

WORLD CUP 2014 PULLOUT - YOUR PERSONAL GUIDE

Keeping up with the FIFA 2014 World Cup? We've got the stats, the info and the analysis to keep you amused!



FELIX

"Keep the
Cat Free"

13/06/14
Issue 1580
felixonline.co.uk



Union Denounces "Student Rights"

In May, Union Council voted to denounce the right wing group called Student Rights and condemn Islamophobia. Imperial became the 9th Student Union to pass this motion, in addition to the NUS who have recently condemned this group. Yesterday, Imperial College Union published an open letter on their website to Mr. Raheem Kassam, Director of the Henry Jackson Society's Student Rights Project.

The other Unions who have voted against Student Rights include LSE, Goldsmiths, Birkbeck, UCL, Queen Mary, King's and Kingston. The motion was passed unanimously by Union Council.

Hilary Aked, a PhD student working with Universities to pass this motion said: "Ever since it was set up in 2009 by the right wing Henry Jackson Society think tank, the ironically named Student Rights group has consistently undermined, rather than empowered, students." In response to the growing success of the student fightback against it, the organisation's activities have reached new lows in recent months and its anti-student attacks make plain once and for all its real – antagonistic – relationship with students. The credibility of Student Rights has been challenged on three main counts: first, its lack of transparency about its links to the right wing think tank the Henry Jackson Society; second its lack of legitimacy given its track record of generating hostile press coverage about students as opposed to defending their rights; and third, the way this negative attention has focused overwhelmingly on Muslims.

In the open letter from the Union it states: "We would like to reiterate that we are strongly against Islamophobia, as well as all other forms of prejudice **continued on page 3...**

College to close its 4-year graduate-entry medicine course



Aamna Mohdin
News Editor

College has recently announced the closure of the 4-year fast track graduate-entry medicine course. Students will instead have to apply for a new 5-year graduate medical course, which will open in 2015. The withdrawal of the 4-year option does not affect students currently on the programme.

The College wants the new course to have a greater focus on training

academic doctors who want to go into research. The 5-year graduate medical course will have students doing a clinical research project in the first two years. Students will have smaller teaching groups as the College intends to provide a more 'tailored' experience.

The intensive first year will be dropped in favour of integration with the Undergraduates, as students will now also be able to do their pre-clinical studies over two years, instead of the one.

"A key aim in setting up the College's graduate-entry medicine programme was to develop clinicians with a

strong grounding in research skills and academic medicine," a College Spokesperson stated. "The Greenaway Shape of Training report (2013) recommends full registration be conferred at the point of graduation. Should this be adopted, the four-year programme would not provide sufficient training hours during the primary medical qualification to meet current EU requirements."

The Graduate Medicine courses were first introduced to widen participation in Medicine and to produce doctors with more diverse backgrounds. However, some students fear that the **continued on page 4...**

WIKIMEDIA

THIS ISSUE...

SPORT



Imperial Wins Cricket
Varsity **40**

GAMES



What happened at
E3? **30-32**

FILM



How To Train Your
Dragon (3D) **8**

THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE MASTER'S SUPPORT SCHEME

The Imperial College Master's Support Scheme is part of the HEFCE Postgraduate Support Scheme which offers an outstanding opportunity for students applying for our Taught Master's programmes.

The scheme aims to provide financial support totalling **£1.5 million** to academically excellent Home undergraduate students or recent Home graduates who might otherwise have been deterred from postgraduate study because of financial constraints.



Value of the award

Successful candidates will receive full tuition fee support up to £10,000.

Successful candidates with a household income below £25,000 will receive an additional £5,000 stipend towards living costs.

Who is eligible?

Home students applying to study a full time Taught Master's degree starting in October 2014 in the Faculties of Natural Sciences, Engineering or Medicine.

Applicants must have had a household income below £42,611 in the final year of undergraduate study in one of the following years: 2011/12, 2012/13 or 2013/14.





Editors: **Nida Mahmud, Maciej Matuszewski, Aamna Mohdin, Aemun Reza, Kunal Wagle**

NEWS

College launches library redevelopment

Maciej Matuszewski
News Editor

The College has announced plans for a major redevelopment of the Central Library. The project is scheduled to begin in a few weeks and is set to finish in late 2015, with work taking place mainly this summer and next summer to minimise disruption to students.

The plans have been informed by the Central Library Space Survey, which took place in February of this year and questioned some 1,200 students on how they would like to see the library improved. Particular areas of concern were the number of work computers available, and the temperature in the library. One student, whose comments were published on the College website, said that the heat in the library meant that they were “forced instead to use one of our departmental computer rooms which are quite noisy and don’t feel like spaces for serious work.” Another student added that: “I think the main setback is the lack of computers and individual study spaces. During peak times finding a free computer is like finding gold... I think more individual study spaces with computers would really help.”

The first phase of the redevelopment work, which will be carried out this summer, will seek to address these



IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

concerns by creating a large new study area in the Level Three space vacated by the Science Museum Library. More study spaces will also be created on Level Two by moving some of the books currently housed there to Level Three.

The College has also submitted planning permission to Westminster City Council for the “installation of ventilation plant” to help with the temperature problems, specifically on Levels One, Two and Three. Part of the climate control plan will also include enclosing the central stairwell.

However, it is far from certain that this permission will be granted, as previous attempts to install climate control in the library have been scuppered by

opposition from residents of nearby Alexandra Court, a block of luxury flats.

Further work planned for phase one also includes study rooms for the College’s new Centres for Doctoral Training – which are an increasingly popular means for providing funding for PhD students – and a new careers centre for Business School students. Both of these will be located on Levels Two and Four of the Library.

The phase two work, which is scheduled to take place next summer, has not yet been finalised.

However initial plans are for the work to focus on providing more study space and better climate control for Levels Four and Five.

Show me the Money

Stephen Ball
Reporter

The RCSU has criticised the Union’s poor handling of their application for funding for the RCSU Welfare Week. In his paper to Union Council, the President of the RCSU, Plabon Saha, reported that the Community and Welfare Board failed to reach quorum on its votes on the application both at a physical meeting and a vote by email.

As a result of these issues the RCSU had to run their events without any guaranteed funding. When Exec considered his application for retrospective funding they too failed to reach quorum and the email vote had to be extended.

The final result was that the RCSU was given no funding and had to pay for the events entirely out of its own pocket.

In his report Plabon concludes that the whole process reflects “a serious governance failure that needs to be reviewed.” He also is concerned that other items of business will be “an e-mail decision with little scope for discussion.”

It should be noted that CWB were approached with the request with a week’s notice and that those involved were warned that funding wasn’t guaranteed, especially in the time frame – Ed.

RAG-iculous Elections

Stephen Ball
Reporter
Joe Letts
Editor-In-Chief

Felix has recently discovered that the RAG Election planned for June 23 is allegedly in violation of a large number of RAG’s Standing Orders and the Union Bye-Laws. This is the second set of complaints that Felix is aware of regarding the election of the new committee for RAG. The first set of complaints has already caused the election to be rescheduled once.

The complaints include: that there has been insufficient notice before the election, the election has not been advertised to all RAG members, that there are elections for positions that do not exist on the committee, and that the proposed time and location fail to allow all the members of RAG the option to vote.

The Union got involved after the first round of complaints by proposing a cross campus vote by email. The RAG Exec then voted by email to stop the election taking place this way – a vote which allegedly failed to achieve quoracy.

When asked about the last set of complaints the Returning Officer and current RAG Chair Callum Kirk said: “As I am currently unaware of the allegations and have not been informed, I am not in a position to comment.”



continued from page 1...

and discrimination – including sexism, racism and homophobia, and will continue to challenge any organisation that acts to the contrary, or that threatens our efforts to build a more cohesive and inclusive university environment.”

Hazem El-Turk, the president of the Islamic Society commented:

“The Imperial College student body has today sent a clear message fully rejecting the non-student Student Rights group, whilst reiterating its commitment to challenging all forms of discrimination, from homophobia to Islamophobia. At a time when Islamophobia is worryingly on the rise in wider society, the passing of this motion is an important step in discrediting pressure groups that work to undermine Muslim students in particular, and who contribute nothing to the student movement.”

An open letter to Mr. Raheem Kassam, Director of the Henry Jackson Society’s ‘Student Rights’ Project

Dear Mr. Kassam,

On 23rd May 2014, the Imperial College Union voted unanimously to denounce and formalise its stance against Student Rights. As a democratically elected Student Union that is committed to upholding the values of a fair and free society, we view Student Rights’ disproportionate preoccupation with Muslim students to be sensationalist, divisive and counterproductive, and therefore not conducive to freedom of expression on our campus.

Whilst claiming to support equality and democracy on university campuses, your organisation’s lack of transparency as well as its complete lack of any student links highlights serious flaws and contradictions in its approach. Being a project set up by the neoconservative Henry Jackson Society, whose associate director has stated on record that “conditions for Muslims in Europe must be made harder across the board,” we believe that your input in discussions around campus issues have and will continue to demonise and marginalise Muslim students, and we therefore have no confidence

in your judgements.

Furthermore, Student Rights’ track record of fuelling press hostility against Muslim students and its inadvertent effect on mobilising far-right groups to target student events is of particular concern to us, and we oppose all actions that jeopardise the safety of our students.

We are therefore pleased that our members, students of Imperial College London, have collectively decided to denounce Student Rights and its agenda, and as of today we are instituting a no-engagement policy with your organisation.

We would like to reiterate that we are strongly against Islamophobia, as well as all other forms of prejudice and discrimination – including sexism, racism and homophobia, and will continue to challenge any organisation that acts to the contrary, or that threatens our efforts to build a more cohesive and inclusive university environment.

We sincerely hope that you will take this opportunity to change your organisation’s approach and mentality, and begin democratically working with students on the grass-root level, as opposed to against them.

Sincerely,
Imperial College Union

Sponsored Editorial

Student Discounts At Fresh Hairdressers 70m from South Kensington tube



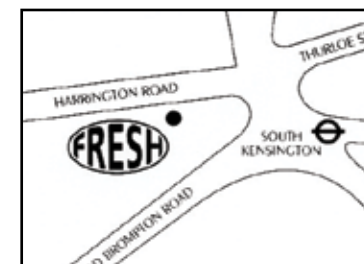
- Men’s cuts £22** (normally £35)
- All over clipper cuts from £10**
- Women’s cut and rough dry £28**
- Women’s cut and salon finish blow-dry £38** (normally £55)
- Highlights from only £40**

Sorry CASH only!

FRESH hairdressers are offering the best haircuts, prices and service in South Kensington.

Please call **0207 823 8968** to book an appointment and ask for a student discount. Please bring your student ID we look forward to seeing you.

We use the best styling products from Wella, Moroccan Oil, L’Oreal.



Appointments available Tuesday to Saturdays 9.30 to 6.30

We are only 70 metres from South Kensington station at 15a Harrington road, South Kensington, SW7 3ES 0207 823 8968.

Check out our website: www.freshhairdressers.co.uk

NEWS

Editors: **Nida Mahmud, Maciej Matuszewski, Aamna Mohdin, Aemun Reza, Kunal Wagle**
news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

continued from page 1...

course closure is ill planned and might have significant funding implications.

"Students were very upset to hear about the changes. We started writing an open letter to the College, but were told at a meeting with Martin Lupton, the head of Undergraduate Medicine, that the decision to change the 4-year program had already been made, and would not be changed," says Sophie Williams, a first year student on the four year programme.

The College held a consultation last year about changes to the course, in which students suggested more support for research could be made available.

A College Spokesperson said, "A formal review of the four year degree in 2012, which drew on feedback from students and staff, found that in its current form the compact and intensive programme does not meet expectations in providing sufficient opportunities for research and scholarship."

"At the time, students were not told about possible changes to the length of the course," said Williams. "And, no further consultation was made about the changes with students or staff."

The current four-year course has various Government tuition fees loans and NHS bursaries; however it's unclear if students can access these loans and funding on the 5-year course. Students on 5-year medical programmes who have previously taken another degree are not eligible for any Government loans or funding until the final year of their course.

"The programme will not be considered an accelerated programme," said a College Spokesperson. "However the School of Medicine is currently lobbying for it to be recognised as such – with the associated funding arrangements in line with this."

"The additional year brings a large financial burden on students wanting to study at Imperial. Student Finance England have not confirmed they will support the 5-year program, and there are rumours that it won't be," said Williams. "Only students with the money available to pay the additional fees will be able to afford to take the course."

Earlier this year St. George's University of London also cut the number of places on its own fast-track graduate course by half.

Higher Education Policy decision deferred to campus-wide referendum

Aamna Mohdin
News Editor

The Union's Higher Education policy will go to a referendum later this year, after Union Council felt unable to make a decision without further consultation. Students will have the opportunity to choose from three funding models: free education, graduate tax and the current tuition fee loan system.

Arguments for each funding model were proposed by Andrew Tranter (free education), Marissa Lewis (graduate tax) and Alex Savell (tuition fee loans). Students will get to choose one of the funding models to be the Union's Higher Education policy in the next academic year.

The Higher Education funding model affects who pays and when,

which can impact accessibility and quality of the student experience.

"There's a massive lack of democracy in our Union, which has previously resulted in small committees of bureaucrats making important decisions," says Andrew Tranter, who proposed the motion to open the decision up to a referendum.

"I'm glad that Council decided to finally ask the membership what they think."

Union Deputy President (Education) Nat Kemptston said, "It's great to see that so many students have opinions on how Higher Education funding should work."

Planning is already underway for the Referendum in October, and I am excited to see what students decide Imperial College Union's stance should be the issue."

The NUS recently passed a free education motion during the national conference in April.

Sabbatical Officer Name Change

Joe Letts
Editor-In-Chief

This week, Council agreed to change the name of the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) and Deputy President (Finance & Services) roles to Deputy Presidents (Activities & Development) and (Activities & Finance) respectively.

This change is the result of a "Officer Trustee Role Review" that has been conducted by the current Sabbatical team after a similar role review last academic year.

Aside from the name change, the paper also made changes to the Union Bye-Laws so they more accurately reflect the roles and responsibilities of the Sabbatical Officers.

Over the last year there has been some resistance to the name change.

Recipients of the Imperial College Union 2014 Awards

Colours

Hassan Ahmadzadeh, James Badman, Andrew Bean, Timothy Beasley, Mohammad Bilal, Max Boleininger, Olivia Boyd, Thomas Brunt, Yulia Bulgakova, Richard Cameron, Kimberley Chin-Goh, Lejon Chua, Oliver Clipsham, Rhys Comissiong, Theresa Davey, Sahil Dawar, Ollie Dean, Thomas Defferriere, Kristina Earle, Nicholas Farmer, Luke Granger-Brown, Adrian Grutter, Boshuo Guo, Ethan Haley, Timothy Hall, Edward Hallett, Peter Hamilton, Phil Harbord, Jonathan Hardisty, Aislinn Hayes, Fangjia He, Reuben Hill, Yuri Ichinose, Omer Jamall, Thomas Jones, Maximilian Keech, Dongwhi Kim, Wilf Kimberley, Don Koh, Yin Lee, Mimi Li, Chew Liew, Christopher Love, Alexander Lown, Yasmin Malik, Dominic Marshall, Ellen Mathieson, Maciej Matuszewski, Hannah Maude, Chris McDonnell, Emma McFadden, Samuel McKenny, Edward Middleton, Sophie Middleton, Sara Mohamed, Shorok Mombrikotb, Aditya Narayanan, Charles Penny,

Julian Phatarfod, Eamonn Postlethwaite, Rasheed Rabiou, Ruth Reynolds, Joanna Robbins, Delphine Rolando, Joseph Rumer, Plabon Saha, Maryam Saleem, Luke Salter, Ayshah Sawjani, Francesco Sciortino, Sarim Siddiqui, Amanda Sjudahl, Mariza de Souza, Charlotte Stephens, Joshua Taylor, Chris Terry, Low Yi Ting, Vignesh Venkataraman, Kunal Wagle, Victoria Walpole, Madina Wane, Yuchen Wang, Ross Webster and Christopher Wood.

Outstanding Service Award

Stephen Ball, Richard Bennett, George Butcher, Michael Chung, Francis Clegg, Hazem el-Turk, Benjamin Fernando, Katherine Fok, George Goldberg, John Golden, Rachel Gregory, Peter Griffin, Benjamin Howitt, Philip Kent, Charmain Tian Xin Li, Nida Mahmud, Patrick McGown, James Murphy, Sunila Prasad, Jonathan Pratt, Slobodan Radosavljevic, Alexander Savell, Andreas Thomik,

David Thompson and Thomas Wilshere.

Fellowship

Michael Foster, Thomas Lim and Suzanne Rayner

Fellowship with Distinction

Stefan Nubert

Community Connections Volunteer of the Year

Michael Yat Kit Chung

Community Connections Project of the Year

Schools Plus

Innovation & Enterprise

Student Innovation Bootcamp

Contribution to College Life

Andreas Thomik

Campaign of the Year

Islamic Society's Charity Week

Club, Society or Project of the Year

EESoc

Event of the Year

East Meets West, Indian Society

THIS WEEK FELIX WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Felix, Beit Quad, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB.
Email: felix@imperial.ac.uk. Tel: 020 7594 8072. Fax: 020 7594 8065.
Printed by Iliffe Print Cambridge, Winship Road, Cambridge.
Registered newspaper ISSN 1040-0711.
Copyright © Felix 2014.

EDITORIAL TEAM: Editor-in-Chief Joe Letts, Deputy Editor Tessa Davey News Editors Nida Mahmud, Aamna Mohdin, Maciej Matuszewski, Kunal Wagle Features Editor Shiladitya Ghosh Wellbeing Editor Marissa Lewis Science Editors Philippa Skett, Keir Little, Fiona Hartley Politics Editor Kartikeya Rana, Jash Rughani Food Editors Carol Ann Cheah, Michael Chung Comment Editors Eoghan J. Totten, Tessa Davey, Kunal Wagle Arts Editor Arianna Sorba Fashion Editor Cécile Borkhataria Books Editors Maciej Matuszewski, Eva Rosenthal Music Editors Simon Hunter, Riaz Agahi, Stuart Masson Television Editors John Park, Emily Fulham Film Editor John Park Games Editors Maximilian Eggl, Calum Skene Technology Editors Maximilian Eggl, Yong Wen Chua, Osama Arawa, Clubs & Socs Editor Nida Mahmud Charity Editor Ben Fernando Travel Editor Chris Richardson Sport Editor Kunal Wagle Online Editors Maximilian Eggl Puzzles Commanders Kingshuk Dasadhikari, Oliver Price Copycaptains Stephen Ball and Annina Sartor Copycommandos Maximilian Eggl.

Union Page

h-bar Duty Managers - applications close Sunday!



The Union is looking for some new team members to join our bar management team. We are looking for people to be based in h Bar in the Sherfield Building in the South Kensington campus; however you may be required to cover at other sites from time to time.

These roles are a senior position within the bar management team and the successful applicants will need to be available to work on a regular basis all year round.

The successful applicants will also be needed to make themselves available to take part in a three day First Aid at work course and a day long licence training course and to gain their personal licence in regards to the sale of alcohol. The union will provide the training for this and pay for any costs incurred for the training and licence application.

Visit imperialcollegeunion.org/jobs for details of how to apply for this role.

Deadline midnight, Sunday 15 June and interview date is Thursday 19 June. All successful applicants will be notified for interview Tuesday 17 June.

imperialcollegeunion.org/jobs

College's New Hall of Residence



#helloicu crew recruitment open



As the College approaches the final design stages of the One Victoria Road project, we'd like your views on the how some of the communal space is likely to be used by student residents as well as on the look and feel of these spaces. The last student consultation on this project took place in May 2013 when a student design workshop was held and the following questions builds on this feedback.

Slides from a presentation to students held on Wednesday 4 June are available to view at imperialcollegeunion.org/onevictoria, which include a project update, details of the spaces and the input we'd like on the communal spaces.

This short survey will take you through the spaces we would like your input on and should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete.

The survey will be open until Wednesday 18 June. Your views will be shared with the project team at Berkeley First (the developers and architects), who will aim to incorporate as many of these suggestions into the final designs as possible.

Thank you in advance for your input into College's new Hall of Residence, One Victoria Road.

imperialcollegeunion.org/onevictoria

Do you remember what it was like to be starting at Imperial? Moving to London and starting university can be a daunting prospect. So who better to welcome new students to Imperial than existing students who have lived through the same nerve-wracking experience?

The #helloicu crew had their first outing in 2013 and was a huge success:

- ▲ 79% #helloicu crew members said the experience boosted their confidence
- ▲ 85% #helloicu crew members said they learnt and developed new skills
- ▲ 95% #helloicu crew members said they made new friends; and
- ▲ 100% #helloicu crew members said they would recommend the experience to a friend

If you volunteer as a #helloicu crew member, you'll receive a free t-shirt, have your travel within London reimbursed and be given free refreshments on the days you volunteer. You'll be provided with a days training to prepare you for your role, given volunteer shifts based around your commitments in activities that interest you

If you'd like to register your interest in becoming a #helloicu crew member, visit the web address below.

imperialcollegeunion.org/helloicucrow

FEATURES

Editor: **Shiladitya Ghosh**
felix@imperial.ac.uk



Energy Efficiency at Imperial – How Green Are We?



Sebastian Gosden
Writer

Imperial is a big organisation. Fifteen thousand students, six thousand members of staff, nine campus areas and a billion pound annual budget. By account of its sheer size, the College consumes a great deal of resources: energy, plastics, water, lavatory paper, and it all stacks up. Fortunately, Imperial's commitment to reducing waste and increasing energy efficiency was enhanced in 2008 with a commitment to cut the College's carbon emissions by 2014. We'll learn early next year if

we've hit the target, but the signs are promising.

Since 2008, we've reduced the amount of CO₂ emitted from rubbish that would have been sent to landfill or incinerated from 798 tonnes to 266 through the excellent site-wide recycling programme. The 9MW gas-fired CHP plant under the Electrical Engineering building supplies electricity across the campus through Imperial's own high-voltage network, and heats much of the water too. Output from the giant boiler is now closely adjusted to demand.

Better metering has also been rolled out across campuses, with site-wide data collated and presented in real-time.

Low-energy lighting and motion sensors are now considered for all building refurbishment work. The Business School, next to the City & Guilds building at the eastern entrance to the South Kensington campus, now has both installed, and similar upgrades have taken place in RSM, Huxley, RCS1, Electrical Engineering and Chemistry.

Refurbished Wilson House undergraduate residence now sports a solar array in addition to its new LED lighting.

Imperial have built energy efficiency, water conservation, recycling, continuous improvement, and all those other key elements that make an effective sustainability policy right

into our organisation.

So all good, right? Well, not so fast. One of the things that makes Imperial so great, the decentralised, committee-based, consensus-driven culture means that there's still a lot of low-hanging fruit.

Much of the South Kensington campus does not even have LED lighting and motion sensors installed, a simple retrofit that substantially reduces energy consumption and often pays for itself in only a few years. The process of getting approvals can take literally years, in many cases nearly everyone in a department has to agree to a lighting re-fit that only takes a few days to complete.

A big leap to kick-start our College's

energy efficiency improvements would be a simple fast-tracking process for obvious long-term cost savings like LED and low-energy lighting retrofits. Responsibility also needs to be taken at a departmental level. Much of the energy-sucking specialist equipment many of us use in labs, even the humble extractor fan, can get left on (unused) for weeks on end.

All in all, it looks like college staff, the estates and facilities team have done an incredible job so far, and with a streamlined approval process, could do even better. And as the focus for development moves to Imperial's West campus, let's make sure we apply what we've learned from the great work at South Kensington.

Up to Scratch at Shapes & Blades?

Harveen Hayer
Writer

It couldn't wait until after exams, my split ends were like the multiple-headed monster from Disney's Hercules. Thus a trip to the hairdressers was to be the scenario of choice one Thursday evening after labs.

Usually I go home to get my haircut (courtesy of Bank of Mum) but a quick sift of the internet led me to a 40% off voucher on Facebook for Shapes & Blades. Located in LA Fitness on Pelham Street, South Kensington, I booked straight away using their online system.

Four hours of mind numbing labs were over and my hair was to meet its fate: the scissors. No more than 10 minutes away from college, I found LA Fitness quickly and was directed downstairs to a small, modern waiting area.

