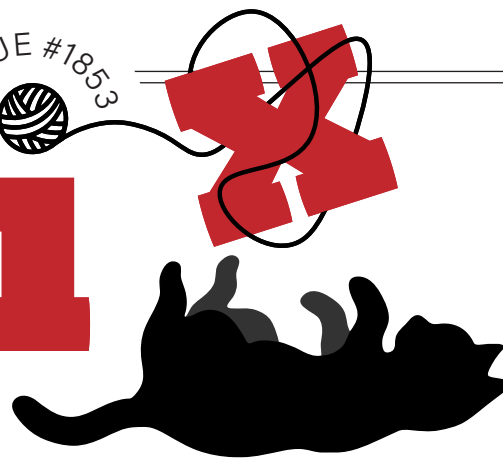


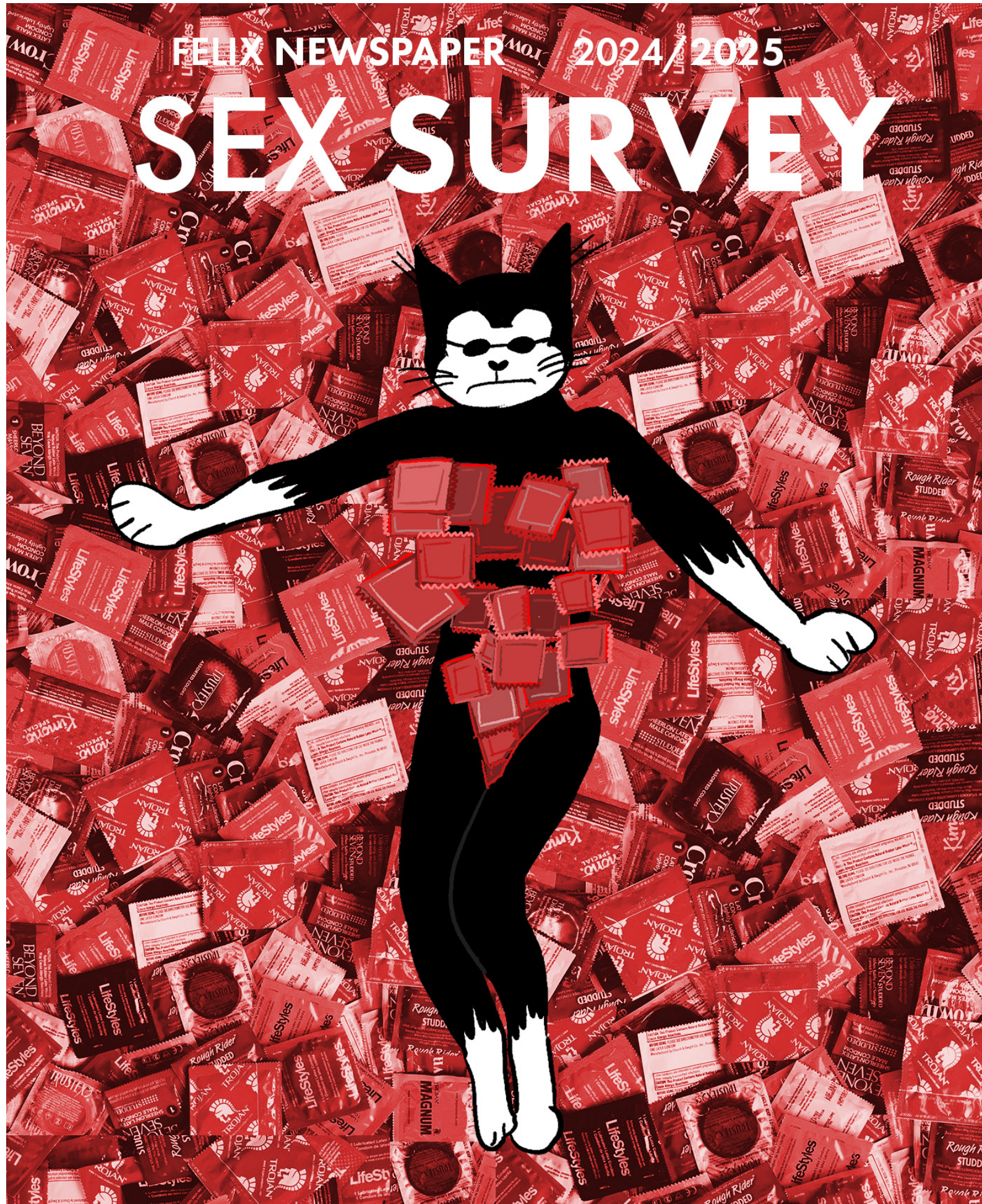
First published in 1949, Felix is released weekly during term time and is distributed around Imperial's London campuses. All students, staff, and alumni are welcome to contribute to the paper.

Felix

ISSUE #1853



KEEP THE CAT FREE | SINCE 1949



Ruby Lydford

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DECLARATION

At *Felix*, we believe that it is always in the interest of the students to be in the know. Transparency in the workings of the College and the work of your student representatives is key. Therefore we, the *Felix* Editors, on behalf of the team promise that:

We will, to the best of our ability, tell you the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

We will keep your confidence and will only publish something you say to us if you have explicitly said that we can.

We will work to expose unfairness and discrimination in all forms that it takes at the College.

We will treat fairly any article sent to us, regardless of point of view, and do our best to work with you to prepare it for publication.

Signed by:
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI
Editor-in-Chief

A special thanks to **Taylor Pomfret and Charlotte Probstel** for copyediting the vast majority of this week's issue

The Felix Team:



MOHAMMAD MAJLISI
Editor-in-Chief,
News Editor



TAYLOR POMFRET
Deputy Editor-in-Chief,
Sports Editor



CHARLOTTE PROBSTEL
Chair,
Societies Editor



TARUN NAIR
Chief Copyeditor
Film & TV Editor



RUBY LYDFORD
Publicity Officer,
Catnip Editor



ELIF CIVELEKOĞLU
Social Secretary,
Arts & Culture Editor



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Comments Editor



ADITI MEHTA
Books Editor



ALIA FRIEDMAN
Business Editor



GILBERT JACKSON
Arts Editor Emeritus



ROLANDO CHARLES
Photography Editor



EMIRI HOSOKAWA
Senior Webmaster



ELSON THO
Junior Webmaster



AMBER DUNMORE
Science Editor



AND OUR NUMEROUS
CONTRIBUTORS ...

Located at Beit Quad,
Prince Consort Road
London, SW7 2BB

Printed by Iliffe Media
Winship Road,
Milton, Cambridge
CB24 6PP

Registered Newspaper
ISSN 1040-0711

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Advertising

MEDIA	SIZE	PRICE (£)
Print	Quarter-Page	25
	Half-Page	30
	Full-Page	45

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EDITORIAL

We've come early...

Editor-in-Chief
MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

In a shock twist, *Felix* has launched the sex survey early. Building on last year's successful revival of the perennial favourite, we have decided to come early and launch our sex survey in term one.

Naysayers may argue that it is too early, and that freshers will perhaps fill in the survey too soon, which might be true, but Welcome Week is over. Gone is the tolerance for their loitering in the most inconvenient stairwells around our campus, and the deference we treated them in the first week of term. Instead, they will now have to face the same predicament as everyone else. Of course, freshers could wait for a while as they get it on with their flat and course mates and face the inevitable breakups that first term brings as they, like many others before them, try to make long distance work.

We've tried to streamline the questions, make it quicker, easier, more fun, and better for our respondents. We've cut down the number of textboxes, reduced the music questions to genres (The Weeknd is everyone's favourite sex artist, we get it), and added a few more questions to actually improve our understanding of the sex lives of Imperial students, especially when Generation Z appear to be having less sex than their preceding generations.

Coincidentally, we've timed our survey to have the results released around Valentine's Day, as it originally occurred during its conception, under the tenure of Editor-in-Chief Kadhim Shubber. Shubber, who now works as UK editor at the FT (see *Felix* 1827) launched it as a bit of "light-hearted" fun, which swelled in the 2010s to become much larger than it is today. There have been times where we have had to stop the sex survey, with a four year draught most recently between 2020 and 2024, but it's very much a *Felix* tradition at this point, and in an era where traditions across the College are dying out, not least the tradition of having a University experience, it's important to carry on those traditions that at least get people to pick up their copy on a Friday morning, and at most, provide the people who go to this miserable institution with some laughter and a topic to talk about.

The Felix Sex Survey



Felix has launched a survey into the sexual activities of the Imperial student! It's a light-hearted 'investigation' for our Valentine's Day issue at the beginning of February. The survey will ask you to sign in with your College details but don't be put off, your answers will remain 100% anonymous, especially to us, and all the data will be deleted as soon as we've compiled the data and made some pretty graphs. Please answer all the questions honestly but don't feel that you have to answer anything with which you are uncomfortable.

The survey can be found at:

www.felixonline.co.uk/sexsurvey

An announcement for the inaugural Sex Survey. Barely filling half a column, and only running for three weeks, the Sex Survey has seen many changes since its inception.

Rough Rankings

This week *Times Higher Education* (THE) launched their world ranking list for 2025. What's interesting to see is that in both *The Times* and *Times Higher Education*, we saw a drop in rankings for Imperial, compared to a massive jump in the QS world rankings.

The *Daily Mail* rankings don't count because it's a shit rag- Wikipedia stopped using it as a source in 2017, and its reputation in the UK is rock bottom, because it's quite

shoddy, even for a tabloid- this would be true regardless of its political leanings (it's quite right-wing). *The Mail*, on balance does have some decent enough coverage, but it wouldn't be unfair to say that most of its pages aren't. It was curious to see Imperial, with its new strategy of "Science for Humanity", and all the altruistic connotations it has, proudly touting the fact the *Mail's* rankings on its social media when the College topped the list earlier this summer. It's even funnier when, looking at the calibre and type of student Imperial attracts- who would more likely read *The Economist* or the *Financial Times*, the *Daily Mail* would have no real bearing on their choice to apply. Oh well, a win is a win, especially when the more prestigious listings from *The Times* saw it drop in rank.

Looking at the methodologies each system uses, it's interesting to see the difference in priority. QS, which publicises its weightings and rankings, focuses more on research and the quality of academic, whereas THE gets professionals in its voting groups to nominate universities based on its teaching and research separately, whereas *The Times* focussed this time on student experience, including free speech and student satisfaction, along with an increased weighting on sustainability. All three have their strengths and weaknesses, but ultimately for undergrads, and taught postgrads, there is really only one list they should focus on. Research means nothing when you have to wait ages for some poor overworked academic to mark your summative assessments.

