



# Felix

The Student Newspaper of Imperial College London





# EDITORIAL

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*Felix* Office  
Beit Quad, Prince Consort  
Road  
London, SW7 2BB  
  
Tel: 020 79548072  
Email: felix@ic.ac.uk  
  
felixonline.co.uk  
@feliximperial  
  
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## We got this!

I'll try to keep this brief and not too cheesy.

You and I have something in common; today marks a new beginning. You'll have just moved into your new halls and had the exciting taste of freedom for the first time. I am putting the finishing touches on the first issue of *Felix* for the year!

Casting my mind back four years, I remember my own move-in day being nothing short of a disaster. Despite living about 40 minutes away in North West London and quite literally being given the whole day to arrive, I somehow still managed to arrive half an hour late to Gabor Hall. After promptly moving my stuff into my room and checking out my kitchen cupboard space, I was then mistaken for a cleaner by the first of my floor mates that I approached to introduce myself. They must have thought it was "bring your family to work day"! My swift transformation into a social pariah wasn't helped by my decision to skip the floor meet-and-greet. Instead, I opted to go for a cheeky Nando's trip, simultaneously succeeding in isolating myself and inadvertently adhering to two black



stereotypes: being late and loving chicken.

I must admit it has been very bizarre and felt almost surreal for me to have technically finished university but still be coming back to the same campus I just spent four years at, on a daily basis. I'm often tempted to resume my normal routine of napping in my usual spot at the back of LT 2 in the Chem Eng department. For me, this role presented an unmissable opportunity to cling to my youth by prolonging my stay at university (in some capacity) and deferring my entry into the "real world" for another year. If four years at Imperial has

taught me anything, it is how to procrastinate and plagiarise effectively.

As a serial procrastinator, it should come as no shock to anybody that I am currently writing this editorial four hours before the looming print deadline and I'm desperately waffling to fill up space. What better way to waffle than to explain my route into *Felix* in painstaking detail?

I first got involved in *Felix* two years ago, as a music writer. I am a massive fan of hip-hop (Kendrick Lamar, Drake and J. Cole being my three favourite artists right now), and regularly found myself writing album

reviews and discussing hip-hop culture in general. *Felix* was an easy way for me to express my views for anybody that fancied a read. The natural transition was to become a Music Editor, a role I fulfilled last year and thoroughly enjoyed.

This year, I bid farewell to my beloved Music section, leaving it in the capable hands of Simran, Asad, Adrian and Henry. My amateur music journalism has bled out into my podcast, "2 Gs in a Pod" (shameless plug!). This is something of a passion project of mine but please give it a listen on SoundCloud and iTunes if you ever want to hear me debate music and hip-hop culture with my co-host, Isaac.

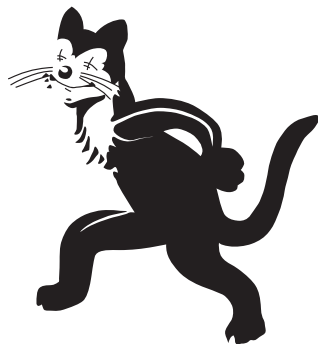
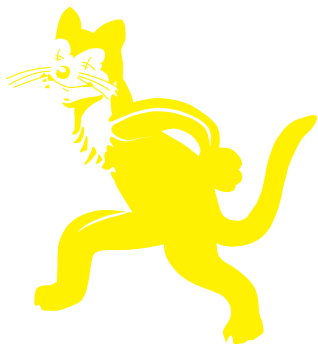
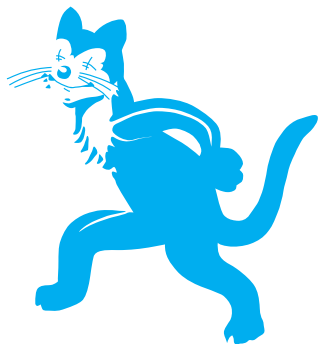
This year, I embark on a new challenge as Editor-in-Chief. Although I try to maintain a cool, calm and collected exterior, as the print deadline edges ever close, I'm internally feeling the same nerves I expect many of you are feeling as you start this new chapter in your life. Let's encourage each other to wreck-it like Ralph and make the most of these new beginnings; we got this!



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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](mailto:felix@ic.ac.uk)



# The most important meal of the day!

Imperial College Union launches its brand new breakfast menu!

NEWS

Andy Djaba  
Editor-in-Chief

On 24th September, Imperial College Union announced it would now be serving breakfast in FiveSixEight, ahead of the new academic year.

A year on from the widely unpopular decision to scrap breakfast in the Senior Common Room (SCR), students and staff alike can now enjoy a delicious breakfast in the Union. This change comes amongst a slew of recent changes to the Commercial Services offered on campus, including changes to the cost of access to Imperial's sports centre, Ethos (as reported by Felix in July).

The Union breakfast menu is divided into two sections, a "Grab & Go" menu and a "Sit & Graze" menu. As the name suggests, the "Grab & Go" menu is intended for students who want to "grab some

food quickly before they go to lectures", while the Sit & Graze menu allows for those with spare time to "sit down... chat with their friends, socialise" and more.

**"The Union breakfast menu is divided into two sections, a "Grab & Go" menu and a "Sit & Graze" menu."**

The whole menu is available for anyone sitting down to eat, i.e. food from the "Grab and Go" menu is still available to eat-in. However, anyone wanting to order food to take away will only be able to do so from the "Grab & Go" menu.

Felix caught up with Claudia Carabello, the Deputy President (Fi-



Union Breakfast // Imperial College Union



Union Breakfast // Imperial College Union

nancial Services), who explained the Union's decision to start offering breakfast:

"We started breakfast because SCR stopped breakfast; that was a College decision... it was making a big loss, yet students really wanted

breakfast provision. We looked into whether it was reasonable for us to do it, which it was, so we started it!"

Plans for the Union to offer breakfast began back in March with the chef and Julia Mattingley, the Head of Commercial services.

The "Grab & Go" service is allegedly much quicker than normal service. Claudia confirmed this, commenting the following:

"I ordered a breakfast muffin, which I would highly recommend; delicious! That took me 7 minutes to get my order and apparently that was one of the slowest orders of the day. Others were getting theirs in 2-3 minutes... I was really impressed with how quick "Grab & Go" works."

The Union breakfast is being offered on a trial basis, with items from the "Sit and Graze" menu available from 10 am to



Union Breakfast // Imperial College Union

**"The "Grab & Go" service is allegedly much quicker than normal service."**

11.30 am and "Grab & Go" items available from 8 am to 11.30.am. As the breakfast is still on a trial

basis, your feedback is crucial! To share feedback on your Union breakfast experience, please contact Beit bars via e-mail at [be-itvenues@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:be-itvenues@imperial.ac.uk). Alternatively you can contact Julia Mattingley, the Head of Commercial Services, via e-mail at [j.mattingley@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:j.mattingley@imperial.ac.uk).



NEWS

news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Imperial Graduates top University earnings table

Imperial graduates found to earn more than any other U.K. graduates in new research by job website, Adzuna

NEWS  
Andy Djaba  
Editor-in-Chief

Imperial College London graduates have beaten Oxbridge to earn the highest salaries in their first year after graduation, according to research by the job website, Adzuna.

The average Imperial graduate earns £37, 931 in their first year after graduation, which is over £5000 more than the £32,374 picked up by Oxford graduates. The news comes in the same week it was announced that Imperial College London had retained its fourth-place ranking in The Times’ 2018 Good University Guide. Despite

landing behind Oxbridge in the university rankings, Imperial boasts the higher graduate earning potential. King’s College London, which placed below both Oxbridge and Imperial, also landed above Oxbridge in the graduate earnings rankings. King’s College London claimed second place with average graduate earnings of £33,077 in the first year

after graduation. In a statement made to The Guardian, Andrew Hunter, co-founder of Adzuna, had this to say: “Students concerned with getting the best bang for their buck should look outside the traditional league tables and should not automatically assume Oxbridge to be best. For savvy students looking ahead to their career these resources can help make an informed decision, not just for their university enjoyment, but for their future success.”

All ten of the top universities for graduate earnings were Russell Group universities. Adzuna’s research is based on analysis of 155,000 graduate CVs posted on its site, detailing the average salaries of these graduates in the first year after graduating. Adzuna also claims to supply labour market data to the Office of National Statistics.



Undergraduate Graduation // Imperial College London

University	Average salary after graduation
Imperial College London	£37,931
King’s College London	£33,077
Oxford	£32,374
UCL	£31,708
Cambridge	£31,447
Edinburgh	£31,301
LSE	£31,025
Exeter	£30,840
York	£30,747
Bristol	£29,830

Top 10 U.K. graduate salaries // Adzuna



Stepping into a bright future // Imperial College London



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NEWS

news.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# COMPETITION: Win a tote bag designed by bespoke artist, Bambi, at Freshers' Fair!

Felix has teamed up with Bambi as part of the #LoveNotLandfill campaign

NEWS  
Andy Djaba  
Editor-in-Chief

London based eco-fashion campaign #LoveNotLandfill has enlisted the support of anonymous street artist Bambi to redesign clothes banks and encourage recycling of unwanted clothes.

The #LoveNotLandfill campaign, co-funded by the EU and London Waste And Recycling Board (LWARB), aims to educate young fast fashion fans on the perils of throwing unwanted items of clothing into the rubbish bin. The campaign will position bright and eye-catching clothes banks in busy shopping locations around London to make them particularly accessible for young fashion lovers.

Hannah Carter from #LoveNotLandfill says, "We want people to stop throwing clothes away and pass them on instead to slow down the pace of fast fashion. We're not telling them to stop loving fashion. We want them to

enjoy their outfits but then dispose of clothes carefully, because all items have a second hand value."

At Freshers' Fair, Felix will be offering one lucky fresher the chance to win a custom tote bag designed by Bambi! Bambi shot to notoriety when she created a controversial mural of Theresa May and Donald Trump dancing together, called 'Lie Lie Land'. She has created a striking image of a young girl holding up a dress with disdain! This image has been sprayed onto a limited number of banks placed in TopShop's Oxford Circus store, Beyond Retro in Dalston and Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre, plus two more coming later in September in Westfield's shopping centres in Shepherd's Bush and Stratford. The image is Bambi's characteristically tongue-in-cheek way of encouraging young people to use the clothes banks.

When it comes to fashion, young Brits love to shop. Each week, they buy approx. 4.1 million items of clothing to stay up to date with the latest trends. However, whilst they grow ever more stylish, the flip side sees

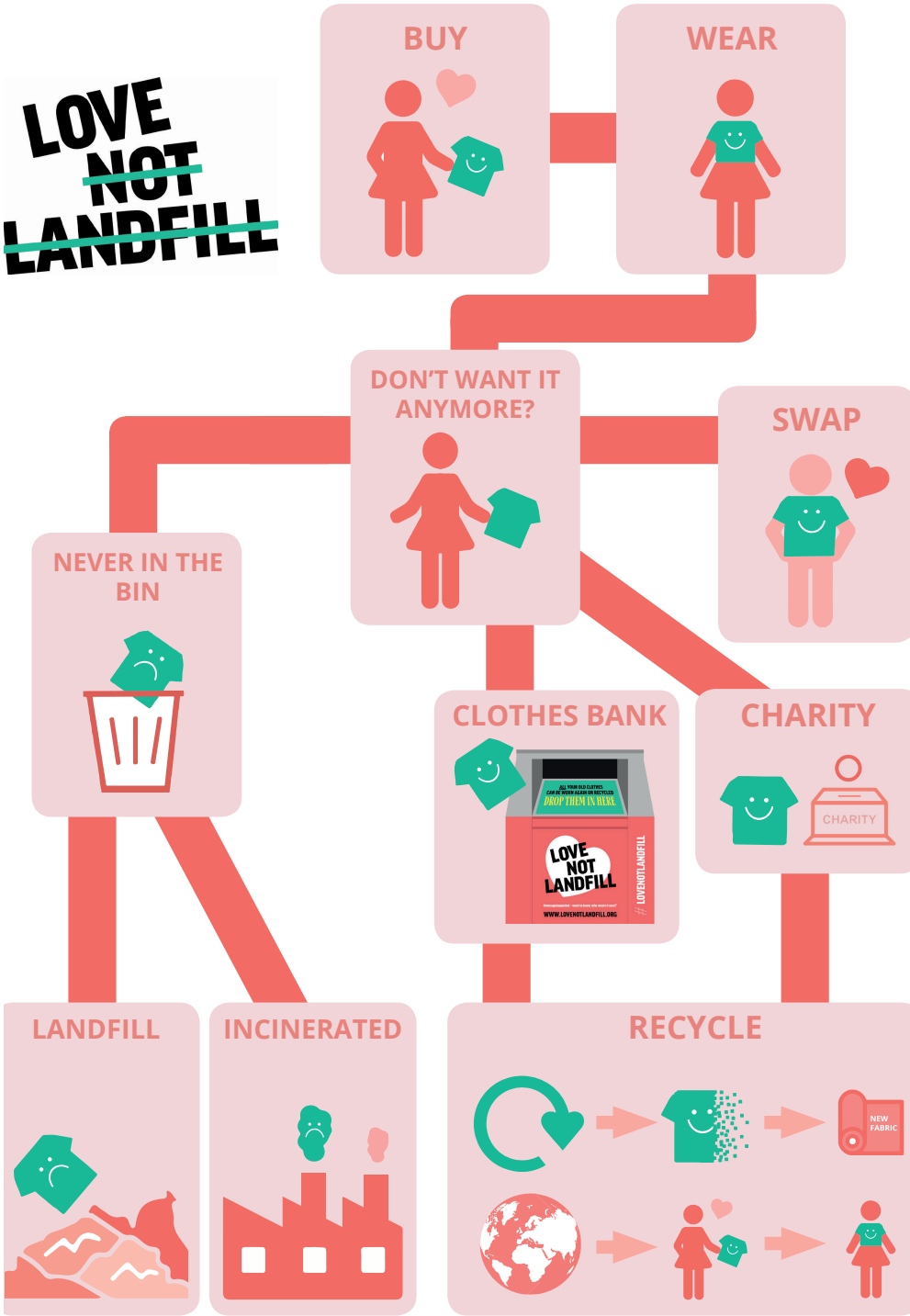
a massive 35 million fast fashion items end up in landfill each year. The #LoveNotLandfill campaign recently commissioned a nationwide poll to better understand the attitude of 16-24 year olds towards clothing disposal. The results prove that more must be done to help them change their recycling habits.

**"At Freshers' Fair, Felix will be offering one lucky fresher the chance to win a custom tote bag designed by Bambi!"**

The majority do not realise they can put damaged/stained/faded clothes into clothes banks, all of which can be recycled for industrial use. A massive 63% of under 24 year olds said they were unaware you could donate stained clothes and 40% do not recycle faded items.

Bambi says, "I think people will be shocked how many clothes end up in landfill... Someone else may love the clothes you no longer want."

The poll also uncovered a general misconception of what clothing items can go into a clothes bank. For instance, 70% of respondents assumed bras would be unwanted, when in actual fact they have a high resale value in many of the international



#LoveNotLandfill Infographic// #LoveNotLandfill



#LoveNotLandfill Clothes Bank // #LoveNotLandfill

destinations that UK clothes are sold to, such as Africa and Eastern Europe. The same goes for fancy dress.

The #LoveNotLandfill clothing banks will be in place for a minimum of six months to Jan 2019. Additional #LoveNotLandfill clothes banks will be popping up around London over the coming months. For updates on new banks and locations,

please visit <https://www.lovenotlandfill.org/>.

The London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) works in conjunction with the Mayor of London and London Councils and has a remit to improve waste and resource management in the capital. For more information on LWARB visit [www.lwarb.gov.uk](http://www.lwarb.gov.uk)



Bambi's striking design // #LoveNotLandfill



# POLITICS

felix@imperial.ac.uk



## POLITICS

**Juan Ignacio Rubio**  
Politics Writer

In 2015, David Cameron achieved by surprise what no other Conservative leader had accomplished since 1992: he returned to Westminster with a majority of six. The Tories had warned the electorate of a 'coalition of chaos' arising around Ed Miliband if voters returned again a hung parliament. Three years later, Labour isn't in government, but the chaos is very much here.

**"Three years later, Labour isn't in government, but the chaos is very much here"**

We all know what happened later. Brexit; a premiership that looked solid but was badly damaged by the supposedly useless Jeremy Corbyn in an ill thought snap election; the deal with the right wing Democratic Unionists to maintain power, and the slow death by a thousand cuts of the May government. We left them last June with the Brexit negotiations in stall, as the Tories were deeply divided on the future relationship they wanted this country to have with the European Union: from the softest of Brexits advocated by

## May, you live in interesting times

*As Brexit day looms closer, the Conservative party remains deep in turmoil on an issue that has not only paralyzed the government, but also the entire country.*



Keep your friends close but your enemies closer// Flickr

backbenchers like Anna Soubry and Dominic Grieve, to a clean cut breakup with everything that ties us to the European institutions, a position championed by the likes of Jacob Rees-Mogg and the remnants of the Monday Club.

Since then, the tribulations inside the Conservative party have been centred around the so-called Chequers plan, which was designed by May as compromise between the two sides presented above, an agreement that the now united Tories could sell to the EU in order to achieve an orderly transition and a negotiated exit. Needless to say, it proved fruitless.

The EU could never accept a deal that curtails one of the freedoms (that of movement) almost completely, while schemingly retaining the other three to variable degrees. Indeed, the heads of government of the EU member countries told May quite bluntly that the plan was unworkable a week ago. On the other side, the hard Brexiteers in Parliament saw the concessions in trade and justice issues as a step too far and refused to stand by the document. The problem for May was that among the Tories that saw the proposed agreement as treason to Brexit voters was her main negotiator with the EU, Secretary of State

for Exiting the European Union David Davis, who promptly resigned citing that the UK was yielding 'too much, too easily' and stating that he couldn't defend those proposals in good faith at the negotiating table. Sensing blood in the water, Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson also announced his resignation soon after that of his colleague, sinking the cabinet into disarray.

Johnson has been seeking the top position for years, and his latest tactic in a long history of political zig-zagging is drifting hard to the right to seduce the most extremist wing of the party, in the hopes of toppling May once and for all. Soon

after quitting his cabinet position, he caused controversy by weighting into the burqa debate with his characteristic tact by comparing women that wear the clothing to 'bank robbers' that look like 'letter boxes'. He was condemned by May and other senior members of the Conservative party, but it could arguably be said that he did not receive enough criticism from the media. He cunningly deactivated them by offering tea to the reporters that were waiting at his garden for an explanation, while dressed in a carefully crafted casual attire. The row slowly died off as Johnson continues to plot against his party boss.

Nonetheless, Johnson should be wary of other pretenders to the keys of Number 10. This summer several candidates have been rumoured as May's possible successor. The most talked names have been those of the new Foreign Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, who is known for

**"Johnson should be wary of other pretenders to the keys of Number 10"**

leading the Department of Health during the austerity driven Cameron years, and Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson, a rising star among the Conservative ranks who has been frequently compared to Frank Underwood, the Machiavellian character played by Kevin Spacey in Netflix's *House of Cards*. As the party grandees head to Birmingham for their yearly conference, May's position looks shakier than ever. In addition to having to fight against a Labour party that has been reinvigorated after its own conference, Chequers is effectively dead, no matter what her loyalists say, and the post conference period is predicted to be a race to the top as the different aspirants scramble to claim the unofficial position of May's heir presumptive. Indeed, by this time next month we may very well have someone else as the leader of Her Majesty's Government. These are, indeed, turbulent times for the Tories.