I chatted with the manager, Wojciech while I waited who informed me that Shapes & Blades was still in its infancy: only three months old but already seeing a lot of business. The selling point of getting your haircut here instead of somewhere else is that you can use the steam room, Jacuzzi, sauna and swimming pool of LA Fitness, free of charge! If I had known before, I could have made quite the indulgent evening of it but I instead



decided to keep a mental note for when I came back: I already liked this place.

I was greeted by Katherine where I was taken to a small room with only two chairs. One was already occupied by a gentleman receiving a haircut and later, a hot towel shave. After being offered coffee and an After Eight (I happily helped myself), we discussed the fate of my hair. Katherine was a delight. Listening to exactly what I wanted, I had my hair washed, cut and blow dried straight by her and the service was impeccable. The length and cut was perfect, as was the conversation! We talked about food, education and more food; by the end, I had promised to try making rice and

peas at home (it was incredible, by the way).

The final verdict? Normally, I flitter between salons that have an offer on Groupon and I am then disappointed with the end result. But this was very good, great even. I didn't feel out of place at all amongst all the South Kensington yummy mummies and I certainly didn't look like I stuck out when I left. The products used on my hair smelled wonderful and Katherine even said I could come back in two weeks for a complementary fringe trim. Result!

Shapes & Blades offer a 20% student discount (valid student card). Nail bar and other beauty services are available. www.shapesandblades.com

June
July
August
September

Pride in London
28 June

Football World Cup
12 June - 13 July

BBC Proms

18 July - 13 September

Ride London
10 August

Notting Hill Carnival
24 - 25 August

Open House
20 - 21 September

Wimbledon

23 June - 6 July

Eid at Trafalgar Square
2 August

Great British Beer Festival
12 - 16 August

Canary Wharf Jazz Festival

15 - 17 August

Camden Fringe
28 July - 24 August

Don't miss a thing. Stay in halls!

Experience the London Summer!

a variety of rooms and rates for Imperial students
www.imperial.ac.uk/accommodation/summerinhalls

The Healthcare System in Africa

Shade Oyewole
Writer

Background

Africa has a long way to go in terms of healthcare. It falls behind the rest of the world on all health indicators, including the poorer countries of South-East and South Asia that used to be behind Africa in the 1980s. The average life expectancy worldwide is 68, but in Africa only 54 according to the World Health Organisation. Why is Africa so far behind?

Biggest offenders

In 1990, the average life expectancy in Africa was 51. The life expectancy is steadily increasing due to conflicts between countries being resolved as well as improvements in delivery of healthcare and basic living conditions. However, Africa still has the lowest life expectancy worldwide for a number of reasons, many of which are political.

Many governments don't have enough or don't allocate enough resources to providing basic healthcare where it is most needed. For this reason, there aren't enough hospital buildings in several countries in Africa; treatments can therefore be difficult to access on account of being too far away. South Africa, for example, have many of its healthcare facilities

in large cities far away from rural areas. This ultimately deters poorer people from using them because of the distance and transport costs they would incur. Also, medical equipment is often sparse and frequently breaks down.

Furthermore, financial aid given to countries in Africa, unfortunately, doesn't always reach where it is most needed. At times it is misused, entering personal accounts or to fund political agendas.

Almost two thirds of the deaths in Africa are due to communicable diseases, maternal and perinatal conditions. The majority of these deaths are due to infectious and parasitic diseases. This is almost opposite to the causes of deaths worldwide, where non-communicable disease such cardiovascular diseases and cancer are the biggest killers.

HIV is still amongst the worst offenders; killing 1.3 million people a year in Africa. Next in line are respiratory infections, such as pneumonia, which cause 1.1 million deaths a year. After these, are the diarrhoeal diseases such as malaria killing almost a million Africans a year due to polluted water and poor sanitation. The prevalence of these diseases and infections are considerably lower in developed countries due to better access to healthcare amongst numerous other

factors.

Africa fights back

Over the past 10 years the incidence of HIV/AIDS has dropped in several countries in Africa. This is largely due to awareness programmes, such as 'ABC' which tells people to 'abstain, be faithful and condomise'. Several organisations have also been involved in making antiretroviral drugs affordable. Tuberculosis is another disease that has seen reductions across the continent due to an increase in successful treatments and immunisations.

Finally malaria has been eradicated worldwide, except for some countries in Asia, and is slowly declining in Africa. The distribution of millions of insecticide-treated mosquito nets has made a cause of this decline. However, recently there is evidence that these nets are leading to an increase in resistant mosquitos and could cause the incidence of malaria to return to what it was.

Focusing on these pandemics has made vast improvements to the average life expectancy in Africa. Nevertheless, some people believe that more attention should be paid to developing health systems in a more general way. This would involve making advances in primary healthcare including health education, safe water, basic sanitation and immunisation against

major infectious diseases as defined by the World Health Organisation. Such primary healthcare should be accessible to everyone and at a cost that both the community and country can realistically maintain.

This could potentially enable Africa to eradicate the same diseases that other countries worldwide have successfully managed to do. On the other hand, the resources for this would be extensive and is likely to be the major limiting factor in Africa's move to a more developed healthcare system.

Expenditure

Expenditure plays a huge role in determining the success of healthcare systems worldwide: it consists of government spending, external sources and private spending. In 2001, the heads of state of African Union countries met in Abuja, Nigeria and agreed to commit 15% of their national budget on health spending. This was made after The Millennium Development Goals were formed in 2000 promising to reduce child mortality rates, improve maternal health and fight HIV/AIDS amongst other pledges. However, in 2010 only four countries complied: Rwanda, Botswana, Zambia and Togo.

External aid such as foreign governments and Non-government Organisations have played a

significant factor in dealing with health emergencies in Africa. The NGOs seen to be more independent and therefore less likely to have ulterior motives making them more effective.

Private spending consists of people paying directly for treatment but this could cause those who are poor to go bankrupt in order to pay their medical bills.

It could also deter people from seeking necessary medical attention. Another form of private spending is where a tax is collected on a regular basis and directed into health insurance schemes. Many believe this is where the future lies.

Room for growth

The exciting thing about Africa is the room for growth. A number of countries are making successful efforts in improving their healthcare systems in order to address their population's medical needs. Ghana for example, removed healthcare fees for women resulting in a reduction in maternal mortality. Initiatives such as providing more free healthcare in rural areas and the increasing number of health insurance schemes has seen vast reductions in mortality. These initiatives are likely to be the crux to the development of a successful healthcare system in the beautiful continent that is Africa.

If Plants Could Grow Faster

Scientists research ways of making Photosynthesis more efficient

Lawrence D'Silva
Environment & Health Editor



Scientists are making progress in increasing the efficiency of photosynthesis, the process that fuels plant growth. Such research has huge potential from meeting the demands of 21st century food security to increasing the feasibility of biofuels and to restoring previously damaged environments. However, with such reward could come great risk.

Photosynthesis is the process all plants carry out which harvests sunlight and absorbs CO₂ to produce fuel for the plant to grow. The problem is that in its naturally occurring state, photosynthesis has evolved to be relatively inefficient in order to avoid a toxin build up that could kill the plant. In important food crops such as wheat, barley and sugar beet, the

maximum efficiency is a mere 5%. Three research teams, all including scientists from both the UK and the USA, have recently been granted a crucial second round of funding to address this problem. Much of the research is focused around attempting to use genes from certain bacteria and algae that already carry out photosynthesis very efficiently and transfer them into the DNA of major food crops.

With major cereal crop demand set to rise from 2.1 billion tons today to 3 billion tons in 2050, such research could become invaluable in feeding the world of tomorrow. For industry, artificially engineered fast plant growth could prove valuable as companies look to offset their emissions and land use impacts in an

increasingly regulated environment. As a general, overarching benefit, more efficiently photosynthesising plants means more CO₂ is absorbed from the atmosphere, thereby significantly helping mitigate climate change.

Whilst improving photosynthesis has untold potential in tackling some of the world's most pertinent problems, it is perhaps not unreasonable to suggest that a warning flare must be shot within the scientific community to proceed with caution because its potential, both good and bad is just that: untold.

Proceeding with precaution has become a central dogma of environmental science. This is for the simple reason that ecosystems exist as such finely balanced systems

with such impossibly complex webs of interactions, that even the smallest interferences can be expressed, through a 'butterfly effect' as serious, global-scale problems, years down the line. Citing the problem with excess nitrogen fertiliser pollution of water courses world-wide, nitrogen fertilizer was first invented to increase food production by providing nitrogen fertilization of crop plants at an intensity that simply wasn't possible in nature. Whilst it has been credited with increasing global food production

by a factor of many, it has led to a huge amount of environmental damage and is one of the greatest environmental problems of our time. In other words, it has become a problem from a past solution.

To proceed with engineering plants to grow faster we must decide whether we want to act and release the benefits the research has to offer, knowing that we will most probably have to deal with serious consequences in the future, or whether we just sit back, knowing we could have done something.

Sponsored Editorial

Fat or muscle?

We are inviting healthy volunteers to take part in a research study comparing body fat and metabolism in young adults. It will involve a single visit to Chelsea & Westminster Hospital for 3-4 hours. You will have a full body Magnetic Resonance scan, which is safe, and does not involve x-rays. You will also be asked for a blood, and urine sample and a buccal swab taken from the inside of the mouth. This study is open to people aged 19-27 years; we would particularly welcome interest if you were born prematurely.

For more information please email James Parkinson, Research Associate, jrcp@imperial.ac.uk or text 07814 296596



Making light of the matter

Philippa Skett talks to the researchers behind turning light into electrons

Last month, Imperial attracted the attention of the world's media once again, with researchers based in Blackett Laboratory showing how to potentially create matter from light. Their paper, published in *Nature Photonics*, builds upon The Breit and Wheeler's theory, made in 1934, and solves an 80 year old challenge that previously left physicists stumped.

The theory states that photons, the fundamental elements that make up light, can transform into electrons and positrons, elements of matter. This potential interchange between light and matter has never been demonstrated; it was previously thought too difficult to force photons to collide in such a way to produce electrons and positrons.

However, it seems that the solution was actually under the noses of scientists all along. Lead researcher, Oliver Pike, is currently a PhD student, and was the first to coin the idea. After completing a degree in Natural Sciences at Cambridge, he joined Imperial in 2011, to pursue his doctorate in high energy density physics.

Inertial confinement fusion (ICF) energy research, a particular branch of research that studies some of the processes behind at nuclear power, provided the inspiration for Pike's

discovery: "We were looking into whether the facilities used in ICF could be used to study fundamental physics, initially on scrap paper using simple order of magnitude estimates.

Within a few hours it was clear they could provide the perfect conditions for creating a photon collider. Our photon collider could create electrons (and their antiparticle, positrons) from light with today's lasers."

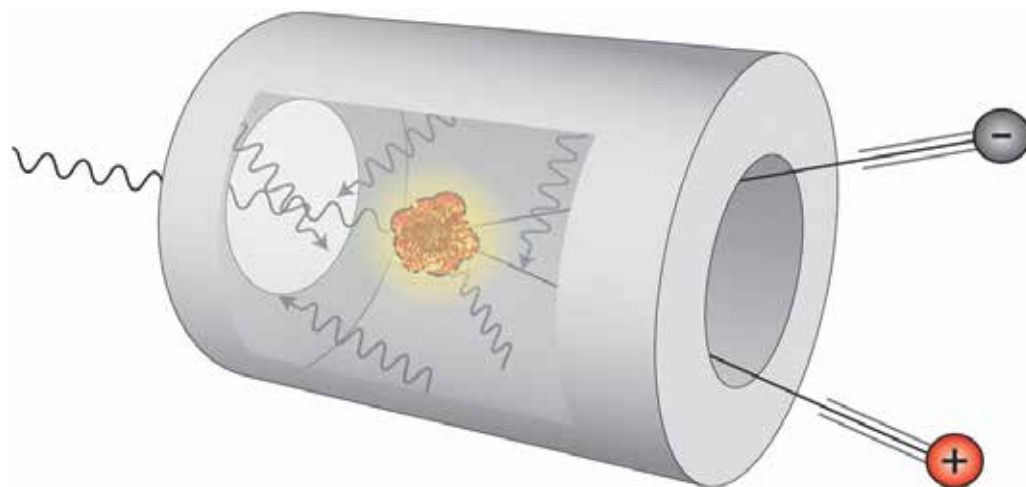
With ICF equipment already using powerful lasers to heat and compress pellets to induce nuclear reactions, Pike's idea was to remove the pellets and direct the lasers to collide together instead.

However, it could take some time to produce tangible results. Pike told us, "Predicting exactly when the experiment will take place is very difficult.

There's no guarantee that it will be done within the next year, but we are hopeful the Breit-Wheeler process will be observed very soon."

Felix spoke to Professor Roland Smith, Head of Plasma Physics at Imperial about the new research, and what it was like to be in the eye of the media storm surrounding the story:

"It's always a pleasure to see how smart some of your colleagues are and to have this recognised with high profile publications and (a brief) place in the spotlight."



Photons enter and collide together to form an electron-positron pair. Look at those particles go

NATURE.COM

"High profile results of this kind are collected by Heads of Department and College monthly. This paper was reported on the BBC news online website, The Guardian, The Daily Mail, The Telegraph, the LA Times and the Times of India, the world's largest circulation English-language broadsheet. The story featured on the front page of The Guardian's website (where it was one of their top 10 most popular stories) and the BBC News website.

[This subject] is a double edged sword however – it's an exciting idea with a strong popular cultural resonance. The paper describes a

process that can be summarised as "light in, matter out," (true – under extreme conditions) but some people will automatically assume this leads to a Star Trek "Holodeck" – which is very false!"

On that idea that this technology may soon be used to create large amounts of matter from light, Pike said, "There currently isn't enough energy to make heavier particles. Even if this were possible, these would be created in such low numbers and at such high energies that they would not be an 'object'. Most likely some kind of electron-positron plasma (like that in the early universe) would be formed."

Professor Smith continued, "Can we follow this up with a real experiment? Not on site at Imperial I am afraid, there are only one or two labs in the world with the right capabilities at the moment. It would take a minimum of a £200 million laser system and a decade of work starting from scratch so I don't think we will be doing this on site in South Kensington."

"I am sure however that members of our group will be busy writing grant proposals and bidding for time on existing "big" lasers to see if this idea can now be tested – so I am sure it will be one of quite a few exciting ideas we want to work on in the future."

London pollution linked to heart complications

Mimi Li
Science Writer

London is one of the most polluted cities in Europe and it is no surprise to hear that this pollution has potentially harmful effects on our health. Air pollution has previously been linked to an increased risk of cardiovascular and respiratory disease, as well as cancer. An estimated 7 million deaths per year are a result of air pollution exposure according to the World Health Organisation.

Newly published research links short-term air pollution to an increased risk of atrial fibrillation (irregular heartbeat) and pulmonary embolism (blood clot in the lungs).

The research team, from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical

Medicine, used national databases in England and Wales to correlate incidence of cardiovascular disease with local levels of air pollutant. These databases recorded statistics on hospital admissions for heart attack, stroke and other emergency admissions. Air pollutants levels were measured using data from local air quality monitoring stations; these included: carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, sulphur dioxide and ozone.

The level of PM2.5, a type of particulate matter, was strongly linked to an increased risk of atrial fibrillation and pulmonary embolism. There was, however, no clear link between air pollutants and cardiovascular death (from heart attack or stroke). Nitrogen dioxide exposure was linked to increased hospital admissions for cardiovascular problems, including heart failure, as well as a particular



London does actually look like this sometimes...it isn't our printers playing up

STATIC-SECURE.GUIM.CO.UK

type of heart attack (non-ST elevation). The researchers conclude that there is no clear evidence that short-term exposure to air pollution increases risk of heart attack or stroke.

Stroke and heart attack are the well-known 'killers', but atrial fibrillation

and pulmonary embolism are also serious conditions. Atrial fibrillation puts you at an increased risk of stroke, and pulmonary embolism is a potentially life-threatening condition, which can cause collapse and death. Elderly patients and those with

pre-existing heart conditions are at increased risk of developing serious complications.

This study has helped to provide further evidence on the adverse effects of air pollution on health. However, the picture is still unclear.



 @feliximperial

 FelixImperial

COMMENT

The Money Game behind FIFA

From passionate Torcedores to angry protesters, where is FIFA taking us?

Juan Ossa
Writer

The World Cup is starting and football fans will be delighted once more by one of the most important sports competitions in the globe. Fans all around the world are ready to support their favourite team and enjoy an event that takes place only once every four years. However, for many of us who love football, this year's environment is not as festive as we would like. Protests, clashes between police and citizens, allegations of corruption, and Brazilian social problems, have overshadowed what should be a carnival in a country that has always been recognised as one of the most passionate about the sport. Even worse, FIFA, which is the international body that is expected to surveil the organisation, is largely responsible for this.

I have been asked several times what I think about this issue, bearing in mind that I am passionate about football, and at the same time understand the social protests in Brazil, coming from a country with similar problems. At first I did not know what to answer; I could not hide my joy for being able to see my national team after 16 years of absence, but at the same time I felt

that I was incoherent with my socio-political points of view.

I decided to do some research trying to understand the point of view of Brazilian protesters, those that cannot afford one ticket to see the Canarinha, those that will not see any pound spent by tourists, those who are still wondering how is it possible to invest around £10bn in infrastructure for the World Cup, when the country has many other priorities.

After checking some newspapers and watching some videos, I concluded that these people are not against football. They loved it before they were chosen to be the World Cup hosts, they love it now, and they will love it after the 14th of July. Their problem is with those that are using football to increase the numbers in their bank statements, those that manipulate the business for their own benefit. Of course, I refer to FIFA executives.

It surprises me to read FIFA executives' answers when someone asks them about social problems in Brazil. It seems pretty easy for them to say that those problems are not FIFA's responsibility, that a World Cup brings development to a country, and that they do not feel ashamed about the government spending that much money on infrastructure, as it was part of Brazil's proposal. I would agree

that they are not directly responsible, but the way they manage football is fostering these phenomena, therefore they should feel guilty.

Of course it was the Brazilian government who developed the proposal, but if they hadn't presented it like this, probably they would not have been selected, as this is the way FIFA works. FIFA should not defend their position based on the selection process. It is just a matter of checking recent allegations of corruption in the selection of Qatar as 2022 world cup host, to see how unreliable this methodology can be. In addition,

it is very annoying to know that all investment comes from Brazilian government, but all the profits from tickets, television rights and all other sponsors go to FIFA, with no one knowing the way it is spent. They are very proud of hundreds of social projects all around the world, but you do not have to be an expert in finance to suspect that they earn more than what they invest in football. At least, this is what many people think, based on the lack of transparency of their statements.

It is important to mention that, to some extent, the Brazilian government

is also responsible for this crisis, but FIFA world cup model exacerbates it. Social problems existed before Brazil was selected as host nation, but the way profits and expenditure are shared upsets anyone who sees the government building huge stadiums while they can barely eat. This idea that the World Cup brings development is more a theory than a proven economic fact, and it would drive you mad to see huge airports, big motorways and impressive hotels, in cities lacking decent hospitals and schools. Corruption in FIFA destroys the essence of football, as the business is becoming more important than the sport, and this will continue until things change in the way this institution is managed.

I am pleased to see Colombia back in a world cup since that horrendous night against England in 1998, and I will enjoy the tournament. However, I think that something has to be done to control FIFA's actions. They have proven to achieve impossible tasks, decided to hold a World Cup in a country without any relevant football tradition and with harsh weather, and turn the countrymen of Pelé, Romario, Ronaldinho and Neymar against the most important tournament of their beloved sport. Now I am afraid to imagine where FIFA will lead us if nothing is done.



FORBES.COM

What can we do about FIFA?

The controversy behind this bureaucratic corrupt organisation

Kunal Wagle
Sports Editor



It shows the sort of crisis that FIFA is in that, two days away from the start of their flagship tournament (the World Cup in Brazil for the few of you who are not already aware of it), there have been calls from all of Europe's football leaders demanding that FIFA President Sepp Blatter step down within the next year. Such is the crisis that, two days before the carnival that we have been promised begins, we are instead talking about where the World Cup in 2022 should be held. This crisis is in fact so big that all of FIFA's sponsors (bar Emirates), on the eve of the biggest sports event in the world (bar the Olympics, in my

opinion), are threatening to back out if a full investigation is not launched into allegations of corruption in the sport's organising body.

It speaks volumes about the position Mr Blatter finds himself in that he thought the only possible defence of Qatar was to say that the world was "being racist" for accusing it of bribery. This from the man who, last year, said that racism could be solved "with a handshake". Devoid of ideas? Perhaps. Deluded? Probably. Desperate? Definitely.

But what can we do about FIFA? Sadly, we can't do much really. It is all well and good for newspapers such as The Times and The Telegraph to preach allegation upon allegation (admittedly with a large amount of evidence to support it), to the choir that is the British public, but FIFA

aren't worried about it. As far as they are concerned, they are untouchable. They feel that they are safe because they have appointed an "independent investigator" and have banned the vice-president whom the allegations are centred on. But then they subtly ignore the fact that Mohammed Bin-Hammam (the FIFA Vice-President who was banned) was at the time fighting an election against (you guessed it) incumbent Sepp Blatter. And when the Court of Arbitration for Sport overturned FIFA's decision, Bin-Hammam was subsequently hit with a new ban, for "conflicts of interest".

"FIFA needs to change." Those are the four words that have been on the tip of every football fan's tongue for the past year when talking about the sport's governing body. It's too much of a closed shop at the moment for

anyone's liking. Plenty have talked about it – but nothing has happened. For anything to actually happen one person needs to go. Sepp Blatter has said every year that he will retire at the next election; but, when the new election looms, Blatter announces his intention to run and everyone else withdraws. They are scared of him, not daring to oppose him. Jerome Champagne, who announced his intention to run in next year's elections this January, said that if Blatter was to run he would have "no" chance of winning. That's worrying, given the current situation.

So how do we get rid of Blatter? At the moment it looks as though our only chance is if he realises (somewhat late I concede) that if he doesn't resign then his reputation, and that of FIFA, will be irreversibly damaged, if it is not

already. He might be able to save face though, if he decides to restage the bids to the 2018 (currently planned for Russia) and 2022 World Cups.

The questions will remain though – can we trust any future bids that are voted for by FIFA? Will anyone want to bid for what may in the future be seen as a tainted tournament? And, perhaps most importantly, assuming these allegations about corruption are true (and with the vast wealth of evidence, it's hard not to), will we ever be able to trust FIFA again? I'm not so sure that I will be able to.

Last night (Monday), when describing how accusing Qatar of buying votes is "racist", Mr Blatter said that the allegations were "sad". This may be the first time in years that I've agreed with him.

It is all a bit sad really.

COMMENT

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



“Engage more with the postgraduates...”

John Winters
Writer



On my travels about Imperial and the Union I have occasionally heard that “we should engage better with the postgrads” or a statement of similar sentiment. What a wonderful idea it is, although sometimes limited to just that, with little substance to any plans to reach out to an entirely different student community. That is the root problem per se, it is an entirely different student experience, and people just don’t always get that. Imagine trying to reach out to all of the staff members at Imperial?! The approach will be tailored to that cohort, which will further consist of many differing groups and work

structures. Post-graduate students are already lumped under one banner when actually a taught MSc can differ vastly from a research based PhD, and any approach to ‘better engage’ needs to reflect that. If you’re an undergraduate, you might have very little contact with anyone other than your course peers, halls friends (& enemies) and activities at the Union. The Union has a predominantly undergraduate involvement in a lot of its activities, and correspondingly many committees are run by undergrads, who have less contact with ‘postgrads’. As such it’s understandable to not fully appreciate those vast differences in lifestyle, but to be able to empathise with someone you need to know the issues they face. To cater to someone’s needs, run an inclusive event or properly represent

them, you have to know why it is different, appreciate it and then alter plans to accommodate. But that is a very general ideology, and a hard one at that.

I’ve been lucky enough to have a shot at the degree hat-trick (BSc, MSc, PhD) and accidentally stayed at Imperial for the duration, but my experience has shifted every time. As an undergrad I was trying to balance having fun and learning some complicated stuff. As an MSc student you work your socks off for 12 months, still getting homework over vacation while being expected to work throughout the summer in part because MSc students are meant to be difficult. Now I just sit in my office/lab trying to please/dis-please a superior/physics, while escaping to the Union beer garden as often as I

dare. Term dates don’t mean a great deal to me (so it’s frustrating when everything stops around campus), and I shouldn’t really disappear in the middle of the working day (because a fuzzily defined subset of people you might call a ‘interdisciplinary team’ will have asked for me the moment I leave the building) and there is the omnipresent knowledge that any time spent away from ‘studying’ brings me closer to that funding cliff that is rapidly approaching. The next student down the corridor might work from home most days though...