NEWS

Student Experience Fund relaunches for this year

Editor-in-Chief

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

Imperial College Union relaunched the Student Experience fund for students who would be unable to afford taking part in the Union's activities and events on Wednesday 9th October. Originally launched last year, the fund is run by the Union, and funded jointly by the Union, the College, and Imperial College Trust.

Students on an Imperial Bursary will automatically receive the fund, in varying bands based on their bursary allowance. The threshold for recipients has been expanded for students whose household income is less than £70,000, and the Union is also aiming to fund non-bursary students, including both postgraduates and international students through a self-declaration form.

Initially the brainchild of Dylan Hughes, 2022/23 Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), it has been expanded upon by Christian Cooper, his successor, who was elected for a second term in earlier this year in March 2024.

Household Income	Allocation
< up to £16,000	£70.00
£25,000-£50,000	£50.00
£50,000-£55,000	£30.00
£55,000-£60,000	£25.00
£60,000-£70,000	£20.00

Imperial College Union

The allocations amounts above are accurate, but some students may find that their bursary has also taken into account additional factors so their amount received may not exactly match the table above.

Physics department second-worst performance in the NSS

Poor results revealed in a department meeting; Medicine tops London unis

News Writer

TARUN NAIR

Imperial's Department of Physics department has ranked the second worst in the UK in the National Student Survey (NSS) results this year, according to a meeting between faculty members and returning students on Monday.

The department was in the bottom three of 47 Physics departments nationally in all but one of the NSS themes – in two of which it came dead last.

The results come as another blow to Physics at Imperial in a series of consistently low results in the NSS. The department stayed in the bottom five in overall student satisfaction from 2017 to 2022 – ranking the worst Physics provider in

the country in 2020 – Felix reported in February 2023.

Physics was also one of four departments impacted significantly by the marking and assessment boycott last year, organised by the Imperial branch of the University and College Union (UCU) following pay rise disputes between the College and trade union representatives.

Students faced delays in marking and receiving results for some modules, with some then-first- and second-year Physics students not receiving marks for their summer exams until late December.

This led to the issuing of temporary passes, with the understanding that if students had failed, they would have to sit resits: either that August, before

results had arrived, or at the end of the following academic year.

The Faculty of Medicine featured on the other end of the spectrum, with Imperial top-ranked in all NSS themes across medicine programmes in London according to a College press release – including a 30 percentage point increase in "Assessment and Feedback" over the previous two years.

President Hugh Brady said: "Close collaboration with students, robust assessment and meaningful feedback are among the strengths of our School of Medicine".

"Our inspiring, research-rich medical education plays a vital role in training the next generation of doctors and clinician-scientists, for the benefit of the NHS and society as a whole."

NSS Themes	Positivity (%)	Rank
Teaching on my course	79.5	46/47
Learning Opportunities	71.5	47/47
Assessment and Feedback	45.7	47/47
Academic support	75.5	45/47
Organisation and Management	56.7	45/47
Learning Resources	87.2	38/47
Student Voice	53.5	45/47

The table shown is sourced from a presentation that the Department of Physics showed students on Monday 7th October. Of note is the fact that Learning Resources is the highest ranking theme. Conversely, Assessment and Feedback scored a positivity score of less than 50%.

Dual protests at the Science Museum and Queens Lawn

Parents for Palestine and Palestinian activist groups at Imperial held protests on Thursday

Editor-in-Chief

MOHAMMAD MAJLISI

News Writer

TARUN NAIR

Two protests occurred around Imperial College's South Kensington campus on Thursday 10th October. The first was a call for divestment towards the Science Museum by activist group Parents for Palestine occurred between 11:00am and 12:30pm, and the second was the first protest of the year by a bloc of pro-Palestinian activists based at Imperial College from 12:30pm to 1pm.

A separate protest took place on the Queen's Lawn – a group of around 30 protesters congregated with Palestinian flags and banners, accusing the UK government of complicity in the Israel Defense Forces' campaign in Gaza, as well as criticising Imperial College for its connections with companies such as BAE Systems, which have supplied technology to Israel.

Several speakers – including a member of the University and College Union (UCU) – directed the crowd, which grew to some 80 participants, in denouncing the inaction of the College, the UK, and the US alike, with chants such as “Keir Starmer, shame on you. Joe Biden, shame on you. Imperial College, shame on you.” One speaker said: “Biden has bloodied his hands.”

Among the attendants were members of the Imperial Friends of Palestine society, as well as the independent group Im-

perial Action for Palestine; also present were members of the Socialist Workers Party and an unknown Communist organisation – both distributed publications during the event.

Parents for Palestine is a “a UK-based grassroots collective of parents and caretakers from all backgrounds” according to their website. This protest was the fourth they have enacted against the Museum and Adani Green Energy partnership.

The protest was held because the “trustees have their quarterly meeting today”, said the activist. The group has also delivered a petition with 10,000 signatures requesting the Science Museum drop Adani Green Energy as its sponsor. The activist said that the Science Museum campaign was their “main divestment campaign at the moment.”

“Someone in our group was in touch with activists at the College”, said one of the Parents for Palestine protestors. “We have one ask and it's that the trustees for the Science Museum drop Adani [Green Energy] as a sponsor.”

In a press release seen by Felix, the activists call for divestment due to links between Adani Group – whose majority stakeholder Gautum Adani also occupies the same position in Adani Green Energy – and Israel. Adani Group has been said

to have been involved in “the manufacture of military equipment for the IDF including the Hermes 900 drones (with Elbit Systems), as well as assault and sniper rifles.”

The Science Museum said that the Trustees had not convened today as they had “met earlier this week,” adding that a new gallery on sustainable energy was “made possible by generous sponsorship from Adani Green Energy, a major renewable energy business.

“Globally, massive growth in renewable energy is required and we need the energy sector as a whole, alongside governments, to step up to this challenge.”

Adani Group has been reached for comment.

Monday 7th October marked the one-year anniversary of Hamas' attack on the Nova music festival and several surrounding kibbutzim, killing 1,200 people, and taking 251 hostages. Israel's ensuing offensive in Gaza has killed over 41,000 Palestinians according to the Palestinian Health Ministry.



Protestors on Queens Lawn. Walt Gao for Felix

COMMENTS

The ugly truth about British colonialism lies in the Indian Ocean



Aerial view of Diego Garcia island in the Chagos archipelago
LBJ Space Center - Wikimedia Commons

The announcement of the Chagos Islands hand-over to Mauritius couldn't come soon enough.

Comments Writer
TARUN NAIR

The reader, living in the Commonwealth age, might be surprised by the revelation that this country, recent agreement notwithstanding, still has a colony. The Chagos Archipelago was acquired by the British government from the then-colony of Mauritius in 1965 for £3 million, and declared the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT); but on 3rd October – almost 60 years later – the UK declared that it would transfer sovereignty back to the Mauritian government. While the distant memory of the Iraq War might lead one to believe that the UK has never lost the imperialist zeal that made and sustained the Empire in centuries past, by the 1980s nearly every colony had broken free. That the Chagos Islands has not followed suit in the four decades since, at first face seems strange. On the other hand, considering the dearth, absence even, of education in schools about the nation's role in colonial-era atrocities, “surprise” is perhaps too strong a description.

What is certainly far more shocking is the thoughtless attitude that the country displayed to Chagossians; moreso the fact that successive governments have all shown an unchanging level of

contempt to the native islanders as the latter protest this injustice. In an effort to depopulate the region to build a joint military base on the largest island Diego Garcia, for American and its own use, the British government forcibly displaced 1,500 to 1,750 inhabitants – referred to as “Tarzans or Men Fridays” in a 1966 diplomatic cable by D. A. Greenhill – between 1967 and 1973. Officials went as far as to intimidate “the remaining population to leave, including by killing their dogs,” according to a report by Human Rights Watch in 2023.

The UK has since barred anyone, including ex-residents, from entry – even going as far as to declare the region a Marine Protected Area (MPA) in 2010. During an arbitral tribunal held in 2015 to discuss MPA establishment, the British side reasoned that “the region is still pristine as a result of non-settlement, and should remain one of the very few such rare areas in the world”; yet this makes the staggering assumption that the Ilois way of life would pose a major danger to marine life. On the contrary, conservationists argue that the presence of – and active dialogue with – indigenous people is absolutely necessary for projects like this to be effective: in an interview with The Times, marine ecologist Dr Mark Spalding noted that “the world of conservation is littered with failures where the people

involved were not consulted” and that if Chagossians are later allowed to resettle, “Why should they want to cooperate with the conservation groups running roughshod over them?” All this indicates that the unspoken intent of these proceedings is to further quash any chances of resettlement.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ), the highest court in the UN, advised in February 2019 that the “the United Kingdom is under an obligation to bring to an end its administration of the Chagos Archipelago as rapidly as possible,” describing its current sovereignty as “a wrongful act entailing the international responsibility of that



The unspoken intent is to quash any chances of resettlement

State”. A UN General Assembly vote in May on the back of these conclusions ended 116 to 6, overwhelmingly in favour of demanding withdrawal from the archipelago within six months. These went ignored until November 2022, when then-Foreign Secretary James Cleverly made a statement announcing that the “UK and Mauritius have decided to begin negotiations” on Chagos's sovereignty – then last week lambasted the Prime

Minister over the result of what he had started.

Indeed, from both within and without the Conservative party, the 3rd October statement has met some opprobrium, with some fearing that Chagos could set a precedent that could see the Falkland Islands and Gibraltar, both disputed territories, fall out of British control as well. Others argue that the arrangement could give China intelligence on the clandestine activity of the Diego Garcia base, pointing to the high volume of Mauritian imports coming from the superpower.

But the biggest problem with this, highlighted by Chagossians themselves, is that two years of negotiations have in effect changed nothing. The shift in power doesn't change the fact that their land is still under the authority of another state. The 1,000 or so inhabitants expelled from Diego Garcia, their children, and their grandchildren will never see home again in their lifetimes – the UK said in the joint statement that it would retain the base for a minimum of 99 years. One could even doubt that Mauritius will be willing to put the money where their mouth is and commit to resettlement, given that in the two years of talks the Ilois were not consulted even once. A sad conclusion, perhaps, but in a tale of colonial brutality and continued disregard, one can't really be too surprised.

Felix

SURVEY

SURVEY

DO YOU LIKE
TO TAKE
CONTROL?



FILM&TV

The Substance

An unapologetically distasteful look at the price of youth, vanity, and identity, that asks how far you would go for adoration.

