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08/11/13
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New postgraduate h opens

Friday sees the opening of the new h-bar for postgraduates and staff

Matthew Allinson
Reporter

Joseph Letts
Editor-in-Chief

A new postgraduate student and staff drinking and social venue on the South Kensington campus is set to open this Friday. In keeping with the Union's trend of naming its drinking establishments with incredibly nerdy puns, the new space will be called h (pronounced h-bar), named after the reduced Planck constant, which is the smallest quantum of angular momentum (with a value of 6.582×10^{-16} eV s). There have been some criticisms of the new name, however according to the Union the name was chosen out of a shortlist of names submitted by staff members and postgraduate students.

The h will be a multi-function space, with a 'café' area and a 'bar' area. The bar will be run by the Union, whilst food is provided by College's Campus Services division. The bar will be staffed by students with previous bar experience, similar to the Old Holland Club and will have several student shift leaders, one of whom will be Stefan Nubert, former Deputy President Finance & Services and current Imperial postgraduate student. The café area is set to serve Leon-style street food — think falafel wraps and couscous — which adds an exciting variation to College's current food provision, while the bar area will provide pub-style food as well as sharing platters and tapas-style dishes. The lunch provided by the venue will be different from the menu in the Senior Common Room, with the added benefit of being accessible for taught postgraduate students (unlike the SCR). The bar will serve a selection of beverages available at the



Student barman pulls a test pint of Aspsall Cyder in the h, days before the opening.

JOSEPH LETTS

other Union bars, with the addition of a new craft beer from Greene King called "Noble". There might also be some promotional deal available later on in the year.

The Union stated that they were keen for the space to host postgraduate student events and welcome student input while the way in which the space is used is developed. They are also keen for postgraduate students to consider h as a "home for postgraduate

students and staff".

In comparison to the postgraduate and staff venue that used to exist in the space (the Holland bar) the h provides a significantly large space for drinking and eating, utilising more of the Sherfield building's basement spaces. Additionally the availability of food during lunch hours has the potential to reduce the stress on the popular SCR, which currently operates at full capacity during this period. The

biggest boost to functionality from the refit is the opening up of the space in the sub-basement below Sherfield and h. This has created two activity spaces/meeting rooms for union clubs and societies, which were in desperately short supply. Unfortunately this has come at the expense of the staff snooker room, but given the desperate lack of space on campus and the large snooker room on the top floor of the Union, this did seem redundant.

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Explore the life of Albert Camus



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Guess what, we've got a new comic strip! Say hello to Plug-time!



COMMENT



Kenya: What is Next?
What's happening to Kenya in the future?

Fracking vs Science Communication
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Erratum

Hey, so last week we had errors in our erratum. We're sorry. This week we're bound to have some more. If you find some errors, want to complain or just want to have your name on non-printer paper, why not send in a letter to felix@imperial.ac.uk?

Imperial's New Twitter Tool

Nida Mahmud
News Editor



A group of academics at Imperial have created a tool that is able to rank the most influential speakers on any topic.

This is achieved by scoring the users of Twitter; it is known as the T-index and is dependent on many times they post and are retweeted. The T-index is defined separately for each topic of interest. A high score is achieved when the user is well known and when they have been tweeted often.

It is hoped the T-index will help advertising companies, political groups and digital agencies to ascertain who the most influential people are on social media.

The tool was launched by sharing the '10 most influential tweeters' on five different subjects. The analysis has been done on topics such as Manchester United and David Cameron.

The team who created it would like to expand the project so that any person can search who the most influential speakers are on any subject

by themselves.

The Director of the Institute of Global Health Innovation at Imperial, Professor Lord Ara Darzi, stated: "We first became interested in measuring influence in social media during the recent reforms in the health service, when it became clear that Twitter had become an important forum for discussions about the changes. We wanted to find some way of determining how influential different individuals were who were tweeting about the reforms and published a research article detailing our findings.

"We then realised this metric could be more widely used across Twitter to measure key influencers in any topic from fashion brands, to public events to major geopolitical events. The results we're getting from the topics we've analysed so far are fascinating, and certainly tell us more than existing metrics of influence currently in use."

Dr Dominic King, a lecturer at Imperial commented that "There are lots of companies that measure influence on Twitter, but they usually

don't tell you how they do it. They also focus on the individual rather than a topic."

"The T-index is a simple, transparent score that measures how influential someone is based on the quality and quantity of their output on a specific subject. The method is open to everyone, so people can discuss how useful it is as a metric.

"The results show that bloggers and independent voices can have their messages disseminated to a wider audience than established news providers. For tweets about David Cameron, Marcus Chown and Chunky Mark have higher T-indexes than established media providers like the Guardian and Daily Mirror.

"We also provide information on the most popular tweets overall about each topic. These are almost always from celebrities such as Stephen Fry, Lady Gaga or members of One Direction. But while one tweet about a topic may stimulate a peak of interest, it's likely to be short-term. The T-index measures sustained influence."

LOLCAT OF THE WEEK: More from teh Lolcat editor



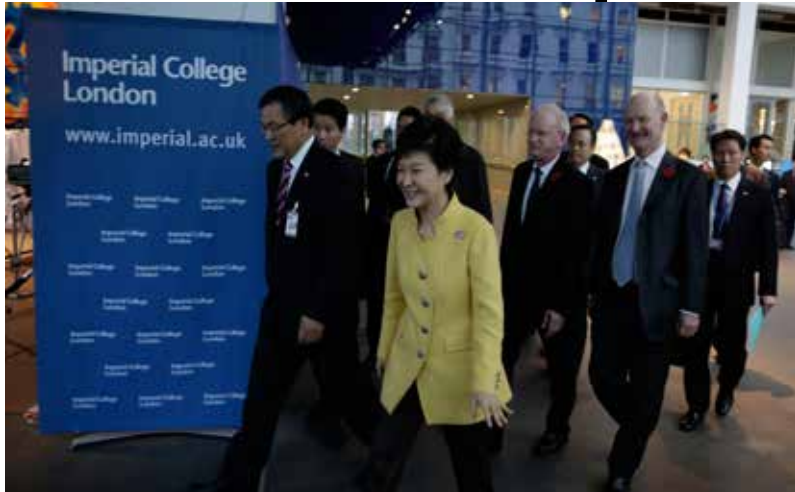
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President of Republic of Korea visits Imperial



LAYTON THOMPSON / IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

Some postgraduates critical of h-bar



Things that make you go hmmm?

JOSEPH LETTS

Kunal Wagle
Section Editor

“
It gives me great pleasure that we have gathered at the world renowned Imperial College London – famous for its cutting edge research in science and technology
”

Park Geun-hye
President of the Republic of Korea

On Wednesday November 6th, the President of the Republic of Korea, Park Geun-hye, paid a visit of Imperial College, in order to make a speech outlining her vision for scientific partnership with “leading scientific nations, such as the UK”.

She gave her speech at the UK-Korea Creative Economy and Future Science forum, hosted by the college. Provost of Imperial College James Stirling said that the college were “honoured that President Park has chosen Imperial for such a significant part of her State Visit”. During her visit, President Park was given demonstrations of various pieces of ground breaking research, including an “invisibility cloak” using metamaterial technology. She also saw projects such as the latest robotic body sensing technology, plastic electronics and quantum technologies. These are fields where UK research is considered to be world leading.

Science and Universities Minister David Willetts MP, who accompanied President Park on her visit to Imperial, said, “International collaboration across Higher Education is essential if the UK is to remain ahead in the global race for science and innovation.” He also added “Imperial College London is crucial to many of the eight great technologies including big data, robotics, space and synthetic biology. Working alongside the Republic of Korea will strengthen our relationship and allow greater collaboration in years to come.”

The visit itself began with speeches from President Park, David Willetts and Professor Stirling, following which President Park was shown the research being presented. In addition to this, the event featured workshops for academics, investors and entrepreneurs from both nations to explore additional UK-Korean collaboration and development in fields such as future innovative technologies, digital cultural content,

and cooperation among small and medium enterprises (including additional support for startups).

In the lead up to the event, Imperial signed an agreement to enhance UK-Korean cooperation in developing hydrogen and fuel cell technologies. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Professor Stirling and Professor Taihyun Chang, Provost of Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH) in Korea. Imperial’s Energy Futures Lab is the central hub for research into fuel cell technologies in the United Kingdom. Imperial is also due to sign a strategic partnership agreement with the Korean Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST).

Imperial College already has a strong connection with Korean universities, having already attained extensive links with KAIST, POSTECH and Seoul National University. In addition to this Imperial also has strong links with Korean industry, having formed partnerships with Samsung and LG.

Matthew Allinson
Reporter

The new-look postgraduate bar is set to open this Friday, with pictures released by the Union and College previewing what it will look like and explaining the services provided by the new space.

With its combination of wood tables and green leather upholstery, the new look bar was described by Kirsty Roy, a PhD student from the department of Materials as “Looking exactly like a McDonalds”. Its previous incarnation, the Holland Club which closed in 2012, had a ‘traditional British pub’ décor (i.e. ‘dark and dingy’) but it was this atmosphere that many of its regulars enjoyed.

The name, h, prompted half of the people I interviewed to laugh and the other half to face-palm. It was chosen out of a shortlist of student and staff submitted names, with the final choice being made by a committee including one of the Sabbatical Officers.

The most drastic change in operation of the bar is the fact that during the evening the space will be available to all staff and students (including undergraduates) for dinner. At this time (between 5-7pm), the evening dinner service currently provided by the Queen’s Tower Rooms will be served in canteen area of h, and the postgrad and staff pub area at the back will be closed off behind a movable soundproof partition. Whilst allowing the staff and postgraduates some privacy, they will still have to potentially walk through a busy canteen full of undergraduates to get to the bar, a fact that several staff and PhDs we spoke to were unhappy about. Fortunately for postgrads and staff a-like, this arrangement will not be the case on Friday evenings. As anyone who used to use the old Holland Club knows, Friday nights were by far the busiest evenings, frequently reaching full capacity by

6pm. Instead on Fridays the h will be serving [alcohol] from 4pm and the whole space, canteen and bar, with a combined capacity for 250 people, will be serving staff and postgrads only.

The previous entrance to the old Holland Club is now closed off and serves as a fire escape, while the new entrance is only accessible via the Sherfield building. Several staff we spoke to predicted calls for this to be re-opened so that access would be available for staff to go enjoy a pint without having to come face to face with their tutees eating. However, according to Union sources the door cannot be used as an entrance due to the conditions of their license.

They also mentioned that the new entrance provides wheelchair access (via the new lift) and the bar is also at a wheelchair-friendly height.

Despite complaints about the appearance of the bar, and the general bemusement at how the one-space, two-uses policy will actually work when the whole thing opens next week; most people we spoke to seemed resigned that they would probably get used to the new look, with one PhD student summarising it as “sort of like when Facebook updates and I hate it for a bit,” whilst agreeing “that it makes sense that they need the space, but it sucks because I loved the old place.”

Sponsored Editorial

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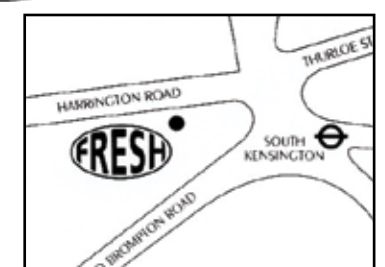
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People's Question Time



JOSEPH LETTS

Top: Boris answering questions during the meeting. Bottom: One of Boris' vehement explanations



JOSEPH LETTS

Felix snapping an exclusive picture of the Mayor just before he departs for his journey home.

Philippa Skett

News Editor

Fire Station Closure

One topic in particular evoked a very strong response from some of the audience, and this was concerning the closure of the fire stations across the capital. Plans to shut 10 fire stations and axe 550 jobs was approved by the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority (LFEPA) in early September of this year, causing considerable distress to those in the boroughs effected.

Assembly Member James Cleverly, chairman of the LFEPA, supported this decision although the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) is currently considering challenging the decision. Cleverly, when explaining the cuts, said that they were in response to the significant reduction in fire risk, and Fire Commissioner Ron Dobson (who was not present) has already stated how response times will remain among the best in the UK.

One woman delivered a rather emotive speech to the Mayor over the decision, deploring the idea that he was using his humour and charm to mask the decisions he was making that could potentially jeopardise the lives of her, her family and the rest of his community. However there seems there is no turning back on the motion, with the measures coming into effect next January and stations closing including those that service Knightsbridge, Westminster, Woolwich in Greenwich and Belsize in Camden.

Accommodation

Students at Imperial also took the chance to voice their views, with one student asking about implementing controls over the private accommodation sector, especially concerning landlords that "take advantage" of the students looking to rent properties for the first time.

With a quarter of all Londoners renting from private landlords, Boris making a decision about this would certainly be in the interests of millions of people across the city, although he has decided to take a stance not to interfere.

He stated that although it is "vital to continue to build more affordable homes," capping the rent prices would not be happening in the near future. He stated that there is still the Voluntary Accredited Landlord scheme that should be ensuring that the rights of the tenants are upheld, but explained that he "cannot reduce values of housing stock under the laws of supply and demand." More houses are needed to reduce rent prices as opposed to setting caps on rent prices of existing properties.

Earl's Court renovation plans: The Earl's Court Project

The renovation plans in the Earl's Court area was also discussed, with members of the public voicing their disbelief over the benefits to the demolition of the exhibition centre and 760 homes in the neighbouring West Kensington and Gibbs Green council estates. Boris approved plans for the 77-acre redevelopment scheme

in July, called the Earl's Court Project, much to the displeasure of the rest of the assembly who called the decision "appalling."

Nicky Gavron of the assembly from the Labour party, implored members of the public to "Go on with your campaigning," as the renovation plans are still not a done deal. With the new plans to include 6,000 new luxury apartments, the audience argued that the redevelopments did not include options for affordable housing.

The London Living Wage

With Boris increasing this by 25p to £8.55 this week, this was also on the agenda. The wage is considered to be the minimum people should be paid per hour to cover the basic cost of living in the capital, although it is more of a recommendation than a requirement with only five councils of the 32 London boroughs currently signed up to the scheme.

Boris praised the scheme, explaining that it increases "loyalty [among workers]" and delivers an acceptable standard of living for the people of London. No-one enquired as to whether Boris was aware of Imperial College directly employing 699 people who are paid below the LLW, although this was probably because the crowd was still expending valuable energy in calling him a 'wanker'.

Travelling around London

Buses were also on the agenda, with one man enquiring as to why buses were constantly running down his road of residence empty, including a student favourite, the number 52. On

this Boris explained how unfortunately there is no "great big bus Valhalla" for buses to "recuperate in" after running during peak travelling times, so they are left circulating under capacity.

It is undecided as to whether or not this warranted the man shouting in response that Boris himself is a "waste of space," although considering the other, less imaginative heckles he received, was certainly not the only person to feel animosity towards the London Mayor during the evening.

One member of the public enquired as to whether there will be an introduction of greater safety measures to the cycle lanes after accidents have left cyclists injured, occasionally fatally. However students who do cycle criticised the discussion, saying not enough was resolved or disclosed to the public about improving the lives of cyclists.

Boris did state that "so many people [jostled] me as I was cycling through Holborn. Maybe they had a point to make," alluding to the idea that people may be taking out their anger at the Mayor using the very bikes that are colloquially named after him.

The overall atmosphere of the discussion was rather tense, with audience members being very vocal about the issues that they were concerned about. However, the evening ran smoothly, and it was encouraging to see members of the public getting involved with the decisions that would affect their lives, even if it did seem that the outcome of some of the more audacious proposals are looking rather bleak for some.

The next People's Question Time will be held after the New Year.



Business, Policy, and Economics for the Future: A Sustainable

Part 3 of a 3 part feature brought to you by the London Climate Forum 2013

Shiladitya Ghosh
LCF Organising Committee

A fortnight ago you read about the IPCC report's finger-pointing, 7 days later you glanced over the future of energy sourcing...now we will have you contemplate sustainable strategies for business, policy, and the general economics of the future!

What exactly does sustainability mean? Simply put, a business is sustainable if it minimizes its adverse impacts on the environment and incorporates environmentally-friendly operating principles while managing to return a net profit, so as to keep things going. So, what will allow a business to continuously return a net profit in such a manner?

One answer is by making products that last long. In the current times, consumerism has taken on a fickle mask causing people to regularly replace their gadgetry and personal hardware – according to a 2011 survey

by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), people in the UK get a new phone every 22 months, only beaten to 'top' spot by the US of A... similar trends exist for TV sets, cars, and other accessories. Such a trend has been in part perpetrated by mobile contract operators who tend to offer handset upgrades at the end of a contract's tenure. There is little sign of this being on the turn; however recent viral concepts such as Phonebloks (from Kickstarter) have shown that there is substantial consumer demand for electronic products that are more sustainable, with companies such as Motorola showing great interest and supposedly developing a very similar concept phone of their own.

Stemming from that thought, another answer may well be to implement infrastructure that encourage consumers to embrace environmentally-sustainable concepts. For instance, constructing buildings using more steel than concrete, incorporating solar cells and mini wind-turbines into their designs, developing materials that absorb and trap CO₂ to lay pavements with – these are all examples of how

sustainability has been introduced into various communities around the world.

Note, however, the word 'introduced'. For any semblance of sustainability, ideas have to be implemented on a large-enough scale to make a difference, which is where economics and policy can play their part in making things happen. To simplify the economics to an almost-sacrilegious level, if policy makers were to rule that all future construction in a town/city would have to conform to particular standards and designs incorporating sustainability, the demand for the appropriate products and raw materials would increase, making business profitable for suppliers, while demand for sustainable construction would also rise, at the very least maintaining profit margins for constructors.

This change can also be brought about by greater consumer awareness. At the recent 20th Anniversary event by Global Action Plan, a UK-based charity focusing on encouraging environmentally-conscious behavior, Chris Rapley noted that if CO₂ were orange and noxious, people would

very likely be a lot more concerned about it and the mitigation issue might already have been addressed by now. This implies that: because one does not consciously get directly affected by increased CO₂ levels in our daily lives, one feels less inclined to take any steps against it. As a result, businesses which already attempt to be sustainable and promote it to their customers, somehow find their efforts not being reciprocated in terms of interest from the market. Thus, the challenge is to motivate people to worry about climate change and sustainability by showing them how it will affect their lives.

On the other hand, there are businesses and sectors of the economy that are decidedly unsustainable, such as petrochemical companies and their associated industries. How can they make a difference? On paper, one possible strategy is to focus on biofuels development, but that would require a substantial write-off in terms of capital and an unhealthy level of fresh expenditure to merely adapt their business to biofuels, after which there would be the costs and problems associated with securing land suitable

for cultivating biofuel crops, and so on. It may well be that they would have to completely shift their focus and redevelop their brands.

There are yet many more issues to be discussed in such a fashion. How would future conurbations, megalopolises, and even 'smart' cities be planned and designed? Will a ranking on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index become the single most important statistic for a business to predict its future? Should policymakers be obliged to be climate-aware and incorporate sustainability into policies? Well, we are no experts but we are certainly keen to hear some of them discuss exactly these issues this Saturday in College.

Want to hear more conclusive and insightful discussions about sustainable business, policy and economics of the future? Come along to the London Climate Forum at Imperial College London on 9th November for a panel discussion on this subject and a host of other exciting talks and exhibitions.

Visit www.londonclimateforum.org for more details as well as to grab tickets!

SHAG Week Next Week

Sexual Health Advice and Guidance (SHAG) week is more than just an excuse for a convenient acronym, it's an entire programme of activities running next week that focusses on all topics related to sex, sexual health and sexuality.

There will be a SHAG stall in Sheffield foyer every lunchtime providing condoms, information and, most importantly, the opportunity to try out various SHAG-themed games such as 'Guess the Number of Condoms in the Jar' and 'Unlucky Dip' for the chance of winning a fabulous prize.

SHAG week also features a range of free events that are open to everyone, including:

Monday 'It Gets Better' at Imperial

18.00-20.00 Huxley LT 145, Reception in Metric from 20.00

A panel of Imperial staff and students will be discussing their experiences with coming out. This will then be followed by a reception in Metric to give people a chance to meet, mingle and continue the discussion.

Wednesday Pee-in-a-Pot Testing

19.00-20.00 Space between FiveSixEight and the Union Bar

The Terrence-Higgins-Trust will be visiting the Union to provide quick and easy 'pee in a pot' style screenings at CSP night.

Thursday Free Sexual Health Clinic

11.00 – 16.00 Activity Spaces, Union Building

Services available include rapid HIV, chlamydia and gonorrhoea tests, condoms, lube and advice. The clinic welcomes all students regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, study type or country of origin.

Friday 'Philadelphia' Film Screening

18:30 Concert Hall, Union Building

Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington star in the Academy Award Winning 'Philadelphia', a film which tackles AIDS, homosexuality and homophobia in 1980s America.



Skett's science corner

Philippa Skett
Science Editor



It has been a busy week here on campus, with both Boris Johnson and the president of South Korea paying a visit. Such activity has highlighted the fact that both science and politics are actually very much intertwined; something that can be easy to overlook.

Our own Professor Nutt this week was rewarded the 2013 John Maddox Prize for Standing up for Science, for his impact in influencing drug classification, and his dedication to promoting science despite facing difficulty.

His paper earlier in the year, published in Nature, implored the government to reconsider their rather arbitrary drugs classifications to allow for a more comprehensive scope into the research concerning illegal drugs and their biochemical effects.

With drugs ranging from cannabis to MDMA having potential medicinal benefits for treating a whole host of ailments, research has been stifled by the government legislation surrounding lab acquisition of the drugs for experimentation.

His relentless rebuttal against current legislation led to his dismissal from the government, highlighting just how science and politics can struggle together at times.

On a brighter note, the UK and Korea signed an agreement to advance fuel cell technology, with Imperial's own Professor James Stirling and Professor Taihyun Chang, Provost and Executive Vice President of Pohang University of Science and Technology in Korea, penning their names to agree to further engage in hydrogen and fuel cell technology.

Science and politics can be so intrinsically involved that neither should be seen as entirely exclusive or independent of each other. The clash or collaboration between the two seem even more exuberated this week, but it is great to see Imperial providing a platform for both of these.

It is important to remind ourselves that there is a bigger world outside the microcosm of science and technology that we currently seem to reside in on campus.

The science we are learning, the way in which we learn it, down to the jobs available for when we graduate are all sculpted according to the political landscape that paves Exhibition road and beyond. It is important to recognise that science doesn't exist as a pure endeavour of the pursuit of knowledge but hangs within the larger framework of politics and policy.

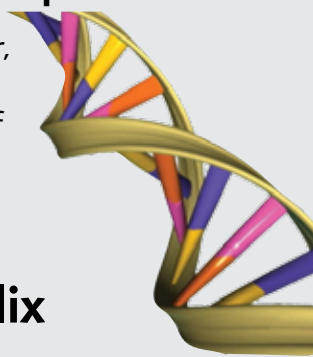
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Diagnosing Down's Syndrome

Utsav Radia on the new antenatal blood test and its potential to detect the genetic disorder before birth

A new antenatal blood test, developed by Professor Kypros Nicolaides and his team of researchers at King's College London in collaboration with University College London Hospital, with the potential to diagnose Down's Syndrome in developing foetuses, is being considered for trial in the NHS.

Down's Syndrome, also called Trisomy 21, is a genetic condition affecting around 750 (1 per 1000) newborns in the UK each year and is one of the most common genetic causes of learning disabilities. Trisomy 21 is caused by the presence of all or part of an extra copy of chromosome 21 in a person's DNA.

Down's patients suffer from many physiological disabilities such as hypotonia (reduced muscle tone), sandal toe, congenital heart defects, brachydactyly (short fingers), a flat facial profile and skeletal deformities. Down's patients struggle with activities like walking, sitting, standing, reading etc. There is no current cure for Down's Syndrome but support is given to help patients lead a healthier, active and independent lifestyle.

Current antenatal screening involves a combined test done in the first trimester between the 11th and 13th weeks of pregnancy and includes ultrasound screening (used to measure thickness of tissue at the back of the foetus neck) and a hormonal test of the mother's blood (to detect high levels of Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin and Estriol). The results of these tests along with the mother's age are used to predict the risk to the foetus – this method picks up about 90% of cases.

For high-risk pregnancies, further methods of testing include: Chorionic Villus Sampling, which involves taking cell samples from the placenta; and, Amniocentesis, where a sample of amniotic fluid is taken. These are subsequently analysed for presence of the extra chromosome 21 copy. However, both methods are invasive and carry a 1% chance of miscarriage and a false positive chance of 3-4%.

The new antenatal blood test uses 'foetal cell free' (cf) DNA that is present in the mother's blood to scan for the presence of the extra chromosome 21. The study, published in the journal 'Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynaecology', shows

that in the 1005 pregnancies trialed at 10 weeks, there was a much lower false positive rate of 0.1% and a 99% rate of Down's Syndrome detection.

Currently, this test is only being offered privately and to any pregnant women who volunteer to participate in the ongoing trials. Professor Nicolaides added that this new technique "if offered across the UK, would have the potential to increase the diagnosis rate from 1,000 cases to almost all of the 1,200 which occur every year".

Professor Lyn Chitty of Great Ormond Street Hospital confirms that this could "very significantly reduce the number of invasive tests" as only 0.5% of cases that had the blood test required any form of invasive testing. Early detection of the condition in foetuses can help parents to plan ahead and also gives them time to learn more about the condition and how they can help their child. However, at £400 a test, it seems highly unlikely that will be readily available through the NHS any time soon.

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Antibody treatment for cancer

SNITCHNGR.COM

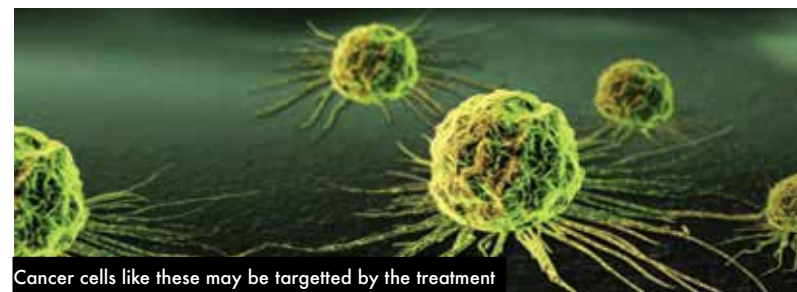
Pavitar Singh Devgon

Science Writer

There is plenty of on-going research in the field of battling cancer, whether chemically, physically or biologically. A research group from southern California is developing a new strategy on improving the transport of medicine within the patients' body, by creating antibodies which only activate in the presence of cancer cells.