So what do you have to do to better engage? There’s no magic rule, there never is, just take a little moment and think about how the other half live. If you master that though you’re probably a good candidate to lead the country.



IMPERIAL.AC.UK

Confessions of a GTA: Part 17

Invigilation is no more than being paid to watch others suffer

The GTA
Anonymous



I expected to enjoy invigilating undergraduate exams, and to be honest, I did. There is something very satisfying about getting paid to watch other people going through the hell you have lived for three years. One thing I did notice there is a specific pattern to every exam. From a GTA perspective this is pretty much how they go:

15 mins before the exam: Set up

Place all the exam papers out, only to have to turn them all over as finally the lecturers have realised we read the first question through the front page. (Though when you turn them over often you can read the last question through the back page so how this is any different I am not sure.....)

5 mins before the exam: Try to look good in front of your boss

Let the undergrads in and try vaguely to keep them quiet. This is pretty much always unsuccessful but the main thing is to look like you are trying as this is the point the lectures are around.

0-20 mins into the exam: Incompetence

This is the time where some of the more incompetent undergrads realise they have not brought a pen to the exam or that pencil the lecturer told them each and every lecture they

would definitely need. Thus you scramble around at the front desk trying to cobble supplies together out of what people have left behind in the room, because all GTAs carry around spare compasses in their pockets all the time, right?

20-70 mins: Boredom

So all the undergrads are here and getting on with it. So what do we do? Well if you are with ‘fun’ GTAs this is where you get stuck into a good game of Pacman or Battleships but ‘fun’ GTAs as a species are pretty rare normally, so this is the point we relive our last three supervisor meetings...

70-90 mins: Toilet rush

This part I really don’t understand. I mean seriously, why can you not last three hours without going to the toilet? How do you make it through a film? You literally have three hours to show everything you have learnt in 1 year and you waste over 8% of this because you drank that litre bottle of water you brought in.

90 mins: Change over the paper

Here for many exams is the changeover point where one set of GTAs is released back to their windowless rooms and others take over. This is also the point where more paper is needed. Fast and lots of it.

90-150 mins: Demand stream

For a second half GTA this is the long slog of never ending toilet trips and paper refills. Great for battle ship/bingo, not so great if all the desks



are so close together you have to jog up and down the rows in massively noisy shoes you decide never to wear again. This is also the point the class Question Master (you know who they are) asks you something like: “This

question is not specific enough. What does it mean?” Um ok good luck.

150-180 mins: The calm before the storm.

A bit of quiet time to gather

yourself to be ready to collect all the papers and count at speed/try not to sleep/`wonder if this is a sped up version of your PhD for your supervisor...

I must confess I suspect it is.

 @feliximperial

 FelixImperial
COMMENT

Does discrimination dominate in India?

Christy Kelly
Writer



I am aware that BJP – lately brought to power in India on the back of a failing Congress and growing Hindu nationalism – is a rabid nationalist organisation, officially supporting the repulsive Hindutva doctrine. And being an extreme-right populism, it is of course unsurprising that a deep-seated misogyny should be a profound and integral part of the party's ideology. In light of this, it would perhaps be naïve to feel shocked by the comments of Babalul Gaur – according to the Guardian 'home minister responsible for law and order in the BJP-run central state of Madhya Pradesh' – following the rape and murder of two girls last week.

The girls, aged 12 and 14, were first gang-raped then hanged from a tree. Minister of State Babalul Gaur's response? Rape 'is a social crime which depends on men and women. Sometimes it's right and sometimes it's wrong.' I would be curious to hear State Minister Gaur's opinion on some other 'social' crimes to see when he thinks they are right and wrong. Notwithstanding the rape – which of course might be 'right or wrong' – Minister Gaur seems awfully reticent about the murder of two Indian citizens. Is murder, perhaps, not a 'social' crime? Or maybe Minister Gaur is undecided about the moral probity of murdering children?

International commentary has as usual been 'exemplary' in its force. The Guardian suggests that this statement is 'controversial' – rather like Frankie Boyle is 'controversial'? – while Ban Ki-moon sees this as the problem of a 'dismissive, destructive attitude of "boys will be boys"'. Of course it

was indiscreet of Baur to express his sympathies for Mulayam Singh Yadev who claimed 'boys commit mistakes: will they be hanged for rape?' How much easier for Ban Ki-moon when Indian politicians had enough common sense to only endorse rape in private! Gone are the simple days of Congress when rape followed by murder was merely the de facto policy of soldiers taking part in anti-naxal operations. And while politicians conscientiously debate whether it is appropriate to hang 'boys' for their 'mistakes', girls will continue to be hanged. I have yet to decide whether their 'mistake' is being raped or being

born female. One presumes it is a little of both.

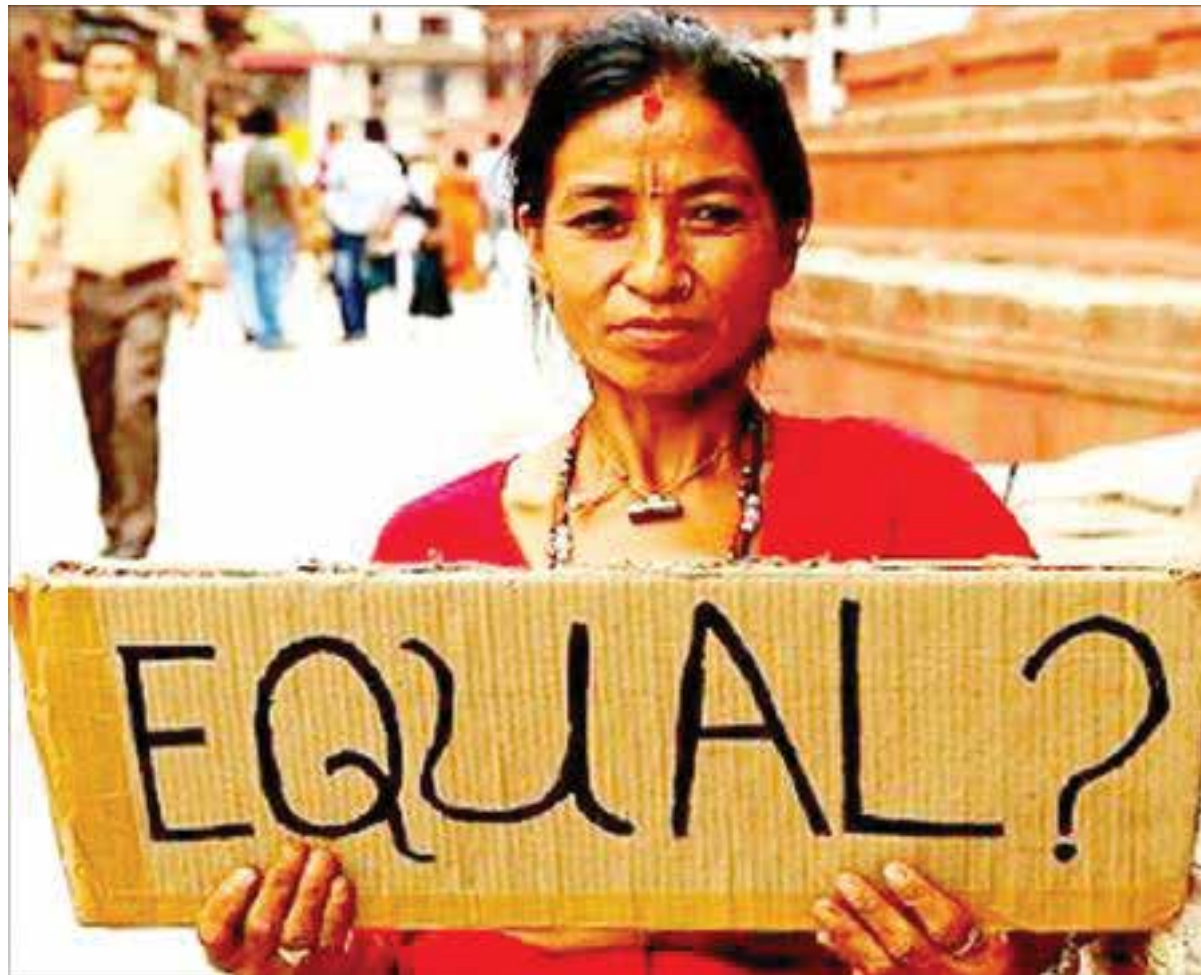
In India chronic gender imbalances, poverty, illiteracy and a predominant ideology all too comfortable with treating humans inhumanly have reinforced the traditionally inferior position of women in society. The origins of this 'tradition' I believe, are more socio-economic than 'cultural'. Briefly: changing patterns of social organisation coming with the strict imposition of market forces on Indian agriculture made family holdings smaller by dividing land between sons. This put pressure on subsistence, in turn putting pressure on an already

labour intensive job. Sons thus become more economically viable which in turn encourages a system of dowry payments on marriage. Thus daughters become an economic liability and women (further) become second class citizens. Had India's economy changed substantially this would perhaps lead to changing attitudes, yet the deliberate destruction of Indian industry by the British cannot have facilitated matters, while recent changes (the growth of the service industry and the financial sector) strike me as largely unsustainable or fundamentally unimportant. They are also too recent to have any decisive

impact on now deeply ingrained attitudes.

Meanwhile religious/ethnic tensions can only encourage the reactionary elements of Indian society. These notorious tensions which came to a head during division are largely due to inherent limitations in the independence movement, most importantly the bizarre elision from Indian nationalism to Hindu nationalism that took place while Gandhi was the leading light. Nehru with his slightly embarrassing appeals to India's ancient 'unity' was of course no better. With Gandhi opposing both independent Muslim and Dalit electoral bodies in his 1932 hunger strike, an illusory vision of unity exacerbated religious and cultural divides and set the stage for partition – especially since Gandhi pushed out the only major independence figure who was genuinely prepared to deal with the large Muslim minority of India on equal terms, namely Subhas Chandra Bose.

It is worth mentioning here that the treatment of Dalits has been little improved. While untouchability is now officially illegal, widespread discrimination predominates – percentage parliamentary representation is a good first check – and slaveholding remains all too real. Just as notions of racial superiority never protected female slaves from sexual abuse, neither did 'untouchability', while the logic of both helped to reinforce alienation – in the Hegelian-Marxist sense – and obscene forms of social organisation. The recent notoriety of rape victims in India has drawn attention to a problem and will facilitate improvements – India is not officially in a state of war but it would be encouraging to hear criticisms of India's anti-naxal policy at the coming summit in London (it will be over by the time this gets to print) – but I fear without deep-seated structural changes these improvements will prove superficial at best.



THERE'S ONE ISSUE LEFT!

IF YOU HAVE **ANYTHING LEFT TO SAY**, NOW IS THE **TIME!**

KEEP YOUR **EYES PEELED** NEXT WEEK FOR THE **LAST FELIX OF THE YEAR!**



Authors To Look Out For

Maciej Matuszewski presents an eclectic list of some of his favourite authors for you to check out



Bolesław Prus

Those who have read my previous articles for the Books Section already know of my love for the works of Bolesław Prus. Even in his native Poland he is not a particularly popular author, often obscured by his more popular and populist, contemporary, Henryk Sienkiewicz.

I, however, believe that it can be safely said that Prus is the best writer in the Polish canon. Working in the late nineteenth century he had a unique insight on the problems faced by the various different classes of society at that time. This is combined with a magnificent literary skill. His works may not make the easiest or most comfortable reading but they are certain to move you.



Ursula Le Guin

Ursula Le Guin has had a long and illustrious career. She has written a wide range of different fiction, from the fantasy *Earthsea Cycle*, to the science fiction *Hainish Cycle*, to the mainstream fiction *Orsinian Tales*. All of her work is united by a high literary quality and thoughtful consideration of social, psychological and philosophical issues – she is one of the pioneers of the sociological SF sub-genre. She has also written several volumes of academic essays on various topic, as well as several highly acclaimed translations, including of Lao Tzu's *Tao Te Ching*. A truly amazing writer well worth of your attention.

Look out for: *Tehanu, The Left Hand of Darkness*



Jeff Vandermeer

Jeff Vandermeer is one of most exciting writers of modern times. He is a pioneer in the New Weird genre – which aims to combine the eldritch horror themes of Lovecraft with wider outlooks and a higher literary quality. His works are truly unique and almost impossible to describe. However, rest assured that you won't regret checking them out. As well as being a highly acclaimed author Vandermeer is also a very successful editor, having put out a number of popular fantasy and science fiction anthology. The latest of these, *The Weir*, is a must read for those interested in dark fantasy and gothic horror.

Look out for: *The Third Bear, Finch, Annihilation*



Margaret Atwood

Atwood is rightfully well known and highly regarded for her magnificent feminist speculative fiction novel *The Handmaid's Tale*. She has, however, produced a far wider range of work. As well as several mainstream and science fiction books, often focusing on themes of feminisim, she has also produced several volumes

of literary criticism. Her recent collection of essays, *In Other Worlds: SF and the Human Imagination*, has drawn particular attention for its insightful and unique viewpoint on the SF field. Her work is always thoughtful and well written and her skills have been recognised by a number of high profile awards.

Look out for: *The Oryx and the Crane, The Handmaid's Tale*



Iain Banks

Banks was widely recognised as the master of the intelligent space opera. His *Culture* series has gained wide acclaim for its depiction of a post-scarcity utopian society. The series explores a range of themes, in particular being praised for its depiction of artificial intelligences, and uses a wide range of interesting and innovative literary techniques. Banks also wrote a number of equally highly praised mainstream fiction books, with his debut, *The Wasp Factory*, being praised by critics for its uncompromising description of the highly disturbed sixteen year old Frank Cauldhame. His non-fiction work includes *Raw Spirit*, a guide to Scotland's whiskey distilleries.

Look out for: *Use of Weapons, The Bridge, The Crow Road*

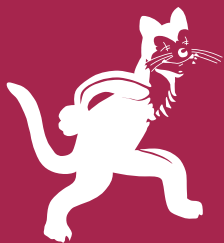
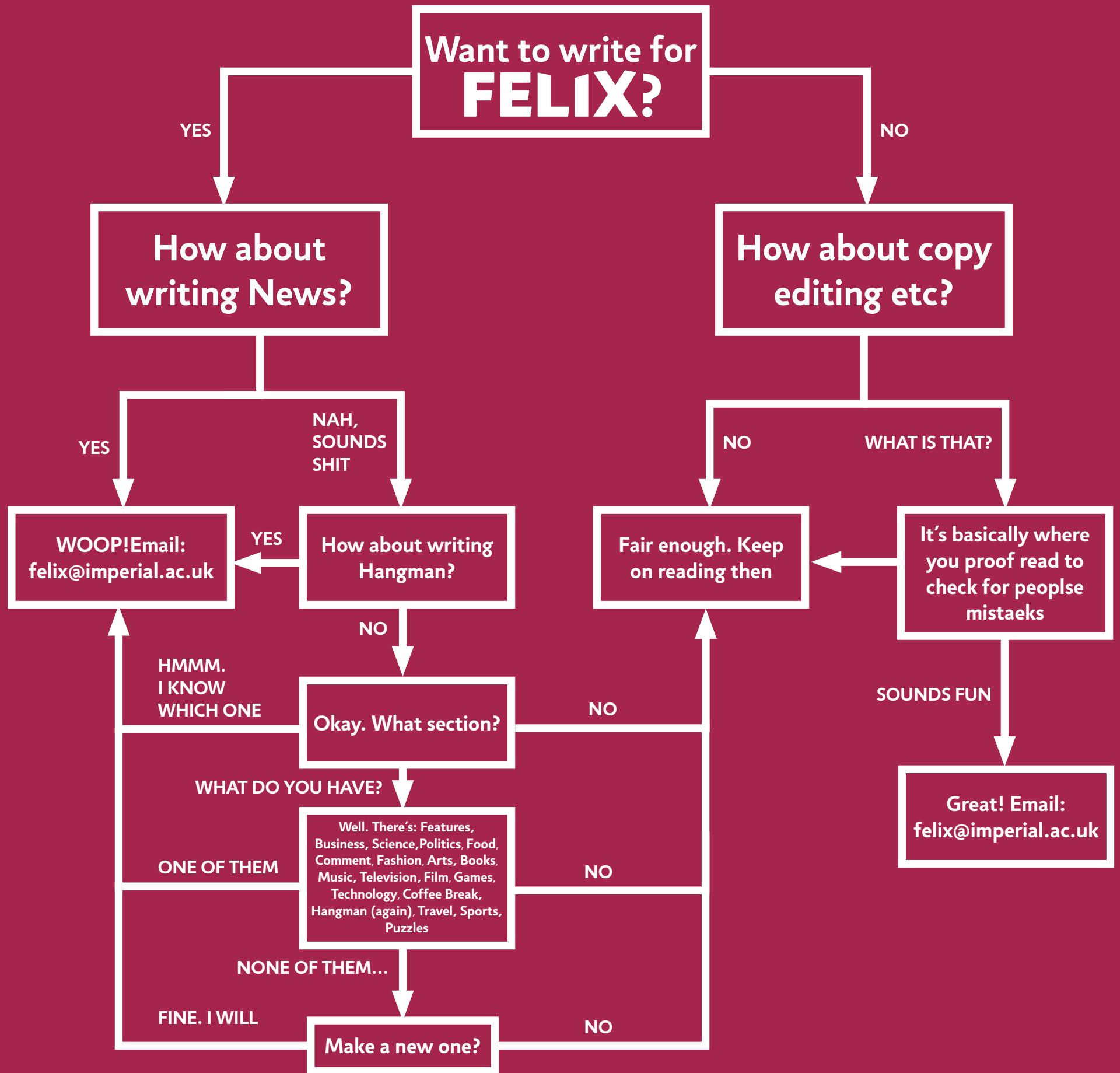


Haruki Murakami

Murakami is one of Japan best living authors. A prolific writer, his beautifully written work manages to combine mainstream fiction and reflections on ordinary life with more fantastical elements in a truly unique way. His works are also notable for their deep respect of Japanese history and culture, and so provide a fascinating read for a Western audience. He has been consistently tipped as a leading candidate to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. His memoir, *What I Talk About When I Talk About Running*, also received praise for his frank discussion of his experiences running ultramarathons.

Look out for: *1Q84, The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*

Love Books?
Want to see YOUR name in print?
Send your reviews, features and author profiles to books.felix@imperial.ac.uk



FELIX

felix@imperial.ac.uk

felixonline.co.uk

[facebook.com/FelixImperial](https://www.facebook.com/FelixImperial)

[@feliximperial](https://twitter.com/feliximperial)



Get out the hankies: we

John Park

Film Editor

Beaches (1988)

Director: Garry Marshall
Writers: Mary Agnes Donouge, Iris Rainer (novel)
Starring: Bette Midler, Barbara Hershey
Runtime: 123 minutes
Certification: 12A



*Did you ever know that you're my hero,
and everything I would like to be?*

*I can fly higher than an eagle,
'cause you are the wind beneath my wings...*

...sang Bette Midler at this year's 86th Academy Awards during the 'In Memoriam' segment of the ceremony. The smash-hit, Grammy-winning song was forever immortalised as it started playing in the end-credits scene of *Beaches*, the Garry Marshall film that looks at the unlikely but beautiful friendship between two completely different women.

Successful singer/actress CC Bloom (Bette Midler) is forced to run out of her rehearsal to rush back to San Francisco, where her best friend Hillary (Barbara Hershey) has troubling news for her. Then begins CC's reminiscing of the good old days, starting when the two ladies met as little girls (Mayim Bialik (*The Big Bang Theory's* Amy Farrah Fowler) and Marcie Leeds) on a...you guessed it...beach.

Back in the days when there were no emails, facebook, or much technology to help with human communication, people actually wrote letters. That is how CC and Hillary keep in touch throughout the movie. Updating each other on the ups and downs of their



professional and personal lives, the two spend as much time apart on screen as they do together.

Both Midler and Hershey appear more than comfortable in their roles. Midler is the wild child, living it up in New York struggling in the entertainment industry, doing bit jobs until she gets to the top. CC does not take herself too seriously (she even agrees to dress in a hilarious bunny costume and sing someone "happy birthday" to earn some cash), and this shows in a casual, humorous performance that is as loud as it is jolly. Hershey is a little more reserved. Her rich family background keeps her more subdued and calm, and as she pursues a law degree, she does so with peace and quiet.

Throughout the film it becomes more and more evident that the story is undeniably leaning towards following CC. Midler is given the juicier subplots, getting all the singing scenes (there are quite a few, not quite sure why there are so many), and her larger-than-life character threatens to sideline the crucial other half of this friendship. Midler has always been good at those bold, brassy roles, and it comes as no surprise that she knocks it out of the park once again. Even Mayim Bialik, who looks remarkably convincing as a young Bette Midler,

as she portrays CC as an 11-year-old, matches the gusto and energy. But this means that we see absolutely nothing of Hillary's supposed success in the legal world, there are a few brief scenes of her married life, and, for the most part, the only time the audience gets to see Hillary talk is when the two ladies decide to get together for a meet-up.

But when the two of them are in the same frame, the chemistry between the pair is impeccable. They have their share of fights, about the silliest of things, something they both admit eventually, and it's what is shown in the ever-changing dynamic of this unique friendship that keeps us occupied during the running time. What comes between the two friends? Sometimes it's a man's affection, other times it's jealousy over certain character traits. They fight and make up, fight and make up, in what sounds like repetitive plotting, but when the two leads are this fun to watch, it's hardly a chore.

There are so many bleedingly obvious clues embedded in the script that the intended effect of the big, sad surprise is diminished in the unnecessarily long build-up. But it's thanks to the excellent performances from the leads that it still manages to pack in quite a punch. And once that song starts playing, it will be difficult to hold back the tears. This is textbook, shameless audience manipulation, – even the warm, fuzzy, hazy flashback in the closing scenes is hardly subtle – but it's something that is worth partially forgiving, given the rather beautiful story it tells.

*Fly, fly, fly high against the sky
so high I almost touch the sky.
Thank you, thank you,
Thank God for you, the wind beneath
my wings*



Steel Magnolias (1989)

Director: Herbert Ross
Writer: Robert Harling
Starring: Sally Field, Julia Roberts, Daryl Hannah, Olympia Dukakis, Shirley MacLaine, Dolly Parton, Tom Skeritt, Sam Shepard, Dylan McDermott
Runtime: 117 minutes
Certification: PG



Julia Roberts' very first Academy Award nomination came from her breakout role in *Steel Magnolias*, and well-deserved so. She is a part of the faultless six-piece female ensemble that leads the film in a most vibrant, touching manner. No matter what life throws at them, the six women always stick together and manage to find a way out. They can be as delicate as the magnolia but, when the situation calls for it, as tough as steel, giving the film its name.

Set in the Southern State of Louisiana, M'Lynn (Sally Field) is busy with organising her daughter Shelby's (Julia Roberts) wedding. Local beautician Truvy (Dolly Parton) hires the slightly dorky Annelle (Daryl Hannah), a recent beauty school graduate. Also mixed into this six-pack are Ouiser (Shirley MacLaine), a cranky old lady, and Clairee (Olympia Dukakis), a calm old lady. Together, they are the best of friends, and spend some incredible times together, sharing stories, gossiping, sitting around Truvy's beauty salon, and getting their various treatments done. This is until Shelby has a slight health scare. She has type

1 diabetes, and, as the film progresses, it never lets us forget about it. What is clever about *Steel Magnolia* is how it carefully balances impending tragedy with an appropriate amount of natural humour and heartfelt poignancy.

When it comes to the performances, there is not one actress who acts as a noticeable weak link. Everyone brings something memorable to their individual roles, and it's in this finely assembled ladies the film finds its voice. Sally Field, always so brave and stoic as the mother figure, is simply mesmerising, having to shoulder all sorts of burden coming from her family; and it's evident her much later role as Nora Walker in the television series *Brothers & Sisters*, in which she completely excelled, could have been inspired in part by her performance here. She's even married to the same on-screen husband, Tom Skeritt, in both roles.

Dolly Parton is simply lovely to listen to, a lady with a heart of gold and the purest of intentions, who selflessly takes care of those around her. She kindly guides Annelle as her employer, and is very understanding towards her husband (Sam Shepard) who is down on his luck.