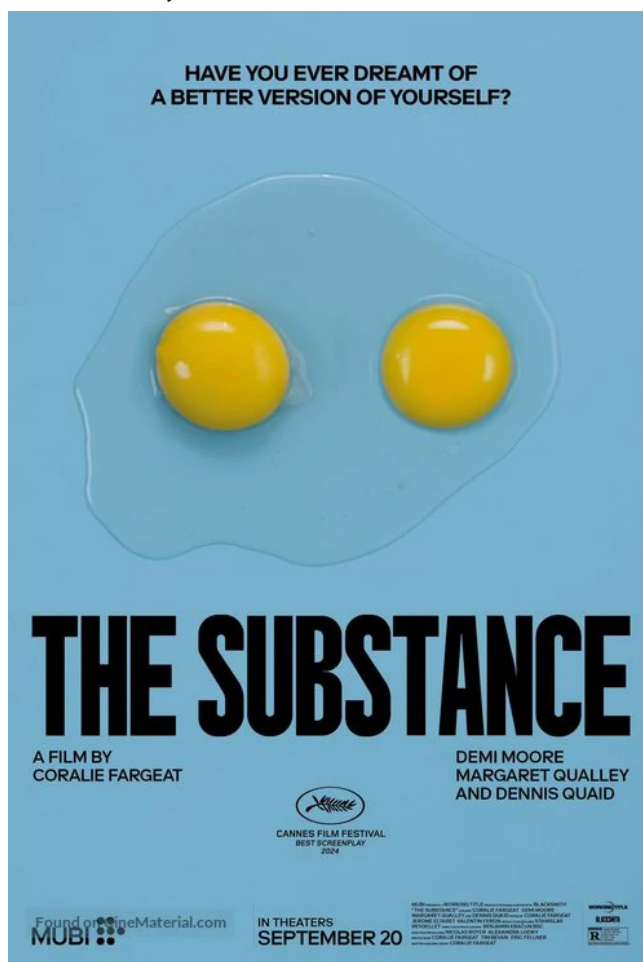
Film Writer
JYOTSANA DASOONDI

You've probably heard of *The Substance*. The body horror, written and directed by Coralie Fargeat, starring Demi Moore and Margaret Qualley has been a topic of discussion ever since its premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in May. It has garnered headlines after leading to theatre walkouts due to its graphic content and has been labeled as misogynistic overkill by critics. However, it has been embraced with open arms by many others, who feel that the film's blunt and explicit tone is exactly what gives it nuance.

The story follows Elisabeth Sparkle (Moore), the middle-aged host of a popular daytime fitness show, who is introduced to the Substance after discovering that she is about to lose her job to a younger woman. Those who inject themselves with the Substance grow a younger version of themselves from within their own body. They can exist as their "alternate" for a week at a time, before they must revert and live as their older self for a week. Failure to adhere comes with a price. The two share a consciousness but cannot be awake at the same time. Most importantly, one cannot exist without the other: they are one. Elisabeth's alternate, Sue (Qualley), eventually replaces her as the host of her TV show, and resentment starts to grow between them. As Sue begins to feel that one week at a time isn't enough, she starts taking liberties at Elisabeth's expense. This leads to rising tensions that eventually spiral out of control as Elisabeth begins to deteriorate more and more with each transition while Sue becomes increasingly disgusted by how Elisabeth spends her week.

Both Moore and Qualley, along with Dennis Quaid, who plays the effortlessly unlikable executive Harvey, give stellar performances. The casting in this film is incredibly intentional. Moore, with a career spanning

over 40 years, is no stranger to having her appearance scrutinised by the tabloids. I would bet money that she has been told by men that she is "past her prime". She is no longer young enough, sexy enough, profitable enough. Qualley, on the other hand, is. And, like Sue, she has probably found herself in rooms full of powerful, wealthy men, who can do nothing but gawk at her and tell her to smile. These characters are rooted in their reality.



Visually, the film is stunning. Benjamin Kračun, the cinematographer, does an amazing job of bringing Elisabeth's overly saturated reality to life. Her egg-yolk yellow jacket serves as a reminder of how ridiculous this all is. Anyone would look silly wearing it. Moments of comedy like this help in keeping up the pace of the film, taking the edge off the more gory scenes. And

there are far too many gory scenes in this film.

I would like to clarify that some graphic scenes were necessary. I would strongly advise those with an aversion to needles and sutures to not watch the film, but scenes showing the injection of the Substance were done tastefully and had the intended effect. I was uncomfortable but intrigued. Towards the end of the film, when we had seen enough blood and decayed body parts, it started to become overkill. While you could find it refreshing that female pain is not being romanticised for once, after the initial shock value wears off these scenes do nothing to develop ideas or the plot further. Their comical nature is the only saving grace towards the end of the 2 hour 20 minutes movie. I'm not going to say that I personally found them tedious, but I understand why someone else would. They distract from the essence of the film, which is about a lonely woman, who does something desperate, and it backfires on her – and this isn't emphasised enough.



These characters are rooted in their reality.

The Substance is a movie that tells us a lot about where we are now. It's brazen, blunt, and offers no solutions. It is a mirror and a rabbit hole. Setting the movie in Hollywood, where a woman's body and youth is her livelihood, raises the stakes even higher. But it removes Elisabeth Sparkle further from reality. Personally, I can't see all of myself in Elisabeth, but I can see enough of myself in her to be scared. Everybody has done stupid things in order to be liked. Everybody has made rash decisions that they have ended up regretting, albeit with much less dire consequences. But with the same sense of urgency, and the same inflated sense of importance. However, I know that, unlike Elisabeth, I have people in my life who really love me. She was alone when she made the decision to take the Substance, she had no one to challenge her, no one she thought would miss her. That was ultimately what led to her demise.

After the movie ended, I left the cinema with the desire to look after myself. To do my morning stretches, take my vitamins, and reconnect with friends from my childhood. I don't want to become bitter and resentful when I'm older, but I also don't want to spend my youth worrying about that. I truly believe that Elisabeth's fate would have been different if she knew who she was and had good people around her. It's a pretty crazy takeaway from a film with that much blood and nudity and Dennis Quaid. To me, that's its beauty.

BOOKS

Ink and Identity: Narratives of Palestine

Nadeen gives a personal reflection on key Palestinian literature that deeply resonated with her.

Books Writer
NADEEN DAKA

This week marks a year since the beginning of Israel's ongoing bombardment in Gaza, an event that has intensified focus on the Palestinian struggle. From large-scale protests across the UK to our own university encampment, there has been an increase in global conversation about the realities Palestinians face.

However, the story of Palestine did not begin recently, nor is it confined to moments of publicised crisis. It stretches back thousands of years. One of the most enduring ways this history has been persevered and shared is through literature, a powerful medium for the narration of displacement, exile, and resilience.

Over the past year, three works by Palestinian authors have particularly resonated with me, offering historical, personal, and fictional perspectives on Palestine. These books not only offer intimate insights into the Palestinian experience but also invite readers from all backgrounds to engage with the rich culture and humanity of a group of people whose voices are often marginalised. What makes these works so compelling is their stylistic diversity – one is a scholarly exploration, another a deeply personal memoir, and the third a piece of

fiction – demonstrating the versatility of Palestinian literature in addressing its complex issues.

***Palestine: A Four Thousand Year History* by Professor Nur Masalha**

Nur Masalha's novel is a scholarly yet accessible work that dismantles myths about Palestine being a land without a people. Masalha traces the history of Palestine from antiquity to modern times, illustrating its deep roots in the region's history and geography. I found this book particularly powerful because it educates readers on how Palestine's existence predates colonial narratives, emphasizing that the land and its people have a long and complex history. It's an eye-opening read for anyone seeking to understand the historical context of the Palestinian struggle beyond modern politics.

***I Saw Ramallah* by Mourid Barghouti**

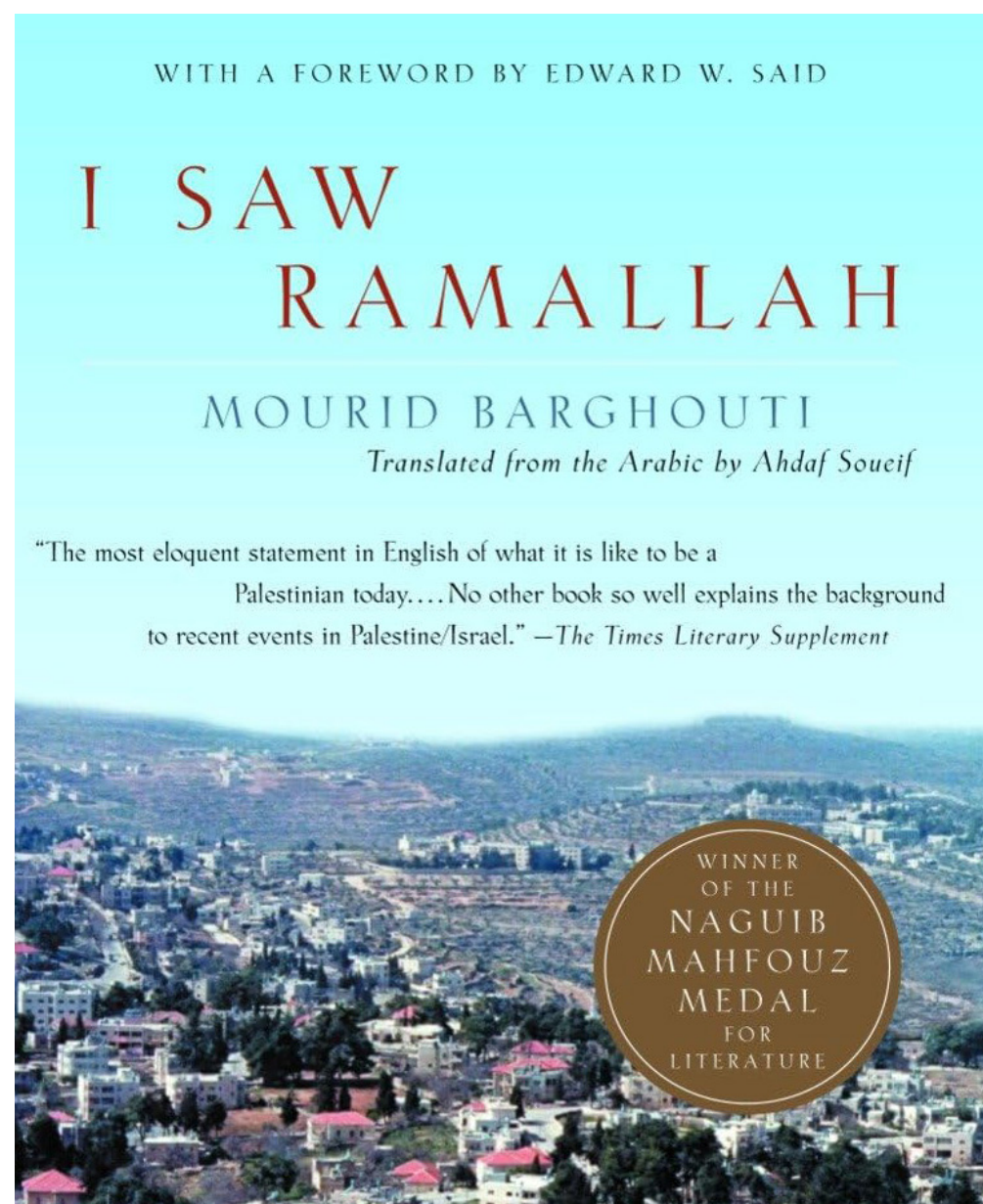
Written after his return to Palestine following 30 years of exile, *I Saw Ramallah* is a deeply personal and poignant memoir by poet Mourid Barghouti. The book beautifully captures the feelings of displacement and longing for home that so many Palestinians experience. Barghouti's reflections on the fragmented landscape, both physical and emotional, resonate profoundly with anyone who