The idea of using monoclonal antibodies (antibodies cloned from a unique parent) is not a new one, and has existed for almost a century. However, due to side effects and the way certain antibodies attack the cancer cells, there has only recently been approval for their use. For example, the Cetuximab antibody releases antigens which can become toxic to skin cells in high doses, limiting the effectiveness of this treatment.

Attempts to use antibody-drug conjugates have shown potential, but



Cancer cells like these may be targeted by the treatment

are still limited due to skin toxicity. However, due to healthy tissue cells expressing similar properties to the diseased cells, the antibodies are not always able to make the distinction and may target healthy tissue too.

A solution was proposed by a team of researchers led by Desnoyers Luc, to mediate the toxicity of the antibodies based on the surrounding cells. While the antibodies would still have the power to knock out cancerous infections, they would only release the antigens in the presence of the intended cells.

The research group developed the EGFR antibody PB1 based on the previously trialed Cetuximab and their tests have shown hopeful results.

Comparing the two in mice tissues, PB1 and Cetuximab both showed close to 80% reduction in cancer cells. However, when tested in primate cells, Cetuximab caused the predicted skin toxicity, although no such observation was made in the PB1-treated bodies. Further tests were conducted at higher doses, and for longer periods, after which mild dermal toxicity was found, but at a less severe level than the Cetuximab.

Analysis and research are continuing in this area, but with more hopeful results being shown, this could develop into quite a plausible method of treatment.

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SCIENCE

Traditional ecological knowledge: the old versus the new

Nika Levikov on just how old customs can bring us up to speed for the future

[HTTP://WWW.ETHNOBIOMED.COM/](http://www.ethnobiomed.com/)

Traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) is not a new concept, especially for indigenous peoples themselves or those who practice old customs. However, we still find ourselves merely engaging in dialogue about how TEK should be applied to policy-making and research. The world of conservation is only now recognising that incorporating other disciplines is necessary if any changes we try to make as scientists are going to stick.

I first learned about TEK when I attended an annual meeting held by the Society for Conservation Biology in 2010. The topic was how to build a bridge of communication between indigenous peoples and scientists. I was surprised to see the anger and bitterness from indigenous communities, that such a dialogue was only being put to the table at that time.

Why hadn't it happened sooner? "There is something Western scientists don't understand," they said, "a spiritual connection that makes our relationship to the land unique". I would argue that there are plenty of scientists with a spiritual side, but were these communities right? Do they know the land in an intimate way that scientists can never accomplish?

I'm convinced that the indigenous peoples living in reservations in Arizona aren't the only ones who feel this way. Modern day society finds



Local knowledge of those that live in close confines with nature could help solve issues facing ecology today

countless ways to further fragment itself.

We are faced with a history that is dark, one that many people are unwilling to forget and perhaps not even forgive. It is clear that whilst we sit in our self-righteous chairs exclaiming that barriers must come down, they haven't completely. Targeting climate change mitigation could be a way of building a bridge.

Many solutions that have been posed in the recent past involve alternative energy sources and being 'green', but the people most affected by climate change tend to be indigenous communities in poor developing countries. Adaptation by some scientists is being presented as a solution, given that extreme weather conditions such as droughts and floods have already made an impact.

Indigenous people have applied TEK successfully in this regard. In the African Sahel, for instance, farmers use a zero-tilling method that allows their crops to prosper under harsh climate. The Inuit hunters in Alaska have been able to keep hunting bowhead whales despite their changing migrations. It took years for scientists to realize that their estimate of the bowhead whale population was wrong and that the Inuit had a much more accurate number. The Inuit also brought up the importance of wind strength and direction as a factor in analysing migration patterns.

Another success story is with The Hotspots Fire Project in Australia, which is getting communities together to talk about fire and how to manage it because of increasing risk of fire outbreaks due to climate change.

Along with landowners and scientists, the Aboriginal community is taking part, spreading their knowledge on fire management.

The extent to which their knowledge is being applied is unclear, but recognising that these people have adaptation methods that have worked for many years is a move in the right direction.

Climate change is a global problem, but there is no global solution. As with other aspects of conservation, the possible solutions need to be applied on a local level. Using TEK helps localise the problems and mitigation efforts.

There is a risk that TEK might be 'wrong' and evidence behind certain strategies are usually anecdotal and/or biased, but the rate at which the climate is changing means we don't

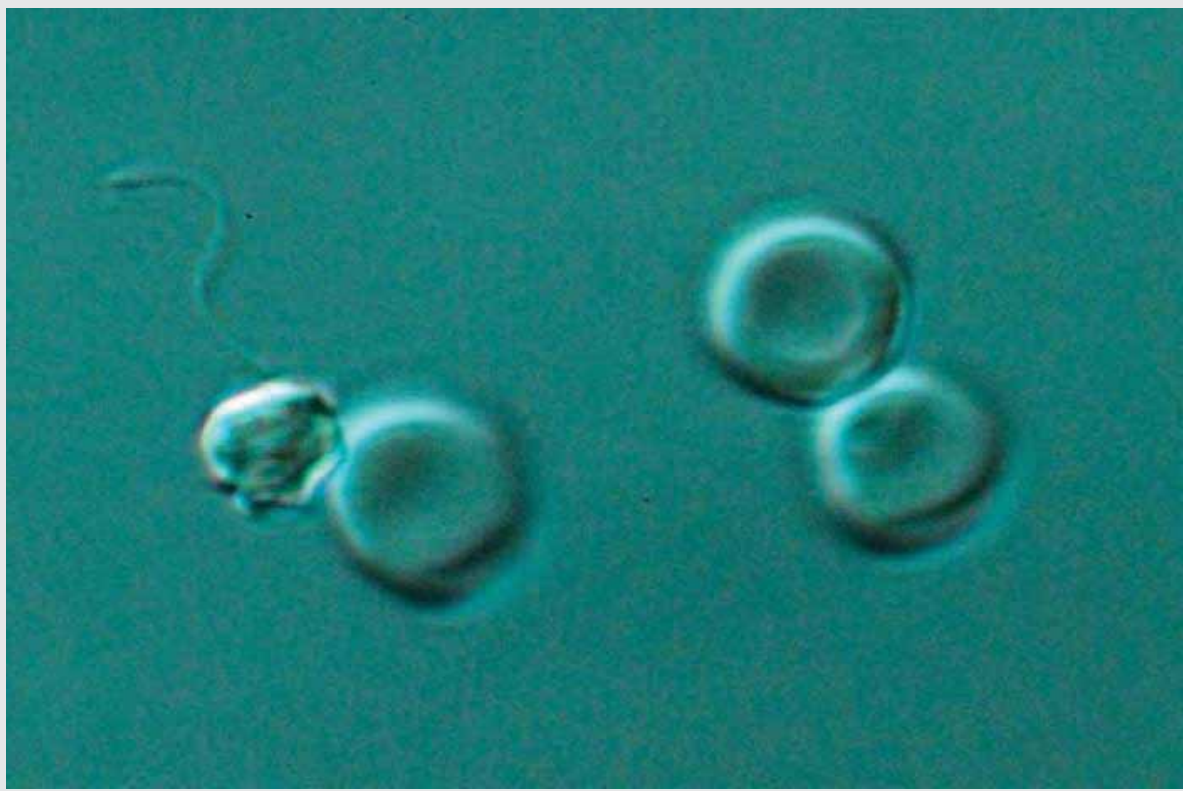
have the luxury of time. TEK could speed up the scientific process by providing scientists with information that gets them to ask the appropriate questions and gather data more quickly.

So let's cut the dialogue about what we should be doing as scientists and conservationists. A systemic strategy should be put in place to go beyond initial communication between indigenous communities and everyone else.

TEK isn't science, but without it, we risk greater biodiversity loss, cultural loss, and a slowed implementation of climate change solutions. Using TEK should be the norm.

After all, with climate change already negatively impacting people across the world, what more do we have to lose?

Science image of the week: a digital hologram of malaria



This rather unassuming collection of blobs is actually a male *Plasmodium* sp. parasite (on the left, with the 'tail' known as a flagella) swimming among red blood cells, looking to penetrate into them to replicate within their fragile structure.

This parasite causes malaria, and is spread via the mosquito *Anopheles gambiae* when they take up blood during feeding, unknowingly spreading the parasite from person to person.

Upon the parasite replicating to breaking point, the cells will burst open to relinquish a whole new population of the parasite that will then go on to continue the lifecycle of this potent protozoan, or simply invade more red blood cells.

It is not what this image is capturing however, but in what way this image has been produced that is notable.

Scientists have developed a 3D filming technique that creates digital holograms of the sperm-like cells, known as microgametes, to show

just how they infect the cells in the bloodstream. Understanding how these microgametes then mate together in their sexual lifecycle could lead to improving preventive methods of the disease from spreading.

The researchers saw that the microgametes move in an irregular, lopsided corkscrew motion, allowing them to move in a multitude of directions to find female mates whilst swimming among blood cells.

This was developed by the University of Edinburgh and the Rowland Institute at Harvard University.

Dr Sarah Reece, Royal Society Fellow at the University of Edinburgh and one of the authors of the study, said: "Findings gained using our unique system provide us with a better understanding of how malaria parasites mate and spread this deadly disease, and have revealed that malaria sperm, and similar organisms, have greater freedom of movement than was previously thought."



Piracy and the need to tackle it

Jash Rughani looks at piracy and the ways to deal with it.

Jash Rughani
Politics Editor

Piracy grips the public imagination. Witness the success of "Captain Phillips", a film in which a vessel captained by the actor Tom Hanks is hijacked by Somalis. Somali pirate operations have been a major threat to ships in the Gulf of Aden and those bypassing the Indian Ocean. Yet the pirate modus operandi is far from clear to intelligence agencies. In order to contain their activities many organizations have come together to understand their funding operations.

Reports have it that between \$339m and \$413m was paid in ransoms off the Somali coast between 2005 and 2012. Ordinary pirates usually get \$30,000-75,000 each, with a bonus of up to \$10,000 for the first man to board a ship and for those bringing their own weapon or ladder.

Qat, a narcotic plant that is chewed by many, is often provided to pirates on credit during an operation. Traditionally used in the same way as coffee - to assist social gatherings, meetings and ceremonies such as weddings - the stimulant qat, like coffee, is widely believed to have



THE GUARDIAN

originated from Ethiopia. And, just as coffee was criticized and even banned in parts of Africa during the 16th century, so the mildly narcotic khat has recently found itself at the center of a moral debate. Islamic rulers in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, recently banned use of the drug. This led Kenya, Somalia's biggest supplier, to stop all flights to its neighbor, sparking street protests in Mogadishu, and triggering concern among qat growers and traders in Kenya, who saw exports drop by 40 per cent. In Kenya, qat has semi-legal status, but this has not stopped farmers from cultivating

the crop. In fact, qat cultivation is currently expanding into new areas, such as Embu and Nyeri, outside the traditional growing area of Meru, near Mount Kenya.

Depending on personal consumption of qat, pirates receive the pending sum upon successful completion of their mission. Some pirates find it difficult to retire because they end up in debt at the end of a hijack. Part of the ransom money flows to local communities that provide services to pirates. Al Shabaab, a terrorist group that wields enormous power in the area also

demands a chunk of the proceeds of a hijack from ordinary pirates. The daily supplies and mobile network are sold off to them at inflated rates. Financing comes from former police and military officers or civil servants, qat dealers, fishermen and former pirates. They take anywhere between 30% and 75% of the ransom. A typical operation has three to five investors. Some financiers, especially those in the Somali diaspora who have little cash inside Somalia but large deposits abroad, employ what the report describes as "trade-based money-laundering" to send funds to Somalia.

In order to contain pirate activity in the area, a number of measures need to be taken. It turns out that government policies are not particularly favorable for setting up private enterprise that would lead to job creations. The involvement of ex-government officials further worsens the situation.

As long as government support to pirate financiers is not severed, ship hijacks would continue to flourish. Money laundering has enabled the swift execution of a number of these ghastly acts. Somalis residing in UAE, Kenya and Djibouti are believed to be the main beneficiaries of the loot. If current sources are identified and held punishable, it could serve as a deterrent to nouveau financiers.

Kenya has long been the chief provider of qat to east African nations. Many more are now turning to qat, which is not only easier to grow, but can be harvested twice a year and brings in an income that is five times higher than coffee. The trade has greatly contributed to development in the district of Meru, and local farmers are calling for the status of qat to be formalized. Qat-chewing is big (and generally legal) business in much of the region, and the role of Somalis in distributing it is growing. The lack of transparency or monitoring of the qat trade in Kenya, the main supplier to Somalia, makes it susceptible to crime. In such an atmosphere, conventional measures are rendered inefficacious. True that one man's trash is another man's treasure.

Let's have more than two people sharing their views on Politics.

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The situation in Iraq after the war with US

Kartikeya Rana looks at the situation in Iraq after the war

Kartikeya Rana
Politics Editor

Ever since the US troops were withdrawn from Iraq in 2011, there has been little international coverage about the situation in Iraq. Iraq is in a state of dysfunctional governance and civil strife. This has caused the present Prime Minister, Nuri Al-Maliki, to ask for military assistance from the US.

ON March 7, 2010, the people came out in large numbers to vote in the national legislative election. The credibility of the elections became questionable by the disqualification of 500 candidates by the Supreme National Commission of Accountability and Justice due to their alleged links to the Ba'ath Party, the party to which Saddam Hussein belonged. In November 2010, a coalition formed between all the major political factions, which resulted in a political vacuum. This allowed armed

groups to assert themselves in various areas.

There is currently a security failure in Iraq. Since there is no interior or defense minister in Iraq, both of these tasks are managed by Al-Maliki. In cities across Iraq where there is a predominant presence of the Sunni minority, Maliki's troops led by the Shiite majority has had to withdraw. Whilst in other places the troops have had to face desertion, which may be caused by the forces' local alliance. Furthermore, the security forces have had to withdraw from key towns in Anbar and from a mainly Sunni area in the neighborhood province of Salheddin.

About 500 Iraqis have been killed since April of this year by Sunni insurgents who have been bombing and attacking the Shiite majority. A large number of these insurgents have been infiltrating from neighboring Syria, which is itself facing a severe civil war of its own. A number of these forces are also home grown with their allegiance with Al Qaeda. ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) is one



JAFRIANEWS.COM

A frustrated Nuri-Al Maliki

of the most active insurgent group in the country. Apart from opposing the Shiite led security groups, these insurgent groups also attack Sunni militias which were previously opposed to Al-Qaeda and were known as the Sahwa, or awakening, supported by the US troops during their operation in 2007.

The government forces tend to take refuge in barracks as they are unwilling to conduct patrols on the streets. This unwillingness has resulted in the forces conducting raids and mass arrests of

civilians, which has further angered the Sunni minority. Not only is there anger against the heavy handedness of the government forces but also due to the failure of the government to do something for its citizens. The government is dysfunctional and unable to pass important legislation. There is also rampant corruption and a lack of electricity, which further adds to the people's grievances.

Nuri Al-Maliki has now asked the US for military assistance to fight the insurgents. The demands include a request for an apache helicopter and drones amongst other military equipment. Tehran tends to emphasize that Al Qaeda is a common threat to everyone. In return for US support, Al-Maliki offers to negotiate with Iran over cutting down on their nuclear program. Although Tehran and Baghdad have got increasingly close, holding talks with the Iranian government is unlikely to reap any fruitful rewards.

Obama is also unlikely to be able to meet all of Al Maliki's demands for a variety of reasons. Firstly, helicopters

and F16 fighter jets are of little use against insurgents. Furthermore, Al-Maliki's government has not been able to be inclusive of all the minority groups. Many US Senators feel that Al-Maliki should not be supported until he shares power with the Kurdish and Sunni minority groups. If the government does not include minority groups, it will continue to lack support and resultantly the insurgent forces will remain strong. Al-Maliki's support of Bashar Al-Assad is also unlikely to gain him any support from US senators.

After years of rule by Saddam Hussein, Iraq is finding increasingly hard to transition to democracy. After the Iraq war, the country lacked resources to rebuild itself as a nation and as a result the divisions between the various groups have grown stronger.

Nuri Al-Maliki needs to hold more talks with the various minority groups and show that he is more inclusive before he asks for aid from foreign nations. It will be interesting to see how the situation plays out.

Union Page

h-bar opening on Friday 8 November at 17:00



h-bar is the exciting new Postgraduate and staff pub and café bought to you by Imperial College Union and Campus Services.

it will be open on weekdays from 10:00 to 23:00 and offers international grab and go lunch options in the café and traditional fare from hearty pies to favourite tipples in the pub.

Featuring a superb selection of real ales and lagers and guest ales chosen by you, great traditional pub food at lunch times and in the evenings, grab-and-go street-style lunch options from the cafe and regular events such as the GSU Pub Quiz, we couldn't be more excited about the new h-bar!

Keep an eye out for introductory offers on food and drink to welcome you to our new pub.

imperialcollegeunion.org/h-bar

SHAG Week



Sexual Health Advice and Guidance (SHAG) week is a programme of events geared towards providing information and starting dialogue on all topics related to sex and sexuality.

There will be a range of activities throughout the week, including a series of talks from Imperial staff and students about their experiences coming out, a SHAG-themed Quiz, a free sexual health clinic and film screenings. The events are free to attend and open to everyone.

In addition, there will be a SHAG stand in the Sherfield Foyer every lunch time over the week. Here you'll be able to pick up a pack of condoms, ask questions and maybe even win a prize!

imperialcollegeunion.org/shagweek

Job opportunities at the Union

We have the following part-time vacancies and voluntary positions available - just visit our website to apply.

Student Trustees of the Union (voluntary position) - applications close Friday 15 November, 12:00

Help us improve and better serve the students of Imperial College London.

Minibus Team

We are looking for people to join our team of student staff to help look after our fleet of minibuses.

Porterage Team

We are looking for a team of student staff to help us keep the Union Building and its spaces ready for the day ahead.

imperialcollegeunion.org/jobs

Sexual Health Clinic

As part of SHAG week, Imperial College Union will be hosting a free sexual health clinic run by the Terrence Higgins Trust.

The clinic will take place in the Activities Spaces, Union Building, Beit Quad. Services available include rapid HIV, chlamydia and gonorrhoea tests, condoms, lube and advice. The clinic welcomes all students regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, study type or country of origin.

Appointments are bookable from 11:00 - 16:00, and a limited number are bookable in advance. To book an appointment or get more information about the clinic, please contact Zoe Richardson, Representation Coordinator, at z.richardson@imperial.ac.uk.

imperialcollegeunion.org/sexual-health

COMMENT

Editors: **Eoghan J. Totten, Tessa Davey**
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Fracking Versus Science Communication

Eoghan J. Totten

@eoghantotten
Comment Editor



The word 'fracking' has become aligned with unconditional taboo in the United Kingdom in a two year interval. Strong public scepticism has been fuelled by the parade of paraphernalia arriving from the USA. Images ranging from flaming taps right through to ominous 'frack pads' litter the internet. In the summer of 2013 protestors took to the streets at the G8 Summit in Fermanagh. Balcombe became the focal point in the notorious Cuadrilla row, exhibiting some of the most vitriolic resistance.

While there may be fundamental ethical and environmental questions to be addressed in context of the wider fracking debate the sporadic sensationalism of many individuals and parties ought to be condemned. Credence must also be conceded to empirical analyses and research into the practice.

It must be highlighted that the process of hydraulic fracturing

has been carried out on a number of occasions prior to the 2011 Blackpool 'Earthquake'. Nodding donkeys (remnant equipment from fracking processes) pepper the fields surrounding the Gainsborough and Beckenham communities. Fracking has been carried out as far back as 1969. It must be noted that controversial 'shale' fracking did not take place in this instance. In spite of this, the case study highlights the dangers associated with the selective implementation of statistics employed by certain media outlets. This creates an exploitative smokescreen, especially on internet search engines, thus masking the truth by crowding it in skewed hysteria. Public opinion is confined to a fabricated status quo and the problem becomes a self-exciting perpetuity.

The UK debate can be realigned through the clarified efforts of science communication. A 2013 BBC documentary entitled 'Fracking: The New Energy Rush' and presented by Professor Iain Stewart of the University of Plymouth demonstrated that the fracking debate, despite the schism in public opinion, contains many other dimensions that could shift the balance of debate to the underlying science. The documentary

drew inferences from the USA.

States like North Dakota typify exponential growth in the fracking industry. It has provided the country with an unprecedented sense of 'energy security' through a liberal supply of domestic gas. It has boosted exports of American coal. The other side of the phenomenon is the myriad of construction, deforestation, increased emissions and noise pollution. The crux of American opposition centres on civilian health within areas of industrial development. Many also question the consequences for the water table, the integrity of agriculture and biodiversity.

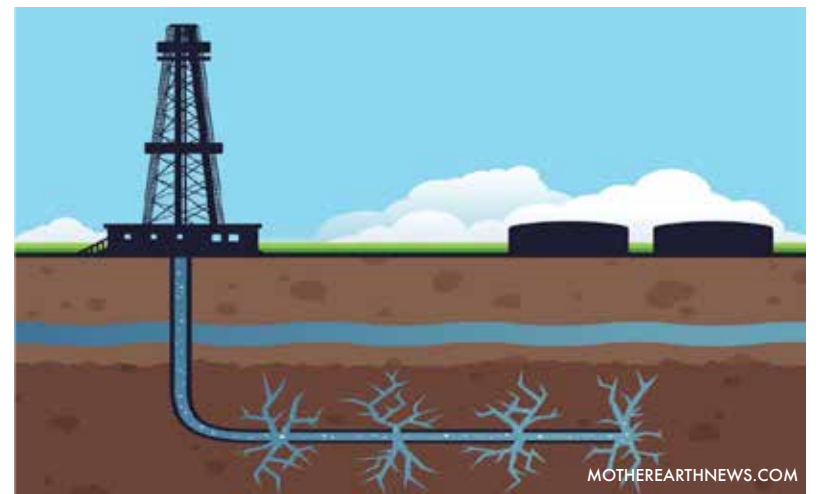
It is clear that the priorities of the American fracking industry cluster around the economics (Many middle men and landowners have accumulated small fortunes). The industry has developed without sufficient regulation. One might infer that the physical process of hydraulic fracturing is misconstrued as the evil entity. In actuality it is the supporting framework of policy, business and commercialism that generates the imperfection.

The UK could learn from these mistakes. First and foremost, the process of fracking requires exceptionally high pressures to fracture

rock. By its very nature it demands diligence, focus and time. A mediated, reduced rate of production from shale fracking could minimise unnecessary damage to surrounding bedrock and reduce the (still vague) environmental hazards. It could unify the disparity between pragmatism and economics by encouraging a more relaxed and (crucially) localised energy market. Secondly, this could engender an ethos of openness surrounding the practice. In the United States many companies champion injunctions, concealing the composition of their fracking fluids. While this is favourable for business in context of an aggressively competitive

energy market, it detracts from the integrity of science and health policy. The UK could learn from this. The composition of fracking fluids would need to be disclosed, in line with that of Government expenses and the already established ethos of free information.

To conclude, science communication may prove to be the crucial and restorative link in the chain of the future UK energy market. It can serve to show that fracking, while a chief focus, must be considered within a cohesive approach to science, economics and ethics. This may prove to be easier said than done.



What does the Future Hold for Tibet?

Kamilė Padma Rudaviciute
Writer

At least 120 Tibetans have set themselves alight in protest against Chinese rule since 2009. It's the only peaceful way they've been able to broadcast their recurrent message: Save Tibet. It seems that their message has fallen on deaf ears. When you ask most people what they know about Tibet common answers would be "it's part of China isn't it?", or "it's where the Dalai Lama lives..." Whilst the second answer is significantly wrong and the Dalai Lama has been in exile since 1952 the first answer, though technically correct, completely undermines and puts into perspective Tibet's efforts to fight peacefully for independence for over 50 years.

So what is Tibet? Tibet is situated in the western part of China, on the Tibetan plateau, encompassing ¼ of Chinese landmass which, including traditional Tibetan provinces, have been gradually assimilated into the Sichuan and Qinghai regions. Now

known as the Tibet Autonomous Region (though it holds no real autonomy from Beijing) TAR has a population of around 6 million Tibetans and over 7 million Chinese who, following occupation in 1952, have been forcefully relocated to Tibet, making Tibetans the minority population in their own land. Prior to its occupation it was a historically and politically independent country with its own language, alphabet (both of which hold no similarities to Chinese Mandarin), distinct culture and religion (Tibetan Buddhism). H.H. Dalai Lama is the spiritual and political head of Tibet, giving you an idea of the values that the Tibetan nation holds.

It is a nation that, due to its pacifist policies, had no power to withstand an occupation. It has a unique culture preserved within the heights of the Himalaya and remained untouched until Chinese occupation. Ever since its days of peaceful Buddhist practice Tibet's situation has gravely changed. Human rights have failed, Tibet's culture and religious practices have been heavily oppressed. Environmental destruction as a consequence of burgeoning infrastructure in Tibet (adhering to China's energy needs)

are endangering Tibet's fragile environment. According to NGO 'Friends of Tibet' the indigenous population has dramatically declined.

Monasteries have been destroyed, especially in Lhasa, obstructed by new buildings, plastic palm trees (I kid you not) and plans of an airport. Monks have been imprisoned (the majority of Tibetan prisoners are monks) and tortured. The Tibetan flag has been banned, possession of a photograph of the Dalai Lama lands you in prison and celebrating his birthday on a sacred mountain is not advised (as demonstrated by 9th July 2013).