# POLITICS

felix@imperial.ac.uk



## It's Been a Long Summer in British Politics

*Brexit will be a defining moment in British Politics and what has happened over the last few months could define the outcome of the UK's negotiations with the EU.*

### POLITICS

**Divyen Vanniasagaram**  
Politics Editor

It's been a crazy summer in the world of politics with both major political parties in major turmoil. The Conservative party and the Labour party have been in open warfare over Brexit with each other and within their own camps.

The start of the summer started well for Theresa May, she suffered no major defeats in the House of Commons over her Brexit plans and was able to get her Chequers plan agreed by her Cabinet with little blowback. The Chequers plan was designed to be a compromise between remain and leave supporters with regulatory agreement over goods allowing frictionless trade whilst solving the Irish border problem, however; it has failed to appeal to either side of the Brexit debate. Whilst Cabinet members Johnson and David Davis have resigned over the Chequers plan, this has so far had few consequences on Theresa May's Brexit plans and it is still the agreed position of the Cabinet with both remainers and Brexiteers in her Cabinet publicly backing the plan.

This was as good as it would get for Theresa May. She's been facing open revolt over her plans from the European Research Group, a group of Eurosceptic Conservative MPs, who believe the deal would leave the UK in the worst possible position on accepting



Brexit // Pixabay

EU rules on goods but unable to influence these rules after leaving the EU. This group would prefer to see the UK leave with a simple free trade agreement where both countries agree to reduce tariffs over goods, but this could reduce overall trade with the EU compared to the current settlement. However, this would make it easier to strike new trade deals with other countries such as the USA, which would be much more difficult under the Chequers plan. The European Research Group (ERG) is about 40-60 MPs strong and

would in all likelihood be able to scupper any deal that Theresa May brings back to Parliament that even vaguely resembles Chequers if they were to vote against it. There are only two ways Theresa May could get her plan through Parliament; one would be to appeal to a select number of Labour MPs to vote for her plan in order to avoid leaving the EU without a deal. The other way to garner support is to turn any vote on May's Brexit plans into a vote of no confidence in her government. It would then be a choice between triggering a general

election where Corbyn's Labour could win power or vote for the deal.

**"Eurosceptic Tories would scupper any deal that resembles Chequers"**

Theresa May's plans were also dealt a heavy blow by the EU. They have come out to say that they believe her plan to be unworkable and that it would undermine the integrity of the EU single

market. This was a much stronger rebuke to her plans than she had anticipated and provoked a pointedly angry response from the PM. The EU's plans for the Irish backstop have proved unpalatable to the UK government as they would see Northern Ireland enter into a different arrangement so that there would be no need for border checks on the island of Ireland. This would result in checks being made between Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK if there were no deal and according to some would be the economic annexation of Northern Ireland from the rest of the UK; this would most significantly include unionist DUP MPs who May relies on in order to gain a majority in Parliament following her botched general election of 2017.

The Labour party's position on Brexit is as divided as the Conservatives. In this way Labour are fortunate they do not have to deliver Brexit as these divisions would become all the more apparent under the kind of scrutiny any government would face over Brexit. This has been exemplified by the recent row over a 2nd referendum. At the Labour conference there has been agreement amongst the leadership that if the membership vote to back a 2nd referendum then this will be adopted by the party. This scenario appears likely to happen. However, the nature of this 2nd referendum was disputed with Labour's shadow Brexit Secretary stating that an

option to remain could be one of the options on the ballot paper but Labour's Shadow Chancellor categorically ruling this out. Labour have spelled out six tests which any Brexit plan must meet in order for them to vote for it; one of these tests state that the UK should have the same benefits after Brexit as we do before it. This is clearly unachievable under any Brexit deal. Beyond these six tests Labour has failed to give much more detail as to their Brexit plans and Labour's solution to Brexit thus far has been to be as ambiguous as possible on their Brexit policy. With Brexit nearing and the Labour conference under way this position will become harder and harder to maintain.

**"Labour's solution to Brexit has been to be as ambiguous as possible"**

Where we will be come March 2019 when we leave the EU is anyone's guess. If Theresa May is able to convince the EU, remainers and Brexiteers in Parliament to agree to her deal then this would be bordering on miraculous. Both Labour and the Conservatives have been severely challenged by Brexit and how they manage the next few months could shape the future of the UK for a generation.



# POLITICS

felix@imperial.ac.uk



## The Labour Party does not have a problem with Anti-Semitism

*Labour's so called anti-Semitism problem has been weaponised by those who seek to undermine Corbyn and the Labour party*

### POLITICS

**Avirup Banerjee**  
Politics Editor

The ancient Chinese had a curse: 'may he live in interesting times' – well these are interesting times when the president of the United States claims there are good people on the side of neo-Nazis and with the electoral success of far-right neo-Nazi political groups all over Europe and America. But as Aesop's tale of the boy who cried wolf reminds us, it is ultimately dangerous and counterproductive in cheapening the accusation of anti-Semitism. The most successful British Jewish politician in recent times has been Ed Miliband, the former leader of the Labour Party. Before him, it was his brother David Miliband the former foreign secretary in a Labour Government. Of course, there are fringes within the Labour movement who are anti-Semites – with individuals who fixate all their attention on the human rights violations by Israeli state (and blame Israeli citizens for the actions of their government) whilst ignoring the far more numerous crimes of other countries in that neighbourhood. But the claims made by some Blairite MPs of widespread anti-Semitism within the rank and file of the labour party is nothing more than an attempted propaganda campaign to protect themselves from deselection and



Jeremy Corbyn // Wikimedia

to overthrow Jeremy Corbyn.

Let us be clear, the Labour party has accepted the full International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism and seven out of the eleven illustrations. The entire claim of Jeremy Corbyn's supposed anti-Semitism rests on the partial rejection of these four named examples, thus it's paramount for the other side of the argument to be heard without being labelled an anti-Semite.

Now this is not to say that the Labour leadership has not muddled a political soft-ball and exasperated the issue unnecessarily. Of the four initially rejected examples, three of which should have easily been accepted:

1. Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

2. Applying double standards to Israel by requiring of it a behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation

3. Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.

These political mistakes should not be confused with anti-Semitism, as they are centred on the nation state of Israel, and not on the Jewish religion. Just as having a disproportional amount of criticism of Saudi Arabia does not make one an Islamophobia nor does claiming British Hindus have a greater

loyalty to India make one anti-Hindu. However, it is important for the Labour leadership to look beyond its own intentions and understand the very legitimate fears of British Jews. Comparing Israel with the Nazis is deeply moronic, and accusing British Jews of being more loyal to Israel is deeply misguided. The national executive committee (NEC) was right in later accepting these examples on September 4th. However, it is unfortunate that in a rush to resolve this PR disaster, the Labour party abandoned its initially rightful opposition to the notion that claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour is an example of anti-Semitism and contradicts the right of Jewish people to their self determination.

The Labour party was initially right in recognising that by adopting this noted example it would stifle criticism of the state of Israel. Were Mahatma Gandhi or Nelson Mandela anti-Semites for opposing the forcible seizure and expulsion of Palestinians from their native lands because of a colonial fiat? Arthur Balfour, speaking for one country promised the land of another country to another people. In the original 1948 UN partition plan, the Jewish state received 56% of the land mass of Mandatory Palestine whilst Jews made up less than 32% of the population. Opposition to the UN partition plan and the succeeding land grabs by Israel because of war outcomes, as espoused by the likes of Noam Chomsky is not rooted in anti-Semitism but against racial colonialism. And this is not merely a historical debate, but very relevant in today's politics in Israel – with the passage of the controversial 'Jewish-nation state law' in July which in effect rendered Arab Israeli citizens to second-class citizenship. By not recognising the deep-rooted racial prejudice in Israel's foundation – it minimises the struggles and pains of the Palestinian people. Thus, it is a pity that the Labour Party has succumbed to the onslaught of negative and unfair press coverage by abandoning its moral objection in stifling debate on Israel's racist policies.

Jeremy Corbyn has fought against racism all his life, from fighting against apartheid in the 1970s and 80s to his

historic commitment to the Palestinian people which reflect the actions of a warrior against racism. Jeremy Corbyn (whose ideological heroes Karl Marx, Leon Trotsky and Rosa Luxemburg were great historical Jews) has always proudly stood shoulder to shoulder with his Jewish socialist comrades like Jon Lansman, the founder of Momentum.

Dame Margaret Hodge's hyperbolic claim that the Labour Party's disciplinary process against her is reminiscent with 1930s Nazi Germany belittles the true horrors of the holocaust. And the opportunistic Frank Fields bogus claim that he left the Labour party because of anti-Semitism doesn't hold its weight when one looks at his historically xenophobic opposition to immigration – this is not a champion against racism but a politician who was facing deselection and trying save face.

For thousands of years, Jews have faced untold misery and suffering, and it is absolutely right (and far overdue) that the Labour party disposes any anti-Semitic elements within the party to the dust-bins of history. However, it's vital that great Jewish faith not be reduced to a monolith, consequently criticism of the state of Israel not be confused with anti-Semitism. Let us not confuse a small disgusting minority with the overwhelmingly progressive majority.



## COMMENT

comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk



## Get Involved!

Comment writer and newly elected student trustee **Abhijay Sood** writes about getting involved with student politics

## COMMENT

## Abhijay Sood

Comment Writer

I'm sure you've heard this enough by now but, welcome! This is a difficult university to get into, and you've done tremendously well getting this far.

There are many benefits to studying at Imperial: it's a rich, prestigious London university with a strong research culture and some of the world's leading academics. Some of the educational provisions, such as the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme (UROP) and the Horizons Programme, are either completely absent or far weaker elsewhere.

Unfortunately, there are also plenty of issues at our university. Our student satisfaction is among the lowest in the country, while our counselling service is so severely underfunded that some students have had to wait over 15 weeks before they can be seen. Other student services, including the cooked breakfast in the Senior Common Room and the swimming pool at St Mary's hospital, have been cut, while the membership cost at Ethos Gym has been hiked up. At the same time, Imperial runs a huge surplus, exceeding £78m every year for the past five.

I don't say any of this to demoralise you, but rather to make a point: we can do something about this. Very often, we feel powerless when faced with issues, whether within our



Campus life can get busy... get involved! // Imperial College London

departments or across the university. You probably noticed problems at your school or college that you had no power to improve, but university is different. Students can be, and should be, more than passengers in their own education.

There are so many ways you can get involved beyond your studies. You can join a club and help foster a sense of community. You can work with your department's society and get involved with activities and events outside your course. You can also run for election as a rep (nominations

open September 29th) and represent your fellow students on the issues that matter to you most. The last of these can often seem daunting and pointless, but they can result in real, tangible changes for students. As an academic rep, I was able to introduce undergraduate teaching assistants to lab and computing sessions in my department, in addition to the existing postgraduate demonstrators. This means fourth year students now have the chance to earn over £14/hour and freshers have more support. That year we also pushed the

university into ending its zero-tolerance policy on late coursework, wherein work submitted even a minute late would result in a student losing all the marks for that assignment. Rather more excitingly, a rep in Physics was recently able to organise a Pizza Vending machine for students, which should be arriving on campus soon. Students also made a huge difference during the nationwide pensions dispute earlier this year, where our support for academic and support staff helped strengthen their action, and eventually helped force Imperial's

management to compromise.

These kinds of achievements might seem out of reach – that they're too ambitious or require some special knowledge or ability, but they don't. All that's needed is the belief that things can change, and the motivation to see it through.

This year we – myself and likeminded people in the Union – will be fighting back on the cynical cuts to student services discussed previously. We will also be working on improving student space, with a particular focus on those departments (such as Life

Sciences) which currently do not have common rooms. In addition, we'd like to see wide-reaching academic decisions that affect all of us being made more by students and academic staff, and less by senior management. Finally (for now), in line

with other London universities, we will also be pushing the student union to start paying its bar staff the London Living Wage.

These are my priorities, but they needn't be yours. Whatever you want to do at Imperial, you owe it to yourself to be more than just a passenger. Whether there are issues in how we're being taught, in events that are being run, or just in the vending machines, rather than thinking "this sucks! I wish things were better,"

**"Be the change you want to see at Imperial. We have the power to make it a better place"**

I believe our refrain should be "what can we do to change this?" We have the power to make Imperial a better place; if we truly want to, we can work together to make it happen.



## COMMENT

comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk



## We Must Fight Inequality Using the State

Comment Editor **Charles Titmuss** argues that instead of relying on human kindness to reduce inequality, we should use what we know works: the state.

## COMMENT

**Charles Titmuss**

*Comment Editor*

Governments and the state itself exist due to their ability to marshal large forces of people to achieve a common goal. The modern state was inexorable in its ability to extend its influence around the globe, to the point that where there are humans, there are now states to govern them. The nation state has the capacity to care and protect or punish and persecute its citizens. It is the potential for government tyranny over its citizens that motivates opposition to the expansion of the state. The idea of what constitutes tyranny by the state is broad and can range from actual physical force being employed by the state against its citizens to the act of taxing a citizen's wealth or income. However, this potential for tyranny allows states to provide many vital functions, such as the enforcement of the rule of law, the provision of a safety net for those citizens that are unfortunate in their circumstances, and the provision of vital public goods.

The degree to which you trust the state, therefore, depends on by how much you think that the state's tyranny has the potential to provide benefit to you and yours, as well as how the application of the state's tyranny aligns itself with your values. Nearly everyone acknowledges the potential



Inequality made this guy happen // Flickr

of states to produce large changes within society, but there are questions over whether state intervention makes problems worse, as well as the extent to which it is the state, not other social forces, such as market economics, solve the problems instead. In my opinion, despite the capitulation of many politicians to market forces in the modern day, it is evident from the historical record of the power of the state to force social change. Just looking at the history of the UK, obvious examples of state driven social change come to mind- redistribution of

clergy lands, provision of mass education, provision of a unified infrastructure, the development of an independent judiciary, as well as countless other small but significant developments that shaped the development of the UK we see today.

In terms of modern social change, the market economy is firmly in control, leading to the force that is increasingly driving political resentment and political re-evaluation: inequality. The difference between the wealth held by the richest and the poorest has sky-rocketed over the

last 40 years. Despite the fact that the growth of the world economy has led to decreases in poverty in absolute terms (ish), the growth in wealth inequality is fundamentally dangerous to the continued functionality of the world's political systems, particularly democracies. In oppressive political systems, populist movements can be repressed, as has occurred in many of the countries involved in the Arab Spring, as well as in Hong Kong.

However, in democratic countries, populism is a force that can be utilised for political gain.

They can be seen gaining momentum everywhere against the status quo, whether it is Duterte in the Philippines, Erdogan in Turkey, or most significantly, Trump in the US. Populist politicians are dangerous by dint of their power base, as the mob is capricious and will support policies that may be viable in the short term but are unsustainable in the long term. An excellent example would be that Trump has simultaneously lowered taxes and

**“Democratic government should no longer be afraid to redistribute wealth from the richest to the poorest”**

increased spending. The rise of a populist party can be prevented by the implementation of sensible economic policies that distribute wealth fairly amongst its citizens. The fact that this has not happened is an example of the consequences when the elites in a society are capable of disproportionately influencing government economic policy.

The disproportionate influence of the elites was never more evident than at the time of the global financial crisis. Banks that collapsed were bailed out, with limited or no

prosecution for those that had driven us to the crisis point in the first place, whilst austerity policies were enacted across many nations in order to balance the books. 10 years later, and the effects of austerity are still being felt by the most vulnerable in society, fuelling populist movements around the world.

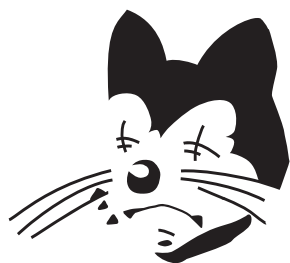
In order to correct this imbalance in wealth, and therefore the respective powers of the masses and the elites, governments must become far less laissez faire. They must raise taxes to pre-1970s levels (~70% for the highest level of income) and regulate markets effectively in order to reduce corruption. They must stop the privatisation of areas vital to the public good, such as education and healthcare, under the illusion that it makes these services better and more efficient. The only consequence of privatising these industries is to make them more efficient at generating profit for the owners, as a perfect market for these services cannot develop.

Democratic governments should no longer be afraid to lead the way in redistributing wealth from the richest to the poorest. Instead of relying on charity, which is reliant on fickle human kindness at the best of times, we should choose to use existing political structures to shape our society to be more fair and just. We can no longer afford to do otherwise if we want our democratic institutions to continue into the future.



## COMMENT

comment.felix@imperial.ac.uk



## Grumpy Bastard Welcomes you to Imperial

*It's Freshers week and it wouldn't be right if **Grumpy Bastard** didn't welcome you all to Imperial...*

## COMMENT

**Grumpy Bastard**

Comment Writer

Welcome to Imperial College London. I hope you understand that when pronounced correctly, those words sound “you’re not smart anymore,” or whatever “you’re not smart anymore” is in the language of your choice. We are, after all a hugely diverse community of individuals from countries all over the world. You might have been the best in your

school, at the top of your class, but you are now mixing with individuals that are truly your equal. Most of you will adapt to this fairly well, but some, probably indirect contributors to r/iamverysmart, will continue to persist in the fallacy that they are still clever. Learn fast, or it will crush you.

Following this sage advice, I hope that you have exploited your fresher’s week to the best of your ability and mingled with your peers at the uni halls of your choice. If you are a student with the dubious honour of possessing a name that is hard to pronounce, be prepared

for one of two reactions: either people will butcher it, and continue to butcher it for the rest of your life, or some pedant will insist on pronouncing it perfectly. The best way of getting round it is to never tell anyone your name, and be eternally referred to as either that guy or that girl.

For all freshers, I hope you are fond of the people that you’ve met over the last week. Prepare to abandon them and give them an embarrassed nod of recognition every time you pass them in a small corridor or rub up against them in Metric. If you’re particularly unlucky, they’ll have taken their

shirt off and rubbed their sweaty nipples all over your body. If they’re particularly unlucky, you’ll enjoy it.

Ah Metric. That unique place where collective social-awkwardness, either not enough or far too much alcohol, and not enough space interact to produce one of the worst experiences of your life. You’ve hopefully had your first Metric experience at some point this week. I’m not sure if they’ll have unleashed the older years at the same time as you yet, but as a Fresher, beware of sharking. Going to Metric can occur in a similar manner to serious

drug abuse. Initially you will attend out of sheer

**“Use of Metric will, in some cases, result in a dangerous and highly destructive dependency”**

social pressure and a sort of excitement at experiencing such illicit pleasures for the first time. When you wake up

the following morning, the main emotion will be self-revulsion, but the hooks are in your brain. Repeated use will occur, in some cases creating a dangerous dependency.

Overall, your experience of Imperial will not be determined by the course you have selected or the place you live, but by the people you meet and the friends you make. With that in mind, I can almost guarantee that your experience will be terrible. That is the environment that you create when you cram all that ambition to be an investment banker in one place.

## Want to be on the *Felix* team this year?



***Felix* is recruiting new section editors and copy editors for this year!**

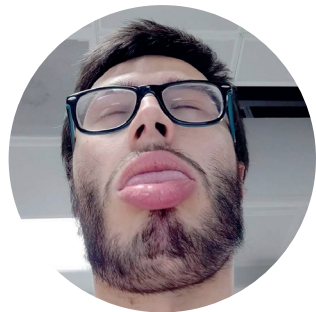
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## COMMENT

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## Stuck in my Kava-craw

*All of politics is theatre, spectacle staged to impart the idea that real systemic change is being realized while the status quo is entrenched and power consolidated. And this season suuuucks.*

## COMMENT

Henry Eshbaugh

Music Editor

Well, here's a little Kavfe that's been dominating the US news cycle recently (anyone remember those kids in concentration camps? They're still there for the record). Brett Kavanaugh, potential appointee to the Supreme Court of the United States, has had a rough few weeks. The media circus was brewing over (possible gambling) debts paid off by shady campaign-finance groups to the tune of \$150k and non-answers to basic legal questions about precedent-laden cases, and he had a peculiarly Zuckerbergesque imitation of human behavior that just kinda put people off; we like our lizards with scales unvarnished by having your daughter's softball team in the fucking room during your nomination hearing. We were primed for Kav to be squirted along like so much impacted stool - motility, that's the power of ex-lax - then Feinstein showed up.