has experienced exile. His prose, poetic and sharp, offers an intimate portrayal of a homeland he knows through memory and distance. This memoir serves as a reminder of the personal costs of displacement and the enduring hope of return.

***Men in the Sun* by Ghassan Kanafani**

Men in the Sun is a powerful novella that uses fiction to highlight the harsh realities faced by Palestinian refugees. The

story follows three Palestinian men who attempt to escape the dire conditions of refugee camps by smuggling themselves to Kuwait. Kanafani's narrative weaves together themes of exile, desperation, and betrayal, illustrating the consequences of statelessness and loss. In its brevity, this book delivers an enduring message about the human cost of displacement. Written in the 1960s, it reminds readers that the plight of Palestinian refugees is not just a historical issue, but an ongoing struggle that echoes in the present day.



Front cover of *I Saw Ramallah* by Mourid Barghouti Amazon

Private Pages, Public Ethics

Books editor, Aditi, questions the morality of reading posthumously published work.

Books Editor
ADITI MEHTA

Like any teenage girl who read *The Bell Jar* as a rite of passage, I became fascinated with its author, Sylvia Plath, and the mystery surrounding her life (and death, suicide at age 30). This summer, I sat down to read the 768-page-long series of journal entries titled *The Unabridged Journals of Sylvia Plath*. This edition is supposedly the most complete version of her journals, offering a direct window into her life.

I told my best friend (an equally, if not more, avid admirer of Plath's work – demonstrated by her choice to write her 4000-word extended essay on *Ariel*, Plath's most renowned poetry collection) about starting the book. In her usual contemplative manner, she asked me if I thought reading Plath's journals was an intrusion into the deceased author's privacy.

I pondered about it in relation to my own experience. My diary is unequivocally personal – a snapshot of my innermost thoughts spanning fragments of my life, utterly candid, and absolved of restraint. The thought of someone reading my journal, dead or alive, makes me rather queasy. Why shouldn't the same have applied to Plath?

The deeper I got into Plath's journals, the more I gained conviction that they were not for millions of strangers to see. They read like butter. Plath's language,

overwhelming and intimate, spanning years without a plot, are pages upon pages of mastery. I often found myself uneasy, disturbed both by her ennui and my fluttering jealousy of her craft. Yet I couldn't bring myself to stop.

A question of consent

Less than halfway through the book, I arrived at the paradox that underlies any published autobiographical work. To be an authentic, unfiltered version of the author's thoughts, the journals must be written without any intention of them being published.



Mortimer Rare Book Room, Smith College, Massachusetts Eleanor Freidmann Klein

Franz Kafka's last wishes were clear: he wanted his diaries, letters, manuscripts and drawings to be burned. Many were published posthumously. This issue re-

mains relevant today and extends beyond literature. Mac Miller's unfinished music continues to be released after his death, while Tyler, The Creator stated in his will that he will not allow his incomplete work to be released after he dies.

The simple truth is that we will never know if Plath wanted her journals to be published. This uncertainty is central to the ethical dilemma of reading *The Unabridged Journals*. Can Plath's work be rightfully appreciated if reading it feels like an act of voyeurism?

Truth vs misconception

The journals may bring truth to the complexity of Plath's life. In certain instances, you see the vagaries of Plath's thoughts; in others, you see her as a product of the society in which she was raised. These entries unravel the ambiguity of her literary ambitions and her ideas of life as a woman, wife, and mother. Though many people confound the mentally ill protagonist Esther Greenwood from her 1963 novel *The Bell Jar* with Plath herself, the diaries may aid in separating the person from the persona.

Despite this, Plath's young suicide remains a subject of speculation. The book is missing entries from her final two years, which Ted Hughes, her widower, admitted to destroying under the pretext

raises critical questions about who controls Plath's legacy – and now that she is gone, who reaps its benefits?

History or art?

Disregarding the moral argument, some value Plath's journals purely as a literary masterpiece. I certainly sympathise with that.

However, the issue arises with an incorrect expectation of biographical ma-



Can Plath's work be rightfully appreciated if reading it feels like an act of voyeurism?

terial (which this text fundamentally is): conflating art with a record of raw thoughts and emotion. Far too many reviews dismiss *The Unabridged Journals* as boring, complaining about Plath's navigation of societal expectations or dismissing her as anti-feminist. But the work shouldn't tarnish Plath's reputation, and no one should be rebuked for writing down their private thoughts.

So, who has the right to know?

The diaries evidence Plath as a devastatingly complicated individual, as with any human being. They shed light on some of her shades of grey, but certainly only a fraction.

It can be argued that the diaries humanise Plath, giving her depth beyond 'the writer who stuck her head in an oven'. Yet it is equally dehumanising for her most vulnerable moments to be laid bare without her permission.

Ultimately, I find myself asking who – if anyone – has the right to know? Does the mere fact that a public figure is 'public' grant people the right to obsess over their private lives?

There is no point in wondering if we will ever really know Plath. The real question is whether our misguided quest for understanding leads to an irrevocable violation of another's privacy.

of protecting their children. The destruction of her journals only deepens the scrutiny and misconceptions surrounding what drove her to a tragic end. This

FOOD & TRAVEL

Olympics! Oh-la-la!



Paris 2024
Swimming
pictogram (left).
Mascot, mimicking
Napoleon's hat
(right).
www.theolympicdesign.com
tickets.paris2024.org

The 2024 Olympics are spectacular on screen, yet a live viewing gives us a raw uncut experience filled with little unique memories and thoughts.

Travel Writer EMILIE STONE

Streets are closed off, police are patrolled around every corner working as street-signs for alternative routes, and the city has never seemed cleaner or better staffed than it was this summer, during the 33rd Olympic Games. Despite the sheer chaos that followed up to the events, where we didn't have our tickets nor hotels confirmed, we found the entire trip and events ran with relative ease. My friends and I attended the Men's 50m Freestyle Final, Women's 200m Backstroke Final, Men's 200m Individual Medley Final, Men's 100m Butterfly Semi-finals and Women's 200m Individual Medley Semi-finals. We also saw the warm-ups, the athletes whom the camera did not film and all the other behind-the-camera movements, which highlighted the vast organisational requirements behind the planning of the events.

Entry and merchandise

The Paris La Défense arena, which hosted the swimming, opened up an hour and a half before the official start at 8.30pm. Within 10 minutes, we had passed the check-in, security and found our seats. With our what-do-we-do-now look, we knew we wanted to eat dinner, and find some merchandise. We exited the building to head towards the long, yet quickly moving line around the little hut staffed with a dozen of cashiers spread out over 20 meters. As we stood in line, grateful for the time to check out all the merchandise, I asked myself: what will last long? Which merchandise will

break easily and which will not lose its style? Over the years, I noticed that with merchandise, such as PEZ dispensers, large keychains, pens or t-shirts with massive labels, that they will soon either degrade due to quality or become my pajamas or rags. A 500% markup pays for the name, not the quality. So I set my eyes on a very expensive €50 t-shirt in dark blue with a



La Défense arena, host of the Paris 2024 Olympic Swimming finals and semi-finals *Emilie Stone*

white and simple "2024 Paris" text on the front. Something, I felt confident I would want to wear for many years. At the cashier, the women behind the counter was relaxed enough to allow us to open up the t-shirts for size inspection, but quick and efficient enough to not waste any-time. As we aimed to pay, we were surprised to learn that only one card was accepted, Visa. 'Visa dominates France', my friend proceeds to explain. 'It is la carte bleue (the blue card)'. Fascinating, I thought. Luckily, we had one Visa card between us four. Cash was not accepted.

Warm-up and the races

While we waiting, I headed to the edge of our section to watch the athletes warm-up. Watching some athletes swim lap after lap made my friend say 'their warm-up is my workout'. A sudden

darkness signalled the start of the event and everyone scrambled towards their seat. A well-curated video promoting the grandness of athleticism, mixed with images of French culture, such as Monet's waterlilies, played on the large screens – something clearly designed for the fans watching online! A light show accompanied the loud music. As the

show ended, a few muffled sentences were announced in French and English before the first male athletes entered the arena to begin the Men's 50m Freestyle. For all five events, the athletes, most of them American, British, Australian, Canadian or French, were deeply focused – to the point that the crowd were background noise to them. A moment of silence was asked, the gun shot and the swimmers dove. The audience cheered loudly, mostly for the French swimmers. Once the first swimmer reached the final edge, a loud array of clapping filled the scene and would already die by the time the last swimmer would arrive.

The athletes exited the pool and headed towards the journalists. Behind the camera, we could see athletes congratulating each other, hugging and shaking hands. Very efficiently, the next

event would be announced, introducing each athlete. As everything was going on, I took notice of the staff collecting the athletes warm-up clothes, some staff in suits monitoring the edges of the pools to ensure proper conduct, scuba-divers scowering the floor before and after the event, the masses of security all around and an army of reporters seated along one length of the stadium.

