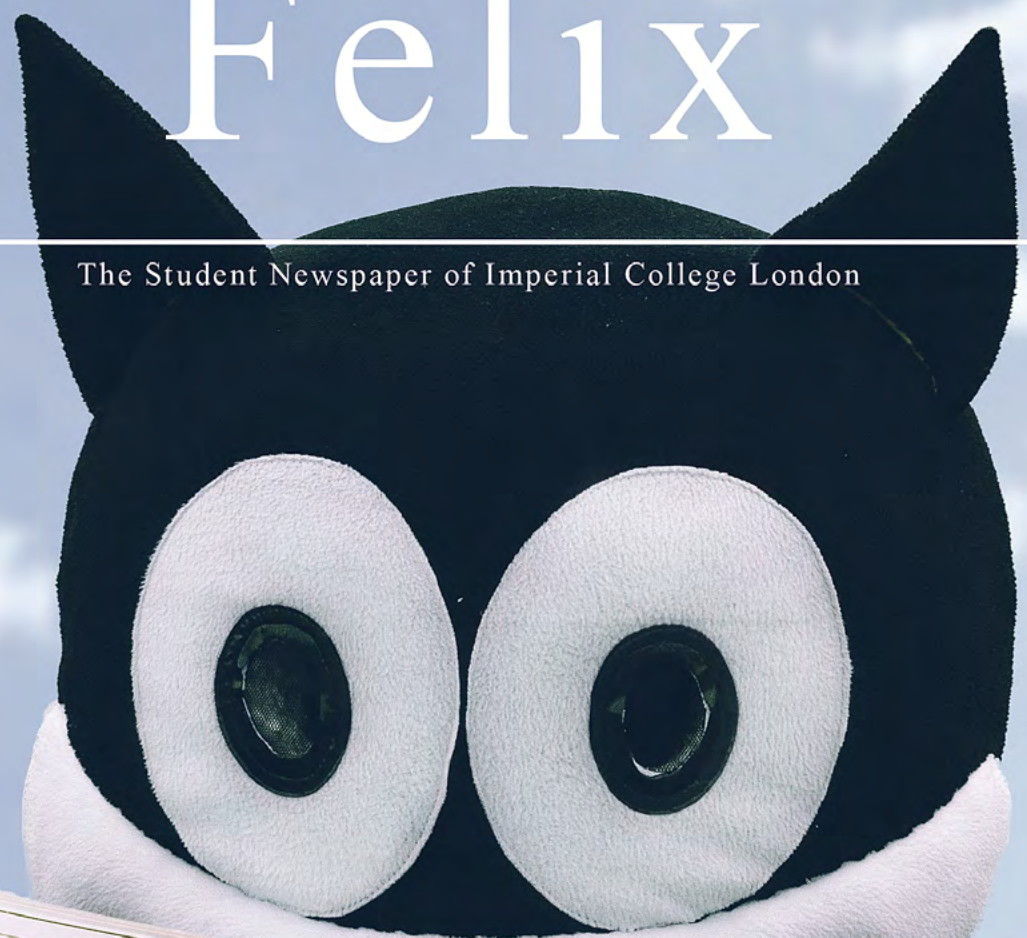




Felix

The Student Newspaper of Imperial College London



FRIDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER, 2017

SPORTS

11 things you need to know if you cycle in London

So, you're new to London. Or maybe you've been here a while but you're looking for a way to save some money, stay healthy, and just have fun. Or maybe you need a plan now that Uber are potentially on the rocks... Here is a totally incomprehensive list of how to stay safe and enjoy cycling in London...

1. Get the right gear

to get where you're going. Firstly, learn how to mend a puncture. Secondly, get some tougher tires. I like going quickly as much as the next person, but a slightly tougher tire won't slow you down much on your commute. Get some GatorSkin or some Schwalbe Marathon and will fend off all but the toughest London junk.

2. What to wear

For those of you who didn't already know, a jacket. They're waterproof, can be scratched any bag, and light enough so that you don't get super sweaty on your way to uni. Get a fluorescent one: they

3. Locks

So you have your dream bike in London that can't wait to tear up the cycle superhighways, but this is all going to be very short-lived if you don't get proper locks. A general rule of thumb for London is to have two locks: a D-lock (the university deal on these) for your frame and back wheel, and a cable lock for your front wheel and saddle (yes people in London steal saddles, it sucks).

4. Punctures

These suck. Well, how. The last thing you want when you're rushing or late to get a puncture and be stood on the side of the road with no way

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6. Lights

On the subject of being seen: please don't cheap out on lights. London is so well lit at night that

7. Learn to fix your own bike

You've managed to get yourself into university, you can definitely learn how to fix a bike. There are several bits of basic

8. Don't be a dick

Cycling in London gets a bad rep for being really dangerous, and part of that is the attitude of some drivers towards cyclists. These drivers are, thankfully, in the minority at the moment but they seem to be growing. The big driver of this anti-cyclist sentiment is that there is an unfortunate number of cyclists who have no regard for the rules of the road. So: stop at red lights

9. It's not all doom and gloom

If you read the papers thinking that if you cycle in London you will die, now I know it's a bit rash coming from someone who has been hit cycling, but it really isn't that dangerous. There is loads of guidance online on how to cycle safely in London, like The London Cyclist website.

10. Have fun

and extra encourage: signal cycle on pavements, when and please please please, don't go up the inside of cars or buses when late for uni. I don't want to be killed by some driver who hates cyclists because you couldn't wait for a light to go green.

11. Have fun

For those of you who didn't already know, it rains. A lot. Get a waterproof cycling jacket.

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– Keep the Cat Free –

ISSUE 1669

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EDITORIAL

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It's that time of the year again...

When I was elected as Editor of Felix, a little over six months ago, I set myself one challenge: I wouldn't be writing my first editorial the day of the print deadline. I was going to spend time over it, painstakingly crafting a loving piece of work about my time at Imperial thus far – a reflection of the past five years I've spent here. I was going to wax lyrical about my own experiences as a fresher, looking back on how I felt when I first walked through the doors of Gabor Hall, went up to my room with my parents, and then watched them wave goodbye before making the perilous trek back to Tottenham. Who knows, that editorial might even have uncovered some universal truths about leaving behind childhood things, forging your own way in the world, or seizing each day as it comes.

But that was then, and this is now: it's 9pm, an hour before the print deadline for the first issue, and I'm typing up these words, powered by gallons of Yorkshire tea and a sinking feeling of anxiety in my stomach. There will be no searing truths, no call to arms – instead I will just share some advice to



Fred Fyles – Felix Editor

those reading, many of whom are about to embark on their time at Imperial.

If I could have given my younger self two pieces of wisdom, the first one would have been 'you do you'. During freshers' week, it's tempting to get involved with absolutely everything you can, even if you're not particularly keen on playing ring of fire for the umpteenth time. It's natural to feel this way – you want to make friends, to be seen as someone who knows how to have fun. But you shouldn't be afraid of doing what you want: go to the cinema alone; go

around the V&A in your lunch break; have some solitary time if you feel that's what you need.

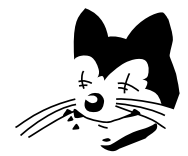
The second piece of advice I would give myself would be 'don't be afraid to get involved'. By this I don't mean sign up to every club you can at Freshers' fair (although I'm sure this will be true – I'm still getting emails from Cheese Soc), but rather ensure that if there's something you're interested in you pursue it with determination.

It's a mistake I made with Felix. As a fresher I wrote for the Arts section nearly every single week,

a habit that continued into my second year, as I branched out into Music and Film. I wanted to get more involved, to get placed on the editorial team, but I thought that if I just waited they would eventually ask me to join. Now I'm on the other side, I can most definitely assure you that this is not the case. We are always completely desperate for writers and editors, for people who are willing to give up their valuable time, sit down, and create what you are holding.

After applying to edit the Arts section, I was given a glimpse behind the curtain, and what I found was not a group of intimidating hacks, competing with each other for the juiciest scoop, but rather some of the warmest and most welcoming people I've ever met. The people I've met through Felix have become my lifelong friends, my family, and the Felix office has become like my home. Barely a day goes past when I'm not glad that I made the plunge. So get stuck in, you never know where it might lead – maybe in a few years it will be you writing these words.

Oh, and call your mum. She probably misses you.



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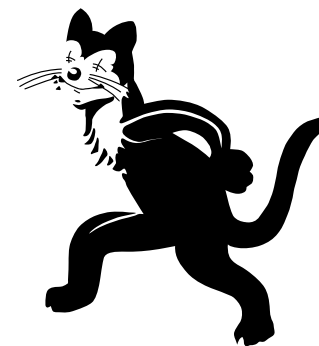
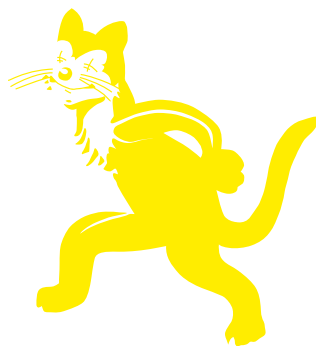
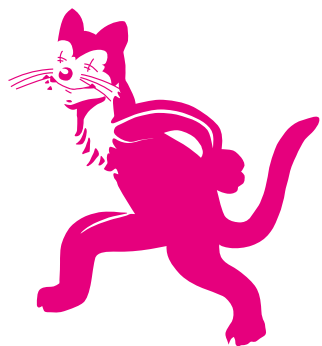
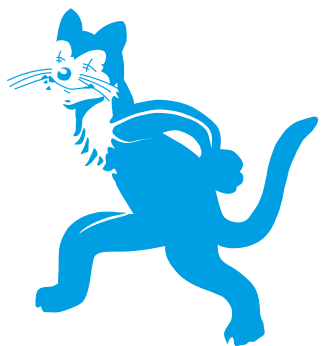
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Felix is recruiting!



We want you – yes, you! We're looking for writers, photographers, editors, illustrators, reporters, computer experts and grammar nerds to join our team. No experience needed – we'll teach you everything you need to know. If you're interested, send us an email on felix@ic.ac.uk

NEWS

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Imperial overtakes Durham to claim fourth place in this year's *Good University Guide*

NEWS

Joanna Wormald
Deputy Editor

The College has improved on or maintained its ranks in all key metrics and most of the subject tables.

Imperial has been ranked fourth in *The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018*. This sees the College rise one place after overtaking Durham.

An analysis published by Imperial cites improvements in teaching quality and student experience as the main reasons for its rise in the rankings. Out of the 129 universities and higher education institutes included in the rankings, Imperial is 104th for

teaching (up from 124th last year) and 31st for student experience (up from 77th in 2017). Following last year's results, provost Professor James Stirling promised to address issues surrounding feedback and assessments. Vice-provost (education)

"Of the 14 subject tables Imperial appears in, it is in the top three for nine"

Professor Simone Buitendijk said: "This year we've made great strides in our ambition to make Imperial a beacon for innovative, evidence-based,

and inclusive teaching. Our new Learning and Teaching Strategy gives us a clear framework to build on our existing strengths and drive the changes that our students want and need.

Of the 14 subject tables Imperial appears in, it is in the top three for nine. This is a slight decrease on last year. Ranks have improved in six subjects and fallen in four. Changes here are again a result of teaching and student experience, boosting the score for physics but causing a drop for mathematics and chemistry. It is worth noting that these measures are relevant to other universities. This means Imperial fell in the medicine rankings as Edinburgh and Swansea made improvements. The remaining subjects have maintained their positions from last year, including



Imperial is investing £3bn in new research-focused hubs// Imperial College London

Metric	Score	Rank	Comparison
Teaching quality	77.1%	104	^
Student experience	80.9%	31	^
Research quality	56.2%	2	=
UCAS entry points	222	2	^
Graduate prospects	90.7%	2	=
Firsts/2:1s	88.6%	6	^
Completion rate	96.2%	4	=
Student:staff	11.3:1	5	=
Services/facilities spend	£3,423	2	=

Imperial has shown a general improvement across the board// *The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018*

civil engineering and geology, for which Imperial is top of the tables. The College's analysis states that while being generally outranked by Oxford and Cambridge, Imperial is still ahead of UCL in both national and subject rankings.

The results also indicate that standards at Imperial are higher this year. The required 222 UCAS points places Imperial between Cambridge (230 points) and Oxford (221 points). Although Imperial makes more offers than Oxford and Cambridge, competition is arguably fiercer here. Applications to Imperial were up six per cent this year with an application:place ratio of 7.6:1.

There is additional good news for students nearing the end of their studies: Imperial has a 96.2 per cent completion rate, with 88.6 per cent of students achieving a first or 2:1. At 41.8 per cent, Imperial has the highest proportion of graduates leaving with a first-class degree of any higher education institute in the country. It will be interesting to see how this

changes in future given recent concerns about grade inflation.

It gets better for graduates. The median salary for an Imperial graduate was £30,000 — considerably more than the average £21,000 (though admittedly not that much more if you factor in London living costs).

Imperial holds onto second place for both research quality and graduate prospects, beaten

"We can and will provide the world-class educational experience our students deserve"

by Cambridge and St George's, University of London respectively. It also maintains previous ranks for student:staff ratio and money spent on services and facilities. These include the new

Translation and Innovation Hub and the Molecular Sciences Research Hub, which will see researchers begin work in 2018.

These general improvements follow a fairly tumultuous year which saw Imperial fall nine places in the QS World Graduate Employability Rankings, place 8th in the Times Higher Education global rankings, and receive a gold rating in the Teaching Excellence Framework (AKA the reason our tuition fees have gone up again).

Prior to that, research conducted at Imperial was judged to have the greatest impact on society and the economy than all other UK universities in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework. Ninety per cent of Imperial's research was also rated as world-leading or internationally excellent.

Professor Buitendijk said: "Our goals are ambitious and we know that there is much work to do but we are confident that we can and will provide the world-class educational experience our students deserve."

NEWS

news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Brexit: your wrap-up on all the issues you need to know

Brexit. With no background knowledge, the word seems innocuous enough – the latest breakfast cereal perhaps? However, this now-infamous word and all it represents have been the talk of the town for the past year and a half. This summer, you’ve used it to screen prospective suitors on a first date, been asked about it on your travels by fellow Europeans, and discussed it with home friends you hadn’t seen all year. Relationships have unravelled, political allegiances probed, and memes made from the word. Brexit has infiltrated every part of your life, and so, the next time the topic crops up in conversation (probably within the next 24 hours), let’s make sure you know what you’re talking about as you grace a lucky soul with your opinion. Here’s what you need to know:

NEWS

Ratan Gor
News Writer

Trade – the Single Market, the Customs Union, and the European Economic Area

The question as to whether the UK should stay in or leave the

European Single Market has been at the forefront of Brexit discussions but what exactly is it and why does it matter?

The EU Single Market is a trade agreement that seeks to guarantee the free movement of goods, capital, services, and labour within it – termed ‘the four freedoms’. It consists of the 28 EU members as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway who have

access through the European Economic Area agreement, whereby they implement EU laws related to the four freedoms in exchange for access.

Being part of the European Customs Union means that goods crossing national borders aren’t subject to tariffs, such as the common tariff placed on imports to the EU from non-EU countries. It also means that member states aren’t allowed to create

their own trade agreements with other nations.

Just what are tariffs anyway?

Tariffs provide countries with a source of revenue, whilst also protecting domestic industries from foreign competitors who may be able to produce something for less – either because of lax regulation in areas such as workers’ rights and environmental protections, or simply because they are more efficient at producing a product. Either way, imported goods become more expensive with tariffs, making them less competitive in a market.

Some feel the single market should be the chief focus of the UK’s negotiations with the EU as it is widely perceived to be a positive feature of the European Union from the standpoint of businesses and prosperity. Staying in it would preserve the current friction-free trade with the EU – Britain’s biggest trading partner – in goods but more importantly in services, upon which the bulk of the UK economy is based.

The Tories want a 2-year transitional period, after officially leaving the EU, where there would still be access to the single market and during which a new UK-EU trade deal would be devised.

Theresa May has said that the UK is willing to pay €20 billion for such an agreement, which the EU has said is insufficient. Apparently the so-called “Norway model” was considered, whereby the UK would pay to remain in the European Economic Area in the long-run. However, this model now appears to be off the table after staunch opposition from hard-line Brexiteers who dismiss the single market as a hindrance that should be escaped – the so-called ‘hard Brexit’.

Labour’s official position is that the UK should remain in the single market during a four-year transition period. They were one of the first to

propose such an approach. Were such a transition period to become indefinite or Britain decided to maintain membership to the single market and customs union some would argue the UK would be worse off than if it were a member. The Liberal Democrats, therefore, propose a potential “exit from Brexit” and want the public to vote on the final deal with the option to stay in Europe if they don’t like it.

Why was chlorinated chicken in your news feed?

Should the UK leave the single market and start forging its own trade deals across the globe, a subsequent change (slackening) in regulatory standards may follow, which could mean that goods on the market are of a different (lower) standard to what they are now. It appears that chlorinated chicken has become the poster child for this laxity in regulation that might ensue, which some believe would be worse for the consumer. In this particular case, it might mean that your fried chicken might’ve taken a dip in chlorine before satisfying your post night-out munchies because of a trade deal with the US who want to sell such meat in Britain.

Law: The European court of justice and the great repeal bill

The European court of justice (ECJ) is the highest court in the European Union. Judges from member states interpret EU law and make rulings accordingly. They are the highest court in the Union and can issue rulings over national courts. Its decisions are made in public and detailed reasoning is offered on decisions, and so, the ECJ is thought to be largely good at what it

NEWS

news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

does. Once the UK leaves the EU, the ECJ would theoretically not have such powers, although, should Britain wish to maintain its access to the single market then European laws and ECJ rulings related to this would likely still apply.

The EU withdrawal bill, also known as the great repeal bill, is a piece of legislation that essentially copies and pastes EU law into UK law to try and avoid disruption on the day Britain actually leaves. This, however, is not as simple as it might first appear. Lots would have to be amended for it to make sense in relation

“Trade experts claim that a seamless UK-Ireland border would be impossible if the UK leaves the single market”

to the UK. For example, EU law would refer to EU institutions, which Britain would no longer be a part of. Such nuances would be incredibly important to address. It has been said that the bill is likely to be “one of the largest legislative projects ever undertaken in the UK”. In its current form, the bill gives the government the ability to make “corrections” to the laws without any involvement or scrutiny from parliament. Many see this as a “naked power grab” and do not want the bill to pass without amendments to prevent this and for parliament to be consulted on changes that might be made.

The Irish border

The border between the Republic and Northern Ireland will be the only land border between



The European Parliament: public enemy number one for the Brexiteers // Wikimedia

the UK and the EU post Brexit. Currently, it is virtually invisible, meaning that goods, services, and people (up to 30,000 per day) can move between the two countries totally unhindered.

A “seamless, frictionless border” remains the end-goal for the current government. However, trade experts claim that this would be impossible if the UK leaves the single market as Ireland would have to “apply EU law with no choice but to have customs checks on the border”.

For instance, it might mean that vehicles carrying goods between the two jurisdictions would now be stopped and taken through a border check – adding to a business’s expenses. Other issues also arise and include those surrounding the taxation of goods such as cigarettes; the movement and manufacturing of milk-based products; and the production of Guinness, which crosses the border twice before being shipped off to a pub near you.

The divorce bill: show me the money

Known officially as the ‘reste à liquider’, the Brexit ‘divorce bill’ is the sum of the UK’s financial obligations to the EU which was agreed upon in the past, and have yet to be paid. It is separate to the €20 billion mentioned previously that was proposed for continued access to the EU single market. Like with any divorce, defining the amount of money has become a heated issue between the UK government, other political parties and the EU.

Gargantuan figures estimating the bill have littered the headlines leading to unfriendly and conflicting discourse on all sides. Estimates have ranged from €40 billion to as much as €100 billion.

The money relates to previous pledges the UK has made towards the EU budget; infrastructure programs such as for roads and railways; investment programs such as for roads and railways; and other long-term liabilities that might remain. The UK govern-

ment have said they recognise prior commitments that should be honoured but have stopped short of fleshing out the details and value of such obligations.

The amount will likely be subject to the future relationship the UK has with the EU after 2019. For example, if the UK decides to stay in certain programmes such as Erasmus for students, or a particular scientific research organisation, the bill would likely be lowered accordingly.