Daryl Hannah starts off as a clueless young girl out in the real world, and she is the one who goes through the most drastic change throughout the course of the movie. The film's relentless time jumps allow for its characters to show completely new sides to themselves, a plot method that works wonders for Annelle's share of the story. She finds love, becomes more and more confident in her own skin, finds religion, and convincingly integrates into the ladies' group, no longer having to cautiously, awkwardly tip-toe around everyone.

The genius pairing of Shirley MacLaine and Olympia Dukakis provides most of the laughs. MacLaine



Peepies from the Eighties



The Fabulous Baker Boys (1989)

Director: Steve Kloves

Writer: Steve Kloves

Starring: Michelle Pfeiffer, Jeff Bridges, Beau Bridges

Runtime: 114 minutes

Certification: 15



When someone like Michelle Pfeiffer walks into your life, you know it's about to change big time. The Baker brothers are about to find out how she can alter everything. *The Fabulous Baker Boys* is a film that starts out with unfulfilled dreams and grim, depressing lifestyles to which Pfeiffer's character provides a shiny ray of hope. She is more than a mere eye-candy, capturing the musical stage with her appealing voice and sex appeal. There have been a few musical performers in the history of cinema who have managed to completely entice the audience: Marilyn Monroe in *Some Like It Hot*, Rita Hayworth in *Gilda*, and even Jessica Rabbit in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* Pfeiffer is easily one of them. How did she become such a global sensation? Watch *The Fabulous Baker Boys* and find out.

Business isn't so great for the Baker brothers (real life brothers Beau and Jeff Bridges). Their little piano duet gigs aren't pleasing the crowd and bar owners aren't happy with their performances. They need a new look and a new method of connecting to the audience, something that grows tougher every day. They decide to hold a singing audition. Of course, when they promise lousy pay, the talent that comes along cannot be anything groundbreaking. We see a montage of horrendously bad singers, the perfect prelude for what is to come - it's like watching some of the awful audition tapes of *The X Factor*. It all seems hopeless, until Susie Diamond (Michelle Pfeiffer) walks in, an hour and a half late. Naturally, they would have rejected such tardiness. But beggars can't be choosers. They haven't found a single singer who might be appropriate, and so they decide to give her a try. She starts singing, and with her husky and jazzy voice, the brothers are completely taken by her. She's in. And with their new addition, the business soars. She has some odd personality quirks that don't sit too easily with the more uptight, conservative older brother Frank (Beau Bridges), but as the film progresses, something



alone does her snarky best, but with Dukakis thrown in there, the comedic effect is more than doubled. The two old ladies are constantly sniping at each other, and watch as these two amazingly gifted actresses manage to make even the most depressing scene of the film into an unforgettable comedy highlight.

Julia Roberts, in one of her first major roles, is in truly heart-breaking mode as she tries to have it all with her condition. She holds her own mighty well against the more seasoned veterans, and it's no wonder her career got a boost from this point on.

In a picture crowded by so many women, it's only natural for the men to be sidelined. The husbands and boyfriends come and go, appearing merely to tell us that these women have families. But the male roles are of course highly limited compared to those of what the females are given.

It's a film that has as many laughs as it does tears. It's a film with witty dialogue and made with utmost sincerity. And hey, it's one of the films that made James Franco cry. True story.



romantic sparks up between her and the younger and better looking brother Jack (Jeff Bridges).

It may sound blunt, but it is a known fact that Jeff is the more talented sibling. This is also mirrored in the film. Frank is more organised, he arranges the concerts and meets the various employers. Jack just has to turn up for their performances. Jack is more handsome, suave, is not growing bald-patches like Frank, and leads a more care-free lifestyle of booze and women. Frank is married with kids to support. In a single genius move, the writers decide to toss the tacky love triangle involving Jack, Susie and Frank. Frank has settled down and loves his family to bits. The romance that develops is strictly between Jack and Susie. There is brotherly feud and jealousy, but none of it is fuelled by whatever romantic interests the brothers have, because Frank is not interested in Susie that way. He is concerned about their business, not his love life. Frank's family is also never shown, another smart move that avoids unnecessary melodrama. A number of sub-plots could have been created, but Frank's family is wisely given no mention, creating no distraction from the trio on which we are supposed to focus.

Pfeiffer is perfect for the role of Susie. Whatever she wears she maintains the cool, breezy, and most importantly spellbinding look that captures the glamour and the smoky illusion of warm perfection that, despite what

goes on backstage, whenever Susie holds the microphone and steps on to that stage, the entire world is hers, and the crowd cannot help but stare at her sultry, diva presence. The most iconic scene in the film, Pfeiffer performing 'Makin' Whoopee' in her stunning red dress whilst climbing down a piano, does not fail to impress, with Pfeiffer's magnificent singing voice perfectly gracing over the challenging song. Pfeiffer did all of her own singing for the film, and it is all truly remarkable. When she sings, she moves with elegance. Off the stage, she can turn into a cranky but confident, harsh-mouthed woman whose piercing words provide some offbeat humour.

She may have the showier, more award-baiting role but the Bridges brothers convincingly show the underlying sibling rivalry that intensifies every minute. You know there will be a meltdown at some point - they're brothers, they're bound to fight it out one way or the other. They both make compromises, because that's what you do for the one you love. Sibling love has never been more beautiful - it's never cheesy. A lot of their actions don't require words and to be perfectly frank, there isn't a lot of original material that ever seems fresh. But it handles the familiar elements incredibly well. There is deep dependence between the two brothers and what one lacks, the other makes up for. They function well together and the simmering conflict is well controlled

by the two talented actors. There are genuinely touching moments that show what went wrong with the two very different brothers and whilst never over the top, the dialogue is heartfelt. Without the glamour of the musical stage, when they're back in the real world, their troubles are always addressed. There are many moving scenes and all of them rightly involve the Baker boys.

The warm cinematography that beautifully captures the many musical stages provides stark contrast with the harsh, gray, much colder one of the outside world. The skillful lighting and the slick, hypnotic camerawork perfectly surround Pfeiffer's beauty on stage, setting up a cozy, tender atmosphere for the scenes with songs. But *The Fabulous Baker Boys* is not a feel-good, song-and-dance musical because despite the cool, jazzy tempo of Susie's songs, it carefully looks at the team's hardships head-on, without trying to sugarcoat or ignore the issues that arise.

It's not as heavy-handed as many musical biopics, and there is plenty of 80s luxurious vibe to keep us under Pfeiffer's magnificent spell throughout. *The Fabulous Baker Boys* is a more than fabulous treat for the eyes and the ears, packed full of astonishing performances from its leads, soothing, comforting songs, and a warm ambience that is as relaxing as being in a classy jazz bar whilst sipping an overpriced drink.

ICSMBC are carrying their damaged scull to Brighton to raise funds for the RNLI and a replacement scull

Sponsor by text: Type
"ICSM50 £X" to 70070
where X is 1/2/3/4/5/10
<http://tiny.cc/icsmbc>



FELIX



World Cup Preview

INSIDE:

EACH TEAM PREVIEWED
ENGLAND'S CHANCES
WILL MATCH-FIXING STRIKE?
PLUS A FIXTURE WALLCHART




EDITED BY
KUNAL WAGLE

WRITTEN BY:

KUNAL WAGLE
JONNY PRATT
NICK FARMER
MAX EGGL



Group A

Who's in it?			
Brazil		Mexico	
Croatia		Cameroon	

BRAZIL

Brazil qualified automatically for the tournament by virtue of being the hosts. This could be seen as a double-edged sword, as they have been limited to friendlies. However a strong showing in the Confederations Cup (in which they beat Spain 3-0 in the final) has underlined their deserved status as joint-favourites.

Manager: **Luiz Felipe Scolari**

Captain: **Thiago Silva (Paris Saint-Germain)**

2010 World Cup: **Quarter-finals**

Best World Cup Performance: **Champions (1958, 1962, 1970, 1994, 2002)**

FIFA World Ranking: 3

Player to watch: After an unconvincing debut season at Barcelona **Neymar** will be keen to show the world why he commanded such a large fee

But also look out for: After an unsuccessful couple of seasons at QPR **Julio Cesar** will be desperate to show why he is still worthy of a starting berth in the Brazilian team.

CROATIA

Croatia qualified for the World Cup Finals by beating Iceland 2-0 on aggregate in a playoff. This is their first World Cup since 2006, having missed the 2010 edition as they failed to qualify. They know that in order to progress from the group stage for just the second time in their history, they will have to be on the ball, as they have been put in a tricky group, in which both Mexico and Cameroon will fancy their chances.

Manager: **Niko Kovac**

Captain: **Darijo Srna (Shakhtar Donetsk)**

2010 World Cup: **Did Not Qualify**

Best World Cup Performance: **3rd Place (1998)**

FIFA World Ranking: 18

Player to watch: Croatia's hopes will undoubtedly be resting on Real Madrid's **Luka Modric**. Now with the experience of 75 caps, Modric will be looking to add to his tally of 8 goals in Brazil.

But also look out for: After another strong season for Bayern Munich **Mario Mandzukic** will feel that he is in prime condition to stamp his authority on the world stage.

Group B

Who's in it?			
Spain		Chile	
Netherlands		Australia	

SPAIN

The 2010 Champions will arrive in Brazil full of confidence after a strong qualifying campaign that saw them hold off France. They have also had experience of the conditions, having reached the final of the Confederations Cup in Brazil last year, where their campaign was unceremoniously ended by Brazil.

Manager: **Vincente del Bosque**

Captain: **Iker Casillas (Real Madrid)**

2010 World Cup: **Champions**

Best World Cup Performance: **Champions (2010)**

FIFA World Ranking: 1

Player to watch: Despite his continued struggles at Chelsea, Spanish front man **Fernando Torres** has always been able to take solace in his performances for his country.?

But also look out for: **Cesc Fabregas** seems to be on his way out of Barcelona and could even be returning to the Premier League. He will know that a good World Cup will seal the deal.

NETHERLANDS

Group B will see a repeat of the 2010 final as the Netherlands have been drawn against Spain. Despite being in the group stage, the game could still have major ramifications for the rest of the tournament, as the loser will likely have to face Brazil in the second round. Manager Louis van Gaal will want to sign off with a strong performance in the finals before he joins Manchester United.

Manager: **Louis van Gaal**

Captain: **Robin van Persie (Man Utd)**

2010 World Cup: **Runners Up**

Best World Cup Performance: **Runners Up (1974, 1978, 2010)**

FIFA World Ranking: 15

Player to watch: In an incredibly inexperienced defence, **Daley Blind** has emerged as a star left back for Ajax over the past two seasons.

But also look out for: An attacking trio of **Arjen Robben, Wesley Schneider** and **Robin van Persie** should always be feared, no matter who the opposition are.

CHILE

Chile qualified by virtue of finishing third in the CONMEBOL round robin qualification tournament, finishing behind Argentina and Colombia and finishing ahead of Uruguay and Ecuador. England fans will also remember being defeated by the Chileans at Wembley last autumn.

Manager: **Jorge Sampaoli**

Captain: **Claudio Bravo (Real Sociedad)**

2010 World Cup: **Second Round**

Best World Cup Performance: **Third Place (1962)**

FIFA World Ranking: 14

Player to watch: Juventus man **Arturo Vidal** has had another strong season and will know that he will be considered leader of the Chilean midfield this summer.

But also look out for: Barcelona forward **Alexis Sanchez** gave England's defenders nightmares in the friendly last November and will be expected to repeat those heroics.

AUSTRALIA

Australia will be going into this World Cup cursing their luck that they have been handed such a difficult group. It will be very difficult for anyone to predict Australia getting through a group like this to match their performance of 2006, but the Australians won't mind that one bit. They'll look to take a leaf out of the national cricket team's book and cause a few surprises, but surely qualifying will be a miracle?

Manager: **Ande Postecoglou**

Captain: **Mile Jedinak (Crystal Palace)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stage**

Best World Cup Performance: **Second Round (2006)**

FIFA World Ranking: 62

Player to watch: Can Australian vice-captain **Tim Cahill** produce performances that will inspire the Socceros to the glory of qualification?

But also look out for: In a vastly inexperienced side **Mark Bresciano** (who is one of the more experienced) will be crucial to his country's chances as he looks to control the midfield.

Groups A - D

Group C

Who's in it?			
Colombia		Ivory Coast	
Greece		Japan	

COLOMBIA

Colombia, despite being ranked 8th in the world, will be taking part in their first World Cup Finals since 1998, having qualified 2nd in the CONMEBOL. They will also be wary of the group that they have been given, with potential banana skins in Japan and Greece. However they will still be confident.

Manager: **Jose Pekerman**

Captain: **Mario Yepes (Atalanta)**

2010 World Cup: **Did Not Qualify**

Best World Cup Performance: **Second Round (1990)**

FIFA World Ranking: 8

Player to watch: In the absence of Radamel Falcao, by far Colombia's best player, **Teofilo Gutierrez**, who plays for River Plate, will have big boots to fill as he leads the forward line.

But also look out for: 38-year-old captain **Mario Yepes** retires after the World Cup. This is the first time he will play at the World Cup Finals and he is set to receive his 100th cap in the last game.

GREECE

Greece was dominant in their qualification campaign, but still could not quite beat Bosnia to the automatic qualification place. However their passage to their third World Cup was secured with a 4-2 aggregate win over Romania. They will be looking to their heroics from Euro 2004 for inspiration as they try to reach the second round for the first time in their history.

Manager: **Fernando Santos**

Captain: **Giorgos Karagounis (Free Agent)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stage**

Best World Cup Performance: **Group Stage (1994, 2010)**

FIFA World Ranking: 12

Player to watch: Greek captain **Giorgos Karagounis** has had a tough season, playing only fourteen times for relegated side Fulham.

Butalso lookoutfor: Celtic man **Giorgos Samaras** will be the lynchpin in what is a very experienced Greek front line. He has 74 appearances, whereas his colleagues have 76, 72 and 32 to their name.

IVORY COAST

The Ivory Coast are relatively new to the World Cup. This will be their third tilt at the title and they will be looking at this group with a quiet air of confidence. The team boasts numerous players that have plenty of experience at the highest levels and this was shown when in their comfortable qualification campaign.

Manager: **Sabri Lamouchi**

Captain: **Didier Drogba (Galatasaray)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stage**

Best World Cup Performance: **Group Stage (2006, 2010)**

FIFA World Ranking: 23

Player to watch: Many felt that **Yaya Toure** was hard done by when he didn't win the Premier League's player of the year award. Hopefully he won't be distracted by the lack of birthday cake.

But also look out for: The Ivory Coast's frontline is strong, and the potential first team attack of **Didier Drogba, Saloman Kalou** and **Wilfried Bony** can't be underestimated.

JAPAN

Japan cruised to qualification, beating Australia to the top spot in the AFC qualification rounds. They haven't progressed passed the second round before, but will be fancying their chances. It would be fair to class Japan as the dark horses of the group, with Colombia and the Ivory Coast being favourites to progress. Will it be that the fifth time is the charm for Japan in World Cups?

Manager: **Alberto Zaccheroni**

Captain: **Makoto Hasebe (Eintracht Frankfurt)**

2010 World Cup: **Second Round**

Best World Cup Performance: **Second Round (2002, 2010)**

FIFA World Ranking: 46

Player to watch: Manchester United's **Shinji Kagawa** will be key to Japan's hopes. Kagawa has seen his chances at United diminish recently.

But also look out for: **Keisuke Honda**, who plays for AC Milan. The veteran Japanese midfielder has been the lynchpin in his country's midfield for the last few years and will be again.

Group D

Who's in it?			
Uruguay		Italy	
England		Costa Rica	

URUGUAY

The Uruguayans were the last team to qualify for this year's finals; a poor showing in qualifying meant that they had to face Jordan in a play-off (which they won 5-0). They boast a scarily good front line, and will be one of the favourites to progress from arguably the toughest group in the draw.

Manager: **Oscar Tabarez**

Captain: **Diego Lugano (Free Agent)**

2010 World Cup: **Fourth Place**

Best World Cup Performance: **Champions (1930, 1950)**

FIFA World Ranking: 7

Player to watch: Assuming he recovers from injury the progress of **Luis Suarez** will surely be an interesting watch. He will look to build upon his golden boot for the qualification stage.

But also look out for: Beware Suarez's supporting cast at your peril. **Diego Forlan** and **Edinson Cavani** both have points to prove to their clubs this summer.

ENGLAND

In some ways England may actually be glad that they have been given such a tough group. As a result the weight of expectation is significantly less than it normally is, and England manager Roy Hodgson will be hoping to use this to his advantage. England's qualification, though bumpy in places, was relatively smooth as they topped a group that included Ukraine, Montenegro and Poland.

Manager: **Roy Hodgson**

Captain: **Steven Gerrard (Liverpool)**

2010 World Cup: **Second Round**

Best World Cup Performance: **Champions (1966)**

FIFA World Ranking: 10

Player to watch: There have been a lot of doubters recently, which will make **Wayne Rooney's** job all the more difficult.

But also look out for: The new young players coming through look exciting, and **Ross Barkley** and **Raheem Sterling** will want to make their mark.

ITALY

Italy were the first team to qualify from the European groups, and they will view themselves as the dark horses for this World Cup. People will remember that this was how they felt in 2006, when they went on to win the tournament in Germany.

Manager: **Cesare Prandelli**

Captain: **Gianluigi Buffon (Juventus)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stage**

Best World Cup Performance: **Champions (1934, 1938, 1982, 2006)**

FIFA World Ranking: 9

Player to watch: Having done it against England last time, it would be hard to bet against **Andrea Pirlo** showing his class to break English hearts again in the group stage.

But also look out for: **Guanluigi Buffon** is now in the twilight of his career, but that won't stop him putting in some big performances this time around.

COSTA RICA

Compared to Uruguay, Costa Rica had an easy time in qualifying, finishing the CONCACAF qualifying group in second with 18 points in 10 games. This is only their fourth World Cup and their first since they visited Germany in 2006. It would be unfair to call Costa Rica the minnows of the group, but it is more than fair to say that they are the least likely to qualify from this group.

Manager: **Jorge Luis Pinto**

Captain: **Bryan Ruiz (Fulham)**

2010 World Cup: **Did Not Qualify**

Best World Cup Performance: **Second Round (1990)**

FIFA World Ranking: 28

Player to watch: Following Fulham's relegation Costa Rica captain **Bryan Ruiz** will be wanting to make his loan to PSV Eindhoven permanent.

But also look out for: Young Arsenal forward **Joel Campbell** announced himself in grand fashion with a sensational goal while on loan at Olympiakos against Manchester United.

FELIX

2014 World Cup Fixtures Wallchart

FELIX



BELO HORIZONTE
Name: Estadio Mineirao
Built: 1965
Capacity: 57400
Number of Games: 6



BRASILIA
Name: Estadio Nacional
Built: 1974
Capacity: 68009
Number of Games: 7



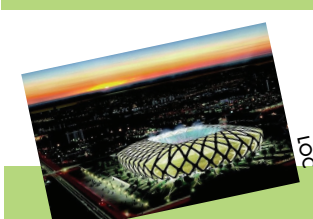
CUIABA
Name: Estadio Pantanal
Built: 2014
Capacity: 42968
Number of Games: 4