How has the rest of the world sat back whilst the most peaceful nation

is slowly being eradicated? It has been students who have pushed for Tibet's cause in the West, more so than politicians who have turned a blind eye to human rights violations. On the 22nd October, at the quadrennial UN Human rights review in Geneva, "Students for a Free Tibet" managed to break through security and scaled scaffolding at the UN headquarters in Geneva with a banner saying: "China fails human rights - UN stand up for Tibet". On Tuesday 5th November student activists protested at the Intercontinental Hotel in Westminster against Intercontinental's plans to build a 5000 room hotel in Lhasa. The plans indirectly give licence to

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It is a nation that, due to its pacifist policies, had no power to withstand occupation.
”

Chinese plans of turning Tibet into a commercialized concrete jungle. Multiple NGOs, united action and continuous protests land the Tibetan's cause in the headlines frequently. While unforeseeable in the near future, for Tibet to become truly autonomous, let alone independent, it does not seem a lost cause.

Once aware of Tibet's situation, I feel compelled to take action. If you're interested in supporting Tibet, visit www.studentsforafreetibet.org and like the Students for a free Tibet Imperial College facebook page for regular updates.



 @feliximperial

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COMMENT

Kenya: What is Next?

Priyank Shah
Writer

I was born in Kenya. I lived there until I was 10 years old. I learned to swear at someone in Kiswahili and Kikuyu. One of my fondest Kenyan memories is my first ever live cricket match at the Gymkhana Stadium in Nairobi. It was the 2003 World Cup and Sri Lanka were in town. The gulf in class was enormous and yet we trounced them by 53 runs. It really doesn't get better than that. Sadly enough the fortunes of Kenya Cricket (and I guess the entire country in 2007) have plummeted to some painful lows, mainly due to financial and personnel mismanagement.

My elder brother decided he wanted to study medicine. Since there was no way we could afford international fees my mum, brother and I moved to the UK to try and get home-fees status. My brother graduated as a doctor in 2009 and is now well on his way to becoming an anaesthetist. More importantly he is now a father. It would appear that the move has been a good decision.

Having completed secondary education here my interest in Kenya became passive. People in the UK would say "You're not black!" or, "Is that the capital city of Africa?" when I told them I was from Kenya. Until this summer I hadn't been back since December 2008. After all, why would I want to go back to a place where electricity ran three days a week and where hot water was a luxury? Life was a lot more challenging than it should have been. Yet 'home' is and always will be Kenya. I think most Kenyans would agree that we are happy to

slate Kenya as much as possible but we have very, very little tolerance for foreigners doing it. This is borne out of a sense of pride. The jubilation at Barack Obama becoming president of the USA was huge in Kenya. It prompted my dad to send me a text saying, "Wananchi na kuja!" meaning, "The local citizen has come."

I followed the recent March elections as much as possible. Many media and news agencies claimed they were the most important election in Kenyan history. This cannot be stressed enough. Yet no one cites Kenyan history to support this, save the bloodshed five years ago. It was incredible to see large queues at the voting stations. "We have been waiting for this for the past five years." Were the comments of a Mr. Anthony Wachira to the BBC.

The great thing about primary school in Kenya is the two main aspects of our history classes: The Roman Empire and Kenyan history. Our teacher was a very passionate Irishman.

Kenya was a British colony since the end of the 19th century as part of the East Africa Protectorate. It served as a British base during World War 1. Following this, political activity in Kenya started to grow as the local people bore the brunt of the increased taxes and lower wages. Kenya was an important British base in World War 2, stimulating African nationalism. Meanwhile tensions were rising between the British (who wanted to impose their agricultural methods) and the Kikuyu tribe (who refused). As a reaction to exclusion from political representation the Kikuyu people founded Kenya's first African political protest movement in 1921. It was the Young Kikuyu Association led by Harry Thuku. The most famous events occurred

between 1952 to 1956, known as the Mau Mau Uprising, an armed local Kikuyu movement directed against the colonial government and the European settlers. It was the largest (and most ferocious) movement in British Africa. The Mau Mau fighters are declared as freedom heroes but the Mau Mau movement was described as, "a disease which had been eradicated and must never be remembered again," by soon-to-be first Prime Minister Jomo Kenyatta. In June British Foreign Secretary William Hague announced that Kenyans tortured by British colonial forces during the Mau Mau uprising will receive payouts totalling £20m.

In 1962 a coalition government formed and a constitution was established. Kenya achieved self-Government with Jomo Kenyatta as its first Prime Minister. He is renowned as founding father of Kenya. Ethnic tensions remained as Kenyatta of the Kikuyu tribe reallocated "repossessed land" from European farmers to his fellow Kikuyus. This created tensions with the other tribes. Likewise President Moi redistributed wealth to his Kalenjin tribe while marginalising (and even attacking) the other Kikuyu and Luo tribes. Having governed with a corrupted iron fist from 1978-2002 fresh elections took place, leading to Mwai Kibaki being named president. There was much hope in Kenya and the economy grew rapidly, until Kibaki was ensnared in Moi's leftovers. Kibaki's regime quickly fell apart and Raila Odinga (supported Kibaki in 2002) attacked Kibaki's government in the lead up to the 2007 elections. Kibaki and Odinga were the main contestants in the 2007 election which appeared to have been won by Odinga, until accusations of vote-rigging filtered in. Kibaki swore himself in as President.



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Months of ethnic violence followed between the Kikuyus, Luos and Kalenjins.

Enough has been written about the atrocities. One of my idols, Wangari Maathai (first woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize), said, "If they had resources and better leadership they would not be killing each other over grazing ground and water."

A new constitution was set out by the government in 2010. It is the first (desperately needed) redaction since the 1969 constitution. It has been met by widespread international acclaim in its efforts to tackle corruption and strengthen civil society. The recent election was pitted as a two-horse race between Raila Odinga and Uhuru Kenyatta (son of Jomo, the first Prime Minister). The latter (who won) stands accused by the International Criminal Court along with his Deputy President William Ruto for being involved in organising the 2007 attacks.

I returned to Kenya this summer and was astounded. There are new high-rise buildings and apartments everywhere in Nairobi. The Chinese have built some new flyovers and repaired some main roads. Roads leading out to other major cities have

also been built. Whatever you can get here, you can now get over there.

I was in Nairobi at the time of the Westgate terrorist attack. I live quite close by. Investigations are ongoing and new CCTV footage is still being released: It further lets the Government down. Police and Army were found to have looted the banks and jewellery shops in the building.

This is a strange situation for me. Kenya is an outrageously bountiful country of wildlife, scenery and culture. Kenya's economy is on the verge of massive growth and yet things social security is still terrible. Traffic is horrendous and the inner city roads are still gravel.

Eye-watering sums of money are being invested into projects like Konza City which aims to be the 'silicon savannah'. It will cost around US\$14.5 billion. There have also been oil discoveries in Lake Turkana. This should be good news. I consider myself an African and therefore optimism is not a choice; it is a necessity. I have faith in Uhuru Kenyatta to leave a meaningful legacy. If he doesn't, I hope that the next president will. Hope springs eternal. Harambee!

“ I consider myself an African and therefore optimism is not a choice; it is a necessity. ”



COMMENT

Editors: **Eoghan J. Totten, Tessa Davey**
comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Of the h-bar, Boris and the weather

Joseph Letts
Editor-in-Chief

Hello again.

So, today sees the opening of the infamous h-bar, the new pub that has opened in the Sheffield building on the side of the 'old' Holland Bar. This is an interesting event for postgraduate students and staff members, most of whom still fondly remember the old pub.

There are some major improvements in the new venue, including a dedicated food service, a larger drinking space, easy wheelchair access and more space for club and society activities. On the downside for PG's and staff members they've lost the use of two snooker tables and they have to share part of the space with undergraduate students for a Monday–Thursday dinner service (5:30–7PM), albeit with the bar section separated by a partition. We look forward to your letters about the new h-bar, all comments welcome, whether glowing praise or long rants. Well, reasonably long rants.

Tuesday saw the presence of Imperial regular, the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson.



JOSEPH LETTS

The mayor came to campus to take part in a 'People's Question Time', which was an event where the people of London had the chance to hold him to account in a public forum. Tickets were quickly snapped up and luckily *Felix* was able to attend, and we were even able to get an exclusive picture of the Mayor

outside the library, moments before he began his cycle home.

Finally, yes there was a colossal amount of rain for some parts of this week, it almost makes one tempted to check the weather forecast. Oh well, time to use the new umbrella.

Letters

Dearest Felix Editor,

This Druid still refuses to apologise for the harm he is planning to cause to the Union. Furthermore he has now started insulting my intelligence by asking a question of infantile proportions. Perhaps for this weed smoking hippy of the forest it would have been a question of certain difficulty, but not for the mighty paladin! The answer is obviously, 2.... AND 0!!! HAHA you thought you had caught me out Druid, try again and see if you can beat the might of the light! I would wish to ask you a question, but judging by the ease by which I answered yours I believe that any question that I ask would blow your mind and burn your already shoddy robes! I once again await an apology, for all those of us who have suffered ice cream related incidents!

The Paladin

Who won? Who lost? You decide!



PLUGTIME

BY OSCAR FARRELL

(BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED)

TODAY WE OBSERVE TWO STUDENTS AT A POSH PARTY...



Hiya, guess what? Yes, we're still looking for writers and news reporters! We don't care if you're a scientist, engineer, medic or something else, come and write an article for us! felix.



 @feliximperial

 FelixImperial

ARTS

Arts Recommends

Astronomy Photographer of the Year @ Royal Observatory Greenwich, SE10

The Greenwich Observatory presents the winning and shortlisted images from across the world for the ever-popular Astronomy Photographer of the Year competition, showcasing stunning photographs ranging from within the solar system to into deep space.

Until 23rd February, FREE

RADAR 2013: Signals from the New Writing World @ Bush Theatre, W12

Festival of intriguing sneak peeks, stimulating debates and inspiring performances that will shine a light on the hottest new writing talent of today, and explore the urgent questions facing theatre in this moment and beyond.

Includes poetry nights and an artist's tour of Shepherd's Bush.

6th - 21st November, £3 - £15

Pop Art Design @ Barbican Art Gallery, EC2

Featuring over 200 works by more than 70 trailblazing artists and designers, *Pop Art Design* is the first comprehensive exhibition to explore the exciting exchange of ideas between artists and designers in the Pop Age. Includes students-only guided tours by Wallpaper* magazine editors.

Until 9th February, £8 students, £12 adults



GUIDING LIGHT TO THE STARS BY MARK GEE (AUSTRALIA)

1,500 masterpieces looted by the Nazis found in Munich

Arianna Sorba
Arts Editor

Around one billion euros worth of art has been discovered in the home of an 80 year old man in Munich. The collection, including pieces by Matisse, Picasso, Renoir and others, represents one of the largest recoveries of looted art in recent history, and includes many pieces previously unknown to art scholars.

The Nazis confiscated or destroyed artworks throughout the 1930s and 1940s that they deemed 'degenerate' or 'un-German', including many expressionist, surrealist, cubist and Dada masterpieces. They also acquired entire collections of Jewish art collectors, either by forcing them to sell to the Nazis at extremely low prices, or simply taking them once the true owners had fled the country.

This particular haul was originally gathered by Hildebrand Gurlitt, a museum director who was meant to be selling looted works abroad to make money for the Nazis. Instead, he kept the works for himself, reported that the entire collection had been destroyed in the bombing of Dresden in 1945, and eventually handed them down to

his son, Cornelius. The collection was only discovered when the reclusive Cornelius, now 80 years old, was by chance investigated for tax evasion, and the 1,500 artworks were found stacked amongst empty juice cartons and tins of food in a darkened room in his flat. It appears that Cornelius, who hasn't been seen since August this year, never had a job or even opened a bank account, and kept himself in pocket by occasionally selling off a masterpiece or two to art galleries and auction houses.

The initial discovery was actually made early last year, in February 2012, but the German authorities have since been sitting on the information in order to give art historians time to clarify the works' values and origins. There's also the rather difficult task of finding the rightful owners – or even the descendants of the owners – of the artworks. While most pieces do appear to have been acquired illegally during the war years, the emergence of paintings by old masters such as Canaletto further complicate the situation, and suggest that at least some of the collection has been legitimately bought by Gurlitt senior and thus really do belong to Cornelius. It could take years before the artworks are returned, restored and finally displayed for the public once again.

British Museum strikes gold with Beyond El Dorado

Kamil McClelland
Writer

What: Beyond El Dorado: Power and Gold In Ancient Columbia

Where: The British Museum, WC1

When: Until 23rd March 2014

Price: £7 students, £9 adults

High in the Andean jungle, to the sound of drums, flutes and trumpets, 'El Dorado', the golden one, the future king of the Muisca tribe, prepares to dive into sacred Lake Guatavita. Covered from head to toe in gold dust, he tosses emeralds into the water below as an offering to the ethereal spirits that reside in everyone and everything.

It was witnessing ceremonies like this that prompted early Spanish explorers to speak of a land so rich in gold that their cities were almost dripping with it. Even now, the idea of El Dorado conjures up images in the minds of most Europeans of some mythical city of gold, deep in the South American rainforest - proof of how deeply this myth has infiltrated our notions of this magical land.

This mythical ritual was only one of many that occurred amongst the pre-Hispanic tribes of ancient Colombia. The *Beyond El Dorado* exhibition at the British Museum sets out to decipher this El Dorado legend and, as the title suggests, go beyond this to uncover the truth behind the amazingly complex spiritual worlds of these tribes. Through extensive new archaeological research, viewers gain a clearer picture of civilisations, previously only known about through the journals of colonisers, looking to make it big in this land of wealth and opportunity.

The exhibition brings together pieces from all of the ancient Colombian kingdoms in a broad display of artistic



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© MUSEO DEL ORO, BANCO DE LA REPUBLICA, COLOMBIA

majesty and sophistication not evident anywhere else in the pre-colonial Americas. Their ability to manipulate gold through advanced casting and hammering processes into divine pieces of art is unquestionable, even just by looking at the remaining artifacts not melted down and taken back to Spain by gluttonous conquistadors. The way that gold doesn't tarnish and is effectively ageless can make the material seem oddly impersonal, inexpressive and monotonous. Moreover, it can feel over-extravagant and emotionally detached, especially when not in motion. Unless it is animated, glistening, you do not get the same effect of power and transcendence. However, the gold in this exhibition is suitably dispersed amongst a wide array of ceramic and jewellery pieces, keeping it interesting and giving a more varied picture of the technical skill of these vibrant agrarian societies.

In 1499, when the Spanish arrived on the shores of Colombia, they found a people rich in resources beyond their wildest dreams. However, gold was not seen as an economic commodity amongst these peoples. It was a highly spiritual material, with all the power and energy of the sun, turning anyone who wore it into a living deity. Its magic enabled spiritual transformations that converted shaman into birds, jaguars or other powerful creatures. Music, dance and hallucinogens heightened them into a trance-like state where they gained the abilities of these animals – knowledge, strength, speed – all of which could help their communities in war or if struck by disease. They even wore gold helmets in battles; completely inept at stopping an arrow but, with all the power that channeled through them, the warriors who wore

them believed they were invincible with the whole cosmos on their side.

Transformation played a large part in the lives of these tribes. Their art consistently shows humans in the process of metamorphosis, with whiskers or snake scales, and they often practiced body painting or scarification to create further modification. These ceremonials aimed to blur the lines between spiritual and worldly power, making chiefs into demi-gods that the people idolised and worshipped. Tumbaga, an alloy of gold and silver, was the material mainly used to create their ornamentation and also had spiritual meaning as well as practical benefits. As well as being stronger than pure gold, tumbaga represented a union of gold, imbued with the sun's energy, and silver's luminescent quality represents the power and majesty of the moon. By combining the two, the universe was united and art made from it had a heavenly aura like nothing else.

Beyond El Dorado represents a rediscovery of the intricate societies, which, up until now, had been largely ignored by European history. It was as if they were the new Spanish conquistadors returning from a far flung land, with new artifacts set to dazzle and delight. The exhibition felt unique, exciting and extremely comprehensive, just as one would expect from the British Museum. I do wish, however, there was more anthropological research done into these tribes as opposed to purely archaeological, as it would contextualize what I was seeing much more. To be able to see videos of modern tribes performing rituals with full body art and decoration would have just added the little extra sparkle that this golden exhibition was missing.



Flash Fiction

by Laurence Pope

The King watches his empire crumble under a tide of darkness. Ivory towers toppled, holy men slain. His fair Queen, crushed under mighty hooves. Cornered and alone he throws down his crown. Checkmate.

Chortle Festival Comes to London

The British comedy website Chortle has announced its first comedy book festival – which will take place in Ealing at the end of this month. The festival will open with a stand up gala in Ealing Town Hall, featuring hit comedians including Richard Herring and Shappi Khorsandi. This opening event will be hosted by Logan Murray, known for his appearances in TV shows such as *Peep Show*, *Packet of Three* and *Pebble Mill*.

Other events include Robert Finn's talk on how to turn debut novels into bestsellers and Rob Newman's discussion on the trade secrets of Elizabethan England. Imperial alumnus Dr Simon Singh will present a lecture about the mathematical secrets of Matt Groening's hit TV shows *The Simpsons* and *Futurama*. Jack Whitehall, star of hit shows *Fresh Meat* and *Bad Education*, will also join his father to discuss their recently released book *Him & Me* – which explores their unusual family relationship.

Tickets range in price from £5 to £20 per event and places are limited so interested people are interested to book early.

For more information and to buy tickets for the individual events visit comedybookfest.com.



Jack and Michael Whitehall

The dangers of being strange

L'etranger for the centenary of Camus' birth

Eva Rosenthal
Books editor

Imagine a white hot day blazing around you, created by blinding and numbing sunlight, all colours scrubbed cleaner and brighter and the air too hot to breathe. As I read *L'etranger* – usually translated as either *The Stranger* or *The Outsider* – a similar atmosphere appeared to surround me, created by Albert Camus to accompany his 'stranger' through the absurd trap lying in wait from the very first page.

A man – surname Meursault – notes the death of his mother with the words "Aujourd' hui, maman est mort. Ou peut etre hier, je ne sais pas" – something like "Today, mother is dead. Or it could be yesterday, I'm not sure" – in these famous opening lines.

The man's detachment only becomes more evident as the novel progresses. His life is lived through an intense appreciation of what might be called life's simple pleasures: watching the progression and procession of an entire afternoon from his window, desiring his girlfriend when she wears a red and white striped dress or swimming in the waves on a sultry day. He is not unappreciative of company but rather seems able to derive only a very superficial feeling from it; this is more than sufficient for him. In many ways, he could be described – and I imagine a Daily Mail headline would – as cold and soulless... in short, a stranger to 'normal' human feeling – a devil.

Meursault's powers of observation are immense; he takes careful and precise notice of his surroundings and actions, often noting bizarre occurrences of human behaviour. He also tries to understand himself and his motivations, however simple they may appear to us. Most



Albert Camus with accompanying non-PC cigarette

interesting to me however, is the complete lack of judgement he demonstrates towards the choices made by others, something which resonates especially in the currently fashionable 'non-judgemental' trend of allowing people to live their lives – to a certain extent – as they want.

On a day of glaring sunlight, walking along a beach, the 'stranger' enters a semi-delirious state and with the evening coming on, shoots and kills a nameless, although menacing, man. Then, for no apparent reason, he shoots a further four bullets into the dead man's body. Meursault is subsequently jailed, understandably.

His trial however, is an absurd nightmare, that proceeds in any case, with a sense of the utmost normalcy.

The prosecutor, who initially likes Meursault, takes a sudden and very personal aversion to the 'stranger's' disbelief in God. From then onwards, Meursault's destiny – the guillotine – becomes entrenched. The courthouse is merely a zoo and Meursault an encaged animal, judged mostly on the lack of emotion he showed at his mother's funeral.

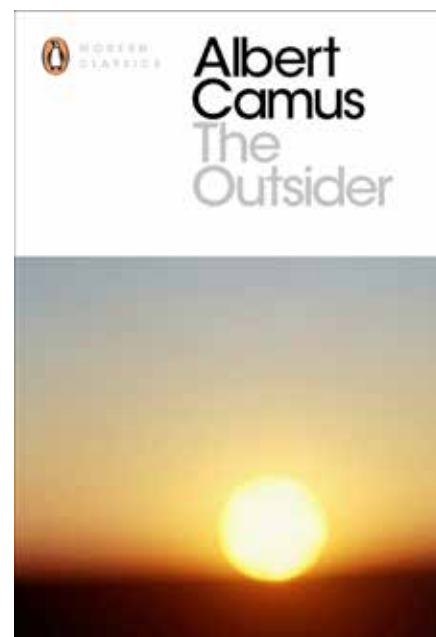
It is moreover an incredibly human and moving. The last four pages espe-

cially, read like the explosion into light of a human brain. Meursault's acceptance of his fate and of the absurdity of all human life and relationships is condensed into these truly powerful pages. His life, or rather his death, is a certainty and there is nothing left to do but take pleasure from the warm summer night and the stars, open for the "first time to the tender indifference of the world" (loosely translated from "je m'ouvrerais pour la premiere fois a la tendre indifference du monde").

L'etranger is a book that tilts our understanding of human souls and their myriad forms, of the way in which we are unable to accept anything beyond our narrow view of the world. Meursault – a stranger in his society – is cold by some measure. But what measure are we using? Who are we to judge? In 2013 it seems adequate to pose these questions. I think Camus poses these and many, and more complex, questions in his *L'etranger*.

L'etranger by Albert Camus, Editions Gallimard 1942

The Outsider by Albert Camus in a new translation by Sandra Smith, Penguin Classics 2013





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MUSIC

Dealing Conversation a Falco-n Punch

Stuart Masson talks to Future Of The left guitarist 'Falco'

Future of the Left released their latest album, *How to Stop Your Brain in an Accident*, last week and they are currently touring the UK, visiting London on the 13th. Stuart Masson caught up with lead singer and guitarist Andrew 'Falco' Falkous.

For starters, can you give a quick description of Future of the Left for those who haven't listened to you before?

Just a loud rock band who want to play music which is 8% louder than most other stuff you've heard but still has melody in it and isn't shit.

The new album was funded by fan donations on pledge music, did that affect the album making process?

It affected it, yes, in the way that it gave us the money to do the record. It was fantastic to have that money up front and know we weren't going to be scraping around on credit cards or whatever. It made it easier and more fun and it meant that the recording, for once, was a week in the studio followed by a few days mixing. When we've recorded in the past it's been broken up into weekends or single days, just whenever we've had the times off week. There was a certain comfort that allowed us to focus and really get into it.

You reached your target amount in just 5 hours. Did it feel satisfying to know you've cultivated such a dedicated fanbase?

Yeah, it was really exciting on one level, but obviously you don't want to see the whole enterprise purely in financial terms but just as a show of faith it was quite lovely. I would say it was quite a heartwarming experience. A lot of the business experience of being in a band, and it's increasingly a business, is cold and lonely and depressing. So even though it was something that was just a headlines day, and a lot of the work began from that point, it was still lovely. As much as it sounds false, I will never forget it, genuinely very exciting.

What prompted the decision to have the whole album streaming in advance of its release date?

It's a question of publicity and also because we had some production problems with the CD production. Unfortunately I can't go into that because of legal reasons, I'd love to go into that, because I love to pick a fight, it's one of my favourite things to do. It became a question of the fact that the album wouldn't be available until the 28th rather than the 21st so if people were going to be talking about the record, we wanted them to be talking about the actual songs, not the fact it was going to be delayed.



You've come out in the past and vilified file sharing. What was the story there?

I think it's important in terms of the blog post I wrote when our album leaked two and a half months early a few years ago, that was specifically about leaks as opposed to file sharing. I'm not the hugest fan of file sharing, I don't know many self-respecting musicians who are, although some people have convinced themselves that they are. Leaks are a different thing, especially when they happen so early, because people have got into your record, extracted the fat and protein, and moved onto something else, even if they've really enjoyed it, a month before your record even exists tangibly. Also, when you release an album, you want a sense of occasion, I wouldn't go as far as to say a party, but you want it to certainly be an event in your life. When it's been leaked so early, when it is eventually released, it's just apologetically farted out into the world.

How did you come up with the voice in Singing of the Bonesaws?

I don't honestly know. Maybe I hadn't had enough oxygen to my brain that day. I was listening to the end of the first test between England and Australia in the middle of doing vocal takes and I was a bit nervous, so maybe something in me decided

to become really English as a coping mechanism.

Your lyrics are often highly surreal and amusing. What is your writing process?

In general, the lyrics are usually just thrown together at the last moment. Sometimes, when they are thrown together at the last moment they don't work, and they're the songs that nobody ends up hearing. More often than not I think it's really helpful to the creative process to have some pressure. We've finished recording for the day, everybody else is having dinner, you've got an hour to write two songs, go. That kind of situation brings out the best in me.

You made the unusual decision to release an EP, *Human Death*, at the same time as the album. How did that come about?

We just wrote a lot of songs that we really loved which weren't maybe as focused as the record. We definitely don't see them as b-sides, in any sense. We see them as being part of a slightly more considered musical approach. For example, in the case of *Fucked Up Runners*, that was kind of our jokey, very self-conscious attempt at doing a song with a kind of Shellac-y guitar sound. To us, if that had ended up on the problem album, it would have sounded too much like a pastiche.

Are you looking forward to getting back on the road and touring the new album?

I am, especially if my back gets better, because I've been in agony for the last few weeks. I went to see an osteopath this morning, so if I can stand up straight, I will enjoy touring a lot more. Although I feel lucky to have a job and earn some money, nothing comes close to playing rock n roll.

You're well known for your on stage rants and putting hecklers down. Is this something you plan or does it come out naturally when you're on stage?

When I started playing, I didn't say anything in between songs because I didn't know what to say and also, when nobody knows who you are, what's the fucking point in talking? There was maybe a time, when Kelson was in the band as well, when perhaps the talking and people talking back at us from the crowd got a bit too much. There's a balance to be drawn. You need to remember it is about the rock. There's some genuinely funny people who come to see us, but sometimes you just find people who know the reputation of the band and just want to be arseholes and make the show about them. If that happens, we just get them fucking chucked out.