Citizens’ rights

Citizens’ rights are rights and protections for all EU citizens under EU law. They include free movement and residence, equal treatment, and rights related to work, education, and health.

It is one of the most politically-charged issues in the Brexit debate. Some claim that the referendum result mandated new rules on immigration from the EU but others completely oppose such an interpretation of the result, and cite

how migration benefits the UK, economically, culturally, and socially.

Securing the rights of 3.5 million residents from other member states in the UK and 1.2 million Brits in Europe has been stated as one of the top priorities for both sides. Politicians

“Last month the Home Office sent up to 100 letters to EU nationals in the UK ordering them to leave”

have said that people will not be used as bargaining chips in discussions and that all would be treated fairly; however, there have been a number of high-profile cases mounting up evidence to the contrary.

Long-standing resi-

dents and those lawfully living in the country have been threatened with persecution. A recent case involved a researcher from Oxford, who had been staying in the country legally, with a valid work visa, for 10 years but nevertheless was sent a letter revoking certain rights and telling him to leave. He was sent an apology – however, this wasn’t an isolated case. Last month for example, the Home Office mistakenly sent up to 100 letters to EU nationals living in the UK ordering them to leave the country or face deportation. This all whilst the UK has yet to leave the EU

§
So there’s your whistle-stop tour on some of the main points on Brexit. Now it’s for you to read-up around the topic, develop ideas and formulate your own opinions on the matter, but remember, it’s polite to offer earplugs before expressing them to an unsuspecting peer.



Well, this is awkward...// Wikimedia

COMMENT

comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk



So you got placed into Woodward Buildings? Here's what you can expect

Woodward might come with a reputation of being isolated, but the benefits of North Acton's McDonalds speak for themselves

COMMENT

Joe Fletcher
Comment Writer

Woodward. The 19-story Imperial flagship built on the outer edge of zone 2, between Acton cemetery, Park Royal industrial estate, and the A40 arterial road. At £128 a week it boasts great facilities for a fraction of the price of the South Kensington Halls. However, for many like myself, it was not our first option or even an option we had considered at all. Instead, the seemingly-random Imperial allocation policy left us lumbered with a take-it-or-leave-it offer. At first this is a shock: you were sold on the notion of living in South Kensington and having a gentle stroll into lectures, but are now facing a 45-minute commute in the battery hen conditions of the Central Line at rush hour. You quickly accept your fate and move in, understanding that it is going to take you ages to get anywhere.



You better pray you get a penthouse view // Imperial

But it's all not as bad as it seems: after spending an hour and a half together each day, you'll create great friendships with those you commute in with. Conversations will naturally pause mid-sentence during the minute-long screeching of the rails between Holland Park and Notting Hill Gate and then, without hesitation, continue like nothing happened. An introduction to Citymapper and you'll

fall in love: this app is the commuter's bible and you'll preach it to anyone who hasn't heard of it. In early minglings with non-Woodward students you may encounter the prejudice, where you'll be an object of both sympathy and ridicule. Their feelings will eventually turn to envy, whether they want to admit it or not, following a pre-drinking session where they see

your superior panoramic kitchen, double bed, and ensuite at £100 less a week than what they're paying. As a Woodwardian, you will face a certain number of dilemmas: whether or not to take a coat, which may seem trivial to others, will be a common debate amongst your peers. Do you risk being wet all day after your rainy walk across Hyde Park, or be dry but sweat out your bodyweight on the tube

and have the annoyance of carrying it around all day? The answer is unclear. Other rigorous debates include which way to uni is fastest: to get off and use the circle line or to walk from Queensway or Lancaster gate? This depends on walking speed and circle line timings; Citymapper to the rescue.

Also, don't be fooled by the notion that you'll be able to do extra work whilst commuting. This is a lie and deserves to be debunked: there is no room for book reading at peak time and you won't feel like it anyway after a full day of lectures/labs. The 1.5 hours will unproductively vanish out of your day – although you might create some sweet Spotify playlists.

The night tube will leave you in both disbelief and delight as you watch drunk people zip across the city. Whether it's the sweet, wine-like aroma migrating along the carriage from a puke covered 50-year-old, or a couple having an awkwardly public break up, there's usually something to see as you attack your chicken nuggs/kebab on the way back to North

Acton. It's also inevitable that at some point after a night out either you or somebody you know will fall asleep on the tube and end up in West Ruislip. You've been warned.

Overall, the experience of Woodward forces you to learn how to navigate London's public transport system, organise your time well, and be proactive. Despite its drawbacks, it's nice to be outside of the South Ken bubble and this year students can look forward to the new air-conditioned central line carriages, as well as the delights of the local

"Despite Woodward's drawbacks, it can be nice to experience life outside of the South Ken bubble sometimes"

North Acton McDonalds. You'll have a great year, good luck.

COMMENT

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Shaul Rosten
Comment Writer

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Pietro 'Delekof' Salvi
Comment Writer

The use of violence by antifascist groups in the US is preventing healthy democratic activism

Those who complain about Antifa's tactics don't understand the reasons why they've become necessary



On August 12th, a 'Unite the Right' march was held in the town of Charlottesville, Virginia. It was organised by a White Nationalist to protest the planned removal of a statue of American Confederate general Robert E. Lee, and resulted not only in heated conflict, but the tragic death of a young counter-protestor. For me, this episode, and the ensuing furor, was disturbing for two reasons. The first was, obviously, the gun-toting Nazis; the second, however, was the response of some protesting students and a disparate group known as 'Antifa' – Anti-Fascists.

In numerous locations across the country, these activists illegally defaced and sometimes forcibly removed statues they didn't like. At the University of Virginia, students clambered onto a statue of Thomas Jefferson – one of the Founding Fathers – and placed a black shroud over it, branding it racist. In Baltimore, a statue of Christopher Columbus, the Italian explorer, was attacked by activists wielding sledgehammers, and a statue of Francis Scott Key, an anti-abolitionist lawyer, was vandalised. Numerous other statues have been similarly defaced, all in complete violation of the law. Even more disturbingly, *Vice* published an online article that put forward an argument that it was perfectly ok to punch neo-Nazis in the face.

When did it become acceptable to arbitrarily break the law to pursue your own agenda? I think ninety percent of the 'art' in the Tate Modern is junk, but that doesn't mean I'm entitled to burn the place down. I'm not trying to suggest 'moral equivalence' of the beliefs of the Nazis and those of Antifa (and neither did Trump) – I'm merely saying that neither one has the right to break the law to further their own agenda. Such behaviour is not only totally unacceptable in a liberal society, but it runs counter to the very ideals that Antifa stand for. They

"Antifascists are ignoring the rule of law and carrying out their self-devised justice"

oppose people who are intolerant of the ideas and beliefs of others, but they seem to feel as if it is ok for them to ignore the rule of law and carry out their self-devised justice. This has nothing to do with whether or not the statues should be removed – personally, I think that they should be – but the fact is that, no matter the perceived nobility of the cause, all members of society should debate and reason within the confines

of the law, upholding the values of intellectual diversity and peaceful protest. Another upsetting example of this attitude emerged as Len McClusky, the far-left leader of Unite, said he would break the law to hold a strike protesting the public sector pay cap. Aside from the fact that education and experience equivalent staff salaries are higher in the public sector than in the private sector, what McClusky is saying is that he doesn't really give a damn about what anyone else thinks, because he knows he's right and so he is in some way above the law.

I do appreciate the argument that, sometimes, breaking the law is the right thing to do, such as those people who smuggled slaves illegally into Canada to freedom. With the Confederate statues, however, the argument simply falls down: there is a perfectly legitimate, legal process for communities to remove statues if they see fit, something that has successfully and peacefully happened in numerous places across the country; there is no excuse whatsoever to break the law.

Fundamentally, I am not trying to draw a parallel between the moral standpoints of anyone on either side of any argument; I am merely frustrated at those who, no matter their intentions, muddy the waters of healthy debate and positive activism by breaking the law to further their own agenda.

Let's get this straight: Antifa is not some group of recently post-pubescent students with an inherent hatred of bronze figures. Antifa action is, in principle, taken up to fight against violence or intolerance by fascists (a.k.a. racist/nationalist scumbags).

Whilst I'll applaud Baltimore's mayor Catherine Pugh for promptly removing all the confederate statues from the city in response to the Unite the Right rally, that saw a woman lose her life to a white-supremacist with road rage, the reality is that the rest of the country has not caught on. Protections are already widespread and growing (with dull names like the "Alabama Memorial Preservation Act") for monuments that glorify those who rejected the right of slaves to be treated like human beings.

No wonder that some people have decided to take matters into their own

hands, since the democratic governments that should be taking them down have gone in the complete opposite direction.


Let's acknowledge that these are not just statues that objectively inform us of our checkered past, but monuments with inscriptions like "In memory of the boys who wore gray" as a symbol of admiration for their efforts. To continue to protect these memorials that revel in false heroism is misguided if done in the name of historical preservation, since nobody is suggesting an en masse burning of confederate historical files. The fact that the KKK and Nazi sympathisers have taken to prancing around statues whilst threatening global genocide shows the level of bizarreness we have reached 70 years after laws were put in place to prevent just this sort of thing.

Now, a word of caution: even though Antifa in the US is much more of a

movement than a general idea, as it is over here in the old world (with the original German antifascists just dressing up in black to bash in some nazi skulls), it's still not right to think of Antifa as one group. They certainly don't have a leader akin to a prime minister or a CEO. Nobody's making decisions that everyone has to follow blindly, and I guarantee you anyone who tried wouldn't last very long. You'll have a much better time understanding how this works when you understand that Antifa is an idea – the principle – that sometimes the best way to deal with white supremacists, the KKK, and neo-Nazis is to actually get up out of our armchairs, go beyond checking a box on a piece of paper every five years, and physically stop them. The law might not allow for it, but laws that have failed to stop a new wave of fascism are laws that have failed.



"Smash the fash!" or "let's all get along"? // Flickr/Roberto Taddeo



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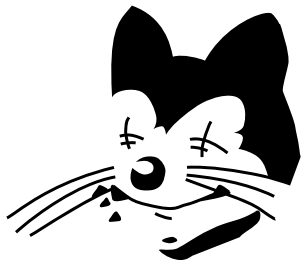
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COMMENT

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Kim Jong-un is perfectly sane

The leader of North Korea has been in the news constantly over the past few months, thanks to his drive to produce nuclear weapons. However, while some others stereotype him as a “mad dictator”, Kim Jong-un is actually tactically playing a risky game of cat and mouse with the West.

COMMENT

Charles Titmuss

Comment Writer

North Korea, as a state, adheres to the Juche philosophy. Created by Kim Il-sung, the founding ruler of North Korea, it expounds a policy of self-reliance. Under the guiding hand of successive members of the Kim dynasty, North Korea has moved into the 21st century as a deeply repressive and secretive state, with its diplomatic standpoint dictated by the aftermath of the Korean war of 1950-1953 and its inability to engage with the international community over its nuclear ambitions. North Korea has had some focus on nuclear weapons as they would allow the Mutually-Assured Destruction (MAD) doctrine to come into effect, essentially rendering the regime invulnerable and – more importantly – self-sufficient.

The drive for nuclear weapons has been the principle reason for it appearing in the news on a near-constant basis over the course of the summer. North Korea has been completing rocket tests at a rate previously unseen, as well as detonating a high yield nuclear device. It has also released images of a possibly miniaturised nuclear weapon, probably suitable as a payload. This relatively rapid progress reflects both the fact that the technology behind nuclear weaponry is not as advanced as before as well as an increased level of investment.

However, it is worth considering: what does



The President's welcome speech had really taken a different turn this year // Wikimedia

North Korea need these nuclear weapons for, and who are they pointing them at? It is possible to make the assumption that all nuclear weapons are used as a means of self-defence, but in that case against whom? In the past, deterrence, against the West at least, was achieved by a large concentration of artillery pieces targeting Seoul, as well as one of the largest armies in the world. The consequences of engaging with this force at present or in the future for the West would be catastrophe causing mass casualties and major disruption if not destruction of one of the world's largest economies. Unity in adversity against the West with its two other

immediate neighbours, China and the Soviet Union, now Russia, meant that it did not require a deterrence strategy in that direction. Therefore, why the increased emphasis on nuclear weaponry?

Firstly, there is the new man on the block, Kim Jong-un. He ascended to the throne in 2011 following the death of his father, Kim Jong-il, as a relatively young and inexperienced ruler. His story is deserving of at least one brutal Netflix series, but the key events in his path to power include his replacing of his half-brother Kim Jong-nam as the heir apparent and the conflict with his uncle, Jang Song-thaek. These two characters, the former killed by

VX and the latter by an anti-aircraft firing squad (North Korean executions are imaginative) fuelled the potential instability of the young ruler's regime by allegedly plotting a coup attempt in collaboration with China, which would have replaced Kim Jong-un with his elder brother. This has reportedly led to a rift opening up between Beijing and Pyongyang, possibly persuading Kim Jong-un of the need to push for nuclear weapons in order to render his regime safe from future meddling. There are further signs of a rift too, such as China attempting to hush up news of the successful nuclear test, as well as China's cooperation with

the West in enforcing harsher sanctions. He may also wish to cement his position in the pantheon of North Korean rulers by being the first member to have an operational nuclear deterrent. The North Koreans venerate the ruling dynasty, and this fulfilment of a part of the Juche philosophy would further validate his reign.

Secondly, these tests coincide with the large military exercises that NATO organises at this point in the year. North Korea views these exercises as preparation for an invasion and an affront to its sovereignty. It probably hopes that a fully capable deterrent would demotivate the US and its allies from performing these

exercises, both from the threat of a strike, and the futility of preparing for an invasion against a nuclear armed state.

Finally, there is North Korea's economic and agricultural position. The North has been struggling with famines since 1994 and is largely dependent on external food aid to feed its citizens. In the past, the North Korean regime has bargained with the suspension of its weapons programme in return for international aid. By keeping the pressure up on the international

“Kim Jong-un seems to be attempting to force the UN to conclude it is necessary to lift sanctions.”

community, and constantly raising the stakes, Kim Jong-un seems to be attempting to force the UN to conclude that not only is a nuclear armed North Korea inevitable, but that it is necessary for these states to engage with it in dialogue and to lift sanctions.

This is dangerous brinkmanship: but it is not mad.

Disclaimer: I have received no funds from the North Korean regime, but if they wish to subsidise me, I am contactable by email for negotiation. No remuneration can convince me to endorse Kim's hairstyle.

SCIENCE

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Neutrino experiment strikes gold

SCIENCE

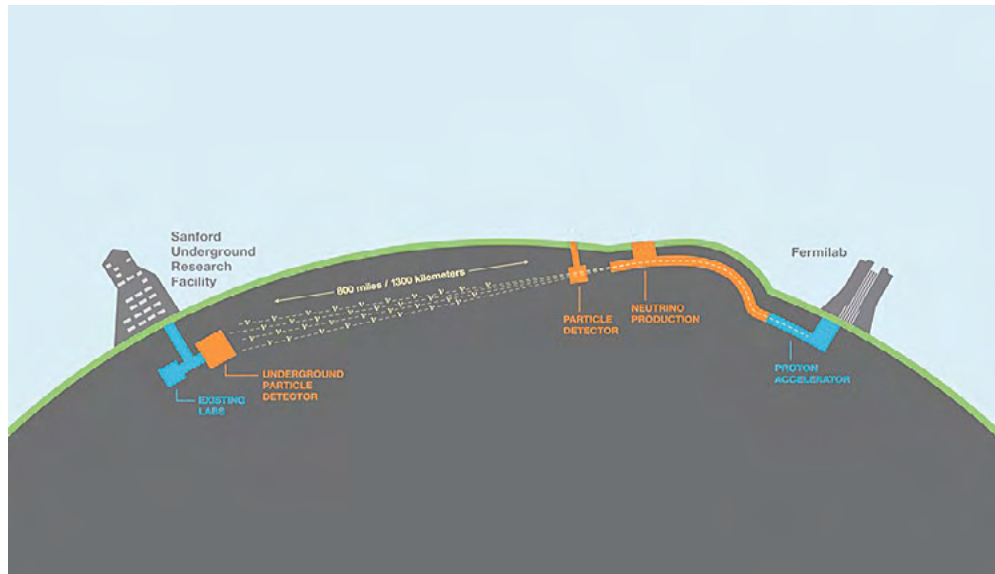
Henry Bennie

Science Editor

Physicists & politicians are both hoping for a goldrush at South Dakota's Homestake mine.

The UK government has agreed to invest £65 million in a US particle physics project, as part of its first high-level science and research treaty with the US.

DUNE, the Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment and the LBNF, Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility have secured investment following the signing of a UK-US Science and Technology Agreement on 20 Septem-



Graphic of the LBNF/DUNE facility // Fermilab

ber. Both facilities will be used to investigate the elusive neutrino.

Discovered 60 years ago, the neutrino is the second most abundant particle in the universe and was long thought to weigh nothing at all. But exper-

iments in the late 1990s showed that neutrinos change type as they travel, implying that they have a small but non-zero mass. This non-zero mass and their ability to change type could allow differences between their matter and

antimatter interactions. Studying these differences could explain why the universe is made of matter and not antimatter.

Fermilab's LBNF will be the world's most intense high-energy neutrino beam. In operation, it will

fire neutrinos 1300km from Illinois through the ground to the liquid argon filled, 1.5km deep, 70,000 ton DUNE detector submerged in a goldmine in South Dakota, where the Sanford Underground Research facility (SURF) is based. Once constructed, it will operate for at least 15 years.

DUNE like other neutrino experiments, including Japan's proposed HyperKamiokande experiment, don't come cheap. The US is funding the DUNE facility's construction costs, but aims to attract about \$500m (£370m) in international funding to design and build parts of the accelerator and detectors used for experiments. The UK's contribution is the biggest outside the US. There is significant support for the programme via CERN as well, where large-scale detector prototypes are being constructed and

tested before being sent to the US.

The Science and Technology Facilities Council will manage the UK's role, with two STFC laboratories and 14 UK universities, including Imperial, already involved. "International partnerships are the key to building these world-leading experiments," said Brian Bowsher, the STFC's chief executive.

The first ever UK-US Science and Technology Agreement, signed by the universities and science minister Jo Johnson and the US Department of Energy, demonstrates the UK's commitment to collaborating with international partners on science and innovation, according to Johnson. "By working with our key allies, we are maintaining our position as a global leader in research for years to come," he said.

The language of science

SCIENCE

Emma Parkin

Science Writer

As part of a new series, we look at the research of students here at Imperial, first up is MSc Science Communication graduate Emma Parkin.

What is science? Well, that's easy: science is the way that we uncover the truths of the world, it is universal, it is objective. Well if you think that, you are mistaken. We are taught that the best science happens when we remove our 'humanness' from the equation. But can we subtract ourselves from science, removing all those messy emotions?

The first problem is that science is done by humans. We make mistakes, we

form social groups and, as much as we may hate to admit it, we sometimes favour our own pet hypotheses over others. Worst of all, according to 17th century polymath, Sir Francis Bacon, we talk to each other about our work using language and the language we use can impact our research.

Rutherford's model of the atom, the idea of a 'genetic code', and even messenger RNA (mRNA) came from a hypothetical, metaphorical origin. Though many scientists consider themselves above 'ornamental' language, metaphors and analogies are a huge part of science.

Richard Dawkins' pointed out in *The Selfish Gene*, the use of metaphor in science can also generate "a new way of seeing", which can in its own right make an original contribution to science. How we conceive of a scientific entity or phenomenon, like an atom

or a gene, and the potential properties we then consider it to have affects the direction of research.

By inherently conceptualising the brain 'as a computer' for instance, we may begin to talk about its 'processing power', how it is 'wired' and start to perceive it as more like a machine. This affects how we conduct our research, drawing us to pursue this dominant school of thought and move away from features that may not fit. In turn we may start to ascribe properties of our brain, e.g. intelligence and consciousness, onto machines.