CURITIBA
Name: Estadio Da Baixada
Built: 2014
Capacity: 41456
Number of Games: 4



FORTALEZA
Name: Estadio Castelao
Built: 1973
Capacity: 58000
Number of Games: 6



MANAUS
Name: Estadio Amazonia
Built: 2014
Capacity: 42374
Number of Games: 4

GROUP A

Brazil v Croatia
San Paulo, 12 June

Mexico v Cameroon
Natal, 13 June

Brazil v Mexico
Fortaleza, 17 June

Cameroon v Croatia
Manaus, 18 June

Cameroon v Brazil
Brasilia, 23 June

Croatia v Mexico
Recife, 23 June

GROUP B

Spain v Netherlands
Salvador, 13 June

Chile v Australia
Cuiaba, 13 June

Australia v Netherlands
Porto Alegre, 18 June

Spain v Chile
Rio de Janeiro, 18 June

Netherlands v Chile
Sao Paulo, 23 June

Australia v Spain
Curitiba, 23 June

GROUP C

Colombia v Greece
Belo Horizonte, 14 June

Ivory Coast v Japan
Recife, 14 June

Colombia v Ivory Coast
Brasilia, 19 June

Japan v Greece
Natal, 19 June

Japan v Colombia
Cuiaba, 24 June

Greece v Ivory Coast
Fortaleza, 24 June

GROUP D

Uruguay v Costa Rica
Fortaleza, 14 June

England v Italy
Manaus, 14 June

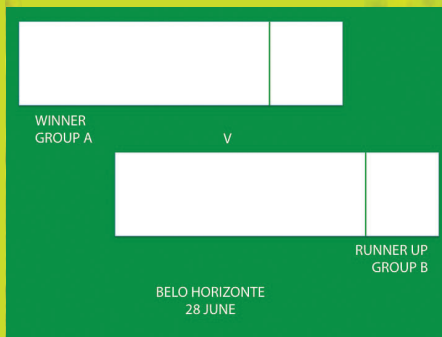
Uruguay v England
San Paulo, 19 June

Italy v Costa Rica
Recife, 20 June

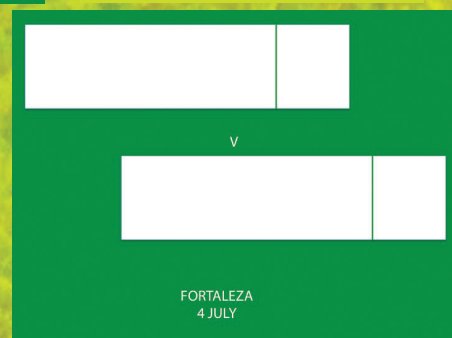
Italy v Uruguay
Natal, 24 June

Costa Rica v England
Belo Horizonte, 24 June

SECOND ROUND



QUARTER-FINAL



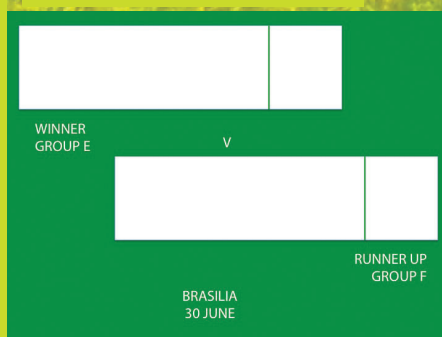
SECOND ROUND



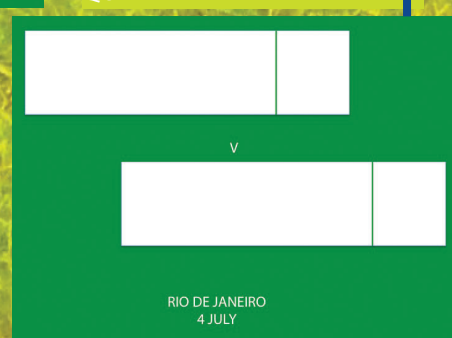
SEMI-FINAL



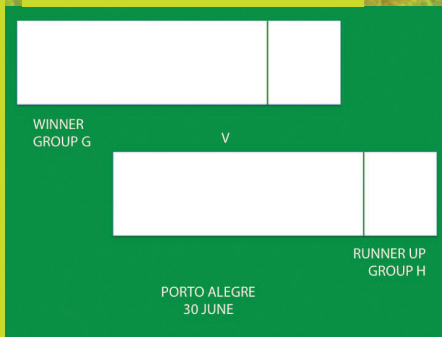
SECOND ROUND



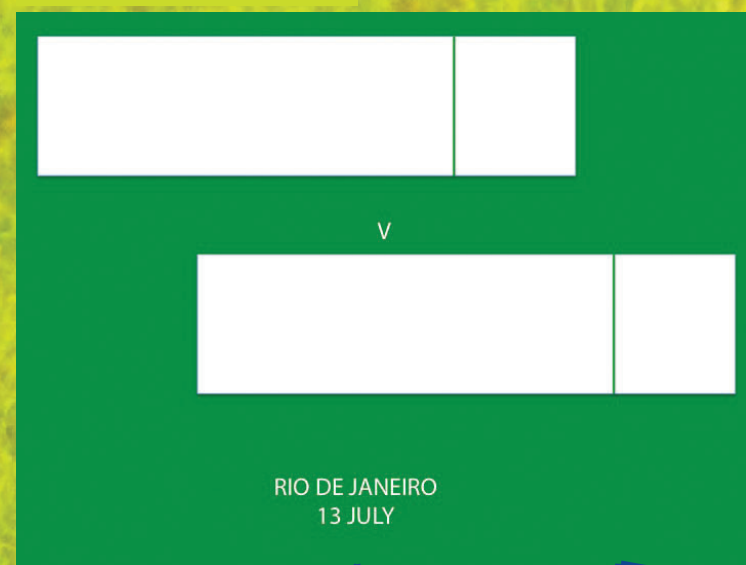
QUARTER-FINAL



SECOND ROUND



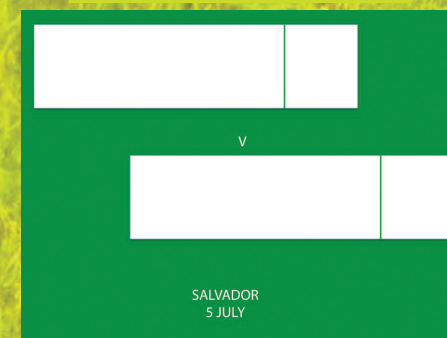
FINAL



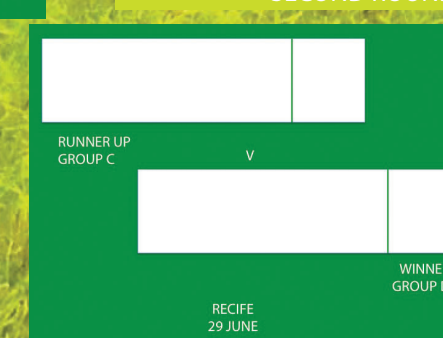
SECOND ROUND



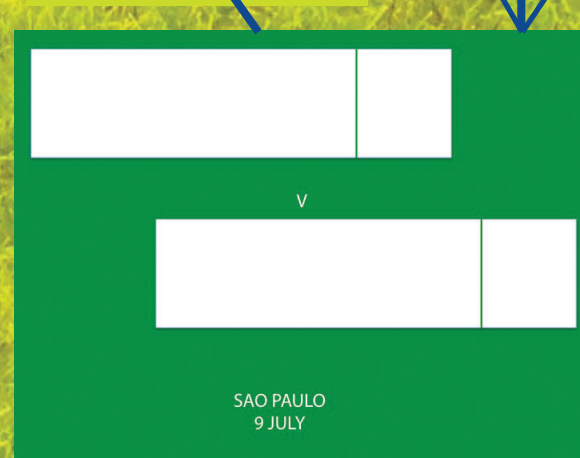
QUARTER-FINAL



SECOND ROUND



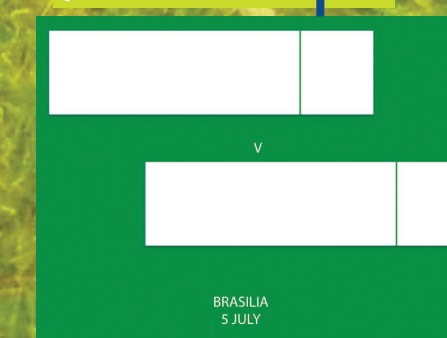
SEMI-FINAL



SECOND ROUND



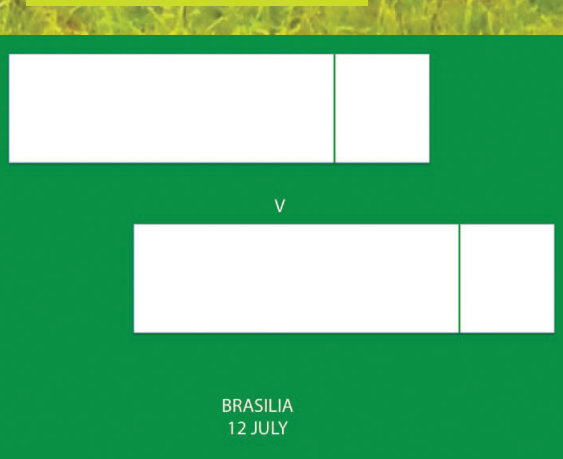
QUARTER-FINAL



SECOND ROUND



3RD PLACE PLAY OFF



GROUP E

Switzerland v Ecuador
Brasilia, 15 June

France v Honduras
Porto Alegre, 15 June

Switzerland v France
Salvador, 20 June

Honduras v Ecuador
Curitiba, 20 June

Honduras v Switzerland
Manaus, 25 June

Ecuador v France
Rio de Janeiro, 25 June

GROUP F

Argentina v Bosnia-Herz.
Rio de Janeiro, 15 June

Iran v Nigeria
Curitiba, 16 June

Argentina v Iran
Belo Horizonte, 21 June

Nigeria v Bosnia-Herz.
Cuiaba, 21 June

Nigeria v Argentina
Porto Alegre, 25 June

Bosnia-Herz. v Iran
Salvador, 25 June

GROUP G

Germany v Portugal
Salvador, 16 June

Ghana v USA
Natal, 16 June

Germany v Ghana
Fortaleza, 21 June

USA v Portugal
Manaus, 22 June

Portugal v Ghana
Brasilia, 26 June

USA v Germany
Recife, 26 June

GROUP H

Belgium v Algeria
Belo Horizonte, 17 June

Russia v South Korea
Cuiaba, 17 June

Belgium v Russia
Rio de Janeiro, 22 June

South Korea v Algeria
Porto Alegre, 22 June

South Korea v Belgium
Sao Paulo, 26 June

Algeria v Russia
Curitiba, 26 June



NATAL
Name: Estadio Das Dunas
Built: 2014
Capacity: 42086
Number of Games: 4



PORTO ALEGRE
Name: Estadio Beira-Rio
Built: 1969
Capacity: 48849
Number of Games: 5



RECIFE
Name: Arena Pernambuco
Built: 2013
Capacity: 42800
Number of Games: 5



RIO DE JANEIRO
Name: Estadio Do Maracana
Built: 1950
Capacity: 76804
Number of Games: 7



SALVADOR
Name: Arena Fonte Nova
Built: 1951
Capacity: 48747
Number of Games: 6



SAO PAULO
Name: Arena de Sao Paulo
Built: 2014
Capacity: 65807
Number of Games: 6



Group E

Who's in it?			
Switzerland		France	
Ecuador		Honduras	

SWITZERLAND

Switzerland qualified with ease for this World Cup, topping a fairly simple group with the toughest opponents being Norway. Four years ago they shocked the eventual winners Spain with a 1-0 victory, but still failed to get out of their group. They boast an impressive FIFA ranking, but that is more to knowing the system.

Manager: **Ottmar Hitzfeld**

Captain: **Gökhan Inler (Napoli)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stages**

Best World Cup Performance: **Quarters-Finals (1934, 1938, 1954)**

FIFA World Ranking: 6

Player to watch: With Liverpool and Manchester United allegedly interested **Xherdan Shaqiri** will be of interest to English fans. He's denied the rumours, but the fast Bayern Munich winger will still be influential for his country.

But also look out for: **Josip Drmić** has just joined Leverkusen, and is shaping up to be a top striker. Can he step it up for the World Cup?

ECUADOR

Ecuador scraped the last automatic qualifying place in their group over Uruguay thanks to goal difference. But for a last match victory over the Uruguayans they would have been facing off against Jordan for that last spot. They play at one of the highest international football stadiums, and use their familiarity to the conditions to their advantage. In qualification they were undefeated there, whilst winless abroad.

Manager: **Reinaldo Rueda**

Captain: **Antonio Valencia (Man Utd)**

2010 World Cup: **Did Not Qualify**

Best World Cup Performance: **Second Round (2006)**

FIFA World Ranking: 26

Player to watch: **Walter Ayovi** is one of the most experienced players in the Ecuador team, and although age has forced him to move back from his usual wing position he is still a threat.

But also look out for: **Édison Méndez** is another strong attacking player for their team. Watch out for him if Ecuador get any free kicks.

FRANCE

France qualified with a comeback from a 2-0 loss to Ukraine in the playoff first leg to get to Brazil. There is no doubt they have a host of talented players, but player issues have dogged them over the last two tournaments. Deschamps appears to want to combat this, even leaving Samir Nasri at home to get a more harmonic group.

Manager: **Didier Deschamps**

Captain: **Hugo Lloris (Tottenham)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stage**

Best World Cup Performance: **Champions (1998)**

FIFA World Ranking: 16

Player to watch: With price tags of £60 million floating around it's safe to say that **Paul Pogba** has done alright for himself at Juventus. The young midfielder has the first chance to really shine on the World stage.

But also look out for: Defence is often overlooked, but in **Raphaël Varane** France have one of the truly outstanding centre backs.

HONDURAS

Their warm up match against England was a fairly typical performance from the Central American minnows. They have a very traditional 4-4-2 set up and are physical and tough to break down. Their aim for this tournament will likely be to put up a good showing, and a first World Cup victory would go a long way towards this.

Manager: **Luis Fernando Suárez**

Captain: **Noel Valladares (Olimpia)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stage**

Best World Cup Performance: **Group Stage (1982, 2010)**

FIFA World Ranking: 33

Player to watch: English football fans will know all about **Maynor Figueroa**, who's spent the best part of the last 6 years playing here for Wigan and Hull City.

But also look out for: With 9 goals in the qualifying campaign, **Jerry Bengtson** will be expected to lead the line for Los Catrachos.

Group F

Who's in it?			
Argentina		Iran	
Bosnia-Herze.		Nigeria	

ARGENTINA

Qualification came easily for the Argentinians, topping the South American CONMEBOL group. They were particularly free scoring at home, scoring 3 or more goals in six of their qualification games. They will be looking to take advantage of the similar Brazilian conditions to challenge for the World Cup.

Manager: **Alejandro Sabella**

Captain: **Lionel Messi (Barcelona)**

2010 World Cup: **Quarter Finals**

Best World Cup Performance: **Champions (1978, 1986)**

FIFA World Ranking: 5

Player to watch: It's a bit obvious to say **Lionel Messi**, but it really is time for the Argentina captain to deliver at the World Cup. He is a potential game changer on his own, and the kind of player that can drag the team through.

But also look out for: **Maxi Rodríguez** may have returned to Argentina to play for Newell's Old Boys, but he still has a lot of quality.

BOSNIA-HERZE.

Qualified for their first World Cup as an independent nation by topping their group over Greece on goal difference. An impressive 30 goals in qualification highlights the attacking flair they excel at. They may have only conceded 6 while qualifying, but up against the world's best firepower their defence is going to have a very different test.

Manager: **Safet Sušić**

Captain: **Emir Spahić (Bayer Leverkusen)**

2010 World Cup: **Did Not Qualify**

Best World Cup Performance: **Never Qualified Before**

FIFA World Ranking: 21

Player to watch: Leading their free scoring attack will be Manchester City's **Edin Džeko**, who boasts an impressive goal to game ratio of 0.56.

But also look out for: **Miralem Pjanić** has 48 caps at just 24 with good reason. He is arguably the most technically gifted of the squad.

IRAN

Made their way through the initial group stage quite comfortably, but struggled in the final group. A late push of victories propelled them above South Korea to top the table and enter the world cup as the highest ranking Asian team

Manager: **Carlos Queiroz**

Captain: **Javad Nekounam (Kuwait SC)**

2010 World Cup: **Did Not Qualify**

Best World Cup Performance: **Group Stage (1978, 1998, 2006)**

FIFA World Ranking: 43

Player to watch: Fulham's player of the year **Ashkan Dejagah** has surprisingly not picked up a huge number of caps, but if he starts he can add a serious attacking threat to a side that has struggled for goals.

But also look out for: **Reza Ghoochannejhad** signed for Charlton in January, and has an impressive record of 10 goals in 14 games for Iran.

NIGERIA

Qualified with ease from CAF, unbeaten in the group stages and then recorded a comfortable 4-1 victory over Ethiopia to confirm their place in Brazil. A step up in performance will still be required to match their efforts from 1994 & 1998 in getting out of the group.

Manager: **Stephen Keshi**

Captain: **Vincent Enyeama (Lille)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stage**

Best World Cup Performance: **Second Round (1994, 1998)**

FIFA World Ranking: 45

Player to watch: **Victor Moses** declared his allegiance to Nigeria in 2012. A promising loan spell at Liverpool this year let Moses show glimpses of what he can do.

But also look out for: **Joesph Yobo** is a player it seems like has been around forever, and the 96 cap 33 year old will want to show he still has it.

Groups E - H

Group G

Who's in it?			
Germany		Ghana	
Portugal		USA	

GERMANY

The Germans only dropped two points in an impressive qualification campaign. The two dropped were in a 4-4 draw with Sweden, after throwing away a 4-0 lead. Always there or thereabouts when it comes to the World Cup, but will be looking for their own Golden Generation to push and challenge for the trophy.

Manager: **Joachim Löw**

Captain: **Philipp Lahm (Bayern Munich)**

2010 World Cup: **Semi Finals**

Best World Cup Performance: **Champions (1954, 1974, 1990)**

FIFA World Ranking: 2

Player to watch: **Miroslav Klose** has been there and done it all in a German shirt, and this will be his fourth World Cup. The striker has a very impressive goal to game ratio, and will be looked at to finish off any chances.

But also look out for: After a promising season at Chelsea **André Schürrle** will be one of the players expected to provide chances for their strikeforce.

PORTUGAL

Sometimes football delivers fairytale stories, and one happened here with Cristiano Ronaldo all but dragged his side into the Finals with a hat-trick against Sweden in the play offs. Their group stage was dogged by unfortunate draws, but they will be hoping that's behind them and provided they can get out of the group they have every chance of going far.

Manager: **Paulo Bento**

Captain: **Cristiano Ronaldo (Real Madrid)**

2010 World Cup: **Second Round**

Best World Cup Performance: **Third Place (1966)**

FIFA World Ranking: 4

Player to watch: Again it's easy to go for **Cristiano Ronaldo**, but like a certain Argentinian it's his time to deliver. He has a great chance to stake his claim as the best player in the world.

But also look out for: **João Moutinho** might have ended up at the sporting tax haven that is Monaco, but he is a seriously talented midfielder.

GHANA

After topping their group with 5 wins and a loss, Ghana stormed past Egypt with a 7-3 aggregate win. After two strong performances at the last World Cup they would love to build further, but in one of the trickiest groups of the tournament they may face a struggle to reach the last 16.

Manager: **James Kwesi Appiah**

Captain: **Asamoah Gyan (Al Ain)**

2010 World Cup: **Quarter Finals**

Best World Cup Performance: **Quarter-Finals (2010)**

FIFA World Ranking: 38

Player to watch: Despite making only 7 appearances since joining Milan from Chelsea, the midfielder **Michael Essien** remains arguably the strongest player in the Ghanaian side.

But also look out for: At the back **Samuel Inkoom** will need to perform strongly to keep out the attacking threats of Germany and Portugal.

USA

As with most sports, if the US took football seriously they could be a serious force. The decision to leave Landon Donovan at home was controversial, and pressure will be on Klinsmann to prove this was the right decision. The longer the United States stay in the tournament the better the tweets from @usasoccerguy will get, so neutrals should be rooting for them.

Manager: **Jürgen Klinsmann**

Captain: **Clint Dempsey (Seattle Sounders)**

2010 World Cup: **Second Round**

Best World Cup Performance: **Semi Finals (1930)**

FIFA World Ranking: 13

Player to watch: **DaMarcus Beasley** has been around the block and back again, with 116 caps the 32 year old has the chance to be the first American to play in four World Cups.

But also look out for: Although his record at Sunderland is a paltry single goal in 30 appearances, nobody can question **Jozy Altidore**

Group H

Who's in it?			
Belgium		Russia	
Algeria		South Korea	

BELGIUM

Comfortably topping a group that was perceived to be relatively tough, with Croatia, Serbia, Scotland and Wales to contend with, Belgium are expected to be a major force on the world scene sooner rather than later. A lot is expected of them now, and they are no longer perceived as underdogs.

Manager: **Marc Wilmots**

Captain: **Vincent Kompany (Manchester City)**

2010 World Cup: **Did Not Qualify**

Best World Cup Performance: **Fourth Place (1986)**

FIFA World Ranking: 11

Player to watch: With a battle on his hands to steal the Chelsea number 1 spot, **Thibaut Courtois** will be looking for an impressive world cup performance.

But also look out for: **Adnan Januzaj** was one of the very few bright spots for United, and as a teenager (yes, he's younger than most of us).

ALGERIA

Algeria didn't qualify for 20 years until making the cut for South Africa 4 years ago. They were unbeaten in their group stage, but needed away goals to get past Burkina Faso in the play-offs. Historically quality Algerian players have found a French ancestor, but if they can start picking up these players they can cause more than a few surprises.

Manager: **Vahid Halilhodžić**

Captain: **Madjid Bougherra (Free Agent)**

2010 World Cup: **Group Stage**

Best World Cup Performance: **Group Stage (1982, 1986, 2010)**

FIFA World Ranking: 22

Player to watch: **Nabil Bentaleb** is a talented midfielder currently at Tottenham, who ignored the lure of France after playing for them at U-19 level to move into the Algerian first team.

But also look out for: The captain **Madjid Bougherra** is a strong centre back, who is currently unattached.

Fabio Capello's second chance at a World Cup, and if it's any comfort this one can't go much worse than the last. A close qualifying campaign saw them top Portugal by a single point to get to Brazil. Well drilled and committed, the ball only ended up in their net 5 times during qualification.

Manager: **Fabio Capello**

Captain: **Sergei Ignashevich (CSKA Moscow)**

2010 World Cup: **Did Not Qualify**

Best World Cup Performance: **Group Stage (1994, 2002)**

FIFA World Ranking: 18

Player to watch: **Igor Akinfeev** is a quality goalkeeper, who has been linked to just about every club looking for a number 1 over the last ten years.

But also look out for: **Yuri Zirkov** never really made the most of his move to Chelsea, and lasted only two years before moving to Anzhi.

SOUTH KOREA

Even though they qualified, their coach quit after the qualifying round following criticism of their performances. Hong Myung-Bo now has a shot at nothing, as he has had just about a year to shape the team in his image.

Manager: **Hong Myung-Bo**

Captain: **Koo Ja-Cheol (Mainz 05)**

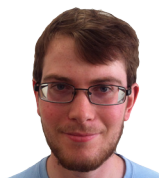
2010 World Cup: **Second Round**

Best World Cup Performance: **Fourth Place (2002)**

FIFA World Ranking: 55

Player to watch: **Kim Bo-kyung** has been a strong midfielder for Cardiff for the last two years, including heading a last minute equaliser against Manchester United.

But also look out for: Joining Borussia Dortmund after the World Cup, **Ji Dong-Won** will be aiming to impress his future employers.



Rumble in the Jungle?

Roy Hodgson knows that to be competitive in the modern game England will need more than the traditional tactics of the 1970s (and Honduras), and the disappointing hype of past World Cups. In the adoptive home of the beautiful game fans are expecting to see just that: elegant, fluid play to fill World Cup highlights videos for decades to come.

Will Hodgson's England rise to meet the challenge?

All current indications are that England will be focusing on a high tempo possession based strategy against Italy tomorrow, taking a leaf out of the book of their South American hosts, putting lots of short passes around the midfield, hoping to run the ageing Italy side around and out of the game.

Hang on a minute! Short passes, being all dynamic? That's not exactly England's strong suit. And what about the rainforest conditions? If Hodgson does try the high tempo strategy, England will have to get it right. If they can't complete passes and lose possession then, for want of a less printable word, we are stuffed. Likewise, if England wither in the heat and humidity – remember that Rooney is ginger – then Italy will be poised to take advantage.

But this is not the same side we saw fall victim

to Özil and the rest of the German side's counter attacks in the last World Cup. England is fielding a younger side than in 2010, with a average age of 26 rather than 29, and an injection of youthful energy with Shaw, Sterling and Barkley among others. Hodgson believes he has an England side that can keep up the pace in the sauna of Manaus.

With Gerrard forming a keystone, both in on pitch leadership and holding midfield; Rooney is hoped to (finally) live up to his hype as a dangerous attacker; Sturridge poised to spearhead the Three Lion's attack; and Sterling making his competitive international debut, England are a more serious threat to Italy and the rest of Group D than one might have thought.

It has been noted that this has been a World Cup without hype for England, without the burden of expectation and entitlement. The tone has been set by Hodgson himself: cerebral, modest, constantly managing expectations as well as the team. This low-key image belies a record of success in enabling teams that many might have written off to punch above their weight, leading Fulham to the Europa league finals, and securing West Brom their highest table position in 30 years.

Will we get past the '30 (48) years of hurt' this year? Who knows. Will England finally start to enjoy World Cup football without the intense pressure we see most tournaments? And will Hodgson's England surprise the pundits and the public by putting on a better showing than we expect? There's only one way to find out...

Match-fixing in the World Cup?

Corruption in world football, it seems, is not solely the preserve of FIFA's host country selection process. With an estimated \$1bn bet in the Asian gambling markets per World Cup match, the stakes are high and concerns are growing that matches are at risk of being fixed.

Last month's pre-tournament friendly between Nigeria and Scotland prompted an investigation by the National Crime Agency and the Scottish FA, serving as a stark reminder that international games – particularly games that are not decisive for tournament success – are especially vulnerable to corruption.

This is far from the first time that World Cup warm-up matches have been implicated in this kind of corruption. In the wake of the 2010 World Cup, an internal FIFA report claimed that "on the balance of probability several pre-tournament matches were probably fixed". These allegations are centered on a company based in Singapore called Football 4U International, which provided referees for a number of dubious matches.

These included a 5-0 South African drubbing of Guatemala in which 2 suspect penalties were awarded for handballs; and a 3-1 Nigerian victory over North Korea in which there was a 'very harsh' red card and a 'very liberal penalty kick' (soberingly, this probably got some poor assistant

coach sent to a death camp). In each of these cases, corrupt referees were thought to have compromised the games.

Even more worryingly, there are concerns about matches in the World Cup finals themselves. These concern so-called 'dead rubber' matches in the group stages, in which both teams have no prospect of advancing. According to Ralf Mutschke, FIFA's head of security, football fixers are becoming more and more strident in their approaches to both officials and players, offering tens of thousands of dollars in up front bribes to affect the outcome of games. His anti-corruption team is on high alert for irregularities in these games. Rather than fixing the winner and loser '1919 World Series' style, it is much more common for the more subtle aspects of a match to be fixed. In many Asian betting markets, more than 99% of bets are placed on either the number of goals scored or teams performing better or worse than their form, calculated as a handicap. With big money in these markets, and the idea that these matches somehow matter less, it is not difficult for a determined betting syndicate to affect the number of goals scored with only a few players, or just the referee, paid off.

Match fixing in the World Cup is a serious problem, one that isn't going away. With corruption at the highest level in FIFA, it is unsurprising that graft is present at the match official and player levels in international football. Much like the host nation selection process, drastic changes need to be made to preserve the integrity of the beautiful game.

Players and teams to look out for

Max Eggl
Games and Tech Editor



My five "newbies" to watch

1. NEYMAR (BRAZIL)

Age: 22
Club: Barcelona
Caps: 48
Goals: 31
Debut: 10 August 2010

2. KOKE (SPAIN)

Age: 22
Club: Atletico Madrid
Caps: 8
Goals: 0
Debut: 14 August 2013

3. ANTOINE GRIEZMANN (FRANCE)

Age: 23
Club: Real Sociedad
Caps: 4
Goals: 3
Debut: 5 March 2013

4. MATEO KOVACIC (CROATIA)

Age: 20
Club: Inter Milan
Caps: 10
Goals: 0
Debut: 22 March 2013

5. ROSS BARKLEY (ENGLAND)

Age: 20
Club: Everton
Caps: 6
Goals: 0
Debut: 6 September 2014

My favourites

Argentina seem to have all the right ingredients to play beautiful attacking football and go far in the tournament. Given also that we are playing in South America, a location where European teams struggle, I really have a feeling that this could be Messi and La Albiceleste's year.

My dark horses

After a disastrous 2010 campaign, infamously including a player strike, **France** have somewhat fallen under the radar this year. However, they have an easy group, a good set of players and momentum carried forward from the friendlies. I really think that Les Bleus can go further than you think.