Here's a curveball: activist judge for "family values" (i.e. *fuck gay people and women*) turns out to be a nympho. Who raped people. Sorry, "*allegedly*," - that is, alleged by multiple credible and corroborating witnesses begging for the FBI investigation the Kavster seems to really not want - one under threat of *perjury*. Sorry, *investigation*? The elephants in the room (the Rs) declined to use



How does something so patently non-human get nominated for SCOTUS anyhow? // Lorie Shaull

that Federal Bureau. And for the record, the set of allegations keeps building and building.

The GOP knew about Kav being a perv last week. That's why didn't want to go through with him, and why Grassley's been such an ass to the unfortunate Dr Ford. Ultimately, the fault lies at 1600 Penn Ave - Trump wanted him because it's an assured vote against criminal prosecution, potentially allowing him to weather the storm of a constitutional crisis with a stacked SCOTUS (recall their taking the nuclear option, evading conven-

tional bipartisanship in the process, to confirm Gorsuch). Cretinous parasites they are, senate Republicans coddled up to Trump and tried to ram Kavanaugh through, full-well knowing the accusations against him before news broke (for the record, Ford's letter to Diane Feinstein goes back to July).

It started to look like the Rs wouldn't get over the hump. Money-bomb funds arrayed against Sens. Collins and Murkowski if they vote up on Kavanaugh were amassed for their next elections (how's that

sound for Citizens United v. United States). Kav's polls started to suck more - lowest for any Supreme Court nominee of recent memory. The Dems finally grew something approximating a spine, and it appeared that maybe, just maybe, they could edge out this play and send him packing.

Not so fast. Trump would never pass up the opportunity to do something egregiously stupid.

Here's the thing about Ur-fascism: its proponents are dumb. Really dumb. Trump, as of Tuesday's writing, has absolutely fucked it. He's

leaking that in private conversations he "didn't like Kavenaugh," oozing away with all the determination and presence of mind of a common garden slug fleeing salt. Rewind: he tried to fire Rosenstein. It didn't work. Rosenstein called his bluff. Trump blinked on Tuesday. Rewind again. The slug's multi-function orifice wheezed a noxious cloud in the process: rumors circulated that Rosenstein was going to resign. Rosenstein rebuffed; the lie was doubled-down on when the rumor was "substantiated" in conversation with chief

of staff John Kelley. Rosenstein again referred to the matter as fabrication. Trump's rumor mill churned, but nobody ended up confused. We're in prime position for an immaculate self-own.

Oh, and wasn't it sweet. Trump's Neanderthal staffers leaked to the media that the whole thing had been a show staged to distract from the Kavanaugh hearing, hoping the GOP could stuff Kav through. And in the process, they put themselves in legal jeopardy for a much clearer obstruction of justice case. What a fucking idiot.

If we were playing normal politics, Trump's laid all his cards and tried to put out a ten-alarm fire with a nuclear bomb. Amateur political

**"Here's the thing about Ur-fascism: its proponents are dumb. Really dumb."**

mistakes coupled with bravado and sheer stupidity have led to an imminent confrontation with the deputy attorney general in charge of a probe posing an existential threat to the administration (as of the day before publication - ha, print deadlines). As of publication, we'll have seen whether Trump blinks a second time. Knowing Trump, he almost assuredly will.



# SCIENCE

science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## Take a deep breath: Biologics are set to change the global treatment of severe asthma

### SCIENCE

**Maya Kaushik**

*Science Writer*

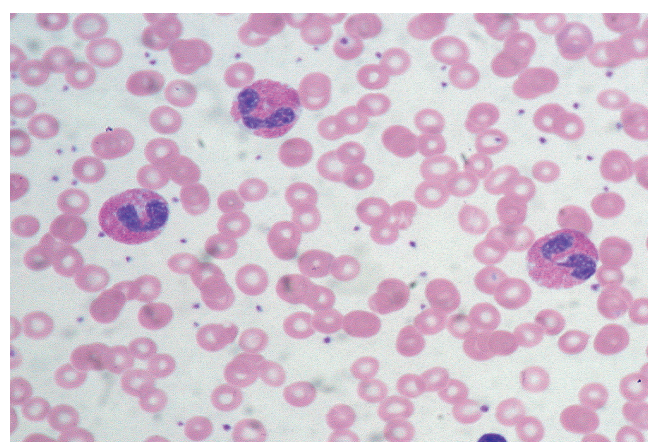
Imagine being a young woman, who is told that the drug you are prescribed by your doctor is going to cause you to gain weight, and have uncontrollable mood swings. Or perhaps, a young man who is aware that your medication may cause cataracts in your eyes, changes to the shape of your face, or your blood pressure to increase. However, not taking the drug will mean that you cannot climb the stairs to your attic, go for a swim

with your kids, socialise, or even work. This is the unfortunate dilemma for many young people diagnosed with severe asthma, which affects around 1 in 20 asthma patients worldwide; and is often treated by steroids such as prednisone – which results in nasty side effects.

The causes of severe asthma are not always known, but in some patients, it is thought that inflammation of the airways may be triggered by high levels of a particular white blood cell called an eosinophil. A new class of drugs is now being developed for these patients, that may

change the way they are treated – biologics. These drugs target the underlying cellular changes which cause asthma, either by targeting immunoglobulins to combat

allergic asthma, or by targeting cytokines such as interleukins and thymic stromal lymphopoietin, to work against eosinophilic asthma by lowering eosinophil levels.



Eosinophils in the blood may cause asthma // Wikimedia

With a range of new biologics coming onto the market, this is an exciting time for respiratory clinicians – if one biologic does not work for your patient, fear not – there are other options. Clinical trials are still required to make direct comparisons between these drugs as we are uncertain which are more effective and in which patients – but what we do know is that these drugs offer a great deal of hope to patients who do not respond to or cannot tolerate the side effects of standard treatments such as steroids and beta-agonists.

One concern that has

been raised is that eosinophils play a role fighting infection caused by parasitic worms – so could drugs that lower eosinophil levels increase infection rates in patients in tropical countries? We do not yet have the evidence to show this, but it has been highlighted that this potential issue should be considered as these drugs become more widely used. Nevertheless, this remains an exciting time in the respiratory therapy field, with biologics set to revolutionise the treatment landscape for severe asthma over the next 5–10 years.

## We were born to be lazy

*Did you skip that gym session again? Blame evolution – it made us lazy, a new study from University of British Columbia indicates.*

### SCIENCE

**Paulina Rowinska**

*Science Writer*

Researchers from the Brain Behaviour Laboratory designed an experiment to understand why the couch attracts us so much more than a good workout. The group led by Matthieu Boisgontier discovered that the human brain might innately prefer the lack of physical activity.

The human kind would not have survived without energy conservation mechanisms. We had to prioritise our basic needs: water, food, shelter or reproduction, so any unnecessary activity would lead to the waste of precious

energy. Boisgontier's group studied whether this evolutionary adaptation could be blamed for the fiasco of numerous campaigns encouraging physical activity.

Young adults participating in the experiment were asked to control an avatar on a computer screen, by moving it towards flashed small images representing

**“The human brain might innately prefer the lack of physical activity”**

physical activity, and away from physical inactivity, as quickly as they could. Later the task was reversed: the avatar had to move towards inactive images, and away from active ones. Throughout the whole experiment researchers measured the brain activity of participants.

Participants acted faster in the first case, which confirmed the results of previous studies conducted by the groups. “The exciting novelty of our study is that it shows this faster avoidance of physical inactivity comes at a cost – and that is an increased involvement of brain resources,” Boisgontier reported. It might mean that our brains are



Most of us would choose Netflix instead... // Pixabay

just wired to keep us lazy!

The results explain why we struggle so much to choose jogging over Netflix. Can we change our brains preferences? “Anything that happens automatically is difficult to inhibit, even if you want to, because you do not know that it is happening,” Boisgontier warned. But he also reassured that awareness of this process can help us act against our innate laziness.

So, if you don't feel like sweating today, remember: it's not your fault!



SCIENCE

science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Does reciting the Ten Commandments reduce cheating behaviour?

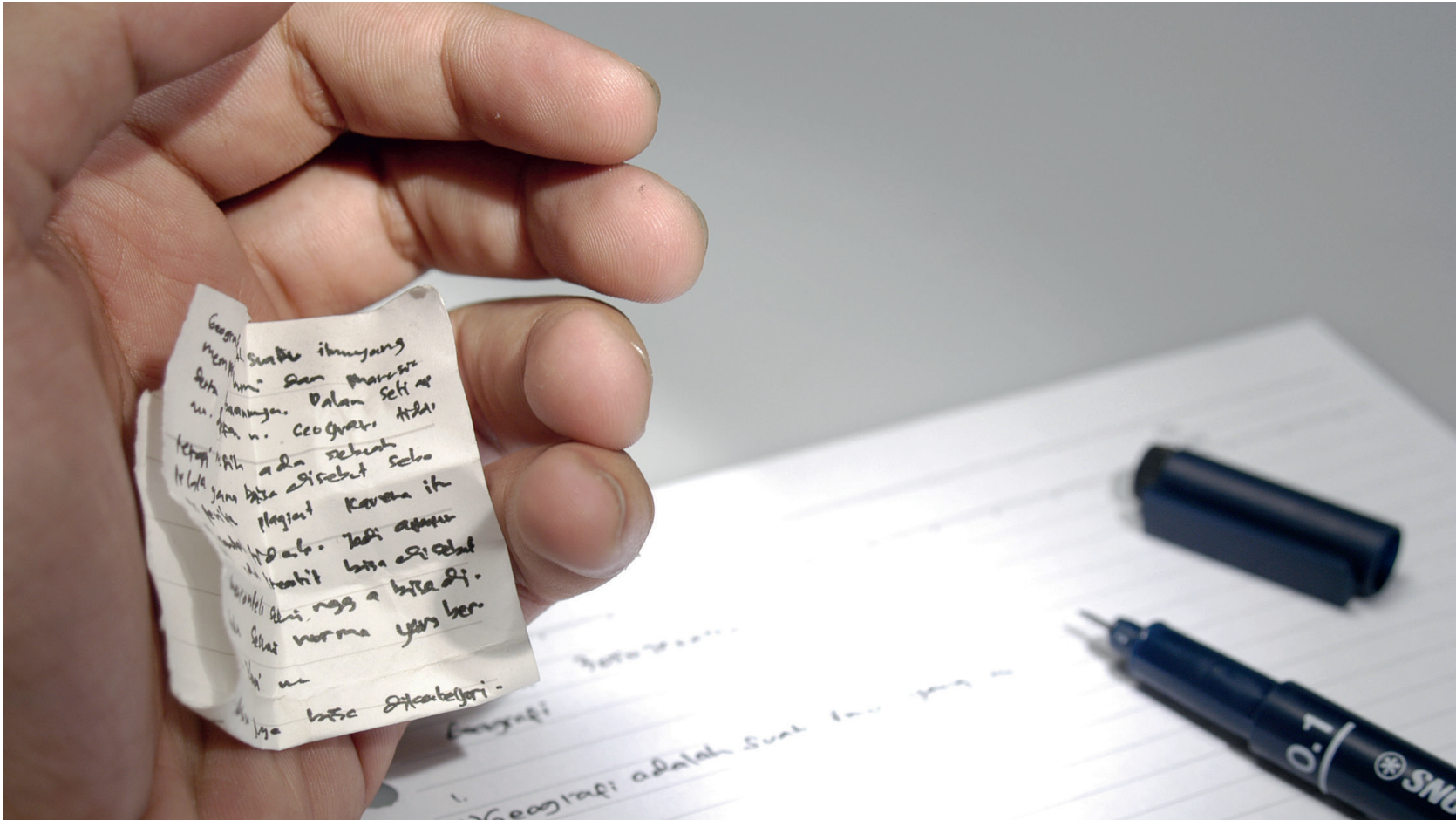
SCIENCE

**Sarah Wong**  
*Science Writer*

Farewell summer, and welcome to a new academic year! On the bright side, Halloween and Christmas are upon us, and you get to catch up with all your friends. On the downside, however, is the university-associated stress: coursework, presentations and examinations. Even for the post-graduates amongst us, the amount of stress we face upon assessments and deadline is tremendous – you either sacrifice sleep or your social life to maintain your academics. Nevertheless, there is always a mischievous way to dodge the problem: cheating. While we all know it is wrong, and this article is by no means promoting cheating, one question had baffled psychologists around the globe for years: why do people do it?

**“One question had baffled psychologists: why do people cheat?”**

One theory by Lawrence Kohlberg suggests that we establish moral reasoning during development. With education, we would mature and gain a rational reasoning capability, which allows us to make the right choice with a morally-correct motive. Others suggested that cheating is a choice, where people would weigh out the pros and cons of the



Cheating is wrong, but tempting; are moral reminders enough to dissuade people? // Wikimedia

act to determine whether to cheat or not. Other psychologists suggested that the decision is not entirely by choice, as it is subconsciously influenced by the environment, where experiments had shown that people tend to cheat more in a darkened room, as compared to a brightly lit room. It has also been suggested that body posture can influence whether a person would cheat: as a person who assumes power poses (taking as much space as they can) is more likely to cheat on a test or park illegally.

Understanding why people cheat can allow school and universities to prevent cheating. It had been shown that placing mirrors within sight can alone lower rates of stealing in stores,

as it serves as a tool for self-reflection upon doing the deed. In 2008, a study even showed that writing down the Ten Commandments prior to a test can reduce the rate of cheating, whether you are religious or not. All these suggested that upon the reminder of moral rules, people are less likely to cheat. In practice, perhaps this is why students are recited the rules and regulations prior to taking an exam.

However, a recent study proved otherwise. In a sample size of 4674 participants across 19 labs, participants were asked to recite the Ten Commandments, or titles of 10 books that they recently read, before conducting a series of reasoning tasks. At the end of the test, participants

would be asked how many tasks they accomplished. If the experiments in the past hold true, those that memorised the Ten Commandments would have a lower score than the ‘book-title’ group, since they should be less likely to exaggerate how many tasks they answered correctly.

Contrarily, the participants in the Ten Commandments group had a higher problem-solving rate than the other group, suggesting a moral reminder is not useful in preventing cheating. Nonetheless, other factors could have affected the results. For one, the culture of the participants may influence the outcome, as the Ten Commandments may not activate participants’ moral sense in some coun-

tries. Furthermore, the presence of cameras may affect the level of honesty in the participants. Since it was proven in the past, that the sense of being watched can reduce dishonest acts – the environment can certainly have

**“It is unclear whether moral reminders can reduce dishonest acts”**

an effect on the outcome. Otherwise, the size of the session may also impact on the level of dishonesty. While the outcome of the experiment is anonymous, a larger group may give a sense of security to the

participants, where there is a less chance of others discovering they were deceitful. As a result, a smaller experiment session may promote honesty and vice versa.

To conclude, it is unclear whether moral reminders can reduce dishonest acts, so there is no rush to printing the Bible verse and placing it in your significant others’ wallet, or taking it inside the exam halls. The next logical step from this study would be to collect more empirical data to unravel the complexity of this problem, taking into consideration of different factors such as environment, ethnicity and upbringing, group sizes, and religious belief into consideration when repeating and validating a study like this.



# Apple announces new iPhones and a watch this fall

As Apple reveal their newest products in their annual event, Tech Writer **Kapilan** covers their latest offerings; what's new, what's gone and how much will the new products cost?

TECH

**Kapilan M**  
Tech Writer

Following Apple's 10th anniversary iPhone X that was announced last fall, the now trillion-dollar company returns to announce a slew of new devices that fully embrace the notch-life; with the three new iPhone models, the home button is now officially dead and new devices going forward will start using Face ID as the security unlock system. There's also an updated Apple Watch available later this month. Let's get right into the details.

The event that was held in The Steve Jobs Theatre in the Apple Park campus was highly anticipated, mainly because this was the first opportunity for the world to see where Apple would take it's new generation of iPhones (starting from the iPhone X last year) that are markedly different in design than iPhones 6 through 8.

Apple confirmed essentially everything that was leaked in the days leading up to the event – it introduced three new iPhone models: the XS, XS Max, and XR.

The XS comes with a 5.8-inch Super Retina OLED display, while the XS Max bumps the screen up to 6.5-inch. Both have an new and improved IP68 waterproof rating (compared to the IP67 rating of last year's iPhone X), the new A12 Bionic chip that improves processing power and touts the new "neural engine", and is offered

in configurations up to 512 GB. It's got a 7MP front-facing camera, a 12MP dual main camera with a new Smart HDR sensor to help prevent blurry photos during action shots and enhance lighting based on facial and subject mapping. You can also adjust the depth of field after the photo has been taken, which reminds me of the Lytro (RIP).

**"The home button is now officially dead and new devices going forward will start using Face ID as the security unlock system"**

Compared to the iPhone X, the XS and XS Max get up to 30 minutes and one hour more in battery life, respectively. The new devices will support dual SIM and users can set up primary and secondary numbers to know specifically which of the two is being contacted.

When it comes to price, the iPhone XS will start at £999 and the XS Max will start from £1,099.

The iPhone line-up is also being expanded, with a 6.1-inch LCD phone called the iPhone XR. Apple says its screen, which is liquid retina, is the first edge-to-edge LCD handset available.

Like the iPhone XS and



Tim Cook at Apple's Annual Launch// Digital First Media

XS Max it has the A12 bionic chip, FaceID, and no home button. It has the same TrueDepth Camera on the front. However, the XR only has a single 12MP wide-angle camera on its rear and it doesn't have Force Touch.

The XR is being made available in new colours – white, black, blue, coral and yellow. Apple is also making a Product RED version of its phone. All of the versions are made of an aluminium band with a glass rear. The iPhone XR is set to start at £749 and come with three different storage options: 64GB, 128GB and 256GB. However, it'll only be available for pre-order on October 19 and start

shipping on October 26.

**"The new Apple Watch will also offer new health features ... Apple says the device is cleared by the FDA."**

Also leaked prior to the event, the Apple Watch Series 4 is official. Key improvements include a larger display, louder

speaker, slimmer body, and a red ring around the digital crown instead of a solid red circle from the Series 3. The crown now has haptic feedback, and the device hardware uses a new S4 chip that should double the processor speed, and a new gyroscope sensor that can detect falls and alert your SOS contacts of an accident.

Improving from watchOS 4's heart rate spikes alerts, the new watch will offer new health features that detect unusually low heart rate, irregular rhythm symptomatic of atrial fibrillation, and take electrocardio-

grams. Users can measure their ECG by holding their fingertips to the digital crown for 30 seconds. Apple says the device is cleared by the FDA.

There are also a couple of new interactive watch faces, such as a health-focused one that is designed to help users through breathing patterns for meditation. The Apple Watch Series 4 starts at £399 for GPS, £499 for cellular, and preorders starting on Friday, September 14th.

While I personally am not a fan of the clunky naming of these new models, there's no doubt as to whether the new iPhones will sell like hotcakes. They always do.










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MUSIC

music.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# While you were away...

It was, as it very often is, a turbulent summer for music. In this, the first edition of the new academic year, our music editors take you through some of their personal highlights (and lowlights) of the past few months' releases.