Marchand, McIntosh, McEvoy, McKeown

This event introduced some interesting athletes. Australian's Cameron McEvoy and Kaylee McKeown took home two thirds of the gold medals. It was unsurprising to learn that the Australians are good swimmers. McKeown swam two events, winning gold in 200m Backstroke and returning for the 200m Medley Semi-finals. No other athletes competed twice that night. French swimmer Leon Marchand won the 200m Individual Medley beautifully, when you could see him leading in the middle lane, the other swimmers flanking him like birds flying south for the winter. 17-year old Canadian Summer McIntosh dominated the 200m and 400m Medley, setting an Olympic record for the former.

With three finals came three ceremonies. As the two Australian gold medalists stood proudly, we listened to the Australian national anthem twice, in guiltless silence. Compare this to Marchand's ceremony, the French crowd sang in grandiose pride the national anthem. Listening to a few thousand people sing together was an experience lost to those watching online. As was seeing President Macron in the audience.

BUSINESS

FanDuel's \$559 million sale: how founders and employees ended up with nothing

The costly lessons for start-up founders in valuation, drag-along rights, and funding.

BUSINESS WRITER
DANIELA FIRAM

Typically, the announcement of a nearly half a billion-dollar acquisition of a start-up would be met with celebration and wealth, however in the case of FanDuel, the founders and employees left with outrage and worthless stock options. The acquisition deal, structured by the company's investors, had ensured that late-stage investors were the only involved parties who walked away with the \$559 million payout. Although the case occurred in 2018 and continues to work itself through various legal systems due allegations of collusion on the part of its investors, its lessons for founders and those interested in start-ups remain relevant, especially for the Imperial grad.

FanDuel was founded in 2009 in Edinburgh as a daily fantasy sports (DFS) company and quickly rose to prominence. Between 2009 and 2014, it raised \$88 million and by 2015, it had achieved a valuation of \$1.2 billion after securing a \$275 million Series E round from major investors like KKR, Shamrock Ventures (Disney's family investment firm), Google, and NBC. Yet beneath the surface the company was in trouble. While FanDuel made \$124 million in annual revenue, it was spending multiples of that on marketing in an effort to dominate the DFS industry. This led to a significant

cash burn, and by 2017, management was running out of options. A failed merger attempt with DraftKings—blocked by government regulators over antitrust concerns—only worsened the situation.

With nowhere to turn, Paddy Power Betfair, now rebranded as Flutter Entertainment, made an offer to acquire the company for \$465 million in stock, not cash (the actual sale, however, was \$558 million). The value was significantly lower than FanDuel's internal valuation and would leave the founders and employees with nothing. However, the company accepted the terms, and the group went on to become FanDuel. To understand how the deal came to be and why it was pushed through knowledge of three key terms are required: valuation, liquidation, and drag along rights.

Valuation refers to the estimated worth of a company and was the beginning of FanDuel's problems. While FanDuel's valuation increased through multiple rounds of funding and appeared to indicate the company's growing success, it was simultaneously raising the price the company would need to secure to return money back to its investors. This could only be achieved in two ways. Either the company would need to sell for a price higher than what it had been valued at, or it would have to go public through an IPO at a valuation that justified the returns expected by investors. As investor money poured in the achievability of either became more and more difficult.

The next key term to understand is liquidation preference. In a liquidation preference, certain investors are given priority in the event of a sale or liquidation of a company. For example, if an investor has twice the liquidation preference, they are entitled to receive twice their original investment before any other participants. When FanDuel sold for \$558 million dollars, later stage investors took the first cut of the money before other shareholders like the founders and the employees could. Once the terms of the investments had been satisfied there was no money left over for shareholders who did not have priority to claim it.

Given the offer and liquidation preferences which would leave the majority of the stakeholders with nothing – why did the deal go through? The answer lies in drag-along rights and the distinction between preferred and common shareholders. Drag-along rights allow the majority of preferred shareholders to force the common (or “ordinary”) shareholders to follow the preferences of the preferred shareholders. In this case, the preferred majority, represented by KKR and Shamrock who held 21% and 15% respectively of the total preferred shares were collectively designated “dragging shareholders” and could force the common shareholders to accept the deal even if it disadvantaged them.

Though readers and certain FanDuel employees may rightfully feel the deal was unfair, focusing solely on the ques-

tionable actions of some of the investors overlooks the more significant errors made by FanDuel's leadership in managing the company's growth. They over-raised and took on too much debt. This forced them into unfavorable venture financing deals. Another unusual decision was to turn to private equity (PE) rather than traditional venture capital (VC). The two differ in philosophy and incentives. PE tends to focus on gaining control of the companies accepting investment and then seeking return on their investment, while VC is less focused on control and invests in many companies. Its objective is for an astronomical return from one of their portfolio companies to balance out losses. Founders typically cede less control and have a closer incentive alignment with VC than compared to PE.

From the point of view of ambitious Imperial students, FanDuel is a helpful case study. One must always ensure a high level of understanding behind the terms of the deal and its incentive structures: the value of your common stock can become worthless, and mismanagement or unfavorable terms can dictate your company's direction.

While start-ups offer exciting technical opportunities, the smart engineer also understands that knowledge of business terms is also critical. Luckily, Felix's business section is here to help.

Felix

STARK SUPREMEY

HAVE YOU
FELT
THE FIZZ?



Autumn ELECTIONS

2024

VOTE
NOW



Nominations open

Monday 7 October 2024, 12pm

Voting opens

Monday 21 October 2024, 12pm



Dogging disaster

Catnip Writer
NEGAFELIX

South Kensington dog walkers were left shocked after visiting the ‘DogSoc x Kinky Club Top Ten Dogging Spots’ published last week. The collaboration project between the two societies aroused a few concerns, notably backlash from animal welfare activists, yet also gained a huge amount of publicity for the societies after a rather “limp, wet” freshers’ fair. To investigate further, NegaFelix interviewed the DogSoc Social Secretary Menry Hilne.

“I am in no way condoning that our societies participate in these activities together. While we both have our respective furry friends, these two things should be kept separate. This list was intended to point out different

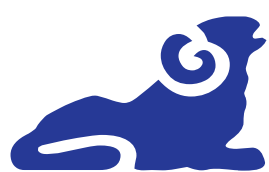
sensory beauties that both dogs and humans alike can enjoy. It’s all natural, really. It is purely coincidence that both our societies involve the scatological.”

Although there was public outrage, one student passerby, Wown Ilkinson, told us: “The Border Collies were thoroughly impressed with the sights”.

On another note, Duke Lee, a committee member of the church opposite Imperial on Exhibition Road, informed us that since the list has been published membership to the Hyde Park Chapel has skyrocketed. “I am not concerned about the contents: anything that brings anyone closer to The Book of Mormon is a good thing,” Lee wrote on the church Instagram page. We enquired asking if there was an IC Mormon Society due to the number of Mormons talking to students, and gathered the response “not officially.”

DogSoc x Kinky Club Top Ten Dogging Spots

10. h-bar Toilets: starting off with a classic, and a joint love of urine.
9. Union Storage Room: highly possible that you could find some toys.
8. Queen’s Tower scaffolding: though you may not enjoy heights, this recreates the experience of a hike, so could be added to your Strava account.
7. Blakett gender-neutral toilets: no exclusion, gender-affirming.
6. White City shuttle: the best part about the White City Campus, since it gets you out.
5. Huxley Building: specifically take note of the multi-level tunnels, private yet with great exploration.
4. Great Hall main stage: roleplay opportunities high, large open space to throw a ball.
3. Church of Latter-Day Saints Hyde Park Chapel: helpful, enthusiastic staff. Advise telling them you are married.
2. Roderic Hill Building wind tunnel: fantastic sensory experience. Feels sci-fi, yet natural.
1. On Alert’s “knees”: who doesn’t love some climbing? Also works as a comfortable viewing spot bench.



ARIES

This week you plan your graduation post caption and make an urgent note to thank Beyonce



TAURUS

This week you realise the union two pint cups make for the perfect bedpan.



GEMINI

This week you plan your novel yet camp duo Halloween costume. You argue over who gets to be “sexy cranberry juice” and who is “urinary tract infection”



CANCER

This week you put you “love honey” on your Hinge profile and receive fourteen likes asking about vibrators. A nice old man messages you asking if you’re a bear.



LEO

This week you decide to stand for Working Class Officer in the Autumn Elections because you have a job.



VIRGO

This week you and your group project partner decide to work it out on the remix when you threaten to email your supervisor.



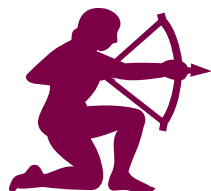
LIBRA

This week your boyfriend releases his Grammy considerations poster for his Boiler Room DJ set live album from a club in Shoreditch



SCORPIO

This week you tap into Christian Girl Autumn and buy a bobble hat and a pumpkin spice latte. Your flatmate says that is cultural appropriation.



SAGITTARIUS

This week you get fomo from International Lesbian Day, so you google “When is Bisexual with Boyfriend Awareness Week?”.



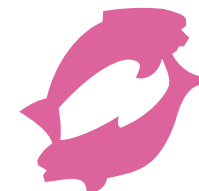
CAPRICORN

This week you realise you will never have time to learn to drive in your entire life



AQUARIUS

This week you buy the Trump Eras t-shirt to impress a girl in Swiftsoc. It doesn’t go as planned, and your groin department is tortured.



PISCES

This week an espresso martini leaves a £22 “black hole” in your bank account

UNION & SOCIETIES

Morning run, then breakie? They've got you.

ICRunning hosted its first Sunday breakfast run in Fulham, to welcome new members on a 5K, 8K or 12K run around the Thames river.

Union & Societies Editor
CHARLOTTE PROBSTEL

Imperial College's Track & Field Athletics society, ICRunning, kicked off the first of its weekly Sunday breakfast runs in Fulham last weekend. Members and non-members, the latter still allowed to try out the society for free until the 14th of October, met at 10am in front of one of the member's house, to drop of any bags, to change into athletic clothes and to chatter with other students before the run began. Student's arrived in groups of two or alone, aiming to make new friends at the event.

At 10:15am, the mass of 60-70 students waited for the Chair, Euan, to announce the plan. Students were welcomed and asked to split into three groups, the 5K, 8K or 12K running group, each group



At least 60 students from various years, departments and courses arrived Sunday morning ICRunning

smaller than the previous. After a quick picture was taken, groups sped off into different directions. The group running the 12K headed towards the north-western curve of the Thames River, passing Hammersmith Bridge, only to cross into the southside at Barnes Bridge and returning to Fulham.

Within the three groups, smaller sub-groups quickly formed as a result of students running at their comfortable pace. Some students socialised while

running, others spared their breath on their run, while solo-runners enjoyed the cold, yet semi-polluted air of London's traffic in their own company. Despite the riverside path, some stretches of the path were besides busy roads.