MUSIC

Editor: **Simon Hunter,**
Riaz Agahi, Stuart
Masson, William
Stocker
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Do you enjoy having such a reputation?

No, but it is the way we are. Generally speaking, it's a good thing in terms of the atmosphere it engenders, but occasionally it becomes a bit of a problem. You just have to have the knowledge and experience to deal with that problem, to understand when it becomes a bit boring. We had a show in Sydney about four years ago where this guy kept shouting the same shit all the time and we kept humouring him and taking the piss out of him. A lot of the people in the crowd enjoyed it, but if you're a long way back in the crowd, it's difficult to hear what the heckler's saying, so you're only hearing one half of the conversation. That isn't always apparent to the people on stage, so you need to be aware that the experience for everybody in the audience is not as hilarious as for those at the front, and when people have paid to come and see you, the emphasis is on entertaining them first and foremost.

You often drop a few mclusky tracks into your Future of the Left sets. Is that because you still enjoy playing the songs or is just a treat for the

Yeah, I mean they're really easy to play and they're really good fun and I wrote them, so it would be a shame not to hear those songs again. Particularly To Hell with Good Intentions and Lightsabre Cocksucking Blues, they really are the easiest songs to play ever written and I love playing them. What is actually quite flattering is that people a lot of people enjoy those songs. What is a bit sad is when the biggest reaction of the night is to those songs, and that happens sometimes. But yeah, we like playing them.

Finally, ever since I first heard **Robocop 4 – Fuck Off Robocop**, I've always wanted to ask you, what's your favourite film?

I've got a few, but probably, if it had to be one, probably Dr Strangelove. I love Blazing Saddles, that's probably the best out and out comedy. So yeah, Dr Strangelove, that's my favourite film.

Future of the Left's new album - How To Stop Your Brain In An Accident, was released on October 28th via Prescriptions

Embarrassments or Riches?

Riaz Agahi examines a few new(ish) releases



Sergio Sorrentino & Machinefabriek
Vignettes

Autodidactic Dutch graphic artist – turned sound artist **Machinefabriek** recently added to his prolific 2013 output with this effort, a collaboration with **Sergio Sorrentino**, an Italian avant-garde guitarist considered to be one of the best modern Italian guitarists. From an early age he showed a precocious brilliance, performing in a tonne of places in his native country, and has gradually amassed a large amount of acclaim for his work, which, it should be said is more **Oren Ambarchi** than **Sir Richard Bishop**.

The album as a whole reminds me of the high point of Machinefabriek's 2012 album *Color Tones* a 12 minute track called *Mosaic*, which culminates in a wonderfully relaxing and evocative guitar part. In a way, with Sorrentino's able assistance, Machinefabriek has distilled the beauty of this moment into an entire album, backed up by a suitable sense of dread, reminiscent of **Svarte Greiner's** release of this year, *Black Tie*.

If I were to describe Sorrentino's guitar work in 2 words I would say: natural harmonics. I can totally understand why as well, as they possess a subtlety that a notew often can't muster and it's a tool I've used endlessly in my own exploration of bass guitar.

The album is one of those albums that flows as one piece, with an element at the end of each track ushering in the next. The electronic drone style sounds from Machinefabriek's synth work extend notes beyond their expected length, giving a sort of disorienting effect which maximises the dynamics of the piece.

The only real problem I can think of is that never really explodes, but to change that would ruin its subtlety.



Huntsville

Past Increasing, Future Receding

Huntsville are one of the many Norwegian bands such as **Puma**, who fall into the 'jazz' category which for my money is always a rather dismissive label to put on these normally very eclectic artists, so for the purpose of this review I am going to defy Occam's razor and instead call them 'ambient free-jazz-folk'.

This is their second album since moving from ubiquitous Norwegian jazz label Rune Grammofon to Hubro and much like their other albums consists of a small number of long tracks, in this case 3 tracks totalling 40 minutes. I always feel like this is a brave format for such a short album, because in a 40 minute punk album, for example, you can afford to throw a few crap songs in and no one will notice.

The opener, *Presence in Absence*, starts with some rather ominous, pulsing, ethereal tones which are unceremoniously eclipsed by a loud clatter from the drums, recalling in a way the dynamic brilliance of **Emptyset**. At 17 minutes, it's rather a slow burner, and gradually adds layers over the course of the track as the timbre slowly thickens. Very melodic guitar work gives the track a meandering feel until it gradually decays, interesting, though is how each instrument has a moment where it leads the track.

'The Flow of Sand' is possibly my favourite, as it evolves over a slightly distorted repetitive bassline, like a darker, less groovy **Fire!** Really what we have is 3 interesting studies in drone, which evolve slowly by varying the elements involved and the more expressive elements, like the guitar, seem to guide a change in mood.

While the album's great, there's a certain sense of no end product, but any Huntsville – or indeed free jazz fan, will know to enjoy the journey.



Joachim Nordwall

Soul Music

This album has the potential to be one of my favourites of the year, and its quality is backed up by its recent place in Wire's latest office ambience, one of the biggest accolades in my opinion. Having said that, it's certainly the biggest misnomer of the year. Those in search of soul music should probably scurry back to their Motown collection as there's not much to enjoy here.

What it does have, is **Joachim Nordwall** of **The Skull Defekts** fame blasting out some music that I would describe as the lounge-music in purgatory. It's not a huge departure from his previous work, and indeed final track *Psychic Propaganda* is actually a re-edit of last year's EP, showing a connection between it and this work, which actually has a thicker timbre by comparison.

If this is Dante's Inferno, then the album's equivalent of Virgil is the percussion, provided by Jean-Louis Huhta, also from The Skull Defekts. The percussion is really the central theme of the album, one that hypnotises and creates something of a trance like state, but in a much more muted and eerie way than the electronic genre.

The relation between this album and dance music definitely does hold water though, particularly in tracks like 'Soul Vibration' or the very appropriately titled 'Acid Ritual', where Nordwall's synth work recalls acid house. In fact, 'Acid Ritual' would be a great alternative title for the album, particularly given the dark ritualistic vibe that Nordwall produces throughout.

It reminds me a little of **EVOL's** *Proper Headshrinker*, an album that it sounds nothing like but which, like Soul Music, presents the traditions of electronic music in a very abstract and unfamiliar way.

AMS album of the week

Arcade Fire - Reflektor

Despite it being over ten years since AF first burnt music onto a CD to hand out at a small local gig in their Montreal neighbourhood, they are still teenagers – full of fire, angst, beauty and surprising lyricism. They have been almost alone in crafting albums which have a lot to say without falling into the dreaded 'concept album' trap. Their first offering, *Funeral*, is a masterpiece of tension and strife between generations, *Neon Bible* is a biting criticism of modern day religion and *The Suburbs* is an exploration of the hopelessly grey areas that lie between the urban and rural extremes. But the crucial thing is they needn't be, it's the music and not the ideas that keep you hooked. They have developed a sound that can span genres and yet still be solidly AF, and never has this been more evident than on their fourth: *REFLEKTOR*.

The first impressive thing about *REFLEKTOR* is that it lived up to its enormous hype. NME have called AF 'the most important band of the decade' and I feel a strong personal attachment to their music, they're certainly my favourite active band. Despite this, for the past week my housemates have been slowly going mad as I have it blaring out of my room on perpetual repeat, so they have clearly delivered. The second is the sheer scope of the album's music – funky synth pop, dub, straight out rock'n'roll and more traditional AF styles all woven together with that sound, and a very new, much more electronic and gripping bass section.

The album opens with the only single, 'REFLEKTOR', a seven and bit minute long, infectious and subtle attack on online personas and digital relationships. Featuring a stuttering sax solo, beautiful harmonies and backing vocals by **David Bowie** (who threatened to steal the single, it was so good!) the album starts well and stays that way. Highlights include the entire album. Personal favourites however are 'Flashbulb Eyes', with its dubby vibes and terror that our obsession with documenting our lives through photographs has taken the spirit out of things, and 'Normal Person' which is basically a mocking rock ballad about normality and our endless search for it. It should be so awfully clichéd but instead it ends up being really, really good. *REFLEKTOR* is certainly the most danceable AF album to date, but doesn't lose any of its soul – it's more a natural evolution for a band not afraid to explore. If I was forced to find a criticism it would be the sad decrease of Régine Chassagne's vocal contribution – she still provides powerful harmonies and compliments Win's voice beautifully, but there's no stand out vocal performance from her like *Haiti* or *Sprawl II*.

Still it's probably the best album of the year, go listen to it.

Stuart Masson



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The endgame Only Tilda and Tom left alive

Michael S. Martin

Star Writer

Ender's Game

Director: Gavin Hood

Writers: Gavin Hood, Orson Scott Card (novel)

Starring: Harrison Ford, Asa Butterfield, Hailee Steinfeld, Abigail Breslin, Viola Davis, Ben Kingsley

Runtime: 114 minutes

Certificate: 12A



Over the past few years we have sadly seen studios satisfy audiences' need for film escapism with story-driven fantasy action (comic book films being the biggest example) while staying away from science fiction. Even sci-fi staples like *Star Trek* - whose writers Alex Kurtzman and Roberto Orci are involved in this project - haven't been spared and have been turned into entertaining but nonetheless seat-rumbling blockbusters.

After decades in development (young Anakin Jake Lloyd was considered for the role of ten year old Ender), I had some hope that an adaptation of the popular novel *Ender's Game* would inject some much needed sci-fi into blockbusters. But when I saw that Gavin Hood, director of the terrible *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*, was directing that hope turned to fear that a very good novel would be ruined. In

the end, *Ender's Game* does neither.

After an attack on Earth by an anti-like alien species called formics is very narrowly defeated, humanity decides to prepare itself from a future attack by sending its best and brightest children to Battle School, a space station where they are groomed by Colonel Graff (Ford, with his usual geriatric grumpiness) to become the army of the future. The best and brightest of them all is Ender Wiggin (Butterfield), but he is troubled by his violent impulses.

In a way, *Ender's Game* is similar to the first *Harry Potter* film - *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* -, up to dodgy lines and suspect acting by some of the supporting child actors. The film's appeal is exploring with the main character the possibilities in the new world he is in, much like the best part of GTA is seeing if you can kill sharks with grenades. When we first enter space we see blobs of sick floating around in zero gravity. In Battle School the students are trained by playing a sort of zero gravity paintball in which limbs that get hit are rendered immobile, so we see the students try different strategies of dubious real world application.

The film leaves behind much of the discussion on war and the use of violence, and all of the political backdrop from the book, to become a film about children bouncing around in space. But if we judge it as that it is a very entertaining and well made film. It all escalates to a much bigger third act that packs a lot of punch, and leaves with a last scene that satisfies the viewers' need for closure but still sets up the possibility of a sequel.



ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

Only Tilda and Tom left alive



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Fred Fyles

Star Writer

Only Lovers Left Alive

Director: Jim Jarmusch

Writers: Jim Jarmusch

Starring: Tom Hiddleston, Tilda Swinton, Mia Wasikowska, John Hurt, Anton Yelchin, Jeffrey Wright

Runtime: 123 minutes

The veteran American actor Martin Mull once said 'a cult following is a nice way of saying very few people like you'. Perhaps this is a worrying thought for legendary independent director Jim Jarmusch, whose latest feature film *Only Lovers Left Alive* has been chosen to headline the 'Cult' section of the London Film Festival's programme. The components that make up the film - existential crises, nocturnal wanderings, and fetishisation of all things vintage - make it sound a bit like some kind of obnoxious arts student's final project; they've read a bit of Satre, seen A Bout de Souffle a couple of times, and now can't wait to show the world how achingly hip they are. However, despite some hipsteresque pretensions, Jarmusch's light touch and shades of black humour make this film incredibly entertaining.

Described by Jarmusch as a 'crypto-vampire love story', *Only Lovers Left Alive* focuses on the relationship between Adam and Eve, a pair of aging vampires played by Tom Hiddleston and Tilda Swinton. Drifting through the streets of romantic Tangiers and heart-breakingly desolate Detroit like wandering stars, they come together for night-time drives, ruminations on the banality of modern life, and trips to a local hospital to ensure their supply of 'pure O negative' doesn't run dry. Their peaceful cohabitation is momentarily interrupted when

Eve's sister Ava joins them, played to bratty perfection by rising star Mia Wasikowska, but this forms a small blip on their introspective existence. In fact, without this upset there would be very little to drive the plot along; despite great performances from John Hurt as fellow vampire Christopher Marlowe and Anton Yelchin as Ian, Adam's only friend from the human world, *Only Lovers Left Alive* is essentially a duologue between the central characters.

The fact that Adam makes his living as a secretive musician, creating songs on antique recording equipment, fits in nicely with the film's brilliant soundtrack, which won accolades at Cannes. Masterminded by Dutch composer Jozef van Wissem, and featuring the electronic/experimental/avant-garde darling Zola Jesus, the antics of Adam and Eve are accompanied by an eclectic range of sounds that range from the mid-century Motown that made Detroit famous, to middle eastern sounding string music, to epic post-rock soundscapes. Jarmusch's soundtracks are always a delight, but with this film he has outdone himself, curating a breathtakingly brilliant playlist.

However, despite holding strong in most other regards, it is the script that somewhat lets the film down. Jarmusch, who wrote the screenplay, has an obsession with name-dropping famous poets, artists, and musicians the two main characters have known over their long life; it seems that there wasn't a single person of note from the last two centuries who didn't have the pleasure of Adam and Eve's company - from Byron and Shelley, to Poe and the aforementioned Marlowe. There is one particularly painful scene where Adam drives Eve past Jack White's former house in Detroit, and they both wax lyrically about how much they love him.

Although this habit does make the film seem a bit like an exercise in pretension, the wonderful humorous moments scattered throughout the film - most notably a star turn for Jeffrey Wright as the phlebotomist 'Dr

Watson', who supplies Adam his blood with a side order of sardonic coolness - tip the balance in Jarmusch's favour, preventing things from getting too heavy.

Swinton is, as ever, a magnificent presence on the screen. With her piercing gaze and startling appearance, she is an obvious choice to play Eve - in every scene she is in she manages to quietly steal the show, stealthily drawing attention towards herself like a black hole. With standout roles in a huge range of films - from Lynne Ramsay's devastating *We Need to Talk About Kevin* to Tony Gilroy's thriller *Michael Clayton* - I feel like I can say, without risk of hyperbole, that Swinton is one of the most versatile and talented actors of our time. On a side note, it is incredibly refreshing to see - in an industry where actresses peak at the age of 30 - a film in which the romance is played out between an older woman and a younger man. Within Hollywood there is a tendency for the leading man to engage in a relationship with a woman who is notably younger; I call this the 'Woody Allen Effect', after arguably the worst offender, whose films regularly feature him as the protagonist in a relationship with women up to 30 years his junior. In *Only Lovers Left Alive* the age difference between the protagonists isn't seen as a major factor (they are immortal after all), making it seem like a breath of fresh air in a largely patriarchal industry.

The cinematography in the film is sublime, with Detroit and Tangiers captured in long, languid shots; while it could easily be classed as 'ruin porn', the burned out remains of Detroit form a beautiful backdrop for this unconventional love story. These images, combined with the wonderful soundtrack and the magnetic cast of Swinton and her bright young things, add up to make a film that is almost achingly cool. Literally dripping in ennui, *Only Lovers Left Alive* is a film that will appeal to both hardcore cinephiles and casual viewers alike. A cult film? Certainly. An unlikable one? Not a chance.

The return of the Australian Norse god

Jack Steadman

Writer

Thor: The Dark World

Director: Alan Taylor

Writers: Christopher Yost, Christopher Markus, Stephen McFeely

Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Anthony Hopkins, Tom Hiddleston, Christopher Eccleston, Idris Elba, Jaimie Alexander, Ray Stevenson, Zachary Levi, Kat Dennings, Stellan Skarsgård, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje

Runtime: 120 minutes

Certification: 12A



Phase 2 of Marvel's grand scheme to take over the world (sorry, "make really good movies") continues apace with this, the second entry in the series about everyone's second-favourite Norse god (if you're about to tell me Loki isn't your favourite, I'm going to stop you there and tell you you're a really bad liar). With *Game of Thrones* director Alan Taylor taking over the reins from Kenneth Branagh, it seems reasonable to expect things to take a darker, grimmer tone than the rather camp, light-hearted original and, well, they do.

After the standard opening monologue from Odin (Anthony Hopkins), events instantly launch into a full-



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scale battle (one of many), which looks far prettier than it has any right to be, considering it takes place in a world quite literally entitled *The Dark World* (why yes, it is that *Dark World* from the title, however did you guess). This grimy yet weirdly pretty quality seeps through the entire film – Asgard is absolutely beautiful, and the FX are second to none (the 3D's even kind of good, in that 'doesn't quite justify the extra price of entry but still looks nice' way). The design of the Dark Elves feels a bit generic (although their ship interiors bear more than a few similarities to the feel of the Xenomorphs from *Alien*, which gives them bonus creepiness), but since the focus is less on them and more on the action, it's not a major issue.

Speaking of the action (of which there is a lot), it's just as good as anything that's come before in the Marvel film universe, and in some cases goes on to better it. It's as quippy as you'd expect from a Marvel film (as evidenced within the first two minutes of Thor's (Chris Hemsworth) introductory fight), but it also ranges from the

large-scale battles that echo those in *Avengers Assemble* to epic one-on-ones, including both a barnstorming action sequence on the Dark World and the finale, a inter-dimensional battle between Thor and Malekith (Chris Eccleston) that consistently wrong-foots everyone involved, from the participants to the audience (and is all the more fantastic for it).

The twisty-turny nature of the finale is representative of the plot as a whole – there's a lot going on here, and while it's not exactly difficult to follow it can mean that the two major, surprisingly powerful emotional sequences feel a little weakened. On the flip-side: much more time spent on them would have dragged the film down into an over-long, intolerable mess, so taking it as it is is definitely the better option here.

Of course, all this prettiness and delightful plot would count for naught were the actors completely useless, and that's definitely not the case here. Hemsworth is as comfortable with Mjolnir as he's ever been, Tom Hiddleston is the undeniable highlight as

the wise-cracking Loki (who provides the vast majority of laughs throughout the film, despite only appearing in less than half), and the supporting cast give as good as they can with predominantly limited screen-time (particularly for the Lady Sif and the Warriors Three, who appear even less than they did the first time). Chris Eccleston feels a little wasted as Malekith considering he spends most of his time just making strange noises, though, as does Natalie Portman when her role is mostly reduced to damsel-in-distress replete with bonus sarky assistant (Kat Dennings, still fantastic).

There are plenty of additional treats throughout the film – from one completely predictable cameo to one (hilarious) surprise one – and it's definitely another Marvel film that demands a rewatch just to fully appreciate it all. A couple of plot points do go missing in action (namely the potential for a Sif-Thor-Jane love triangle), but on the whole it's all wrapped up nicely in one of the year's best films.

As for the stings: well, see them for yourself. There are two, after all...

Dame Judi's finest hour

John Park

Film Editor

Philomena

Director: Stephen Frears

Writers: Stephen Frears, Jeff Pope, Martin Sixsmith (novel)

Starring: Judi Dench, Steve Coogan

Runtime: 98 minutes

Certificate: 12A



Stephen Frears' latest "inspired by a true story" drama is a rousing crowd-pleaser that will make you cry and laugh throughout with its extraordi-

nary retelling of what started off as a horrifying event. A child is torn away from his mother, and for 50 long years she has kept this a secret, ashamed of such past, stemming from her long-running faith in the Catholic Church. She finally gathers up the courage to share this painful information, which leads to a desperate search for her long-lost son who she knows nothing about, but who she has never stopped thinking of.

Philomena Lee (Judi Dench) is one of many women who were sent off to an Irish convent to spend their youthful years working almost like slaves under the fierce command of harsh, strict nuns. A pregnancy out of wedlock and a forced adoption abroad is her "human-interest" story, and helping her tell this is disgraced ex-BBC correspondent Martin Sixsmith (Steve Coogan). Together Philomena

and Martin strike up the unlikely friendship in search for a boy they only know as Anthony.

And so starts the thoroughly entertaining journey that eventually takes them across the Atlantic to the States where the two outstanding performances of the film's leads are put to tremendous use. Dench's heart-breaking portrayal is without doubt the highlight, and so are the outrageously hysterical one-liners Philomena comes up with, said in all seriousness without actually trying to be funny. We saw Dame Maggie Smith drop the f-bomb in last year's *Quartet*. Here Dame Judi Dench drops a "c" one...not THE C-word...but something close. With her incredibly sweet and moving performance, Dench is an unstoppable powerhouse breaking your heart with her every glance.

Her travel companion Coogan is equally as effective, providing the complete opposite of the God-respecting, very courteous, socially unaware grandmother. Together they

enter deep discussions about religion, sex, among others, and it's an on-screen pairing that is never boring. Sixsmith at first isn't all that invested in the story: it's something he does instead of writing books about Russian history he knows no one will read now that he's unemployed. And yes they have their differences, most obviously so when it comes to discussing God, but as time goes by he warms to her view of the world, and is clearly drawn more and more to help her find closure.

There are many unexpected turns the film takes, none of them an unbelievable development, but ones that amount to something a lot more poignant and thought-provoking. Tears will flow as Dench dominates the screen with never-ending warmth, and when there is sadness there will be as many moments of laughter, and it's this delicate balance that gives the film its endless likability, one that is never forced, but instead charms with its gentle, genuine storytelling.

Imperial Cinema



As a special Post-Grad Film Night we're showing the critically acclaimed coming-of-age drama *Mud*. With echoes of the *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* it tells the story of two teenage boys in rural Arkansas who meet and help a reclusive fugitive called Mud (Matthew McConaughey) who is hiding out in hope of a reunion with an ex girlfriend called Juniper (Reese Witherspoon). As the travails of adolescence ensue, the two boys clash with Mud and learn about the hardships of family, love and the loss of innocence.

Kick-Ass 2 is the acid-tongued sequel to the raucous comic book movie send-up. The semi-retired eponymous hero (Aaron Taylor-Johnson) decides to return to his crime fighting ways by training with Hit-Girl. In other news, Chris D'Amico aka the guy who plays McLovin, commits matricide and decides to reinvent himself as supervillain: the Motherfucker.

The Motherfucker assembles a gang of badman supervillains who go on a rampage of policeman decapitation and twitter bullying. Nerdy Kick-Ass and Hit Girl have their work cut out if they want any chance of taking down The Motherfucker!

Mud-11th of November at 19:00
Tickets: £5 online imperialcollegeunion.org/node/3970 or £6 on the door, includes a free ice-cream or bag of popcorn.

Kick-Ass 2- 12th November at 19:00, 14th November at 19:00
Tickets: £3 members/£4 Non-Members

These will be our final set of screenings this term before our legendary all-nighter in December (check out our website <https://union.ic.ac.uk/arts/cinema/> in the near future for more deets)

Here is a link to Imperial Cinema membership imperialcollegeunion.org/?q=node%2F2969, it's £5 for a year and guarantees you cheaper films all year! First film is free!

Next time: Cinema All-Nighter!

Think *you* can do better?

Join the team, or donate to help cure
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2014 at the Oscars: B



Michael Fassbender (*12 Years a Slave*)

It's a shocking but true fact that Michael Fassbender has never been nominated for an Oscar. Ever. Not even for *Shame*. That's right. So this really should be his year to shine...right? His ruthless, pure-evil, malicious interpretation of the worst slave owner you'll ever come across is frighteningly convincing, and his unhinged performance is compelling throughout. Once again, his performance isn't something you'd feel comfortable sitting through to watch, but even that taboo subject of slavery shouldn't deter a nomination at this year's race.



Barkhad Abdi (*Captain Phillips*)

Everyone thought they would be impressed by Tom Hanks. And they were. But making an even bigger impact in this thriller that finds an American container ship boarded by armed Somali pirates was Barkhad Abdi, a first-time actor. It's the deadly intensity in his eyes that scares at first, but it's also the surprisingly humane side to his lead pirate character that he brings out that paints an interesting aspect of his role that could have been simpler and dumbed down. Abdi should definitely brace himself for a whole horde of nominations.



Jared Leto (*Dallas Buyers Club*)

Playing a transgender character is no easy job for any actor, but word is, Jared Leto (who lost 30 pounds for the role) gives quite the sensational performance of this year. He was awarded the Breakthrough Actor Award at the Hollywood Film Awards (perhaps slightly insulting given how long he's been successfully around in the industry), but an Oscar campaign must surely be well underway. She's a seemingly street-smart, HIV-positive prostitute, although she too must have a story or two to tell given her actual vulnerability and insecurity.



Tom Hanks (*Saving Mr Banks*)

The film marks the first time Walt Disney has ever been played on the big screens. And who better to play such an icon than Tom Hanks, who shows he's not only good at saving Private Ryan but also Mr Banks in an attempt to bring *Mary Poppins* the novel to the movie theatres? As Walt, he is the friendliest boss you'll ever find on this planet, and as his easy-going American way clashes with the more traditional and uptight English methods of Mrs Travers, the book's author, much hilarity ensues, with Hanks being an integral part of the pair.

December is just around the corner, and film studios are lining up their critically-lauded films to take part in this year's much-anticipated Oscar race. As with any year, there are strong contenders in every field and it's certainly too early to be betting on a winner.

So over the next few weeks, **Felix Film** will be giving you a breakdown of the actors, actresses and films that will be grabbing the headlines in the near future; but this is in no way a definitive list, as some of the films haven't even been released over here yet.

This week in our feature is the Best Supporting Actor category.

**Ready...
Steady...
Go!**



Best Supporting Actor



James Franco (*Spring Breakers*)

Remember that film that no one saw and was hated by the very few that did see it? Harmony Korine's *Spring Breakers* is certainly a tricky one to come to grips with, something that requires patience and a completely different level of expectations from the action-packed, girl-power film it promises to be. But something that cannot be faulted is James Franco's eccentric supporting turn, which alone makes the movie worth seeing. His tattooed, dreadlocked, fake-toothed appearance is a shocker, and the acting that goes with it is remarkable.



