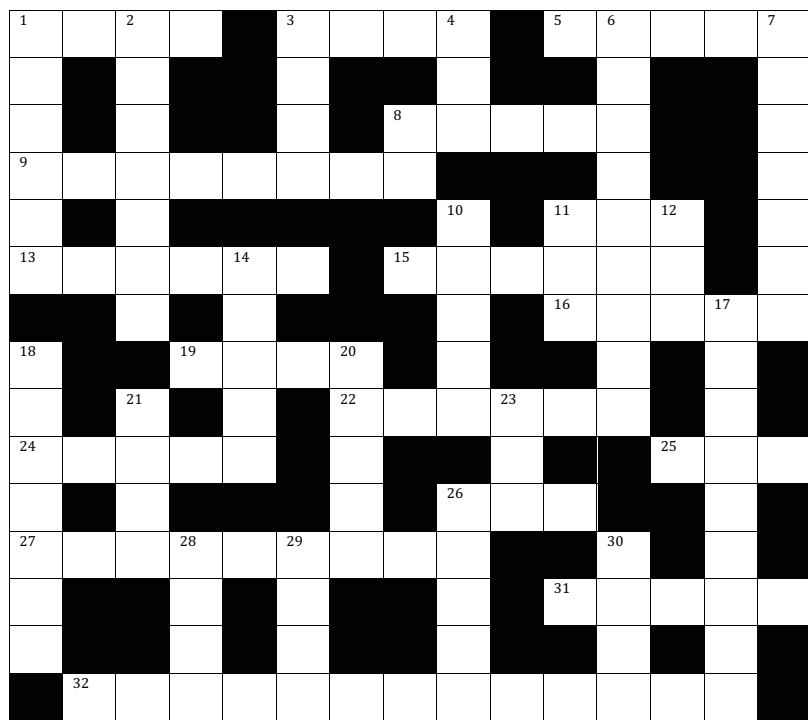


# PUZZLES

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



## Crossword



**Across**

- 1. Unwanted plant (4)
- 3. Pop with a whiff (4)
- 5. Room boundaries (5)
- 8. Velocity (5)
- 9. Summed up (8)
- 11. Mild antiseptic (3)
- 13. Amount of medicine (6)
- 15. A drug with morphine like effect (6)
- 16. Companies (5)
- 19. Manager (4)
- 22. Admired courageous woman without last letter (6)
- 24. Break in brittle object (5)
- 25. Quiet! (3)
- 26. At, near or towards the stern of a ship (3)
- 27. Chemical vapours to breathe in (9)
- 31. Fool (5)
- 32. Vivid vision inducers (13)

**Down**

- 1. Expended carelessly (6)
- 2. Extreme pleasure (7)
- 3. Reach capacity (4)
- 4. Upper bound (3)
- 6. To become reliant on a substance (9)
- 7. Ghosts (7)
- 8. Memory card (2)
- 10. Fighting pointed stick (5)
- 11. Inform a pal acronym (3)
- 12. For each (3)
- 14. Range of pistols from Austria (5)
- 17. Edible fungi (9)
- 18. Addictive drug like a fizzy drink (7)
- 20. Mens/sheep name (5)
- 21. Wet tub (4)
- 23. Clumsy person (3)
- 26. Of a pale grey colour (5)
- 28. Second son of Adam and Eve (4)
- 29. Egyptian ruler of the underworld (4)
- 30. Administer drugs to enhance performance (4)

### Last week's solutions



### Another little teaser

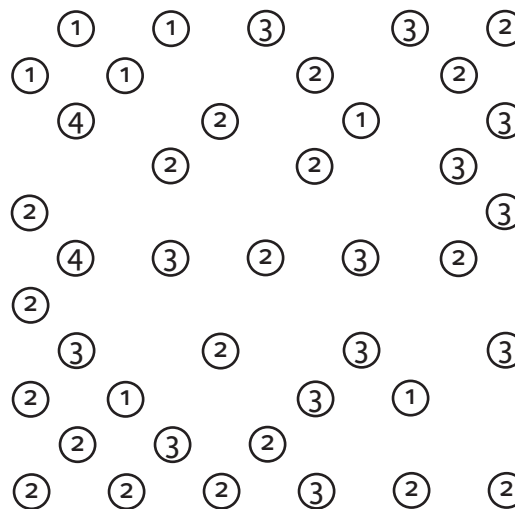
You are stuck in a room with no windows, and no doors. The walls, floor and ceiling are solid stone, and there seems to be no way out. The only contents of the room are a table and a saw.