The 'wood-wide web' is an emerging metaphor explaining how trees in forests can be linked together via a network of fungi, like how humans are connected by the world-wide web. Plants have evolved mutualistic relationships with fungal partners, which give them nitrogen in exchange for

photosynthetic carbon. Trees that share the same fungal partners can therefore be linked physically underground. In 1997 Dr Suzanne Simard was the first to show that Douglas-fir and Paper-birch saplings were using this underground network to transfer carbon, alternating who sent more given the season. The conclusion Simard came to, that this was an example of trees evolving to help unrelated tree species, was highly controversial. Twenty years on, and Simard has become the forest ecology equivalent of Brian Cox. Her craftsmanship and popularization of the 'wood-wide web' metaphor arguably persuades us to conceive of trees as inherently social beings in a way that supports her interpretation of the difficult to decipher data. She even goes further, suggesting that forests are 'superorganisms' like ant colonies

or bee hives, behaving in a way that "might remind you of a sort of intelligence.". Her popular work weaves a web of insightful metaphors and analogies which leave you feeling 'at

one' with trees and more able to see them in this new co-operative light. I wonder if in future, this metaphor will highlight 'a new way of seeing'.



Illustration of the 'wood-wide web' // D. Parkin

SCIENCE

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Always be a zebra

Looking for a new group now you've got to Imperial? Let's see if the animal kingdom can help you fit in.

SCIENCE

Henry Bennie
Science Editor

Forming groups is a basic human drive. You are probably already a member of many groups: your family, your country, and probably multiple WhatsApp groups. But how did we humans become so social?

Researchers have long studied the evolution of social groups in bees and birds. It seems their complex societies evolved slowly starting with single individuals pairing off or living with a few offspring. These small groups then gradually grew larger and more complicated, ultimately yielding complex organizations. It could be easily assumed the same is true for primates - and freshers. But Susanne Shultz of the University of Oxford and her colleagues

think this is probably not that case.

They scanned the scientific literature on 217 primate species and noticed that closely related species tended to organize their societies in the same way, no matter where they lived. They ran a statistical model to determine what type of group the last common ancestor to the

“Scientists found that closely-related species tended to organise their societies in the same way wherever they were”

monkeys and apes formed. To Shultz' surprise, the



Zebbras are chill af, you should definitely be a zebra//Wikimedia

most sensible solution suggested that the solitary ancestor started banding together not in pairs, as scientists had thought, but as loose groups of both sexes about 52 million years ago. But not all of today's primates live in large, mixed-sex groups.

A few live in exclusive pairs and some, such as gorillas, form harems. Shultz' analysis shows that these social structures showed up only about 16 million years ago.

Science has spoken, you should start out your new social group as most

primates do, a mixed sex group. And then after some time, maybe by third or fourth year, you might have yourself a harem or isolated yourself in an exclusive relationship. If this doesn't appeal to you, be a Zebra. They are social but don't form societies,

entering and leaving herds at will. Just don't be an ant. Ants can only distinguish between the basic kinds of workers, such as soldiers or the queen. Over its life, it develops no friends within its colony. The bond of each ant is totally to the society itself.

Are we happier when the weather is good?

A beautiful day makes you feel good, right? Now we have the large-scale evidence to prove it.

SCIENCE

Henry Bennie
Science Editor

It would be pretty easy to assume from anecdotal evidence that humans prefer warm sunny days rather than cold wet ones. But what empirical evidence is there for this? Patrick Baylis and his colleagues at Stanford University have carried out the largest investigation into the relationship between meteorological conditions and mood. They did this by analysing how the sentiment of geolocated social media posts changed with the weather.

Baylis and colleagues measured the sentiment

of 3.5 billion social media posts from tens of millions of individuals on both Facebook and Twitter between 2009 and 2016. They did this by counting the number of positive

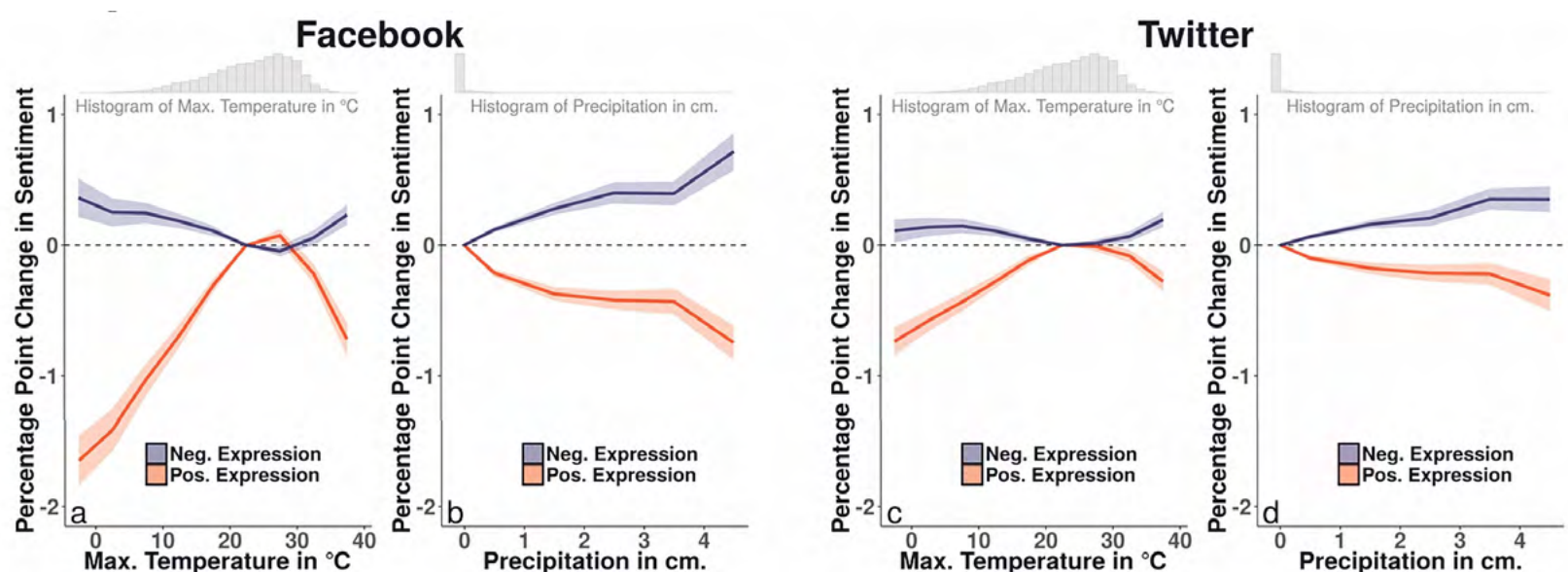
and negative words each post contained, assuming that this was good proxy for our mood. Then they compared this to the daily meteorological data from each location. They found

a significant increase in negative sentiment when the weather was both too cold or too hot and when it was too wet, too humid, and cloudy.

But how large is this

effect? To make a direct comparison, the team measured the change in sentiment associated with specific events - earthquakes and terror attacks. And they found the change

in sentiment was of a similar magnitude to that associated with freezing weather. From their results weather appears not to have a mild effect on mood, but be a scorcher.



I hate the sun, but I feel better after studying a good graph//arXiv:1709.00071

ARTS

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Get to know your friendly neighbourhood Arts team!

Indira



Painting, making up stories, and endlessly ambitious crafts projects have been part of my life since early childhood. My writing in particular however never really found a focus until I came to Imperial. Maybe it was watching too much *Gilmore Girls* during my formative years, but the one thing I knew I wanted to do when I came to university, was write for the paper. It was at *Felix*, through writing reviews that my lifelong love of writing and the arts came together.

Society often places the arts and the sciences in direct opposition to each other, but that has never been my experience. Anything that broadens horizons, fosters empathy, helps us understand what might be happening in another person's mind is bound to enrich any potential career, especially one as communication centric as medicine. I started med school with the vague idea of someday becoming a desi female Oliver Sacks, five years on, my love for medicine has sometimes wavered but I still see the path of being a doctor with a deep interest in writing and the arts as the best route of combining all my passions.

Studying at a university where only STEM subjects are taught can sometimes be stifling when you just want to get away from it all and escape into paintings and fiction, but it can have advantages. Imperial affords STEM students to get involved in and be at the helm of the clubs and societies dedicated to the arts, where at another institution students studying the arts formally may take the lead.

Adam



At first, writing for *Felix Arts* was just a good way to bag some free theatre tickets; to see shows regularly in London can eradicate funds very quickly. As I began writing reviews, however, pieces of writing that weren't rushed lab reports, I realised how much I'd missed non-technical writing.

At school, I was more of a natural at subjects like English but had to work harder in science and maths. I think that difficulty made me gravitate towards science in the end; the challenge made it seem like I was learning and not just indulging in a hobby. I don't regret my degree choice, but I do regret how long it took me to come back to writing. I used to think I had to make a concrete choice: science or the arts. I think a lot of students at Imperial think that as well. There are no art students here serving as the first port of call to discuss Shakespeare, Beckett, or whatever other nerdy-artsy stuff that gets you going. You've got dig around before you find other Imperial students who also harbour the dirty little secret of liking the arts.

Nowadays, I've realised that I don't have to pick between one or the other. In fact, I think Imperial students are in the unique and enviable position of sampling the full spectrum of human ingenuity that science and the arts have to offer. So, if you too are like I was first year, don't feel like you've made your cold-clinical-heartless science bed and now you have to sleep in it. Do the digging around and you'll find hundreds to like-minded folk here.

Jingjie



From vandalising the walls of my home with stick figures as a toddler to studying English Literature, my seemingly scientific inclinations have always been irrevocably entwined with art. I have always loved drawing and visual art, and studied it formally for a fair number of years. Literature is my other passion – words speak more to me than any science.

Science can never stand independent of art. I'm sure chemists see artistic beauty in their molecules, the molecular biologists appreciate the poetry of their pathways and proteins, and the physicists marvel at the elegance of their equations. As a medic, I see the practice of healing more as an art than a science, one that interweaves communication with problem-solving, scientific acuity and compassion. In my eyes, it is less of a problem "balancing" an interest in science and art than the impossibility of escaping from the connection between them. Going about life without an appreciation for the arts would mean missing out on a great deal of what life has to offer.

There is arguably a relative disadvantage to not having arts and humanities students in our artistic clubs and societies, simply because we lose out on the expertise that studying a degree provides. However, we do have a student body that is incredibly talented, and in my personal experience many STEM students have some cool extra-curricular interest. Perhaps we should then embrace the all-roundedness and diversity that pursuing both art and science entails.

ARTS

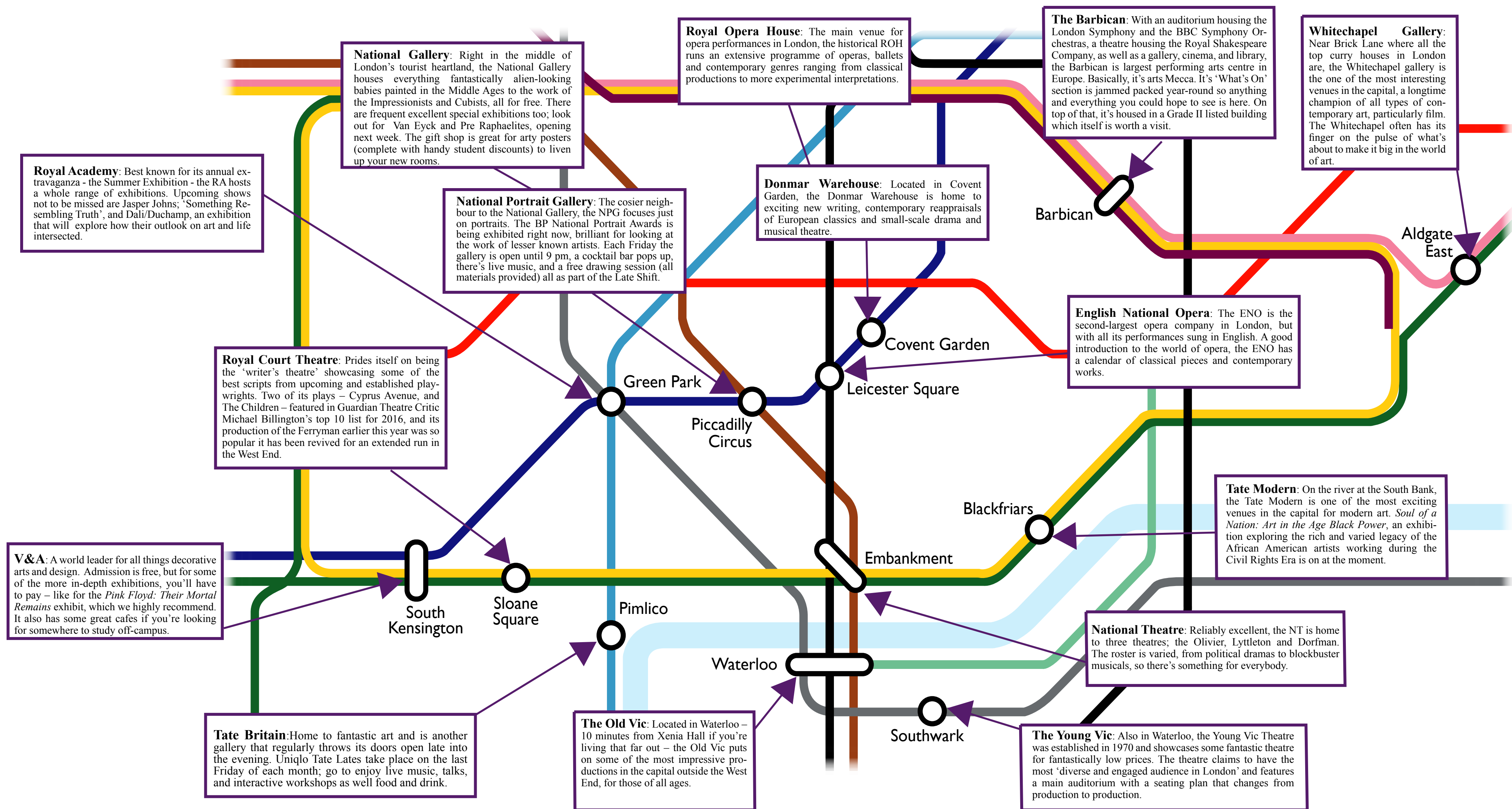
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Where's the culture at? *Felix's* Arts Editors take you

through London's cultural hotspots



ARTS

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Arts editors completely destroy box office incomes!

Felix Arts gives you the lowdown on the best arts deals in London, in a tear-out and keep guide to the capital

National Theatre: *Entry Pass*

The NT offers an Entry Pass to those aged 16 - 25. After registering and providing proof of age, you'll be entitled to a whole range of NT delights including access to exclusive workshops and events, and discounts in the NT bookshops, cafes, backstage tours and prop hires. Most importantly, you'll be able to register to £7.50 tickets to all NT productions. This year, the NT has doubled the number of tickets available to Entry Pass holders and there's even the option to bring along a mate for £10.

Barbican Centre: *Young Barbican*

Similar to the NT, the Barbican Centre runs a Young Barbican scheme for 14 - 25 year olds. 50,000 Young Barbican tickets are released each year for all things art, film, theatre, and dance. Prices for most tickets will run you either £5, £10, or £15, with new film releases every Monday - Thursday for just £5. A friend also gets to join in on the fun for the same price. Oh, and there's no annoying booking fees. Win, win, win.

English National Opera: *Access All Arias*

The AAA programme allows any full-time student - or anyone aged 16 - 29 - to apply for up-to two tickets for productions at the London Coliseum. You'll pay £30 for stalls, £20 in the dress circle, and £10 in the upper circle (plus a £1.50 booking fee *cries*). It's a chance to nab some of the best seats in the house for amazingly cheap. "Accessible, Affordable, Amazing" according to the ENO. We agree.

Royal Opera House: *ROH Students*

By registering for ROH Students, you'll unlock a world of goodies: Over 10,000 dedicated student tickets ranging from £1 - £25; 10 Slips and Standing tickets for every main-stage performance at face value (£4 - £9); 1 complete performance of *Swan Lake* next Season; 4 dedicated Amphitheatre performances; 2 tickets for £10 at participating cinemas; dedicated booking days for each Booking Season; Last-minute £10 Student Standby tickets; and discounts in bars. That's probably more than you deserve, frankly.

The Old Vic: *PwC £10 Previews*

In partnership with PwC, the Old Vic prices at least half of all their seats for the first 5 previews for every production. These are released 5 weeks in advance and you can buy up to 4 tickets per transaction. Make sure to sign up to the PwC £10 Previews mailing list to be reminded when the tickets are released; they go fast.

Royal Shakespeare Company: *RSC Key*

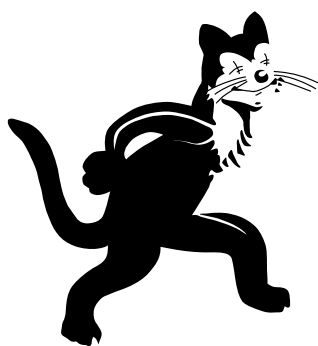
If you're aged 16 - 25 (by this point, we're assuming you are), and have a burning passion for Shakespeare, this is the deal for you. By signing up you'll be able to register for £5 tickets to any of the RSC's Stratford-upon-Avon (too far away, no thanks) or London (yes, please) shows for just £5. On top of that, you'll receive a loyalty card - experience 5 shows and get 1 for free. And if you're into that kind of thing, you'll also get the chance to write for the RSC Key blog and review their shows.

Royal Court: *Various schemes*

The Royal Court Theatre offers a range of ways to save on their latest productions. First Look tickets are available for the first three performances of every production at a reduced price, while £12 Mondays reduces the prices of all Monday tickets - available for purchase 9am the day of. Finally, there's 10p Standing: a limited number of standing spots in the Jerwood Theatre Downstairs, that go on sale one hour before the performance for just 10p. That's half the price of a lime-cordial in the Union. Mad.

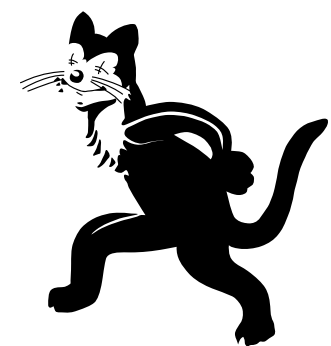
Donmar Warehouse: *YOUNG+FREE*

1,000s of the Donmar's tickets are available to under 25's for absolutely free. Literally zero money. Just sign up to the YOUNG+FREE email alerts on their site and you can register for up to two tickets per performance.



Felix Arts

In our opinion, the deal to trump all deals is our very own. By joining Felix you can apply for a press ticket to practically any production or exhibition in London. You might even get a plus one. All you have to do in return is write a 500-word minimum review of what you saw. We'll even publish your name which, let's be honest, is as close to a BNOC as you're ever going to get.



MUSIC

music.felix@imperial.ac.uk

The *Felix* Music Fresher's Guide To Fresh Jams

Welcome to London, to Imperial, and most importantly, to the *Felix* music section! This is the city that brought you the likes of David Bowie, Queen, Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, and Blur, to name a few. There is an inordinate amount on, both on campus and around the city; we hope to be able to give you a smidgen of guidance on how to access this wealth of audio treasure.

In this section we shall, every week, present to you the hottest reviews of recent albums and gigs, special features that break frontiers for your ears, and updates on what's hip and happening (at least in our lame opinions) in London at the moment. Join us for rambling and raving about genres of all kinds – be it smooth jazz or metal so hard it'll break your neck.

If you want to get involved (in literally any way at all) with the music section of *Felix* this year, come see us at fresher's fair or drop an email to music.felix@ic.ac.uk. Don't worry about your lack of experience, we're a collection of chimpanzee derivatives piloting the shittiest starship of all time on a vast musical journey through the ages. If you think you can write better, prove it!

THE IMPERIAL MUSIC SOC CLASSIFIEDS



IC ALTERNATIVE
MUSIC SOCIETY



Jazz & Rock



Live Music is Imperial's society for supporting small(ish) bands. We run a high quality practice room (£3/hr), fortnightly Jazz Jams, Gigs, Masterclasses, Bar Socials, and a few trips to other gigs. Find out more on our website, JazzAndRock.org, or get updates from our Facebook group: fb.com/groups/ICJnR

Alternative Music

What exactly is "alternative music"? There is no simple answer. From indie to IDM, soul to shoegaze, glam to grunge; the alternative music umbrella is one of great breadth. What unites us all, however, is a mutual passion for music, an open-minded approach when it comes to listening, and an intrinsic appreciation for all the subtle beauties it entails. As a society we have weekly meetings in the union (Tuesdays, 6pm), regularly attend gigs and run social events such as our upcoming record store pub crawl on Saturday 7th October. For more information join our Facebook group, Imperial College Alternative Music Society.