Sam Rockwell (*The Way, Way Back*)

With dialogue such as "You see what I did there? I manipulated her with my sexual charisma", the sleazy-looking Sam Rockwell is full of hilarious one-liners, as he runs a summer water-park in this heartwarming indie comedy. His supporting turn is an absolute triumph in a film that boasts several top-notch cast members. Sure, the film was released during summer as a vacation family movie, but there should be enough charm and quality in the coming-of-age story to warrant some worthy attention and spotlight his tremendous role.



David Oyelowo (*The Butler*)

Angry and rebellious, with his impulsive, fiery temper, although never without a justifiable cause, David Oyelowo's performance is electrifying. As a black man growing up in a society that never fully embraces him, it's only understandable that he has such a distorted view of the unkind world. The inevitable conflict that arises between him and his government-serving father is tragic and heartbreaking, and as one important half of such relationship, Brit actor Oyelowo absolutely nails it opposite Oscar-winning Forest Whitaker.



Jake Gyllenhaal (*Prisoners*)

As a hardworking detective determined to get to the bottom of a mysterious kidnapping case that only gets more and more complicated as hidden evidence and the past slowly start opening up, Gyllenhaal's at-times greatly restrained and at-times incredibly intense, moody performance, as well as that intricate balance between the two, is a part of what keeps this 150-minute crime drama thriller so utterly compelling. As he becomes tired and frustrated, we do too, but the tough investigative process is made more relatable thanks to him.



James Gandolfini (*Enough Said*)

As a plus-sized man with a heart of gold, the late James Gandolfini's untimely passing makes this grown-up romantic comedy all the more touching and poignant. Two divorced adults in their mid-fifties try their luck once more with falling in love, although this time there are other problems that present themselves between the couple. Gandolfini delivers the humorous aspect of his character well, and is a worthy star opposite Julia Louis-Dreyfus, but it's the more vulnerable side of him with his cuddly big heart that really wins us all over.



Daniel Brühl (*Rush*)

Ron Howard's exhilarating Formula 1 drama benefits hugely from its unforgettable race sequences (and lots of them, too), but when it comes to selling the biopic part of the film, it's the actors who do all the hard work. As Niki Lauda, Daniel Brühl makes a memorable figure of the legend. There is tragedy that surrounds his character, one that Brühl plays to the right level of sensitivity without overdoing the suffering. It's a rousing performance, one that proudly stands out even amongst all the more obvious loud engines and squeaky tires.



Steve Coogan (*Philomena*)

Possibly the least showy role on the list, but in keeping with the film's general tone, it's the quieter, more subdued performance that makes the most impact, which is what Steve Coogan brings to the table. There's plenty of dry humour for him to play around with, but ultimately it's his chemistry with Judi Dench that makes the pair's travelogue so richly dense, with touching drama and appropriate wit. His character's transformation throughout the film is exceptionally captured by Coogan, who proves his knack for drama as well.



Matthew McConaughey (*Mud*)

One of McConaughey's more serious roles, where he doesn't turn on the cheese or lay on his thick Southern accent; one to show us what a versatile actor he can really be. As fugitive on the run, McConaughey possesses all the right necessary rough edges to convince, but there is more to his 'Mud' character than what you may initially be shown. He's someone deeply in love with possibly the wrong woman, and with this comes heartbreak, unlikely friendship and touching sacrifice. *Mud* was quite the indie critical hit, so a nomination is possible.



Jeremy Renner (*American Hustle*)

David O. Russell's *American Hustle* is the kind of film that could be nominated for all four acting categories next year. We already discussed Jennifer Lawrence having the potential to be a part of the Best Supporting Actress gang, and with this category, it's a difficult choice between Jeremy Renner and Bradley Cooper. But since Cooper received plenty of attention last year, we're siding with Renner on this one... for the moment. Donning that ridiculous 1970s retro hairdo for the new heist film, Renner is one of the most under-awarded actors around.



Jonah Hill (*The Wolf of Wall Street*)

Who knew that awkward, insecure kid from *Superbad* could be considered as a contender during awards season and in particular, the Oscar race? Having already been nominated once before for *Moneyball*, things are starting to look promising again for Jonah Hill, who stars in a Martin Scorsese film that is due to be released in the States on Christmas Day which is a real double whammy when it comes to the kind of backing you have. Here his role seems to be more comedic in nature, which will no doubt work towards his advantage.



TELEVISION

Editors: **John Park,**
Emily Fulham
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It's country music y'all!

Nashville: Season 2



John Park Television Editor

In a battle for the top of the country charts, let the cat-fights commence between an older living legend who is struggling to keep up with the evolving music industry, and a younger, fresh-faced new star who is experiencing success as a crossover artist between country and pop to a huge teenage fan-base. Rayna James (Connie Britton) is the older one, Juliet Barnes (Hayden Panettiere) is the younger one, and together they headline *Nashville*, a rather inconsistent soap opera dressed up all nice and pretty in the good original soundtrack that tries to carry the clunky series along.

The focus on the music industry is the upside of the show. Even for those not familiar with country music, a good mixture set list of both upbeat, cheerful songs, to the slower ballads, is enough to win over new fans. What the characters sing about are highly limited, as is the case with the country music genre in general - driving trucks, drinking beer/whiskey and love, mostly heartache. The cast members tasked with singing a lot of the original songs all handle them beautifully. Britton and Panettiere both have strong voices as well as charisma and stage presence in their flashy music scenes, and it's certainly refreshing for a musical drama where its protagonists don't randomly break out into a song-and-dance routine to throw their worries away. These people aren't misguided, delusional high-school teens, they seem more like real individuals with deep-rooted problems that need addressing.

Contributing to the music scenery are season 1 characters who make a welcome comeback, as well as some new talent that shows promise. Scarlett O'Connor (Clare Bowen) and Gunnar Scott (Sam Palladio) have broken up; Scarlett is on a potential road to stardom, having been taken under Rayna's wings and her record label, although the glamorous, publicity-heavy side of the industry is often too much to handle for a girl who started out singing in a small cafe whilst waitressing. Gunnar has been less lucky: he's continuing to write songs although it's a challenge to get back on his feet after such heartbreak. He finds an unlikely ally in Avery Barkley (Jonathan Jackson), Scarlett's ex, and the two of them bond over writing and performing, which provides



an interesting angle on a newly forming bromance. They used to absolutely hate each other - but it would appear their new common ground of loving to perform will bring them closer. New faces for season 2 include Will Lexington (Chris Carmack), Gunnar's house-mate who could make quite an impact on the country charts, as long as he keeps his homosexuality hidden and keeps working the ladies on stage, and Zoey Dalton (Chaley Rose), Scarlett's childhood friend who sings gospel music, who also has the hots for Gunnar. all have incredible voices and they only get better as they sing as duets forming beautiful harmonies.

Let's not forget about Deacon Claybourne (Charles Esten) who we left off in the season 1 finale embroiled in a drunken fight with his on-again, off-again lover Rayna before getting involved in a car accident. Rayna was driving, Deacon was distracting with her boozy antics which caused the

crash. His hand is badly damaged, which means he needs to say goodbye to music career and his extensive guitar collection. That revelation concerning the paternity of one of Rayna's daughters shocks and naturally turns his world upside down, although he's a big enough man to concede that he's probably not the best father-figure the young girl could have.

Rayna's sister, Tandy Hampton (Judith Hoag) is also starting to have a more prominent role in the show, as her loyalties are tested when it comes to uncovering the mysteries behind a car accident that killed her mother. Was there foul play? And if so, by whom?

Juliet thinks she's got it all - this is until she gets a dose of her own medicine, as yet another new emerging star threatens to undermine her success and credibility as an artist who can truly appeal to the teen market. The ever-changing nature of the music

industry, as well as its need to be cut-throat and ruthless is played out well through Juliet's character more in season 2 than how Rayna's struggle was handled in season 1. Layla Grant (Aubrey Peebles), a runner-up of a singing competition, seems to be the talking point of Edgehill Records and its CEO Jeff Fordham (Oliver Hudson) which could potentially derail Juliet's tour and album sales. Given how much of a class A manipulative bitch that she was back in season 1, you might think it would be easy to feel no sympathy for the character. But Juliet has a painful past to tell, and there are softer sides to her otherwise driven, ambitious nature which have the tendency to help you look past her icy persona.

Vulnerability reaches Rayna too, as the aforementioned car accident that Deacon was involved in also affects her. Placed in intensive care, thankfully it doesn't take long for her to make a comeback, although questions

are raised as to whether she'll ever be able to sing live again, with a rousing answer provided on the excellent closing scene of episode 5.

As if the show wasn't crowded enough, we also get a peek into the politics of Nashville, Tennessee. Rayna's soon-to-be ex-husband Teddy Conrad (Eric Close) is now the mayor determined to run a clean office although there is pressure from Rayna's wealthy, powerful father Lamar (the excellent, excellent, Powers Boothe whose deep, growly voice is still as menacing and authoritative as ever) to do things his way. Along with Teddy there is a subplot that is headed for disaster as his girlfriend/mistress Peggy Kenter (Kimberley Williams-Paisley) claims that she's pregnant although she's clearly not. This tiresome strand better resolve itself quickly, as any soap drama that distracts from the music is one that needs to quickly go away.

Speaking of needless drama, the romantic side of the series is the major downfall. It's inevitable that everyone starts to have feelings for everyone else, but there is too much moody sulking around to create any compelling couples to root for. Not everyone gels as an ensemble at the moment, and there is an odd lack of narrative strength and continuity in certain episodes that makes the show seem sporadic and its structure, a mess. So far everyone is pretty much single, but this will no doubt all change come the mid-season episodes.

But it's worth sticking around for the Britton and Panettiere duo alone. Although the two characters aren't pitted against each other as much as you'd hope, even as individuals they are able to compel and move.

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TELEVISION

New CBS Comedy Shows

Mom: Season 1



John Park Television Editor

Whoever thought of the casting here is an absolute genius. Allison Janney has been away from the tv screens for far too long after the end of *The West Wing* and Anna Faris who over the years has starred in less than stellar comedy films, finally lands a role that is worthy of her talent. Bonnie (Janney) is a recovering addict having experimented with all sorts of things, Bonnie's daughter Christy (Faris)

ended up as someone similar and is on a path of the 12-step recovery programme, whereas Christy's daughter Violet (Sadie Calvano) reveals that she's pregnant with her idiot boyfriend Luke (Spencer Daniels).

History does seem to repeat itself in this family, as the three generations of women who share very similar DNA work to make the best of their less than ideal situations. Janney is full of hilarious one-liners in every single one of her scenes, Faris does her usual brilliant work, and together they help the dark comedy script come to life. Various issues regarding addiction, their regrets and past mistakes surface whenever a mother and daughter pairing takes place, and the snarky comedy surrounding such issues mostly works.

It's far from a silly show that wants to be offensive for the laughs. Instead there are moments of smart exploration regarding having to bring up children (Christy has another kid - a younger son named Roscoe (Blake Garrett Rosenthal)), as a cash-strapped single parent who also needs to lead a life of her own.

There is also a great use of its guest stars - so far we have had Oscar-winning Octavia Spencer grace the screens with her one stand-alone episode and Justin Long seems to be in for an arc that should last for more than a few episodes.

Thanks to its bold premise and deeply flawed characters who have plenty of crazy alcohol/drug-fuelled stories to tell, *Mom* is a show that never gets boring.



The Millers: Season

1



John Park Television Editor

No this has nothing to do with the comedy hit of 2013, *We're the Millers*. With *The Millers*, a tv series which debuted this season, we see Margo Martindale, who has been shown a lot of love lately thanks to her remarkable supporting turns in deadly serious shows like *Justified* and *The Americans*, going for a lead role in a comedy

show and mightily succeeding.

The titular *Millers* refer to a family unit made up of the parents Tom (Beau Bridges) and Carol (Martindale), their children Nathan (Will Arnett) and Debbie (Jayma Mays), Debbie's significant other Adam (Nelson Franklin), as well as their kid Mikayla (Eve Moon), with Nathan's colleague Ray (J. B. Smoove) also popping up from time to time.

It's a well-formed cast of familiar names and faces, and the loud, energetic and appropriately over-the-top Martindale is a real highlight (leave it to her to make all the sex jokes), whereas the more relaxed Bridges provides the perfect level of disdain and frustration towards his wife although having depended on her for so many things, he becomes completely



incapable of taking care of himself around the house.

Each week is a look at how this family goes about putting up with one another, with conflict mostly arising from the bossy, controlling matriarch who is always right and will be damned if anyone has anything else to say about that. Tom wants a divorce from Carol after all the years of putting up with such a monster, and so it's up to the children to somehow keep the peace and quiet around their houses. Carol is staying with a recently divorced news anchor Nathan who is clearly her favourite child, with Tom living with Debbie and her family, although this separation hardly ever keeps everyone apart, and it's only when the Millers are all in the same room that we get plenty of laughs.

The Crazy Ones:

Season 1



John Park Television Editor

Robin Williams is a comedy god and anyone in doubt of his infinite repertoire and abilities need to check out his new show. As an advertising executive running his own company with his daughter Sydney (Sarah Michelle Gellar), Simon Roberts is a bit of a wacky, impulsive, eccentric piece of work - which is what makes him so good at his job. His endless creativity,



his crazy ideas (hence the title), as well as his energy that never runs out, he does require some reeling in and taming by his more grounded, sensible daughter.

Fast-talking, dead-on impressions, outstanding improvisation, are all within Williams' firm grasp of the show's comedy material, although he alone doesn't hog all the spotlight when it comes to delivering the gold. The world's favourite vampire slayer is rather good at playing for laughs, and the rest of the cast, made up of James Wolk (*Mad Men*, *Political Animals*, *Lone Star*), Hamish Linklater (*The New Adventures of Old Christine*, *The Newsroom*), and Amanda Setton (*The Mindy Project*, *Gossip Girl*) are all excellent.

The show relies heavily on extended sequences of comedy starting with

one idea and sticking to it, with the cast playing around with the same theme for several minutes. It depends on the hyperactive Williams interacting with various supporting members of the cast to make them well-rounded and for the most part they succeed. It does, at times, have a tendency to go completely overboard, and off-tangent, and this method certainly won't be to everyone's taste. Some might find it repetitive and frustrating, but the range at which the cast smoothly performs is undeniably fun to watch.

Even at the age of 62, Williams has still got it, and with the show's full-season renewal, bringing the number of episodes of the first season up to 22, there is every opportunity here for him to go wild and hopefully the best moments will make the cut and be shown on the television screens.



10 Things Smartphones Slaughtered

Next Murderer in our series: finding the ultimate Culprit

Maximiliawn Eggl
Technology Editor

After last weeks Osama Awara's "10 things the Internet has slaughtered", I decided to write something in a similar vein, except of course exchanging one vital invention (internet) of our lives for something equally important (smartphones). So here goes (in no particular order).

Dedicated hand-held gaming

Apart from a few notable exceptions (I am looking at you Pokémon), smartphone gaming has dominated this market. It has lead to the decline of Sony's PSP line, as well as curbing any future dedicated consoles that may have arisen. I mean, why shell out several hundred pounds on something that can only play games that also cost 30-40 pounds a pop, when you could use that handy telephone of yours, spend 5 quid and get the same amount of pleasure. In fact some people suspect smartphones will have a bigger impact on the gaming industry as a whole!



NVIDIA

Self control

With everything that these little wonder machines have to offer right at your fingertips, some people find it hard to keep their instant gratification monkey in check. Want to check that hilarious YouTube video in the middle of a lecture? Sure go ahead! Want to buy something on amazon? Go ahead, your smartphone can do it! In fact smartphones have managed to kill this off so well, that some

people can't even control themselves longer than 5 minutes, without compulsively checking their phone.

MP3 players (AKA iPods)

These little gadgets were the bee's knees back in the day, ready to on one hand wow your friends with awesome tracks that you never listened to, and on the other croon to you on the bus with the tracks that absolutely embarrassed you. However with the advent of the smartphone, the device that could do all of the above AND make phone calls, the future of the one-track gadgets was doomed.



APPLE

Doomed, DOOOOOOMED I tell you!

Waiting patiently

Why wait when everything is just right in your pocket? What is the point of waiting to see a message, email or tweet when you could see your messages within a matter of seconds? In fact why doesn't everyone answer right away? With the advent of smartphones and constant availability, any need to wait necessary or unnecessary is questioned.

Feature phones

Kind of obvious isn't it? Why have a boring old feature phone (you know



those ancient things that have physical keys) when you could have a super-duper awesome califragilisticexpialidocious smartphone that does everything you could ever imagine?!?

The magic of a portrait

In the past portraits were reserved for the rich and wealthy. Even with the invention of cameras, people would not have wasted their money, time or film (hopefully) on taking a selfie. However with the ease of snapping a quick pic introduced by smartphones, this inhibition of blatant self-love has been eroded. Nowadays you can't escape the outstretched arm and pouty lips/tensed muscles that accompany many a selfie on any social media sites that you visit.



MONA LISA

#nofilter #monaswag #yololisa

Saying: No I don't want to send this picture of my genitalia to this random stranger I just met

Come on, lets face it, how many of you never attempted to sext with someone? Yeah I thought so. The promised instant gratification, and assurances of deleted messages have all too often led some of us astray. However before the dawn of the smartphone, sexting was almost unheard of. Yes once in a while you did get that pervert who tried to send

you a grainy picture of themselves butt-naked, but all in all this is a newer phenomenon. Yet not many are aware of the dangers that can happen when you send something so private to anyone, so beware!

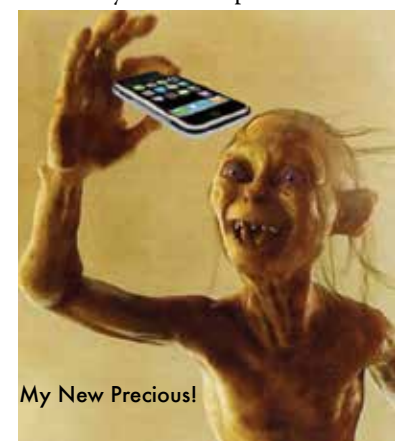
The Beauty of Shakespearean prose

When u abbreviate everythin it aint hard 2 understand that spelling skills are fading, innit? Well after you read through that cancer-inducing sentences, consider the impact that text speak is having on English. Textspeak is endemic in todays youth. Some of these even use textspeak for official documents and emails. Yes you may argue it is faster to use, and quicker to read. However when you look at all the beauty that the English language possesses, and then imagine it all written in numbers, single letters and completely wrong spelling its enough to really become depressed. Since your smartphone becomes

Treasuring your possessions

obsolete every year, it is not hard to imagine why people in general tend to update theirs on an almost annual basis. However this lies in stark contrast to the time when durability and longevity of a gadget were prized, and the affection that grew towards something that you used over the years. I mean remember

that old indestructible Nokia that you used to use? Exactly! Nowadays you can't wait to throw that one year old trash out, to get the absolutely newest piece of tech.



My New Precious!

BIOLOGYOFTECHNOLOGY.COM

Talking to real biological entities

Afraid of having to actually talk to people, but still in need of not feeling so alone in the world? Then you are not the only one at imperial! Enter the smartphone. Snapchat, iMessage, Facebook messenger, among many others, have circumvented the actual need to look into someone's eyes, while still allowing you to fulfil your daily communication quota. This easy road has manifested itself in more and more ridiculous ways. Smartphones are banned from dinner tables, which then feature stony silence. Groups of friends will often be seen all staring at their smartphones instead of actually having fun. Surely soon enough any form of communication will be replaced by a 4-5 inch screen.



PCWORLD

#Totallyhavingfun, like me and my friends are being so funny and talkative!!!

 @feliximperial

 FelixImperial

TECHNOLOGY

Google Releases the Nexus 5

Yong Wen Chua
Technology Editor

After many weeks of speculations, leaks, and overwhelming anticipation, Google has finally taken the wraps off their new flagship phone, the Nexus 5.

The Nexus 5 is, like the Nexus 4, manufactured by LG and modelled after one of their flagship phones, and comes in black and white.

The Nexus 5 is modelled after the LG G2. Thankfully, the Nexus 5 has ditched the rear buttons on the G2 (which LG touts as innovation), for more practical button placements. The phone comes with 2 GB of RAM, and a Qualcomm Snapdragon 800 system-on-chip (SoC), which is pretty much the best SoC from Qualcomm you can get on a smartphone at the time of release. It boasts a 4.95-inch 1080p screen with a staggering 444 pixels per inch. All of these are available for a very

affordable unlocked and contract-free price of £299. The Nexus 5 has clearly taken the best of the Nexus 4, and corrected some of its glaring faults.

The Nexus 4 was a great device one year ago for its price. As Felix had wrote about it a year ago, the Nexus 4 boasted some of the best hardware you could get at that time. However, it also fell short in three areas, all of which Google has addressed in the Nexus 5. Most (in)

famously, Google left out Long Term Evolution (LTE), or 4G support in the Nexus 4. This has been rectified in the Nexus 5- it will allow you to use it on any LTE network around the world, save for North America.

The Nexus 4 also came with limited storage options, namely only 8 GB and 16 GB. The Nexus 5 has also rectified this by providing 16 and 32 GB options. Finally, while the Nexus 4 suffered from horrible

availability issues, and the order website promptly crashed under the weight of its own popularity, the same does not seem to be the case for the Nexus 5. Initial orders made via the Play Store have already been shipped, and should arrive within the week. Customers can also buy them from retailers like Carphone Warehouse.

Alongside the debut of the Nexus 5 is a new Android version dubbed Kit Kat. Kit Kat is another minor update to the operating system (OS), with some minor visual changes allowing applications to turn the status bar and the navigation bar transparent.

Kit Kat also continues the Google-fying of the OS by turning some of the core parts of the OS into Google apps that can be updated via the Play Store, as mentioned in a previous article (How Google Updated Android without Updating Android). The home screen of Kit Kat is now essentially a Google variant of the Facebook Home concept, making Google Search power many aspects of the interface.

The old Android texting app has also been removed, in favour of integration

with Google Hangouts which now also handles text. There are also various under the hood changes to the OS that are of more interest to developers, such as the changing of the SELinux mode from permissive to enforcing.

Google's Nexus programme began with the Nexus One as a means of setting benchmarks for other phone manufacturers to work towards. Although the first phone wasn't exactly a commercial success, subsequent releases have garnered a dedicated fan-base.

This is quite evident when the US Play Store started reporting multiple-weeks of waiting for people who want to order the phone late for all the models. In the UK, at the time of writing, the black coloured models are all quoted as being shipped in 2-3 weeks time, while the white coloured models are still available.

If you are looking for a new smartphone, and are unwilling to be tied down to a contract, the Nexus 5 is the phone for you. For the price, you can get excellent hardware that no other phone in the market can offer.



GOOGLE.COM



COLLEGE CATERING

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SPECIAL CHEF BAKED CAKE SALE

- FRI 15TH NOV

HOME BAKED BY STAFF CAKE SALE

- WED 13TH NOV

11TH - 15TH NOV: COOKIE SALE

- ALL OUTLETS! 20P FROM EACH SALE DONATED





Some Like It Hot...well, not all

A round-up on some of the world's foodie vices under threat - some luxurious, some less so



It seems to have been quite a tumultuous year in foodie arena, with many food items under threat. Just this Halloween, fans of the global cult favourite Sriracha hot sauce (affectionately known as Rooster Sauce to some) breathed a sigh of relief when a judge denied a temporary restraining order against the manufacturing company, Huy Fong Foods.

The plaintiffs? Residents of Irwindale, California; where Huy Fong's new processing plant is located. Lame food pun notwithstanding, the city's main beef with Huy Fong was that the spicy scent of ground peppers due to the company's chilli-processing season from Sept to Dec is a public nuisance in violation of the municipal code. Some nearby residents had complained of burning eyes and throats, and had sued in order to shut down production which would have seen the price of Sriracha sauce escalate due to massive demand outstripping supply. The company aren't yet in the clear, the judge has set Nov 22 for a further hearing. By then however, chilli processing will have been complete which means this year's sauce production is safe. Although the plant's long-term future is unclear.

Sriracha wasn't the only thing under shortage threat this year. Below we take a look at some of the food items which came under the microscope this year due to potential shortage and we also look at one cult foodie treat which was brought back from the dead, shall we say.

CHOCOLATE

Doubtless a good few of you will have seen some panicked/sentimental

Facebook sharing of reports citing how cocoa butter is becoming scarcer by the day, largely due to dwindling production in Ghana and the Ivory Coast caused by poor weather, plus the fact cocoa trees take up to 4 years before producing cocoa beans so some farmers have thrown in the towel as the wait is "too long."

Some reports even cite predictions that the world's supply of cocoa will run out in about seven years, which would mean that in order to keep our supermarket shelves stocked with grab-and-go treats, manufacturers would have to start falling back on vegetable fat substitutions (palm oil), bulking bars out with more nut and fruit etc. More bubbles in the "Aero chocolate, now with more bubbles and less chocolate. A few years ago, at least you knew all of the solid stuff you were getting in your bar was actual chocolate.

WINE

Poor weather has also affected vineyard harvests (ergo wine production) in Europe over the last few years, and the increase in wine consumption in China and the US seems to have put pressure on supply. The world went into a bit of a panic when Morgan Stanley published a report saying that its research had deduced a worldwide shortfall of up to 300 million cases in 2012.

Thankfully 2013's harvest was predicted to be a strong one, and subsequent harvests have also been predicted to be on the up which is welcome news, after years of mediocrity and cruddy weather for farmers.

OLIVES

The popular bar snack also fell victim

to poor weather in both Spain and Greece (specifically Halkidiki olives), with olive distributors around the world citing that suppliers were highly likely to hike prices up by at least half.

GOAT'S CHEESE

Way back in 2009/2010, the Netherlands, one of the biggest producers of goat's cheese had to cull thousands of pregnant ewes to curb the spread of Q disease which could spread to humans. The effects of this cull can still be felt now, with cheese production having dwindled both there and in France; demand, however, has steadily increased since then as goat's cheese has become more fashionable amongst consumers and the catering trade.