At the end of the run, some members claimed they got lost on the path, running in zig-zags through neighbourhoods. Other students announced themselves lost in the groupchats. In response, committee members shared their live

locations.

Finally, a breakfast of buttered toast, beans, fried eggs, baked sausages, mandarins and bananas was served to everyone. Vegetarian and vegan options were also available. Students socialised in every corner of the house, some finding space on the street outside.

Locations will change weekly, with different members hosting. A reimbursement of £50 is granted for food, plates and cutlery.

A fresher Fresher's Fair perspective

Union & Societies Writer
ZAIN FLETCHER

As soon as I left my health and safety lecture, I found myself in Dalby Court in what was supposed to be

the final area of the fair. It wasn't long before I picked up how the fair worked with scanning QR codes to get the details of each of the societies present.

After getting details for three societies I planned on joining, a sticker, a couple of sweets, and successfully evading a financial society by convincing them that I don't want a job, I had to cover from the storm while my more prepared friend kept exploring. By the time I was once again able to brave the rain, the security had decided to implement the

most ridiculously congested one-way system they could think of, so we had to go down the ramp to the hobbies, where I would find some of the quirkier societies in addition to failing to resist the urge to investigate the sea shanty society's stall (they had a blahaj and chocolate, truly a most despicable marketing technique).

After avoiding the storm's worst by retreating to the library cafe for lunch, I unfortunately had to go through the rest of the one-way system the correct way due to the greater security around. After

seeing a person dressed in racing gear being pushed around on a luggage trolley and wondering why on earth the medics had their own dedicated section, I would make my way back up to the now much emptier Dalby Court, taking one last look before heading back to my halls to escape the now returning rainstorm.

Overall, I found it quite nice visiting all the different stalls despite all the rain present. Although now I'm a bit worried about how I'm going to manage an extra 8 new societies.

Sports Night kicks off on a high for the new year

Imperial College Union hosted an impressive night for veterans and freshers alike

Union & Societies Writer
BARNABY HILTON-ROYCE

Wednesday 2nd October saw the Beit venues host this academic year's inaugural "Wednesdays @ Beit", colloquially known as Sports Night and *Felix* sent their roving Societies correspondent, Barnaby Hilton-Royce on the scene on his first Sports Night ever to discover how the experience was for freshers and seasoned revellers this year.

Initially the night started off very slowly, with a relatively few numbers of people at Beit Quad- relatively few to what it would become, but it was an extremely busy night at both FiveSixEight and the Union Bar to begin with. Rugby and Netball had already claimed their territory within the Union bar, and when I first managed to squeeze into the tiny room, already filled to beyond capacity by Rugby in the middle, and Netball cooped off in the side, it was beginning to get rowdy, although rugby players familiar with the matter did comment that 'it's not even started yet'. Many were beginning to get inebriated by the megapints they tended to drink but were still conscious enough to comment on the night ahead. When asked about the night, one rugby member said it was 'exciting'.

Outside the bars, there was more lively activity. Members of a group claiming to be from SOAS Orienteering were willing to be interviewed. *Felix* is unsure how they managed to get in. 'So, for me... I describe ACC [Athletic Clubs Committee] or Sports Night as a girl, and when I talk

to her, I feel amazing'. Said one member smoking outside. Ben James, another member from SOAS orienteering said they would sum up sports nights with

to tell them it's my birthday'. He had just turned 19 and was about to spend his evening with an unknown sports club.

By 9pm, what an anonymous source



Top - netball players dressed in the "things that men abuse". Bottom - inside Metric on Sports Night. Barnaby Hilton-Royce

'one word: mega-Carling.'

Felix was able to find a singular first year willing to talk about their first time at the event. 'It's a wild night, I'm scared

close to the matter would describe as the "big ones" - football, cricket, hockey, and rugby - had arrived, and people were slowly filling into Metric, the Union club



and music venue. A female member from hockey was kind enough to be interviewed on the dancefloor: 'join hockey to meet your future partner, housemate or best friend'. When pressed on the partner bit of her pitch (and whether hockey is incestuous, she clarified: 'I wouldn't call it incestuous, I would call it fate. I would call it like, you meet your best friends, and they might be more than that'. When asked if she had met a partner through hockey, the club member said: 'not a relationship'.

Some enthusiastic sports club members wore costumes. Two netball team members were dressed as a can of Stella Artois, and a pack of Marlboro Gold (British cancer warning). Another, separate, anonymous source familiar with this matter clarified that it was because they were dressed as things men abuse. Other women, of unknown clubs, were dressed as the Teletubbies, or sporting fake facial hair.

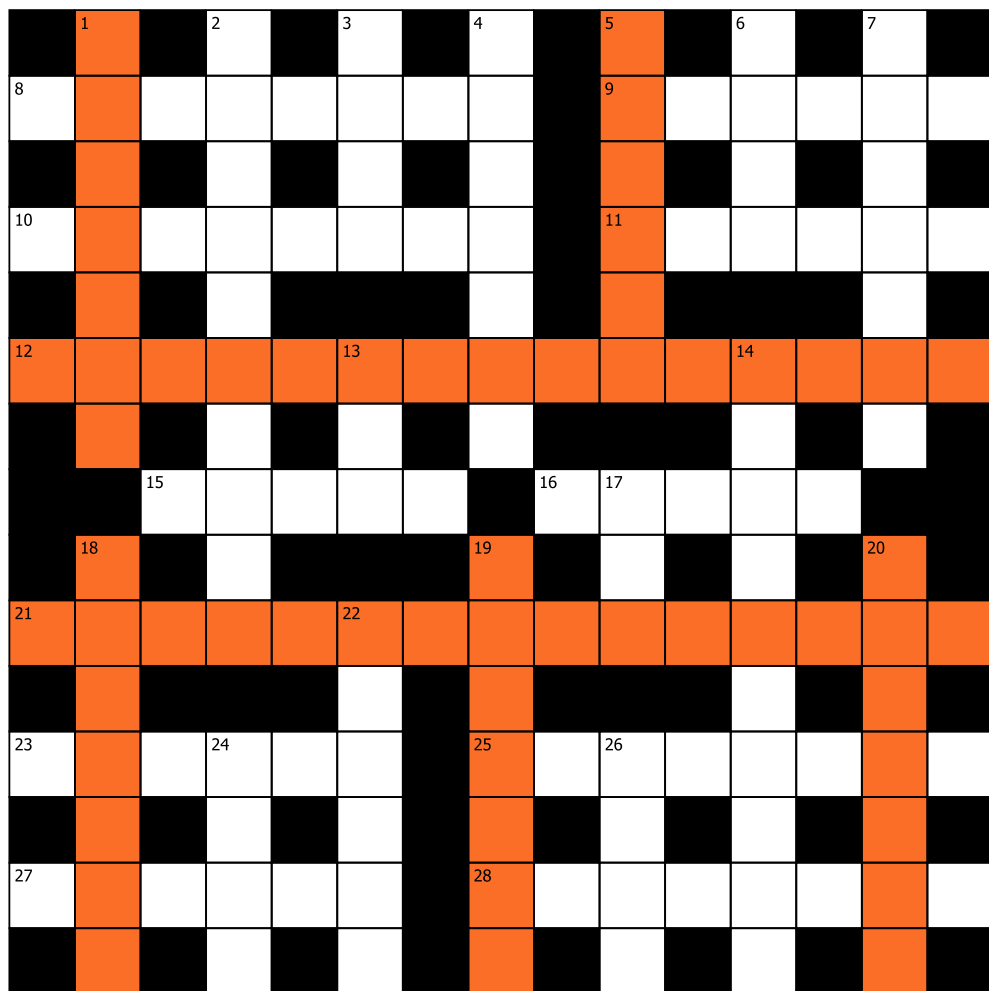
By 10pm, our roving reporter had to head home, but the night was only beginning. Other reports indicate the atmosphere was positively electric, if a bit public school boy, and a fun night for those who attended.

PUZZLES

Puzzles Editor
IVIN JOSE

CROSSWORD

'As Clear As Mud' (3 pts.)



Across

- 7. Remedies against fawns. [9]
- 8. Arouse at summit, I hear. [5]
- 9. Bothered by handle with dirty end. [6]
- 10. Frantic hello includes objected-oriented programming hack! [8]
- 12. Roman sea-god half squeezed in "I love you" foolishly. [7]
- 14. Mouth, soft and super sexy initially. [4]
- 16. Leaving as I saw Mercedes crash wildly with water pump. [10 5]
- 18. Nevada discussed with jealousy. [4]
- 20. Disappeared and then remained outside radius. [7]
- 22. Blue bottom of ocean

- taking reign. [8]
- 23. Author located in a forest. [6]
- 24. Googled losing move whilst scrutinised. [5]
- 25. Only German computer scientist is mothering. [9]

Down

- 1. Southeastern engulfs and upturns Ron; it's a non-event... [5]
- 2. Starts flying into terminal, sort of diabolical! [8]
- 3. Squarish shape obtained by wrapping bovine. [4]
- 4. Confusedly, I'm due to swallow a putrid ale cocktail with a nuclear byproduct! [8 7]
- 5. Sets straight liberties. [6]

- 6. Book distributor at inn with unusual relish. [9]
- 11. Ask why twice before scrambling up with doses for an epic quest. [7]
- 13. Statesmen losing their golf pegs are jostled in unison. [2 5]
- 15. Third era is a time period. [6,3]
- 17. Secret phrase from short cox meant final Quad came last, having rowed backwards! [8]
- 19. Indeed, one takes a gamble! [3 3]
- 21. It can be smoked together. [5]
- 23. Singer reached Dalton's heart. [4]

Across

- 8. Parmesan, Red wine, Coffee and Chocolate can cause this. [8]
- 9. 9th most expensive movie made in the 21st Century. [6]
- 10. Haploid, biologically. [6]
- 11. Significant other, before you trap them. [6]
- 12. Ed Petrie's 2011 CBBC show. [3 4 3 5]
- 15. Titan who holds the heavens on his shoulders. [5]
- 16. Britain's richest and most prestigious horse race, setting of Season 2 finale of *Peaky Blinders*. [5]
- 21. Thoroughly confused. [15]
- 23. Restore something broken or faulty. [6]
- 25. Jerry Lewis' lyric: Goodness _____, great balls of fire! [8]
- 27. Jupiter's smallest moon. [6]
- 28. One of the Es in EEE. [8]