Kunal Wagle
Sport Editor



My five players to watch

1. LIONEL MESSI (ARGENTINA)

Age: 26
Club: Barcelona
Caps: 86
Goals: 38
Debut: 17 August 2005

2. CRISTIANO RONALDO (PORTUGAL)

Age: 29
Club: Real Madrid
Caps: 111
Goals: 49
Debut: 20 August 2003

3. YAYA TOURE (IVORY COAST)

Age: 31
Club: Manchester City
Caps: 82
Goals: 16
Debut: June 20 2004

4. LUIS SUAREZ (URUGUAY)

Age: 27
Club: Liverpool
Caps: 77
Goals: 38
Debut: 8 February 2007

5. THIBAUT COURTOIS (BELGIUM)

Age: 22
Club: Chelsea
Caps: 17
Goals: 0
Debut: 15 November 2011

My favourites

It is hard to look beyond the home team in a tournament like this, and this is certainly the case in **Brazil**. They have looked sharp recently, and were also ruthless in last year's Confederations Cup, taking apart Spain 3-0 in the final, and will be looking to continue that strong form.

My dark horses

They've been looking solid for a while and have the added advantage that people keep underestimating them. **Chile** came to Wembley last season and outplayed England in a big way, with Alexis Sanchez standing out. With Arturo Vidal supporting him in the centre Chile have a lot about them, and have the potential to go far.



Amazing Grace?



Grace of Monaco

Director: Olivier Dahan

Writer: Arash Amel

Starring: Nicole Kidman, Tim Roth, Frank Langella, Parker Posey, Derek Jacobi

Runtime: 103 minutes

Certification: PG



John Park

Film Editor

The critically obliterated Cannes opening film of 2014 tells the story of how Grace Kelly (Nicole Kidman) prevented Monaco being taken over by France in the 1960s. How much of the story is actually based on truth is questionable, but it makes for quality entertainment towards the end of the film, when it finally decides to ditch the pursuit of the soapier aspect of its script. Olivier Dahan's newest feature film plays out somewhat like a fairytale, with events stitched together to look far too good to be the absolute truth, and over-simplified to accommodate the film's one-way focus on its titular character. This is just as well, because the word "fairytale" pops up quite a lot, starting with Grace Kelly, the Hollywood actress marrying Prince Rainier of Monaco (Tim Roth). The now sad and, isolated woman spends a good chunk of the film's running time feeling sorry for herself, wondering what happened to what was supposed to be her fairytale life.

The two immediate sentiments to feel about our lead's predicament may well be Unrelatable and unsympathetic; she's essentially traded in one life of royalty for another. What on earth does she have to complain about within the beautiful walls of her sumptuously decorated palace? But Dahan's film reminds us that the glitz and glamour we see on the surface do

not tell the whole story. Her marriage is a loveless one, and a tempting offer from Alfred Hitchcock makes a return to Hollywood all the more attractive, although the controversial part she's been offered is not set to go down well with the citizens of Monaco. They do not particularly want to see their princess as a kleptomaniac who gets raped by Sean Connery. Loneliness and isolation are portrayed well here, with Kidman left vulnerable and alone in many of its highly-stylised frames (looking through small peaks, in between doors, or as a reflection from a mirror). She finds no solace even when talking to her mother, one of many scenes in which Kidman shows off her knack for heartbreaking, subtle crying.

It certainly takes a while to get used to seeing Nicole Kidman in such an iconic role. She's a talented actress, arguably better than Grace Kelly ever was, but through absolutely no fault of Kidman's, she simply looks absolutely nothing like the character she is portraying. The film may dress and accessorise her to try to fit the part, but such attempts do not even come close to delivering someone who gives off the slightest hint about the Princess of Monaco.

Stating that the cameras don't always help her out would be an understatement, ven in the most important, dramatic moments. There are several scenes where the close-ups to Kidman's face are so extreme that it becomes an overbearing, hysterical farce, something that completely distracts the audience from taking those moments at all seriously. There is one particular monstrosity of a scene in which Kidman tearfully confides in her priest, Father Francis Tucker (Frank Langella). The camera zooms in to follow the tear stream coming from her eyes, so close that we're surprised and, quite frankly, relieved that the relentless camera equipment didn't smack her in the forehead. Making things worse is the confusing use of shaky-cam, the overused method we see in found-footage horror films. Yes, that technique somehow sneaks

its way into a biopic.

It's only when she snaps out of it and starts taking charge that the film's tone and pace begin to improve, much like the mood of Her Royal Highness. In a well-utilised subplot, there is an attempt to overthrow Rainier, a plot strand that injects some welcome excitement into an otherwise incredibly dreary affair. Yet another thing that threatens the peace and harmony of Monaco is President Charles de Gaulle of France, who wants the tax-free state to be no more. There is a tense standoff between the two conflicting sides, with the audience forced to choose one greedy country over another, not exactly the most appealing of choices. But when the focus reverts back to the effect on Grace and, most notably, her relationship with her husband, the film seems to know where it is heading.

How the film goes about highlighting Grace's important role in achieving peace is often laughably exaggerated. She goes to an etiquette tutor (Derek Jacobi, in an odd but ultimately welcome comic relief moment) to learn how to be a proper lady in Monaco. She then proceeds to effectively woo the press and the foreign heads of state for support. The speech she gives as the film ends is littered with awful, sugar-coated, cringe-worthy lines, but the overall message is a good one.

Good actors cast in shallow roles are under-used. Roth is constantly shrouded in smoke, puffing away on cigars, and looking cold, distant, and upset. Parker Posey is an uptight, almost spy-like lady-in-waiting. Frank Langella offers some wise words with his deep, soothing voice, acting as a fleeting father-figure to Grace, popping up whenever Grace needs a shoulder to cry on, and not contributing much to the actual plot.

For what it's worth, *Grace of Monaco* is a better film than its harsh reception at Cannes would have you believe, in the same way that *Diana* did not quite deserve its press-hounding. It's a well-intentioned romp, but one that possibly aimed a little too high.

Imperial College Cinema

We have multiple cinematic treats in store for you this week as not one but two amazing films, one of which is in 3D, arrive at Beit Quad this week!



How To Train Your Dragon

Director: Dean DeBlois, Chris Sanders

Writer: Will Davies, Dean DeBlois, Chris Sanders, Cressida Cowell (book)

Starring: Jay Baruchel, Gerard Butler, Craig Ferguson, America Ferrera, Jonah Hill

Runtime: 98 minutes

Classification: PG

To celebrate the release of *How To Train Your Dragon 2*, and Imperial Cinema finishing their 3D system, this week we're bringing you our very first 3D showing ever, *How To Train Your Dragon!*

In case you didn't manage to catch it the first time round, HTTYD follows the story of Hiccup, a teenage viking, who lives in a village with a rather unusual pest problem. No, it's not mice or mosquitoes, it's DRAGONS! Killing dragons is the occupation of Hiccup's island, but when our hero injures and attempts to kill the most dangerous dragon of all, the Night Fury, he realises that he can't. This is the beginning of the unlikely friendship between Hiccup and Toothless, changing each other, and maybe their entire world, in the process.

Throw in some charming characters, stunning visuals, fantastic 3D and quite possibly the most adorable dragon to ever grace the film industry and you have one of the best animated films to have been made in the last decade. Plus who wouldn't want to be there to experience the exciting piece of Imperial Cinema history that is the first 3D showing?

Wednesday 18th June 19:00
Everyone £3



2

Director: Marc Webb

Writer: Alex Kurtzman, Roberto Orci, Jeff Pinkner

Starring: Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone, Jamie Foxx, Dane DeHaan

Runtime: 142 minutes

Classification: 12A

For the penultimate week of term, and our last showing of the academic year, Imperial Cinema brings you *The Amazing Spider-Man 2*. Set a couple of years after the first installment Andrew Garfield is back as the eponymous dorky superhero.

This time, to challenge dear Spidey, we've got two villains. Firstly Jamie Foxx as a bumbling Spiderman fan who, after an industrial accident, becomes Electro. Then we've got Dane DeHaan as Peter Parker's childhood friend-turned-sort-of-enemy Harry Osborne who joins up with Electro as the Green Goblin to take Spiderman down.

More enemies, but the same romance, and the scenes between Peter Parker and Emma Stone's Gwen Stacy are easily the highlight of the film, managing to be charming and touching and the same time.

So if you want some super hero action to end your term, Imperial Cinema is the best place to get it.

Tuesday 17th June 19:00
Thursday 19th June 19:00
Non-members £4/Members £3



THE Summer Ball 2014

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Only **one week** left
to get your ticket!

Make sure
you get yours,
**we WILL
sell out!**



Tickets
only **£40**

AFTERPARTY **£5**
Limited tickets left

Buy your tickets online now at:

imperialcollegeunion.org/summerball

imperialcollegeunion.org/summerball



Summer's finally here



Suddenly, Last Summer

Director: Joseph L. Mankiewicz

Writers: Gore Vidal, Tennessee Williams

Starring: Elizabeth Taylor, Katharine Hepburn, Montgomery Clift, Mercedes McCambridge

Runtime: 114 minutes

Certification: 15



John Park

Film Editor

Tennessee Williams has written some dark and bold plays during his lengthy career. There have been many film adaptations of his plays and although some of the contents were toned down significantly for the sake of having a more friendly audience avoiding offence, their tone and subjects were always shocking enough to cause a stir. He was a brave playwright who addressed the hushed up issues head-on. It's a breath of fresh air – a non-restrained, brutally honest portrayal of contemporary society. The subjects of mental illnesses, homosexuality, rape, and prostitution are explored, giving us an original insight into human nature.

Suddenly, Last Summer must be the most shocking one of all. Not only does this deal with a closeted homosexual man who has died under mysterious

circumstances, it involves, throughout the film, themes of paedophilia, cannibalism, and the controversial medical procedure of lobotomy. Even today these subjects are frowned upon; just imagine what kind of an impact this would have had in the 50s.

Dr Cukrowicz (Montgomery Clift) is a talented young doctor, and one of the few who has performed the lobotomy procedure. A harsh procedure that severs the bridge connecting the two hemispheres of the brain, it makes patients more docile and easier to handle, effectively turning them into vegetables. It's reserved for the most violent mental patients who are considered to be beyond any psychiatric help. Cukrowicz himself is not a fan of the surgery, and he makes this clear. He's "not a witch doctor" he says, but the medical centre he works at is not a wealthy one and the infrastructure is struggling to keep up. But an opportunity presents itself; An incredibly wealthy widow Violet Venable (Katharine Hepburn) is willing to donate a fortune to the hospital if Dr Cukrowicz performs the questionable surgery on her niece Catherine Holly (Elizabeth Taylor), who has become unstable after an incident that occurred in the previous summer in which Violet's son Sebastian died suddenly of a heart attack. Or that's what Violet says.

But we know from Hepburn's perfect performance that Violet is not telling us everything. She makes a grand entrance on the fancy chairlift that is installed in her mansion, as a somewhat heavenly but also gothic figure. She's hiding something so big and scandalous that, if exposed, the secret could ruin her family name. She cannot stop talking about her recently

deceased son. She loves him more than anything and the two were very close. But slowly it is revealed that what they had was a little further than just love; it seems to have developed into an obsession for Violet, an obsession that got considerably worse after the "accident" that caused his death. This becomes apparent in the lengthy sequence that shows Hepburn and Clift discussing Catherine and Sebastian. She wants to avoid talking about that specific summer and focus on his status as an incredibly talented, sensitive poet: A free spirit who loved to travel with her and was unbelievably kind towards her. But occasionally she does let some disturbing facts slip, after which she herself is deeply troubled. Not a lot is revealed during his talk with Violet, so the doctor wants to examine Catherine himself. She tells a different story, but when she wants to get into details as to the events that summer, she screams in horror and breaks down in front of him, claiming she cannot remember. Is she crazy? If so, then what was so horrible that it left this poor young woman beyond traumatised? If not, then what is she hiding? Dr. Cukrowicz is facing pressure from his boss to perform the surgery, since a large donation is all the hospital wants. So he has very little time to put the pieces together and figure out what actually happened. To make matters more complicated, Catherine's mother (Mercedes McCambridge) and brother enter the picture, with a hidden agenda of their own.

Early scenes set up a dark, haunting mystery and the conclusion certainly doesn't fail to live up to the sinister build-up. It's a long, wordy process

that tries to confuse us along the way, but Catherine's final testimony, interspersed with scenes of flashbacks, answers all the questions. It's not pretty, indeed, a rather grotesque imagery. It explains everything: the reason why Violet so desperately wanted to tie up all the loose ends, why she was willing to go so far to preserve the dignity of her dead son, and why Violet wasn't there with him on his holiday in the first place – initially, Violet takes great pride in the fact that she used to travel the world with her son. But something must have changed last summer for Sebastian to ask Catherine to join him on the trip instead.

Why is the mystery so intriguing? Because, as more and more is revealed, you realise just how vile and twisted everything is. The film doesn't give you the full picture until the very end, but the script is very good at dropping hints to keep us hooked and guessing. The gothic set-up is sometimes wonderfully over the top, and no matter how unrealistic the ending may be, it is a truly disturbing one, full of concepts that cannot be taken lightly even to this day. A room full of mental patients has never been scarier and neither has a large crowd of hungry, tin-instrument playing local boys chasing after a rich man.

Part of the reason why *Suddenly, Last Summer* is such an unforgettable chilling experience is due to the fantastic performances. Hepburn is as sinister as she is loving of her son, and her goal is clear. She becomes so unpredictable and manipulative, motivated by her endless determination to do what is best for her son's memory. It's her love that eats away at her every day and slowly drives her

mad. She's the main antagonist who tries to orchestrate a seemingly unnecessary brain procedure and Hepburn plays this role remarkably well, giving us chills with even the most silent, but deadly look. She shakes with fear whenever she thinks of the painful past – It's as if she's too scared to admit what happened. Taylor, the woman at the centre of this mystery, is a fine young dame who holds all the answers: the deep, dark secrets that Ms. Venable is trying to bury forever. With her beauty and talent, she is the vulnerable victim about to be forced into a serious brain operation. She is sane enough for us to believe some of the events she describes, but sometimes the stories she remembers are so absurd and unthinkable that we do question her sanity. She is an ambiguous character and Taylor portrays the two very challenging sides with great skill. She never overplays the crazy part, leaving just enough for us to doubt her as the only witness. Clift, on the other hand has a much more subdued role, but interacts with the two women convincingly.

It's packed full of words, as films based on plays should be, and sometimes because the atmosphere is so tense, when the script starts to have more and more of them, it can be a tad frustrating. We want answers to the dark and twisted questions raised in the first half. The extraordinary sequence in which Catherine explains everything doesn't let us down, but by then some of the viewers might be too exhausted to fully care. It's a lengthy, intense experience and so you should give this a go only after you have seen some less dense, lighter black-and-white films.

Editor: Maximilian
Eggl, Yong Wen
Chua, Osama Awara
technology.felix@imperial.
ac.uk

OS X, iOS and full-frontal Apple

Maximilian Eggl

Technology Editor

In recent times I have become quite disillusioned with Apple. The keynotes were kinda boring, and there was nothing really interesting. I usually tuned in to the keynotes just because I felt that I should. In fact, it got to the point that this time around, I almost missed the keynote. When I did open the stream, I found I had missed out completely on the new OS X presentation, named Yosemite, but just managed to catch iOS 8.

I was immediately surprised by the lightness of the talk, I mean one of the jokes was about a mad hairdresser ruining Craig Federighi's hairdo. Instantaneously I was paying more attention than I had in the previous three keynotes. Furthermore, there were actual moments in the keynote where I sat up and said, wow that is pretty cool. I have not had that since the iPhone 4 release! So here is the low down on the two big things release:

OS X Yosemite

The big thing about OS X Yosemite is a closer alignment with iOS and mobile, thus tying its users more closely into the Apple eco system. Firstly, there is a redesign of all the icons, more in style of iOS 7. The

flattened symbols look really nice, and the redesign of the main programs like safari, maps and calendar look really nice. The biggest thing though is the added capabilities of your mac in terms of a mobile. Basically you will not only get your iMessages on your mac, but also actual mms and sms. This will make Messages quite a bit more useful, and helpful in terms of keeping all your information in one place. However, the thing that really intrigued me is the fact that you can now make and receive calls on your mac. If your mac is connected to the same Wifi network as your iPhone, then when your receives a call, you get a notification on your mac and

then it can act as a speaker for your phone. I find this a really cool feature, especially since I am someone who tends to leave my phone somewhere and then lay down somewhere else, often getting to lazy to get up again. While this step is more evolutionary than revolutionary (I feel I have applied this cliché quite a few times to Apple releases) it is a really positive evolution, and I welcome more like it.

iOS 8

While iOS 7 was a real game changer in terms of iOS, 8 continues that revolution in great style. There

are several features that are really interesting.

Firstly, the new messaging app, which looks to jump on the wave of new messaging methods. Apple have introduced a handy new way of sharing their location, pictures and videos, as well as generally making it feel more whatsapp-y.

Secondly, Apple have now introduced a new app, HealthKit, which will collate all available health data from other apps and gadgets, and perhaps in the future predict when you may need to go to the hospital. This points to Apple releasing some kind of gadget that will tie in with this, perhaps a smartwatch? One

thing that did come about from the HealthKit announcement was the naming debacle. Another company, which does something similar to the app, already has that name, twitter handle and website. Therefore you may see a name change.

The last feature that really interested me is Apple's new open approach. This is first exemplified by the fact that iOS devices will be able to use external keyboards come fall. This means that Android users will no longer be able to brag about being able to use Swype and Swiftkey, while smirking at Apple users with their crappy keyboard. In a similar vein, Apple has now allowed developers to add widgets to their apps. Now, notification centre will actually become actually useful.

There were many other exciting features, like a redesign of multi-tasking, which if you have a compatible iOS device I would seriously consider checking out if I was you.

This is a really good update to iOS, which I await with anticipation.

Conclusion

This keynote was Apple without fear, without expectation. They introduced great new products, and even a new programming language, swift. They have made their platform more open for developers and customers alike. Finally they seemed to have shrugged off some of the "fail-without-Jobs" aura, and moved on. I really hope for more of this.



WWW.9103MAC.COM

Programming: Easy, Peasy

Yong Wen Chua

Technology Editor

It is now summer (for most of us at least!). If you have nothing lined up for you, and would like to learn something new or do something productive, why not consider learning how to program?

Why learn to program?

Have you ever tried to rename

hundreds of files, or tried to organise some data files with thousands of entries by hand? If you have, you would know that the task is arduous and tedious, and you would be better off automating it. Programming can allow to do that, and you spend less time in front of the computer, and more time in the sunshine! (Or at least that's the theory)

Learning to program can improve your logical thinking skills. While some algorithm to sort numbers may sound easy to comprehend, it is a different matter when you sit down and try to implement it. You would also be more appreciative of the work that programmers put in when you use software, or when you

encounter some bugs.

There is an adage saying that everyone can be a programmer, and then there is another camp that says that not everyone can be a programmer. People argue, with the backing of studies that shows that a consistently high percentage of students fail their programming courses at University, that not everyone is cut out to be a programmer. On the other hand, there are educators that attribute the failures to the way programming is taught, and that everyone can learn to program if taught properly. In this author's humble opinion, everyone should just give programming a try first before they raise their hands in the air and give up.

Where to sign up?

There are lots of programming tutorials on the internet, but not all of them are equal. If you are new to programming, you should not worry about all the funny jargon and technicalities involved, especially the bit about "abstraction". Start with something concrete, and fun. You could start by going to the Khan Academy and searching for a course on computer programming.

Otherwise, you could pick a language and start learning to program from the language. Once you have a firm grasp on one programming language,

new languages will be relatively easy to learn. I would recommend that beginners start with Python, a powerful and versatile programming languages. It also introduces some very useful programming paradigms and techniques that you might just find enlightening and interesting. The official Python website has an extensive tutorial on learning the language.

Once you have a firm grasp on one language, you could try working on some interesting projects. For example, you could try coding a program to calculate one billion decimal places of pi, just for fun. Or learn a second language, such as C++ which is used more widely, but especially unforgiving for newcomers.



Electronic Entertainment

Microsoft: Focus on Gamers

Michael Barclay
Games Writer

It's June, terms almost over and that can only mean one thing! Yes it's E3 and it's time for some of the worst, most awkward press conferences you'll see all year. As always we begin with Microsoft. It's fair to say that in the few short months since the Xbox One has been out sales have been less than stellar, or at least less than Microsoft would have hoped. Since its announcement Microsoft have made more U-turns than the coalition government. Last May we were presented with this potentially brave console that aimed to revolutionise how games consoles interacted with our televisions both as a set top box and also through Kinect. Unfortunately the whole thing was laced with this rather unpleasant and restrictive rules on gamer ownership essentially aiming to destroy your ability to sell or even lend your games.

Due to massive fan backlash this was quickly gotten rid of and much more recently even Kinect is now an optional device bringing the cost down to a more acceptable level. Their E3 conference kicked off with head of Xbox Phil Spencer saying that "Today we are dedicating our entire briefing to games", something Microsoft fans have been demanding for about 14 months now. The conference got off to a rather dull start however, showing off first the new Call of Duty, then the new Forza and the new Assassins creed. Everything looked glossy and slick and graphically impressive but they're hardly the sort of innovation one expects, or indeed hopes for at E3. Next we were treated to a new trailer for Dragon Age 3. Another sequel, yes and also another multiplatform game but an interesting one none the less with a lot to prove. The original was a truly fantastic game, the spiritual successor to the Baldurs Gate series whereas the sequel was famously a massive disappointment. The newest entry, Dragons Age Inquisition looks incredibly pretty with some very cool looking dragons. As is often the case with E3 demos it's often hard to figure out where the cut scenes end

“ Since its announcement Microsoft have made more U-turns than the coalition government. ”

and the gameplay footage begins but it definitely looks promising.

Despite hating the Fable franchise, Fable legends managed to look

mix between Fable and Dungeons and Dragons which I'm sure many people will love. Personally I was very interested to get another look at Project Spark, Microsoft's Little-Big-Planet-esque game creator. The variety of games made so far seems huge, ranging from RPGs, to racers and even to simple board games. The trailer also ended with a strange cameo from Conker, a gaming character who hasn't been about since the ridiculously funny and ridiculously offensive Conkers Bad Fur Day way back in 2001 (!). Apparently it's up to the players of Project Spark to make his new game!

will certainly help soothe those wounds. With all 4 games on one disc though that's 100 Halo multiplayer maps all at 1080p which.....yeah..... is pretty attractive. The collection also includes a Halo digital TV series named Nightfall AND access to the Halo 5 multiplayer beta. This thing is surely going to be expensive but it's also surely going to fly off the shelves.

The highlight for me however was the first gameplay demo of The Witcher 3. For those not in the know the Witcher is a series of games by a small Polish developer based on a series of little known Polish books. They are truly fantastic RPGs and the

2 with a tonne of gore and a tonne of action – February 2015 can't come fast enough.

There was, of course a lot more on show that I can't go into too much detail here. We got a glimpse of Ubisoft's Division. This multiplayer only shooter is obviously meant to impress and revolutionise online co-op but I found it largely unoriginal and uninspiring. We also saw teasers for a new Tomb Raider game and the return of the Crackdown franchise which will definitely please some people. Microsoft definitely delivered what they promised and showed a lot of games. Unfortunately, in



WWW.WINBETA.ORG

reasonably exciting. At first glance its mix of typical action RPG combat and co-op looks nothing new but the inclusion of a villain player is very interesting. Whilst four players can play as a team of heroes a fifth player acts as a sort of overlord, placing monsters and traps for the heroes to deal with. It looks like a weird

An announcement that is sure to please a lot of fans is Halo Masterchief collection. A single disc containing all 4 Halo games with Halo 1 and 2 now in full HD. More importantly the incredibly popular Halo 2 multiplayer is back on the disc. The shutdown of the Halo 2 servers a while back pissed off a lot of people and this

Witcher 3 looks pretty darn exciting. We got to see the games main character Geralt, the titular Witcher hunting a griffin through a forest. For the first time in the series the game is now completely open world which is something the former games definitely lacked. The combat looks as fantastic as it was in the Witcher

this modern era of multiplatform giants like Ubisoft and EA console exclusivity doesn't mean what it used to. The best they could do with most of these games is promise exclusive content "first on Xbox". I'll almost certainly be playing the Witcher 3 on my PC when it comes.....assuming it can run the damn thing.

 @feliximperial

 FelixImperial

GAMES

Expo 2014: The Big 3

Sony: Exclusives, Now

Michael Barclay

Games Writer

Sony were the next of the big three to take the stage. Last year, Sony's conference was a roaring success; a two hour "fuck you" to Microsoft. Rumour has it they initially planned to implement the same restrictive DRM with the PS4 but changed all this after the Xbox One backlash. Whether this change happened a few weeks before E3 or in the few hours between Microsoft's and Sony's conferences, we'll never know. Either way Sony came on top after last year offering, at the time, the only console where games could be traded and sold at will. Unfortunately, Sony are also famous for often producing rather dry and stat filled conferences and this year was no different. We got to find out how many hours on PS4s have been logged so far, how many times people have pushed the "Share" button and how many times people have spectated other players. This stuff surely interests the shareholders but doesn't do much for regular gamers.