How do you escape?

And yes - it will drive you crazy in the process.

## Hashi

Connect all the islands with vertical and horizontal non-intersecting bridges so that you can get from any island to any other one. There can be up to two bridges between any two islands. Each island indicates the number of bridges starting from it.



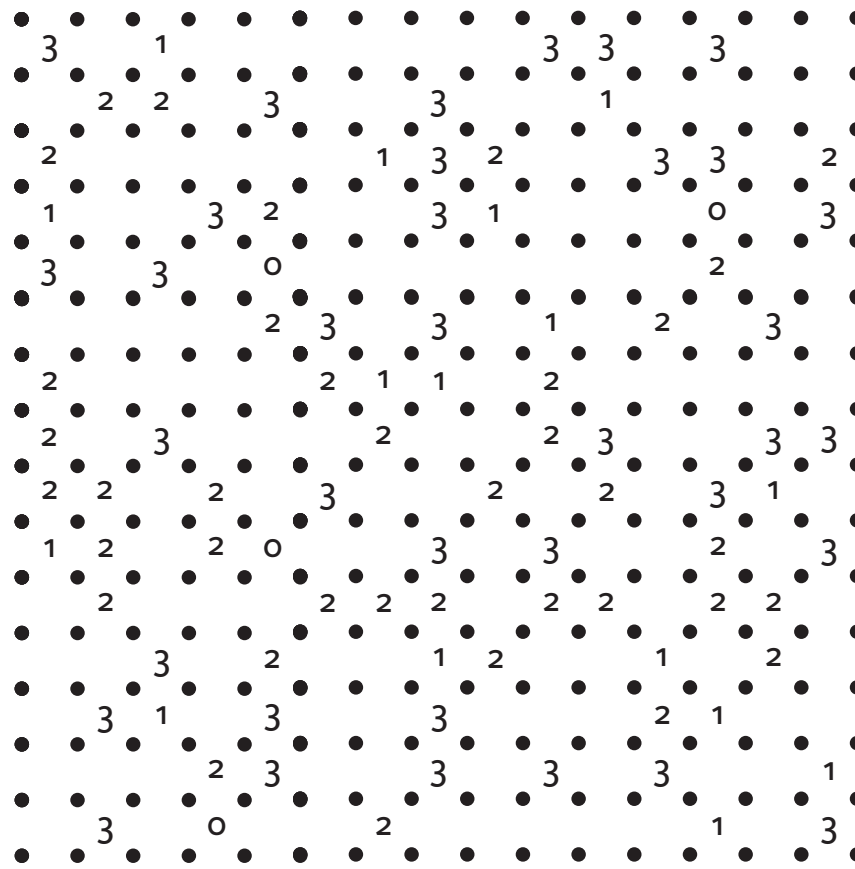
### FUCWIT League Table

**INDIVIDUALS**

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| Yufan Zhao   | 12 |
| Wael Aljeshi | 6  |
| Gabriel Quek | 3  |

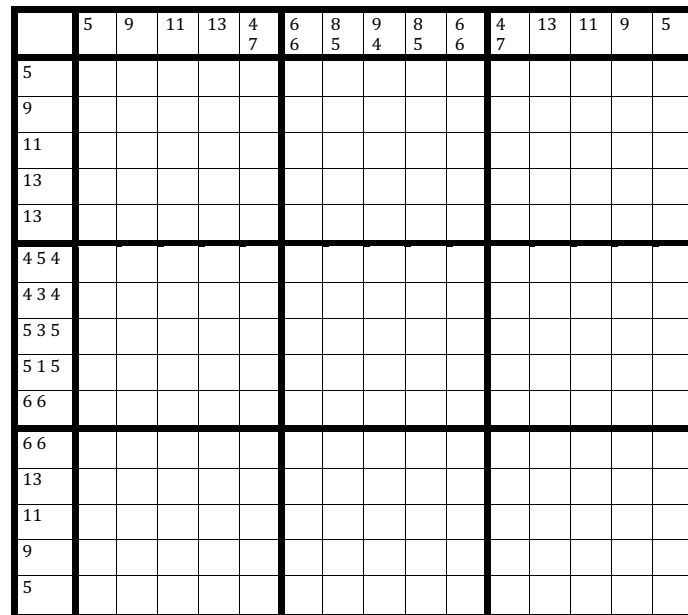
Wow, exams must have really taken their toll on you guys. Send your answers to [puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk), because revision is for the weak.