Rock & Metal

The home for all lovers of music! Our socials focus on gigs, bar and club nights, pub crawls, house parties and karaoke in some of the coolest spots London has to offer, as well as enjoying our music closer to home with our weekly requests-based radio show. Our members have a diverse music taste and the lowdown on the best upcoming shows and bands, so come along and discover something new. Come find us at Freshers Fair, join our Facebook group (Imperial RockSoc) or sign up as a member to get involved!

MusicTech

MusicTech is Imperial's very own DJ and Production Society. We host weekly sessions with CDs and/or vinyl. Learn how to produce: we hold sessions every Tuesday, as well as guest talks from well known producers like Zed Bias and Tessela. And gig with us! - we host regular nights at the Union through our events wing, Imperial Soundsystem, and externally through Ministry of Sound and Corsica Studios.

GIG VENUES OF LONDON

Royal Albert Hall

Generic big venue that's up the street and has a swanky inside.

Alexandra Palace

Generic big venue with a nice view and a long commute.

O2 Arena

Generic big venue with a spiky roof.

Wembley Arena

So generic, so big, so sports-focused.

O2 Academy Brixton

Generic medium venue with a sloping concrete floor.

Camden Roundhouse

Generic medium venue that's a circle.

Eventim Apollo

Generic medium venue in a convenient locale (i.e. near Hammerspoons).

O2 Forum Kentish Town

Generic small venue with overpriced beer.

O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire

What is it with generic small venues and overpriced beer?

YOU'LL PROBABLY WASTE A SIZEABLE FRACTION OF YOUR LOAN HERE

Ministry of Sound

You won't 'find yourself' here; you probably won't even find your friends.

Fabric

Enjoy it while it lasts!

Heaven

Good luck getting past the breathalyser.

Egg

Scramble your friends and poach yourself a ticket for a cracking night out!

Coronet

F*CK ME it's a let down!

KOKO

Gigs, a club, and a blackout hub.

Metric

The best night out in London. An experience formative, refined, divine. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll never want to say goodbye.

XOYO

"I dunno, I've had at least one good night there?"

The Slug

The moment you know, you'll know you know. You know?

Embargo Republica

How low can you[r overdraft] go?

MUSIC

music.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Relatively un-miraculous

Henry Eshbaugh*Music Editor***Music for the Age of Miracles**

Artist: The Clientele **Label:** Merge Records **Top Tracks:** The Circus, Everything You See Tonight Is Different From Itself. **For Fans Of:** The Verve, The Horrors. 47 minutes.

This psych-pop album is neither particularly psychedelic nor particularly poppy, instead preferring fairly unimaginative composition and over-reliance on production. I mean, there's nothing /wrong/ with it. The band members are objectively skilled musicians, who play clearly and effectively together. There's a pleasant, pervasive, oozing harmony that takes talent to pull off through the whole runtime. Harp arpeggios are performed with a wonderful flourish, and the bassline is marked by crisp technicality. Where the album leaves much to be desired is the dreadful

"Good for dinner parties, or if you're too high to care that the whole thing sounds the same."

composition. No risks are taken over the band's earlier repertoire: compare the wonderful syncopation of "Joesph Carnell" to /any/ of the plodding hat-hat-hat-snare recycled

OVER THE ENTIRE RUNTIME OF THIS FUCKING ALBUM. The music lacks compelling emotional connection, favoring production tricks and "ooh look at me I'm so creative" melodic licks over any serious attempt to compose music with emotional oomph. This renders the album hard to connect to, an intricate work of musicianship that I care about less passionately than imagist poetry, and I am not a poet.

Good for dinner parties, or if you're too high to care that the whole thing sounds the same.

The Clientele
Music for the Age of Miracles



QC anarchy is for me

Henry Eshbaugh*Music Editor***Luciferian Towers**

Artist: Godspeed You! Black Emperor **Label:** Constellation Records. **Top Tracks:** Anthem for No State, Fam/Famine. 44 minutes.

GY!BE has earned itself a seat in the post-rock pantheon, and for good reason. The Montreal collective, led by guitarist/composer Efrim Menuck, has a score of classic post-rock albums. The band is marked by a bleak, ragged, distorted sound, always aggressively limping to a heroic climax, which inevitably fades once more into droning noise. The opening cut builds a dissonant wall of sound that gives way to a triumphant march, carrying us into "Bosses Hang," a suite that rounds out the first half of the album. The 15-minute section builds its way into a fantastically cathartic climax in Part III. Then again, the drones



yet wounded mood, with glimmers of upper registers adding a wonderful texture of lightness to the piece. Tension builds with quickening pace; it drops off, cutting to distorted slide guitar reprising the violin line in all but timbre. The reprise

on "Bosses Hang" are quite repetitive, and runs for fifteen minutes; if you have leftover study drugs from exam season, you might need them to get through it.

While the first half is standard-fare GY!BE, the second half of the album is some of their greatest work. "Fam/famine" effectively mixes ragged drones with a drumline that sounds more like an Elvin Jones solo than traditional post-rock fare. The jazzy drumming is coated in slow drone and, towards the end, shimmering violin that sounds like watching a sunset through a dead forest.

The highlight of the album is "Anthem for No State." A flowing chorus of violins builds a hopeful

is gradually moved into lower and lower registers, until a quick resolution is drowned out by discordant noise. Then emerges a forceful build over a furious triplet-pocked waltz, which resolves into a pulsed waltz, over which violins shriek and soar. The album closes by juxtaposing slowing violin lines with a reprise of the triplets, which fade to a fuzzy sigh, and then silence. This is one of their most compellingly beautiful pieces; the music really *does* sound like an anthem for no state. So, does the album match up to what is expected of a post-rock giant? Probably. At least it's better than their last two efforts.

No edges lost, but still trouble waking up

American Dream

Artist: LCD Soundsystem. **Label:** DFA/Columbia. **Top Tracks:** I Used To // How Do You Sleep? **For Fans Of:** Talking Heads, Hot Chip. 69 minutes

Adrian LaMoury*Music Editor*

"I'm losing my edge" claimed LCD's James Murphy as far back as 2002; fashionably late to the party with a debut single aged 32, he had something to prove to the



youngsters - and prove it, he did. 15 years, 3 albums and a 4 year hiatus later, the band is back in possibly their finest form to date.

This latest release is a brooding reflection on the past, filled with, as always, numerous references and homages to their musical heroes. Murphy supposedly wanted Lou

Reed or Leonard Cohen to contribute a spoken word piece on the album's 12 minute outro "Black Screen", but both died before he got the chance to ask. It's fitting, then, that this track ended up as a tribute to friend, collaborator and idol David Bowie, who supposedly spurred the band into reformation by simply suggesting that they should.

Not so fussed with recreating the jangly dancefloor fillers of yesteryear, the LP plods and bubbles through varying levels of intensity. Sinister and cynical pieces such as "I Used To" and "How

Do You Sleep?" show Murphy at his most bitter, while "Call the Police" and the title track smack of Sound of Silver's tender ballads "All My Friends" and "Someone Great".

Rousing tracks "Tonight" and "Emotional Haircut" perfectly utilise their Talking Heads influenced electro-rock style for live performance, as demonstrated in their two powerful sold out Alexandra Palace shows, last weekend. These confident gigs saw 10,000-strong, inter-generational crowds coming together for a carefully crafted blend of old and new material

interspersed with wit, charm, and a quick pee-break for the band. A strong comeback indeed.

In 2002 Murphy revealed that he's "never

as tired as when I'm waking up", 15 years later he may be "still trying to wake up", but he certainly hasn't lost his edge.



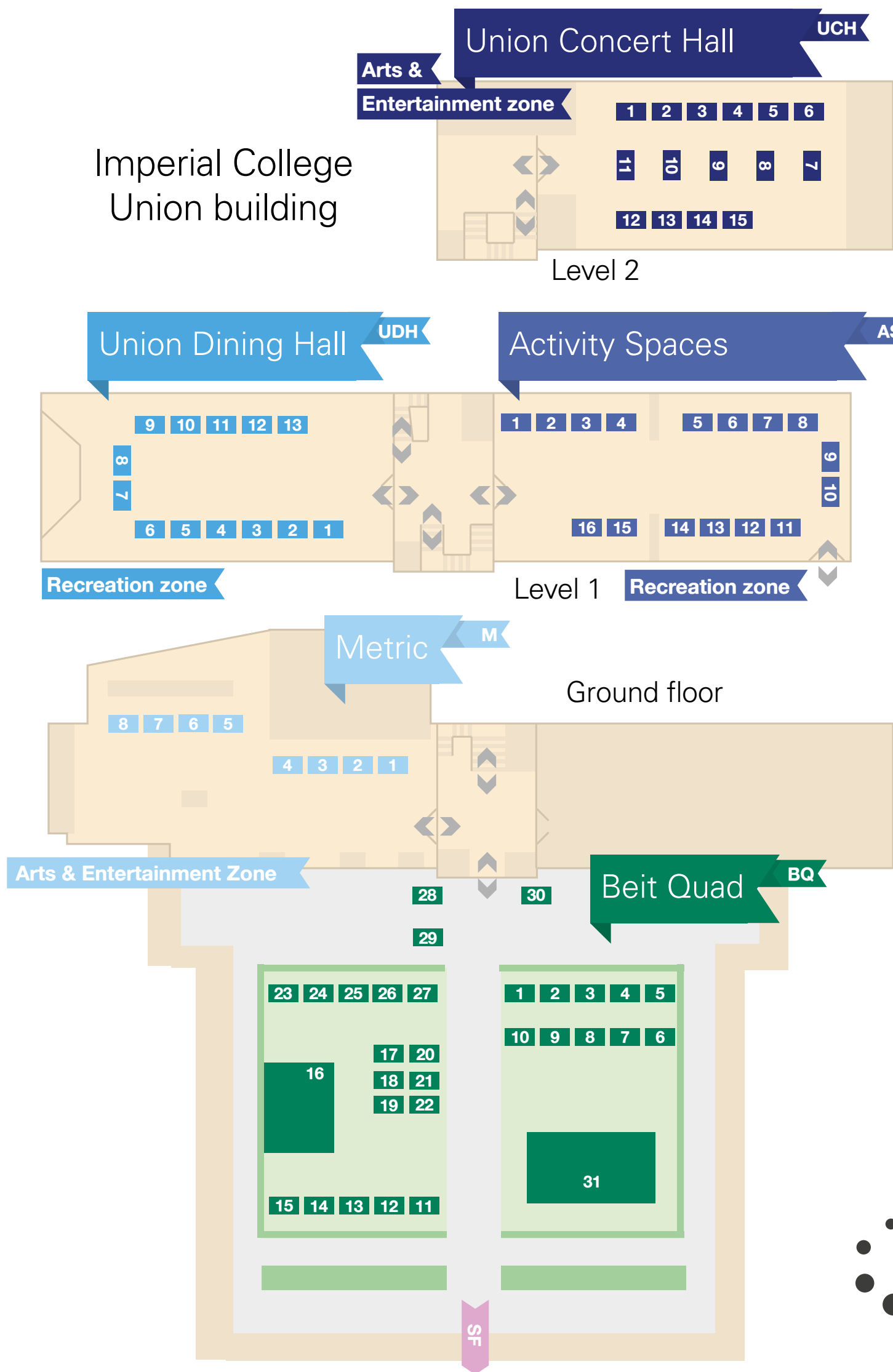
Your Map

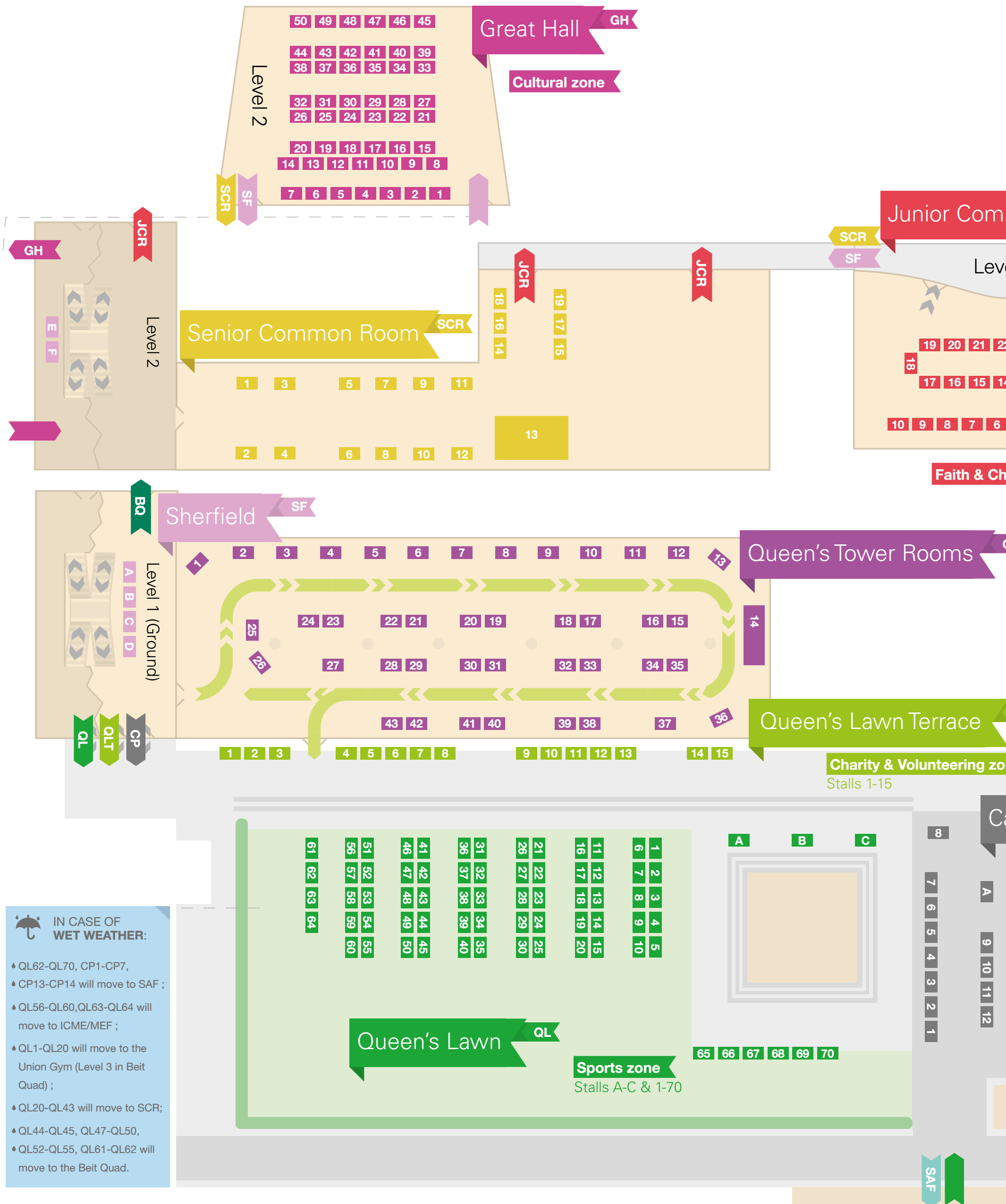
of our biggest fair yet

Tue 3 October 2017

11:00–16:00, South Kensington

Imperial College Union building





IN CASE OF WET WEATHER:

- QL62-QL70, CP1-CP7,
- CP13-CP14 will move to SAF ;
- QL56-QL60, QL63-QL64 will move to ICME/MEF ;
- QL1-QL20 will move to the Union Gym (Level 3 in Beit Quad) ;
- QL20-QL43 will move to SCR;
- QL44-QL45, QL47-QL50,
- QL52-QL55, QL61-QL62 will move to the Beit Quad.

FILM

film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

From theatre to thrillers, all that's on screen this term

Just a couple of floors up from Beit's 568, there's a fully-functioning cinema, run by IC Cinema Society, where you can see of the latest films for as little as £3 – about the same price as a fancy flat white! Michael Purdy takes you through what's on the schedule for the next term.



Wonder Woman

When a pilot crashes and tells of conflict in the outside world, Diana, an Amazonian warrior in training, leaves home to fight a war, discovering her full powers and true destiny.

Tuesday 3rd Oct - 18:30
Wednesday 4th Oct - 20:40

In This Corner of The World

Set in Hiroshima during World War II, a young girl gets married and struggles to feed her family due to the rationing of supplies. It's garnered praise for its delicate animation style and affecting plot. Director Sunao Katabuchi does a deft job looking into the contract between traditional culture and the modernity of war.

Tuesday 3rd Oct - 21:00
Wednesday 4th Oct - 18:30



Hamlet – NT Live

With Benedict Cumberbatch in the title role. Forced to avenge his father's death but paralysed by the task ahead, Hamlet rages against his predicament, threatening both his sanity and the security of the state. Part of the National Theatre's 'NT Live' series, this is one of the last chances to see Lundsey Turner's production

Thursday 5th Oct - 19:00



The Red Turtle

A man is shipwrecked on a deserted island and encounters a red turtle, which changes his life in more ways than one, in the first non-Japanese film to be produced by Studio Ghibli. Widely praised when it came out for its minimalist sensibility and wordless power, it's not one to miss

Tuesday 10th Oct - 20:45
Thursday 12th Oct - 18:30



Spider-Man: Homecoming

Peter Parker tries to balance his life in high school with his alter-ego Spider-Man, and must confront a new menace to NYC.

Tuesday 10th Oct - 18:30
Thursday 12th Oct - 20:00

Baby Driver

Baby is a young getaway driver who always has the right track playing. It's a talent he needs to survive his involvement with crime boss, Doc, who values his role in his meticulously planned robberies. However, just when Baby thinks he is finally free and clear to have his own life with his new girlfriend, Deborah, Doc coerces him back for another job.

Tuesday 17th Oct - 19:00
Thursday 19th Oct - 19:00



Dunkirk

Allied soldiers from Belgium, the British Empire and France are cut off and surrounded by the German army at the beaches and harbor of the small town of Dunkirk. Christopher Nolan's latest masterpiece tells the story of possibly the most daring and dangerous evacuation mission of WWII.

Tuesday 24th Oct - 19:00
Thursday 26th Oct - 19:00



It

In the Town of Derry, the local kids are disappearing one by one. A group of bullied kids band together, united by their strange encounters with an evil clown and their determination to kill It. Based off the classic novel by Stephen King, the film is the first part of a planned duology.

Tuesday 31st Oct - 19:00
Thursday 2nd Nov - 21:40



Mother!

A couple's (Jennifer Lawrence, Javier Bardem) relationship is tested when uninvited guests arrive at their home, disrupting their tranquil existence, with disturbing consequences.

Tuesday 31st Oct - 21:50
Thursday 2nd Nov - 19:00

War for the Planet of the Apes

The third installment of the *Planet of the Apes* series. After the apes suffer terrible losses, Caesar wrestles with his darker instincts and begins his own quest to avenge his kind. With Matt Reeves in the driving seat for a second time, and Andy Serkis starring.

Tuesday 7th Nov - 19:00
Thursday 9th Nov - 19:00



Kingsman: The Golden Circle

The new Kingsmen must join forces with an allied elite spy organization in the United States to defeat a common enemy. Despite early reports to the contrary, Colin Firth returns to take on the main role, with Julianne Moore and Taron Egerton supporting.

Tuesday 14th Nov - 19:00
Wed 15th Nov - 19:00



Follies – NT Live

New York, 1971. There's a party at the soon-to-be-demolished Weismann Theatre. Thirty years after their final performance, the Follies girls gather to have a few drinks, sing a few songs and lie about themselves. This revival of Stephen Sondheim's hit sees Imelda Staunton taking on the main role of Sally Durant Plummer.

Thursday 16th Nov - 19:00





FELIX PUZZLES
Sudoku

COMMENT
Your Instagram faves are awful

We want YOUR work!

Imperial SUCCESS GUIDE

FELIX SCIENCE
Nobel Prize

FELIX NEWS

STUDENT BLOGGER!