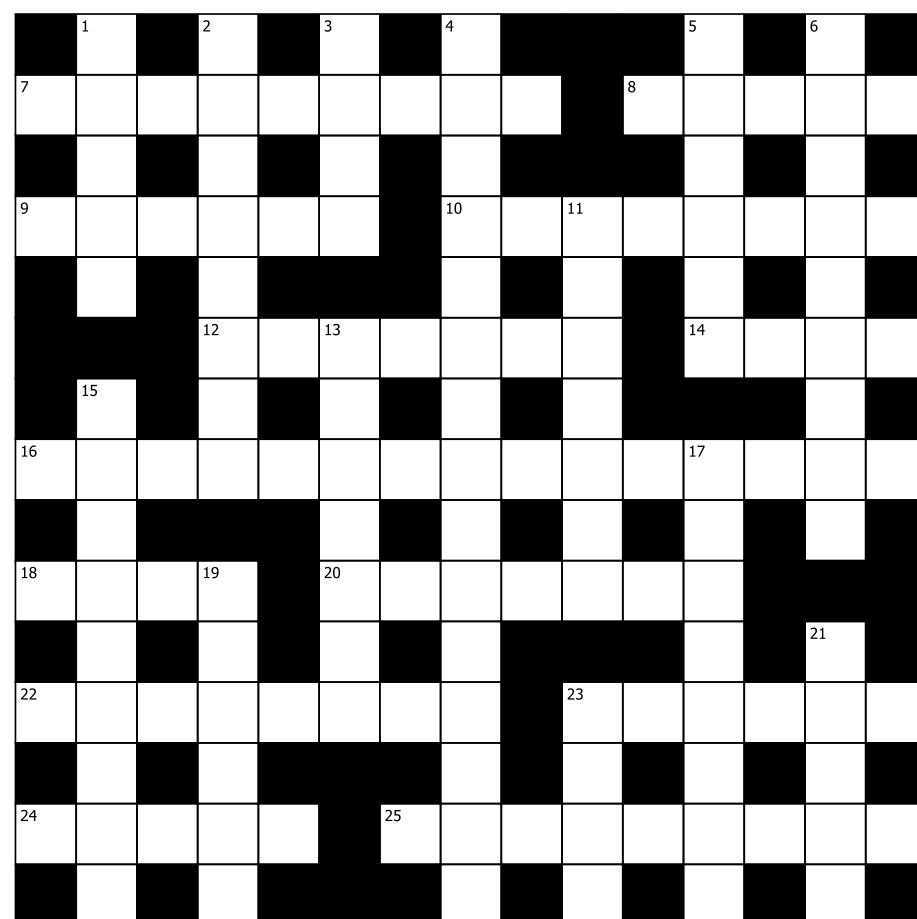
- made from Tartan wool. [4]
- 4. Online platform featuring interactive, interconnected pages of information. [7]
- 5. To perplex someone. [6]
- 6. Programming language whose logo is a steaming cup of coffee, the world's most populous island. [4]
- 7. 2008 Will Smith Superhero movie. [7]
- 13. A period of history defined by certain events and developments of culture. [3]
- 14. Custodians of all human knowledge and creativity in physical form. [10]
- 17. Second largest living bird and Australia's largest. [3]
- 18. What happens to food in a blender. [5 2]
- 19. Overwhelmed by incomprehension. [7]
- 20. Confused and amused at the same time. [7]
- 22. Appears in both *Seven* and *The Shawshank Redemption*. [6]
- 24. British river that starts in the Cotswolds and flows through Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Somerset. [4]
- 26. Greek ship of Jason and his gang. [4]

Down

- 1. Feeling unsteady. [7]
- 2. Predictive of future outcome, how long you have left. [10]
- 3. Traditional Scottish garment typically

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Submitted by Ester K. Mirra (5 pts.)



SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

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

Medium (1 pt. each)

Hard (2 pts. each)

Extra hard (3 pts. each)

GROUPING GRIDS

Submitted by William West & Vittoria Dessi

Dollar	Ming	Families	Inches
Hour	Feet	Won	Yuan
Tang	Yen	Pints	Pounds
Dong	Days	Fathoms	Song

Medium (3 pts.)

How-to:

For fans of *Only Connect*! The sixteen clues in each of these puzzles can be placed into four groups of four, each with a connecting feature. To solve the puzzle, write these groups and their connections below! An example can be seen in last week's solutions.

Lemon	Venice	Devil's horns	Point
Tale	Dud	V	Record
Washout	Web	Shrew	Loser
Okay	Sugar	Top	Flop

Hard (4 pts.)

				Connections
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

				Connections
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

CRYPTOGRAM

Clue: Arrant Hold (anagram, 2 words)

How-to:

A cryptogram is solved by cracking the cypher in which an encoded phrase is written. The first few letter correspondences are given to you, and your job is to use your linguistic and logical skills, as well as your quotes knowledge, to work out the secret message. Bonus point for giving where the quote comes from!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

A	K	N		M	K	N	N	I		Z	U		A	P	T	N		A	B	X	C	G		J	C	Q

J	F	N	G		R	Z	T	N		J	C	Q		V	J	G	G		I	N	J	O	P	C	F

T	N	T	Z	X	P	N	G		A	K	J	A		Y	N	R	Z	T	N		I	N	F	N	C	Q

I	N	F	N	C	Q		U	J	Q	N	G		A	Z		T	W	A	K		J	C	Q		

N	O	N	C		T	W	A	K		P	G		I	Z	C	F		U	Z	X	F	Z	A	A	N	C

M	K	N	C		A	K	N		J	F	N		A	K	J	A		F	J	O	N		P	A	

Y	P	X	A	K		R	Z	T	N	G		J	F	J	P	C									

(3 pts.)

Anagram: _____

(1 pt.)

Quote from: _____

(1 pt.)

LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Puzzlers	Points (Last week)	
1.	The Menu	31	-
2.	Team GuineaPig	29	-
3.	.....	..	-
4.	.....	..	-
5.	.....	..	-
6.	.....	..	-
6.	.....	..	-
7.	.....	..	-

YOUR NAME HERE!

Send a picture of your solved puzzles to **puzzles.felix@ic.ac.uk** by **Thursday** to get yourself or your team on the leaderboard!

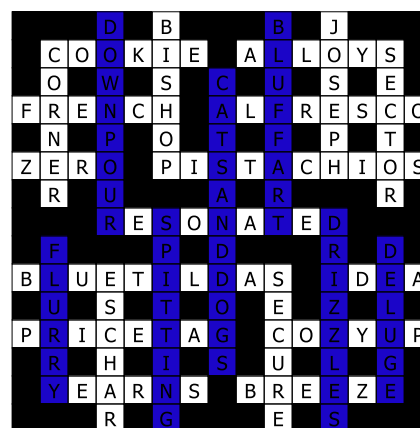
Send them in by **Tuesday** if you want to see your points for this week in next week's issue.

COMIC

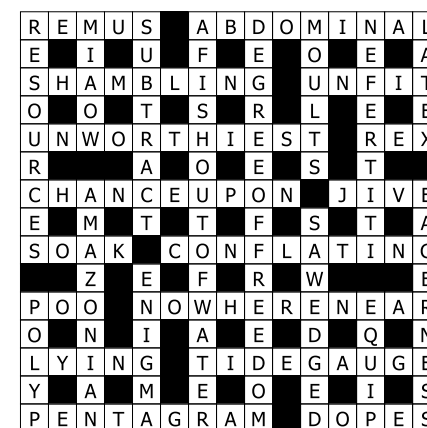
Submitted by Tengyu Zhao



Previous Puzzles' solutions



Regular



Cryptic

Season	Stir	Serve	Heat	Things to do to a dish
Week	Spell	Second	Stretch	Lengths of time
Chaos	Muddle	Brawl	Hell	A commotion
First	Prime	Top	Head	End in expressions of agreement

Medium grouping grid

Bar	Suit	Ship	Time	Space-
Man	Staff	Crew	Work	To operate
Number	Deck	Hand	Colour	Card terms
Beard	Ring	Fireworks	Pipe	Gandalf Paraphernalia

Hard grouping grid

Puzzle Editor's Note

Dearest Puzzlers,

This week, I'll begin with a couple of corrections from the last two issues' puzzles (I know, shocking!). Firstly, in issue #1851, in our Regular Crossword, for 33 Across, the clue is meant to be [5 2]. Secondly, for last week's issue (#1852), Jessie J's 2011 song is [5 3]. Clearly, it seems I have difficulty counting to such high numbers. Well done to those of you who solved the puzzles despite this, and many thanks to the Puzzlers (and our very own Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Taylor) for pointing it out to me.

On a more exciting note, it gives me great pleasure to announce the first entries onto our Puzzles Leaderboard! Currently, in first place, we have "The Menu" with an almost perfect score of 31, closely followed by "Team GuineaPig" in second. Keep those solutions coming, everyone!

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone who has contributed to the puzzles section: Ester K. Mirra for their Cryptic Crossword, William and Vittoria for their Connections and Tengyu for the Comic.

That leaves me with nothing more to say, other than have a fantastic week of crossing, connecting, completing, code-cracking, comic-consuming, and competing!

- Ivin

““I love the way it rains here,” he told her. “It reminds me that some forces of nature can never be entirely subdued. They are eternal, which is a far better thing to be than immortal.””

Anagram: Germ Repair = Grim Reaper
Quote from: Scythe by Neal Shusterman

Cryptograms

SPORT

Sports societies are in full swing

Sport Editor

TAYLOR POMFRET

We asked some of our Sports societies here at Imperial how their fresher's experience was, details about upcoming events, and what they expect from their societies this year.

Rugby - Club Captain, Dylan

Club captain, Dylan, said 'The turnout from Freshers Fair has really been

amazing. We had over 60 boys come to our training session on Monday; it's great to see such a range of players and a great way for Freshers to get involved and meet some new people.'

Sami, the society Treasurer, adds 'The team is looking really strong and I've already met some really interesting people in the past week. My advice to all freshers is to get involved as much as possible, try go to all the sessions, games and socials as well!'

Will, a Fresher, said 'I am so glad I

joined the IC rugby club. Everyone has been super welcoming and good chat. Each person has fun nicknames like "the Hammer" and "Wall", hoping to get mine soon. Can't wait for the rest of the year.'

Imperial Medics Women's Football Team (IMWFC) - Club Captain, Tomi Oloke

Tomi Oloke, IMWFC Club Captain told Felix that 'I am really excited for IMWFC's first match of the season against Essex!