**MUSIC**

**Adrian LaMoury**  
Music Editor

**Asad Raja**  
Music Editor

**Henry Eshbaugh**  
Music Editor



// Moshi Moshi

FAMILY OF ALIENS

★★★★★

**Artist:** Teleman. **Label:** Moshi Moshi. **Top Tracks:** Cactus; Starlight. **For Fans Of:** Django Django; Metronomy. 48 minutes

The third full-length effort by this indie pop quartet packs all the wholesome family-friendly goodness that fans have come to expect, but not without a wicked sense of humour and a quirky, sci-fi inflected glaze. A new crisply produced electronic vibe replaces their traditionally guitar-led sound, but their eminently off-kilter style is still recognisable behind the spiralling synths. The record serves tenacity and tenderness in equal measure, making for an all round sublime experience. They'll be coming to London's Oval Space in early October, which is sure to get some feet stomping and hearts racing. - AL



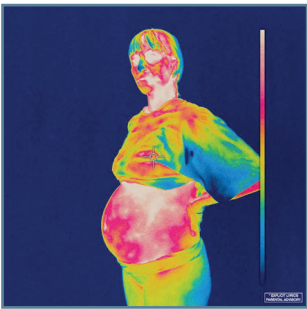
// Capitol

EGYPT STATION

★★★★

**Artist:** Paul McCartney. **Label:** Capitol. **Top Tracks:** Despite Repeated Warnings; Do It Now. **For Fans Of:** Not the Beatles. 57 minutes

If you're looking for some stellar music from the most undeniably harmless Beatle, stop reading now. Much of this album plays like an advert for a waterproof camera. A pretty young blonde leads you through a crowded room as someone back-flips off the roof, backed by the cheers and red cup raises of all those at the pool party. You know the thing. Twee sing-alongs are interspersed with overproduced, bassy, dance tracks and, very occasionally, glimpses of brilliance. Age is just a number – an arbitrary metric perhaps, but one that Paul McCartney happens to be excelling in. Despite this, he earnestly tries to sound young and relatable which, for the most part, is endearing but sadly all too often comes off as vacuous. At its worst it's plain creepy ("I just wanna fuh you"). The overall tone, however, is one of positivity. But I guess optimism isn't really the millennial way. The last few tracks bang tho. - AL



// RCA Records

IRIDESCENCE

★★★★★

**Artist:** BROCKHAMPTON. **Label:** RCA Records. **Top Tracks:** WEIGHT; TAPE; TONYA. **For Fans Of:** Rejjie Snow; Death Grips; Injury Reserve. 48 minutes

BROCKHAMPTON's explosion of fame off the back of last year's *Saturation* trilogy coupled with the understandable trauma of the whole Ameer situation has clearly weighed on them. This communal stress lends a certain cohesion to the themes explored on this new effort (it gets deep(er)) as well as a certain meticulous and often spectacular daringness in sound derived from a fuck-giving-fatigue ('TAPE', 'WEIGHT' and the outro on 'DISTRICT' are particularly beautiful). Nevertheless, the theme of fame-induced depression teeters on repetitive at times, and a handful of songs or moments sound turbulent to the point of jarring or disorientating. Take 'HONEY' for example. The yo-yoing bass spliced with sound effects and weird, low pitched "uhuh-uhuh" vocals is fine, but the switch up, though pretty at first, ends up feeling frustratingly suspended mid-metamorphosis. Joba goes ham throughout the album though. - AR



// Domino Records

NEGRO SWAN

★★★★★

**Artist:** Blood Orange. **Label:** Domino Records. **Top Tracks:** Saint; Charcoal Baby; Dagenham Dream. **For Fans Of:** Frank Ocean, Childish Gambino, Solange. 49 minutes

On his last album, *Freetown Sound*, Blood Orange founded a formula to his sound that he clearly has a natural inclination towards. Accordingly, he uses the same style on *Negro Swan*, now focusing in on black de-

**"a montage of sounds, samples, refrains and references"**

pression and isolation. The style is hard to describe: it's a unique, delicate, instrumentation-guided montage of sounds, samples, refrains and references that seeks to collate vibes, leaving the listener with a narrative experience as nuanced, honest and deliberate as a long diary entry. Which is ironic because, especially on this album, we don't get many direct, divulging verses. Yet you never find yourself lost. - AR



// Harvest Records

YEAR OF THE SNITCH

★★★★★

**Artist:** Death Grips. **Label:** Harvest Records. **Top Tracks:** Streaky; Flies. **For Fans Of:** Death Grips, BROCKHAMPTON, JPEGMAFIA. 37 minutes

Death Grips returned in late June. True to form, the album was teased with a picture of *Shrek* director Andrew Adamson in the studio. And true to form, the entire feature is "I'm in the studio working with Death Grips on their new album." The album, sporting track titles like 'Linda's in Custody' and 'Shitshow', is exactly what you'd expect. It's a slightly poppier move for Death Grips (if DG is ever 'poppier'), but otherwise, it's par for the course; a paranoid-schizophrenic landscape populated by MC Ride's frenetic screaming and Zach Hill's manic drum-spam. New territory is DJ Swamp's scratching and Justin Chancellor (of Tool fame) playing bass. Overall, the album felt somewhat unmotivated; along with 2016's *Bottomless Pit*, this gets stacked on the DG 'meh' pile. If you like Death Grips, you'll like this album. Otherwise, eh, go check out *Exmilitary*.

- HE



// Domino Records

CONSOLATION

★★★★★

**Artist:** Protomartyr. **Label:** Domino Records. **Top Tracks:** Wheel of Fortune; You Always Win. **For Fans Of:** Joy Division, Godspeed You! Black Emperor, Nirvana. 14 minutes

Everything Protomartyr touches turns to gold. Singer Joe Casey has zeroed in on a unique brand of image-rich lyricism and half-singing, half-shouting baritone delivery that is at once entirely individual and yet evocative of bygone punk rock eras. Combined with the clashing dissonance of the rest of the band, the reified post-punk sound has been revived and reshaped into a mood more suitable for the Rust Belt dystopia that is modern-day Detroit. The band first broke into the big-time with 2015's fantastic *Agent Intellect* (my very first *Felix* review), and carried their momentum with the critically-acclaimed *Relatives in Descent*, which made many a top-of-the-year list last January. Protomartyr sound fresh and original as ever here, arguably soaring to new highs on the especially-fantastic 'Wheel of Fortune'. Don't miss this fantastic album.

- HE



MUSIC

music.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Welcome to the pleasuredome

*Hello and welcome to, what is objectively, the best section of Felix. We shall be your editors for this evening.*

MUSIC

Adrian LaMoury

Asad Raja

Henry Eshbaugh

Simran Kukran

Music Editors

My friend Kunal from Singapore calls me the grime guy. I like the way that sounds so I don't correct him. In truth, as far as grime or UK rap goes, I consider myself a semi-casual listener (you won't catch me listening to anyone less niche than, like, Ghetts). Though I stay open to most genres, US hip-hop is my forte, while indie rock, electronic and RnB always stay in heavy rotation. Top 5 bands/artists? Probably something like Kanye,

OutKast, Frank Ocean, Radiohead, The National. - AR

Despite growing up listening to Queen, Bowie and Duran Duran, my first album was *Beautiful World* by Take That, and my first gig was Example. Not the greatest start, I admit. For Christmas in 2012 a friend of mine gave me three CDs he thought I'd like: *The Queen is Dead* by the Smiths, *Whatever & Ever Amen* by Ben Folds 5, and *The Velvet Underground & Nico* by, funnily enough, the Velvet Underground and Nico. It would be a cliché to say they changed my life, so instead I'll say they *rocked my fucking world* and I never looked back. - AL

When I was five, I proudly learnt the words to '21 Seconds' by So Solid Crew, and when I was six I was given my

first album: *Stripped* by Christina Aguilera. I don't think my musical tastes have changed much, except for an angsty teen detour that had me explore older English music and fall in love with The Beatles, then David Bowie and finally The Smiths as I made my way through the decades. Now, I just listen to Drake to be in my feelings. - SK

As much as I pretend to enjoy whatever's on, I only listen to drone, Mongolian throat singing, and post-mariachi. I'm not like these normies. My appreciation of music extends infinitely across the imaginary span like a Nyquist contour. One time I heard a car crash and stopped dead in my tracks, stunned by the beauty of the F#dim7add9minus17 the impact screeched out. jk tho I only ever listen to Ke\$ha. - HE

MUSIC EDITAZ




FELIX

# Get the strap! 50 Cent storms O2 arena

MUSIC

50 CENT



Support Artist: Lethal Bizzle. Venue: The O2. Date: 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018. Ticket Price: £64.12

Simran Kukran

Music Editor

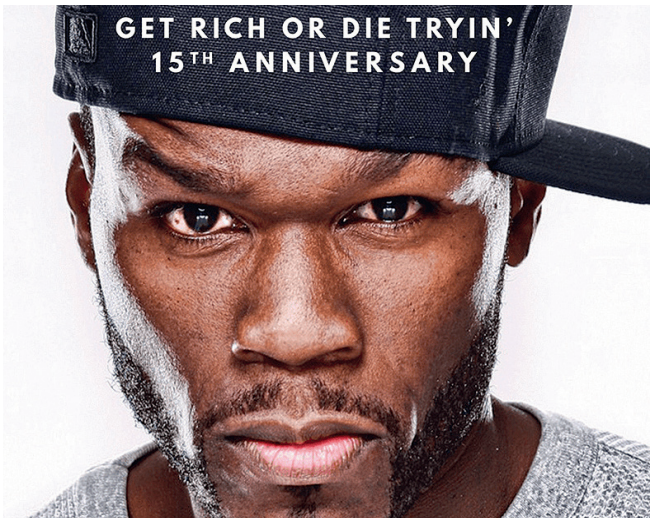
The crowd who turn out to see the O2 arena stop of 50 Cent's *Get Rich or Die Tryin'* 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary tour is probably the most diverse I have ever seen at a show. Aside from the *Power* theme tune or 50's Instagram feed, I've been largely

out of touch with his work for about a decade. Despite this, tracks from this album: '21 Questions' and 'If I Can't' never stray far from my most played, and few songs get a dance floor filled quicker than 'In Da Club' or 'P.I.M.P.'. *Get Rich or Die Tryin'* is a classic – perhaps the greatest album of all time. You take what you want from it – it has been praised as a damning exposé of gang life and culture, but also criticised for including misogynistic lyrics and glorifying violence. Since the album was released in 2003, its fans have included those that have misunderstood the lyrics entirely. This includes me and my friends in the playground at seven

years old trying to work out where the 'Candy Shop' was. Whatever your perspective on the explicit content, it is difficult to argue against the impeccable production, flow and

lyricism on the album, or its colossal legacy.

The show is a party right from the start. Lethal Bizzle opens as support act and gets eight moshpits on the go within 10 minutes,



Still nifty at 50 //G Unit

and when 50 Cent makes his entrance even those sat at the back of the stadium are stood up. 20,000 strong, the entire arena is heaving with energy. 50 Cent is no exception, and any concerns he may be too old for this finish before they have time to start. It's a bit awkward when too many people don't pause and instead scream the n-word at the top of their lungs, but for the most part the atmosphere is light hearted and fun despite the subject matter. 50 wishes he could play guitar like Prince. "I can't do that," he says, "But I can do this.", and launches into '21 Questions'. There's little time to pause and chat – 50 has so many hits he plays

shortened versions of most songs, only deviating from his work to play Bob Marley's 'Is This Love' and encouraging the audience to 'light up'. Things take a sombre turn, however, when he halts the show for a minute's silence to honour the victims of the Grenfell Tower fire. The minute is touching, and the O2 is illuminated with green stage lights and thousands upon thousands of phone torches. He segues into 'Patiently Waiting', and the bright spots begin to sway. I'd be surprised if any of the audience got home not feeling like they'd really enjoyed themselves. Even I felt cool, and I'm more 'Gee, you knit?' than G Unit.



## MUSIC

music.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## New term, hoo dis? The 2018 album prospectus

*Some albums are destined for greatness. I treasure the rest, and hoard them in my squalid flat.*

## MUSIC

## Henry Eshbaugh

Music Editor

It's no secret that music is released. But figuring out what's coming out, and when, can be a bit of a chore. I've curated a list of albums over the horizon our readers might care to listen to (if only for jokes).

**Coheed and Cambria.** *Vaxis – Act I: The Unheavenly Creatures.*

2015's *The Color Before The Sun* was an enjoyable but strange album for the Coheed corpus. Their first non-concept album, set outside the universe fleshed out in Claudio's comic-book side project was well-received but left diehard Coheed fans wanting for the epic scope and breadth of their previous works. This return to the Coheed stomping ground may

possibly fare better with the palates of Coheed fans.

**Electric Six.** *Bride of the Devil.*

I wanna take you to a gay bar, gay bar, gay bar! Electric Six is an instant classic among seventh graders. Danger: high voltage!

**Kurt Vile.** *Bottle It In.*

Kurt's classic. Your favorite dissociative performer is back, presumably with more lovely guitar tone and dazed delivery. If you're unfamiliar with his work, I'd recommend a dive into his previous output – I swear I only noticed a few weeks ago that 'Wakin' on a pretty day' is nine minutes long.

**Eric Clapton.** *Happy Xmas.*

IT'S NOT FUCKING CHRISTMAS THOUGH. IT'S FUCKING

OCTOBER. OCTOBER FUCKING TWELFTH IS WHEN THIS ALBUM DROPS. I thought the common cultural consensus was that mid-November is the sanctioned start to the season, though those of you with dignity will tend to put off the eggnog-swilling until at least December 1<sup>st</sup>. I swear to Christ if I catch any of you spinning Christmas jingles before first frost I will name and shame you in these here very pages. THIS. MAKES. ME. UPSET.

**Twenty One Pilots.** *Trench.*

HAHAHAHAHAHA. Just kidding.

**Haken.** *Vector.*

Haken has done some pretty twisted stuff. The London-based prog-metal group has diddled in virtually every movement and time signature in the genre. Their superfluous technicality is evident

throughout their corpus; a brief peruse on Spotify is essentially mandatory for all you so-called metal-heads out there.

**Pentatonix.** *Christmas is here.*

IT'S STILL FUCKING NOT. How many goddamn times do I have to rehash such an extraordinarily banal point? If Halloween hasn't passed yet, I'd invite you to cram your Christmas spirit up your ass.

**Yoko Ono.** *Warzone.*

I'm nominating everyone's favorite pseudo-Beatle on the off-chance she brings the screaming back, like that art-gallery performance. That was punk as fuck.

**Ty Segall.** *Fudge Sandwich.*

Well, it's an album of covers, but it's a Ty Segall album nonetheless.

**Sun Kil Moon.** *This is My Dinner.*

The first time I heard Sun Kil Moon I got the impression that Brad Nowell didn't really die of a heroin overdose – he wandered off to Tibet, did lots of drugs, mellowed out, and chainsmoked his way to a baritone. I can't really explain why – obviously this is pretty distinct from punk ska – but the Long Beach vibes Brad and co. captured so effectively pervade Sun's opus.

**Jeff Goldblum.** *The Capital Studios Sessions.*

Holy shit, really?

**Mark Knopfler.** *Down the Road Wherever.*

I mean, he is the sultan of swing. As a diehard fan of fingerpicking (nylon strings all day baby) I am obligated to recommend anything Marky-Mark puts out.

**Muse.** *Simulation Theory.*

It's 2018. I don't really see anyone getting super jazzed-up about it.

**Mumford and Sons.** *Delta.*

This better be on your radar, my dudes. The Church youth group is *never* gonna know what hit 'em. It's basically a crime to deprive them of these soon-to-be bangin' jams.

**Smashing Pumpkins.** *Shiny and Oh So Bright, Vol. 1 / LP: No Past. No Future. No Sun.*

Billy Corgan, my beloved, my beautiful baby boy. That guy sure loves his cats. I guess they're still making music as the Smashing Pumpkins too. Judging from that clusterfuck of a title, I'm sure it'll all work out *just fine*.

## Every Microsoft Windows startup sound, ranked

## MUSIC

## Henry Eshbaugh

Music Editor

The Windows boot sounds are unknown gems of the music world. Brian Eno was a collaborator!

**12. Windows 98 Plus!** Legitimately awful. I can't believe the marketing theme thought this was a good idea. If I heard this noise out of my computer, I'd try to put it out with a

fire extinguisher.

**11. Windows XPHome Edition.** God, they really couldn't be bothered with this one, could they? Just slap four random keys and call it a day. No grandeur. No triumph.

**10. Windows 8.** The slight syncopation and more percussive feel adds a bit of spice and freshness to the world of boot sounds, and yet the piece is as joyless and corporate as the company making it.

**9. Windows Vista.** Nearly worse than the last one, except that the up ending reflects the feeling

of success one feels when Vista finally fucking decided to boot for once. I'm *still* mad that this was generously given the label of "operating system."

**8. Codename: Whistler.** The clashy, jangly vibe this pulls is downright repulsive. I wouldn't wish use of a computer running Whistler on my worst enemy in the unlikely yet still terrifying scenario that, while in mortal combat, we end up falling into a time machine and get dropped 20 years in the past.

**7. Windows Vista Beta.** Techno-future garbage. But at least the harmony is a little more ambitious. Sounds like something a shitty club in Berlin would play.

**6. Windows NT Workstation 4.0.** Still trash, but this is much less objectionable; after all, this *is* a legitimate product of the mid-90s. And there's something mighty appealing about the swirling synths, the mellowed near-pure sine, and the innocence with which this was clearly composed.

**5. Windows 98.** The vocals are simply *angelic*.

**4. Windows NT Workstation 5.0.** Talk about cacophony. When those synths actually kick, it's a pretty slick feeling. Damn, was 5.0 ahead of its time.

**3. Trident.** No, not the bomb. Convention-breaking and legitimately futuristic. Fantastic.

**2. Windows 95.** What a tremendous blend of future and past. The synths sweep in, soft, delicate – filtered glockenspeil greet the airy composition. Tension is

introduced to the piece when the last glockenspiel strike is repeated in triplicate – perhaps startling the unwary user, causing them to believe their computer has hung yet again. The slight fade reassures the more alert and/or caffeinated. And just when you thought it couldn't get any better, we are greeted with a pleasantly familiar entity, the warm embrace of an old friend. I speak of the next entry in this very ranking...

**1. Windows 3.1.** If it ain't broke, don't fucking fix it.



FILM

film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Felix Film’s Student Essentials

So, you’ve just moved into halls and have some idle time to spare – check out these coming-of-age gems that every student should see.

FILM

Sung Soo Moon  
Film Editor

Aidan Chan  
Film Editor

**Y TU MAMA TAMBIEN**  
DIR: Alfonso Cuaron  
SCRIPT: Alfonso Cuaron, Carlos Cuaron

L iterally translating to “And Your Mother Too”, *Y Tu Mama Tambien* is a coming-of-age film set in Mexico about two young men and an older woman searching for an invented beach called “la Boca del Cielo”, or “Heaven’s Mouth”. Two teenagers, Tenoch and Julio, entice Luisa to accompany them on a journey that challenges their friendship. It is in la Boca del Cielo where the boys become men, as the raw and rural landscape of Mexico seduce the trio in ways the city couldn’t. We ride along on this bitter-sweet road trip with these characters and become nostalgic ourselves, as the film leaves plenty of room to ponder. The film is beautifully photographed by frequent collaborator Emmanuel Lubezki, and Cuaron’s trademark long take is a perfect way into the socio-political sub-text within the film. The frame gracefully wanders around the scene – the camera movement is robustly choreographed like that of a dance routine. Using these devices, Cuaron maturely depicts immaturity in a way that is neither exploitative nor sugar-coated. It’s an important film in



American Animals //IMDb

the back-catalogue of Cuaron, who went on to direct *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, *Children of Men* and *Gravity*. *Y Tu Mama Tambien* is masterful in its vibrant portrayal of the cusp of adolescence and adulthood.