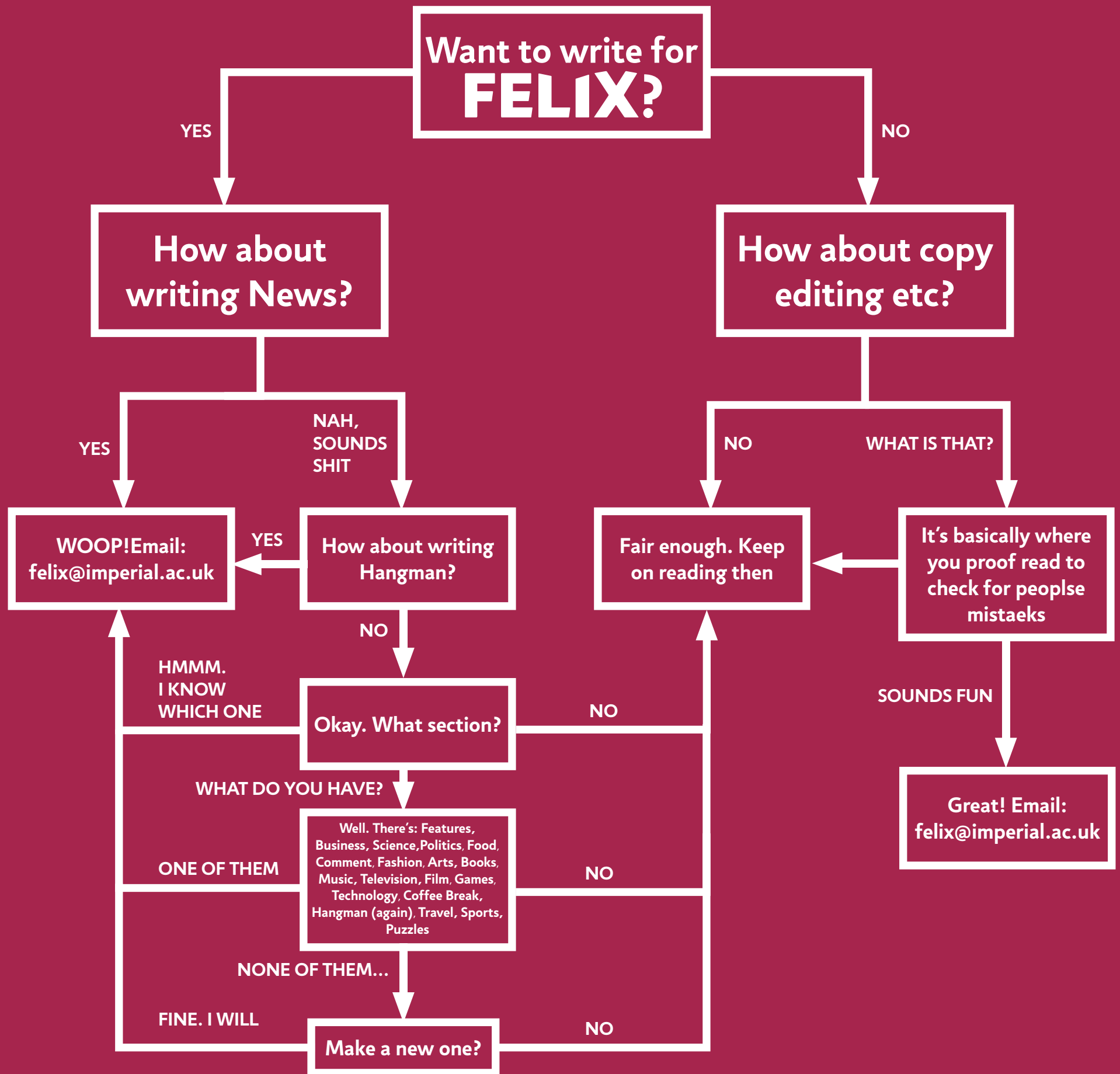
Rules are as always: draw a single closed loop by vertically and horizontally joining the dots so that the numbered squares are surrounded by the corresponding number of lines.