Continue on page 23

Sailing society

Imperial College Sailing Club Secretary IMOGEN SALMON

At Sailing we're off to a brilliant start! It is our best year yet for beginners. We ran a sold out taster session and have already surpassed all other IC sports clubs in membership numbers! Our next events are squad tryouts and our first competition is taking place at the end of October. It's been great seeing so many new faces on the water.

This is an important year for Sailing as we are adopting the windsurfing society to create one big water sports family. We're excited to keep expanding the club.

We also have a lot of returning sailors who were eager to be back in the boats. One sailor said, 'the thrill

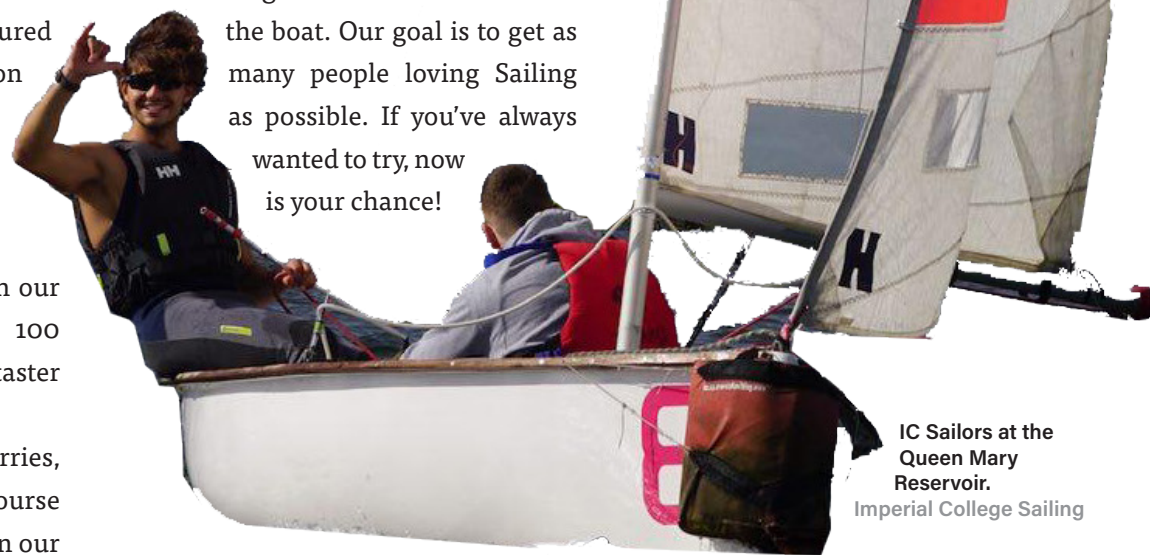
of being back on the water again was incredible, especially among so many new members and alumni.'. We sail every Saturday at Queen Mary Reservoir, and compete regularly across the UK. We also run theory sessions where we discuss the tactics of Team Racing - the competition format favoured by universities. Our main competition of the year is the BUSA Team Racing Championships, but we also go to more casual events hosted by other universities.

Whilst there's about 30 people in our competitive squad, we have over 100 social sailors who come to our taster sessions throughout the year.

We also host a lot of socials, curries, bottomless brunches, and of course sports nights. Members can come on our

Summer Sail Week, where we go island hopping around the Mediterranean on a flotilla of yachts.

Sailing is open to all levels of ability. We have several qualified instructors who can show beginners the ropes, and get them comfortable in the boat. Our goal is to get as many people loving Sailing as possible. If you've always wanted to try, now is your chance!



IC Sailors at the Queen Mary Reservoir.
Imperial College Sailing

It'll be our new recruits first away day and I'm looking forward to starting the season strong!

discDoctors (IC Ultimate Frisbee)

Give Frisbee a go! We have everyone. From people who have never played a sport before, to players who have represented Great Britain on the national team. We're super accepting of new players and there's a great group of captains and coaches to bring you up to speed. We still love to get competitive with each other though, so if you're looking to let out some energy it's perfect for you. Lastly, we regularly have joint training and socials with UCL and KCL, so it's a great way to meet other uni students around London.

Upcoming events:

16th October (2pm): Charity Hat Tournament

20th October: LUSL Game vs LSE

3rd November: University Mixed Indoor Regionals (UXIR)

9th/10th and 23rd/24th November: University Men's/Women's Indoor Regionals (UMWIR)

Imperial College Gliding Club - ICGC Captain, Aidan Clark

Imperial College Gliding Club offers the opportunity for anyone to learn to fly gliders regardless of prior experience. We run trips to the airfield every weekend where student have the opportunity to fly with one of our instructors in a two-seat aircraft. All our aircrafts have dual controls to enable our instructor to show the students how to complete a certain stage of the flight then provide an opportunity for the practice.

We ran our first trip to the airfield on Saturday where 12 students each flew twice. The club's secretary, Luca, who joined the society last year, shares his experience: 'Of all the societies I have had the privilege of joining over my years at Imperial, ICGC has been the most unique and rewarding experience. Having grown up near Washington DC and the rich history of aviation on display there, I grew up with a passion for aviation but never had the time or money to dedicate to flight training. Fast

forward to my fourth year of my medical studies at Imperial, I joined ICGC via a chance encounter with the committee and our single-seat Discus (296) at the Freshers fair last year. 12 months and countless trips later, I have progressed through the rigorous training syllabus and got my bronze and cross-country certificates, allowing me to apply for glider pilots licence. I have made many good friends along the way and I look forward to continuing this unique kind hobby and making new friends who share an interest in this sport over our socials at Lasham airfield, Winter series and our customary Christmas and summer dinners.'

Imperial Devils Ice Hockey - Social Secretary, Rhys Giles

Have you ever wondered what would happen if you took field hockey, put it on ice and strapped blades the bottom of all the players feet? Fancy trying the fastest sport there is? Want to spend 30 minutes answering questions from all your buddies when they ask you what sports you play? Well, look no further, as The Devils sounds like the team for you!

Imperial Devils Ice Hockey Club provides that satisfying feeling of mastering a new skill combined with



My advice to freshers is to get involved, go to all the sessions, games and socials and to meet new people.

forming strong bonds with your fellow Devil brothers and sisters.

Can't Skate? No problem! We'll quickly get you up to speed with our weekly 'Learn to Skate' sessions held at Queensway Ice Rink. This, along with our Friday Training sessions, will get you playing matches in no time! Our B team is a beginner friendly, mixed gender team



IMWFC first sports night themed "Dad's on Holiday" (top left), Imperial Devils Ice Hockey team at Queens ice skating rink (top right), Imperial College Gliding Club (bottom right).

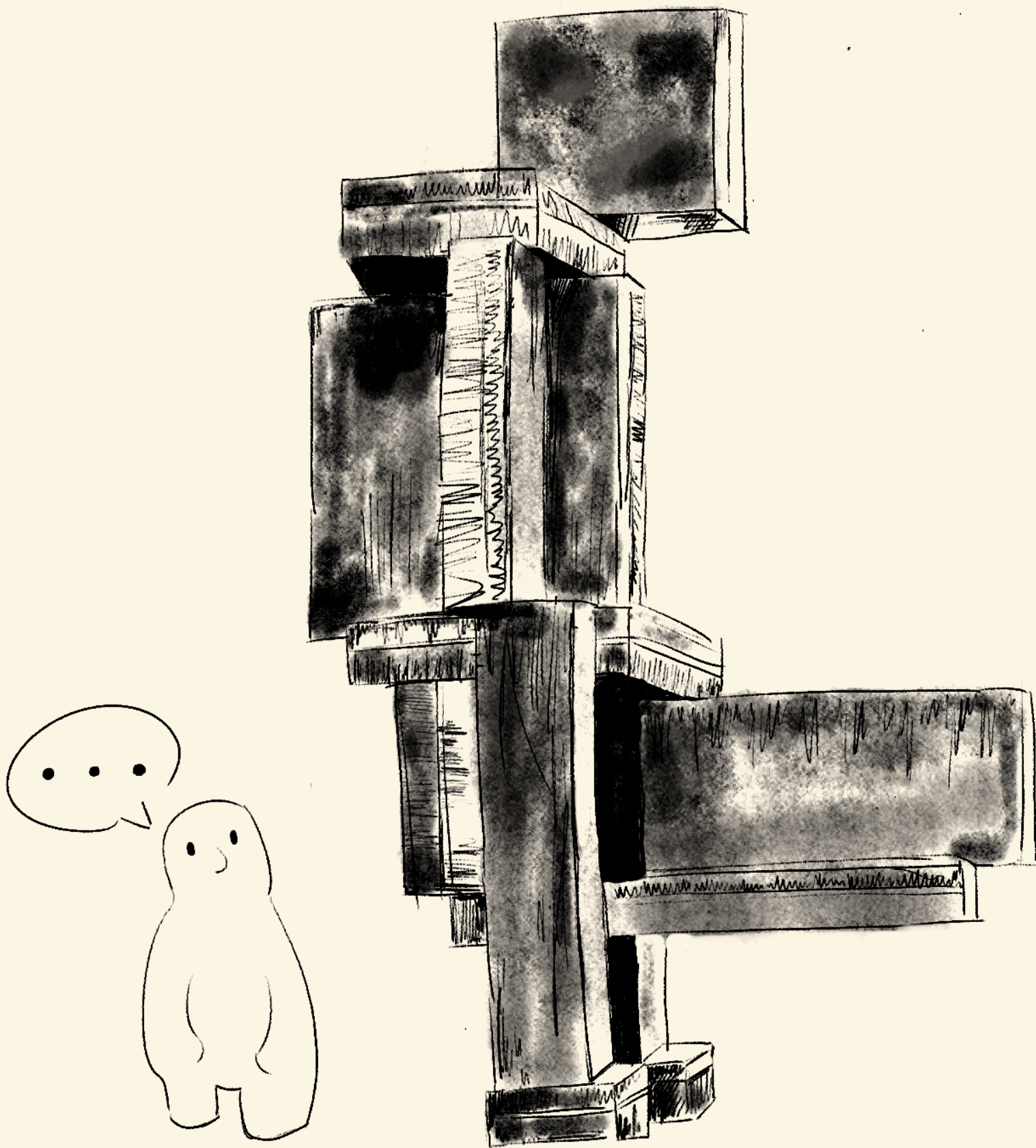
that competes in a southern beginners' league. At bit more experienced? Our A team competes in one of the top southern leagues, so we have room for all abilities.

Upcoming events:

Wednesdays: Learn to Skate (meet at

11:30am in the Beit Quad, Sports Night (6:45pm at the Union)

Fridays: Training (meet at 8:00pm in the Beit Quad, train from 10:15-11:45pm)



The male gaze