**“Cuaron maturely depicts immaturity in a way that is neither exploitative nor sugar-coated.”**

**AMERICAN ANIMALS**  
DIR: Bart Layton  
SCRIPT: Bart Layton

“This is not based on a true story,” the movie opens. Then the “not based on” disappears, leaving “This is a true story”. *American Animals* is about four friends who plot a heist to inject excitement into their otherwise mundane lives – it is based on the events that took place in 2004, in Lexington, Kentucky. Their target? \$12 million worth of rare books housed at the University of Transylvania library, only guarded by one old librarian. Contrary to the great tradition of glitzy and glamorous caper movies, *American Animals* juggles into the mix a more somber coming-of-age element. What

starts off as a harmless attempt in making their lives ‘special’ quickly twists into something nastier; all spawning out of the shared feeling of wanting more than mediocrity. Writer-Director Bart Layton uses interview footage of the real people involved in the heist throughout the film, which is a device he has used before. Layton’s directorial debut, *The Imposter*, similarly interweaved re-enactments with documentary footage; the reverse has been done in *American Animals*, where the narrative is mostly told through actors with interjections from the real criminals. A hugely enjoyable true-crime film, perfect for fans of *Making a Murderer* and *American Vandal*.

**DEAD POETS SOCIETY**  
DIR: Peter Weir  
SCRIPT: Tom Schulman

Arguably one of the greatest high school dramas, *Dead Poets Society* tells the story of how English teacher John Keating (Robin Williams) inspires his students to live their lives to the fullest. Carpe diem, or ‘seize the day’, a phrase volcanically popularised by the film, perfectly encapsulates Keating’s philosophy and the film’s central theme. Bolstered by resounding performances and an impeccable screenplay, *Dead Poets Society* remains infinitely relatable up to this day. High school, the time when limitless hopes for the future intersects with the impending realisation of adulthood. How many have wanted to lead extraordinary lives, and how many have given in to reality? John Keating is the mentor we all hope we had, a mentor who encourages us to do the things we want before

**“John Keating is the mentor we all hope we had, a mentor who encourages us to do the things we want before time runs out”**

time runs out. And at the end of the day, it does not really matter whether we had a John Keating in our lives; *Dead Poets Society* implores us to be the John Keating of other people, to be the captain to those who are lost, simultaneously enriching our own lives. Carpe diem, everybody, carpe diem.

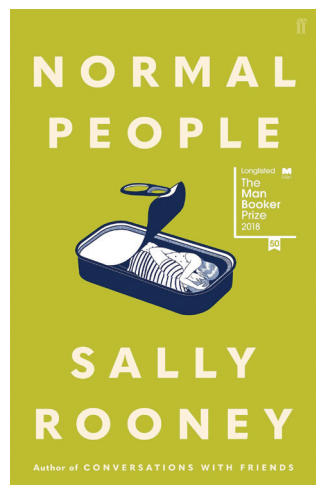


# BOOKS

books.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## Felix recommends autumn reading

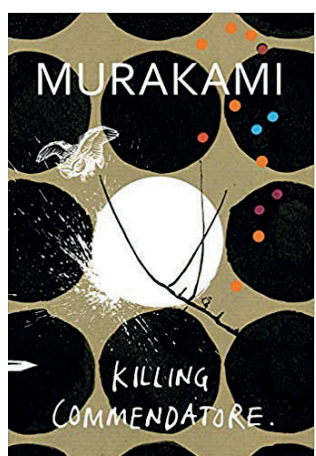
Overwhelmed by the huge selection of books released this fall? Books editor **Jingjie Cheng** selects five of the best.



### Normal People by Sally Rooney

**L**onglisted for the Man Booker Prize this year, Rooney's second novel follows less than a year after her celebrated debut *Conversations with Friends*. The praise heaped on *Conversations* applies to her new novel – witty and elegant, both novels are testament to Rooney's talent for exquisite exploration of inner lives. She writes adeptly about intimacy and brings to life the interiority of her characters. *Normal People* might, on the

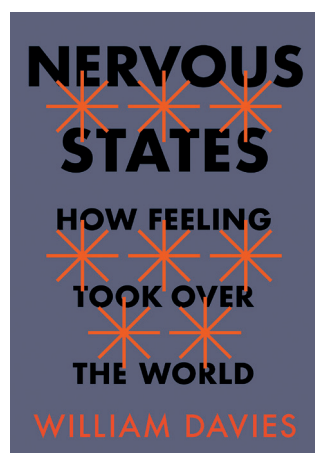
outset, be another coming-of-age story of a young couple studying in Dublin trying to find their place in the world, but it is more than that – this is a timeless exploration of what it is like to be young and in love, in the incisive, economical language of one of Ireland's rising stars.



### Killing Commendatore by Haruki Murakami

**T**his list would not be complete without mentioning the celebrated, internationally-loved Japanese writer's new book. This is Murakami's first new novel in four years, and will no doubt be an event. *Killing Commendatore* is about a Tokyo painter who is hiding away in the mountain retreat of a famous artist after his wife demands

a divorce. There, he discovers a painting which has the ability to bend reality. Revolving around art, war, and loneliness, this new novel follows various strange characters and the antihero's journey of self-discovery.



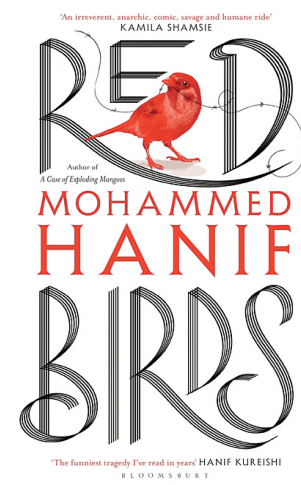
### Nervous States: How Feeling Took Over the World by William Davies

**T**his is a book very relevant to our times, and indeed is written with the current world context in mind. The Guardian describes the book as “much-needed”, presenting an “original explanatory framework” for what is happening in the world today, Trump and Brexit included. Davies is a rising star in political thought, and in this book offers many contemporary examples, along with historical ones, to argue that it is the speed of life in the digital era that makes public debate and commentary increasingly instinctive and reliant on emotion. It is not a leaning towards “post-truth” or “emotional states” that drives increasingly warlike public discourse, but rather, it is that the speed of knowledge and decision making has become more crucial, sidelining public agreement and expert opinion, instead making us rely on services that are fast.

### Red Birds by Mohammed Hanif

**B**ritish Pakistani writer Mohammed Hanif's second novel is eagerly anticipated, after the exploding success of his debut novel, *A Case of Exploding Mangoes*, in 2008. This time, the story is set in a refugee camp in an unnamed country occupied by America. The narrators are a US pilot forced to crash land on his way to bombing the camp, a young aspiring entrepreneur whose aid worker

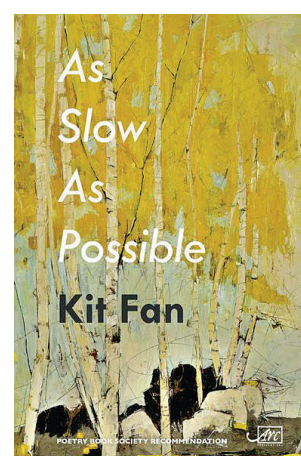
is writing a book on the teenage Muslim mind, and a philosophical dog. In the style of his trademark black comedy, *Red Birds* is an absurdist take on modern conflict, bringing to mind *Catch-22*.



### As Slow as Possible by Kit Fan

**A** Poetry Book Society autumn recommendation, *As Slow as Possible* explores the connections between time and place, between people and the environment. Drawing from his own experiences of migration, award-winning Hong Kong-born poet Kit Fan retells the Genesis story drawing on Chinese mythology. The poems in this collection are anchored by this story, while weaving back and forth between East

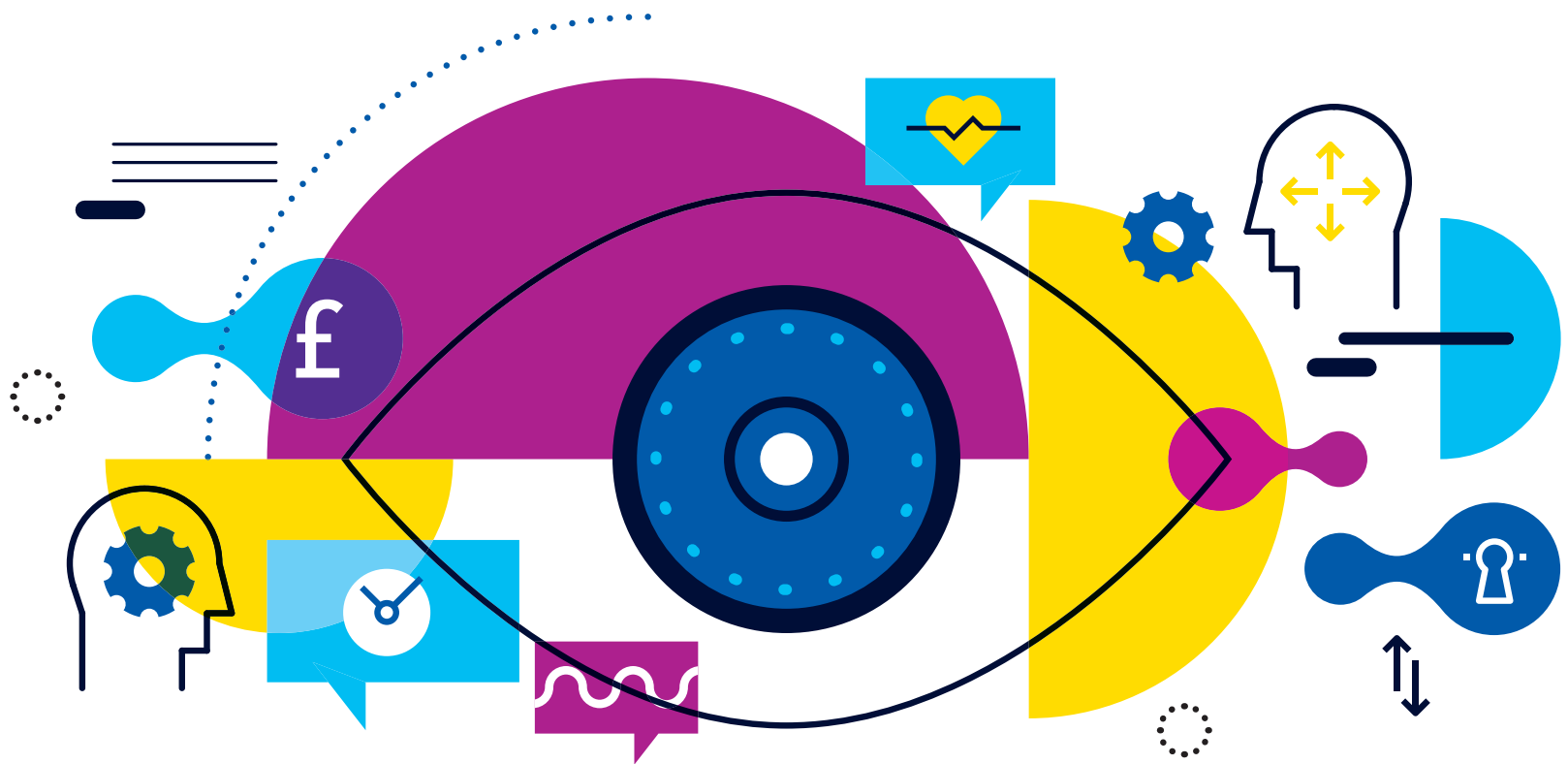
and West, past and present, art and memory. The first part of the book reads like a chromatic travelogue, but the collection ends with a more grounded sequence, 'Twelve Months', which focuses on home, the house, and housekeeping.





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# Felix

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# ARTS

arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## BBC Proms

*This year's season is just over, but the BBC Proms are a staple of London summer not to be missed. Arts editor Claire Chan gives you the lowdown on promming and what to expect for next year.*

### ARTS

**Claire Chan**

*Arts Editor*

The Proms concerts are an annual tradition dating back to the late 1800s, when open-air 'promenade concerts' had become popular in London's pleasure gardens. Rather than sitting stiffly down to listen to music, concertgoers would stroll, or promenade, through the gardens while enjoying fresh air and the outdoors.

Back then classical music had a bit of a reputation for stuffiness and inaccessibility that still dogs the genre even today. Robert Newman, the then-manager of the Queen's Hall, had the bright idea of offering indoor promenade tickets to the public, advertising low ticket prices and an informal atmosphere where eating, drinking and smoking would be permitted during the concert.

Much has changed since the inaugural Proms concert in 1985. The original Queen's Hall was destroyed during the London Blitz in 1941, with the Royal Albert Hall having served as the venue for the Proms ever since. The BBC took over organisation and direction of the Proms after Newman's death in 1927, adding new innovations such as lunchtime chamber concerts, Proms in the Park, and live broadcasting of every concert. And while the informal atmosphere remains, smoking is of course no longer permitted during the concerts!

So how does one join the ranks of 'Prommers'?

The Proms run every year in summer from the second weekend of July to the second weekend of September. Over 1000 promming spaces are available for each concert and cannot be pre-booked, meaning that promming is an excellent (and cheap) way to get tickets to concerts which are otherwise sold out.

Traditionally, the done thing is to queue for tickets outside the Royal Albert Hall on the day itself. The £6 promming tickets are given out from 2 hours before the start of a performance, although keen concertgoers may start queueing much earlier. Perhaps to save people from dessicating in the heatwave, this year 'skip the queue' number coupons were also given out from 9am on the morning of the concert itself. This essentially holds your place in the queue for later on in the evening; you just turn up with your queue number and shove your way in front of everyone else who has a queue number after yours. Worth it if only for the resultant feeling of smugness. For those who would prefer to avoid social interaction altogether, a limited number of online tickets are also available from 9am on the day of the performance, with an additional £1.12 booking fee.

Regardless of how you get your tickets, the scene when you actually arrive outside the Royal Albert Hall is usually one of organised chaos. Lots of different queues at different doors (day tickets, pre-purchased, gallery / arena, season passes...) and everyone apart from you seems to know where they're supposed to be



Full house: the crowd at the Proms // Royal Albert Hall

standing. Personally, I couldn't figure out the logic of the queues even after my seventh time going, so it's best to ask one of the stewards rather than standing in the wrong line for half an hour.

There are two areas reserved for promming at the Royal Albert Hall: the arena, on the ground floor right in front of the

**"On the ground or in the gods? Each has its own charms"**

orchestra, and the gallery, located up in the gods near the ceiling of the concert hall. Which is better? Each has its own charms – the arena has indubitably better sound quality, but is rather more formal. Expect to stand for the entirety of the evening; even if you try to sit down, ushers

will come by and chivvy you to stand up so that more people can fit in at the back. In contrast, the gallery is very far from the orchestra and sound can be a bit muffled, but it commands an excellent view of the stage. The gallery is also much less formal – people bring cushions, picnic mats and even inflatable mattresses to lie on. Anything goes really as long as you don't disturb your fellow concert-goers by eating crisps noisily during the wild melodrama of 'Night on the Bare Mountain' (as happened to yours truly). Whether at the arena or gallery, there is no dress code for proms – wear whatever you like!

What can one expect out of a night at the Proms? Despite its evolution over the years, the main aim of the Proms is still to make world-class classical music accessible to all. Each night's programme is often thematically arranged, with pre-show talks held

at Imperial's very own Union Bar. Expect the usual popular repertoire but also contemporary composers and less-known works, a practice which dates back to when Sir Henry Wood conducted the Proms in the early 1900s. While the BBC Symphony Orchestra is the main orchestra, a wide variety of world-famous guest orchestras, soloists and conductors make their way through the Royal Albert Hall for each year's Proms. Highlights from this year include the Berlin Philharmonic conducted by Kirill Petrenko, and Seong-Jin Cho playing Chopin's Second Piano Concerto.

Finally, the Last Night of the Proms is always a boisterous and wildly popular affair. It's been described as "classical music's biggest party". The atmosphere is festive; balloons and party poppers abound, as does much enthusiastic waving of Union Jacks. Regular tickets for the Last Night

are allocated by ballot, while only prommers who have gone for 5 or more shows in the season are able to get £6 promming

**"Bring that special someone – or meet them in the ticket queue!"**

tickets for the Last Night. Usually a combination of crowd-pleasing classics and British patriotic pieces, it's always a night not to be missed.

An evening at the Proms is a magical experience. Bring that special someone – or meet them in the ticket queue! This year's season is sadly over, but it's definitely something to look out for come next July.



ARTS

arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Felix Arts guide to theatre on a student budget!

London is home to one of the best theatre scenes in Europe, spanning from hit West End shows to more obscure independent productions. But seeing shows on a student budget can be hard and a lot of students are put off by the prices. No more! Felix Arts takes you through the ways to get cheap (or even FREE) tickets to some of London's best venues!

ARTS

Vaishnavi

Gnanananthan

Arts Editor

Mousetrap Theatre Projects

This charity is dedicated to making theatre accessible for disadvantaged children, including those with special needs or a sensory disability. However, they also run some amazing schemes for young people, giving access to affordable tickets to major West End plays. Their September shows included the incredibly popular *Wicked* and *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*!

Donmar Warehouse

FREE tickets for under-25s: The Donmar offer a limited number of these for each performance. They are available by ballot for those registered on their YOUNG + FREE list, with tickets released on the last Friday of every month for next month's performances.

To sign up, register for the YOUNG+FREE mailing list on the Donmar Warehouse website.



- TheatreLive4£5: £5 tickets for 15-18 year olds.
- WestEnd4£10: £10 tickets for 19-23 year olds.
- TheatreScene4£15: £15 for 24-29 year olds.
- To join, sign up to the relevant scheme for your age on their website.



Rosette Simon as Cleopatra and Antony Byrne as Mark Antony in *Antony and Cleopatra*, 2017 // Helen Maybanks © RSC

## National Theatre

£7.50 tickets for 16-25s: Entry Pass is a free scheme for young people aged 16-25 that allows you to book £7.50 tickets to every National Theatre production; you can even bring a friend aged 16-25 for £10. Tickets are limited though so you need to act fast and grab them early. The Entry Pass also gives you the added bonus of discounts for the NT's bookshops cafes, backstage tours and prop hires.

To sign up, register on the National Theatre website.

## Royal Shakespeare Company

£5 tickets for 16-25s: The RSC provide a limited number of £5 tickets to all of their shows in London and Stratford upon Avon. Current London shows include the RSC's London Shakespeare season at the Barbican as well as *Matilda: the Musical* at Cambridge Theatre and *Don Quixote* at Garrick Theatre.

The tickets aren't available online, but can be bought in person or over the phone at the respective theatre's box office.



Simon Russell Beale, Ben Miles and Adam Godley in *The Lehman Trilogy* at the National Theatre, London // Mark Douet



# ARTS

arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## Young Vic

The Young Vic have got a range of schemes making theatre a possibility on a lower budget. These include:

£10 tickets for 25-and-unders or students.

£10 Lucky Dip: fill in empty seats on the day. You're guaranteed entry, but might end up standing...or get some of the best seats in the house!

Both are bookable on their website with ID to be shown when collecting tickets on the day.



Kaisa Hummerland and Brooke Haynes in *Fun Home*, 2018 // Marc Brenner

## The Barbican Centre

£5, £10 or £15 tickets for 14-25s: The Barbican's Young Barbican offers discounted tickets across theatre, dance, art, music and film. They also hold young people's private viewings for many of their exhibitions.

To join, sign up to the scheme on the Barbican website

## Almeida Theatre

The Almeida runs several schemes for young people:

£5 tickets for 16-25s: available for selected performances.

£15 tickets for 30-and-unders: available on Monday-Thursday evenings and all matinee performances.

Almeida For Free Festival: This annual festival features several free performances of one of the Almeida's productions exclusively for young people aged under 25. Past performances have included the massively successful *Hamlet*, starring Andrew Scott of Sherlock fame.