### Use a blue pen for maximum effect

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!





# FELIX

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## SPORT

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Margot Pikovsky, Sorcha Cotter  
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# Can anything stop ICUWRFC?

## ICUWRFC finish off their incredible season in style

Charlotte Hewitt Sports Writer

ICUWRFC saw the end of an incredible season before Easter, being promoted to the BUCS South Eastern 1A division and winning the LUSL league with an impressive win against UCL placed 2 BUCS leagues above IC. Not only this, but Imperial were also crowned BUCS South-Eastern conference cup champions for the second year in a row after another tense bout against old rivals King's College Medics. Given all of these successes, the team would have been forgiven for taking time out this term to rest and recuperate. However, it wasn't long before the girls were back on the rugby pitch, this time trying out their skills in 7s and 10s tournaments.

On May 1st the team headed out to Esher, Surrey, for the RFU May

Day Women's 10s tournament. This is a newly organised summer social event and Imperial turned up happy to enjoy the sun and see how far they could go. After a slightly rusty start in the opening half of their first pool match against Chichester, Imperial soon eased into the game again, remembering the solid plays and team work that had won them their titles this season. It wasn't long before the team were back on fine form despite the lack of time to practice much 10s. With confidence restored after beating Chichester, the team then faced St George's who dominated in the scrum, forcing Imperial to rethink their positioning in the pack. Scrumble defence, notably from next year's captain Pip Heggie, helped us hold St George's off from the try line despite several close calls. In the final pool match, Imperial faced Southampton, winning confidently thanks to breakaway runs from current captain Yasmin Edwards and Amy Humphreys. With three wins from three and coming top of their pool, Imperial qualified for the final played on the main stadium pitch. IC conceded an early try to Surrey but equalised with a last minute try from winger Sammy Ardi bringing the score to 7-7 at full time. It then became a tense golden try situation and IC worked as a team to dominate the game. The reward was a try beneath the posts by Lucy Olliff after crashing through the Surrey defence with style. IC won the competition and were awarded the cup by England Women's scrum half La Toya Mason.

Just 3 days later, IC once again headed out to play some more Rugby, this



time to Richmond where they entered the Middlesex Ladies 7s Bowl. They reached the final of the tournament which was played in front of a crowd in the main stadium and faced Richmond Saxons, a team of considerably older and more experienced players. IC had already played this team twice in the tournament, losing the first game and winning the second so everything was to play for. IC started strong, keeping possession of the ball

and smashing through the Saxons' defence, and were rewarded with a try scored by Yasmin Edwards. Entering the second half, IC's defense was strong with notably impressive tackles made by Lucy Olliff causing the crowd to roar. The forwards worked well to turn over the ball and regain possession, passing it out to the back line and scoring two more tries by Carolanne Vouriot and Sammy Ardi. The final score was 17-0 and IC were chuffed at

their success against such stiff competition.

With these results, ICUWRFC have won all 5 competitions entered this year and are relishing the new challenges posed by promotion in the BUCS league for next year. In the meantime, the team will be heading to the Newquay Surf 7s tournament at the end of June to enjoy the sun, sea and to try and keep the winning streak alive!

# Tenpin get bowled over

Josephine Chiu Sports Writer

The British University Tenpin Bowling Association (BUTBA) Cup final against Loughborough, Sheffield, and Portsmouth took place in Rugby last bank holiday Sunday.

In the semi-final, we were matched against our Northern dominant rival, Sheffield. Facing six strong Sheffield bowlers who all had 180-pin averages, Imperial bowlers showed remarkable resilience. After an enthralling battle, Imperial team B (Kelvin Wong (c), Michael Lau, and Raymond Yang) were

only 6 pins behind the opponents, with scores 505-498, 493-498, and 513-521. Although we lost 1-15 overall, there is no shame in defeat.