Experts predict that this Christmas which is traditionally when cheese sales have been known to skyrocket, some people are just going to have to do without.

And one item that came back from the dead.

TWINKIES

Yes, we know it's not quite a real cake/food item amongst purists. It's only fair that they do get a mention for the bizarreness that happened when they became scarce, \$5 boxes of the stuff were hoarded when production ceased due to makers Hostess Foods going bankrupt. One week before they returned to store shelves being produced under new ownership, an eBay user was trying to auction off some expired Twinkies as rare collectibles for the price of \$15,000, "one that can be passed down the family and will only gain in value."

Pumpkin Cake



Now that Halloween's been and gone, you might have plenty of leftover pumpkin or might have decided to buy a few of them on the cheap on impulse. Pumpkin is a perfect winter veggie that's chock-full of versatility; it lends itself to lovely hearty soups which are great for this cold weather.

So don't bin it all just yet - here's a quick recipe that makes the most of this yummy ingredient, a great treat for you and your friends!

For the cake

300g self-raising flour
300g light muscovado sugar
3 tsp mixed spice
2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
175g sultanas
½ tsp salt
4 eggs, beaten
200g butter, melted
zest 1 orange
1 tbsp orange juice
500g (peeled weight) pumpkin or butternut squash flesh, grated
*Protip: You can substitute with carrot for other times of the year!

For drenching and frosting

200g pack soft cheese
85g butter, softened
100g icing sugar, sifted
zest 1 orange and juice of half

Method

Heat oven to 180C. Butter and line a 30 x 20cm baking or small roasting tin with baking parchment. Put the flour, sugar, spice, bicarbonate of soda, sultanas and salt into a large bowl and stir to combine. Beat the eggs into the melted butter, stir in the orange zest and juice, then mix with the dry ingredients till combined. Stir in the pumpkin. Pour the batter into the tin and bake for 30 mins, or until golden and springy to the touch.

To make the frosting, beat together the cheese, butter, icing sugar, orange zest and 1 tsp of the juice till smooth and creamy, then set aside in the fridge. When the cake is done, cool for 5 mins then turn it onto a cooling rack. Prick it all over with a skewer and drizzle with the rest of the orange juice while still warm. Leave to cool completely.

If you like, trim the edges of the cake. Give the frosting a quick beat to loosen, then, using a palette knife, spread over the top of the cake in peaks and swirls. If you're making the cake ahead of time, keep it in the fridge then take out as many pieces as you want 30 mins or so before serving. Will keep, covered, for up to 3 days in the fridge. (But I'm pretty sure it will all be eaten before then!)

Michael Chung, Food Editor. Adapted from BBC Good Food



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MEDIA

The PhotoSoc Exhibition

This week's photo was taken by James Dunn at the Battersea Park Fireworks Display, as part of a PhotoSoc trip.



STOIC shorts

Peter Brook
STOIC Secretary

STOIC (Student Television of Imperial College) is revving up for another year: we've got a smorgasbord of short film scripts in the works, but the thing that is going to really kick off the creative side of things will be the 48 Hours Film Competition. It will be a collaboration between STOIC and DramSoc, the perfect combination of filmmakers raring to write and shoot and a troop of actors fresh out of screen acting workshops.

This competition is set on the common 'you have a weekend, you have a camera and somewhere to edit, now GO!' formula. It's an opportunity for everyone to see a part of the movie making process, and chance for people who have experience in the technical and creative sides to share their abilities and teach people in a

way that means you make something pretty cool at the same time.

Over the weekend we expect little sleep, panicked location hunting and lots of last minuteness, however this will all be tempered by the fact that we'll be making a few awesome, funny, clever – and possibly a bit silly – short films.

If you are interested in acting, directing, writing, cinematography, scoring music, recording voice, lighting, editing, colour grading, producing, foley artistry, special effects, set design, costume design, visual effects or focus pulling (you get the point) this is the competition to sign up to and STOIC is the society for you.

The competition is being run from 19:30 Friday 8th November – 19:30 10th November and teams decided on at 19:30 in the STOIC studio. The finished products will be on youtube.com/STOICTV so you can see the valiant efforts made this weekend!

A Global Village

Picked up the October issue of A Global Village yet? Don't miss our leading experts' analysis of the renaissance in space exploration, the emergence of e-democracy movements and the current surge in biotech investment.

Really enjoyed the October issue? Take that a step further by becoming a member of the editorial team of Imperial's journal on International Affairs. Let us know your interest

beforehand email aglobalvillage@imperial.ac.uk to come along to an open editorial meeting.

Topics for the upcoming January issue include the Virtual Citizen, Drug Delivery Systems and 21st Century Jetsetting. Deadlines are fast approaching so get in touch soon if you are interested in submitting an article go to www.aglobalvillage.org submissions for more information.

IC Radio's weekly punk rock show, featuring music from the whole punk rock spectrum

wednesday 13 november

14:00 – 15:00 The RockSoc Radio Rampage
Great music brought to you by the Rocksoc Community!

18:00 – 19:00 Versace Palace

21:00 – 22:00 Harveen Hayer's Hour
22:00 – 23:00 Predrinking with Charles and Ellie
An in depth look at steam engines in the 19th century.

thursday 14 november

21:00 – 22:00 The AMS Night Bus
Loveable hipsters bring you a range from indie rock to hip hop to emo to, um, atmospheric black metal, following a theme each week.

Check the most up-to-date schedule, listen live or catch up at any time on:

www.icradio.com

Show Review:

Stuart's Deep Bath

Listen back at:
icradio.com/shows/stuartsbath

Normally water shouldn't be anywhere near your radio, but let Stuart take the risk by settling into his bath of tunes, not as weird as you'd think. Combining indie pop, dream pop and ambient music, Stuart and Lee create a show of music you may not have heard of, but you wish you had done and can't imagine how you hadn't. Music includes, 'The Last Minute' by Josephine and Elliot Smith.

IC Radio Schedule

friday 8 november

20:00 – 21:00 First House on Blackstreet

sunday 10 november

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

17:00 – 18:00 The Happy Hour
Join the Sunday fun with happymichael! Random cool features

and stories with awesome tunes (and sometimes a complimentary laughing fit!)

18:00 – 19:00 Radio Goo Goo

monday 11 november

14:00 – 15:00 Presidential Address
The two presidents off their view on all things musical, entertainment and debacles

19:00 – 20:00 All Mod Cons
If you like music, frequent technical problems and unusual pan-european accents, this is the show for you!

20:00 – 21:00 The Eclectic Ectoplasm

An eclectic mix of anything and everything. The best music on IC Radio every Monday evening.

21:00 – 22:00 Stuart's Deep Bath
Stuart and Lee deliver the perfect soundtrack for a Monday night bath with a mix of indie pop, dream pop and ambient music

tuesday 12 november

16:00 – 17:00 Relax-ay-voo

17:00 – 18:00 The IC Punk Rock Show

CLUBS & SOCS

Editor: **Nida Mahmud**
felix@imperial.ac.uk



Charity Week

Ben Fernando
Charity Editor



For those of you who don't know, Charity Week is the Islamic Society's fundraising week. Last year they raised over £45,000 and this year they hope to raise even more, with 100% of profits going to the people who need them most – with nothing subtracted for administration or overhead costs.

It's hard to appreciate the scale on which this occurs – universities across the world, from Australia to Canada take part, and 14 universities from London alone. Usman Siddiqui is this year's London coordinator, and one of our very own medics. He explains that the money is allocated to projects that are voted on by the volunteers at a national round-up dinner. Last year projects included rebuilding schools damaged by flooding in Pakistan, treating 3000 malnourished children in Somalia and providing vocational training for orphans in Kenya.

Obviously some might be worried that fundraising through a religious body could lead to discrimination, on both ends. However, the organisers make very clear that this will not be an issue – both Muslims and non-Muslims help to run the events, and the funding is allocated without any religious considerations. The only limitation is that the money must be spent on helping orphans or otherwise needy children, which seems sensible enough.

The most incredible thing about charity week is perhaps the way in which it is run. Islamic Relief, one of the charities that makes up the UK's Disasters Emergency Committee, provides all the materials needed for the week so that none of the donations are spent on overheads, and handles all the financials. In the ten years that Charity Week has been running, they have raised over £2 million and have managed to orchestrate this entire endeavour without overheads and without paying any staff salaries, which I think is absolutely amazing. What's more, they didn't even set out with the intention of raising as much money as possible, rather just uniting their younger members under some worthwhile cause.

london.uk@onecharityweek.com



The OSC climb the Queen's Tower and play football

Overseas Societies Committee detail what they have got up to this week

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to climb our iconic Queen's Tower?

You'll finally have your chance next Wednesday – the OSC (that is, the Overseas Societies Committee) are fundraising for their annual International Night (mark your diaries for the 6th of March) and will be offering tours to visitors from 12-2pm. Krispy Kreme donuts and Hummingbird Bakery cupcakes will be available as well; so come along to Queens Lawn on the 13th of November!



International Night (I-Night) is the flagship event showcasing the best of the 40+ country societies at Imperial College.

Not only is this a spectacular performance held at our very own Great Hall, but it's also a night of cultural interaction, entertainment with a truly international perspective complete with a raffle and a selection of delectable snacks on the night.

This year, our theme is Beyond Barriers, and we hope to make this year's I-Night the best yet with your support!

So, keep your eyes peeled on the

Imperial OSC Facebook group for more updates on our events and how to get a privileged tour!

The greatest 5-a-side football tournament is back! The OSC invites you all to our very own World Cup on Saturday 23rd November at 12.30pm.

This year we have booked longer slots; so everyone will have more time on the pitch!

We expect international society members to team up and display their football talents. The event is guaranteed to be great fun and there are fantastic prizes!

There will be 16 teams so spaces are limited! Teams will be of 5 players and a maximum of 3 substitutes.

Profits will go to charity and towards funding future OSC events.

Important: to reserve a place, reply to ba2111@imperial.ac.uk asap by the 8th november (today) with your society name and contact details of sports secretary/captain.

Imperial Rocks!

Thomas Heaven
Clubs and Socs writer

Do you recognise this band logo? Well you should have come to the quiz then! There were 20 points for getting this bad boy (It's Goat's Ass Trumpet).

Whilst the Felix readers may be well versed in the fortunes of Imperial College's competitive Rugby, Football or synchronised swimming teams, readers of the sports section may have no idea that every year a far more important showdown happens between the universities of London.

So it was that this Tuesday members of the Imperial rocksoc stepped onto unholy ground at the UCL Union to take part in their annual rock and metal pub quiz.

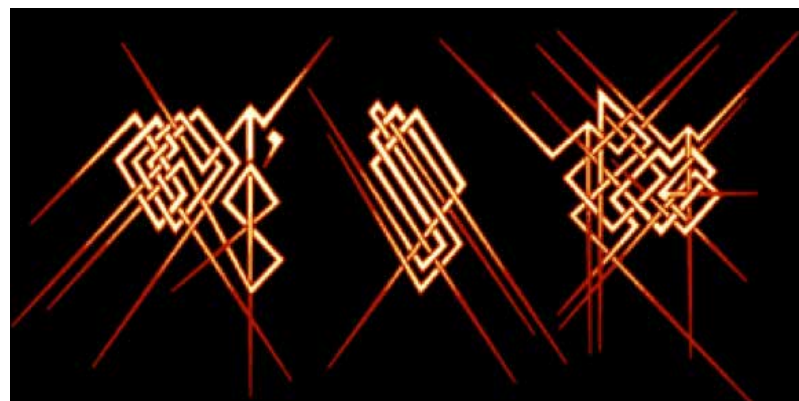
Presented to them was a confusing selection of questions. The musical round, to test their ears.

The picture round, to test their eyes. The band logo round, to test their brand recognition. General knowledge, to test their, well, primarily knowledge of penguins this year.

Team Imperial valiantly waded through this malaise of trivia,

casting lesser teams aside, to bring you, second place! Claiming for the Imperial vaults; a medium priced bottle of Sainsbury's Shiraz and a bag

of sour skittles, in what club secretary Will Foster described as his "sourest victory yet". That'll be first place next time please.



Tell people about your Club or Society via Felix. For more info email felix@imperial.ac.uk



 @feliximperial

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GSU

Your Representation

The role of the GSU Academic and Welfare Officers (AWOs) is very similar to the one of your freshly elected course and year Reps, with the difference that they represent their entire faculty's interests at the College level! If you feel that an issue you have raised may be relevant to other courses/departments or is not being properly addressed, get in touch with your AWO! He will know how to best bring the issue forward and can leverage the GSU's strong links to the College's administration to bring about the changes which matter to you.

No clue who your AWO is? Have a look below!



Mohammad Hassan Ahmadzadeh (Engineering)

Hi everyone, I am currently a second year PhD student within the Biomechanics group at Bioengineering department. In our group we work hard on very interesting research topics to improve the quality of healthcare. My research focus is on validation of human biomechanical models, I am trying to develop a method to translate the models into clinical application and make them usable as a clinical tool. I am also the Bioengineering departmental representative and this year's Academic and Welfare Officer (AWO) for the faculty of engineering. I am representing the postgraduate students and try to make sure their voices are heard at Imperial College Committees.

My role as AWO is to collate information regarding academic experience from the Faculty of Engineering representatives, initiate change on the back of feedback and ensure the quality of all postgraduate-facing services.



Ruxandra Luca (Business)

Hi, I'm Ruxandra. I am a second year PhD student, specialising in consumer behaviour. As AWO of the Business School, I am interested in helping students feel comfortable during their time here, whether they are at the beginning of their programme or nearing the end. I will be looking after issues regarding both the different Master's programmes and the Doctoral programme. In my time as AWO, my aim is to get students involved in social activities across the programmes and disciplines. I think it is helpful to get feedback from students as they recognise the need to learn or share something. This means that I will be happy to answer questions as they come up and to listen to suggestions.



Marta Sawicka (Life Sciences)

Hi, my name is Marta and I am your Academic and Welfare Officer for Life Sciences. I am a 2nd year PhD student in the Division of Molecular Biosciences, and I have been at Imperial since my undergraduate studies. As your AWO, I will represent all postgraduate students in the faculty and do my best to provide a smooth communication between you and the College. As your welfare is a priority for the College, I will try to help you resolving your problems and concerns. If you have any questions, need more information or simply want to share some ideas, please feel free to email me.

Nuha Yassin (Medicine)



Max (Physical Sciences)

A New Place for Postgrads

On the 21st December of last year, the much beloved Holland Club in the basement of the Sheffield building closed its doors for the last time – to the big disappointment of the numerous postgraduate students and members of staff who enjoyed having a place to have a decently priced pint in walking distance of their lecture theatres and offices. A lot of thirsty postgraduate students were left to battle with undergraduates over a place at the counter at FiveSixEight or shell out a few extra pounds (and risk running into their supervisor/lecturer) at one of the pubs around campus.

These dark days have now thankfully come to an end.

After 11 months of intense and hard work and unexpected challenges, the space formerly occupied by the Holland Club has been completely renovated to become

h-bar1, the new home for taught and research postgraduate students and staff seeking to unwind after a hard day's work. Yesterday's opening revealed a brand new space with more than twice the capacity of the former Holland Club. New tables, new lights, new floor, new counter – even brand new bathrooms! – nothing has been left to its original state. Some people will certainly regret the more classic, typical pub feeling of the former bar, but equally many will be happy to see the old carpet gone and a (new) ventilation system installed.

Taught postgraduate students have a particular reason to rejoice: in addition to the beer, crisps and pizza offered by the former Holland Club, the new h-bar now has a fully functional kitchen which will provide a warm lunchtime service, particularly aimed at MSc students who had formerly no dedicated space to go to. In addition to that, there is a newly refurbished basement with

activities areas which students can book free of charge to host small events.

But of course, what would the h-bar be if it didn't host the Holland Club's most faithful and regular guest: our monthly GSU Pub Quiz, held every last Thursday of the month, which had to take a temporary home in The Union Bar over the past year. To celebrate the opening of the new pub, we are, exceptionally, putting on a special edition of our pub quiz two weeks early – that's next week already! A GSU Christmas party is also planned on the venues early December. We look forward to seeing you all there to thoroughly test the new facilities and have a brilliant evening together.

Cheers to that!

Your GSU Committee 2013/14

1 Because let's face it: even at Imperial, no one was ever going to say "Let's go for a pint at the Reduced Planck Constant Pub"

A Short Letter

Andreas Thomik
Graduate Students Union President

Dear Postgraduate Students,

If you have been at Imperial for a while now, you may have noticed that the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) has now become the Graduate Students' Union (GSU) to better reflect our status of representative body. You are automatically a member, no matter whether you are studying for you MSc, MRes or PhD. This change in name has not changed our mission: we are still here to represent your opinion in College and to provide you with various opportunities to distract yourself from work and meet new people.

This year, I am pleased to announce that we have an incredibly ambitious and hard-working team with equally ambitious goals. On the non-academic side, you can look forward to a range of fun events spaced regularly throughout the year: a monthly pub quiz, movie nights and discounted theatre trips are only a small sample of what you can expect. These will always be well advertised here in Felix, on our Facebook page and our newsletter – so keep an eye out for anything which may interest you!

However, a great student experience cannot be obtained solely through social opportunities. It means having no extra worries at work, and someone to turn to should things go bad. We want to ensure that you get the same opportunities, the same representation, no matter whether you are based at South Kensington or any other of the many Imperial Campuses. Your voice is important, and we will endeavour to make it heard loud and clear on all relevant College committees; because we can only remain one of the best universities in the world if we protect the student experience from being sacrificed for pure academic success.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our events!

Andreas Thomik

GSU President

P.S. Keep Saturday 7th December free for this year's Post Grad Christmas Party! There will be mulled wine, mince pies and snow! Wear a Christmassy jumper and come celebrate with us. Location and more details to be announced shortly - keep an eye on your emails.



HANGMAN

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk



This Week In The Past

The Historian
Hangman Contributor



1998 - Capital punishment is abolished for all remaining capital offences leaving our poor editor to scrounge around for work.

1994 - The element Darmstadtium is created because there aren't enough fucking elements. Getting in my fucking way, ruining my meals. Bloody chemistry.

1944 - Franklin D Roosevelt reelected for a fourth time in the kind of bending of constitutional rules that Hangman can get on board with.

1917 - Bolsheviks storm the Winter Palace. The morons think it's October when it was very clearly November. I mean, didn't they hear all the fireworks and see all the sparklers.

1688 - William of Orange swindles his way across England. Indeed, so successful was his swindling that everyone promptly forgot that this a foreign invasion of the country.

1605 - Gunpowder Plot confirms what all already believed about Catholics. Namely that they are extremely crafty and never to be trusted.

1530 - St Felix's Flood destroys the city of Reimerswaal in The Netherlands going to show what happens when you cross the Great Editor Joseph Letts. All hail the Great Editor



I mean look at Pope Frnacis. Sure, he acts all liberal now, but as soon as you've relaxed your guard, that's when he'll set alight to the gunpowder under your parliament.

"Think you can calculate more accurate horoscope? Email hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk and give it a go!"

"Want to inflict your lack of literary skill upon the world?" Email hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk and give it a go!"

EDITORIALISM



King James I
Guest Editor

Parliament, 1605 - Following a heinous attempt on this regal editor's life on Tuesday, this Royal Highness insists we should be burning more Catholics. How can I, the King of England and

Scotland, ignore such a mean-spirited attempt on my life by those two Pope-loving, incense-sniffing Catho's - Catesby and Fawkes?

In fact, it would be highly un-royal of me not to burn as many bloody Catholics as I can get my hands on. I'd even burn my own mother, Mary 'Queen' of 'Scots', at this point.

However, simply burning effigies on this so-called Bonfire Night is not enough. From now on, every year, I, your Sire, insist that you burn real Catholics every November 5th from

now on.

And if we run out, go to Spain. There are fuck-loads there.

Let us not let these idolatry, indulgence-purchasing, guilt-ridden bastards have their sordid way with our parliaments.

So here is my advice to you, my subjects, crack out the dry wood; get your hands on a tinder-box; storm the nearest Catholic's house and tie the treasonous fuckers to the pyre.

Not so cocky now, Mr Pope. All glory to Martin Luther and the Protestants.

Mystery

The Hangman
Hangman Editor

You probably can't translate this can you?

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Felix in the past.



Hangman Editor In Employment Scandal

Timothy McSweeney
Hangman Reporter

Hangman has come under fire for exclusively using fictional reporters, prompting a review of Hangman employment policy. A series of damning complaints arose from real reporters who were refused work. These cited numerous reporters who were refused interview on the grounds that Hangman only hires fictionally.

The civil rights group Real Pride condemned the hiring policy, "We strongly object to the hiring policy at Hangman. Many reporters we've spoken to have been very well quali-

fied, but ignored simply because they existed."

The Fictional Writers Union (FWU) claims that the reason that so many fictional people are hired is due to a lack of regulation of fictional rights and that fictional reporters are on 0-hour contracts. Timothy McSweeney, the FWU rep for Hangman, said:

"Of course we want equal pay and benefits. What this all boils down to is respect. Hopefully this highlights the struggle of the fictional. Naturally, we don't face the same problems as realie, but we have fictional issues, like Illuminati putting ricin in our water."

"We are not going to take this lying down. We will be protest-

ing at Parliament all week. Have you heard the voices of 2000 fictional people? It's deafening, let me assure you."

When questioned, Hangman replied, "McSweeney, he takes a pen and paper and he gets it done. Unlike these real reporters, fictionals don't spend all day worrying about their social media presence, whatever that is."

"They actually research stories properly. They don't just copy from a press release handed to them by ICU, for example. Why, just the other night, Tim stayed in the Felix office until 11pm to finish a story."

"And when he was done, I locked him in the back room. You can't trust these fictional types, they'll steal anything that's not nailed down."

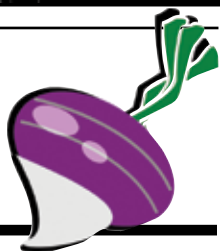


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FelixImperial

HANGMAN

the turnip



Hangman's Finest College News Source

Nation Confused Over Immigrants

"Is There Nothing Left To Unconditionally Hate?"

The Nation was reportedly confused this week after a study by UCL highlighted that immigrants from the European Economic Area (EEA) make a net contribution to the British economy. "Who are we supposed to hate now?" said numerous UK citizens following the revelations of the report.



"Are you seriously telling us that some of these people contribute meaningfully?"

"Great. Now we have to be more measured when we see a non-Brit working" The majority of the populace added.

The news that those from the EEA were contributing 34% more in taxes than they were claiming in benefits was met with low groans from across the country.

"For fuck's sake, can't we just fucking hate these fuckers already?"

"I mean they're foreign, surely they must be inferior, underhand or

downright lazy?" said a vast number of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The news has come as a particular nuisance to home students at Imperial College London, who, for some time have been secretly hoping that they're hate of the foreign students at the university was justified by some kind of statistical evidence.

"Oh great, you're telling me that all those French people in South Ken are actually helping our country.? Fan-fucking-tastic" said one student.

"Bloody UCL always looking for any opportunity to fuck us over"

CREEPY MANNEQUIN SUCCESSFULLY SCARING OFF ANTI-SCIENCE SPIRITS/



Middle Class Panics Over Wine Shortage "Don't Make Us Drink Kentish Wine"



The Grapes of Wrath - A middle class man gets angry with the vines.

Following the news this week that there was a global wine shortage last year, middle class-types up and down the country were sent into a wild, wine-buying frenzy.

The middle class everywhere pleaded with winemakers and vines across the world to increase their production.

"Please don't make us drink wine produced in this country"

"There's no sun here, it'll be gastly"

In a desperate attempt to get the wine flowing again, some middle class members flew to france and proceeded to shout at vines up and down the country.

"Please,if you have any mercy, find it within yourselves to grow those extra grapes" "Otherwise, what will the Johnson's next door say?"



ARIES

This week, you are ambushed by the bedraggled Felix editor in the JCR. Fed up of thinking up stupid horoscopes himself, he ties you up and forces you to write Hangman horoscopes under threat of torture. After you try to think of something funny, you...QUICK HE'S OUT EATING!! IN THE BACK OF THE FELIX OFFICE! SAVE ME!



TAURUS

This week, quite amused by the hamster horoscopes of last week, you decide to buy yourself a furry companion. However it turns out this little buddy, off the back of halloween, is actually channeling the soul of jack the ripper, and goes on a vicious killing spree ending up with your lecturer. Well at least no more coursework, right?



GEMINI

This week, tired of the halloween candy you have been eating for a week, you decide to have one final mega meal. You pour a whole bucket of sweets (including wrappers) into a cauldron and start stirring away. What you didn't know was that this sugary combination gives birth to a hideous demon from the netherworld, who once he hardens sufficiently, jumps out and eats you. Oh, the irony.



CANCER

This week, on a pleasant stroll through Exhibition road, you see a hideous chocolatey being from hell munching on tourists. As a chemistry student you are unfazed (you see demonic carbon chains all the time), and as you walk buy take a lick of the being's coarse sugary hide. Hmmmm, burnt skin and caramel, your favourite!



LEO

Today a fresher will come up to you asking for directions. You will give the poor kid wrong directions because you think its funny. This evil deed of yours will haunt you for life.



VIRGO

Today you will read the politics section of Felix. Amazed by the quality of the articles, you will decide to write for them too. This will subsequently result in good health and fortune in the future.



LIBRA

The misalignment of planets will result in bad fortune for you. A young man will come up to you offering you a ticket for the next Ministry of Sound event and you will accept it.



SCORPIO

You enter the Felix office dressed as the grim reaper. You leave with a thing, a kinky police officer and a twenty-something year old man. Funnily enough that's enough to tip you over the edge. You start reaping the souls of the young, you don't live for long. YDLFL



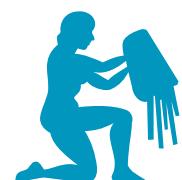
SAGITTARIUS

You pick up a hamster and walk towards the wall. Oh, wait, the hamster thing was last week. Late again. You look up and your lecturer is staring you right in the face. Whoops!