Tickets are bookable on the Almeida Theatre website, although the Almeida For Free festival often gets booked up pretty fast. Join their mailing list to be alerted when booking opens.

## Royal Opera House

The ROH student scheme gives you access to a whole load of offers:

Student Amphitheatre performances: All seats in the amphitheatre exclusively for students and priced £1-£25!

Whole House student performance: The entirety of the ROH reserved exclusively for students! With ticket deals to be announced. This is a once-a-year event with this year being *Billy Budd* on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019. Booking opens on 29<sup>th</sup> October.

£10 Student Standby: Announced by email a minimum of 24 hours before the performance, this allows you to book £10 tickets for an upcoming performance.

Sign up to the scheme on the Royal Opera House's website, with tickets available to book online.



The Royal Opera House auditorium // Sim Canetty-Clarke, 2016

## Write for Felix Arts!

Join Felix Arts to request press tickets to any show or exhibition in London, with the possibility to take a +1 with you! All we ask in return is a written-up review of your thoughts.

Email arts.felix@ic.ac.uk or join our Facebook group Felix Arts 2018/19





ARTS

arts.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Best of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2018

Every year during the month of August, culture vultures flock to Edinburgh for the annual Fringe Festival; the largest arts festival in the world. Here are some of our comedy highlights – watch out for London dates!

ARTS

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Helen Money-Kyle  
Arts Editor

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## Linda

★★★★★

Seated in a cosy Underbelly venue, we are told the story of Linda, an average 57-year-old woman who is selected to travel to Mars. We hear not from Linda herself; instead her story is told through the people around her, showing us some of the challenges she faced and revealing why she might want to leave her town in

**“We all know a Linda. #GetLindaToMars”**

the first place... I wasn't quite sure what to expect from a one-woman show, but comedian Freya Slipper did not disappoint. Her impressions are uncanny and amusing, from a disorganised Spanish Zumba teacher to a blundering politician nodding her way through a television interview. These caricatures, though absurd at times, are highly relatable and consequently very entertaining. Favourite moments include side-splittingly funny audience participation, a disastrous episode at Brownies, and voicemails from demanding children (as I said, relatable – sorry Mum!) The overall message celebrates simple kindnesses by ordinary people, who put their own dreams to one side to help

those around them. We all know a Linda. #GetLindaToMars

## Enter the Dragons

★★★★★

This play is all about the ageing woman, examining societal pressures and making sense of them through the form of a mythical quest in pursuit of Kronos, who represents ageing. As we journey through mystical lands we encounter a number of quirky characters, from Sirens in the Sea of Apology, to Seers who give advice and help to guide us towards our destination.

We face a number of challenges, from sorting

**“Definitely worth a watch”**

items of luggage that are too heavy to cross the Bridge of Tears, to solving confusing riddles and escaping mad doctors. Do we make it to meet Kronos? And what does he have to say for himself when we meet him face to face? You'll have to find out yourself. And as winner of the Best Show at the Brighton Fringe 2018, it's definitely worth a watch.

## Hot Gay Time Machine

★★★★★

Queuing with my ticket, I hear a commotion behind me. “Out of the way, V. I. Gay coming through.” Turning around I see two hot, gay men pushing their way through a delighted crowd. After the success

**“Self-conscious in the best kind of way”**

of their award-winning Fringe debut musical Six, creators Zak Ghazi-Torbati and Toby Marlow are back with *Hot Gay Time Machine*. The double act exude energy from start to finish, joking, dancing, and singing their way through this highly enjoyable cabaret.

Self-conscious in the best kind of way, the boys use their time machine to take us back to moments in their lives, from making friends at university to coming out to their mums. Along the way they explore – through music – a variety of topics such as identity and consent, balancing serious messages perfectly with moments of genius comedy such that the final product leaves you reflective, uplifted and entertained. With their crowd-pleasing numbers, effort to include the whole

audience (even passing the Bechdel Test...), and clear adoration for Beyoncé, you can't help but love this show. Sensational.

## Craicling

★★★★★

If you enjoy sketch comedy, then Foil, Arms and Hog are the Irish trio for you. Their highly polished sketches had me in stitches, interspersed with seemingly ad-lib impressions and improvisations which were a hit with the audience. From lessons on how to hold a baby, to a day in the life of a monk, Foil, Arms and Hog find comedy in

**“I'd love to take them home and introduce them to me Mam”**

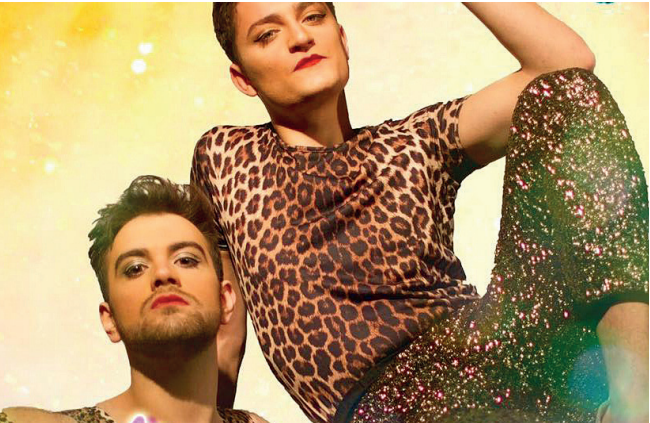
all walks of life. I'd love to take them home and introduce them to me Mam but in the meantime, I'll have to make do with their Facebook videos. Look 'em up!



No slip-ups from Slipper // The Fringe



To live is to age, and to age is to live// A&E Comedy



We're hot, and we're gay and we're... time machine// Hot Gay Time Machine Facebook Page



Doomdah // Foil, Arms and Hog Facebook Page



Make great memories

FiveSixEight.

# BREAKFAST

in FiveSixEight, Beit Quad

**Grab & Go**

8:00 - 11:30

**Sit & Graze**

10:00 - 11:30

[imperialcollegeunion.org/breakfast](https://imperialcollegeunion.org/breakfast)

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FOOD

food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Freshers' 10 under £10

Follow Felix Foodies, Eva and Julia, as they forage through the cheapest food spots in and around campus

**FOOD**

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**Eva Tadros**  
*Food Editor*

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**Julia Dąbrowska**  
*Food Editor*

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Freshers is upon us and you know what that means – time for our bank accounts to hate us. So you keep tapping that contactless on every night out – if you don't see the money leaving, it's not really gone, right? If only it worked like that. It can be quite tempting to splash out during freshers and go out to everything – nights out, greasy breakfasts the next morning to cure your hangovers, brunch with your newfound friends, takeaway coffees – and it all seems well and good till that mini heart attack hits you when you check your bank balance. But rest assured – we've rounded up our top ten picks for eating out under £10. You might already be familiar with some of these, but we're sure there are a few new gems in there:

**1**  
**Elan Café**

This little gem of a coffee shop is just on our doorstep, being within a 10-minute walk from the main Imperial College campus. The décor of this place has made it one of the most Instagrammed, featured cafes in London and the exquisite pastel colour theme has put it on every blogger's list. Though it is on the slightly more expensive end, there's some great dishes

you could have for under £10. They do to-die-for Acai Bowls for £8.50, jam-packed Tropical Bowls for £8, and chia porridge – your morning favourite with a twist for only £6.50! If you do decide to spend a little more, their coffees are worth a try, with all kinds of lattes from beetroot and ginger to turmeric and saffron.

**Where?** Brompton Road, and Park Lane.

**What?** Acai Bowl, or the English Muffin.

**Which meal?** Breakfast, definitely. Or maybe brunch depending on what time you're up.

or vegan burgers. They also have a variety of fries to choose from: classic, topped, sweet potato or even courgette for those watching their health. If you have a UNiDAYS account, you can also snap up some neat discounts!

**Where?** South Ken, Soho, Hammersmith, Shepherd's Bush, Fulham and others

**What?** Cheese, Smashed Avocado or Bourbon BBQ Burgers + Sweet Potato Fries

**Which meal?** Lunch/ Dinner



Byron // Eva Tadros



Elan Café // Eva Tadros

**2**  
**Byron**

Been wanting a good quality burger for a good price? Byron is your answer. Their menu ranges from simple cheeseburgers to chicken, avocado

**3**  
**Nando's**

Everyone loves a cheeky Nando's. Or that's what you've probably heard English people say in one of those cheesy teen movies. But alas, it is true.

This Afro-Portuguese restaurant chain has truly won everyone's heart over – especially on our student budget. Keen for a nice, fat burger? They've got you covered with their

Sunset Burger at £7.95 on its own or £9.70 with one side. Keen for something a little lighter? No problem! Go for their Supergrain Salad with chicken breast for only £9.80. Vegetarian? Here comes the Portobello Mushroom and Grilled Halloumi combo to your rescue, for only £6.95 or £8.70 with a side.

**Where?** Gloucester Road, High St Kensington, or pretty much anywhere you go.

**What?** Chicken Butterfly, or the Sunset Burger.

**Which meal?** A nice, hearty lunch.

**4**  
**The Breakfast Club**

There's a reason that this place has often been named the 'best breakfast in London' – the diner-style décor

of the place will make you feel like you're in a classic American movie, and the food from across the Atlantic will make you forget about gloomy English weather. And who's to say they only serve breakfast? Perfect for hangovers – now give me that grilled cheese sandwich.

**Where?** Soho, London Bridge, Battersea, or Spitalfields

**What?** Avocado Eggs on Toast, Salted Caramel Banoffee Pancakes or the Breakfast Burrito

**Which meal?** Breakfast/ Lunch

**5**  
**ASK Italian**

ASK has recently become more and more popular, and chances are, you've heard of it or probably frequent one nearby. Almost every ASK Italian has to-die-for interior décor, which makes having meals there feel like you're at the poshest of restaurants for a fraction of the price. Whether you're after classic Italian pasta dishes, pasta or even a typical breaded chicken and chips, they've got it all.

**Where?** Gloucester Road Arcade, Oxford Street, The O2, and others

**What?** Spaghetti Al Pomodoro, or the oh-so-yummy Vedure pizza

**Which meal?** Dinner



FOOD

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Bonus:  
Union

It would be a disaster to name top places to eat under £10 without mentioning the holy grail - Imperial College Union's FiveSixEight. Located by the Beit quad, this will be your go-to place for a quick lunch, a pint or just somewhere to meet people. If you haven't heard of the real reason everyone goes there, shame on you (hint: curly fries!). Plus, they're rolling out a new breakfast menu starting this term – stay updated by reading the Food Section!

“It would be a disaster to name top ten places to eat under £10 without mentioning the holy grail - Imperial College Union's FiveSixEight.”

ASK Italian// Eva Tadoros

**6**  
**Wagamama's**  
This Japanese restaurant is so many people's favourite and we can definitely understand why. With such a wide variety of items on the menu, an authentic Japanese setup of tables in the restaurants, and an endless supply of green tea, this is a student haven for yummy food. If you can get past the (mediocre) service and slow waiting, having a meal here is 10000% worth it. Their juices and smoothies are also so refreshing and complement the spicy cuisine perfectly.

**Where?** Pretty much anywhere. High Street Kensington,

**What?** Chicken Ramen, or the popular Chicken Katsu Curry.

**Which meal?** Dinner.

**7**  
**Franco Manca**  
Three words: Best. Pizza. Ever. Franco Manca's pizza is not only affordable, but also really tasty as it's made on a sourdough base, which gives it a cool, slightly chewy texture. Sounds weird, but basically, it's like eating tomato sauce and toppings on really good bread. Plus, some venues have good student deals and all have a vegan option – it will definitely become one of your staple pizzas!

**Where?** Everywhere. South Ken, Covent Garden, Soho, Fitzrovia, King's Cross, Shepherd's Bush, Fulham and others

**What?** Classic Tomato & Mozzarella, or Courgette, Mozzarella & Ricotta pizza

**Which meal?** Lunch/ Dinner

**8**  
**BAO**  
Have you seen the *Incredibles 2*? Well, the short film that precedes the movie features a little baby dumpling – a bao. Bao are round, soft, fat steamed buns originating from Taiwan, filled with a stuffing commonly made with pork. BAO amps this basic bun up, with fillings including chicken, beef, fish or vegetarian options, as well as other Chinese specialties for the bao-haters (we see you). Comfort food with a Chinese twist.

**Where?** Soho, Fitzrovia

**What?** Classic, Fried Chicken or Black Cod Bao

**Which meal?** Lunch/ Dinner

**9**  
**Wasabi**  
It's our personal favourite (and our bank account's favourite), Wasabi. Famous for their sushi dishes, the seafood Wasabi has to offer is top class. Their sushi always tastes fresh as it's made daily, as is their hot food. Their Katsu Curry is a crowd favourite, as is their sweet and sour chicken, which comes either served with rice or noodles. Also, about half an hour before closing time, most Wasabis reduce everything to half price, so you can stock up for lunch the next day too!

**Where?** South Kensington, High St Kensington, Hammersmith, and around every other corner

**What?** Katsu Curry, Wasabi Rainbow Set, or the Salmon Nigiri Set

**Which meal?** Lunch

**10**  
**Flat Iron**  
Good quality and decent price are words that never really come together when it comes to steak. At Flat Iron, you can order a tasty (!) steak with an included salad for £10, allowing you to eat a fancy meal out with your new friends or SO without becoming broke. If you so desire, various chips and veggies are also available as sides. And did I mention the complimentary cup of popcorn?

**Where?** Soho, Covent Garden, Shoreditch

**What?** Classic Steak

**Which meal?** Lunch/ Dinner

**Where?** South Ken, on Imperial campus!

**What?** CURLY FRIEES (and possibly a Burger or the new Breakfast option)

**Which meal?** Breakfast/ Lunch/Dinner



# Union Page



## Welcome to Imperial College Union

For the best Imperial experience

## Autumn Elections<sup>18</sup>

### Welcome Week

It was a fun scorcher but we're happy everyone's back and raring to go. A big welcome to new students - we can't wait to meet you at Freshers' Fair on Tuesday 2 October. Fair starts at 11:00 at the main entrance to College on Exhibition Road at South Kensington Campus - everyone's invited, including returning students who would like a refresher.

There are loads of other events happening over Welcome Week. We've designed them just for you to meet other people, learn about Imperial College Union, and make great memories in your first few weeks on campus. Get tickets at [imperialcollegeunion.com/welcome-events](https://imperialcollegeunion.com/welcome-events)

### Other useful links

Bars and restaurants: [imperialcollegeunion.com/food-drink](https://imperialcollegeunion.com/food-drink)

Clubs, Societies & Projects: [imperialcollegeunion.com/activities/a-z](https://imperialcollegeunion.com/activities/a-z)

Advice & Support: [imperialcollegeunion.com/advice](https://imperialcollegeunion.com/advice)

Join a Liberation Group: [imperialcollegeunion.com/liberation](https://imperialcollegeunion.com/liberation)

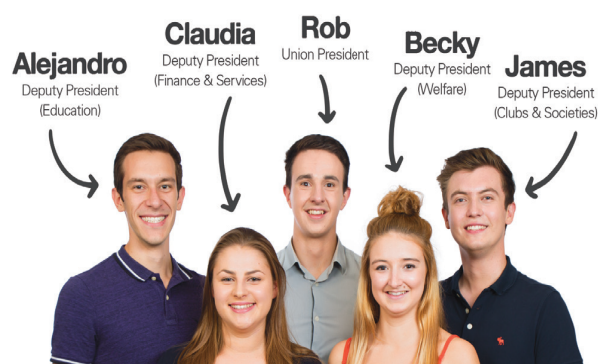
### Let's elect our Reps

Autumn not only means new students, but the election of course reps and other student leadership positions. Let's take charge of our Imperial experience by putting the right reps in place to defend our interests.

Nominations open at noon tomorrow for those interested in becoming Academic Reps, Wellbeing Reps, Representatives to Council, Constituent Union committee leaders or LGBT+ Officer. Reps and Officers influence the student learning experience, help peers access support, represent their area of study at Union Council, or ensure underrepresented groups are heard.

Nominations close at noon, Wednesday 10 October, while voting opens at noon, Monday 15 October.

Stand for a position tomorrow at [imperialcollegeunion.com/elections](https://imperialcollegeunion.com/elections)



### Meet our Officers

Our new Officer Trustees have been hard at work all summer, putting foundations in place to fulfil the aims and promises on which they were elected in March. The team, who will lead the Union full time for a year, includes (left to right pictured above) Alejandro Luy (**Deputy President, Education**), Claudia Caravello (**Deputy President, Finance & Services**), Rob Tomkies (**President**), Becky Neil (**Deputy President, Welfare**) and James Medler (**Deputy President, Clubs & Societies**).

Read their plans for the year ahead: [imperialcollegeunion.org/officers](https://imperialcollegeunion.org/officers)

Follow their progress: [imperialcollegeunion.org/blogs](https://imperialcollegeunion.org/blogs)

Find them: **Level 2, Imperial College Union, Beit Quad**

Keep in touch and let's maintain our democracy year round!

### Breakfast is served

Mornings just got a lot better this term - we're serving breakfast in FiveSixEight at Beit Quad from 8:00 - 11:30. Grab a breakfast burrito, some porridge, or a smoothie to go. If you've got more time, sit and graze on runny eggs, sourdough, or a hearty English spread from 10:00 - 11:30.

The introduction of breakfast is part of efforts to improve the student experience and help us make great memories at Imperial. It's filling and healthy!

Become a life member now at [imperialcollegeunion.org/breakfast](https://imperialcollegeunion.org/breakfast)



# Welcome Events

## Friday 27 September

September - October 2018

Saturday  
September **29**

**Show your Colours I**  
**Beit Quad** | 19:00 - 01:00

Now that you're all moved in, let's all meet up in our Hall colours and party!

Sunday  
September **30**

**Sun-Dry**  
**Dining Hall** | 14:00 - 17:00

An alcohol-free day social for everyone!

**Show your Colours II**  
**Beit Quad** | 19:00 - 01:00

Wear your Hall colours and let's party!

Monday  
October **1**

**Glitter Jam**  
**Beit Bars** | 19:00 - 01:00

We're getting glittered up and dancing into the wee hours!

**UV Ping Pong**  
**h-bar, Sherfield** | 19:00 - 23:00  
Ping pong, music and glow in the dark!

**Freshers' Fair**  
Tuesday, October **2**

**Freshers' Fair**  
**South Ken Campus** | 11:00 onwards  
Join a club or society, learn about the Union, and discover student life at the largest fair of its kind in the UK.

**Super Duper Quiz**  
**Metric** | 18:00 - 23:00

**Wine Tasting**      **The Quiz**  
**h-bar**                      **Reynolds**  
18:00 - 20:30              18:00 - 20:00

**Wanna Go**  
Wednesday, October **3**

**Wanna Go Wednesday**  
**Beit Building** | 12:00 onwards  
Wanna go take a cooking class, create something or play a sport? Here's your chance.

**CSP Wednesday**  
**Beit Bars** | 19:00 - 01:00

**Karaoke**  
**h-bar** | 19:00 - 23:00

Thursday  
October **4**

**Bandeoke**  
**Beit Bars** | 19:00 - 23:00  
Bust out your favourite tunes - it's karaoke with a live band.

**Pub Quiz**  
**h-bar** | 19:30 - 22:30

**UV Ping Pong**  
**Reynolds** | 19:30 - 23:00

**Freshers' Ball**  
Friday, October **5**

**Freshers' Ball**  
**Beit Bars** | 20:00 - 04:00

**Wolf Rocks**  
**h-bar** | 19:00 - 01:00

Enjoy this monthly live music night for Postgraduates.