Under-Tale is this year's indie masterpiece

FELIX NEWS

FILM

film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Stretching your student loan: cinema on a budget

Felix's guide to how to see the most films with the least money, at the cheapest cinemas London has to offer

5. Picturehouse Cinema – £5 Matinee; £7 Weekdays

FILM

Mikhail Demtchenko
Film Editor

When you think of cinema chains, you think of overpriced popcorn at

Odeon, or £15 tickets at Vue, but Picturehouses breaks the mold. Located in some of the most architecturally unique buildings in London, Picturehouses spreads from the Ritzy Theatre in Central Brixton, to the centre of Piccadilly Circus, to just across the

park from Imperial at the Gate, Notting Hill. There is no shortage of them, but they definitely do not fall short on cheap tickets, comfy seats and great venues in great locations. Picturehouse Central offers the slightly more premium budget option,

but still cheap on weekday matinees. The best place to impress a date or just give yourself a little taste of the life of luxury.

Nearest Station: Notting Hill Gate / Brixton / Hackney Wick



//Thomas Angus



//Thomas Angus

4. Prince Charles Cinema - As Cheap as £1; Matinee - £4.50

Alongside all the IMAXs and the Vues/Empires/Odeons, down a dingy alley lies undisputedly one of London's greatest cult icons, the Prince Charles. Still proudly showing its Time

Out best cinema 2008 on its door, the Prince Charles is home to not only screenings of the latest blockbusters, but daily screenings of cult classics, alongside unique events. With monthly

Mean Girls Bitch-a-longs, Frozen Sing-a-longs, all night pyjama parties and screenings of the greatest cinema ever produced, The Room. Prince Charles Cinema is a place where you are expected to throw

spoons at the screen, and shout 'On Wednesdays we wear pink!' and enjoy film to a level you've never experienced before.

Nearest Station: Leicester Square

3. Genesis Cinema – £5-7.50 - Matinee - Weekdays

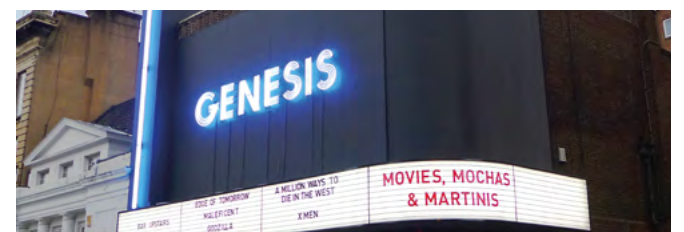
Located right next door to Shoreditch and in the middle of one of the most evolving areas of London, Genesis in East London has always been

a personal favourite of mine. Surrounded by hip bars and pop up restaurants, with dirtily cheap £5 afternoon tickets, a multitude of both blockbuster,

arthouse, experimental, international and premiere screenings all week, and an extra special set of screens with sofas so comfy they'll make you

weep even if you're not watching The Notebook, Genesis Cinema has it all.

Nearest Station: Peckham Rye



//Thomas Angus



//Thomas Angus

2. ICA Cinema – £3 - Matinee - Wednesdays to Fridays

If you're looking to broaden your horizons and explore the true arthouse scene of London look no further, with showings of some of the best con-

tenders in the arthouse and international film world, ICA definitely has a lot going for it with its as cheap as £3 tickets in the afternoons and great

location only a few steps away from Imperial. ICA is also hosting a plethora of events over the next couple weeks as part of BFI London Film Festival,

so it's definitely worth checking out.

Nearest Station: Piccadilly Circus

1. PeckhamPlex – £4.99 - All Day, Every Day.

In the heart of one of the most culturally rich areas of south London, take a journey across the river

to undoubtedly the best cinema deal any day of the week. The Peckham Plex £5 ticket all day every day

policy is still going strong with no signs of price rise, so bag yourself a blockbuster on the mega cheap,

and while you're at it get a taste of the hippest new area of London.

Nearest Station: Peckham Rye



//Thomas Angus

Honourable Mentions

Greene Sundays at Lexi Cinema in Kensal Rise, gets you £2.50 blockbuster tickets in a cute and comfy venue. However be warned, tickets sell quick, book in advance!

Looking for something with a bit more Ooo-la-la, the Cine Lumiere, just a short walk from Imperial, shows the creme de la crop of international films with a special focus on French.

If you're more on the arty side of film, then Barbican Cinema has a lot to offer. With a focus on young directors and indie films, Barbican's £5 tickets are hard to turn down.



IN CASE OF WET WEATHER:

1-10 UDC stalls will move to ICME/MEF

Common Room JCR

Level 2 UDC

23 24 25
26
13 12 11
5 4 3 2 1

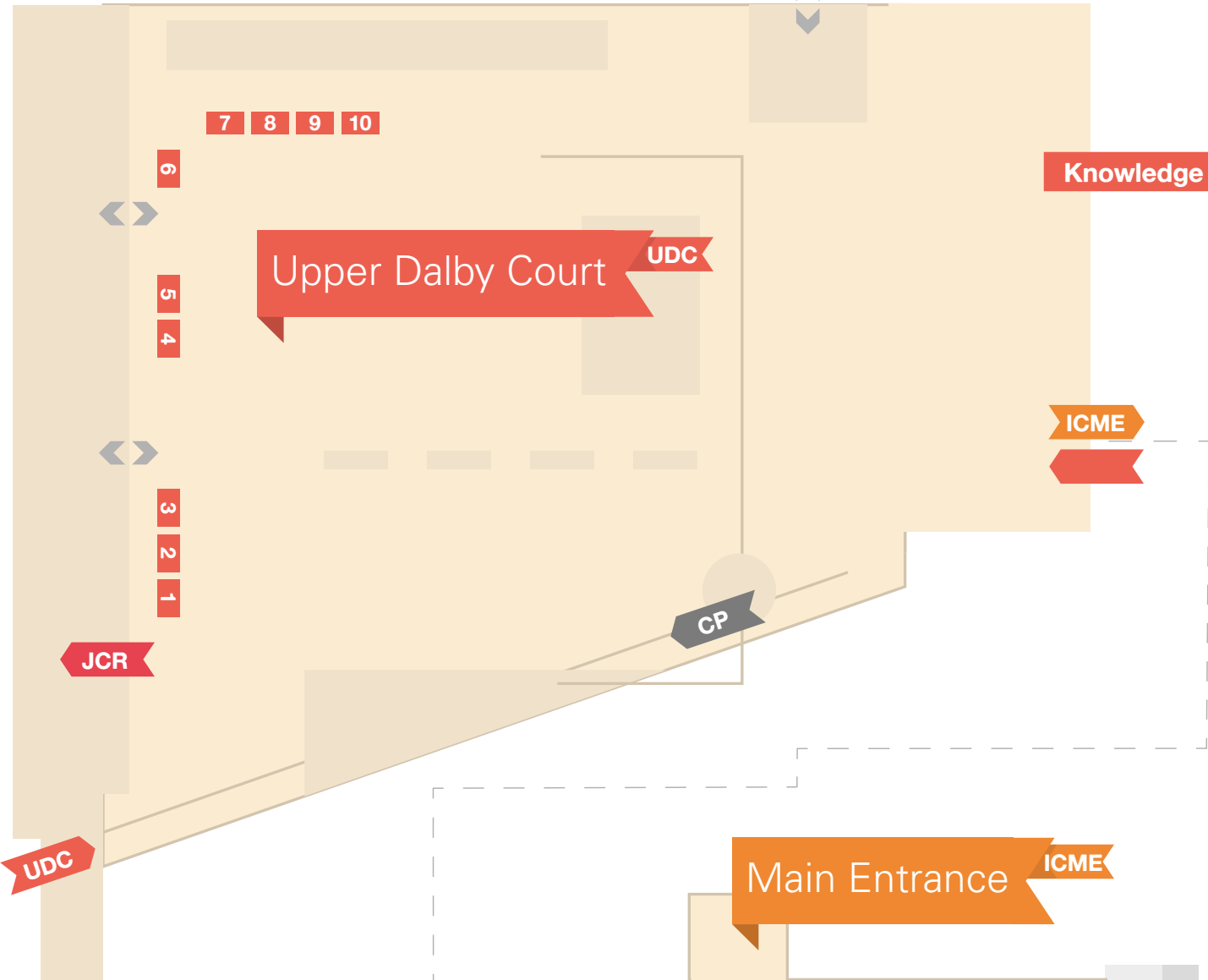
Priority zone

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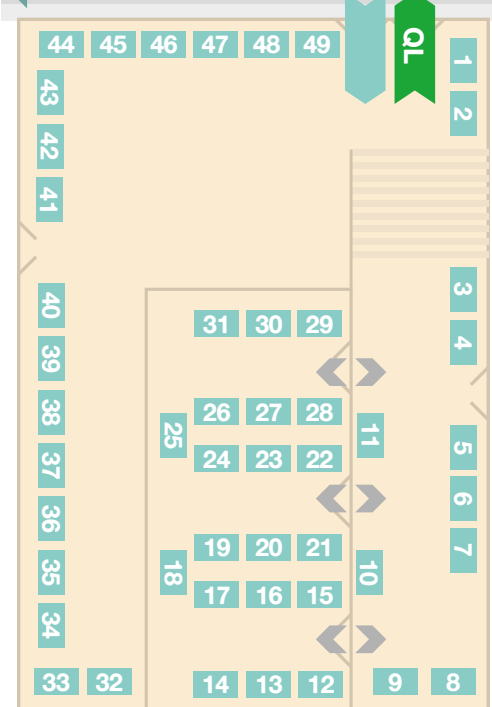
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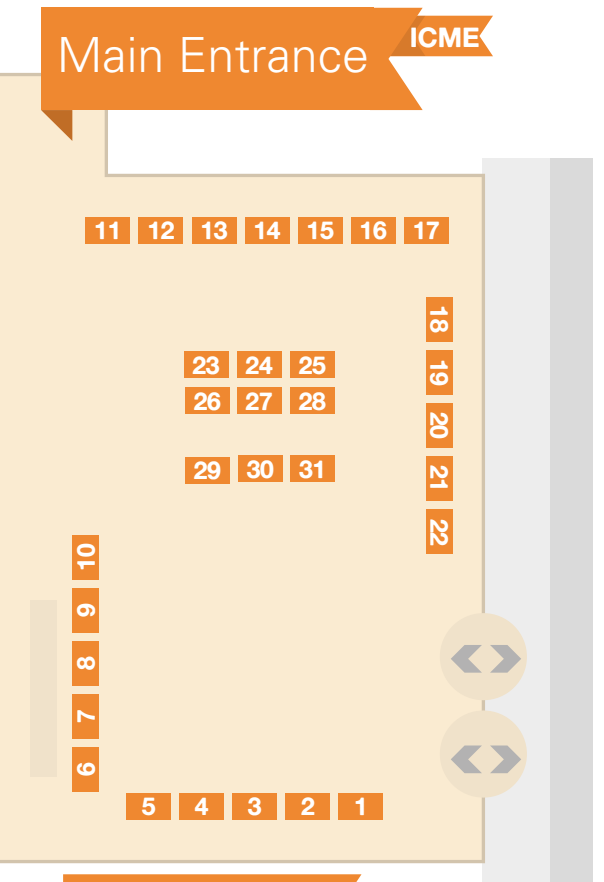
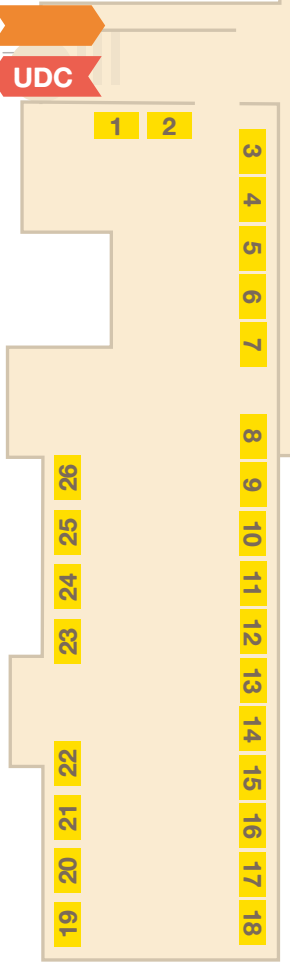
ar Park CP



Sir Alexander Flemming Building SAF



ICSMSU zone



Mechanical Engineering MEF

Knowledge Zone

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By alphabetical order

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SAF8	Dance (ICSMSU)	QL48	Ju-Jitsu	QL49	SCUBA (Underwater) Club		
M1	Dance Club	QL49	Judo	JCR27	Shaolin Drung Fu		
M7	Dance Company	JCR27	Juggling	UCH10	Shorinji Kempo		
M3	Dance Imperial	UCH10	Kabaddi	GH50	Sikh		
ICME12	Data Science Society (CGCU)	GH50	Karate Shotokan	AS12	Sinfonietta		
ICME19	De La Beche (RSM)	AS12	Kazakhstan	QL55	Singapore		
MEF2	Debating	QL55	Kendo	SAF45	Skate		
SAF24	Dermatology	SAF45	Kenyan	MEF12	Skydiving		
BQ4	Design Collective	MEF12	Kenyan Orphan Project	OT/QL9	Snooker & Pool		
ICME13	Design Engineering (CGCU)	OT/QL9	Ki Aikido	GH22	Snowsports		
ICME10	DoCSoc - Computing (CGCU)	GH22	KnitSock	MEF3	Society for International Medical Careers		
QL9	Dodgeball	MEF3	Korean	SAF44	Software		
SAF5	Drama (ICSMSU)	SAF44	Krav Maga	QL46	Soup Run		
UCH12	Dramatic Society	QL46	Krishna Consciousness	QL51	Spanish		
ICME14	Drone (CGCU)	QL51	Kung Fu	SAF44	Speakers		
GH9	Dutch	SAF44	Labour	QL46	Sport & Exercise Medicine		
JCR10	E. quinox	QL46	Lacrosse (ICSMSU)	QL51	Sport Imperial		
MEF24	Economics	QL51	Latin-American	QL34	Squash		
ICME22	Education (ICU)	UDC5	Law	CP5	Squash (ICSMSU)		
MEF16	Education Society	QL6	Lawn Tennis	GH42	Sri-Lankan		
OT/QL16	Effective Altruism	GH42	Lebanese	UCH3	String Ensemble		
JCR2	El Salvador	BQ20	Left	ICME25	Student Development (ICU)		
UDC1	Electrical Engineering (CGCU)	BQ6	Leonardo Fine Arts	JCR12	Student Development (ICU)		
		GH36	Levantine	SAF47	Student Action for Refugees		
		MEF7	Light Opera	QL36	Students for Global Health		
		BQ28	London Forum for Science & Policy		Surfing		
			Magic				

College and External Companies

QT10	Action Tutoring
SCR8	Air Squadron
SCR15	Amana Trust
SCR13	Amazon
SCR19	Belushi's
QT2	Bright Network
QT29	CALM
QT34	Child Reach
QT43	Chinese Church London
QT32	Christ Church Kensington
QT18	Christ Church Mayfair
SCR2	Ernst + Young LLP
QT7	Eyeworks London
QT35	Gideons
QT31	GiffGaff
SCR3	Graduatejobs.com
QT26	GRB
QT25	IC Alumni
QT8	IC Career Services
SFE	IC Enterprise Lab
SFF	IC Enterprise Lab
QT41	IC Heart + Lung
QT40	IC Lang + Comms
SCR7	IC NIHR - NHS
QT1	IC Success Guide
SFA	Image Scotland
SCR11	International Paintball Group
QT3	Kensington Temple
SCR16	KingsGate
SCR9	KOMPASS
QT16	Levy Restaurants
QT14	LG
SCR6	London Business School
QT13	London Farmers Market
SFC	Lycamobile
QT30	Metropolitan Tabernacle
SCR1	Milkround
QT21	New York Times
SCR17	NHS Central CGC
QT11	Officer Training Corps
QT42	One Drinks
SCR4	Pimlico Connections
QT36	Play Football
QT27	Population Matters
QT9	RBKC Bike Scheme
QT4	RBKC Electoral Services
QT37	REED
QT22	RMP
SFB	Rolls-Royce
QT20	Royal Albert Hall
QT15	Royal Naval Unit
SCR14	RSPB
QT19	SEO
BQ31	Spotify
SCR10	St. Barnabas Church
QT12	Student Pulse
QT17	Swyftlee
QT24	Target Jobs
QT28	Teach First
QT38	TFL
QT33	Tidewell Tutors
QT39	upReach
QT6	Wagamama
SCR5	West London Scouts
SFD	Wholefoods
QT5	ZSL

BOOKS

books.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Gaiman's London is never where you think it is

Neverwhere draws from the magic of London and puts it all in one place.

BOOKS

Jingjie Cheng

Books Editor

Neil Gaiman has an uncanny knack for picking out the essence of a place.

In *American Gods*, Gaiman weaved the battle between ancient gods and modern greed into an epic tale of contemporary America. *Neverwhere*, in my opinion, should be read by everyone who lives in London. Richard, the protagonist, moves south from Scotland to work in the city, but by a stroke of fate entangles himself with London Below, an alternative London where the night is dangerous on Knightsbridge and monks clad in black roam through Blackfriars. The monthly 'floating market', where the myriad characters of London Below sell and exchange their wares and services, was held on the HMS Belfast.

London Below is inhabited by talking rats, assassins and bodyguards for hire, and a girl called Door that Richard saves, who can, well, open doors to the remotest of places. The jealous villain is the majestic Angel called Islington.

At first glance, one might think that this is a cheesy fantasy story that takes tube stations literally and makes a story out of puns. In fact, Gaiman's genius is in distilling the heart of London from lighthearted references. After three years in London, Richard observes that the city is 'filled with colour'.

'It was a city in which the very old and the awkwardly new jostled each other, not uncomfortably, but without respect...a city



'He had gone beyond the world of metaphor & simile into the place of things that are, and it was changing him.'

// Benjamin Aw



'Is there anything, really, to be scared of?'

'Only the night on the bridge,' she said.

// Benjamin Aw

of hundreds of districts with strange names - Crouch End, Chalk Farm, Earl's Court, Marble Arch - and oddly distinct identities.'

London Below is simply the essence of this incredible juxtaposition and diversity blown up in a fantastical setting. But, as Richard observes after he chooses to return to London Above, which world is, in fact, reality? The monotony of his life in London Above, the one with work worries, relationship troubles and the eternal struggle to hail a black cab after midnight, stood out more strongly than ever after his adventures in London Below. As he passes by an elderly homeless lady on the street, he tells her:

'I thought I wanted a nice normal life. I mean, maybe I am crazy. I mean, maybe. But if this is all there is, then I don't want to be sane. You know?'

Indeed, for the reader, *Neverwhere* is an adventure that one does not come back from unchanged and unmoved. For one, every stop on the tube map now holds a special significance. As I pass through Earl's Court, I cannot help but think of the scene of Richard meeting the Earl in his tube 'palace' at the station, or the shepherds of Shepherd's Bush. There is magic in seeing stories beneath everyday places and people, that extra sparkle that keeps us connected and wondrous of our surroundings.

London's diversity, its amalgamation of the old and new, is fertile ground for imagination. To the freshers, take your time to explore this vibrant city, and may you be touched by the magic around you. And don't forget to give *Neverwhere* a go.

BOOKS

books.felix@imperial.ac.uk

H.G. Wells’ little-known South Ken connection

A former student of the Royal College of Science, father of science fiction H.G. Wells drew inspiration from his South Kensington surroundings, and his legacy remains intimately connected with the College.

BOOKS

Alice Peberdy
Books Editor

Imagine the Imperial freshers of the past; ponder where their college career led them. Research is probably first to mind – medicine, teaching, banking... Arts? We’re scientists, not robots! Great academics are often churned out, but our university also produced one of the fathers of science fiction, H.G. Wells.

A famous student who studied under famous professors, Wells joined the Royal College of Science in 1884. He especially enjoyed the subjects of zoology and biology during his first year, and did well. These were taught by T.H. Huxley, “Darwin’s Bulldog,” who passionately supported the theory of evolution. And yet student life wasn’t entirely plain sailing. –

Wells struggled with other subjects, work-life balance and money (despite receiving a scholarship).