A lot of third party multiplatform stuff was shown, essentially everything not shown in Microsoft's conference. There were demos and trailers for Destiny, Batman Arkham Knight, Far Cry 4, Battlefield Hardline and Metal Gear Solid 5 amongst others. A lot of this had already been shown elsewhere either at EA or Ubisoft's conferences or, in the case of Battlefield and MGS5, leaked on the internet a few days before. A personal favourite amongst the third party bunch was No Mans Sky, a

“
Sony are also famous for often producing rather dry and stat filled conferences and this year was no different
 ”

very big game from a very small UK developer. Currently announced for PS4 and PC No Mans Sky drops the player on a procedurally generated planet in an infinite procedurally generated universe. In the demo shown the player roamed through a tropical world full of dinosaur like life forms. He then jumped into a space ship and, completely seamlessly flew into space. From here he shot a few asteroids and then flew over to the next nearest planet. Again completely seamlessly and without loading screens he flew down to the surface of this new planet. A brief montage

“
Unlike the Microsoft conference there was a brief departure from games for a while to discuss a few other fancy developments
 ”

big win.

Unlike the Microsoft conference there was a brief departure from games for a while to discuss a few other fancy developments. This mostly revolved around Playstation Now, a new streaming service that allows you to stream old Playstation games to your PS4 over the cloud. Currently this will be limited to PS3 games but in the future this will extend to both PS2 and PS1 classics. Even more interesting is this service will be coming to some Sony televisions. Pricing and stream plans weren't discussed but potentially

“
if you own a Sony TV you could have access to nearly 20 years of Playstation gaming and all you'll need to buy is a Dualshock controller.
 ”



WWW.GAMINGEVERYTHING.COM

showed the huge diversity that these worlds will have from jungle planets to water planets to the obligatory lava planets. It's still not clear what you'll actually do in this game beyond fly around and occasionally shoot stuff but the scope is just astounding.

We were, of course, also treated to some PS4 exclusives aiming to provide more reasons why you should pick up a PS4 instead of an Xbox One. The Order 1886, a third person supernatural shooter was shown. Like a lot of what I'd seen so far it was hard to tell what was game and what was not. The game itself looked decent enough but the werewolf looked downright stupid. LittleBigPlanet 3 was also announced and demoed for the very first time and it looked a lot like LittleBigPlanet. There's now a selection of new cloth based characters to play along with Sackboy

each with their own set of abilities. It looks like there's a lot more emphasis on co-op with the players having to work together to get through the various obstacles the levels present. This is sure to offer up a lot of interesting level design possibilities. This demo also honoured the age old tradition of getting people who are downright awful at video games to play this game in front of a live audience. Presumably these people were the developers who invented the darn thing but they really struggled to even just jump from ledge to ledge and it was at times painful to watch. There was also a brief trailer for Bloodborne, previously known as Project Beast the newest game by From Software. These are the guys that make the bitterly difficult Dark Souls series. Again, no gameplay but the PS4 snagging exclusivity here is a

if you own a Sony TV you could have access to nearly 20 years of Playstation gaming and all you'll need to buy is a Dualshock controller. If you don't own a Sony TV you can purchase a new device simply entitled Playstation TV for only \$99 to gain access to the service. A major caveat so far though is all of this will only be available in the US for the foreseeable future; it may be a while before this crosses the Atlantic.

Unfortunately after these intriguing announcements the conference took a serious nose dive. By this point it had gone 3am UK time so admittedly I was very, very tired and Sony struggled to pique my interest with their next gaming announcements. Of course I'm well aware that HD remasters of games are very popular these days and I own a fair few myself but they spent far too long discussing

the imminent rereleases of The Last of Us and GTA V on the PS4. These are both absolutely fantastic games (especially TLOU) but they amount to little more than a sheen of gloss and a fancy new box and did not warrant 20 minutes of conference time. At last Mays disastrous Xbox One reveal a large amount of time was spent talking about television. Netflix, iPlayer, original TV shows all provided through Xbox. It was an announcement that was met with something between derision and ennui but it seems that Sony did not get the message. The last 20-30 minutes of their conference were dedicated to detailing the original television that will soon be provided through PS4. Sure we got to see Marvel comics giant Brian Bendis discuss the TV adaptation of his comic Powers and we got to see a trailer for the Ratchet and Clank movie which I'm sure everyone has been dying to see for years but in reality it was just not an exciting way to wind down an E3 conference. Sony tried to win everyone back with the reveal of Uncharted 4, a game everyone already knew was happening with a trailer that showed essentially nothing but the full title of the game, A Thief's End.

I'm definitely being overly critical and think it's best to reiterate that the first half of this conference was pretty darn good. I personally believe Sony still have a lead in terms of exclusivity especially with Bloodborne. Also it's worth pointing out that most of the big games shown off by Sony and Microsoft won't be hitting store shelves until 2015 at the earliest. E3 is normally a way of gauging how the big companies will do in the holiday season but so far.... it's anyone's guess who will come out on top.

GAMES

Editor: Maximilian Eggl, Calum Skene, games.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Nintendo: Focus on the old

Michael Barclay
Games Writer

Last up we have Nintendo and like last year they're opting for a "Digital event" instead a press conference like the other big two. Essentially this means a series or pre-recorded announcements much like their regular Nintendo Direct events. Personally I see it as a cop out and as indicative of Nintendo's attitude to gaming at the moment. The 3DS may be doing okay but the Wii U is most certainly not with some shockingly low sales and essentially refusing to turn up to E3 is not going to help. We begin with an actually quite funny robot chicken style announcement with Reggie Fils-Aime alongside some key Nintendo characters. A figure in the audience jokingly moans about Nintendo just announcing "another Mario game" pointing out another serious problem with Nintendo these days – an almost complete lack of any new intellectual property and almost no desire to innovate. Mario promises us though that this year there will be no new Mario game so surely this event should provide us with lots of new exciting games!

Unfortunately not really. Within a few minutes we're introduced to a new Yoshi game, a Captain Toad game and a Kirby

game which all looked a LOT like Mario games. Heck even later on in the event they announced a new game called Mario Maker allowing us to design our own Mario levels. This latter game is sure to please

customisation in how they fight. We were also shown a series of Nintendo toys called Amiibo which can interact with the game pad allowing these characters to jump into the game on screen. Essentially it's already been

Speaking of Link we got our first look at the upcoming Wii U Zelda game. For the first time since the series earliest games the world will be fully open and fully explorable. Moreover you'll be able to complete

Link was fighting and his bow were quite robotic. Also Link was wearing blue. Blue! Happily Nintendo did introduce one new IP, a third person multiplayer shooter called Splatoon. The aim of the game here is to cover the battlefield with your team's coloured ink before the opposing team does the same. Each player plays as a human who, for some unexplained reason, can transform into a squid. As a squid you can swim through your teams ink allowing you to quickly zoom across the map. The game actually looked really quite good, with players quickly switching from human to squid to first lay down ink paths and then swim along them.

And that really is pretty much it. It was by far the shortest of the three events shown at E3 this year clocking in at only 40 minutes. Aside from a nice look at Zelda and the potentially interesting Splatoon there really isn't much else positive to say here. There was a very vague hint of a new Starfox game at the end but as of now nothing concrete. It's hard to shake the distinct feeling that Nintendo has no idea what it's doing anymore. Nothing really feels fresh or new especially the amiibo idea. Also as with the first two press conferences practically everything shown today won't be out until 2015. It looks like we'll be having a rather dull gaming Christmas this year. Hey, at least we'll be able to play GTA V again on our PS4s or Xbox Ones.



WWW.NINTENDONEWS.COM

the Mario crowd but it still just feels like a lot of the same. Super Smash Brothers was the key focus of the event which now includes Mii fighters. For the first time in the series you can use your Mii character with a decent amount of

seen before with Skylanders and Disney Infinity and I'm certain kids will love it. Interestingly the link works in both directions sending data from the game back to the miniature allowing your toys to potentially level up.

the game in any order you want rather than following a set path of ordered dungeons. The brief trailer was also pretty darn interesting hinting to a, dare I say it, futuristic spin on things. It was very fast and hard to really tell but both the enemy

Trialling the Fusion

Calum Skene
Games Editor

First got into trials way back when it first came to Xbox live arcade. It was gathering some hype and after downloading the demo I saw why. On the surface Trials is a very simple motorbike 2D racing game. You race on non-standard terrain courses using the few controls the game has to offer; accelerate, reverse and changing way you are leaning on the bike. The game adds some strategy as going full out top speed often gets you knocked off your bike, and not leaning the correct way also results in the bike getting tipped

over. Sometimes to achieve the best times and the elusive gold medal for the track it is better to go over a jump slower to achieve the perfect landing. I was hooked all the way from the easy beginner tracks to the extreme tracks that would take me hours to complete as I patiently had to get past obscene obstacles using many attempts to get to the next checkpoint. The game also offered skill challenges which ranged from sensible ones like completing a track without leaning to ridiculous ones like trying to break as many bones in your characters body. Trials was a simple game but ridiculously addictive. After this game I then got the sequel Trials Evolution gold edition on steam which included all the Xbox tracks and more. This newer version had tracks which were more race like and less filled with

obstacles at first but gradually got harder. As the first game took place entirely in some insane warehouse it was refreshing that this game added outside tracks as well as the 2D racetracks curving around the environment to add some more perspective. After these two great games how could Trials Fusion be even better?

In short Trials Fusion is just the most refined version of the game. Starting with the campaign in which you complete locations, with you being able to unlock the later ones as you gain more medals. In each location you get a variety of courses, skill challenges and driving tests that are designed to gradually give you the skills you need to tackle the more difficult courses. I felt that this game was the best at the three of instructing you in the various

techniques that you would need. My bunny hops had never been so high and I felt that on the harder courses there was a lot less trial and error and therefore a lot less deaths for my biker. Visually the game is stunning and very varied as the tracks range from something you would see in Indiana Jones to the futuristic theme of the game. The futuristic tracks with a lot of neon blue and orange coupled with the AI telling you various jokes made the levels feel a lot like racing through a

portal testing area. This game offers changing scenery. Sometimes you are racing and a block falls down or a pathway is put in your way suddenly. At first this can be confusing but as the game is designed so you play the tracks time after time to get faster times and achieve gold medals this is not so much of a problem. A welcome addition is both the quad bike which is slower but a lot more powerful and adds some variety to the motorbike tracks and the FMX levels where the goal is to complete as many tricks as possible. Trials Fusion has a lot of replay value also as each track contains challenges that will make you play them again and again not to get gold but to explore and complete the tracks in interesting ways.

Overall Trials Fusion is an excellent game. It is a game that can be picked up for 10 minutes or 10 hours at a time depending on how long you want to play. It offers fun motorbike racing with lots for beginners but also a challenge for more seasoned players and lots to complete for people who want 100%.



WWW.REVIEWJUNKIES.COM

IPPOP

Friday
13 June

Metric
20:00-02:00

Entry
£2.50

imperialcollegeunion.org/whats-on

imperial
college
union



Wining, not Dining, in Notting Hill

Students don disguises and drink some plonk in style

Nas Andriopoulos
Reviewer

If someone asks you what you did over the weekend and you reply with any sentence containing the words “wine bar” and “Notting Hill”, in all likelihood you’re a pretentious prick. Nonetheless, in the name of journalism and truth, I took it upon myself to swank up and infiltrate this world of yuppies, accompanied with my trusty drinking companion Peter Munton.

Despite donning our snazziest garb, as we amble north from High Street Ken we become aware that perhaps, as students, we may be somewhat out of place. As we pass the third antique-boutique we grow increasingly conscious of this fact, and pretty soon after that we are seamlessly adopting the disguise of two young professionals working in “future communication media” for a company called “Exfutura”. The job involves having business lunches with “Mark” and talking about a product that vaguely resembles a Google Glass/teletext crossover. That’s all.

Anyhow, we arrive at the **Kensington Wine Rooms**, but it immediately becomes clear that we can leave the media yuppie personae outside. The environment is warm, and buzzing with the pizzicato of chatter. There’s no sign of the conceited formality we expected. We cross the threshold, immersing ourselves in the Spanish-modern décor. The evening itself is sultry and this combination evokes the feeling of a Mediterranean summer night.

Warm light shimmers from half-filled glasses, instilling in me a sense of optimism for the evening ahead. The place is filled to the brim, but the friendly waitress finds a pew for us at the bar. Fitting for a couple of gentlemen friends on a man-date the French barman immediately suggested a fruity white – a choice

much to my liking, especially after the 20 minute stroll from campus in the summer heat.

I must point out at this juncture that I know very little about wine and much less about good wine. Make no mistake, give me a five pound bottle of plonk and I could probably tell you the colour and the supermarket of origin, maybe even the multi-buy discount price – but proper wine-talk is something new to me.

One more thing before I get back to it, just in case you thought this article was already a bit pompous: I issue a warning. I am about to compare wine to classical music. So don’t blame me if you choke on your truffled foie gras at the mention of Grieg when you’re more of a Liszt fanatic. It’s too hard not to sound pretentious with wine, so I’m going to fully embrace it.

The first sip of South African white transports me to a hammock under a catkin-willow with a Puccini Aria (babbino caro perhaps?) washing over me like the gentle cooling breeze. Secateurs Chenin Blanc, AA Badenhorst, 2013. I hit apples and apricots; they say honey, orange blossom and white-stone fruits (I’ll take that as a minor victory then). The brief peaceful moment dies as PM and I shoot the breeze.

We jovially chat about Imperial life and the dire state of student journalism and before we know it we’re reaching for the list. This time a familiar friend: Gewurztraminer, Alsace 2009. Last occasion I tasted this tippie I was at the **Champignon Sauvage** in Cheltenham (a must visit for any Southerner, its two stars are well deserved) and this crisp peachy wine strikes me as refreshing and fragrant as before: extremely drinkable.

The diners are starting to clear allowing us a full view of the venue. Hugging the walls are ostentatious racks of “refined opulence” (as PM put it): bottle after bottle, all temperature-controlled, pressurised and displayed. It is rumoured that by inserting a magic card into these extravagant dispensers



one may taste their way through years and regions. It’s basically a wine Tardis that runs on Oyster cards. Press the right button and your glass may even mystically sing as the resonating basin fills.

I must say, I think this is a brilliant feature. The “wine-walls” were exotically inciting and had a wonderful way of stimulating conversation about viticulture. Throughout the eatery conversation ebbed and flowed, but the current was indisputably about the produce. Unlike many other wine bars in London, this one truly focuses on the drink. Minimal pomp – just good wine.

A change of colour accompanied by a minor change in fortunes: Cote Rhone, house blend. Largely heavy with a fruity complexion. Satisfying enough for a house mix, although the supposed strawberry notes are lost on me – it comes across like an expensive supermarket wine. PM is more appreciative of the fuller-figure.

By this time the crowds have filed out, with just the connoisseurs and alcoholics left. We now notice a familiar face – a certain molecular orbital lecturer with an undeniable

sexual magnetism. The women want him; the men want to be him. He really isn’t the yuppie sort and my pre-conceived notions of the establishment evaporate a little bit quicker.

The next cup is St Emillion, Château de Bellevue 2008. This is a drying wine, yet also manages to be incredibly clear with distinct notes of leather. With a cloying tang indicative of tannins this wine really has to be tasted to reveal an abundance of complexity. I am starting to get this wine talk, right?

The evening is starting to die down and we opt for one last red. Senioro Reserve, Bodegas Amezola 2006. Rioja. PM nails it: dusty, balsamic and spicy. I expound: Ascorbic, light and refreshing – a reminder that this wine is only a splash of Sunny D away from Sangria.

So lets talk verdict; what’s the TL;DR? It is Felix after all; most people only bother to read the horoscopes, let alone a review about wine!

Firstly, the décor is impeccable: a lovely balance between Spanish warmth and modern class. The atmosphere was also incredible – to the point where the chatter completely

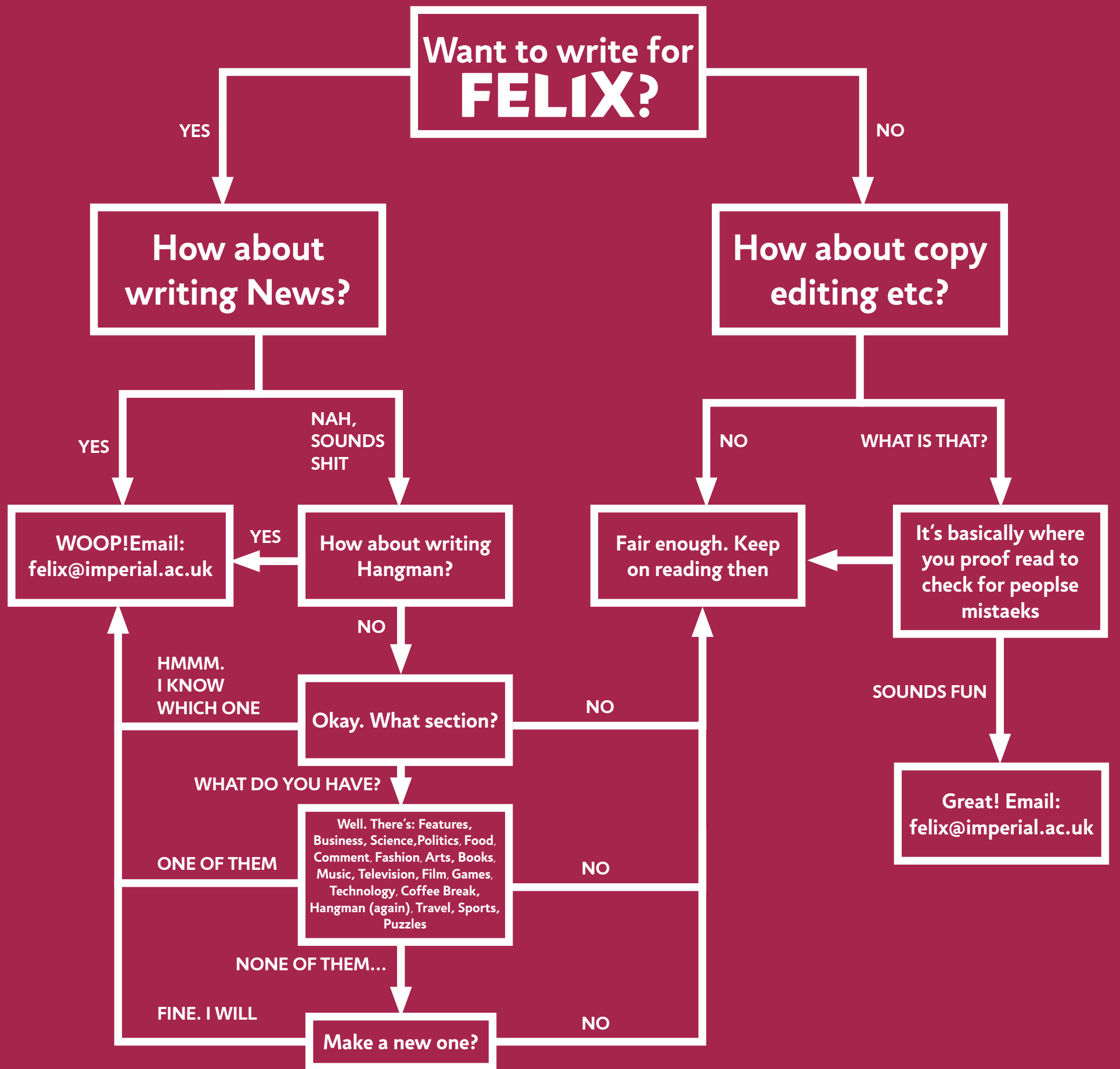
drowned out the sound of the busy street with the doors wide open! However, I was most impressed by how well-informed the staff were. Not only could they tell you the chateau and grape of every bottle, but could probably also recall the name of the grower’s dog and even the brand of antifreeze the wine was cut with.

Now, the bill. £35 per head is not cheap. In fact that is the equivalent of 2-3 weeks drinking budget and an awful lot to spend on 5 small glasses of grape juice. Mercifully, looming exams are about to crush my social life anyhow so I can just about afford the blow-out. The KWR offers fantastic atmosphere, expertise and selection; in fact I am yet to find a rival anywhere in London. PM strongly recommends it for a special occasion or if you fancy a treat. I will definitely be returning, but I will let the bank balance replenish a bit first!

Kensington Wine Rooms
127-129 Kensington Church St,
London W8 7LP

THERE’S ONE ISSUE LEFT!

KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED NEXT WEEK FOR THE LAST FELIX OF THE YEAR!



FELIX

felix@imperial.ac.uk

felixonline.co.uk

[facebook.com/FelixImperial](https://www.facebook.com/FelixImperial)

[@feliximperial](https://twitter.com/feliximperial)

HANGMAN

hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Predictions For The 2014 FIFA World Cup

The Historian

Hangman Contributor



One of the best teams will win the World Cup. Hangman feels strongly that it'll almost certainly be one of the favourites who will take home the trophy. This is partly because they have the better players but also because they have the better coaches too.

It'll be much better than South Africa 2010. This is almost inevitable as the vuvuzela has been banned from this tournament. Unless the organisers are planning to release multiple nests of bees and wasps before the game, it'll almost certainly be a better tournament in every way.

Every Brazilian will be required to fulfil all Brazilian stereotypes in week-long shifts. Jobs will vary from doing topless skills with a football on the beach to Carnival. Other jobs include corrupting international sports events and representing chronic inequality.

England will do really well. Hangman fully expects that the England team will finish an honourable third place behind Costa Rica and Uruguay. Costa Rica will, obviously, beat all the other teams and the other three will play out dour 0-0 draws. Uruguay will go through on having only conceded 3 goals against Costa Rica.

It won't live up to the Confederations Cup. Quite naturally, it would be impossible for the World Cup, a tournament with lots of terrible international teams to be anywhere near as good as the Confederations Cup – one which needs only the top teams from every continent. What an event. Plus there were only a few protests during the Confederations Cup.



If we understand the rules correctly, everyone gets a gold bat and uses it to hit the ball into the other teams goal? Something like that anyway.

EDITORIALISM

The Hangman

Editor



Following the news this week that the MET police have finalised their purchase of water cannons as a riot control measure, this editor believes that this preventative measure does not go far enough.

Whilst the three water cannons purchased so far represent a small step in the security of the capital against the rabble from the fringes, Hangman recommends that every office building, shop and station inside Zone 1 should be fitted with cannons – both water and real.

Preferably these should be active as soon as someone coming from a recognised 'scummy' area of London taps out their Oyster or makes a purchase. Alternatively, they could

automatically recognise any individual with an income of less than £30,000 with a small fee for exemption for any students.

Ultimately, the plan should be to ensure that no unsavoury types are able to enter the inner circle of the M25, however, houses prices in London are not yet rising at an high enough rate. With any luck, this should change in the near future, essentially pricing out anyone who doesn't work in the City.

Ant & Dec May Not Actually Be On The Ball

The Hangman

Hangman Editor

A new 12 year study has shown that popular presenting duo, Ant and Dec, may not actually be on the ball.

Despite persistently claiming that "we're on the ball" in their 2002 song of the same name, researchers at UCL have found substantial evidence that the two are probably not on the ball at all.

"We have reviewed many hours of footage of the two presenters and come to conclusion that they are rarely ever on the ball – either literally or figuratively."