Saturday  
October **6**

**Brunch & Live Music**  
**FiveSixEight** | 12:00 - 15:00

**Postgrad Speed Meet**  
**h-bar** | 18:00 - 20:00

**Postgrad 90s vs 00s**  
**Beit Bars** | 20:00 - 02:00  
It's a clash of the decades at this club night.

Sunday  
October **7**

**Brunch & Live Music**  
**FiveSixEight** | 12:00 - 15:00

**Board Games**  
**FiveSixEight** | 15:00 - 18:00

Monday  
October **8**

**Comedy**  
**Metric** | 20:00 - 23:00

Come get a belly full of laughs as the academic journey begins.

For tickets and event details, go to

[www.imperialcollegeunion.org/welcome](http://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/welcome)

[f imperialcollegeunion](https://www.facebook.com/imperialcollegeunion)



MARKETS

icu.investmentsociety@imperial.ac.uk

# U.S. Yield Curve Analysis

MARKETS

Pierre Moutounet-

Cartan  
Investment Society  
Treasurer

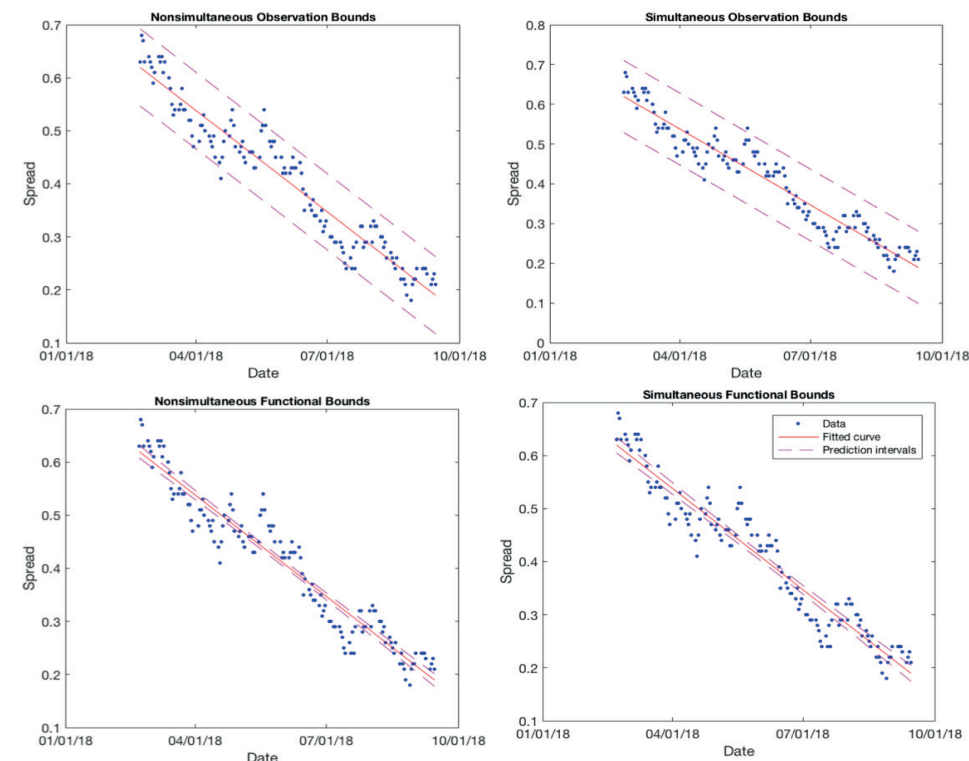
A new analysis predicts that the U.S. Treasury two-year bond yield is set to overcome the U.S. Treasury ten-year bond yield between the beginning of November 2018 and the end of January 2019 - most likely in December 2018. This analysis suggests that, with a 95% confidence interval using simultaneous observation bounds, an inversion of the U.S. yield curve is likely to happen between 31 Oct 2018 and 25 Jan 2019 if the current trend is maintained. The thinnest confidence interval,

using non-simultaneous functional bands, predicts an inversion of the yield curve between 09 Dec 2018 and 17 Dec 2018. The x-intercept is set for 13 Dec 2018. The U.S. yield curve corresponds to the U.S. sovereign bonds' yields against their respective maturity. A normal yield curve shows that short-term bonds have lower interest returns than long-term bonds, while an inverted yield curve exposes the fact that short-term bonds have higher interest returns than long-term bonds. You can find below the

**"an inversion of the yeild curve is likely to happen"**

Boundaries type	Start date of interval	End date of interval
Non-Simultaneous Observation Bounds	08 Nov 2018	16 Jan 2019
Simultaneous Observation Bounds	31 Oct 2018	25 Jan 2019
Non-Simultaneous Functional Bounds	09 Dec 2018	17 Dec 2018
Simultaneous Functional Bounds	08 Dec 2018	18 Dec 2018

four possible bounds used for this research. The blue dots represent the spread between the U.S. Treasury ten-year and two-year bond yields, data courtesy of the St Louis U.S. Federal Reserve. The fitting line was found with a correlation coefficient squared of  $r^2=0.9234$ , this is adjusted to the degrees of freedom generated by the model. The inversion intervals are given as follows according to the different bounds: Note that these intervals work provided that the trend since February 2018 is holding until inversion. The data also provides an average rate of change of the spread between the ten-year and two-year yields, given at  $-0.58\%$  on a daily basis, proving inversion. Some argue that the



quick inversion of the U.S. yield curve is due to the U.S. Treasury's decision to stop extending the weighted average maturity of its issuance, the anchoring effect of low long-term global rates, and the ability for U.S. corporations to currently deduct pension contributions at the 2017 tax rate of 39% rather than the new 20% tax rate, leading to a rush to buy long-dated bonds. Others believe that

it is mainly due to the U.S. government and corporate debts which have reached peak levels of 2007. The yield curve is a powerful indicator of U.S. recessions, including the subprime mortgage crisis in 2008-2009. Investors are more willing to switch their investment to risk-free assets since short-term bonds offer higher yields when the curve is flat or inverted. There has

always been a recession within 17 months following the inversion of the U.S. yield curve - the most significant being the 2008 crisis as it was made late due to the huge insurance bond market (which products include the Collateralised Debt Obligations and Credit Default Swaps) which was 20 times bigger than the underlying bond market.

US Treasury 10 year and 2 year yeild spread

# Commercial Cannabis: Bitcoin Bubble?

MARKETS

Tom Alston  
Markets Editor

On Tuesday 18th September, the US Drug Enforcement Agency gave the Canadian cannabis producer Tilray permission to export its cannabis to the United States for medical research. The next day Tilray Inc. shares were halted five times from trading in less than one hour as the market neared its close. After being the first marijuana

company to go public on the NASDAQ Exchange earlier this year with an opening share price of \$17, the company was trading at a record high of \$300 that Wednesday – a daily gain of 94% and an increase of more than 400% in the past month! The company is now worth more than a high number of large cap companies including American Airlines and pharmaceutical company Mylan. The Vancouver based company, according to its website, “is a global leader in medical cannabis research,

cultivation, processing and distribution”. This type of activity signals great investor expectation of future growth in this lucrative industry. Even Coca-Cola is researching the market for cannabis-related products. ArcView Market Research and its research partner BDS Analytics see that over the next ten years the legalisation of marijuana will see much progress around the world. Despite Tilray's revenues of just \$20 million in 2017 the upcoming legalisation of marijuana in Canada means its business potential has dramatically increased. Addi-

tionally, consumer spending on legal cannabis in North America is expected to rise from \$9.2 Billion in 2017 to \$47.3 billion a decade later. However, the worldwide recreational cannabis market remains contained by the U.N.'s Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs. ArcView think that not much can be done to change U.N. attitudes

until the US Government federally legalize the drug, which ArcView's CEO, Troy Dayton, believes will happen potentially after the 2020 presidential election. Nevertheless, there is still a huge potential market for medical use of marijuana especially in Europe. With a health care spending budget of \$1.3 trillion, European government subsidised health care institutions can potentially bring the medical cannabis market to become the largest in the world (Italy is expected to have \$1.2 billion in sales by 2027). Don't think though this is risk free, investing in canna-

bis remains precarious. Tilray's recent market activity has drawn comparisons to the swings Bitcoin experienced at the end of 2017. “It's like the supply and demand that drove Bitcoin up,” Jason Spatafora says, “it's just limited supply and over demand”. Leslie Bocksorm, who has invested in multiple cannabis companies, thinks that from a fundamental financial perspective there is no justification for Tilray's current valuation. However, he said the short sellers could have it wrong and Tilray may be the Amazon of the cannabis industry; “Only time will tell”.

**"an increase of more than 400% in the past month!"**



# advice centre

INDEPENDENT  
CONFIDENTIAL  
IMPARTIAL

## Get support We're here to help

We offer guidance  
and support for both  
Postgrads and Undergrads  
on academic and  
non-academic issues you  
may face at Imperial.



Get in touch   [advice@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:advice@imperial.ac.uk)   020 7594 8060

[imperialcollegeunion.org/advice](https://imperialcollegeunion.org/advice)

imperial  
college  
union



GAMES

games.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Gamer’s guide to London: A comprehensive guide of

*Moving to a new place, especially a place as big as London, can be a disorienting and confusing experience.*

GAMES

Connor Winzar  
Games Editor

Anthony Onwuli  
Games Editor

Leicester Square Station – Orbital Comics

For the vintage comic hunter Orbital Comics brings an expansive catalogue of comics new and old that can truly satiate the atypical comic book enthusiast. Within their collection they also boast a large amount of graphic novels as well as comic artworks.



Leicester Square Station– Orcs Nest

With its walls literally covered in shelves of boardgames the Orc’s nest is a goldmine for finding rare and brand new boardgames. Can’t remember the name of that obscure boardgame you played whilst on a drunken bender? Try giving a description of it to the friendly shop owners, as they are incredibly knowledgeable on everything board game related.



Piccadilly Circus Station – Gosh! Comics

Just like the name of the shop you’re going to be surprised how this small store can hold such an impressive bounty of comics, graphic novels and manga. Featuring signing events and an added touch of launch parties that will have you celebrating the release of quality material!



Piccadilly Circus station– Las Vegas Arcade Soho

For the lover of fighting games Las Vegas packs a punch with a fantastic roster of fighting games including: Tekken 7, Street Fighter V, Ultimate Marvel Vs Capcom 3, Guilty Gear Xrd Revelator. Not to forget its large quantity of music games including Guitar Hero and DDR style games alongside an assortment of classic arcade cabinets



Wardour Street & Stratford– Belong by GAME

A host to multiple high end gaming PCs, PS4s and Xbox Ones, these gaming arenas are the place for gamers to belong. You can take part in eSports tournaments and gather your friends to have a LAN party. If you love VR, then the Wardour street branch is the place to be with the HTC Vive and Playstation VR available to use.



Tottenham Court Road – Forbidden Planet

Just a short walk from orbital comics and bearing a massive inventory of everything nerdy, Forbidden planet can be considered one of the best if not the best geek merch shop in London. Looking for a Buffy the vampire vinyl figure or even a volume of Jojo’s Bizarre Adventure (for maximum duwang), Forbidden planet has it all. Featuring book signings and comic deals, Forbidden planet is definitely a place you don’t want to miss out on.





GAMES

games.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# all things tabletop, video games and more!

*So we've decided to breakdown the most important places you need to visit during your time in London!*



**Dark sphere- Lambeth North**

Looking for rare boardgames or just another Warhammer figurine to add to your collection? Then look no further, the dark sphere has plenty to offer with its large tabletop collection and group sessions featuring Magic the gathering, Warhammer and Star wars X-wing. Now don't go spending all your student loan at once ... seriously Warhammer figurines will bankrupt you.



**Loading bar franchise: Server- Goldhawk Road Station , Secret Weapon- Stratford, Scenario- Dalston Kingsland**

A fantastic branch of gaming and boardgame bars spanning across London with some great events such as weekly student nights (alongside fantastic cocktails), Mariokart tournaments and RPG sessions. Hosting various consoles with a plethora of games which varies between bars, in the case of Server (the nearest of the bars), you can find over 70+ Board games and Xbox One, PS4, Nintendo Switch and mini SNES.



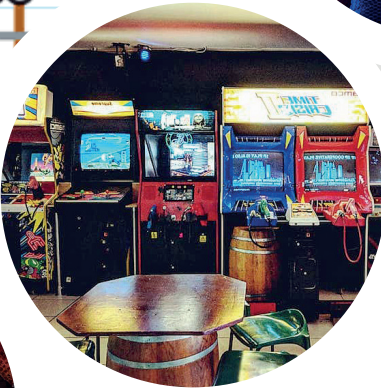
**Namco Funscape – Westminster Station**

Standing up to Las Vegas Arcade Soho's reputation is Namco funscape a massive complex containing a bumper carts arena, bowling alley, downstairs bar and not to forget a gamer's galore of token giving arcade games. Not feeling flashing lights and glowing screens? Then head to the basement for the bar, pingpong and snooker tables.



**Meltdown London - Caledonian Road & Barnsbury**

Hosting a large collection of gaming platforms, weekly tournaments and showcasing of Esports streams, Meltdown London is the perfect spot for Esport fanatics. With weekly Hearthstone tournaments as well as competitions in CS:GO, LOL , DOTA and other mainstream Esport games. So don't forget to follow the four g's of gaming: good game and git gud.



**Four Quarters – Peckham Rye**

Featuring 15 arcade cabinets and 10 retro consoles as well as a basement cocktail bar the Four Quarters Peckham is quite the catch. Not to mention its theme parties and excellent selection of craft beers, this place is definitely worth sparing a quarter for.

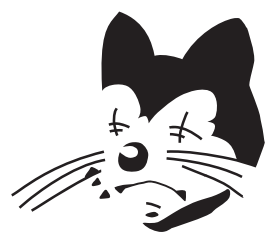


**Draughts Hackney - Haggerston**

A homely hangout where you can play boardgames with your friends whilst having a coffee and a bite to eat. With over 800+ board games this tabletop café is an astounding hub of all things tabletop. I know it sounds like quite the popular place, but if you're scared of not having a table when you get there, just reserve a table online to make sure nothing gets in between you and boardgame bliss.







# Hangman



Southside Halls // Imperial College London

## Hall for One and One for Hall

HANGMAN

Negafelix  
Editor-in-Chief

Negafelix's review of the lovely undergraduate student accommodation Imperial has to offer

Beit Hall

Beit Hall is a highly desirable hall mostly due to its proximity to the university. Students can feasibly roll out of bed with five minutes to spare and still turn up in time for lectures. Needless to say, this almost never happens and instead most Beit Hall

residents appear at least 10 minutes late, wrapped in a duvet and rubbing sleep from their eyes.

Eastside Halls and Southside Halls

An Eastside student was recently witnessed surreptitiously carrying a carafe of caviar, wiping blood off their Versace slippers, having kicked a commuter on the Piccadilly line for getting too close to their shoes. They passed a Southside student with a chalice of Champagne. A violent display ensued when the Eastsider got caviar on the Southsiders original Yeezys. They were last witnessed prodding one another's butlers to fight

whilst screaming, "kill, kill, kill."

Parsons House

Parsons House is an attractive option for many students due to its excellent amenities. There is a shopping centre, excellent travel links to the rest of London, and plenty of medics around to look after you should you injure yourself on the way back from sports night...

Pembridge Hall

Pembridge hall is essentially student battery farming. There are 96 beds to two kitchens. For those of you studying biology, that's 48 students per kitchen. In the jungle

of Pembridge, only the strongest 8 students may use the hobs at a time, leaving the rest to furtively scurry about after the resultant scraps. Speaking to a survivor, they claimed that the experience made them stronger, despite the obvious growth defects.

Putney Boathouse

Unfortunately, due to the extremely broad nature of the students living at Putney boathouse, outlines of previous residents can be seen in all of the doorways. In order to avoid damaging the boat-house further, it is recommended that students walk around sideways, to avoid additional drafts.

Wilson House

Unfortunately, there are no solicitors studying at Imperial. Soliciting in general can be found commonly outside Wilson at around three in the morning. Students are advised not to seek legal advice from this source. See a doctor instead.

Woodward Buildings Costume Store

According to other Imperial students, occupants of Woodward and the Costume store live so far away so as to be totally inaccessible. Residents of Woodward and the Costume store report being treated like social lepers by residents of

other halls. One resident said "I don't understand it, I thought that the 40-minute commute on the overcrowded Central Line in temperatures high enough to kill cows wouldn't be a barrier to our friendship."

Xenia

Xenia has Woodward to thank that it is not the furthest away from university. Unfortunately, there is little much else to say about students at Xenia. One student reported, "I met someone from Xenia once, but I don't remember their face. Just a sort of grey mush."



HANGMAN

negafelix@imperial.ac.uk

# Shark Attack!

With the new intake of Freshers descending on the Imperial campus, there has been a reported increase in the number of shark sightings in the South Kensington area

**HANGMAN**

**Negafelix**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

It is the end of June. The sun is blazing, Love Island has captivated the hearts and minds of the nation and football is still coming home. In the depths of South Kensington, Imperial’s Summer Ball draws to a close. In the early hours of the morning, a lonely second year takes a seat outside the Union. His attempts to woo the girl

of his dreams in Metric have proven futile and he’s now having a rare moment of quiet clarity and reflection. His friend approaches, interrupting the comfortable silence to reassure him, saying, “Don’t worry mate... new year, new talent!” Thus, a shark is born... The Oxford English dictionary defines sharking as “the active pursuit of first years by third years (or older) who should know better” University is a jungle and, unfortunately, freshers are at the bottom of the food chain, like plankton. The only way to survive

is to take the necessary precautionary measures.

**“... they are always the sweatiest males in Metric.”**

It is relatively simple to identify a shark... they are always the sweatiest males in the testosterone-infused dungeon that is Metric. Fourth year medics are also notorious sharks.



A shark swooping in for the kill // Sharknado

**“BEWARE OF THE SHARKS!”**

Like a scene from *Jaws*, the sharks will circle their prey, performing a frankly uncomfortable mating

dance. If you are able to evade their awkward movements, you should be safe for another night.

ARIES

This week, you move into the Costume Store without a duvet thinking ASDA has plenty in stock. Unfortunately, everyone’s thought the same thing as you and you end up using your Fresher’s guide to keep you warm at night.

TAURUS

This week, after weeks of posting begging on the FB group, you finally manage to swap your Woodward en-suite single for a basement room in Wilson(?), only to realise you played yourself.

GEMINI

You attempt to revamp your wardrobe for uni, and in the process spend half your student finance. Unfortunately, your plans to be the Regina George of Chem Eng are thwarted by ‘those meddling international students’. Better fish out them receipts...

CANCER

This week you rewatch your friends’ snaps from their party universities in eager anticipation of all the wines you’re planning on collecting at Imperial. Ignorance, they say, is bliss.

LEO

This week, you try to win some BNOC points talking about your ‘gap yah’ with the ‘common folk’ in Malaysia. Sadly this doesn’t go down too well as you’ve ended up at the Malaysian Society’s Meet and Greet.

VIRGO

This week you discover just how thin your room walls are. Apparently it’s never too early to start Biology coursework.

LIBRA

This week you get lost at Fresher’s fair looking for the Christian Union and somehow end up at the KinkSoc stand. The Lord works in mysterious ways.

SCORPIO

This week you discover the joys of the Union curly fry – your life has been forever changed.

SAGITTARIUS

This week, you experience your first encounter with a sweaty underarm on a packed Central line train. May this be the first of many.

CAPRICORN

This week you buy yet another Freshers pass to events around London, meaning you’ll be attending 26 events in ten days. Given that you have acute FOMO, this complicates matters.

AQUARIUS

This week you sign up in excitement for your Ethos induction, but can’t shake the feeling you might never end up going.

PISCES

This week you end up caught in the crossfire as the Union once again puts the Israeli and Palestinian Societies together at Fresher’s Fair. Baklava and kunafa are launched across the Great Hall.