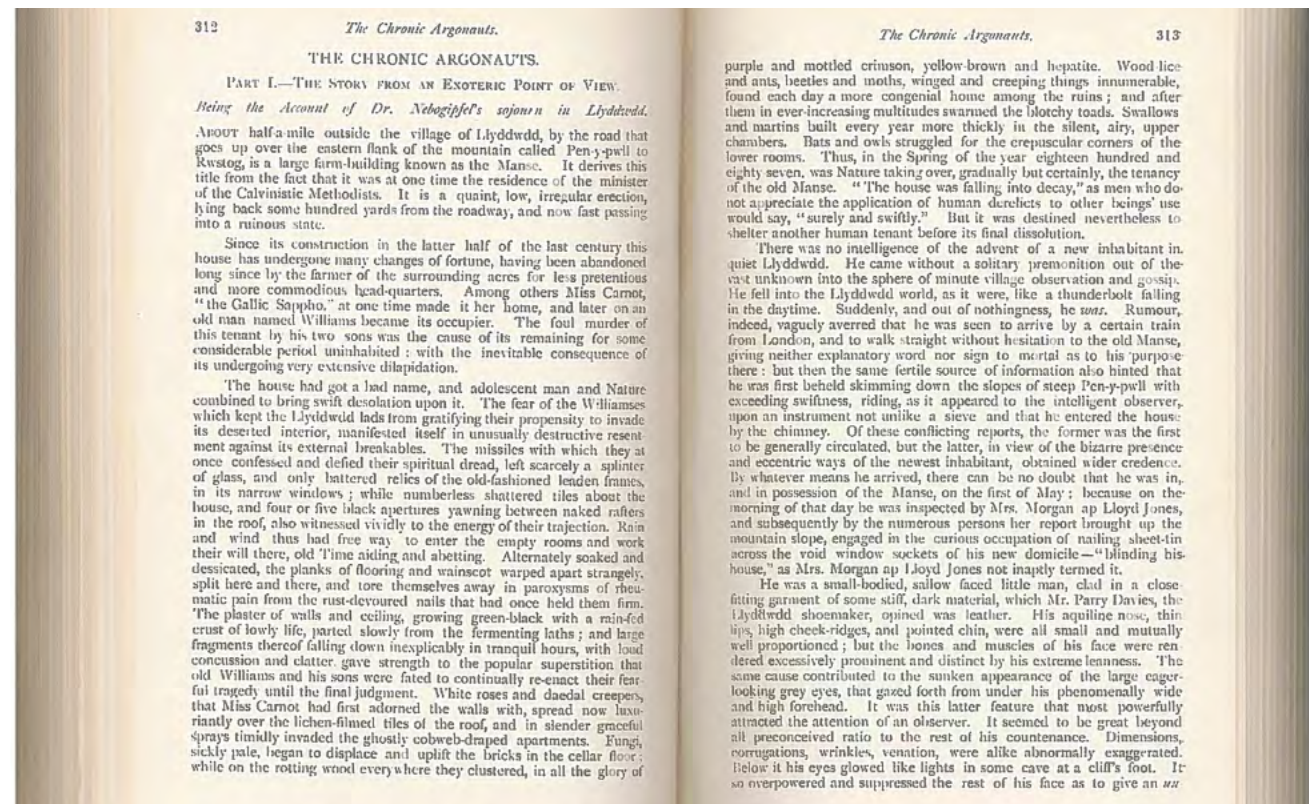
Imperial must have made an impact on the young writer as its surroundings earned a place in his 1985 novel, *The War of the Worlds*. It is upon the narrator’s arrival in South Kensington that the climax of the novel begins. It could be questioned whether the location was featured through pride or the joy of seeing it in disarray, but it is no less entertaining to meet a character who considers breaking into the Natural History Museum. Wells’ role as a scientist also reflected upon the narrator and his astronomer friend. While it’s true most of his characters have academic backgrounds, *The War of the Worlds* also drew upon real scientific debates. The story begins with an observation of “strange lights” on Mars, a phenomenon described in the journal *Nature* a year before the

novel’s release. The existence of aliens was a hot topic of the time, but Wells was the first to write about an invasion. The first page of the novel establishes the eerie, unsettling nature of the subgenre and is well worth a read.

Before his novels, Wells’ began his writing career while he was still studying and published a short story, *The Chronic Argonauts*, in a college magazine. *Science Schools Journal* was created during his final year and he took the role of its first editor. The paper would later become known as *Phoenix* which is still printed today. *The Chronic Argonauts* centred on a young inventor and his marvellous machine. The tale would later be developed into a novel that began an entire sub-genre – it was called *The Time Machine*. Quite fittingly, Wells was honoured in a 1985 episode of *Doctor Who* in which it is revealed that one of the Doctor’s



1906 portrait of H.G. Wells by Edward Cahen // Imperial Archives and Corporate Records Unit



Chronic Argonauts Pt. 1 by H.G. Wells from The Science Schools Journal // Imperial Archives and Corporate Records Unit

companions is a young version of the author.

Wells was a true genius of science fiction with so many more common tropes of today appearing in his novels: superhuman abilities, dystopia, apocalyptic utopia, and space travel to name a few. The use of a familiar setting to aid the reader’s suspension of disbelief is known as “Wells’ Law.” Even the term “science fiction” is all thanks to Herbert George.

And still Wells remained a proficient academic. In addition to fiction, the author published many essays and textbooks. One remarkable book titled *The World Brain* describes the vision of a global communication system and

encyclopaedia – spookily similar of the world wide web of today. He believed he had earned himself a fellowship with the Royal Society for his contribution to “human ecology.” While this was not one of his many achievements, Wells can be commended as a reviewer for *Nature* and his doctorate he earned at age 78.

Wells’ legacy can be found in even in some of the most unlikely places; he founded the Diabetes Association, invented the first recreational war game, and is said to have inspired the first liquid fuelled rocket. His fame is truly deserved as a master of science and science fiction alike.

BOOKS

books.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Ken Kesey – Author, revolutionary, and counter-cultural icon of the 1960s

When Kesey’s novel, One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, was published in 1962 it sparked a debate around the nature of conformism and the promise of the American dream

BOOKS

Michael Purdy
Film Editor

As Cold War tension and paranoia reached its height in the mid-1950s, the American government entered into the most obscure stretch of the arms race – development of a weapon that could be used as means of mass mind control. During this search psychedelics drugs such as LSD were discovered and tested in government-sponsored experiments that took place in psychiatric facilities across America, mostly on college students such as Ken Kesey, a 24 year old Stanford writing student from Oregon. Once a week for six months at Menlo Park Veteran’s Hospital, Kesey would be given an ambiguous pill which would induce hallucinatory visions that, for Kesey, crystallised the disturbing practices of 1950s psychotherapy. He began to question the very concept of sanity, viewing the men in the hospital not as riddled with mental illness, but rather victims of social ostracism.

Ratchet. The men are kept repressed by humiliating group therapy sessions, medication, and physical and sexual abuse from the nurses’ aides. Nurse Ratchet’s dominance is challenged by newcomer R.P. McMurphy, who inspires a sense of independence in the men, leading to their eventual emancipation through his disruption of the totalitarian regime.

Chief Bromden, a Native American patient, narrates the story, perceiving the hospital as a machine that is working as part of a larger socio-economic conspiracy he describes as the “combine” – it consumes all in its path and homogenises anything that is wild. He first becomes aware of the combine when he is a

“R. P. McMurphy is the nightmare of the American WASP”

young boy and the government displaces his tribe from their native land in order to build a hydroelectric dam. The tribe were not contributing anything to the American capitalist regime, and therefore the government destroyed their natural way of life in order to make way for a means of powering a society that could ultimately generate profit.

Nurse Ratchet acts as a tool for the combine and is depicted as robotic and lacking any degree of femininity or maternal quali-



Kirk Douglas and Joan Tetzel in the stage version of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* // Wikimedia

ties by Bromden. Her lack of sensuality and emasculative treatment of the men represents the pious and puritanical attitudes of 1950s American society. As an ex-army nurse she runs the ward with strict militaristic routines and order, attempting to condition the men to conform to society outside the hospital. Under her control the ward becomes “a little world inside that is a made-to-scale prototype of the world outside.” She fuels the men’s paranoia, turns a blind-eye to the sexual abuse experienced by them at the hands of her aides, and maintains an ever present threat of brutal electroshock therapy if they step out of line.

McMurphy is the nightmare of the American WASP. A chronic gambler of Irish descent who “fights and fucks too much”, he fakes mental illness to escape working at a penitentiary facility

and is sent to the psychiatric ward. McMurphy’s rebellion against the strict social order inspires confidence in the men, and the struggle for dominance between himself and Nurse Ratchet represents a battle between natural human wildness and oppressive social constructs. Kesey elevates McMurphy onto a Christ-like platform: when he defends the men from sexual humiliation by fighting one off the nurses’ aides, and as a result is given electroshock therapy, Kesey describes it as a crucifixion.

By attacking Nurse Ratchet towards the end of the novel he commits martyrdom. He is given a lobotomy as result of the attack and put in a permanent vegetative state, but the men see this act as a destruction of the social order that has oppressed them for years, and feel liberated. Some are finally able to check themselves out of

the hospital, and Chief Bromden finally finds the strength to lift the “control panel” out of the ground and smash it through a hospital window, breaking the transparent barrier that existed between himself and natural world outside.

In a society where nuclear destruction was an ever-present looming spectre, and young working-class men were being forcibly sent to Vietnam to kill and die for capitalism, Kesey clearly saw that madness lay within the institutions. He continued to preach his message after *One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest*: the novel was an immediate success, and Kesey utilised the profits of this success to buy a bus, “Further”, which he painted in psychedelic colours and drove around the country with half a dozen other self-titled “Merry Pranksters” and a jar of LSD-laced orange juice. From California to the New

York World’s fair they spread concepts of love and peace, and the trip, described by his son as “the start of 60s”, forever immortalised Kesey as a prophet of the psychedelic revolution. *One Flew over the Cuckoo’s Nest* not only opened people’s eyes

“Kesey opened people’s eyes to the profound limitations of institutional conformity”

to the profound limitations of institutional conformity, but also provided the author with the means to shape and fuel America’s most significant counterculture – the hippie movement.

TELEVISION

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Freshers are coming – Which Game of Thrones faction


TELEVISION

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is your department or society?


It's the first issue of the year, and Felix are already desperate to stay relevant. What is it the kids are into these days: politics, sex, and dwarves? Best do a Game of Thrones™ double page spread then! Spoilers ahead.

Wildlings - Medics



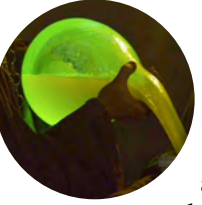
Medics are the wildlings incarnate. They're natural enemies to the Math's Watch, constantly covered in somebody's guts and blood, and they'll die for their freedom (or their last bottle of buckfast). On top of that, there seem to be thousands of them.

The Night's Watch - Mathematics




"I shall take no wife, father no children, and win no glory. I pledge my life and honor to remembering C++, for this night and all the nights to come." Despite their unwashed appearance, and voluntary celibacy, the Math's Watch are basically good people. Even if there are very few women among their ranks.

Alchemist's Guild - Chemistry




The alchemists dwell deep below the streets, are a bit weird, and have this thing about fire. Sound familiar? Well, we recommend that you keep an eye on that chemist in your flat, and watch out for any suspicious green fluid they might have stashed away. Also, the word chemist is literally in the word alchemist. Hard-hitting journalism, this.

The Lannisters - College

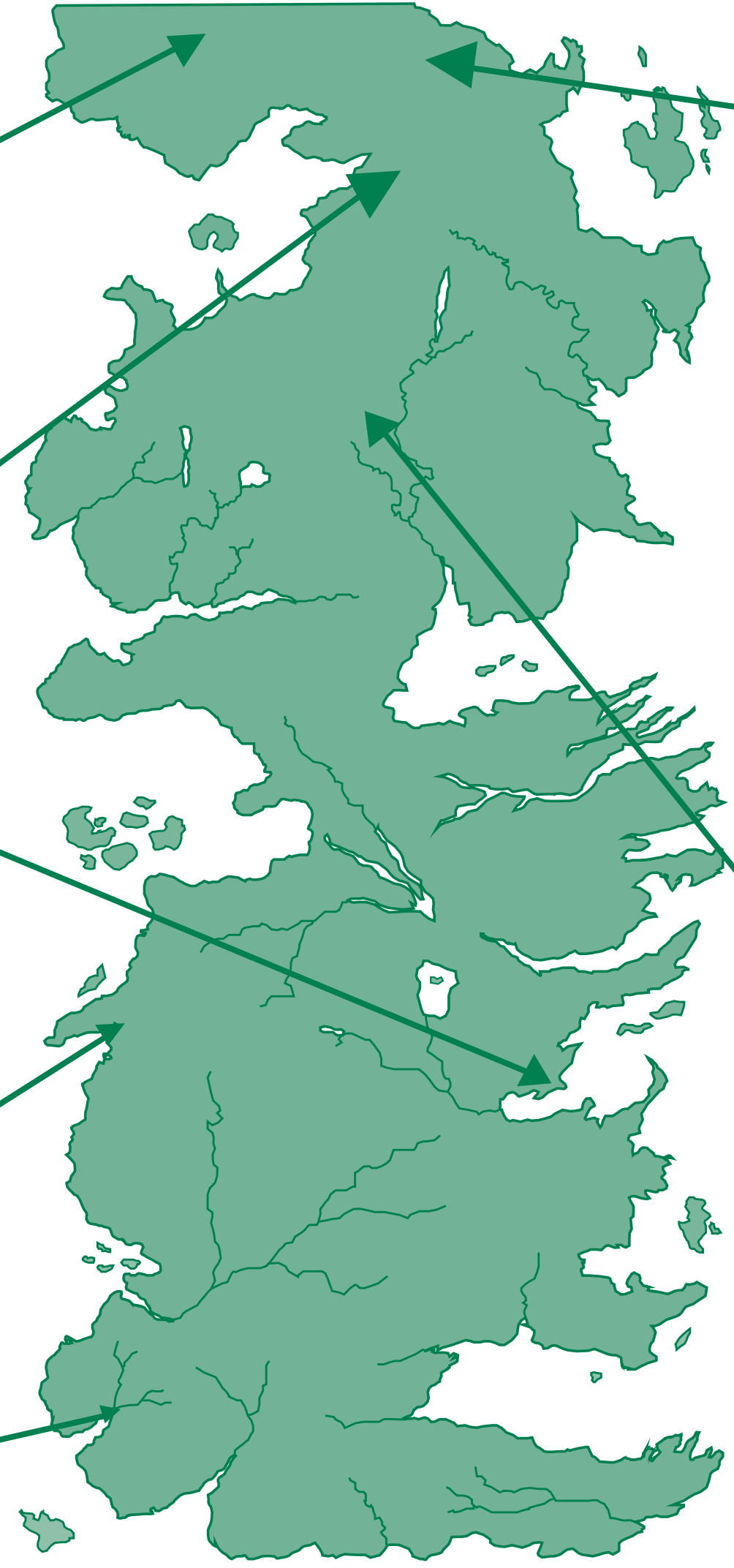


Their image is that of a wealthy, beautiful elite. But when it comes to ruling, they're more interested in their own politics than the petty squabbles of the peasants. Preferring to hold onto power at all costs than to spend any time or resources improving the realm over which they rule, the Lannisters of Kensington Rock seem to operate without any regard for their people and are entirely out of touch with their subjects. They look pretty good though.


Maester's Guild - Computing



Like the Math's Watch, this ancient guild takes a vow of celibacy upon initiation. I've heard they add another link to their blockchain for every programming language they learn. Though their pursuit of knowledge is a selfless one, unfortunately they are destined to serve nobler houses (as IT support).




The White Walkers - Sport Imperial



Everything was probably running smoothly until these creatures showed up. We're not even sure they're human. Huh, you haven't heard of them? Think they're a myth? You'd best hope so – the only things these guys are proficient at is making a royal mess of your sport or realm. Though they are quite good at javelin.

The Faceless Men - Imperial Business School




Hiding in plain sight, and not to be trusted. These two faced snakes walk amongst us, and anyone you pass could be one of them (though you'd probably notice the obnoxious blazer and chinos). Most would rather underpay you for working at their startup than skin your face off and wear it to their next careers seminar, but they're not fussy.

The Iron Bank - International Student's Parents




They have seemingly endless wealth, and are situated in a far off land. While not at the forefront of the action, these are the true holders of Power in Westeros. Need new hockey sticks? A stock of wildfire to stash across the walls of King's Landing to burn any prospective besiegers? Minibus to your next inane board game tournament? No problem, they've got you covered. Be wary though, the Iron Bank will have its due.

Lord Eddard 'Neddy' Stark - The SCR Breakfast

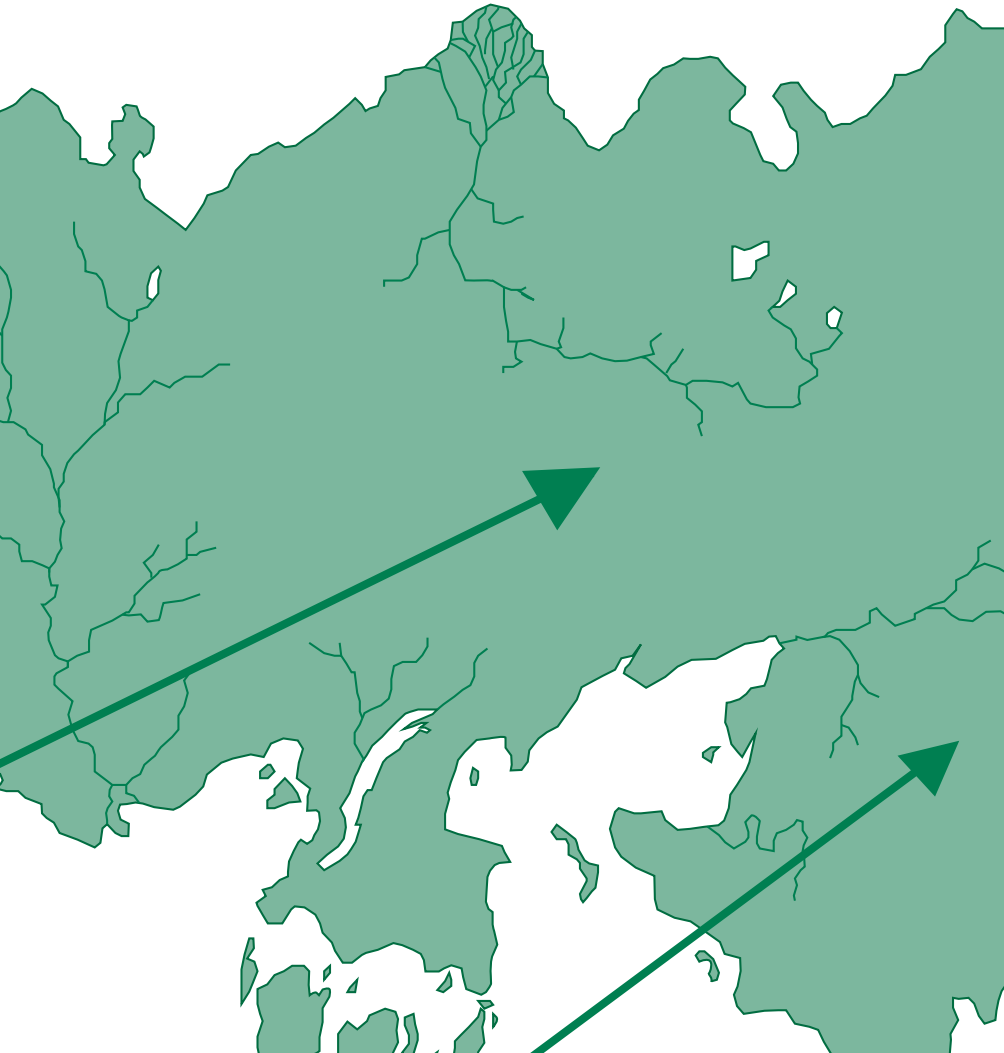


Sean Bean always dies, and this role is no exception. A hero to the Northerners and a bastion of virtue to the Southerners, this fan favourite was doomed from the beginning. Unlike Ned's the SCR Breakfasts untimely demise has not yet started a civil war, but we'll keep you posted.


The Dothraki Horde - ICU Rugby



Tall, strong, and hairy, these warriors value strong leadership above all else and are not to be crossed. However, it's far more likely that the rugby team get their horses from daddy's stables than the open plains of the Dothraki Sea, and they prefer to lose the boiled horse-leather tunics for tweed jackets.



Shadowlands - Materials



No one really knows what they do, and they have so far been irrelevant.