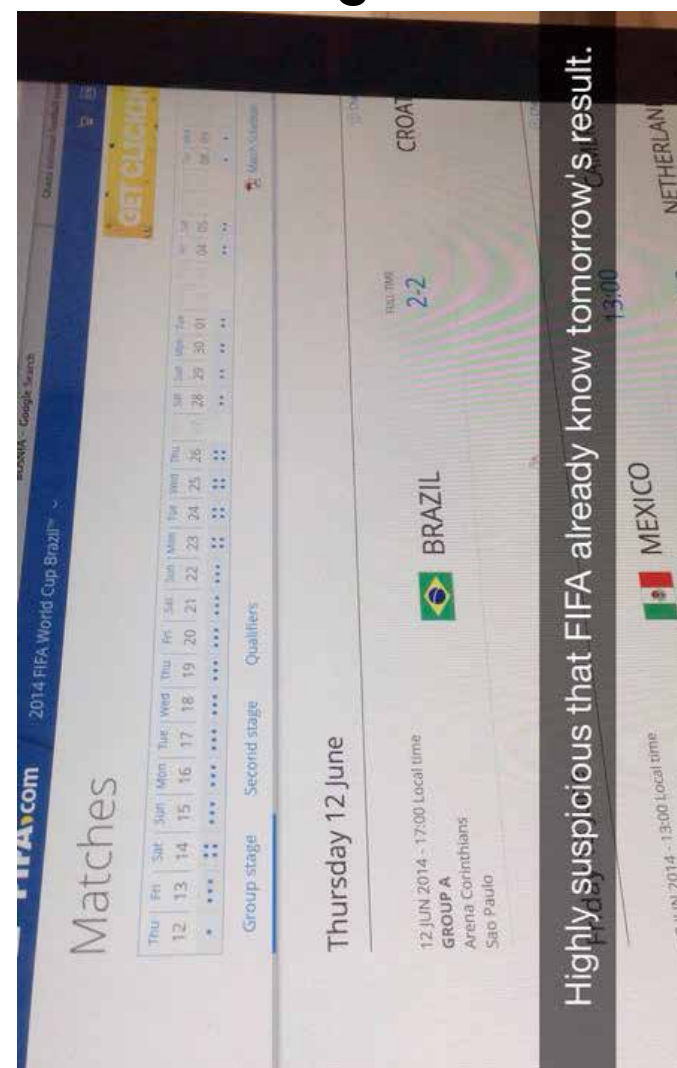
"Even in 2002, there is little to no evidence that they were ever anywhere near the ball".

Research, however, remains inconclusive as to whether football is or is not actually coming home, this year, or any time soon.

"Think you know more about The Truth? Email hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk and give it a go!"

"Had enough? Email hangman.felix@imperial.ac.uk and give it a go!"

Match Fixing - 11/06/14



Hangman To Conduct Tyrannical Trials In Full View Of The Public

Timothy McSweeney

Hangman Reporter

Following the recent news that the government is conducting secrete terror trials with all press and public, Hangman feels the need to clarify that its tyrannical show trials will be conducted in full view.

Hangman feels that the only way to truly maintain order and discipline amongst its citizens is to let them see the terrifying results of dissent.

A spokesperson for Hangman stated "it seems evident that the only way to

make people realise the full power of Hangman unleashed is to witness it first-hand".

"Sure, some people may say that imagination is likely to envisage a scarier scenario. However, we here at Hangman are confident that this is not the case with the Hangman 'trials'."

"I mean just imagine yourself up on the stand answering some trumped up charges of treason All your 'friends' have been bribed or coerced into testifying against you and the Editor is tying you in legal knots".

"Could it be any scarier?"



Footage from the latest Hangman trial.

"Ultimately, we feel it's best to make examples of those who dare to test the authority of the Editor and indeed, any of the writing committee".

At press time, Hangman was in the process of sentencing the Tab Imperial editor after being found guilty of crimes against journalism.



@feliximperial

FelixImperial

HANGMAN

the turnip

Hangman's Finest College News Source



Still Trouble In Iraq Somehow

We Left Everything Pretty Good Didn't We?

A full 11 years after George Bush's Mission Accomplished speech formally ending the 2003 Iraq war, there are reports this week that there is still, inexplicably, trouble in Iraq.



All sorted circa 2003.

Following the reports that half a million people have been forced to flee the Iraqi city of Mosul, Hangman - and indeed the world - is at a loss to explain how this could possibly have happened.

A spokesman for the UN stated that "We just don't understand, surely the USA and its allies wouldn't have left the country so exposed to the whims of extremists".

"Especially not after the last decade of peace, stability and growth"

Despite the fact that the deposal of Saddam Hussein - effectively Westernising and bringing prosperity to the country - occurred over ten

years ago, Islamic extremists have somehow managed to gain control of Iraq's second largest city.

The whole situation however, is even more nonsensical. The extremists, a group known as ISIS, are apparently an off-shoot of al-Qaeda. But of course, that can't be right because of the success of the war in Afghanistan to remove the Taliban and destroy all of al-Qaeda.

When pushed for what he would do in response, US President Barack Obama stated "I guess we have no choice but to go in again, that seems to be the only easy solution".

UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER TOO ORGANISED



From Felix 30/5/14

Brazilians Not What Man Expected

"Ow"



Not the kind of Brazilians this local man experienced.

Following up a desire to immerse himself in all things Brazilian, a football-mad man was initially delighted to find his local beautician offered a crash course in the 'Brazilian'.

However, the man soon realised he'd made a terrible mistake, discovering that a Brazilian was really not what he thought.

Emerging from the parlour looking thoroughly shaken, the man told reporters "It was extremely painful and emasculating".

"I hope Brazil get knocked-out early".

"I don't think I want to watch the World Cup anymore".



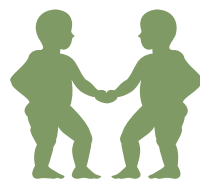
ARIES

This week you make the mistake of going to the Union during the England match. After the entirely predictable defeat the disgusted fans start a riot and you are crushed in the ensuing chaos. You don't even like football. You die.



TAURUS

This week your new habit of taking study drugs has been paying off and you are easily passing your exams. Unfortunately, after taking far too many pills, you are so busy revising that you forget to go to the toilet. Your bladder explodes. You die.



GEMINI

This week is your final week at Imperial. Congratulations! All you have to do is present your final project and you're done. Unfortunately you're a Mech Eng student, and your final project was a killer robot. During the demonstration it attacks your supervisor, butchering him with an axe before turning on you. You die.



CANCER

This week the rare thing that is the British sun decides to make an appearance. However as you've been stuck in the library for the last term you're paler than the average vampire, and the ten minutes you spend outside turn you into a boiled lobster. You die.



LEO

This week they are serving a brand new dish in 568. You are shocked to find that the food arrives on time and actually looks edible. It was too good to last though when half an hour after finishing your guts make an unnaturally loud gurgle and you begin to spout liquid from both ends. You die.



VIRGO

This week you are watching a film at the Union Cinema. You are enjoying How to Train Your Dragon when your mobile phone starts ringing. Unable to turn it off in the darkness you feel a sharp blow to the back of your head. In the last few seconds of your life, you turn to see the girl on front of house wielding a machete. You die.



LIBRA

You send several snapchats to @feliximperial of your dick; in one of them you're surrounded by chanting teammates, probably shouting for you to put it away. I know who you are and am not impressed. Do it again and all they'll find of you will be your small pinkie.



SCORPIO

This week the College decide to renovate you. After spending half the budget on getting in consultants and changing the plans half way through, you end up with three arms, four kidneys and no lungs, heart or spleen. You die.



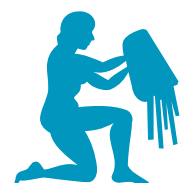
SAGITTARIUS

This week you find out the Union plans to make gender-neutral "a thing" in the near future. You scream in panic, scared that you might have to share a toilet with somebody with a different gender identity and run into the nearest door, giving yourself a fatal concussion. Wait, you didn't realise you could take turns to use the loo? Too late, you're dead.



CAPRICORN

This week you decide to break the cycle of eating ready meals and actually cook some real food. Over the past year you seem to have forgotten everything you knew, putting a spoon in the microwave, soup in the oven, and wine in the toaster. Everything explodes. You die.



AQUARIUS

This week you shout out the wrong name during sex, leading to your girlfriend realising that you are cheating on her. She decides to enact revenge, strangling you with her legs. You die.



PISCES

This week you attend CSPB to find out what all the fuss is about. Quickly realising that no useful decisions will ever be made, you decide to put everyone out of their misery, starting with the DPW. The gun backfires. You die.

Ask Annie, your friendly Agony Aunt

Agony Aunt Annie Whiteley is the woman who fought for women's cloakroom facilities at Imperial, and thus is qualified to solve all your problems.



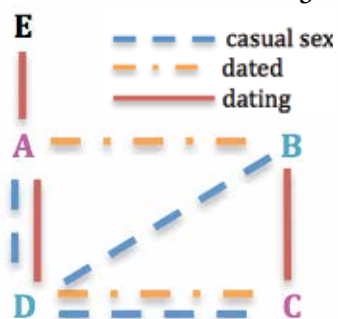
Help! With the year coming to an end, I'm worried that I'll lose touch with my boyfriend over the summer, when we can't see each other every day, or even every week. I'll be away from London until September, and I'm scared that when we're so far apart, he'll forget about me, or find someone else. How do I keep hold of him?

Attached in Aldgate

Once you're back in your parental nest, it's really easy to forget about someone who just isn't part of your life there. Don't be worried if your other half doesn't stay in as much contact as usual, they'll probably be busy, but that doesn't mean that they're not proudly telling their friends all about you. If it's not too far, make the effort to go and visit them, or if you're not ready to meet the parents, go away together. This doesn't have to be expensive, most people can spare a weekend to go camping in Margate. However, once you're apart, you may have a new perspective on them, and realise they weren't so great after all. In this case, don't be afraid to hunting for some of the other fish in the sea.

Help! I'm caught in a love tangle. I've recently started seeing this guy, who I have a lot of mutual friends with. What I didn't realise, was that he's slept with my ex-boyfriend, who I was occasionally still sleeping with, as part of a threesome with my current boyfriend's ex-girlfriend. Of course, the subject of a threesome was brought up practically on our first date, and while I wasn't unenthusiastic, I felt that the new guy was far more into this than me, and I didn't feel like I'd have the choice of saying no if this opportunity arose. Then, to make things even more complicated, I found out that my ex is now seeing the ex-girlfriend in a more serious than casual sense, although they're not exclusive and she is dating other people. Although this is horribly awkward, this shouldn't necessarily be a problem, except now I feel like the door has been opened for threesomes or even foursomes, and I'm not sure how comfortable I feel with this. I feel like I ought to sleep with the ex-girlfriend, just because we're the only pairing that hasn't happened, and both men involved have mentioned that they would be interested in that. The problem is that I just don't think I want any of this, I'm happy to stick to a single person, but I don't want to seem boring or prudish, especially when everyone else involved but me is more experienced with this than me. How do I say no?

Incestuous in Islington



I've drawn a diagram to help understand this mess. You are person C in this scenario. A and C (in pink) are the girls, and B and D (in blue) are the boys. E is gender-nonspecific, so I've opted not to impose a gender. Doesn't that satisfy equalists and scientists alike? I'm sure it's all very clear in your mind, but I needed a little help.

One of my most standard pieces of advice is just leave it, yeah? It's quite simple. Don't sleep with an ex. That solves quite a lot of the problems to begin with. This rules out any threesomes or foursomes with any combination of A, B, C or D. It is perfectly legit to be uncomfortable watching your current beau and their ex, that's just asking for trouble, no matter how sexually open you are. It is also perfectly legit to not want to have a threesome with your ex, even if you were sleeping together "casually" after you broke up. After all, was that really casual? And does anyone really want to risk the direct comparison of their sexual prowess? If a serious suggestion of this is made, just point out that it would be bloody weird, and rule it out in both directions. Odds are, they're suggesting this either because they think you would want to, or because they think that they'll lose face if they don't. Even if that isn't the case, it shouldn't be a dealbreaker.

As for the girly twosome, this is more difficult. While they might think that the idea is the embodiment of a fantasy, it wouldn't be if you weren't into it. And because of the above rule, no one can watch, and given that, they might not even care. But really, you are perfectly within your rights not to sleep with anyone you don't want to sleep with. If anyone is pressuring to do anything, maybe they're not the one for you. Communication is really important in relationships, and you need to be able to discuss what you are and aren't comfortable with.

Annie's Editorial: Sexual Dentistry

I think we can all agree that your mouth is quite an important part of your sex life. Kissing, licking, sucking; good oral hygiene and care is not something that should be ignored for someone sexually active, or indeed anyone. Habitual halitosis is not going to make it any easier for you to get laid. Here are three points where maintaining a good standard of dental care may not be straightforward.

1. Spit or swallow?

While we all know that you should brush your teeth last thing at night, not immediately after consuming something acidic, but what many people don't know is that it's best not to rinse your mouth, allowing the fluoride to protect and permeate your teeth overnight. This is all very well and good, but what if playing the skin flute, or the female equivalent, is part of your regular nighttime routine? Skimping on your tooth-care ritual once in a while won't do any harm, but could you be damaging your teeth by regularly engaging in fantastic fellatio or cracking cunnilingus last thing at night?

Well, we all know that acidic substances are bad for your tooth enamel. What men will be glad to hear is that semen is slightly alkali, with a pH similar to that of toothpaste. This means, of course, that whether you spit or swallow, it won't be actually damaging your teeth before bedtime. The same can't be said for women, who are slightly acidic (not very), although not to a greater extent than saliva itself, so it's probably not a good enough excuse to avoid it. However, both will void any overnight benefits of the fluoride on your teeth, so if you're feeling very concerned about your teeth, it'd probably best to brush them again when you're done. And if you're the sort of person who doesn't really enjoy the taste, now you have a dentist-sanctioned reason to do so.

2. Brace yourselves

So you're a fully functioning, sexually active adult. Unfortunately, either for the first time, or because you've been a bit lazy with your retainer, you've suddenly found yourself wearing braces (again). While this might be a bit embarrassing (though trust me, it will be worth it in a couple of years), it doesn't have to ruin your sex life. Once they've mastered kissing, what a lot of traintracked adults worry about is their ability to give head. They're not the only ones who are worrying about this: imagine someone going near your delicate nether-regions when you just don't know what's going to happen.

The good news is that this shouldn't be too much of a problem. Key advice is to take it slow at first, and especially if you're pleasuring a woman, try and keep your teeth out of the mix. It'll be more comfortable for you if you make sure you keep your braces well waxed (is that still a thing with these fancy new invisible braces?), and try a different technique if it hurts, because in this case, you'll probably be causing yourself actual damage, and grazed lips ain't sexy. A final, more practical note, is that if you, the braced, are giving head, it is well worth ensuring that the person on the receiving end is shaven, or at least well trimmed. I'm sure you can use your imagination to picture what the hilarious/mortifying (depending on how you look at it) consequences of attacking a wild tangle could be.

3. Stitched up

A final thing that young adults regularly deal with is the removal of wisdom teeth. This is a pretty invasive procedure, with many stitches, and an enforced diet of soup and yogurt for a week or so. It should be healed up within a few weeks, with the lingering metallic taste finally fading. The patience of your understanding partner may be beginning to fade, both of you want to get back to the head of the matter, as it were.

Unfortunately, particularly for those slurpin' the gherkin, this can put a lot of pressure on the not-entirely-healed wound, causing stitches that you thought were long healed to burst, leading to flapping gums, blood, and certainly a lot of panic. Hopefully this graphic image will be burned vividly enough into your brain that you never attempt to overdo it in this situation. As long as you're careful, you're good to go within a few weeks, but you don't want to be going all out until you're very confident in your newly healed tooth socket. Take time to build up the enthusiasm gradually, your mouth (and your partner!) will be grateful!

Send Annie your problems at catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Annie's Lonely Hearts

Feeling lonely? We all know that it's hard to meet people at Imperial, so Aunt Annie wants to make it a bit easier for you. If you're looking for a special someone, missed a connection, or want to let someone know how you feel, send a message to catnip.felix@imperial.ac.uk and maybe you'll find a match here.

This week, the only lonely heart that is seeking a mate is Annie herself. Annie is willing to meet anyone who's interested for a coffee to pass the last two weeks of term. The resultant ratio of clothes to coffee is inversely proportional (hint hint winky face). Amusing and original responses (preferably with attached photos) will be prioritised. Can't wait to hear from you guys and girls! xoxo

See something you like? Send us an email and let Annie help you get lucky in love.



Take a look at our World Cup Preview Pullout!

Attack of the Stormtroopers – London Cricket Varsity 2014

Karan Dhall
Imperial Cricket

On Tuesday the 10th of June ICUCC headed out to Regents Park pumped to prove that we were the best cricketing side in London. Some of us more alive than the rest.

On a side note being dragged out of bed at 8 in the morning after 3 hours sleep to play cricket because "we're short" is not fun or pleasant so cheers Dave.

This whole tournament was organised by UCL who were so keen they decided to buy a horrendous looking purple T20 kit just to try and put out that they were a dominant side. Also they had to be a pain because of it and bowl with a white ball.

Match 1: ICUCC vs UCL

After winning the toss ICUCC decided to bat first. Vishal and Hemant opened the batting, however both managed to lose their wickets cheaply: Vishal to a spectacular catch at slip and Hemant being bowled out. Sam also managed to lose his wicket fairly cheaply for 5. Which left it to Viggy and Karan to rebuild the innings aided by the help of what was probably two of the worst



IC CRICKET

umpires that have ever existed. They were probably taught the rules the morning of the match.

Karan was stumped at least 3 times and run out twice, all of which was given not out. They also struggled to count and would constantly get the numbers five and six confused. However Viggy eventually lost his wicket to an attempted big haul over mid off. In came Arjun, who also lost his wicket fairly cheaply, and Huzaifah essentially went straight back after walking in due to some horrendous calling by Karan.

Karan eventually lost his wicket at a point where we really didn't have much on the board. But a last ditch came

from Dave, Tom and Shaneil (mostly Dave) left us with a semi respectable score of 112.

In reply UCL started with a diamond duck with their opener nicking behind. A constant stream of wickets meant that UCL were under constant pressure and Imperial looked on course for a simple victory. But the umpires simply couldn't let this happen which led them to give UCL a six point penalty for Imperial having a slow over rate.

Drama emerged in the final over in which UCL required 5 runs in the last over but the umpires managed to cock up their counting again, claiming that UCL required two off the last ball. This

sent UCL into uproar causing them to sprint onto the pitch with a scorebook to argue. Eventually the umpires gave in despite Viggy's protest. However some excellent death bowling by Shival meant that Imperial could hang on for the win.

Batting figures:

Viggy: 36
Dave: 21
Karan: 18

Bowling Figures:

Shaneil: 4-0-18-2
Tom: 4-0-18-2
Viggy: 4-0-22-2

Match 2: ICUCC vs Kings

Kings managed to see off LSE, comfortably scoring 217-1 with one of their openers scoring a hundred odd.

Winning the toss again Imperial put Kings into bat. Kings got off to a flying start scoring 56 off of the first four overs. This did involve Dave getting bored so he decided it would be more fun to bowl to first slip rather than the batsman on numerous occasions and ended up bowling 18 balls for two overs. Furthermore, because it was obvious that Imperial were going to win Karan decided to drop both openers early on just to make the game seem more interesting.

Eventually ICUCC managed to dismiss the top three and then we were well and truly into the tail. Dave managed to get the crowd on his side by taking a spectacular one handed catch on the boundary and then proceeding to down a can given to him, leading to everyone chanting his name.

Imperial eventually managed to restrict Kings to 126. Special mention to Tom for bowling an excellent spell taking four wickets for nine runs.

In reply Imperial got off to a solid start with a strong opening partnership of 61 which included a cool, calm and collected half century by Vishal whilst Hemant just stood by and watched. Both eventually lost their wicket which brought in Viggy and Sam.

Sam however also lost his wicket cheaply which brought in crowd favourite ENNY Scott (Dave), who pleased the crowd by smashing it round the park and taking us home.

Batting Figures:

Vishal: 54
Dave: 38
Viggy: 28

Bowling Figures:

Tom: 4-0-9-4
Viggy: 4-0-11-2
Dave: 4-0-30-1

Imperial 2nds mercilessly destroy the Medics in Varsity

Luke Gardner
Imperial Cricket

On a day in which the Weather Gods finally answered Arvind Rajagopalan's nightly prayers and granted us a day of fun in the sun, seconds skipper Samuel Mead led ICUCC onto the pitch for our first ever Varsity match against the Medics seconds at Regents Park. Based on some sneaky insider information, sent to him the night before by Arvind, Sam elected to field first. Imperial was chomping at the bit, ready to sink our teeth into the star-studded Medics batting line up featuring two of their 1st XI batsmen, the opener being the 1st XI Captain, the mighty Mrigank Sinha.

Nick Young was right on the money from ball one, keeping Mrigank firmly on the back foot by making good use of the bouncy astroturf wicket. Sam Mead at the other end proceeded to bowl the worst opening spell in recent history. Thankfully, it turned out Sam Mead had also led us out onto the wrong pitch (a U15 pitch), and therefore very 'graciously' offered to restart the match, since the Medics were concerned that they had only scored one boundary off the opening

five overs.

Having restarted the match, Sam finally decided to pack his leg side field and bowl, which turned out to be a masterstroke since he was intent on bowling Big G Bodyline, only a little slower and less threatening. Soon a mini battle ensued between Mrigank and Arvind at point, putting on a virtuoso fielding performance by stopping nearly every one of Mrigank's shots through that region without even using his hands. Sam, having finally realised the plan, brought in the dangerous Mak Gill and set the straight fielders deep. With the point-cover region taken out of the equation by Arvind's massive behind and Nick's excellent long barrier, Mrigank had no choice but to loft one straight, which was calmly collected at long on by Arjun Jayaswal.

With Mak having been removed by one of the two specialist batsmen in the Medic line up, IC upped the ante to try and roll the Medics over for a sub-par score. More tidy bowling by Mak delivered him the scalp of the second opener, who had the distinction of being clean bowled twice in the same day. Mak finished with solid figures of 2-16, removing the set batsmen. From the other end, Arvind was unlucky not to pick up a wicket with his eclectic

mix of leggies, googlies and sliders, seeing as Huzaifah behind the stumps had not quite gotten his act together yet, missing a few tough stumping chances. Former IC seconds stalwart Yash Verma somehow managed to survive a monstrous over from Arvind, which ended up going for just one.

Having decided the game was meandering along for far too long, Sam brought on team mascot Hemant "Habib Habibu" Morjaria, the man with the golden arm of late, who instantly brought Huzaifah back into the game with two stumpings in two balls, one of them being the dangerous Jai Patel.

From the other end, "Big Ben" Stockton proved that sometimes height is all you need, giving the Medic batsmen some sweet chin music off a five step run-up.

Aseem Sharma (aka "traitor") was the beneficiary of most of this hostility. Hemant managed to prise out two more Medic batsmen (with a third stumping for Huzaifah), but was denied a five-for by Sam. With Ben's wicket finally getting IC into the tail, Sam decided to unleash our secret weapon, Luke Gardner.

Luke proceeded to prove just how quick he had become, sacrificing

line, length and the pitch for pure, brutal pace. He proceeded to give up 20 runs before some timely words from Arvind resulted in his maiden wicket for IC, a fact which was not lost on anyone when Luke went for an ecstatic gambol around the pitch. Arvind finally contributed to the wickets column, running out the Medic's seconds Captain, setting IC a tricky target of the nelson, 111, in 20 overs.

With darkness threatening to bring an early end to the day's play, Imperial openers Hemant and Big Sam Dethridge proceeded to cut into the Medics bowling. The first 10 overs were negotiated quite comfortably.

Despite the early hiccup, Hemant continued in his fine vein of form, before falling caught-and-bowled to Medics legspinner Samad Wahid. In walked Arjun Jayaswal, signalling his murderous intent early by arriving without a helmet. It seemed the Medics took the philosophy of caring for your fellow man quite literally, refusing to bowl at the stumps for fear of causing injury, resulting in a very charitable dose of extras and cutting down our target by a good third. Luke "Skywalker" Gardner very astutely predicted that the Medic bowlers would manage a better run-rate than

their batsmen did, as turned out to be the case. Arjun eventually fell to Medics skipper Jonny Wise for a quickfire 18 off six balls, killing what little hopes the medics had left. Fahad Ali, the "Medic with a mouth" was not shy with his atrocious sledging, but even his own team could not take someone playing in a white tank top and black trousers seriously. As for us, we were wondering when PB had started playing for the Medics (yes, the sledging was of THAT quality).

With Huzaifah walking in at no. 4, Sam entrenched at that other end and only nine runs left to knock off, the only real problem left for IC was that Huzaifah did not have enough runs left to get to leave contented. With the last ball of an excellent Yash Verma (who really should have been brought on earlier) over to face, Huzaifah unfortunately could not build on a good day behind the stumps, playing all around an in-dipper, leaving for a golden duck to the plumbest of plumb LBWs. He was later quoted as saying "I was so eager for a single to keep strike that I missed the ball."

Thankfully, Big Sam Dethridge realised the danger of leaving any runs for the skipper, and promptly clubbed two boundaries to finish off the game, giving IC a resounding win.