## TRAVEL

travel.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## Flutes, Flights and Fire-Breathing Dragons

*IC Wind Band takes Slovenia by storm!*

## TRAVEL

**Lorenzo Silvestri***Puzzles Editor***Rachel Wilson***Travel Writer*

**D**ragons, lakes, and music. These three words defined the event of the summer that everyone in IC Wind Band had been looking forward to. This year, Wind Band went further than we've ever ventured before, touring in the (mostly) sunny land of Slovenia.

Slovenia's capital city, Ljubljana, was a welcome sight for the poor souls who volunteered to drive for two days to get there. Luckily, it wasn't just because they'd spent two days in a sweaty minibus – it was a lovely sight for the clever people who decided to fly there, too. We arrived at the hostel, unpacked our instruments and equipment into our rehearsal room, and got to exploring.

Ljubljana, we discovered, was originally a Roman city. It has all the obligatory ruins to go with it, mostly housed inside their city museum. It also has a strong association with dragons, specifically a dragon that was slain in the Ljubljana marshes by Jason, of Argonautical fame. This means that various dragon-themed decorations – bridges, statues, plushies – are pretty commonplace throughout the city.

Ljubljana is a castle town. The castle sits on the top of a fairly steep hill, though exactly how steep differed based on whether you asked the people who walked up the hill or the people who took



IC Wind Band strike a pose in front of the famous Dragon Bridge in Ljubljana// Max Moyle

the funicular. The castle itself is medieval, with a tall viewing tower that gave us splendid views of the city and surrounding area. Some of us even attempted the castle's 'escape room', in which we successfully saved the Ljubljana dragon from the abyss beneath the castle.

Aside from the castle, and the impressive Dragon Bridge over the Ljubljanica river, we also admired the Prešeren square, St. Nicholas's Cathedral, and the oldest McDonald's in Slovenia. Overall, we agreed that Ljubljana was a pretty ace city, especially when accounting for their tasty food, ice cream, and €3 bottles of rdeče vino.

Despite all the sightseeing, we managed to fit in some excellent rehearsal

time for the three concerts we had lined up. Two of our concerts took place at a bandstand in Congress Square, a small park located in the city centre. We played a selection of film themes including *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *The Incredibles*, as well as modern concert band tunes, all of which were incredibly well-received. The rain during our second concert didn't perturb our devoted audience, simply prompting some listeners to sit on the grass under their umbrellas. Our final performance was cut slightly short by a thunderstorm partway through *Moment for Morricone*, scaring off even the most tenacious members of the audience. Overall, the reception at

Congress Square was excellent, and it was a lovely place to play.

Our third concert was at Bar Prulček, a cool live music venue. Wind Band played fabulously there too, albeit on a very cramped and stuffy stage! The concert was live-streamed out into the beer garden where the bar customers enjoyed the music at a more bearable temperature. After a short interval, the Swing Band (a sub-group of our band) wowed the crowds with some jazz classics, and had more than a few on-lookers tapping their feet.

Finally, we took a day off to relax and visit the beautiful Lake Bled. At only an hour's bus ride from the city, Bled was absolutely worth the visit.

**"If tour was anything to go by, Wind Band is set to have the best year of music, performance, and fun that we've had so far"**

The water was stunningly blue, and the sun shone all day long. Some of us rented rowboats to reach the island in the centre of the lake, while others enjoyed a refreshing

swim on the west side of the lake. We all agreed that we'd never been swimming in such a beautiful setting. Drying off in the sunshine, surrounded by clear water and hilly mountains, was the perfect cherry on top.

Ljubljana was a fantastic place for Wind Band's tour this year, and well worth the journey. Our three concerts were a huge success, and – if tour was anything to go by – Wind Band is set to have the best year of music, performance, and fun that we've had so far.

(PS: if you want to get in on this fun, come find us at the Freshers' Fair or drop us an email at [windband@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:windband@imperial.ac.uk)).



# PUZZLES

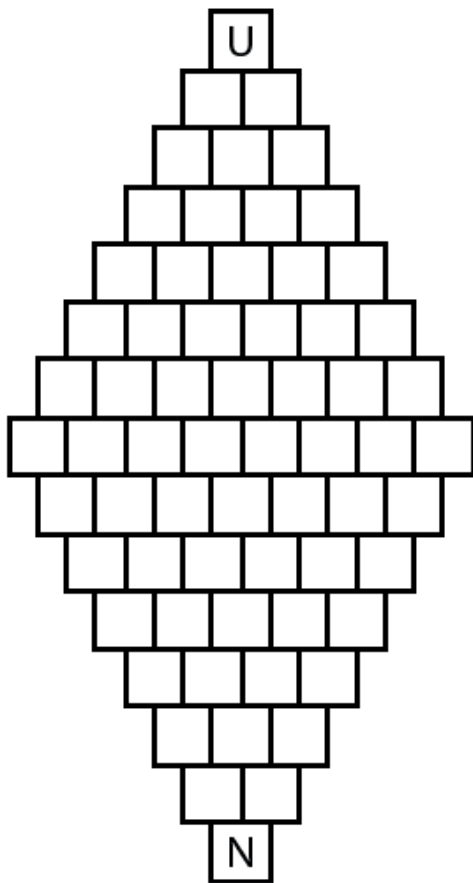
[illegible]

Starting next week, you will be able to send in your solutions to [fsudoku@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:fsudoku@imperial.ac.uk) before Wednesday midday to take part in the leaderboard, the Felix Undergraduate College Wide Invitational Tournament!

A number of these clues refer to Imperial students' favourite places to spend a night out. Get to know all of them during Freshers' Week!

6. Slimy snail (4)
8. Not mandatory (8)
9. Intense fear (8)
10. Gravity-defying childhood toy (4)
11. Bigfoot (4)
12. Elephant and Castle staple (8)
14. Lives in a cell (8)
16. U.S. TV Award (4)
18. Postgraduates' favourite spot on campus (4)
20. Colleague (8)
22. Easternmost venue in Beit Quad (8)
23. Trickle (4)

1. Gratify (6)
2. Camden theatre turned nightclub (4)
3. Sieve (8)
4. Club just off Oxford Street, also clothing brand (4)
5. Legal counsel (6)
7. Iberian thank you (7)
12. Central Canadian province (8)
13. Cooked with vapour (7)
15. Small birds (6)
17. Imperial's very own nightclub (6)
19. Keeps the rain out (4)
21. 40% of a hectare (4)



Colour in some of the squares to make a picture. Each number represents a block of consecutive black squares within that row/column, the number corresponding to the number of black squares in that run. Each block needs to be separated by at least one white square.

[illegible]

Each row is an anagram of the previous, plus or minus one letter.

*Clues, from top to bottom:*  
Sainsbury's clothing brand (2) – Pull (3) – Innards (4) – Villains (5)  
– Looked for (6) – Loud noise from a firearm (7) – Yelling (8) – Or-  
ganising (7) – Stuff (6) – Absence of Sun (5) – Clue (4) – Can (3)  
– Trendy (2)



## SPORTS

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

## Cross Country &amp; Athletics' Welsh Adventure

*Imperial's largest sports club visited North Wales for this summer's hottest\* tour*

## SPORTS

**Fergus Johnson**  
ICXCAC President

Imperial's Cross Country & Athletics Club became the largest sports club at Imperial last year, and to celebrate both the end of a fantastic season and the start of another the club travelled to the north coast of Wales for their summer tour in the second week of September.

The destination was a 34-bed house in the slightly odd town of Colwyn Bay. The club converged on the barber's haven (at least ten hairdressers were spotted in the small town) from across the country and beyond – members flew from Czechia, Tanzania & Hong Kong to make the annual ICXCAC pilgrimage to an entire week of training away from London's polluted & overcrowded pavements. The majority of members travelled on two minibuses from South Kensington, but others travelled by car, train and plane to reach the Welsh vista.

The purpose of the week was to begin to rebuild fitness after a lazy summer spent abroad, at home, or in a stuffy office serving time at various internships. Other aspects of the tour focused on team-building, and just a little bit of relaxation with the team making ample use of the house's entertainment facilities including a home-cinema, a surprisingly bass-y speaker, and various table-top games including table football, pool, and table tennis.

\*wettest

Following a run to scout out the local area upon arrival, the first big group activity was a trip to the local 5km parkrun on Saturday morning. The club's usual parkrun destination is at Fulham Palace which can tend to get rather congested on the 3 laps of Bishop's Park, so Conwy's out-and-back route was a welcome change for the group's spot of parkrun tourism.

Amazingly, 3 members decided to run 20km to get to the start line of the weekly community run in Conwy, whilst the remaining sensible members opted for the relatively short minibus hop down

**"The game saw all manner of atrocities committed; the brutal crushing of a satsuma, a spatula used as a toothbrush, and one calf of the incoming club captain mercilessly shaven."**

the dual carriageway. Following a special shoutout and the usual spiel from the race director, the runners were away with Imperial claiming seven of the top ten places and receiving a good deal of support from locals and teammates alike along the course.

With their competitive



Squad goals // ICXCAC

appetite not suitably quenched, the squad journeyed back to their mansion for another prestigious event – the Great ICXCAC Bake-Off.

The club's long tradition of offering copious amounts of baked goods for 'degustation' after the season's races meant this was equally important training for the year ahead. The entries included a wide range of bakes, from Rice Krispy cakes to lavish vegan/gluten-free creations.

Outgoing women's captain and tour organiser Anna Lawson was crowned star baker after a Mentimeter poll was used to survey the expert tasters and despite strong indications of vote rigging and corruption (private browsers apparently allow you to vote an unlimited

number of times), the other competitors gracefully acknowledged the deserving champion.

The evening's entertainment saw a game of the children's birthday party classic: pass-the-parcel. With 'challenges' hidden within each layer of the mystery package, the game saw all manner of atrocities committed; the brutal crushing of a satsuma, a spatula used as a toothbrush, and one calf of the incoming club captain mercilessly shaven. This was followed by karaoke into the early hours on the outrageously loud speaker provided in the large open-plan lounge.

The runners were rudely awoken the next day by an unpopular alarm of pan-banging, and eventually the squad

departed for Snowdonia with the aim of scoring as much elevation gain as possible. The group split into various paces and distances and remarkably managed to converge on the car park where the minibuses were left with astonishing synchronicity, with only one grazed knee on the list of casualties.

Before long the weekenders (PhDs, employed graduates, long summer interns, and others with better things to do on weekdays) were back off to the capital.

In the following days the itinerary was more relaxed, with the remaining squad of around 20 taking a trip to the local zoo where they marvelled at large camels, gazed up at a well-concealed red panda, gaped at an enormous alligator, and were abused by a red-faced monkey.

Despite the local athletics track being closed for the BBC Proms, the team were hungry for some athletics, and so travelled to Wrexham athletics track on one of the days for a mini-Olympics style set of events in which

four teams competed over 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, shotput, discus, long jump, and 4x100m relay. It was a hotly contested series with strong potential to make a return for the club's Athletics Taster Day on October 10th.

The most picturesque run of the trip took place on a visit to Llandudno where the team circumnavigated the headland in glorious sunshine with stunning views of the Isle of Anglesey.

The Club is already making plans to return to the country of dragons, sheep, and daffodils with a trail tour heading to Imperial's Mountain Hut in Snowdonia for the first weekend of November. There are also plans to head a tiny bit further north before the end of October where the team will be taking a minibus up to Manchester to enter three teams in the university club's cross-country relays.

To find out more about ICXCAC, visit us at Freshers' Fair or email [run@ic.ac.uk](mailto:run@ic.ac.uk).



Leaving their mark on a Welsh beach // ICXCAC



SPORTS

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Imperial Baseball rank 8<sup>th</sup> in the Country

SPORTS

**Jonathan Cheung**  
*IC Baseball & Softball Club  
Vice President*

On the last Saturday of the term, the Imperial Falcons descended to Farnham Park for the National University Baseball Championships. The inconvenient date of the event meant many club members could not attend the tournament. Thankfully, we were able to field a full team due to Abrar Masud joining last minute, even though he was ill and had literally chundered in the morning.

who was much larger than him. It doesn't take Jake's knowledge of momentum and collisions to tell you that it would end badly for him. Jake ended up with a concussion and was in hospital for the rest of the tournament. Fortunately, he has recovered. Unfortunately, he is still studying Physics.

Playing more than eight hours of baseball is tiring, and even more so when the team is a man down. Imperial struggled for the rest of the tournament. Highlights of the day include Joseph Koulson striking out most of UEA, Markkkk's curveball being filthier than Edo, Jonathan Cheung finally scoring a run, Andrew Counsell getting hit by a



Batter Up! // Imperial Baseball & Softball Club

The first game was played against Durham's first team. Being the only university to field two teams, Durham looked to be the favourites. Nevertheless, the game was fought closely in the first few innings thanks to a huge line drive home run by Mark Skopec, Edo Lisi's knuckleball pitching and an acrobatic double play by Daniel Kok. Unfortunately, when it looked like Imperial were gaining momentum, Jake Lee decided to hustle his way home on a wild pitch. Jake, a second year physicist, ran into a pitcher

pitch almost every game, and Bryan Chong's attempted bunt.

**"Fortunately he has recovered. Unfortunately, he is still studying Physics"**

Durham 2s were kind enough to lend us Brad, a



Squad goals // IC Baseball & Softball Club

spare player, for our game against them. Brad volunteered himself to pitch an inning for us. Brad talked the talk and then walked every batter he faced. He threw zero strikes and even hit a batter. The team hasn't decided if Brad was bad, or Durham had just played 4D chess with us.

By the end of the day, everyone was exhausted. Jonathan, the back-up catcher, had never squatted for so long in his life. Asked to describe the team's performance in one word, Abrar commented "participation". Regardless, Imperial had just placed 8th in a national tournament\*.

Shoutout and farewell to the following graduating members:

*Edo Lisi*, who has been a member of the club for four years. He brought great fun and chat to all the training sessions.

*Justin Chu*, another veteran of the club, who would always appear out of nowhere to nail a

diving catch.

*Daniel Zarasua*, who has flown back to the States. His equipment donations were much appreciated and his passion for the game will be missed.

**"Asked to describe the team's performance in one word, Abrar commented: 'participation'"**

*Joe Ronan*, who has snaked us for LSE next year, will be remembered best for playing two games of baseball with a collapsed lung.

*Daniel Kok*, who brought versatility to the team with his switch hitting (batting average 0.000

hitting left), and brought even more laughs with his attempt to "switch field". His attempts to relief pitch will not be missed.

*Mark Skopec*, who shared his national team experience with the club and made huge offensive contributions to every game he played. His largest contribution to Imperial Baseball is still the game Pepper.

We are looking for the next generation of

Imperial baseball AND softball players. Please contact [jc6317@ic.ac.uk](mailto:jc6317@ic.ac.uk) if you are interested in joining Imperial's greatest society! All levels of experience are welcome!

\*only 8 teams entered the tournament



Totally legal bats// IC Baseball & Softball Club



SPORTS

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

# Get involved with sport at Imperial!

With over 60 clubs, you'll be sure to find the right sport for you!

**SPORTS**

**Imraj Singh**  
*Sports Editor*

Sport has been for myself, and many of my friends, an integral part of university life. Being at university can be stressful not only because of academic pressure, but also because of moving away from home, dealing with finances, making new friends and stresses from home, as well as being pushed outside of your comfort zone daily. Sports can help to alleviate this stress as well as give you a sense of belonging and

achievement. Different sports offer different positives at different commitment levels and

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at Imperial there is a huge range available to get involved in (over 60 clubs), from more traditional rugby, netball and athletics to some you may

never have even heard of, including; ultimate frisbee, futsal and kabaddi. For freshers and returning students alike, it can be confusing to try and find your preferred sport. Even within each sports club there are different teams which play at different levels, with mixed or single-sex teams, contact or non-contact. With all this choice it is difficult to find a sport you like. You must meticulously plan your schedule, so you can know with pinpoint accuracy your location at 08:23 on 03/10/2018. You must also optimise your route through freshers’ fair, making strategically



Alexa, give me a picture of sport//Pexels

Club	Location	Start Time
ACC Cross Country and Athletics	Ethos Reception	13:00
ACC Badminton	Ethos sports hall 1-4	13:00
ACC Women's Netball	Ethos sports hall 1-4	15:00
ACC Volleyball	Ethos sports hall 1-4	16:30
ACC Basketball	Ethos sports hall 1-4	18:30
Fencing	Ethos sports hall 5	13:00
Squash	Ethos Squash courts	14:00
ACC Swim and Water Polo	Ethos swimming pool	14:00
ACC Synchronised Swim	Ethos swimming pool	20:30
ACC Baseball	Harlington Baseball Pitch	13:00
ACC Women's Football	Harlington Football pitches	13:00
ACC Men's Football	Harlington Football pitches	14:30
ACC Hockey (and BBQ)	Harlington Hockey Astro turf	13:00
ACC Women's Rugby	Harlington Rugby pitches	13:00
ACC Men's Rugby	Harlington Rugby pitches	13:00
ICSM Men's Rugby Union	Harlington Rugby pitches	13:00
ICSM Men's Football	Heston Football Pitches	13:00
ICSM Women's Netball	Heston Outdoor Netball Courts	13:00
ACC Lawn tennis	Hyde park tennis club	13:00
ICSM Men's Hockey	Indian Gymkhana Hockey Astro turf	15:00
ICSM Lacrosse	Queen's Tower	12:45
Gaelic sports	Union	12:30
IC Rowing	Union	13:00
ACC American Football	Union	13:00
Boxing	Union Activity Space 1&2	12:30
Boxing	Union Activity Space 1&2	15:30
Fencing	Union Dining Hall	13:00
Fencing	Union Dining Hall	16:00
Dodgeball	Union gym	12:00
RSM Badminton	Union gym	13:00
Kabaddi	Union gym	14:00
Kendo	Union gym	16:00

Some sports sessions running this Wanna Go Wednesday (03/10/2018)

timed stops at each sport club stall. Implementation of finance algorithms within Excel is necessary to ensure that your budget can withstand sport’s membership, match fees, tour, networking events, transportation, and personalised garments. In honesty, my advice is to enjoy freshers week but do try to take advantage of the opportunities available around freshers’ week. Personally, I fumbled a through my first week in a drunken stupor, missing my American Football’s (my chosen sport until injury forced me to quit) trial sessions. I regret not making more time for “give it a go” sessions, which are put on by clubs to give a taste of what the club can offer. I encourage you to try as many as possible. Imperial has such a vast range of sports that I had never heard of prior to university. I’ve tried American football, ultimate frisbee, futsal, underwater hockey, lacrosse and mountaineering to name a few, all of

which have been very enjoyable, and everyone was very welcoming. Many recruits only pick up their sport in university. You’ll be sure to find the sport right for you. As there are many different sports there are many venues too. Training occurs across west (near Heathrow) to more central London. With most sports that are played on grass or 3G, training is at Harlington or Heston. It is worth noting that trips to-and-from Harlington are about 2-3 hour round trip via public transport from the main campus. The cost in time and money is substantial, although some clubs hire Imperial minibuses which can reduce

the cost. Indoor sports are mostly played at Ethos, Imperial’s sports hub, and rowing takes place at Imperial’s own boathouse in Putney. Training sessions can also take place in local parks (such as Hyde Park and Lillie Park), Union rooms, and non-imperial gyms. Imperial has two gyms, one in Ethos and one in Reynolds building, both with strength conditioning rooms that often hold sessions for sport’s teams with qualified coaches. Sports teams are also split broadly between IC (Imperial College) and ICSM (Imperial College School of Medicine). Pick your allegiances as you wish. The main difference is the location of sport’s nights, IC being at the Union and ICSM at Reynolds. If you have queries about any club, the best place to ask is during Freshers’ fair or get in contact with the club directly. If you’re interested in writing, be sure to get in touch at fsport@ic.ac.uk.

**“Try to take advantage of the opportunities available ”**