Your Union events

Friday 29 September

▲▲▲

WELCOME WEEK 2017

FRESHERS' BALL

Friday 6 October
From 20:00



KRISTIAN NAIRN
Hodor from Game of Thrones

GET YOUR TICKET HERE!
(Don't let a white walker get to it first!)

imperialcollegeunion.org/freshersball



≡

WELCOME WEEK 2017

Postgraduate Mingle

Saturday 7 October
From 20:00



Ace (BBC Radio 1Xtra)

VS



Huw Stephens (BBC Radio 1)

Buy your ticket in advance and get 2-for-1!

imperialcollegeunion.org/postgradmingle



STAND UP COMEDY

WELCOME WEEK 2017

Monday 9 October from 20:00



SARA PASCOE

WITH SUPPORT FROM
NOISE NEXT DOOR AND **HARRIET BRAINE**

FREE EVENT! For details and more Welcome Week events visit:

imperialcollegeunion.org/welcomeweek



Coming up in our bars



Bandeoke

Monday 2 October
19:00-23:00

Cocktails & Jazz

Tuesday
20:00-23:00

CSP Wednesdays

Every Wednesday
19:00-01:00

Freshers' Ball

Friday 6 October
20:00-03:00

Carvery, Sports and Music

Sunday
From 12:00



Pub Quiz

Every Thursday
19:30-23:00

PGI Friday

Every Friday
19:00-00:00

Find us on Facebook!

fb.com/hbarpub



Quiz Night

Every Monday
18:00-23:00

Board Games & Film Night

Every Tuesday
18:00-23:00

Sports Night

Every Wednesday
18:00 onwards

Pizza Night

Every Thursday
18:00-2:00

Find us on Facebook!

fb.com/reynoldsbarcx

Get exclusive offers, discounts and more on our bars' Facebook Pages.

imperialcollegeunion.org/whats-on



TRAVEL

travel.felix@imperial.ac.uk

London Calling! *Felix's* guide to the capital's best spots

TRAVEL

Edita Pilekyte

Travel Editor

Starting at university, especially one as highly demanding as Imperial, can be both exciting and overwhelming. Most students often find themselves swamped with work from the second week of term, but it's always worth remembering that by studying here you also live in one of the greatest and most well-known cities in the world. And the best thing about London is that it has so much more to offer besides the famous tourist spots, such as Big Ben or London Eye. So here's a short guide to exploring London, which includes less touristy places, well worth a visit. Most of them are free – a huge win in London as you'll soon realise – and can be used as nice study break destinations. So let's put our walking shoes on and explore this beautiful city!

Covent Garden



Just within a walking distance of Leicester Square you'll find Covent Garden. Its main attraction is the indoor market, with cute – albeit quite pricey – restaurants and shops. Just outside the market is the Royal Opera House, and the surrounding areas are always full of street performers. One of the coolest things around is Maxwell's Bar & Grill restaurant, just opposite the Covent Garden tube station. This place sells amazing freakshakes – super delicious milkshakes with cakes, marshmallows, and ice-cream on top – that are not to be missed. So take your SO, friends, or even just yourself out on a freakshake date for a well-deserved sugar boost after a long and tiring week!

Shoreditch



Owing to its artsy and hipsterish vibe, Shoreditch has become a popular destination for young people, particularly famous for its vibrant nightlife. However, besides many cool clubs and bars, you'll also find amazing graffiti almost on every corner. So whether you're a hopeless party animal or have an eye for street art, this is a place for you! In addition, walking further east from Liverpool Street tube station will lead you to Brick Lane, where huge street and indoor markets take place every Sunday. You'll have a chance to try street food from all over the globe, find interesting clothes and collectables, and enjoy talented street performers. You can even walk all the way to the Flower Market on Columbia Road if you fancy some plants for your new room.

London's Parks

One of the coolest things about London is that among all the grand buildings and busy streets you can also find many parks, perfect for jogging, cycling, or having a picnic with friends to maintain that study-leisure balance. Most Imperial students opt for Hyde Park, conveniently located minutes away from South Kensington campus, where even a short walk can be a nice break from the library. Another option is Holland Park, where you'll find the Japanese Kyoto Garden with colourful flowers, peacocks, waterfalls, and fish ponds. If you fancy spending more time outdoors, it's worth paying a visit to Regent's Park, home of beautiful gardens, fountains, statues, and diverse wildlife. Situated on the northern side of the park is Primrose Hill, offering an amazing view of London's skyline, which makes it a popular destination among picnickers.

Chinatown & Leicester Square

Located in the very centre of London, Chinatown contains many Asian shops and restaurants, and is one of London's must-see places. If you crave traditional Asian food, like dim sum or bubble tea, or want to enjoy the views of Chinese-style gates and lanterns, this is the place for you! It's also the most popular destination for Chinese New Year celebrations in the spring.

Moreover, Chinatown is just next door to Leicester Square, which is surrounded by cinemas, English pubs, and restaurants. You can also find an enormous M&M's World shop there, containing more chocolate in one place than you could ever imagine. Beware though – it's full of screaming kids at any given time, but is still an interesting place to see if you have a sweet tooth.

Minutes away from Leicester Square is Piccadilly Circus, with the famous statue of Eros; and Regent Street, one of the biggest shopping destinations in London. The best way to reach these spots is to take the tube to Leicester Square station and just walk around the area. Enjoy the views!



Little Venice

This little gem, hidden in the heart of Paddington, is a perfect place for romantic walks with that special someone, or even just by yourself. It's a smaller and much cheaper version of the actual Venice in Italy: basically a collection of beautiful canals, full of colourful boats. Some of them are used as cafes, where you can get an affordable deal on cream tea, something you have to try at least once while visiting the UK. The best way of getting around is taking the tube to Warwick Avenue station, which is just within walking distance of Little Venice. Walking alongside the canals will eventually lead you to Paddington station, where you can depart home, or on to your next destination.



WELFARE

welfare.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Imperial survival guide: how to stay sane, safe and supported throughout your studies

Coming to university can be a difficult and stressful time. There are loads of new things to try, club mailing lists to sign up to, and people to ask “Which Oxbridge college rejected you?” But along the way, it’s important to make sure that you’re taking good care of yourself, not only physically, but emotionally, mentally, and financially. We’ve teamed up with Ariana Sadr-Hashemi, Mental Health Liberation Officer, to give you the low-down on how to look out for yourself.

Taking care of your mental health during freshers’ week

WELFARE

Ariana Sadr-Hashemi
Mental Health Liberation
Officer

It’s important to remember to take care of your mental health, especially at the start of the year. As you fumble your way through the first few weeks, here are some things to bear in mind:

1. The beginning of the year is going to bring some massive changes; from meeting more new people daily than you can count, to suddenly drinking copious amounts of alcohol, the last thing on anyone’s mind is their mental health. Luckily, taking care of your physical health has the bonus of also benefiting you mentally, so take advantage of Imperial’s free gym to get active – and try not to have potato waffles for every meal (check out studentrecipes.com for ideas).
2. Imperial is a high-pressure environment where everyone is ridiculously smart, which makes it a perfect breeding ground for imposter syndrome. Everyone gets it at some point, and you will (like everyone else) eventually prove yourself wrong. However, if it’s affecting your studies or everyday life, don’t be embarrassed to talk to someone about it.
3. You may get sick of having the ‘Name, Subject, Hall’ conversation a bazillion times a day but feel like you can’t duck out of events due to the fear of missing out. In reality, if you miss a few Freshers’ events you’ll still have plenty of opportunities to make friends, so you can afford to take time out for yourself.
4. Finally, if you aren’t enjoying the Freshers’ events, that’s fine. Parties and heavy drinking aren’t for everyone and you haven’t ‘failed’ at being a university student if you don’t think it’s the ‘Best Thing Ever’™. There’s more to the first few weeks than nights out – if you hate them there are plenty of ways to meet people who will want to befriend you in situations with which you’re more comfortable (check out the Union Society A-Z page for some options).

That said, if you are concerned about your mental health, both in Fresher’s fortnight and throughout the year, there are a couple of things you can do. The most important thing is to register with your local GP; the counselling service at Imperial can provide basic counselling – clue’s in the name – but nothing beyond that. If you’re struggling with something that’s more than a sudden distressing event, then counselling won’t cut it and you should see a GP about your options.

It’s also important to keep in contact with your existing support networks: message old friends, call your family, and ensure that you’ve got people to talk to if you feel like you’re struggling. You can even keep a contact list of emergency services, such as the Samaritans (116 123) or Nightline (020 7631 0101), and draw up an emergency plan of who to contact in what order if you’re in a mental health crisis. The College also has information about other sources of help in the counselling section of their website.

Finally, make sure to use your support networks if you’re having difficulties. It may not be easy, but taking that first step can be the best decision you make at Imperial.

Keeping safe in the sack

So, you’re at university now, and chances are that, as well as getting a degree, you might get some action along the way. Felix is in no way qualified to give out medical advice, but here’s where you can go for help:



STI Clinic: Also known as a GUM (Genito-Urinary Medicine) clinic, or just “the clinic”, these are places where you can go along to get tested for a range of sexually transmitted infections, ensuring that you aren’t passing anything on. Most offer a drop-in service, but it’s best to check online, and ensure that this is the case. All the information you provide will be kept confidential, and you don’t need to provide them with your real name if you don’t want to. They’ll be able to answer any questions you might have in a non-judgemental, calm manner.

GP: It’s recommended that you sign up to a local GP once you’ve moved down to London for university – you can check online to see your nearest surgery. You can attend your GP to ask for contraception – both regular and emergency – as well as to get advice about any information you might need about sexual health. They will often be able to point you in the right direction if their surgery doesn’t offer what you need.

Family Planning Clinics: Similar to the STI clinic, these may have walk-in sessions, but it’s always best to check beforehand. They often offer a wide range of services, from emergency and regular contraception (including condoms), to pregnancy testing and advice about conception. Some clinics will also offer more specialised services, such as gynaecology clinics, and abortion referral, but again, it’s best to check what your nearest centre offers.

WELFARE

welfare.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Mind on my money, money on my mind

Finances can have a bearing on so much that you do at university. Constantly worrying about where your money is going can be a source of anxiety for many students. Luckily, Felix is here with some steps you can take to cut down on spending, and places you can turn to for help:



Food: Being thrifty with your food is one of the best ways you can reduce how much you spend whilst at university. The internet can be a fantastic resource, with websites like BBC Good Food having a wealth of cheap recipes. Some food writers also specialise in cost-efficient cooking, such as Jack Monroe, whose easy recipes are all cost-tested, or Meera Sodha, who specialises in vegetarian Indian cookery. Going vegetarian (or flexitarian) is also a great way to reduce costs – just ensure you’re getting all the nutrients you need!

Travel: While London is a big city, it is really very walkable. Apart from those living in Woodward Buildings, most of you in halls should be able to walk to South Kensington – just avoid walking through Hyde Park after dark. If you do need to make regular journeys, then ensure you have an 18+ student oyster card, which can save you 30% on season tickets, and consider getting a 16-25 railcard: if you connect it to your oyster card you only pay off-peak fares.

Entertainment: A lot of things in London are expensive, but getting your cultural fix needn’t be! Many theatres offer very competitively priced seats for young people, and nearly all art galleries will offer student discounts for exhibition entry. And that’s not even mentioning the museums on our doorstep, which are free (there’s a suggested donation, but the hint’s in the word: ‘suggested’). Cinemas like the BFI Southbank and the ICA also offer great prices for students.

Halls life: Before you move into halls, it’s likely that most people will take a little trip to that giant blue and yellow wonderland, IKEA. Now, I realise this might be coming too late for some of you, but really consider what you need when you load up on supplies. Hall kitchens aren’t terrible, but it’s unlikely that you’ll be cooking up any feasts, so put down the aeropress and the pie dish, and just think about getting a few pans and baking trays. You can always stock up on more if you need it, but overpack and chances are most of your equipment will remain languishing in a cupboard.

Support: For some people, despite endless budgeting, there will still be problems when it comes to meeting costs. It’s important to remember that Imperial offers a number of avenues of support, and that you should never be afraid to ask for a little extra help rather than suffer in silence. As well as a number of scholarships on offer, the Imperial Bursary can offer financial support to those with a household income of under £60,000. There’s also the Student Support Fund, which offers grants and loans to students who are struggling – they only offer them to students who apply, however, so don’t leave it until you’re on your last can of baked beans to get in touch.

Let’s get physical (and spiritual, and emotional)

Taking good care of yourself physically doesn’t necessarily mean 6am work-outs and protein diets; it’s about ensuring that you’re doing the things that make you feel good, whether that’s getting a good night’s sleep, or being able to ask for help when you need it. Here’s the Felix guide to looking after yourself:

Ethos: Here at Imperial there’s a fully equipped gym for students and staff. There’s a £40 induction fee, but that’s pocket change if you compare it to even the monthly price of a lot of private gyms in west London. As well as the gym and swimming facilities, you can purchase a monthly pass for the classes for £14.50, which lets you go to any sessions you want, ranging from yoga to spin. For a lot of people, the gym can be an intimidating place, but there’s enough on offer at Ethos for most students to find something they enjoy. There are also gyms at other campuses, like St Mary’s and Charing Cross, as well as iGym at Woodward Buildings.

Sleep: Establishing a healthy sleeping pattern is one of the most valuable things you can do as a student. Not only does being well-rested mean that your physical health improves, but it also works wonders for your mental health and concentration. We’ve all been there: you’ve crammed for an exam the night before, struggled through with a few hours of sleep, and now you can barely focus, let alone learn anything. Do yourself a favour – turn off your screens before you go to bed; avoid caffeine after lunch; and try and avoid watching TV or eating in bed. Conner Qiu, Campaigns Liberation Officer, is running a Sleep Imperial campaign this year, which launches at midday, 13 November, in the Chaplaincy.

Healthy Eating: When planning a weekly shop, most of us go for convenience and price as priorities, with nutrition falling behind. However, it’s possible to make food that is quick, cheap, and healthy – look for vegetables that are in season, which will be easier on the wallet, the environment, and your palate. Keep up a stash of fruit, so you’re never left without anything to munch on. And make sure to keep a couple of quick and healthy recipes to hand, so you can carry on looking after yourself even when you’re snowed under with lab reports.

Disability Advisory Service: When many people think of what ‘disability’ is, they think of people with physical, visible disabilities – those in wheelchairs, or who have difficulty walking. However, the definition of disability is incredibly broad, including both physical and mental spheres, and disability may be visible or non-visible. For students who believe that they may have a disability, the Disability Advisory Service (DAS) can be an invaluable source of help. As well as providing support, they are able to show students where they might be able to get more assistance – should they so need it – including catering to accommodation requests and providing assistive technology. Located in the Sheffield Building, they can easily be contacted online.



FOOD

food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Foodie's Guide to South Kensington

Let's face it, Imperial is situated in one of the most expensive areas of London. But being in the know about cheap places to go means that eating well in South Ken doesn't need to break your bank balance.

FOOD

Chun Yuan Hii
Food Editor

With Freshers' week going on in full swing, there's bound to be a moment when you're a little bit too weak to go near the stove and dish out your perfectly organised, healthy and affordable meal plans. Or maybe you just need somewhere to go with your new friends without becoming financially crippled. Been there, done that.

We're university students, which means that most of us are perpetually broke. Here are some of the places your well-seasoned seniors visited during times of hardship, torture, and self-doubt during their time at Imperial.

"Freshers week may leave you with a few moments where you're a bit too weak to go near a stove"

My Old Dutch

Pancakes are the answer to everything! Well, not everything, but most things. This pancake house on Kensington Church Street prides itself on serving gigantic pancakes, both savoury and sweet. One pancake usually costs



Franco Manca – the true way to any poor student's heart // Flickr/acme

£8 to £12 and the portion is generous. What's better: every Monday, excluding specified items on the menu, all sweet and savoury pancakes will cost £5.95. On other days, you can also get 10% off your bill with your student card! Note that the Monday Madness promotion is not applicable on Bank holidays and optional service charge applies. Vegetarian options available.

Dozo

A small Japanese restaurant just a few minutes away from South Kensington station, you might miss it altogether if not for the queue snaking out of its door during lunchtime. The tasteful decoration inside carries a heavy

note of traditional Japan, what with their futon seats and low tables. The most student-popular order will be their lunch menu, with a variety of mains to choose from, ranging from bento to sushi set. Each set costs £7.90 and comes with a cup of warm green tea. Note that there will be a service charge and the queue can be quite long during lunchtime. Perfect if you have a long lunch break or a free afternoon.

Bella Italia

Bella Italia is an Italian restaurant with franchise all over the UK and its website is regularly updated with the latest promotions. Past offers include 2-for-1 pizza deals on Thursdays. Currently, it's offering 50% off mains

from Monday to Thursday and 50% off takeaways all day everyday up till 2nd October. Without discounts, the mains cost around £10 - £15. Keep an eye out for great deals on their website! Vegetarian and vegan options available.

Franco Manca

Another pizza place near Imperial, specialising in sourdough pizza. Conveniently, you can order your pizza on their website and pick it up at a time of your choice – a great way to beat the queue! The cheapest pizza is £4.95 with others less than £8.

Oriental Canteen

Reputed to be the cheapest place to eat in

the South Kensington area, Oriental Canteen is definitely the favourite place for people who crave cheap Chinese food. Its menu includes fried noodles, roasted duck with rice and fried rice. The shop owner is rumoured to be a Malaysian so it's not surprising to see some Southeast Asian dishes on the menu. The best part about this shop is that the prices are generally £6 or less, saving you from the dilemma of going broke or starving.

Bosphorus Kebab

With online reviews singing praises and friends swearing by it, it seems like this Turkish shop on Gloucester Road is the

place to go when you yearn for something exotic. The prices range from £6 to £8 and it is well-portioned, its doner kebab being the most popular order. The downside is that there are not many seats in this small shop so it can be crowded at times. Takeaways are recommended.

Wasabi

Wasabi sells a variety of ready-to-eat Japanese food outside South Kensington station, be it hot food, sushi rolls or soups. With bento prices from £5 to £10, this place is frequented by students who want a quick lunch. Recommended mains include chicken katsu curry bento and chicken teriyaki bento. Vegetarian options available.

FOOD

food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Avoiding drunk food disasters – our guide to your post-night out snacks

Here's the deal: it's pouring with rain, you're drunk, and you've just come back from a night out at Ministry. All you want is something carb-loaded before you nod off. Don't worry – we've got you covered.



Instant noodles might be a student's best friend, but ensure you diversify your carb choices – why not branch out to couscous?! // Flickr/elsie.hui

FOOD

Alice Davage
Food Editor

Freshers' week. A time to make new friends and become accustomed to new surroundings, whether that be a new borough, city, or perhaps even a new country. However, for many, freshers' week also involves a few hangovers and a number of drunk food disasters. Don't be that person eating folded squares of bread or dry pasta at 4am. Equally, you do not want to be remembered for attempting to cook an overly ambitious three course meal in the early hours of the morning. Your new hall mates will

not thank you for setting off the fire alarm, forcing them to trudge down 19 flights of stairs (if you live on the top floor of the Woodward buildings) in their pyjamas and flip flops. Trust me – it's not the way to make friends. The trick is to find a balance between good tasting foods that your stomach will thank you for, and simplicity that your tired alcohol-muddled brain can deal with. Thankfully, I'm here to give you a few ideas.

The Old Classic: Cheese and Crackers

I'm personally an advocate for cheese and crackers. Involves no cooking and the customisation possibilities are endless. Fan of a particular

stinky blue cheese? Enjoy it with no fear of judgement in the empty kitchen. Like cheese out of a can? Ugh, but ok, go ahead, this is your time to avoid judgment. If you happen

"Fan of stinky blue cheese? Enjoy it with no fear of judgement in the empty kitchen."

to have some hummus, guacamole, salsa, tzatziki, or whatever your dip of choice is in the fridge, then perfect, dip some crackers

in that! If not, try adding pesto if you have some in the cupboard. Nostalgic for the days of Dairy Lea Lunchables? Cut up and add some ham to your cheese and crackers.

Instant Carb Gratification

If you're a fan of the pot noodle, I would encourage you to diversify your range of instant carbs, as you'll soon get sick of them (or perhaps not, I know people who swear by them). Try different flavours of microwavable rice or even couscous. Of course, rice is easy peasy to make in a rice cooker or on the stove, but I think cheating with a microwave and avoiding boiling hot water is probably the safer (and definitely the

will soon learn that this controversial savoury spread divides the nation in half into lovers and haters. Spread a very thin layer over margarine/butter – yum (you can guess which half I fall into).