On the flip side, our best Imperial bowler, Hui Erh Tay, has never let us down. Hitting a 617 high series (183-216-218) in the semi-final, she broke her own record in the BUCS Championship taken place last February. Unsurprisingly, this has secured her the titles of 'Female High Game' and 'Female High Series' in the BUTBA Cup.

Moving on to the Second Runners-up match, the Imperial team and their southern rival, Portsmouth, were both

equally strong at the beginning, drawing a tie 2-2 after the first game. However, while Portsmouth maintained their performance, our team slowly lost shape, slipping points away in the game and losing 3-13 in the end.

Even though Imperial was placed fourth, the team wasn't too upset. It was far from a gloomy scene as it was still our most outstanding achievement of all. "I would say this is a great start. Well done to every team member who tried their best," Captain Kelvin Wong continued, 'and put so much effort in training. You guys have been amazing throughout the year.'



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# SPORT

# Summer (and cricket) is here!

## Felix Sport gets the lowdown on cricket's continued success

**Darshan Patel** Sports Writer

After what was quite a comfortable win the previous week, we were full of confidence as we travelled to Sussex. The opposition won the toss and elected to bat first on a wicket that offered plenty of assistance to the seamers early on. The Sussex captains decision to bat first was seeming like the wrong one when Simon Mitchell had one of their openers caught behind in the second over, more tight bowling from Simon and our captain Jayanth Ganapathy saw the pressure mount on the Sussex batsman and Jayanth took advantage of this, flattening the Sussex number 3's off stump in emphatic style. Some wayward bowling from first change bowler Jack McCurley relieved the opposition of the pressure that was applied by the opening bowlers. As soon as spin was

introduced it seemed as though the pressure was back on the opposition as left-arm spinner Darshan Patel bowled his first two overs for just one run and controversially bowled their other opener. Sadly this was as good as it got for Patel as he continually conceded extras throughout his spell and although he ended with figures of seven over 1-23, 14 of those runs were gifted to the batting side in sundries. From the other end, Vignesh Venkateswaran was unplayable (10-4-17-2) and if it wasn't for a few edges his 10 overs would have gone for even less than they did. Despite this and some tidy bowling at the death by Jayanth (10-3-21-2) and Simon (9-1-30-1), extras flowed freely throughout the innings as well as seven dropped catches and Sussex closed their innings on 183-6, which was really 50 more than they should've gotten.

In reply, Anmol Bedi and Y. Var-

ma got us off to a good start and it seemed as though we would reach the target with overs to spare. In the fifth over out of nowhere the pitch started to do things that we didn't see at all in the previous innings. Some very penetrative bowling and excellent fielding saw Sussex take wickets at regular intervals. Joe O'Gorman offered some resistance against their strong bowling attack and top scored with 18, this was unfortunately not enough and we were 64 all out in 25 overs. A disappointing performance; in a game that on another day, we could have won quite comfortably; led to a 119 run loss with the difference between the two sides being solely down to a lack of discipline on our part bowling 33 extras and dropping seven catches. Everyone agrees that there is much to be improved upon before the next game and I hope to bring you better news in the future. Watch this space!



## 2nd XI cruise to 50 run win

**Priyank Shah** Sports Writer

IC 2nd XI's second game of the season, and their first in BUCS, was against Kings Medics 1st XI, a team who had won their 2 games this season. However, a strong display by IC led to a comfortable 50-run victory.

Stand-in skipper Will Baker got off to a good start by assembling everyone at Putney Bridge station on time, before making the journey to Berrylands. With some glorious sunshine, and a flat pitch, IC made a strong start batting first. Chris Gayle Lomas Persad cracked a few unstoppable cover drives in typical Caribbean fashion before being adjudged lbw on 28. Fellow opener Rohin Patel had a careful start before blazing his way to a match-winning 114. After successive boundaries, one of the opposition fielders remarked, "You can't do anything about that, it's just

good batting." He was in a hurry to get to somewhere after the game, and hopefully he got there. There was also good support from the middle order, with Hemant Morjaria's 11 of 44 balls applauded by the skipper and dubbed as "the Samaraweera to Rohin's Sangakkara". Good contributions from Jai Patel, Will Baker, Johan Rekers, Cameron Currin and Umar Minhas led to an imposing total of 286.