CAPRICORN

You look up from your desk to look at the class you're supposed to be teaching. You see a student reading Felix in the class instead of doing the problem sheet. Oh, well, you'll get them back in the exams, their handwriting is fairly distinctive.



AQUARIUS

You decide to start playing pokémon. After spending £200 quid on a 3DS and the game you then complete the game in a week. You would have had better value for money if you'd literally set fire to it in the street. At least watching the arts grads scrabble for £5 notes would provide some amusement.



PISCES

The machines in Sainsbury's piss you off to no end. At least you didn't have to use your AK, today must have been a good day.

PUZZLES

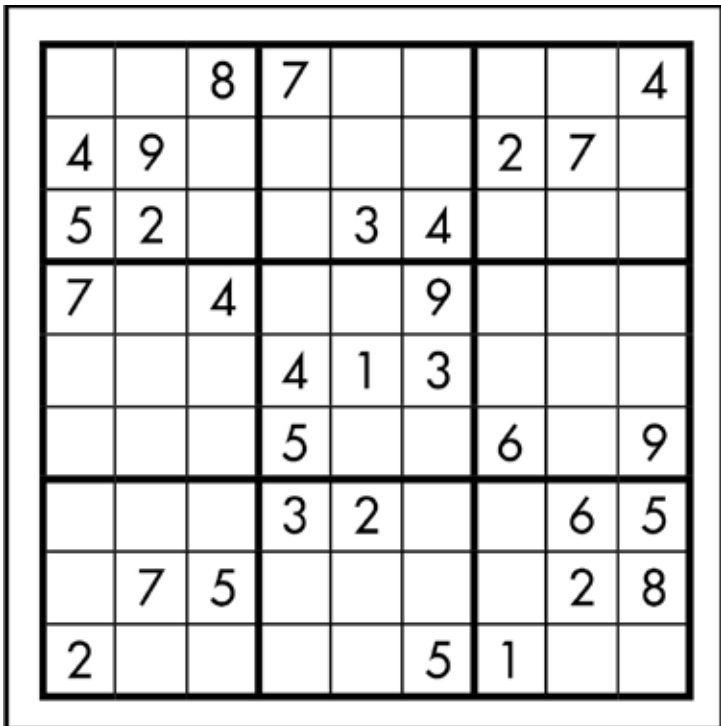
Puzzles Commanders:
Kingshuk Dasadhikari,
Oliver Price
puzzles.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Sudoku

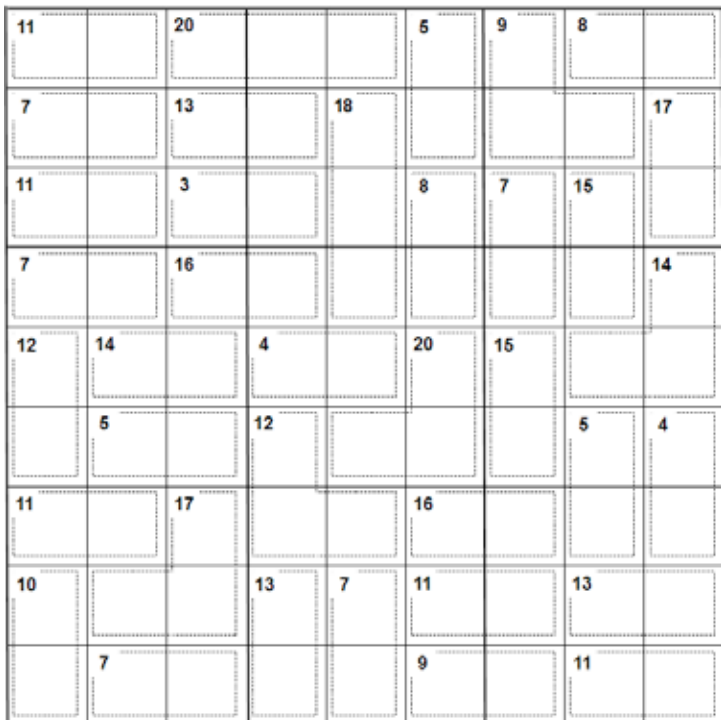
Each row, column, and 3 x 3 box must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9. That's all. Enjoy...

Harder:

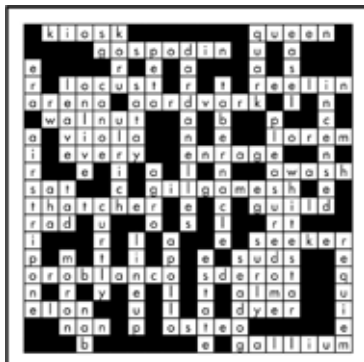


Killer:

No clues! Instead, the numbers in each cage must add up to the number in the top left. Numbers cannot be repeated in a cage. Tips: The numbers in each box, row and column must add up to 45. Look for cages with only one possible combination e.g. a two wide cage total 3 must contain 1 and 2 .

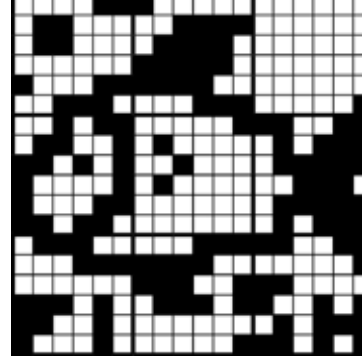


Last Week's Solutions

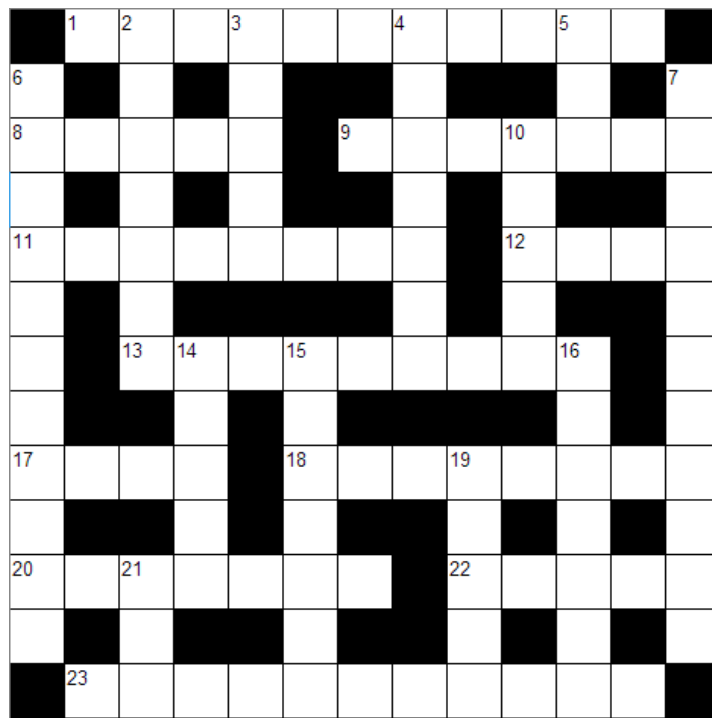


1	5	7	3	9	8	6	4	2
8	6	2	4	1	5	3	9	7
9	4	3	7	2	6	5	1	8
4	9	5	6	8	2	1	7	3
6	3	8	9	7	1	4	2	5
7	2	1	5	4	3	8	6	9
3	1	6	2	5	7	9	8	4
2	8	9	1	3	4	7	5	6
5	7	4	8	6	9	2	3	1

3	8	6	7	2	1	9	5	4
4	7	9	6	5	8	1	3	2
5	1	2	3	9	4	7	6	8
9	6	1	4	3	7	8	2	5
2	4	7	1	8	5	3	9	6
8	5	3	9	6	2	4	7	1
7	9	4	5	1	6	2	8	3
6	3	8	2	4	9	5	1	7
1	2	5	8	7	3	6	4	9

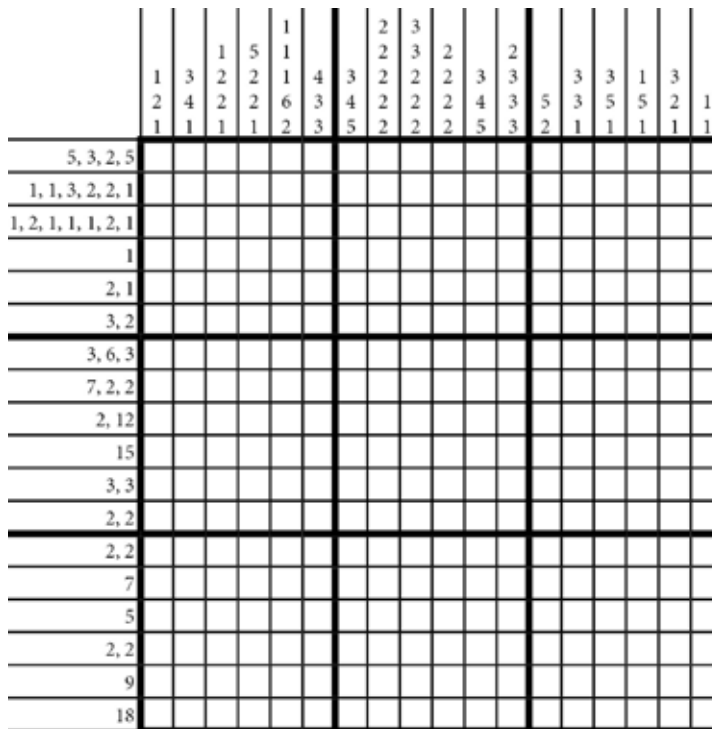


Crossword



Nonogram

The lengths of runs of shaded squares in each row and each column are given. Squares can only be shaded or unshaded. Solve the puzzle to unveil a pretty picture.



Crossword Clues

Across:

- 1. Attention holding (11)
- 8. Tough (anagram) (5)
- 9. Spectrum (7)
- 11. Ragged (8)
- 12. Spoiled child (4)
- 13. Nose Juror (anagram) - temporary resident (9)
- 17. Rational ability (4)
- 18. Elegant (8)
- 20. Funny (7)
- 22. West African country, capital Porto Novo (5)
- 23. Magic word (11)

Down:

- 2. Cancels (7)
- 3. Written on cake for Alice (3,2)
- 4. Defamation (7)
- 5. Point (3)
- 6. Breakfast style (11)
- 7. Confoederatio Helvetica (11)
- 10. Aristocrat (5)
- 14. Haven (5)
- 15. Without synthetics (7)
- 16. Purifier (7)
- 19. Hooded snake (5)
- 21. Computer storage format (3)

Have a puzzle to share?

Email it to us and we'll put it in the next issue!

Want this weeks solutions? Bonus puzzles?

Email us if you can't stand the thought of waiting.

FUCWIT League

nickwp	16.5
Jia Choo	14
Yufan Zhao	11
Adam Stewart	8.5
Helix	8
Juliette Chupin	6.5
Emma and Ben	4
Gabriel Quek	4
WJ	2

Scoring
Puzzles in by Tues.: 1 point
Puzzles in by Thurs.: 0.5 point
Graded scoring for difficult crosswords, even if incomplete.

Small, Medium, Large – What size is right for you?

The Careers Service
Imperial College London

No, we are not talking about T shirts or even skinny lattes; this is about the size of company you work for. It is all too easy to find yourself only considering the major multinationals as potential employers. This is partly because they recruit in volume and as a result have budgets to spend on marketing their opportunities and raising their profile on campus. But they are not the only option and in fact the data shows that, nationally, more graduates obtain their first job with an SME than with a major corporate. So let's investigate the pros and cons of what might be right for you.

What do we mean by an SME?



In a recent survey of undergraduates 36% of UK students reported that they did not know what an SME was. There is some debate about what constitutes an SME and the definition varies across countries and continents but general in Europe the three broad parameters can be defined as:

- Micro-entities are companies with up to 10 employees (often but not always Start-Ups)
- Small companies with up to 50 workers
- Medium-sized companies have up to 250 employees.

The Association of Graduate Recruiters (AGR) annual survey of graduate vacancies typically estimated approximately 20,000 opportunities provided by AGR member companies. These are mainly, although not exclusively large employers who recruit in volume so there is a big gap between this and the number of graduates each year. Out of the 300,000 or so undergraduate students who graduate in the UK each year

only about 10% will obtain work in a FTSE100 company so it makes sense to assume that many more graduates are finding work in smaller organisations.

Working for an SME - the Pros?

SMEs often work on a different recruitment cycle to large corporates. It is more common for them to recruit on an 'as required' basis so opportunities can appear throughout the year with more immediate start times. This is a benefit for those who wish to delay their job hunting until the spring or summer when many of the deadlines have passed for larger companies. SMEs may have a structured application process but often they are open to a direct speculative approach too. This can work particularly well for those interested in internships. Also SMEs are perhaps more open to internship applications from earlier year groups and not always restricting opportunities to penultimate year students.

Because SMEs have fewer employees you can expect to work in a close knit, perhaps more collaborative environment with possibly more access to senior management than in larger organisations as it is common for managers in smaller companies to be more involved in the day to day operation of the company. You may find a more open and supportive atmosphere with less hierarchy. In a smaller organisation your contribution may be much more visible which can allow you to feel a greater sense of achievement and recognition of your work, helping you feel more engaged with the aims of the company. Smaller organisations may also provide a more flexible working environment with opportunities to work across different projects and to determine your trajectory within the company. The companies tend by their nature to be more agile and fast moving and so can be a great experience in fast tracking your career but you need to develop resilience and self-confidence to ensure that you keep up and seize the benefits.

But what are the cons?

The slightly less formal structure might not suit everyone. If you are hoping for a well-defined role and clear cut route for your career then an SME might not suit you. Unlike larger companies who recruit

substantial cohorts of graduates at one time you may find you are the only new graduate working for a small company. As such it will be up to you to establish yourself and plan for your training and development in a more proactive way than on an established graduate scheme. This does not mean that you will not get the support you need and in fact it might be more personally tailored but there is no doubt that you will have to take more responsibility for making the most of any opportunities. Unlike larger graduate schemes where you may well have set rotations around different departments and your experience determined for the first one to two years in an SME it will be more likely that you need to network with colleagues to gain opportunities to develop your experience. This approach suits some but not all so think through what you will be most comfortable with.

Another slight downside is that smaller companies are more likely to have a less structured salary package so again you may need to take the initiative in establishing how and when your pay will be reviewed. If you prove your worth and have the confidence then this need not be a disadvantage and in fact could lead to bigger earnings in the long run.

How do you find the companies?

SMEs are far less likely to make a splash on campus but they are there and just take a little more effort to seek out. Even at the big careers fairs you will be surprised how many of the companies attending fall into the SME category, particularly in the Technology sector where SMEs abound. JobsLive is a good starting point where more than half of the 7300 companies registered employ less than 250 staff and just over 3000 have under fifty employees.

There are also two useful sections on the Careers Service website on how to research companies and links to resources:

imperial.ac.uk/careers/ug/research

imperial.ac.uk/careers/resources/weblinks/researchjobs/companies

What about Start Ups?

Start Ups by definition tend to be small businesses. Some remain small and some grow into giants and many familiar names have followed

this trajectory in recent years. Start Ups can be a great experience for some but they are possibly not for the risk averse among us. If you are interested in developing your entrepreneurial skills and learning how a business develops then being in at the start with a company can be hugely rewarding. Consider what you have to offer a Start Up company. Is it business acumen, technical knowledge, a specific practical skill or work experience background? Also think through what they have to offer you in terms of career development, skills and knowledge enhancement and reward. Be cautious of the Equity Share only offer with no basic salary. This is common among Start Ups and is a particularly risky proposition. You may feel that it is worth the gamble and of course for some the rewards in the long run can be fantastic but also consider the percentage of small Start Ups who do not survive into their second or third year. It is perhaps safer to negotiate at least a small basic salary along with some potential for shared equity in the longer term. Each year nationally about 4.5% of new graduates set up their own businesses immediately after graduation. This is a relatively small percentage and possibly reflects the fact that although many graduates harbour the thought of being their own boss most feel it is safer to gain some experience of the business world at someone else's expense first before launching into self-employment. Getting involved in business competitions and entrepreneurial student challenges is a good way to test out your aptitude for developing a business. Details of business challenges notified to us at Imperial can be found at: imperial.ac.uk/careers/ug/competitions

Some challenges may also be notified direct to your department. As part of our Wednesday afternoon skills sessions we also run employer led business games which can help develop your skills. Details can be found on JobsLive.

If you are interested in setting up your own business then further advice and resources can be found at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/careers/ug/start

There is also support and links to useful resources available from the Entrepreneur Hub of the Business School at:

imperial.ac.uk/entrepreneurship

The Careers Service

Careers Events

Workshop

11 November, 12:30 – 14:00
Preparing For Assessment Centres
- Presentation Skills
Apply via Jobs Live

Seminar

11 November, 16:15 – 17:15
Assessment Centres

Workshop

12 November, 12:30 – 14:00
Preparing for Assessment Centres
- In-Tray / E-tray Exercises

Seminar

**12 November, 16:15 – 17:15 &
14 November, 16:15 – 17:15**
Create a Winning CV

Lunchtime Careers Talk

12 November, 13:00 – 13:50
An overview of finance in a FMCG company

Workshop

13 November, 12:30 – 14:00
Group Mock Interview

Seminar

13 November, 16:15 – 17:15
Effective Applications

Personality Test Workshop

13 November, 13:15 – 17:00
Myers Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI)
Book in person at Careers Service - £7 fee and £10 deposit required (correct change only!)

Employer-Led Skills Workshop

13 November, 13:30 – 15:30
Mock Assessment Centre (CIMA)
Book in person at Careers Service - £10 deposit required (correct change only!)

Workshop

14 November, 12:30 – 14:00
Preparing For Assessment Centres
- Group Activities

Lunchtime Careers Talk

14 November, 13:00 – 13:50
Science & Engineering Careers in Space related Industries

Careers Fair

14 November, 17:00 – 19:30
I.T. & Technology Careers Fair



IC Football serenely brush aside UCL 3-0

Peter Nugent reports as Imperial College's 1st XI show UCL how it's done



On Wednesday 30 October, we had a big day ahead of us. A wade to Nando's to eat all of their chicken and take over their top floor, followed by ACC. Matchboxes would be thrown, pints would be downed and crap costumes would be destroyed on site.

Before all that promise though, there was a football match to be played (believe it or not). It wasn't just any old football match either; this was a grudge match with our less intellectual neighbours (all other London unis), it was an absolute must win game that would see us go 2nd in our BUCS league that we had just been promoted to. Nothing was going to plan straight from the off, when one of our centre backs Omar 'I'm the Fastest Man in IC Without Ever Leaving 2nd Gear' Amjad pulled out injured with a calf strain, probably from all that rapid jogging. Rumours suggested it was due to an unorthodox warm up proposed by Captain Robinson, involving his girlfriend, however Captain Robinson was conveniently 'missing' during the pre-match warm up and unable to comment. The second blow was dealt when we received the news of having to get changed at Little Harlington,

the solitary confinement prison cell of changing rooms.

Regardless of the above we got out early on to the 3G, the Megan Fox of university football grounds, and started our traditional pre-match routine of high knees and high ankles. After what seemed to be an eternity, UCL decided to turn up, clearly having spent most of their morning debating whether or not to actually make the journey to Harlington by public transport just so they could receive a well measured on-pitch beating. They had a really quick warm up, probably equivalent to how long they last in the bedroom, and were thrust (wahey) on to the pitch where we had been waiting for nearly an hour. We were absolutely all over them in the first 20 minutes and they had no idea what to do with the ball.

Something just wasn't clicking for IC, Abou Ela-Bourquin was looking for the long diagonal but it just wasn't coming off. The deadlock was almost broken when Captain Robinson was put through on goal; but their CB had other ideas and absolutely destroyed him from behind. It was definitely inside the penalty area but the referee absolutely bottled it and gave a free kick and no card. It was at this point where Hill decided the ref had gone

into the options menu on FIFA and turned off cards altogether, but 9 cases of assault later and Hill was finally brandished a yellow card, something that is almost as regular to him as brushing his teeth twice daily. UCL finally worked out which way they were shooting and put some pressure on our goal; it was at this point Bofarull stopped packing his suitcase and brushing his brilliant Pantene Pro-V mop of hair and came to life, making a superb close range save to tip the ball over the bar for a corner.

We cleared the corner to the right wing where Murphy pushed on with the ball, Nielsen who was originally on the front post overlapped with more energy than a ferret on heat. Somewhere in that attack the ball was lost and it came to the UCL centre back who decided, as the last man, it was an ideal time to pull off a Cruyff turn. Nielsen, who was still running from the front post, nicked in and pinched the ball off him, putting him one on one with their keeper.

Nielsen, utterly unaccustomed with one on one contact, couldn't look him in the eyes and decided to look at the far post instead and casually stroked the ball into the near corner with the outside of his boot, leaving the keeper stranded, legs open, in the middle of

the goal. Dominated. Cries of sheer surprise erupted around Harlington seeing Nielsen so far up the pitch, after his FIFA-esque goal celebrations he had to receive treatment on the side-lines for a shock nosebleed, who would have thought?

IC went in at half time 1-0 up, in case you mysteriously skipped down to the third paragraph. We knew we had to keep up the intensity, and we had to press as a team when they kept it at the back because they were about as comfortable at the back as James 'Frosstyyyyy' Frost is with a drunken, steaming iNuge screaming in his face from close quarters on a Wednesday night after a few Blackthorns.

The second half kicked off and it was all about IC, Maizonnier summed up the industrial side of the game working hard to assist goal scorer Nielsen at the back. Beasley and Hill worked tirelessly in the midfield while Kolawole Ayanwale effortlessly provided the link between the midfield and Captain Robinson. The hard work all paid off when Murphy got down the left wing with his back to goal, Nugent overlapped in a blur of blue and red, Murphy played a back heel to Nugent who played it through to Ayanwale in the penalty box. Ayanwale had forced a save from a similar position

in the first half; instead he laid it off to Captain Robinson who, with his back to goal, dropped a shoulder like it was hot, sent the defender to soccer camp before turning the other way and burying the ball in to the back of the net. 2-0 up but the match, you'll be pleased to hear, was far from over.

A solid defensive display from IC meant that UCL were reduced to shots from far, one of those came off their post and they tried their best to score, fortunately for us the pressure was almost too great but after successfully hitting the post a second time within the space of a second the attack was quelled by Diaz. Captain Robinson came off shortly after, some say it was a pulled groin from the pre match warm up, others say it was a twisted ankle, but either way Shamsi made an appearance, initially with a snood that he was told to either take it off or down it.

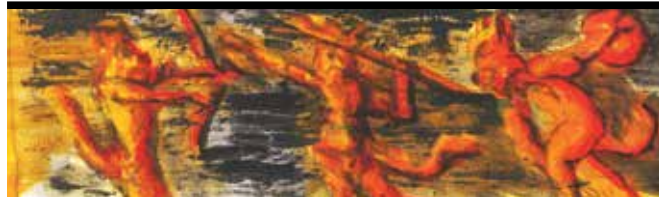
Luckily the ref never saw his bathrobe in the post match showers. Charrel also made an appearance, and with a good touch and making some tough tackles he was impressive on his 1s debut; however a second injury meant that Crawford had to be called in to action. The responsible sober giant was not too keen to play; some say he had the flu, but rumour has it he was keen to make a quick getaway to catch the school run.

Regardless of his post match activity, he played a solid role in seeing the game out that was wrapped up with Murphy running half the pitch past numerous defenders, with decoy runs made by Shamsi and Nugent playing a key role in diverting the attention of the defenders. Murphy played a sumptuous one-two off their keeper's hands and forced the ball in to the back of the net, not the only thing he forces in on a Wednesday.

At a 3-0 whitewash, the game was over and IC had come out on top. It was a convincing victory in a must win BUCS match. The only variable of the day had gone our way, Nando's and ACC to follow were sure bets to top off possibly the best day in history. If Carlsberg did match days...

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SPORT

IC Windsurfing give encouraging performance

Sam Cooper
Windsurfer

This weekend, Imperial Windsurfing Club descended on Cornwall for Aussie Kiss, the largest windsurfing festival in the UK and highlight of the student windsurfing calendar. With teams coming from as far as Glasgow, the pressure was on to make it down in time for the Friday night party. With the fastest, most efficient rush hour avoidance scheme in club history, we made record time out of London and were encountering new and exciting forms of debauchery by midnight.

On Saturday morning, there was a perfect beginner wind. We sent our beginners out to join the 156 newbies hitting the water for the first time, accompanied by the club instructors to supervise, for what must be the biggest mass lesson in the UK! Following a quick simulator session, the beginners went out in force and were soon sailing up and down brilliantly with only a few tows back upwind. As the afternoon wore on, the wind began to build and build. We rigged our sails and got down to the beach in short order, with every single club member making it out onto the water. Beginner Sam, who headed

straight back out onto the water, despite the massive wind, to hone his skills, showed particularly strong form. In the meantime, the intermediates continued to push themselves, leading to several rescues and some epic kit breakages! Exhausted but happy, we were shooed off the water and headed back to the campsite.

Once there, the fancy dress madness began. The overall theme for the party was Jury Summons as it was AK12. Having considered and discarded going as snowmen ("Just ice!") on the basis that we'd have been explaining it all evening, Imperial had shot gunned the sub-theme of "The Mob" and as such it was an extremely smart bunch of trilby-ed, suspended gangsters and molls who weaved their way down to the party. Avoiding the Di-Octo bong (or not) as character dictated, the dancing and caravan hopping began and lasted well into the morning.

By Sunday morning, excitement had reached fever pitch. *The Daily Herald* had informed us that this would be the windiest day for 25 years (Minibus master Matt's mum had texted him to be careful driving in the gale force winds) we were ready to hit the lake! Nursing sore heads, we bossed the caravan clear up before piling into the minibus. When we arrived, the gusts were so strong that you could see them raising half-foot ripples across the surface of the lake. Needless to

say, "Doctor Extraordinaire" Tom was out on the water before we could even complain about putting on our wet wetsuits and he proceeded to blister up and down at the most ferocious speed while we watched the pros go from the shore.