DIY Takeaways

Save some money and make your own takeaway alternative. Buy some oven chips, sprinkle some cheese on top (buy pre-grated for maximum laziness), and stick it in the oven on a baking tray. You could also easily make gravy by stirring gravy granules into hot water and pouring this over the top of your cooked chips

"I would strongly encourage you to diversify your range of instant carbs"

quicker) alternative after a long night.

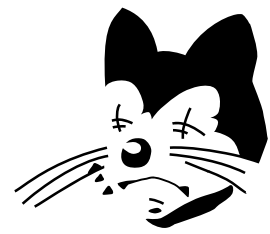
A Toasty End to the Night

Fancy a sandwich but want something warming after a night out in London? The obvious choice here is a toasty. Here's a thought: pre-make it and stick it in a reusable (let's be eco-friendly, this is Imperial after all) toaster bag. You can buy these for a few pounds in big supermarkets and being able to stick your toasties straight into the toaster and avoid waiting for your oven grill to preheat is a huge time saver. Too lazy to make a toasted sandwich? Well ok, then I guess toast is on the menu. If you're new to Britain then I encourage you to try marmite. You

to make the northern English delicacy of cheesy chips and gravy.

§

Of course preparing your own drunk food will take a bit more time and require a bit more effort than purchasing from your fast food outlet of choice. But where would you rather wait for your food? In your lovely warm kitchen, close to the warm embrace of your own bed, or in a long queue somewhere in the West End, Camden, or Elephant and Castle? I know what I'd choose.



Hangman



The outbreak has affected the entire South Kensington campus, as well as other sites in west London // Thomas Angus

Imperial overrun with mysterious infestation

NEWS

NegaFelix
Editor-in-Chief

Imperial College senior leadership have called for calm after an unexpected parasitic outbreak has overrun the university.

The infestation, which seemed to have started earlier this week, is of a new strain of Homo undergraduus, colloquially referred to as 'Freshers'. It is believed that ground zero of the outbreak is Beit Quadrangle, although since then the infestation

has spread to a number of sites across west London, including the Junior Common Room, Imperial Library's second floor, and Woodward Halls in Acton. It is unclear the extent of the spread, but experts believe that only the 'Blue Cube' Faculty Building and the Business School are completely unaffected. Last Monday, Nick Smith, newly-appointed Vice Provost (Pest Control), spoke briefly to the media whilst dressed in biohazard protective gear. He urged those listening that everything was "business as usual", and called for calm, before making a hasty retreat into the hermetically-sealed Blue Cube, which has been on lockdown for the

past week. In a follow up statement from Imperial communications, a representative from the College said "Problems? What problems? Absolutely nothing is wrong. Have you seen how well we did in the Good University Guide by the way?" However, internal documents that were leaked to Felix reveal that the College has begun a radical fight back against the infestation, and are planning on hiring exterminators to forcibly move the infestation to White City. The plan, "Proposal for Removal Of Freshers In Totality" - nicknamed PROFIT - involves construction of a new containment site in the wastelands of Zone 2; the nature of the

project is unclear, but the proposal seems to suggest that the infestation can be domesticated using something called the 'Imperial White City Incubator'. The proposal says that when the new site has been built, "Imperial staff will be able to go about their daily business of producing world-class research in peace, without having to worry about petty things like NSS scores or cooked breakfasts". The project will be overseen by Vice Provost (PROFIT Driver), a role that has not yet been assigned. One academic, who asked not to be named, told Felix about their narrow escape: "I was packing up my stuff, getting ready to leave the office, when suddenly the door was

blocked by two of the creatures. They started asking me questions about the 'undergraduate syllabus', and 'reading lists' - I had no idea what they were saying, but it all sounded very intimidating. Luckily our department has got a new student-staff liaison officer, so I was able to point them down the corridor and they left as I made my escape. Was the sacrifice worth it? I don't know. I just know I'm going to be haunted by my decision for the rest of my life." Another staff member was considering putting in a complaint to occupational health: "I have lots of allergies, so I can't work in areas that places with too much damp, dust, or people who don't know

what Reynold's Transport Theorem is" Ada Harrington, chair of Environmental Protection UK, a charity offering policy advice on environmental law, called for Imperial College to become a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), and receive governmental protection. "It's really important that higher education institutions recognise the value such organisms provide for biodiversity," she said, "establishing an SAC at Imperial would show that the university provides a safe environment, not only for world-class research and business leaders, but also for those on the bottom of the food chain, such as undergraduate materials students".

HANGMAN

negafelix@imperial.ac.uk

Returning student insists this year he's 'doing things right'.

3rd-year biology student makes the shocking admission after a couple of snakebites

Chris Connoley, a third-year biology student, has made a public declaration of his commitment to working harder and being more organised, saying that 'this year will be different'. Connoley, who had been scraping by on a low 2.2 since arriving at Imperial for a BSc in Biology two years ago, made the surprise announcement to

a group of friends during a get together in 568 just before the beginning of the new academic year. In a shocking statement, Connoley explained that his decision to learn to play the guitar over the summer rather than applying for competitive internships has really given him "time to think", and that he had come to the conclusion that - now being nearly twenty-five grand in debt - this was going to be "his year". When asked about his new schedule by Felix, Connoley explained "yeah, I'm definitely going to start studying for an hour each evening,

that way I'll be well prepared when finals roll around. Well, except for on Wednesdays, that's sports night. And some Fridays I'm going to go to Reynolds for their bops. Oh, and ski trip is coming up. But apart from that I'm gonna be fully committed to my degree." A couple of pints down at this point, Connoley then made a trip to the Kensington High Street branch of Rymans, where he spent nearly £60 on new markers, post-it notes, and a 2017-18 academic diary. When asked about his plans for the equipment, Connoley said that he was going to put them

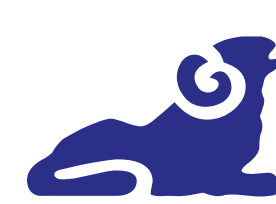


Chris' lab partner, who's still waiting for him to come back from 'a quick smoke' // Thomas Angus

in a desk draw at home for 'safekeeping', and definitely not completely forget all about them until mid-June. One of his friends

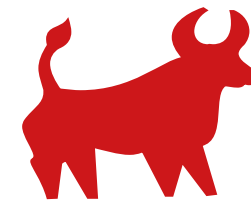
spoke to Felix, telling us that he was 'amazed' by Connoley's resolve: "To be honest, it's come as a complete shock, but I have total faith in Chris. I know

he said the same thing last year, and the year before that - I really think this is going to be the year he pulls through".



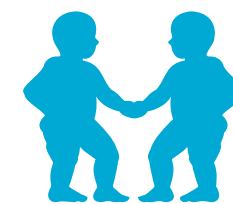
ARIES

This week, you cancel summer for everybody, and face legal action. 99% of your flights aren't arriving on time, but at least 50% of your flights are arriving?



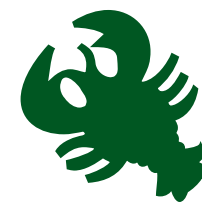
TAURUS

This week, you finally hear back from your supervisor. After fifteen long, pleading emails sent about your project, you get a response. "Sure! Sent from my iPhone"



GEMINI

This week, you move into halls and decide to continue your sixth-form relationship long distance. It's doomed and you'll be heartbroken. Sorry.



CANCER

This week you make it to Imperial. Congratulations - welcome to the 3rd best university in the country. Oh, you're in the physics department? Good luck with that.



LEO

This week you find yourself in the political mainstream. "Let's hope the whole of the country is infected!" you cry. (Your cries following your pathology results are shockingly similar).



VIRGO

This week it's time to let loose and socialise, before the moon returns to your career sector. And by 'moon' we mean the never-ending pile up of problem sheets and coursework assignments.



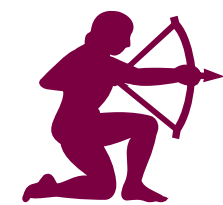
LIBRA

This week you're the Felix editor. Inspired by the life and times of Hugh Hefner, you put a naked centrefold in your paper. Next week you're inspired by the life and times of Hugh Hefner.



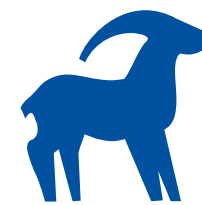
SCORPIO

This week you're fresh meat. Welcome to the grinder! Your department mums and dads start gambling how long you'll last, but you've dropped out already. Don't worry - your secret's safe with us.



SAGITTARIUS

This week you finally get around to sorting out your loans and finances. You decide home student sounds too boring, and international matches your outlook and philosophy much better. Oops.



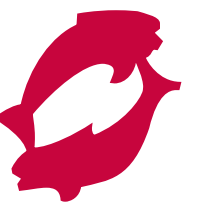
CAPRICORN

This week you go to the Union. You fail to strawpedo a VK, but work out how to get the blue vomit. Swings and roundabouts - you came to university to learn.



AQUARIUS

This week you decide: New year, new you! You resolve henceforth to be the best you can possibly be. Unfortunately, that isn't very good.



PISCES

This week you're thrilled to hear the news that Twitter will increase the character limit to 280, allowing you to share your deep thoughts. Unfortunately, nobody cares what you have to say.

Welcome to Imperial College Union!

Who is Imperial College Union and why does it matter to you?

As a student at Imperial College London, you are also member of Imperial College Union.

Imperial College Union exists to enhance the education and development of our 18,000+ members, and has been doing so since 1907. We have over 370 Clubs, Societies and Projects, our Academic & Wellbeing Representation Networks, Liberation Officers, Union Council, four bars, two nightclubs, a shop, a newsagent, and much, much more

We are a democratically-run charity, with our members - students of Imperial College London - able to lead, create and influence change in every one of our activities, campaigns and services.

Find out more: imperialcollegeunion.org

Welcome Week 2017



Freshers' Ball

The Freshers' Ball is the biggest night of Welcome Week and will be taking place on **Friday 6 October** and none other than Kristian Nairn (Hodor, Game of Thrones) will be headlining!

Freshers' Fair

Get the best out of student life at Imperial! Freshers' Fair, on **Tuesday 3 October**, is an exciting day that will show you what you can get involved with through Imperial College Union. The fair will be held for one day across our South Kensington campus and will be buzzing with a variety of external exhibitors and 370+ clubs, societies and projects available. You can even pick up some freebies as well!

Mingles

Mingles are Imperial College Union's official Welcome Parties for new students! They're a great way to get to know your new friends and meet new ones. Undergraduates can get their tickets in their halls of residence, and Postgraduates can buy their tickets on the Union website (listed below). Open to everyone are our Lite Mingles, where we show outdoor movies on the Queen's Lawn. These are alcohol free events.

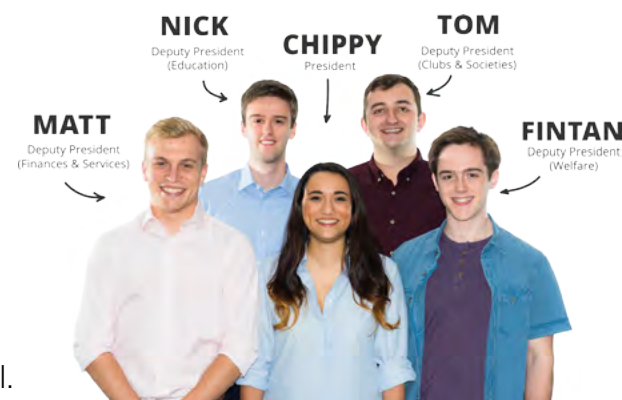
For more information on these events, and much, much more, visit:

imperialcollegeunion.org/welcomeweek

Your Officer Trustees

The Union is led by the Officers Trustees who are elected every year in our Big Elections in a cross-campus ballot. They take a year out of their studies and work full-time, making your Union and Imperial even better.

Your Officer Trustees are here to improve the student voice for all students at Imperial. They represent you to College on issues such as your course, department and faculty as well as any other problems you may have during your time at Imperial.



imperialcollegeunion.org/officertrustees

Autumn Elections



Autumn Elections

Raise your voice. Change Imperial.

Imperial College Union is a democratic organisation. Every club, event, campaign and difference we make is led by student volunteers and guided by our members. Over 2,500 students a year enrol to volunteer. Our newest members are just as important to us as our oldest ones. That's why we hold our first democratic election of the year right at the start: to give all students, from Freshers to Postgrads, an opportunity to make a difference to the lives of their fellow students, while accelerating the development of their personal and professional skills.

The Autumn Elections include over 400 roles from our Academic & Wellbeing Representation Networks, sixteen roles as Ordinary Member of Union Council, and several Constituent Union and Club, Society & Project opportunities.

Raise your voice and change Imperial by nominating yourself here:

imperialcollegeunion.org/elections

**NOMINATIONS
OPEN**

00:01 | Saturday
30 September

**NOMINATIONS
CLOSE**

23:59 | Thursday
12 October

SPORTS

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Everyone should take up sports at Imperial – your clubs need you!

Going to university gives you a perfect opportunity to try out something you've never done before. You should dive in both feet first, and give the sports clubs a go!

SPORTS

Imraj Singh
Sports Editor

I'll be the Sports Editor for *Felix* 2017/18, and want to encourage you to try sport. With 60+ sports clubs to choose from its often hard to figure out what sport you'd be interested in trying. From sports that require more of a soft touch rather than a hard hit, that are team or individual, or more social than hardcore training. It's often hard for incoming (or returning) students to figure out what to try when surrounded with so many options. After playing 3 years of American Football (in Edinburgh and Kent, reaching the British Championships for the first time in each of the teams' histories) I was delighted to find that Imperial had their own team. I was very keen, and emailed prior to starting at Imperial, making sure to free up the appropriate trial day. When my time at Imperial did start it was madness, fresher's week is still somewhat of a blurry

recollection. I never did attend that initial training session. A classic fresher's trip to Ministry (or a halls/union event, I can't really remember) left me rather rough and irritated at the even the prospect of going outdoors.

I did manage to trial another day, and have played for two years with the team. I have played, or at least tried, most sports throughout high school

“Even if you don't want to take sport too seriously you can participate in super fun social teams”

and university, and found American Football to be my favourite. Though life may be punctuated with hard times, I have always found sport has helped me through them. The health benefits (both mental and physical) of exercise are well documented. This



“Siri, please find me a picture of a ‘sports’” // Flickr/Schwarz Johann

in and of itself should encourage the reader to pursue physical endeavours. For sports in particular, I have met a lot more people who have regretted not taking up sport earlier, than people who were despondent after realising the sport wasn't for them. I should note it is rare to have prior university American Football experience in the Imperial team. That is the same with most Imperial teams (especially so with less mainstream sports). Do not be afraid to try new sports if you haven't done it before.

Sports clubs want you to come along and develop you into an athlete. Even if you don't want to take sport too seriously you can participate in social teams which are super fun too! To get a most complete experience of university I would argue that doing sport is a necessity.

With regards to the Medics and IC clubs, there is only a limited amount of guidance I can give. I know that medics can join IC clubs, and vice versa. As to why to choose one club over the other when they do the same sport, I

am less sure... Committees change, coaches change, opinions change, so what I say is try out the clubs. If you find one of the clubs is

“I have met many people who have regretted not taking up sport earlier at Imperial”

too socially orientated and you want to be more sport orientated then try the other club, and vice versa. If you are in a medic club you will find yourself usually in Reynolds for sports night, whilst IC teams will find themselves in the Union. That's about it...

If you are interested in going for a team trial see the timetable extract below. The trials are jam-packed into one day. If you find yourself unable attend get in contact with the club and they will probably have other sessions.

ETHOS TEAM TRIALS

Fancy trying your hand at a new sport? Here's what's going on on team trials day, October 4th. There are plenty of other sites where trials are happening, so make sure to check out the Sport Imperial website

<i>Sports Hall Courts 1-4</i>	<i>Sports Hall Court 5</i>	<i>Squash Courts</i>	<i>Swimming Pool</i>	<i>Meet at Ethos Reception</i>
<p>13.00–15.00 ACC Badminton</p> <p>15.00–17.00 ACC Women's Netball</p> <p>17.00–19.00 ACC Volleyball</p> <p>19.00–21.00 ACC Basketball</p>	<p>13.00–15.00 ACC Table Tennis</p> <p>16.00–20.00 ACC Fencing</p>	<p>14.00–17.00 ACC Squash</p>	<p>14.00–18.00 ACC Swim and Waterpolo</p>	<p>13.15 ACC Cross Country and Athletics</p>

SPORTS

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

10 things you need to know if you cycle in London

So, you're new to London. Or maybe you've been here a while but you're looking for a way to save some money, stay healthy, and just have fun. Or maybe you need a plan now that Uber are potentially on the rocks... Here is a totally incomprehensive list of how to stay safe and enjoy cycling in London...

SPORTS

Joseph O'Connell-Danes

Sports Writer

1. The Bike

If you are going to be cycling regularly in London, Boris bikes aren't really a feasible solution. The best thing about buying a bike for London is that it's flat! This opens up a huge range of possibilities in terms of what you buy. My personal recommendation is to get yourself a single speed or cheap road/hybrid bike, from a reputable company.

2. Helmets

Just wear one. Trust me.

3. Locks

So you have your dream bike in London that looks super cool, and you can't wait to tear up the cycle superhighways, but this is all going to be very short-lived if you don't get proper locks. A general rule of thumb for London is to have two locks: a D-lock (the university security does a pretty good deal on these) for your frame and back wheel, and a cable lock for your front wheel and saddle (yes people in London steal saddles, it sucks).

4. Punctures

These suck. Well... blow. The last thing you want when you're rushing for your 9am lecture (ha) or labs is to get a puncture and be stood on the side of the road with no way

to get where you're going. Firstly, learn how to mend a puncture. Secondly, get some tougher tires. I like going quickly as much as the next person, but a slightly tougher tire won't slow you down much on your commute. Get some GatorSkins or some Schwalbe Marathons – they are genuinely amazing and will fend off all but the toughest London junk.

5. What to wear

For those of you how didn't already know, it rains. A lot. Get a cycling jacket. They are waterproof, can be scrunched into the smallest pocket of any bag, and light enough so that you don't get super sweaty on your way to uni. Get a fluorescent one: they

"I don't want to be killed by a driver who hates cyclists because you couldn't stop for a light to turn green"

make a huge difference on how visible you are at night. They are a tad pricey (£60) but Proviz Reflect is a really good jacket and it is kinda trendy.

6. Lights

On the subject of being seen: please don't cheap out on lights. London is so well lit at night that



This guy clearly hasn't read our top tips... wear a helmet! // Flickr/Sascha Kohlmann

crummy lights just won't be visible at night, at all. For front lights, you should be looking at something like the Exposure Switch or the Cateye Volt 800. For backlights, something like the Exposure TraceR rear bike light or the Bontrager Flare R rear light are really good options. The other light I would seriously suggest getting is a light for your rucksack, the iQualTech Backpack light is not a replacement for a proper backlight but is a really cheap (£10) way to help you be more visible at night.

7. Learn to fix your own bike

You've managed to get yourself into university, you can definitely learn how to fix a bike. There are several bits of basic

maintenance you can easily teach yourself and carry out with a basic bike multi-tool, and the Global Cycling Network has some really good videos online that take you step by step on how to fix pretty much any problem with your bike. Alternatively, befriend someone who knows how to fix bikes...

8. Don't be a dick

Cycling in London gets a bad rep for being really dangerous, and part of that is the attitude of some drivers towards cyclists. These drivers are, thankfully, in the minority at the moment but they seem to be growing. The big driver of this anti-cyclist sentiment is that there is an unfortunate number of cyclists who have no regard for the rules of the road. So: stop at red lights

and zebra crossings; signal before you turn; don't cycle on pavements; when available, use cycle paths; and please please please don't go up the inside of cars or buses when lane splitting. I don't want to be killed by some driver who hates cyclists because you couldn't wait for a light to go green.

9. It's not all doom and gloom

If you read the papers you would be forgiven for thinking that if you cycle in London you will die. Now, I know it's a bit rich coming from someone who has been hit cycling, but it really isn't that dangerous. There is loads of guidance online on how to cycle safely in London, like The London Cyclist website.

10. Have fun

"For those of you how didn't already know, it rains. A lot. Get a waterproof cycling jacket."

Cycling should be an enjoyable experience. It is such a good way to learn the city and see parts of London that you would miss on the tube.

If you like your road cycling then you can join ICU Cycling Club and explore some of the Surrey or Windsor countryside.