With morale high, IC set about trying to get quick wickets, however the opening pair started well with a 130-run partnership. After Will Baker slipped and bowled a delivery over 2nd Slip's head, the game was slipping away. However Lomas, who had bowled well without much luck, finally knocked leg stump over. With a tight 10-over spell from debutant Priyank Shah with 2 wickets and run out, IC were right back in the game. One of the more comical catches

happened when Shah dropped an absolute dolly of his own bowling, but the ball popped straight into Cameron Currin's hands at short extra cover. With electric fielding and tight bowling by Chris Hong from one end, spinner Vignesh Venkataraman had the opposition all-at-sea with a brilliant spell of 5 overs, conceding 8 runs and picking up 4 wickets, with some brilliant keeping from Jai Patel. Further wickets from Umar Minhas and Johan Rekers completed the innings. The opposition were visibly shaken, writing 'Yosn' instead of 'Johan' in the scorebook. The umpires were also baffled about some strange noises being heard on the field. This had no relation to where Hemant Morjaria was fielding, obviously.

Two catches from the skipper were enough to seal the victory in the rapidly fading light giving IC a handsome victory and maintaining their now 2 match unbeaten run!

## 1st XI chase well

**Juhin Patel** Sports Writer

On Wednesday the 24th April, the BUCS Outdoor Cricket season began. We had our first game at our home ground Harlington against the University of Reading. Reading arrived late so the game was reduced to 46 overs per innings. Reading won the toss and chose to bat first.

Jayanth Ganapathy and Shazad Ahmad opened up and kept it tight at the start. We got a breakthrough early on and we were on top. Their next partnership was a good one and it seemed like we were going to chase a large total if we did not get a breakthrough. Shazil Choukath, our 1st change medium pacer, was brought into the attack and caused a few problems initially with his pace but soon enough, the batsmen started enjoying the extra pace on a slow pitch. The spinners, Darshan Patel and Joe O'Gorman, were brought in and immediately troubled both the set batsmen. It only took a few overs for the spinners to strike dismissing the pair.

More wickets fell and with the help

of some tight bowling at the end of the innings we restricted Reading to 173-9 off 46 overs. Jayanth finished with excellent figures of 4 for 22 off 10 overs, Darshan with 2 for 20 off 9 overs, Shazad with 1 for 24 off 9 overs and Joe 2 for 36 off 9 overs. Imperial went in to bat after Tea needing 174 from 46 at around 3.8 runs per over.

Anmol Bedi and Vishal Nair opened up and were tested by Reading's opening bowlers. Anmol was dismissed early and I, Juhin Patel, went in. Vishal and I played ourselves in and soon started opening up. We shared a strong 100 run partnership at a healthy run rate. However, in the same over I was run out for 37, Vishal was stumped on 57. Another wicket fell in that over and a collapse was possible. In came two new batsmen, Jayanth and Joe. They both played sensibly and kept the scoreboard ticking by working the ball around. Eventually, we successfully chased down the target with 10 overs left to play. Jayanth finished on 43 not out and Joe on 24 not out. It was a strong performance overall and we are now confident going into the next game.



“Keep the Cat Free”

# TriIC sprint to the finish

## Temperatures rise at BUCS Sprint Triathlon

**Ed Hallett** Sports Writer

This year saw a record number of TriIC members travel to St Mary's school in Calne for the 2013 BUCS Sprint Championships. It was a stunning morning, the perfect set up for a full day ahead of racing and sunning ourselves on the grass. Eighteen people worked together in the Tetris challenge of squeeze themselves, their bags and racing bikes into two mini-buses but with everything finally on board we set off down the M4 on open roads, treated to faint snoring noises from the back seats.

New club captain Siân Morgan began the long eventful day in a whirlwind stress. So in the spirit of club camaraderie the entire front row of the bus decided to wind her up some more. It is far too easy to do, especially with Marcel “trouble-maker” Admiraal leading the assault. But once we'd made it to Calne time was too short to get worried about what was happening later that day; we had to get into racing gear. TriIC's first competitor, Hugh Sparks, had 20min to register, set up transition, warm up, change for the swim and get to the race briefing. Despite this unprecedented rush, he clocked in a strong finish, coming 243rd/412, starting us off well with a good opening swim of 14:31. Siân Morgan, Ed Hallett and Richard Flint were up next, entering a busy pool. Siân dominated with a substantially faster swim than the others, but errors



in the pool were soon made up by Ed on the bike.