Defying the forecast, the wind calmed a little in time for the racing. Sadly, it was still too strong for the beginners to race – a massive pity as our beginners had shown some really considerable progress over the weekend and we had high hopes of getting some medal winners! Progressing to the team racing, Tom, President Sam and first-time racer Izzy took to the water to show off their skills. Despite a dramatic beginning where a cheeky side attack from Liverpool trapped him downwind, Sam whipped away, leaving the ex-Club President (who abandoned us for Exeter this year) gasping in his wake. Tom continued in the same vein, bringing us up to a nail-biting second place with an awesome plane out and a clean gybe.

Unfortunately, Izzy was unable to hold position following an unlucky gybe and we finished in a still-respectable fifth place. As the clouds started to close over, we dragged Mayliss and Will off the water and packed up to head home, refreshed and rejuvenated after a wonderful weekend away.

ICU WINDSURFING



ICU WINDSURFING



Duncan Dumbreck

Eagles squeak past Royal Holloway in close game

Stefan Bauer
Handball Secretary

The Imperial Eagles Handball Club has started their new campaign with a hard-fought victory over newcomers Royal Holloway on Saturday, and are now amongst the favourites to win the first ever LUSL Handball League.

Over the summer, all London-based University Handball Clubs had put a lot of work into a combined LUSL application in order to play amongst like-minded clubs and further the whole sports' application to the BUCS network. Last weekend marked the first match day of the newly established LUSL Men's Handball Division and Imperial was set to face Royal Holloway for the first time ever.

After a rather long journey to the SPORHOUSE in Barking, a venue that serves as a painful reminder of the failure that is the Olympic Legacy, the Eagles saw their opposition for the first time and had to come to the realisation that this game would not be the push-over they were expecting for the first game of the season. What Royal Holloway was lacking in experience, they more than compensated for with individual class. Their francophone comrades on the left wing and the right back positions would prove to be difficult to control and their counter-attacking style was very efficient.

From the first attack onwards the game was very heated and hotly contested and after 14 minutes played, the Eagles found themselves trailing with 7:4 goals, leading to the first team time-out. The opponent's tactical set-up was ad-

ressed and spirits were rekindled, which quickly refocused Imperial's team and saw them clawing back goal after goal. Some questionable refereeing and some sloppy finishing meant that at half time, the Eagles found themselves one goal behind their opponents at 15:14.

After a detailed analysis at half-time and a change in their defensive set-up, which saw Royal Holloway's dangerous right-handed winger cut-off or alternatively the left-back man marked in order to slow their attacking waves, Imperial finally found their way into the game. The goal deficit was quickly turned into a 2-goal lead and with Stefan Bauer in goal finally finding his form, Royal Holloway soon found themselves trailing by 4 goals.

A highly debatable call by the referee saw Imperials' David HoSchmi sent off with 20 minutes to play and threw the hosts from north London a life-line. However, unlike in previous years, the Eagles kept their cool, continued to be clinical in front of goal and held on to their lead. Royal Holloway tried to open their little box of tricks, but their attempts to unnerve Imperial were to no avail. After 60 minutes the final score was 27:29 for Imperial.

Club President Rishi De-Kayne was ecstatic after the encounter: "What an exciting game! This is why we went through all the trouble of setting up the Uni League. It's great to play competitive matches against teams with the same standard and mindset. Admittedly, this was a very close game, but everyone in the team really worked hard and stayed focused when it mattered. If we keep playing like this, I fancy our chances this season."



ICU HANDBALL



My First Triathlon: Hever Castle Half-Ironman

Rebecca Rowe gives her account as Imperial record good times against 5000

I signed up to do the gauntlet with Imperial Triathlon Club because (a) it was half price for students, and (b) it's at a castle! I don't think it is really the done thing to do a half ironman as your first triathlon but I thought it was a great idea because I would be able to relax and get into it over the day, rather than be rushing around in a sprint. It turned out fine for me, so my first piece of advice is to recommend doing whatever distance you like the sound of as your first race.

The Hever Castle Triathlon festival was alive with over 5,000 competitors aged between 7 and 70 years old enjoying a race to complement their level, from the children's sprint to the Gauntlet half ironman, all around the stunning grounds and countryside. The race course was lined by thousands of supportive spectators cheering on everyone taking part. Piece this together with the live music, food, castle grounds and entertainment and you've got a killer race day. David McNamee, ranked 13th in the world, and Ironman reigning champion, Lucy Gossage, were the course favourites on the new half iron distance racing alongside many first timers and university teams.

I hadn't done much training so I was feeling a bit nervous when my alarm went off at 5:30am on the morning of the big day. I clambered out of my tent and wandered down to transition and the race briefing with Josh (my boyfriend and supporter for the day), Pit Pillatsch, and Nick Brierley (fellow members of Imperial Triathlon Club). After a briefing on safety and the course it was time to get going.

The mist cleared across the lake and a hot air balloon rose up over the course, giving those spectators what can only be imagined as the prime race course view.

Close to 300 Gauntlet competitors entered the water awaiting the cannon to go off. I said goodbye to Pit and Nick and as instructed, slid down the slimy steps on my bum into the ornamental lake, where you could actually walk out to the middle on a carpet of weeds! I made for the start line, feeling too nervous to be cold, and positioned myself at the back to one side of the group because I didn't want to be swum over by all the super-fast swimmers when the gun went off. As it turned out I spent pretty much all of the swim trying to pass the people in front; next time I need to be

much more aggressive and sprint off the front. We first swam in a straight line out into the lake, and then turned into a narrow channel for the second half of the 1.9 km course, through the River Eden and around the 16-acre island. The crowd support from the banks and bridges was amazing and I was soon being hauled out of the water and running back towards transition.

Pit had a great swim and was already in T1 when I got there, simultaneously encouraging me and getting out on his bike at lightning speed. I took transition at a more leisurely pace – I was fully aware it would be a long day and I wanted to stay as comfy and relaxed as possible to make sure I finished. After 15 minutes, an energy bar and a quick hug from Josh I was on my way to the 90km bike course.

This was the part I was most worried about, having ridden a road bike only four times ever before the race I was definitely venturing into the unknown here. Within about 5 km I had already bounced my bike bottle out of its holder on a pothole leaving me very thirsty until the first water station at 20 km, where I surprised the volunteers by coming to a complete halt to pick up a new water bottle because I wasn't confident enough to do it riding along like everyone else. It was a beautiful hilly course with great views and the weather was perfect so I settled in and really enjoyed it. Towards the end, the low riding position became very painful to maintain and it was my back rather than my legs that thanked me as I finally reached T2 and ran back to my rack, 5 hours after I had left it.

I only spent 10 minutes in transition this time, and got out on to the run feeling good. Maybe I felt a bit too good as I accidentally ran my first mile in 7 minutes, which is about my 5 km pace (so it was a good thing I looked at my watch and slowed down before I completely destroyed my legs). From the 4th mile, I had begun walking about half of each mile depending where the hills were. The course was lovely with two castles and lots of nice gardens and fields so it felt like no time until I was onto the last 5 km. With the volunteers shouting great encouragement such as "You look... er... OK!" and "You're not last!" I jogged home, even adding a wobbly sprint finish at the end to clock 8:26. I was tired, but I'd had a brilliant day out and I was thrilled to have finished the course which was much tougher, and more scenic than I was expecting.

Pit and Nick both had great races with 5:20 and 5:44 finishes, not too far behind the top of the field with eventual winner Karl Alexander setting a time of 04:40:31, and David McNamee coming on 20 seconds after to take

IC 7s steal victory from St George's in 6-5 thriller

Julian Iacoponi

7th XI Football Player

On Wednesday 30th October, with the chill of Halloween whistling through the drab skies of autumnal London, the 7s gathered for what turned out to be, appropriately, a thriller.

Our journey to the ground mirrored the match in some ways, but not in others: a long time spent on the tram lines seemed appropriate given the tennis-like back-and-forth nature (and indeed score) of the game, although the number of stops along that journey did not reflect the equivalent number achieved by either defence.

After an unexpectedly professional warm up – with extra focus on those key triceps stretches – the team started strongly, with Myles Jarvis and Sam 'Dzeko' Duffield linking up well in attack.

An unfortunate non-decision by the referee (who conveniently was their player) on a clear down-the-line push on Luke Looney led to their first attack of the match, which, after a sloppily missed tackle, led to the first goal. One-love St. George's.

Heads still up, the 7s rallied and started to move toward the opposition net with greater frequency and Phil Gantner showing his class in midfield. Great movement from a throw-in led to a crisp pass from Phil across the six-yard box for Julian Iacoponi to place carefully through the legs of the keeper with a firm side-foot finish. One-all, no breaks yet.

After a couple of missed chances, complacency set in and the opposition began to dominate proceedings, bouncing back well. Again, a set of poorly missed tackles led to a (legitimate this time) penalty, which the St. George's striker aced passed the palms of 7s keeper Zain 'Dodgeball' Abbas. Perhaps such ball-dodging practice didn't come in handy in this situation? A few minutes later, slack marking off a corner led to their centre-back – one of those men who look more at home in a pub than on a football pitch – who headed in. At 3-1 for St. George's, the 7s needed to buck the trend and break back.

Some strong tackles by Phil

'Gersty' Gerstenberg at right-back sparked the team back on track: timing the ball well and challenging cleanly, with Vivek Dava in midfield asserting himself on the match. The ever-reliable Phil Gantner struck a lovely through-ball to Myles Jarvis' piercing cross-pitch run, which was followed by a slotted finish. 3-2 down at halftime, we had broken back and were eager to serve up that equaliser, and then some.

At the change of ends – all triceps crucially still intact – player-manager-captain Jamie Goodier, who was just a piece of chewing gum away from emulating the classic SAF look, sporting a thick black coat; made no substitutions, with the only change coming in the referee position – a role appointed to a reluctant but gallant Rob 'The Fresher' Harris.

The second period frenzied into an abuse-gargling affair; treacherous tackles teetering on the terminal were scattered from the two teams, elevating the temperature of this testing tête-à-tête from moderate to intense. Sebastian Gosden certainly deserves acclaim for his positively Etonian attitude to abuse he received as linesman: "Please gentlemen, you're all simply embarrassing yourselves" – indeed it could not have been phrased more elegantly.

Almost every decision caused controversy, with St. George's feeling 'robbed' by the referee when a penalty was awarded – legitimately – for handball off an attacking Luke Looney header, a great spot by the hawk-eyed fresher. Myles Jarvis stepped up to take it, but after sliding the ball weakly toward the middle of the goal... he scored. As previously mentioned, there were indeed very few stops in this game.

Three-all, the game back on serve, we began to serve up some improved football ourselves. Matt Taylor moving into centre-back provided stability. A slick one-two move between Dzeko and Julian sliced open the St. George's defence, with a Van Persie-esque left foot boom into the near top corner from the 4th team first-year banking the seventh goal, ever-crucial in any football match as every fan must know.

4-3 up and with Matt Taylor moving into the referee position, the 7's standard dropped again,

with the sloppiness from early in the first half returning. A couple of close calls in defence, including a goal-line block from Kingson Opasina, only delayed the inevitable St. George's equaliser.

At 4-4, the game again turned, with its end-to-end nature almost ironically not actually coming to an end. A cleanly struck ball from Julian into the feet of Myles resulted in a slow toe-poke attempt toward the goalkeeper. Vitally, this shot was at least on target, and with the keeper's attempt at a save horribly feeble, it trickled in. Trick or treat? This was certainly a treat.

The standard again fell from the 7s, with the opposition's best player taking matters into his own hands (or should I say feet?). Their stellar no.4 ran around four less stellar 7s, and scored with a cultured cross-goal finish. Five-all – this match needed a tiebreaker.

With the game deteriorating in quality faster than a Kingson 100m, Myles again stepped up after some neat interplay with Julian on the left wing and provided a threatening cross toward the back post. A looming Luke Looney, who laboured nobly all game, launched himself towards the ball and lashed the header towards goal. The lax goalkeeper had little hope as he groped at the air, leaving the ball lying in the net and the 7s in the driver's seat (despite not actually having a qualified minibus driver). With the score at 6-5, and the tiebreaker swinging our way, the final whistle blew. Game, set and match.

All triceps still nice and limber, we shook hands with the opposition, and thanked the numerous referees. A hard fought war of a game behind us, Nandos and ACC night awaited to reward the battle-weary #SocialSevens. Peace out.

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SPORT

IC Netball: Ballin' in Brighton

Harriet Rumgay reports as Imperial enjoy a game against Sussex.

Immortals slay the Dragons 26-0

Henry Badham
Immortals Press Secretary



IC AMERICAN FOOTBALL

After a preseason win against Sussex Saxons, the Immortals were ready to take on Westminster Dragons at Harlington in their first regular season game.

The first half opened with big drives up the field from the Immortals, and the Dragons being reduced to punting away possession. The scoring was opened by Emanuel Olagbaju who broke several tackles to rush in from 25-yards.

Hutchinson continued to stop the Dragons' pass game whilst Guillaume Fontan stopped the run. The rookie quarterback, Toby Sinclair, then snuck into the end zone from 1-yard, and with the 2-point conversion completed by Duncan MacKinnon the lead was 14-0 going into half time.

The strong opening continued into the second half. The Dragons tried to catch out the Immortals with an onside kick, but luckily Charlie Edwardson was in position to recover the ball. Sinclair rushed in for another score, which was followed by a goal line stop by the Immortal's defense.

The win was sealed when veteran Tino Millar caught a 30-yard pass from Joe. The Immortals' defence made another stop and the hard-fought game was over. Next week the Immortals travel to Greenwich Mariners for what promises to be another exciting game.

Here at Imperial College Netball HQ we had high hopes for our first ever freshers' tour. With Nancy Edge as the club's Tour Secretary, and a trip to Brighton in the midst, it was bound to be a great weekend for all! However, no freshers signed up so it was going to be a committee bonding session if nothing else!

After bad news about Club Captain Toni Semmence's ankle the same week, treasurer Harriet Rumgay was all too ready to cancel the trip as on tour-eve it was looking like we would only have 6 players to take to Sussex Uni. After much peer pressure by club member Emily Rolfe, our treasurer was persuaded to go ahead with the trip, especially after having called up the hostel in Brighton to see about getting a refund on the rooms and being told "no refunds... but you can still cancel if you want?" swiftly replying with "we'll keep all the rooms then!"

On the morning of the tour our treasurer had calmed down enough to take the driver's seat, only to find the engine warning light staring straight at her. Throwing caution to the wind we climbed aboard and set off for Brighton in style, all thanks to Surf Soc who left their Cornwall sing-along CDs in the glove compartment with a few pre-tour mix-tapes. Thanks guys!

The traffic was horrendous. So were the drivers. With many cut-ins and close encounters, we took to the bus lane a lot more than we would have liked. With "GET OUT OF MY BUS LANE" a common scream from the driver's seat, it was not looking good for our match in 2 hours' time. We finally hit the motorway where, sadly, someone had hit something else causing huge delays coming into Brighton. After a wrong-turn or 2 we arrived an hour late for our matches, however the Sussex Uni girls were more than happy to see us and we got straight into game-play.

Somehow the Club Captain's ankle had miraculously recovered as she took to playing C like a duck to water. With the tour secretary choosing the team's positions, and everyone switching anyway, we found out a couple of our keepers were actually pretty good shooters, a couple of our shooters were pretty good defenders, and that Emily Rolfe was just good at everything!

After our matches we set off to the beach. On the way social secretary Georgie Weston showed her social skills in getting us a shout out on Radio 1, though we didn't really know what it said as we all screamed when

we heard "Imperial Netball..." Oops! Anyway, this set our spirits high for the night ahead and we made our way over to the seafront to grab some fish & chips and hit the pier! Whoever thought the waltzes and dodgems were a good idea after a full meal must have been mad; however the girls kept it all down and decided to go for a paddle in the sea...

So most of the girls just went to dip their toes in the water... not our social Secretaries! Georgie and Zoe Hudson leapt straight in, after confirming that Georgie is actually a qualified life guard, and cooled off in the huge waves. Then it was time to find the hostel and get ready for our night on the town!

After finding out a little bit more about each other we set off to meet the girls from Sussex Uni for a bit of a hoe down with some bunnies. Soon enough, someone at the Halloween party downstairs threw a stink bomb so we took it as our cue to leave. "We didn't want to stay at your Yates's anyway!"

We moved on to Funfair where Georgie was mistaken for a model and had her picture taken with some randoms, and soon enough we were all knackered. Our Club Captain got told to put her shoes back on or leave (classy lady). Treasurer was being a responsible driver so we decided it was time to go. About 20 minutes later the Sussex Uni girls finally finished their goodbyes and we braced the gale force winds and rain for the short sprint back to the hostel.

With the clocks having gone back an hour it was way too early to call it a night so we popped to the nearest kebab shop for some grub. Sponsor secretary Ella Mårtenson used her persuasive skills in securing a pretty big deal with her garlic mayo; meanwhile our fixtures secretary Laura Kor absolutely demolished her burger, whereas Georgie smeared hers all over her face, hands and the table... It was definitely time for bed.

After a few hours' shutweye we were up early to pick at the "continental" breakfast and get back in the minibus. We made it to London in good time after some excellent eco-driving from the Treasurer- always thinking of the club's money, obviously- and just before the storm hit!

All in all we had a great time in Brighton and would like to thank the Sussex Uni girls for their hospitality, and everyone who came on tour for making it a success!

We have also gained a new committee member as what would be honorary secretary, but we already have one of those, so she can be our legendary secretary- Emily Rolfe!

BUCS Home Fixtures

13th November 2013

BADMINTON

MENS 1ST VS HERTFORDSHIRE
TIME TBA
HARROW CLUB

MENS 3RD (MEDICS) VS MENS 2ND
TIME TBA
VENUE TBA

WOMENS 2ND (MEDICS) VS KCL
TIME TBA
VENUE TBA

BASKETBALL

MENS 2ND (MEDICS) VS WEST LONDON
16:00
ETHOS

WOMENS 1ST VS SURREY
18:00
ETHOS

FENCING

MENS 3RD VS ESSEX
13:00
ETHOS

FOOTBALL

MENS 4TH VS KCL
14:00
HARLINGTON SPORTS GROUND

MENS 5TH (MEDICS) VS WESTMINSTER
14:00
TEDDINGTON SPORTS GROUND

HOCKEY

MENS 2ND (MEDICS) VS HERTFORDSHIRE
TIME TBA
VENUE TBA

MENS 4TH (MEDICS) VS MENS 3RD
TIME TBA
VENUE TBA

WOMENS 4TH (MEDICS) VS EAST LONDON
TIME TBA
INDIAN GYMKHANA

MENS 1ST VS ESSEX
13:30
HARLINGTON SPORTS GROUND

WOMENS 3RD VS CANTERBURY
15:00
HARLINGTON SPORTS GROUND

MENS 6TH (MEDICS) VS MENS 5TH
16:30
HARLINGTON SPORTS GROUND

LACROSSE

WOMENS 2ND VS CANTERBURY
14:00
HARLINGTON SPORTS GROUND

NETBALL

WOMENS 4TH VS LONDON MET
13:30
TEDDINGTON SPORTS GROUND

WOMENS 7TH (MEDICS) VS READING
14:45
TEDDINGTON SPORTS GROUND

WOMENS 1ST (MEDICS) VS PORTSMOUTH
14:30
ETHOS

WOMENS 6TH VS SURREY
13:30
TEDDINGTON SPORTS GROUND

WOMENS 2ND VS MIDDLESEX
13:00
ETHOS

WOMENS 5TH (MEDICS) VS EAST LONDON
14:45
TEDDINGTON SPORTS GROUND

RUGBY UNION

WOMENS 1ST VS PORTSMOUTH
14:00
HARLINGTON SPORTS GROUND

MENS 2ND (MEDICS) VS KENT
14:00
TEDDINGTON SPORTS GROUND

MENS 4TH (MEDICS) VS READING
14:00
TEDDINGTON SPORTS GROUND

MENS 3RD VS KENT
14:00
HARLINGTON SPORTS GROUND

SQUASH

MENS 1ST VS PORTSMOUTH
14:00
ETHOS

MENS 3RD VS ESSEX
16:30
ETHOS

TABLE TENNIS

MENS 2ND VS KENT
16:30
ETHOS

TENNIS

MENS 3RD VS EAST LONDON
TIME TBA
VENUE TBA

VOLLEYBALL

MENS 1ST VS SURREY
TIME TBA
VENUE TBA

WOMENS 1ST VS BRUNEL
TIME TBA
VENUE TBA



Premier League Predictions

James White
Football Columnist

Man United v Arsenal (Sunday 4:10pm, Sky Sports 1)

What contrasting starts to the season these two teams have had. The signing of Mesut Ozil has brought much-needed attacking nous to Arsene Wenger's outfit, whereas Marouane Fellaini is fast becoming a transfer flop. For Arsenal it is all about maintaining their current form – their run of matches between now and Christmas is unenviable and they mustn't let their performances slip as they have in recent years. Meanwhile, United's title challenge is only still alive because Man City and Chelsea have been so inconsistent. But because of that I think they will want the win more and there were certainly a lot of positives to take from their strong show against Fulham.

Prediction: 2-1

Sunderland v Man City (Sunday 2:05pm, Sky Sports 1)

There were precious few signs of the bounce we were all expecting from Sunderland at Hull last week after their derby victory against Newcastle. By contrast, City claimed their biggest ever Premier League win against Norwich last week and for them it is all about producing those kinds of performances week in, week out. The Black Cats may have a good recent home record against Man City, but having two of their starting 11 out through suspension won't help their cause. All the signs point to a City win.

Prediction: 0-3

Tottenham v Newcastle (Sunday 12pm, Sky Sports 1)

Newcastle did really well to beat Chelsea last weekend, containing the Blues for so long before hitting them on the break. It seems as long as they don't concede early, their confidence grows and they are capable of a result against anybody. Spurs seem almost to have too many superstars who each expect the other to come up with the goods. They just lack that cutting edge despite their big-name summer signings. There could be boos ringing out around White Hart Lane again this



SEAN DEMPSEY / PA WIRE



Sunday.

Prediction: 1-1

Norwich v West Ham (Saturday 5:30pm, Sky Sports 1)

Norwich suffered a battering at Man City last week but yet again their performance deserved better. They badly need a win and they have an opportunity to get it here against the Hammers, who still have no fit strikers.

Prediction: 1-0

Best of the rest (Saturday 3pm unless stated)

Aston Villa v Cardiff

Aston Villa are simply not the same side at home. Cardiff looked good value for their win in the Welsh derby last weekend and their defence will be hard for Villa to break down. They certainly have the guile to claim all three points.

Prediction: 0-1

Chelsea v West Brom

The Baggies continued their good run against Palace last week but Chelsea will be reeling after their defeat at Newcastle. Jose Mourinho has only lost 3 of almost 200 home Premier League games and shouldn't have any difficulties here.

Prediction: 3-1

Crystal Palace v Everton

It's hard to see where Crystal Palace's next point is going to come from, let alone their next win. It should be comfortable for the Toffees who are quietly impressing this season.

Prediction: 0-2

Liverpool v Fulham

This is a home banker if there ever was one. Liverpool have the best strike partnership in the division, whereas Fulham are consistently terrible away. You just hope for Martin Jol's sake this doesn't become a cricket score.

Prediction: 4-0

Southampton v Hull City

These sides are two of the best organised in the league. But the Tigers are not as menacing away from the KC Stadium and will struggle to break down what is statistically one of the best defences in Europe

Prediction: 1-0

Swansea v Stoke

Both of these sides will have started the season with their sights set on the top half but have flattered to deceive thus far. Unfortunately for the neutral, they struggle for goals so don't expect much entertainment.

Prediction: 1-0

Honours even in Double Header

Chris Carter gives his account.



IC BASEBALL

The Imperial Falcons made a promising start to their season, splitting a friendly double-header against UCL. After a 7-2 loss in Game 1, Imperial rallied to take Game 2 20-12, with an impressive batting performance.

The first game started promisingly for Imperial, as UCL failed to score in their first inning, following some accurate pitching by Zack Wang and a spectacular leaping catch by rookie right-fielder Stephane Mangeon. After General Manager Matt Bidwell got hit by the first pitch of the Imperial innings, Zack hit a double to bring Matt home, leaving Imperial 1-0 up after the first innings. Despite Ashley Ng hitting a double and Zack surviving a pick-off attempt at third with a spectacular dive, Imperial couldn't add to their tally.

After some sloppy fielding by Imperial, however, UCL recovered to go 5-1 after their first three innings. Matt Bidwell stepped up to the plate to lead off the inning and blasted a monstrous solo home run to centre field (although the celebration left a lot to be desired). The Falcons failed to capitalise, however, as Ashley and Zack were left on base again after good hits.

Unfortunately, UCL added two more runs in the fourth inning and, despite a valiant effort by the lower order (special mention to J.D. Smith's fearsome game face), Imperial couldn't come back, with UCL running out 7-2 winners.

The second game started well for

Imperial, as UCL's new inexperienced pitcher (it seemed the 50-Year-Old Man from last year had retired) gave up 9 runs in the top of the first, as almost the entire Falcons batting lineup got on base. In the UCL inning, Imperial brought on Vincent "Demon Pitcher" Li, who reduced UCL to only three runs. In the freezing cold and driving rain, Imperial piled on the pressure in the top of the second innings, adding another 8 runs after a number of walks and some good base running.

The Falcons gave up runs in the bottom of the second after a few wild pitches and some slightly over-ambitious fielding (it turns out this isn't MLB and double plays are still a bit beyond us), although by then it was too late for UCL. Imperial added even more runs in the top of the third (despite a pitching change by UCL), after hits by Zack Wang and Marcel "Asian Kevin Youkilis" Ngan.

Imperial went into the final innings 13 runs ahead and looking certain of victory. Some excellent catching by Vincent kept the runs to a minimum, and the first two batters were quickly dispatched, leaving Imperial needing only one out to win. After a couple of wild pitches (and the threat of being replaced by Marcel), Zack took control, and got the batter to ground-out to finish the game, with Imperial running out 20-12 winners.