With the sun beating down, it was easy to get into racing mood. Getting out on the bike leg was beautiful and brought back a lot of cycle passion for everyone after a dreadful winter of spin classes and turbo training. Marcel Admiraal disappointed an eager crowd by not achieving his self-predicted 25min for 25Km on the bike, but finished well for a first triathlon. Out of 18 people, 13 had never done one before, so a superb effort.

Screw-Up Of The Day has to go to Mike Kaye who 30min before his race while wheeling his bike to transition, managed to not only blow an inner tube but shred his front tyre completely in the process. The definitive image of a beaten man, with glasses down, he wobbled his bike back to a sympathetic home crowd and disappeared for a stress relief “man run” to ease the pain. As soon as Siân heard about the shocker after her race, she marched straight to the marshals office in all her sweaty glory to see what could be done. God knows how, but she managed to negotiate Mike another time slot in 15 minutes.

Siân was now back into panic mode. By this point Mike had run a full 10k and wasn't totally sure where he was. With all hands on deck, the Mike Kaye Support Crew organised necessary transition prep and race numbers, as well as setting up Ed's bike for him to borrow. Back from the run, Mike practically jogged straight into the pool to start his race. The fun wasn't over however, as coming out of the pool, he had no idea where the bike was. A daisy chain of Imperial triathletes shouted directions until he found it and was soon on and out of sight with a shining grin on his face. When he crossed the finish line an hour later Mike returned to a hero's welcome.

The race included a 750m pool swim, 25k bike and a 5k run (actually 5.65K measured by Garmin). The swim was hectic, with thirty people in the pool in each heat. The organisers tried to slot you in with people of a similar swim time, but it was no use. For some, a lot of time was lost in letting people over take at pool ends as required in the race rules. Open water swims will always be a better measure of your swim capability. Transition was easy and well organised, but a long run out with the bike made it a long



transition time. The bike was on open roads, no closures, but it was less of an issue than expected. No traffic lights, which was a huge relief, but there were a few junctions to stop at if there was traffic. A nice bike led into a flat out and back run and a water stop at the turn around point which was very well received. Shame it was a significant distance longer than the quoted 5k.

The team performed superbly: BUCS Sprint is the highest calibre event in our calendar, and this year was no exception, with a huge GB team turn out. Top TriIC finishers were Jean-Claude Besse coming 21st overall, beating many GB competitors which is an incredible achievement and Aimee Di Marco finishing 23rd in the women's category.

Other notable finishers are Tom Pearson who, despite never doing a triathlon before, and never racing on his new bike, clocked the 68th fastest bike time, beating well seasoned triathletes at their own game, and Hendrik Frentrup clocking 98th fastest bike leg.

The rest of the day was food, sun, supporting our competitors, and in the case of Liz Crow, fraternising with the enemy. But we soon figured out she was actually dating the guy from Cambridge Triathletes and wasn't just

a massive flirt. Siân's home baked muffins went down a treat as we watched the final racers fly by, having waited all day for their chance to clock a time. It's definitely better to race early, how else can you justify gorging on a picnic of carbs and protein.

We had a great insight into the worldly knowledge of our members, including an idea to cycle the Danube River, which Annabelle Meyers loved as she's “always wanted to cycle India”...

Before we went home we ducked in for a quick pub stop to look at photos, results and play a game of pool watching the sun go down. Race lethargy

soon set in. BUCS Olympic distance is our next big race, with an open water swim it will allow the club to put its new wetsuits to good use, and maybe we can rack up some more stunning finishes. This is likely to be the last race report for the year, so a massive thank you must be made to the TriIC committee: Hendrik Frentrup, Sarah Lewis, Harriet Nerva and most importantly Siân Morgan for stepping up as chairman for the summer term and rocking the show! I may even say the club is stronger with the rearrangement so thanks guys. We have had an amazing year, growing exponentially and racing like mad.

